



# Bluegrassin'

Volume 17, Issue 5

Nov.—Dec. 2015

*The Montana Rockies Bluegrass Association is a non-profit association dedicated to promoting, preserving and sharing our love of bluegrass music in a spirit of family and friendship.*

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## Upcoming Bluegrass Events

- Nov. 5—Lochwood Bluegrass, Draught Works Brewery, Missoula, MT—6:00 pm
- Nov. 6—Leftover Biscuits, Top Hat, Missoula, MT—6:00 pm
- Nov. 6—Lil Smokies, Great Northern Bar, Whitefish, MT
- Nov. 7 —Hootenanny, Stevensville, MT - (See pg. 10)
- Nov. 7—Lil Smokies, Top Hat, Missoula, MT
- Nov. 20—Acousticals, Phillipsburg Brewery, Hamilton, 7:00 pm
- Nov. 11—Greensky Bluegrass, Bozeman, MT, Fautline North
- Dec. 3— Lochwood Bluegrass, Lolo Peak Brewery, Lolo, MT 6:00 pm
- Dec. 4—Lochwood Bluegrass, Top Hat, Missoula, MT, 6:00 pm
- Dec. 5— MRBA X-Mas party. Ruby's Missoula. See pg. 4 for details
- Dec. 12—Lochwood Bluegrass, Blacksmith Brewery, Stevensville, MT 6:00 pm
- Dec. 17—Acousticals, Bitterroot Brewery, Hamilton, MT—6:00 pm
- Dec. 18—Bluesmoke Bluegrass, Symes Hotel, Hot Springs 8:00 pm

### Mark Your Calendars

- January 9—MRBA Monthly Jam. Winter Jam Series— Ruby's Inn - Pickin' and grinnin' starts at 2:00 pm. Potluck at 6:00 pm followed by more pickin' and grinnin'
- February 13— MRBA Monthly Jam & March 12— MRBA Monthly Jam

## Recurring Shows and Jams

- ◆ **Missoula**—Open Jam. Top Hat. Tuesdays. 6:00 pm
- ◆ **Missoula**—Tangled Tones Pickin class. Wednesdays 6:30 pm.  
Laurie Criger, tangledroot13@yahoo.com or call 406-552-9208
- ◆ **Livingston** - Open Jam. Pine Creek Café. Thursday—8:30—10:30 pm.  
www.pinecreeklodgemonntana.com (406)222-3628

*Send corrections or additions to: [kate@appcom.net](mailto:kate@appcom.net)*

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Hi all.

We have another super fun Hootenanny scheduled for November 7th at The Stevensville Playhouse in Stevensville. This time will open up more seats behind the performers and we can use the "secret" underground passage from the building next door for jammers to step on stage. It will start at 1pm on Saturday and be done at 5pm. Like last spring's Hoot we will have a sign up sheet there so you can ask who ever you want to back you up on stage. Susan McCauley had suggested we split the profits with the playhouse and they will help us advertise the event. I emailed the board and they thought it was a great idea. Let's get all ages of pickers involved, with bands and individuals performing, and have lots of fun doing it.

We have the MRBA annual business meeting, election of officers, and Christmas party scheduled at Ruby's Inn on Saturday, Dec 5th. The meeting is at 3pm and the dinner will be at 6pm. Tari will cook the meat so please bring a side dish or desert. The winter jams at Ruby's are scheduled for the second saturday of January, February and March, and the spring Lone Rock Festival is scheduled for April 16th.

I have found a POSSIBLE new location for the MRBA campout in June. It is 10 miles on past our Memorial weekend campout at Fales Flat. The location is a beautiful meadow with picnic tables, a creek, and has a built-in bbq. (that would save some work). Toilets on site and it can be reserved for the weekend. If folks would be willing to drive that far, it would be a awesome location and I think we could get some new families with kids and some new pickers to come camp for the weekend. We can discuss what folks want to do at the meeting. See you Nov 7th.

Mike (head potluck sampler guy)



Stan, Annie and Bequia at the Spring Hootenanny

## ***Montana Rockies Bluegrass Association***

PO Box 1306, Missoula, MT 59806

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***Bluegrassin'*** is a bi-monthly publication of the ***Montana Rockies Bluegrass Association***

Information printed in ***Bluegrassin'*** is at the discretion of the editor.

***Montana Rockies Bluegrass Association***

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*Full Page* – \$25.00,  
*1/2 Page* – \$15.00,  
*1/4 Page* – \$10.00  
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**Contact:**  
Laurie Criger,  
tangledroot13@yahoo.com or  
406-552-9208

**Get MRBA Newsletter by E-Mail**

If you would like to get your newsletter delivered electronically via e-mail send a message to:

tangledroot13@yahoo.com

Electronic version has color photos & hyperlinks to websites.

*(P.S.—It will help keep down printing & mailing cost for the association)*



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MONTANA ROCKIES BLUEGRASS ASSOCIATION  
Membership Application

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State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Individual (\$10.00) \_\_\_ Family (\$15.00) \_\_\_

Do you want the newsletter delivered electronically? \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO

Please mail your application to: MRBA, PO Box 1306, Missoula, MT 59806



### MRBA Annual Meeting



Saturday, December 5th  
Ruby's Inn, 4825 North Reserve Street, Missoula, MT

The MRBA annual meeting will be held on Saturday, December 5, 2015 at Ruby's Inn. The meeting will start at 3 p.m. Dinner will follow at 6 p.m. Jams will be held before and after dinner.

This is your opportunity to get up to date information on the activities of the MRBA and to help chart its future course. As in past years officers and directors will be elected for the upcoming year. All positions will be up for election. Please consider what you can do to help the MRBA remain an active part of the Montana/Northwest bluegrass scene.

Regarding dinner, the association will provide the meat course for the meal. We ask that others bring potluck side dishes and deserts.

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting!

(P.S.—Please consider donating a door prize for the raffle. See the wanted notice below)

# HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

### Wanted Door Prizes

Please consider donating a door prize for the MRBA Annual Meeting and Holiday party.

The prize can be something musical or something humorous.

Christmas themed doodads or holiday goodies would also make great prizes.

We will have a drawing right after dinner.

THANKS!

*Ellie Nuño*



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# Gibbonsville Photos

Saturday Potluck



Tom, Glen, Forrest & Houston



New pickers from Seattle Area—Arlene & Joe



Beautiful Day for Jammin



Late night jammin at the Broken Arrow



Sunday Morning Gospel Jam





**International Bluegrass Music Association  
2015 - Awards**

**Entertainer of the Year:**  
The Earls of Leicester

**Female Vocalist of the Year:**  
Rhonda Vincent

**Male Vocalist of the Year:**  
Shawn Camp

**Vocal Group of the Year:**  
Balsam Range

**Instrumental Group of the Year:**  
The Earls of Leicester

**Song of the Year:**  
“Moon Over Memphis,” Balsam Range

**Album of the Year:**  
The Earls of Leicester, The Earls of Leicester, Jerry Douglas, producer

**Emerging Artist of the Year:**  
Becky Buller

**Recorded Event of the Year:**  
“Southern Flavor,” Becky Buller, with Peter Rowan, Michael Feagan, Buddy Spicher, Ernie Sykes, Roland White, and Blake Williams

**Inductees into the Bluegrass Hall of Fame:**  
Bill Keith and Larry Sparks

# Trumble Creek Camp Out Photos



Beautiful fall day for a jam circle



Having fun with the autoharp



Who doesn't love that bass beat



Thanks MaryJane for hosting all these pickers!



Jammin with Forrest



Shadows of bluegrass

## My Excellent Bluegrass Adventure

By Kate McMahon

This past fall, I was at a business conference in Lexington, KY and decided as long as I was in the bluegrass state, I would rent a car and tour some famous landmarks in the history of bluegrass music. So the morning of September 17, I headed west on the “Bluegrass Parkway” towards Rosine, KY, the birthplace of Bill Monroe. Rosine is a small unincorporated community of just 41 people but it plays a larger than life part in bluegrass lore. Every where you turn, some place or sign evokes a bluegrass song. The Old Home Place of Bill Monroe is situated on Jerusalem Ridge. Uncle Pen’s cabin is just a mile outside of Rosine. Bill, the youngest of eight children, was a young boy when his mother died and upon losing his father when he was a teenager, he went to live with his Uncle Pen. Uncle Pen was a fiddler and was one of Bill’s earliest musical influence.



Painting of Uncle Pen



It was beautiful sunny morning when I drove up to [Bill Monroe's home](#). A small group of volunteers were enjoying a cup of coffee on the lawn and were to happy to take visitors on a free tour of the home. The house has been beautifully restored. You'll learn about the Monroe family, see actual artifacts from Bill's life and if you are lucky, get to meet some folks who actually knew Bill Monroe. When I was there, I met Tom Ewing, one of the last of the bluegrass boys to play with Bill Monroe. He was having coffee with the volunteers and I got to have my picture taken with him. (That is him in the photo.) Tom edited the [Bill Monroe Reader](#) and is writing a new biography of his former boss.

The Jerusalem Ridge Bluegrass Festival was underway while I was there. Unfortunately, I had was unable to stay for the festival but according to the web site, it is a five day affair and definitely would be worth going to if you have the time.

From Rosine I drove 30-miles north to Owensboro, KY to meet a college friend for lunch and to tour the International Bluegrass Museum. The museum is located on the banks of the Ohio and anchors a nice river front park. The first exhibit that you encounter when you walk into the museum is, appropriately, a jam session. It a includes a motor home with mannequins in a jam circle all holding instruments. It looked like ascene straight out of a MRBA campout. For me, the essence of bluegrass is jammin and I was glad to see the museum featuring this aspect of bluegrass music, front and center. The museum even had instruments that were available for visitors to pick a tune. This is a photo of my friend Patty Winter and I with instruments from the exhibit. Of course, I am the one with the banjo. As the interpretive sign for the exhibit notes:

*“The bluegrass style depends upon a common musical vocabulary. It is a kind of language that is necessarily spoken in jam sessions made up of players who were strangers just a moment ago. Musical styles get passed back and forth in jam sessions. In a way, without jam sessions and the army of amateurs that play in them, there would be no recognizable style of music called bluegrass.”*







**MONTANA ROCKIES BLUEGRASS ASSOCIATION**

PRESENTS AN

OLD-TIME BLUEGRASS MUSIC

**HOOTENANNY & BENEFIT**

FOR

**Stevensville Community  
Playhouse**

SATURDAY, November 7, 2015

1:00 – 5:00 PM



Musicians sign up sheet  
at the event

**ADMISSION:**

Adults \$4.00

Children under 12

Free

**More Info:**

821-3777 or

[www.mtbluegrass.com](http://www.mtbluegrass.com)

## Bluegrass Tidbits

### On The Road With MRBA

Here is a new feature for the newsletter. As you travel to festivals or on vacation take a copy of the MRBA newsletter along and take a photo with you holding the newsletter at some famous landmark or event. Here I am with the MRBA newsletter at Bill Monroe's birthplace in Rosine, KY. Not a bad place for an inaugural picture of the "On the Road with MRBA". Send your photo to me and I will print it in the newsletter. Let's see how many places we can get MRBA newsletter selfies.



### MRBA Membership Challenge

The mission of MRBA is to perform, promote and preserve bluegrass music. What better way to promote bluegrass than to have new members join the organization. How about a challenge this next year for everyone to try and recruit a new member. Membership forms are in the newsletter or can be downloaded from the web site at: [www.mtbluegrass.com/register/](http://www.mtbluegrass.com/register/)

### Did you know?

The only person to be inducted into the International Bluegrass Music Hall of Fame, Country Music Hall of Fame and the Rock n Roll Hall of fame is Bill Monroe.

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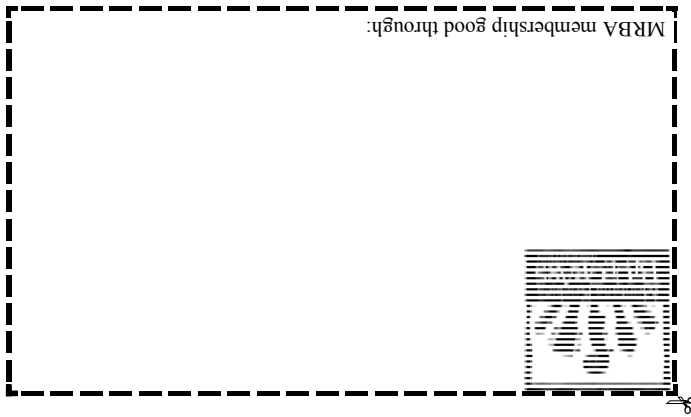
\$1300.00 Cash Please.

For more info call (208) 865-2346.



***ATTENTION:***

We have set up the address label on your newsletter to be your membership card, please clip it out and use it for proof of your membership to the MRBA.



**PO Box 1306  
Missoula, MT 59806**

