



Bluegrassin'

Volume 20 Issue 5

Sept.—Oct, 2018

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.

Inside this issue:

	Page
President's Message	2
Lochwood CD	4
Gibbonsville Campout	5
Trivia	5
Hardtimes Photos	6-7
On the Road With MRBA	8
Trumble Creek	9
Old Timey Music	10

Upcoming Bluegrass Events

- September 7: Good Old Fashioned Bluegrass, Symes Hotel, Hot Springs, MT
- September 7-9: Bluegrass Jam & Campout, Broken Arrow Campground, Gibbonsville, ID (see pg. 5)
- September 20: Acousticals @ Kalispell Brewery, Kalispell, MT
- September 21-23: Trumble Creek Campout, Columbia Falls, MT (see pg. 9)
- September 21-23: Miles City Bluegrass Festival, Miles City, MT
www.milescitybluegrassfestival.com/
- September 21: Acousticals @ Tailing Loop Winery, Kalispell, MT
- September 22: Acousticals @ Phillipsburg Brewery, Phillipsburg, MT
- Sept. 25—29: IBMA World of Bluegrass & Awards Show, Raleigh, NC
<https://worldofbluegrass.org/>
- September 28: Acousticals @ Top Hat, Missoula, MT
- September 29: Lochwood @ Highlander Brewery, Missoula, MT
- October 12: Lochwood @ Top Hat, Missoula, MT
- October 13: Lochwood @ Blacksmith Brewery, Stevensville, MT
- October 13: Hootenanny, Corvallis Grange Hall, Corvallis, MT, 1-5 pm (see pg. 2)

Notes:

1. Please check websites or call the venues for show times.
2. If you play in a band, (or know of a local bluegrass band) please e-mail the band's web page or Facebook page link to the editor so list events in newsletter. Thanks.

Recurring Shows and Jams

- ◆ **Missoula**—Pickin' Circle. Montana Distillery (631 Woody St.)
Tuesdays, 6:00 pm
- ◆ **Helena** - Bluegrass Jam, Staggering Ox, Tuesdays, 6:00 pm

President's Message

Howdy...it's September time. Time for cooler weather and slowing down from a busy summer. The Hardtimes Festival was awesome this year. The temp dropped 10 degrees right before the festival. Lots of great bands, lots of great people, and not a serious problem of any kind.

Sad News: Our old Darby buddy, Winston Wanstrath, passed away August 9. He was a mandolin picker and quite a character...one of a kind. Also, guitar player and singer Bob Martin from Hamilton passed away in August. He was one of the founding members of "Blue to the Bone" and was also a unique character.

The Gibbonsville campout is September 7-9. This is always lots of fun and is the last music campout of the season.

Pictured are Todd and Nancy Stobie at Hardtimes this year. Nancy made the 1930s pattern dress the week before the festival, and they Sunday morning. We're thinking it would be a great pic for Hard-year.



They were stylin' in the Gospel show. If we crop out the dumpster, it times posters and t-shirts next

Your fearless leader--- Mike

Hootenanny! October 13, 2018

News Flash---Just In! We have scheduled a fall MRBA Hootenanny at the Corvallis Grange (at the Woodside Crossing) for Saturday, October 13, from 1-5 pm. We'll have a sign-up sheet there for folks who want to play on-stage. Come join in the old-style fun and friendship...Mike

Montana Rockies Bluegrass Association

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Kate McMahon
kate@appcom.net

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

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Electronic version has color photos & hyperlinks to websites.

(P.S.—It will help keep down printing and mailing costs for the Association.)



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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

Renewal _____

New Member _____

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

Lochwood Releases New CD

Mariss McTucker

(Reprinted from Lively Times)

Missoula's Lochwood has kicked out razor-sharp traditional bluegrass music since 2014, and their debut album showcases it. It's chock-full of classic nuggets from greats like Ralph Stanley, Kenny Baker, and the Louvin Brothers, plus two original pieces, all performed superbly by the five long-time pickers. John Parker, upright bass and vocals, Steve Taft, banjo, Chad Fadely, mandolin, Taylor Buckley, fiddle and vocals, and Richie Reinholdt, guitar and vocals, complete this excellent ensemble.

Newest member Buckley, a three-time Montana state fiddle champion, plays with such a silky style that the instrument seems almost an extension of his body. The other fellas aren't too shabby either. Taft honed his spirited banjo muscles in the Seattle music scene, and Reinholdt, Fadely and Parker have been staples of area bands for years. Reinholdt contributes sinuous flatpick work, and Fadely, lustrous mandolin pickin'. His percussive backbeats go hand-in-hand with Parker's vibrant bass chops to propel the rhythm, too.

It's refreshing to hear bluegrass played the way it's meant to be: stripped of all the relentless jam-band shenanigans that populate bluegrass these days. Lochwood's songs are arranged simply and cleanly, and verses are interspersed with inventive solos of improvised hot licks.

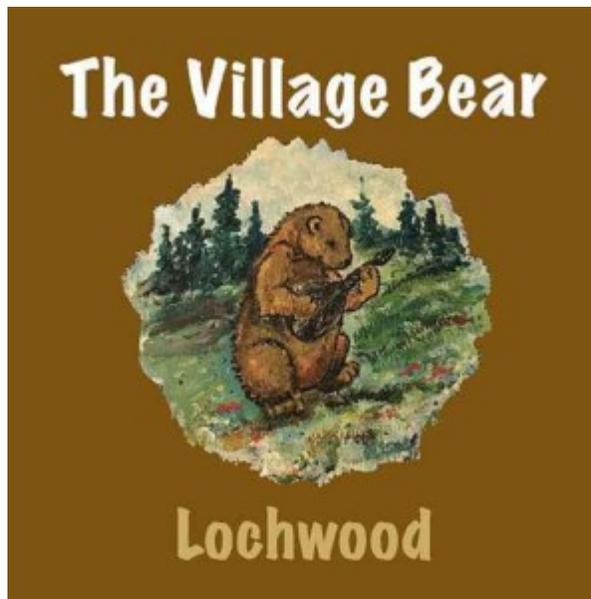
Tight two- and three-part harmonies by Parker, Reinholdt, and Buckley highlight the "high lonesome sound" that is such a distinctive feature of the genre as well.

Buckley belts out "Moonshiner" in his mid-range tenor voice; here the breaks feature the melody repeated by each instrument, oftentimes in unison, in the old-time Appalachian style. Reinholdt zips off a nifty guitar refrain, then joins the banjo in a cascading riff down the scale before the fiddle soars off on a break. Cool!

Parker sings Robbie Fulks's "Long I Ride" in his burly baritone, digging deep while singing the hook. Here again, the instruments play the melody in tandem after each verse.

Buckley and Fadely rip up the uptempo instrumental, "First Day in Town," each playing the melody, then improvising on it, while Taft's rolling, tasteful banjo motors along underneath. Taft shines on the title tune to boot. It's an old-time bluegrass looper in a spooky minor key.

Reinholdt sings "The Old Swinging Bridge," with its close three-part harmony, and croons his waltz, "Easy to See," while Buckley sings tenor harmony. And Fadely presents his pretty instrumental, "Cold Snowy Morning," where everybody gets a break, and harmony fiddle and mandolin shine at the end. Lochwood's debut album is terrific and tune-worthy; give it a listen!



Gibbonsville Campout Sept 7-8-9

The 24th (wow!) annual bluegrass gathering at the Broken Arrow in Gibbonsville, Idaho, is just around the corner! The dates are September 7, 8, and 9.

All campers need to check in with Del Scott when they get there, and Del will get you set up in the right spot. Tenting fee is \$5.00 per person; extra fee for large RVs is \$15. Water at the site is limited, so fill your tanks before coming. Please keep your dogs on a leash.

The restaurant will be open Saturday morning for a special bluegrass breakfast, and of course will be open on Friday & Saturday nights, serving that delicious Mexican food we all love.

And....don't forget about the ICE CREAM SOCIAL on Saturday afternoon at 1pm. Y'all bring something to put on the ice cream (syrup, fruit, toppings, whatever) and we'll have another smashing round of ice cream treats!

There is a potluck on Saturday night, and a Sunday morning potluck breakfast, followed by gospel music until noon.

Can't wait, be safe on the drive, change your strings, hone your pick, pack the truck, and we'll see you at the Broken Arrow the weekend after Labor Day!

For more info: call Broken Arrow @208-865-2241

TRIVIA

Which bluegrass pioneer at one time or another had Larry Sparks, Ricky Skaggs and Keith Whitley in his band?



Answer on pg. 8

HardTimes— 2018



Martin Guitar Winner Danetta Hackworth



The Crowd Enjoying the Show



Anne, Barry, and Steve Pickin' it Purty



Richie, Britt, Chad, and Isaac at the Sunday Morning Gospel Show



Kenny Stinson and Perfect Tymn' - Wow - Very Entertaining



Pioneer in Bluegrass! - Arlene Wolf

Hardtimes—2018



Susan and Jim



Kids in Bluegrass



Dallas, Tari, and Mike



Pinegrass



Spring Thaw with Pioneer Greg Boyd



Verna and Rosie

On The Road with MRBA



Kate McMahon with the MRBA newsletter at the Alison Krauss concert in Spokane, WA on 8/3/18. (You can see Alison performing on the stage in the background.) I attended the concert at the Northern Quest amphitheater with Mary Jane Cunningham. While waiting for the show to begin, we ran into fellow MRBA member Ken Benson. Alison Krauss performed with members of the Cox Family, and they sang some sweet harmonies and bluegrass gospel. Willie Nelson followed the bluegrass act and entertained the crowd with his old standards.

Great concert!

(p.s.—Don't forget to send me your "On the Road with MRBA" photos. We love to hear about the places and festivals that MRBA members are visiting!)

Ellie Nuño

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Trivia Question Answer:
Ralph Stanley

**18th Annual
TRUMBLE CREEK
BLUEGRASS CAMPOUT**

September 21 - 23

4260 Trumble Creek Road

Columbia Falls, Montana

Directions:

- **From Highway 2:** Go west on Highway 40 at the Blue Moon intersection.
- **From Highway 93:** Go east on Highway 40 a bit over 3 miles.
- **From Highway 40,** go south on Trumble Creek Road. Go about ½ mile.

Saturday Night Potluck 6 p.m.

And

Sunday Morning

Bluegrass vs. Old Timey Music

Kate McMahon

Old Timey Music has a lot of similarities with Bluegrass music, but it also has distinct characteristics. The following information may provide a helpful guide to explain the differences to folks who have just a passing familiarity with the two genres.

- Old Timey music (or Old Time) refers to the oldest form of country music ever recorded. Old Timey music was first recorded in the early '20s, and its style and sound have remained consistent since the 1800s.
- “Old Time Music” is also referred to as Old Timey Music, Hillbilly Music, and Mountain Music.
- The term “Bluegrass” didn’t come into common use until the 1950’s and was initially considered another form of Old Time music. Bluegrass has evolved, however, and is now considered its own unique style of music.
- The fiddle is generally the lead instrument in Old Timey music. While Old Timey music emphasizes acoustic string instruments, it is not uncommon for it to include other instruments such as the jug, harmonica, autoharp, jaw harp, concertina, accordion, washboard, spoons, or bones.
- The banjo in an Old Timey band is more likely to be an open-back banjo played claw-hammer style. Bluegrass bands almost always emphasize the three-finger Scruggs style of banjo playing. (Play it loud!)
- Old Timey musicians play the dulcimer. Bluegrass musicians play the dobro and ask, “What’s a dulcimer?”
- Old Timey music is often associated with different types of dancing such as square dancing, contra dancing, and clogging. Bluegrass dancinggenerally, it’s not a thing you want to behold.
- Bluegrass bands take solo breaks on the instruments. In the Old Timey style, the instruments typically all play together, all the time, with no breaks or solos.
- Although many of the traditional bluegrass songs are also common Old Timey songs, there are many common Old-Timey songs generally not part of the Bluegrass song canon. Likewise, Bluegrass bands are continually writing new songs that become Bluegrass standards but are not adopted in the Old Timey catalog. Below are just some of the songs that are popular for both Old Timey bands and Bluegrass bands. (*How many do you know?*)

⇒ Soldier’s Joy
 ⇒ Little Maggie
 ⇒ Banks of the Ohio
 ⇒ Nine Pound Hammer
 ⇒ Wildwood Flower
 ⇒ Wabash Cannonball
 ⇒ Shady Grove
 ⇒ Old Joe Clark

⇒ Old Slewfoot
 ⇒ John Henry
 ⇒ Blue Ridge Mountain Blues
 ⇒ Dark Hollow
 ⇒ Poor Wayfaring Stranger
 ⇒ New River Train
 ⇒ Roll in My Sweet Baby Arms
 ⇒ Golden Slippers



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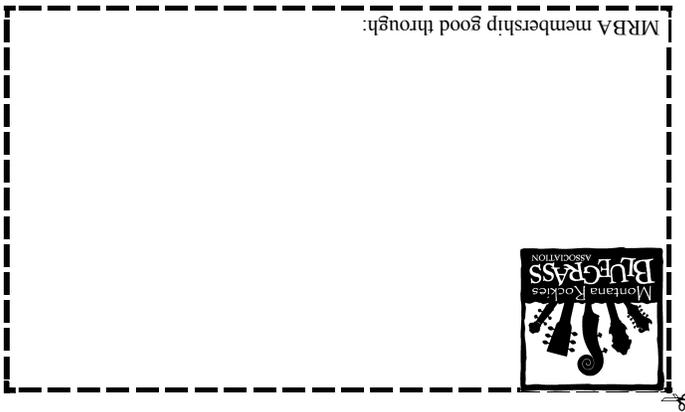
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