



# Bluegrassin'

Volume 21 Issue 6

Nov-Dec, 2019

*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
MRBA Christmas Party	4
IBMA Awards	5
Gibbonsville Photos	6
Trumble Creek Photos	7
Bluegrass Profiles	8-9
Beautiful Star of Bethlehem	10
Miscellaneous Stuff	11

## Upcoming Bluegrass Events

- November 1: Acousticals, Philipsburg Brewery, Philipsburg, MT, 5-8 pm
- November 9: Acousticals, Spokane Folk Festival, Spokane, WA
- November 14: Lochwood, Bitterroot Brewery, Hamilton, MT, 6-8:30 pm
- November 16: Acousticals, Draughtworks Brewery, Missoula, MT, 6-8 pm
- December 3: Acousticals, Broadwater Hot Springs, Helena, MT, 6-9 pm
- December 5: Lochwood, Draughtworks Brewery, Missoula, MT, 6-8 pm
- December 6: Lochwood, Highlander Brewery, Missoula, MT, 6-8 pm
- December 7: Lochwood, Blacksmith Brewery, Stevensville, MT, 6-8 pm
- December 14: MRBA Christmas Jam & Potluck. Missoula, MT (see page 4)
- December 29: Lil Smokies, Great Northern, Whitefish, MT
- December 31: Acousticals, First Night Missoula, Freecycles, 7 pm
- December 31: Lochwood, First Night Missoula, Freecycles, 8:30 pm
- December 31: Lil Smokies, Wilma, Missoula, MT

### Save the Date:

MRBA Winter Jams (Masonic Hall in Missoula at 126 East Broadway Street):  
January 11  
February 8  
March 14

## Recurring Shows and Jams

- ♦ **Missoula:** Pickin' Circle, Montana Distillery (631 Woody Street), Tuesdays, 6:00 pm
- **Helena:** Bluegrass Jam, Staggering Ox, Tuesdays, 6:00 pm
- **Great Falls:** Celtic Cowboy Open Bluegrass Jam, Sundays, 6:00 pm

Please send information on open jams and shows to the newsletter editor.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Howdy,

We have a great new place for the winter MRBA jams. The jams will be at the Masonic Hall in Missoula at 126 East Broadway Street. Special thanks to Matt Jolly for getting us signed up to have our Christmas Party and our jams there on the second Saturday of each month this winter. The Christmas party is December 14, and the jams are January 11, February 8, and March 14. The Masonic Hall was built in 1909 and has an awesome elevator to take us up to the third floor. Super cool place with lots of history. For our jams, there is lots of free parking in the back (no charge on weekends). The entry door is on the left, facing the street. We'll put the small MRBA banner in the window at the entrance.

On another note, Dallas has decided that she is going to quit handling the merchandise. We need another volunteer. We have considered down-sizing the inventory to a minimum and just having a few CD's, t-shirts and hats, which would make it easier for someone to handle merchandise at MRBA functions. Please step up and volunteer if you can—we need the help.

Your fearless leader and pot-luck sampler guy---Mike



## *Montana Rockies Bluegrass Association*

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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**

**Got Something to sell?**  
**Advertise in *Bluegrassin'***

**Full Page – \$25.00,**  
**1/2 Page – \$15.00,**  
**1/4 Page – \$10.00**  
**Classified – \$5.00**

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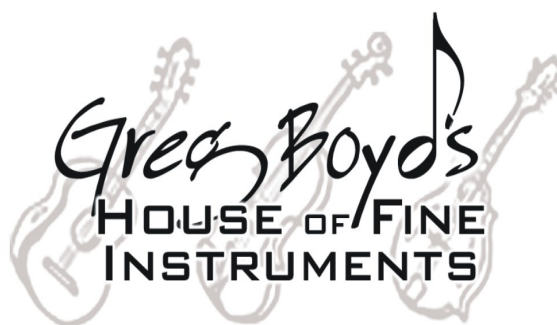
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If you would like to get your newsletter delivered electronically via e-mail send a message to:

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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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Date \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_  
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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



## MRBA Annual Meeting

Saturday, December 14, 2019

**NEW LOCATION:** Masonic Hall in Missoula  
126 East Broadway Street



The MRBA annual meeting will be held on Saturday, December 14, 2019

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 desserts. Please consider donating a door prize.

## 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 also make great prizes.

We will have a drawing right after dinner.

THANKS!



## **IBMA Awards—2019**

### **ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR:**

Joe Mullins & The Radio Ramblers

### **VOCAL GROUP OF THE YEAR:**

Sister Sadie (this is the band's first win in this category)

### **INSTRUMENTAL GROUP OF THE YEAR:**

Michael Cleveland & Flamekeeper (this is the band's fifth win in this category)

### **SONG OF THE YEAR:**

"Thunder Dan" – Sideline (artist), Josh Manning (writer) Tim Surrett (producer), Mountain Home Music Company (label)

### **ALBUM OF THE YEAR:**

Del McCoury Still Sings Bluegrass – Del McCoury Band (artist), Del and Ronnie McCoury (producer), McCoury Music (label) (this is the band's second win in this category, with a previous win in 2004)

### **NEW ARTIST OF THE YEAR:**

Billy Strings

### **COLLABORATIVE RECORDING OF THE YEAR:**

"The Guitar Song" – Joe Mullins & The Radio Ramblers with Del McCoury (artists), Joe Mullins (producer), Jerry Salley (associate producer) Billy Blue (label)

### **FEMALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR:**

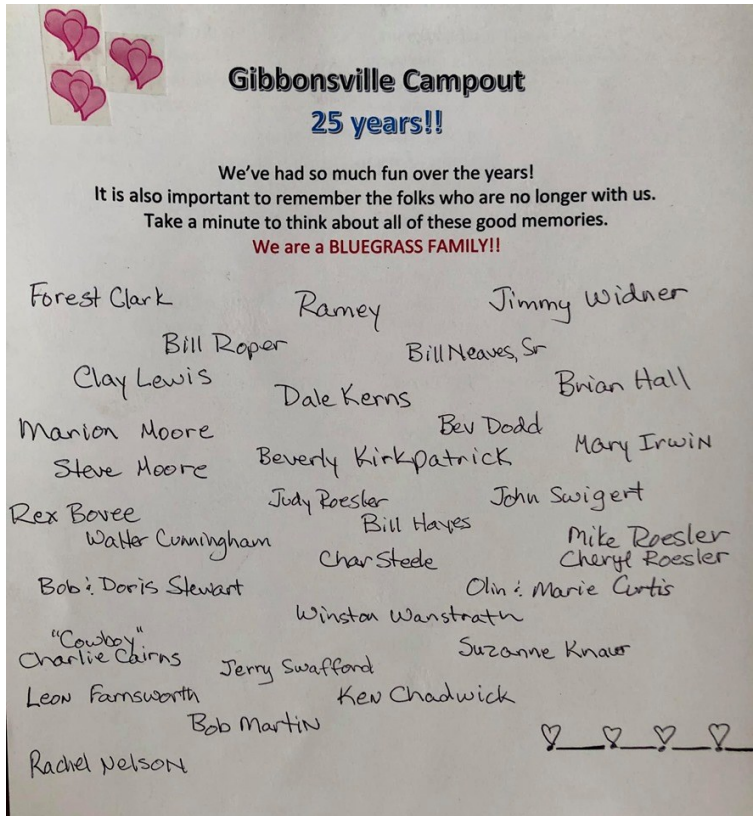
Brooke Aldridge (her third win in this category, including 2017 and 2018)

### **MALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR:**

Russell Moore (his sixth win in this category, the most recent in 2012)



# Gibbonsville Photos



Evening Jam in the Tent



Salty Dog (Bequia's Dog)



Happy Pickers



## Trumble Creek Photos



Randy & Dave Enjoy Some Good Pickin' & Grinnin'



Huckleberry Muffins Yum!



Campfire by Kevin



The Hostess with the Mostest



John & Sandy Campbell

## Bluegrass Profiles

By Kate McMahon

A while back, someone suggested to me that it would be fun to publish interviews or profiles of MRBA members. To follow up on that excellent idea, I created a bluegrass questionnaire and asked attendees at the annual Christmas Party to complete the form. Each newsletter, I will print a few of the profiles that I collected at the meeting. Thanks to everyone who volunteered to share their info.

### Arlene Wolf

**I play these instruments:** Guitar, mandolin

**Favorite Bluegrass Songs to Sing:** Oh my.... Any with harmonies

**Favorite Bluegrass Banjo Tunes:** Theme Time

**Favorite Bluegrass Fiddle Tunes:** Lonesome Fiddle Blues

**First Bluegrass Festival Attended:** 1975 in Boulder, CO

**Favorite Bluegrass Festival:** Hardtimes (any and all of them), Heiland-Thomas Ranch

**Favorite Bluegrass Music Camp:** Every jam, anytime, anywhere

**Favorite Bluegrass Band:** any Del... Any Doc.... Blue Highway.... Alison Krauss.... Steel Drivers

**Name of Bluegrass Band:** Salmon Valley String Band since 1995

**Members:** Gary Moore, Janet & Bob Griswold, Squeak Barsalou, Lloyd Pugh, Keith Bielby

**Name of Bluegrass Band:** Darby Sireens

**Members:** Tari, Verna, Janet, Charlene, Arlene

**Name of Bluegrass Band:** Blaine's Trailer Rangers (1980)

**Members:** Gary Thorpe, Stan, Barb Lodman, Steve Smith

*Ellie Nuño*

Musical styles on:

- ★ fiddle
- ★ violin
- ★ violectra



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**Elmo Tuggle***(Does Anyone Know this Guy?)***I play these instruments:** Washtub bass, the comb, spoons**Favorite Bluegrass Songs to Sing:** Wagon Wheel**Favorite Bluegrass Banjo Tunes:** Wagon Wheel**Favorite Bluegrass Fiddle Tunes:** Wagon Wheel**First Bluegrass Festival Attended:** Sesame Street "B" is for Bluegrass**Favorite Bluegrass Festival:** Hardtimes (every year)**Favorite Bluegrass Music Camp:** Next to a stream and a large breasted woman (hubba hubba)**Favorite Bluegrass Band:** The Tuggle Snuggles or Old Joe Medicine Show**Name of Bluegrass Band:** Changes weekly**Members:** Me & whoever else wants to pick**Favorite Bluegrass Memory:** Behind the stage late @ night (hubba hubba)**Yvonne Gable****I play these instruments:** Violin & Viola since July 2018**Favorite Bluegrass Songs to Sing:** Still learning songs**Favorite Bluegrass Fiddle Tunes:** Gospel—Amazing Grace**Wanted - MRBA Merchandise Manager**

MRBA is seeking a volunteer to manage merchandise for the Association.  
Duties include storing merchandise, ordering new items, and setting up merchandise table at MRBA events.  
Volunteers will assist at events to load/unload and staff tables.  
Merchandise will include primarily CD's, t-shirts, and hats.

MRBA is an all-volunteer non-profit organization. Please consider helping out.  
Merchandise sales is one way to raise money for the Association.

*THANKS, DALLAS!**For managing merchandise sales throughout the years.***You're the Best!!**

***Beautiful Star of Bethlehem****A.L. Phipps*

*Beautiful Star of Bethlehem* is one of the most popular bluegrass Christmas hymns. The classic Ralph Stanley version from 1977's *Clinch Mountain Gospel* is probably the most well known. The song has been recorded by many others including Larry Sparks, Rhonda Vincent, Daily & Vincent, Patty Loveless, Emmy Lou Harris, and others.

**C**  
Oh beautiful star of Bethlehem  
**F** **C**  
Shining afar through shadows dim  
**G**  
Given the light for those who long have gone  
**C**  
Guiding the wise men on their way  
**F** **C**  
Unto the place where Jesus lay  
**G** **C** **FC**  
Oh beautiful star of Bethlehem shine on

**CHORUS**

**C** **beautiful, beautiful star**  
Oh beautiful star  
**Star of Bethlehem**  
of Bethlehem  
**G**  
Shine upon us until the glory dawn  
**C**  
Give us the light to light the way  
**F** **C**  
Unto the land a perfect day  
**G** **C** **F** **C**  
Oh beautiful star of Bethlehem shine on shine on

**Verse**

Oh beautiful star the hope the light  
Guiding the pilgrims through the night  
Over the mountains 'til the break of dawn  
Into the light a perfect day  
It will give out a lovely ray  
Oh beautiful star of Bethlehem shine on (Shine on)

**Repeat Chorus**

Oh beautiful star of Bethlehem shine on shine on  
Oh beautiful star of Bethlehem shine on  
**G** **C** [**F** **C**]  
Oh beautiful star of Bethlehem shine on shine on]

## Did You Know?

The founder of the American Automobile Association (AAA) was a banjo player? According to the AAA magazine, "Augustus Post was born in Brooklyn in 1873. Raised in affluence, he was noted in high school for his singing and banjo skills." He graduated from Harvard Law School and was a pioneering automobile driver, an airplane pilot, a balloonist, and an accomplished outdoorsman.

## Memory Lane

Hee Haw was a television variety show featuring country music and humor in the fictional rural "Kornfield Kounty." It aired on CBS from 1969 to 1971 and then was in syndication from 1971 to 1993.

Bill Monroe and the Bluegrass Boys performed on the hit television show on January 23, 1982 (Season 14, Episode 18). The band performed two songs:

"Rose of Old Kentucky"  
"Blue Moon of Kentucky"

Also appearing on that episode was Doc Severinsen of the "Tonight Show with Johnny Carson" fame. Roy Clark and Doc played a tune called "Doc and Roy Blues."



## Make Your Own Banjo Joke

Come up with your own answer to this banjo joke.  
E-mail me your answers, and I will print them in the next newsletter.  
([kate@appcom.net](mailto:kate@appcom.net))

**Question:** What do you get when you cross a banjo player with a bass player?

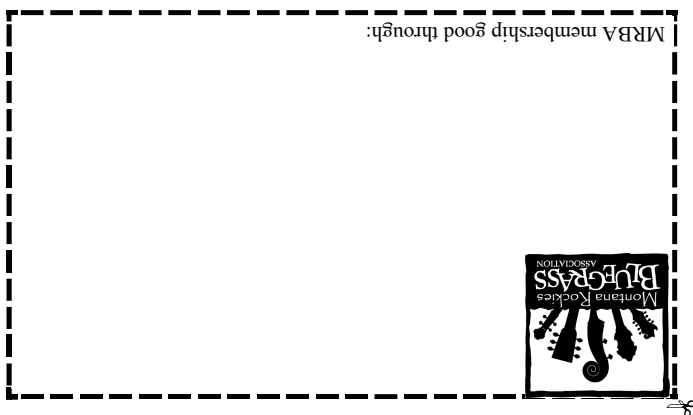
**Answer:**





***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.



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