

# Central Texas BLUEGRASS



## Bulletin

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NOVEMBER 2003



*CTBA's flyer for Bluegrass in the School*

### BOARD NEWS

The CTBA's Bluegrass In The Schools program has been blessed by the powers at the AISD and a brochure will soon be going out to Austin schools. Look for a copy of the brochure soon on the website. The program is suitable for grades K to 12 and can be from 30 minutes to 2 hrs long. CTBA members who have children in other districts may wish to approach their children's school for a possible program there. If so, ask them what procedure is necessary to put on a program at the school. For further information, contact Michael Scully at [mfs@mail.utexas.edu](mailto:mfs@mail.utexas.edu)

### WELCOME NEW & RENEWING MEMBERS

Gillespie County	Chris & Joy Stone
Historical Society	Sam Sartain
Russell Gunn	Terry & JoAnn
Sieker Band	Galbreath
Alton and Dorothy	Ken Cox
Gattis	Bob Burselson
Palace Theatre	Leo & Jane Markley
Rrank Zaruba	Floyd & Fannie
Meador family	Salmon (Salmon Lake
White family	Festival sponsor mem-
Steve Boehm	bership)
Jean and Ted Liles	Mary Ann & Curtis
Frank Hall	Henderson
Bill Frizzell	Mick DelGreco
George Byrnes: 3rd	Spencer & Kathy
Generation Gospel	Drake
Grass	James Peschka &
	family
	Roy & Jean Briggs,
	Jr.
	Dr. & Mrs. Gary
	Potter

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# CENTRAL TEXAS BLUEGRASS ASSOCIATION

For information on CTBA membership and activities, contact:

**Central Texas Bluegrass Association**  
P. O. Box 9816  
Austin, Tx, 78766-9816

512-261-9440  
email:ctba@centraltexasbluegrass.org  
www.centraltexasbluegrass.org

CTBA is a non-profit, tax-exempt  
501 (c) 3 Texas corporation

## RANDALL'S GOOD NEIGHBOR PROGRAM

The CTBA number for this program is 9735. If you sign up, Randall's will donate a percentage of your purchases to the CTBA!

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Editor: Howard Hackney

## *CTBA Artists and Bands* BOOKING INFORMATION

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**Blazing Bows:** Mary Hattersley 512-873-8925 blazingbows@lycos.com

**Brazos Country Grass:** Gary Potter 979-690-6951 gdpotter@startel.net

**Canyon River :** Sonny Herpeche 830-597-5478 flattopdove@yahoo.com

**Cedar Break:** Jon Whitley 830-257-6043 cedarbreakmail@yahoo.com

**Cedar Fever:** Howard Hackney 512-291-9280 cedar\_fever@yahoo.com

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**Eddie Collins:** 512-836-8255 eddiec@constant.com

**Farm Boys:** Nicholas Dotin 512-657-0285 nicholas@farmershouse.com

**Grazmatics:** Mike Landschoot 512-454-7343

**Hard to Make a Living:** John Hood 512-376-7767 johnhood@grandecom.net

**Ledbetters Band:** S. Drake 210-698-2601 kthdrak1956@wmconnect.com

**Manchaca All-Stars:** B. Buchanan 512-282-2756 manchacaallstars@email.com

**No Strings Attached:** Aubrey Skeen banjo6@earthlink.net

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**Randy's Rangers:** Jon Field 512-869-8076 bluegrass@cox-internet.com

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**Stayton Bonner:** 512-431-8443 staytonbonner@hotmail.com

**Steve Boatright Band:** S. Boatright 512-272-8008 scmboatright@msn.com

**3rd Generation Gospelgrass** George Byrnes 210 649-2403

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**Wayward Pony:** Dale Albright 512-267-4969 dale-mandolin@austin.rr.com

**Max Zimmet:** 512-327-6023 thegarage@swbell.net

PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU MUST HAVE A CTBA BAND MEMBERSHIP TO BE INCLUDED IN THIS LISTING. IF YOU ALREADY ARE A CTBA MEMBER, SIMPLY SEND IN THE ADDITIONAL \$5.00 TO BECOME A CTBA BAND MEMBER.

### MONTHLY ADVERTISING RATES

Full Page 7"x9"	\$30.00	1/4 page 3"x4"	\$12.50
1/2 Page 7"x4"	\$15.00	1/8 page 3.5"x2"	\$10.00

Take \$10.00 off above rates if you are a business member.

Copy deadline is the 15th of the month.

Publication on or about the 1st.

Contact the editor at thegarage@swbell.net for more information.

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# THE FIRST CALL

By George Goehl

Director of the New Film Based on the Life of Jimmy Martin

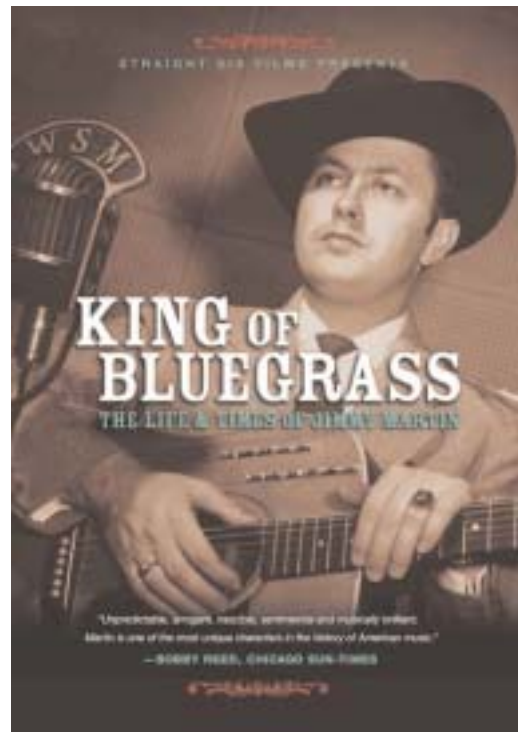
I decided to make a film about Jimmy Martin after I saw him perform in Bean Blossom, Indiana. What struck me about Jimmy was his complete lack of interest in censoring his own behavior. He pulled no punches—everybody and every subject was fair game. In a time when country music is more than ever dominated by spin control and public relations, it was refreshing, if not stunning, to see a performer say exactly what was on his mind, insulting or not. What also made his performance unique were the many layers of his personality that he shared with us as an audience. He could be arrogant, insecure, sentimental, and agitated in a matter of moments. It was an emotional roller coaster and different than anything I had ever experienced. I decided on the spot to make a film about him.

As I learned more about Jimmy, I realized that his story is pretty tragic. His lifelong ambition has been to be a member of the Grand Ole Opry, the pinnacle institution in country music for musicians of his generation. At age 75, he is possibly the most accomplished figure in bluegrass music to have never been made a member of the Grand Ole Opry. To this day remains very conflicted about his exclusion from the Opry. What interested me as we made the film was to experience how someone deals with falling short of their dream. For Jimmy it has been a struggle.

I first saw Jimmy perform in June of 1999 at Bill Monroe's Memorial Bluegrass Festival in Bean Blossom, IN. I grew up just a couple miles down the road from Bean Blossom, the world's longest running bluegrass festival. My dad still lives in the same house, just off Greasy Creek road. In the 1990s I began going out to Bean Blossom regularly, but for whatever reason, never saw Jimmy perform. I'm not sure if he was on the outs with Bill Monroe (who owned the festival at that time) or if I had just missed Jimmy's performances.

After seeing my first Jimmy Martin performance, I went back to the campfire, convinced I needed to make a film about Jimmy. The only problem was, I had never made a film or worked in film or been to film school.

I then started doing some historical research and



studying Jimmy's recordings in detail. There's not a lot written about Jimmy. The Bear Family Box set booklet is probably the most comprehensive history available. There's also a historical timeline available in the back of Tom Piazza's True Adventures with the King of Bluegrass. So, I really had to piece the basic history together through lots of different sources. Once I felt like I had a grasp of Jimmy's career, I called Mary Ann Garrison, Jimmy's fan club president. I found her name and number on a website and thought maybe she would have some insights on how to approach Jimmy.

After I dialed her number, the phone rang 20 times and nobody answered. I thought, 'Wow, this is where you are supposed to be able to order t-shirts, hats, cds and tapes, and they don't have an answering machine?'

*continued on next page...*

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Then suddenly some old guy answers and I say 'Is Mary Ann Garrison in?' he responds bluntly 'Nope, who the hell is this?' My heart starts pounding faster and I say 'Is this Jimmy Martin?' He responds, 'Who the hell you think it is?'

I had role played the conversation with Garrison in my mind for days, but never anticipated Martin's fan club president being his girlfriend. I explained who I was and what I wanted to do and that I wanted to come down to his house and meet him, but got nothing but grunts and sighs. Finally, after pitching the idea to him from numerous angles and getting nowhere. He says, 'I'll tell you what. You just come down to some festival I'm playing at and do your interview right there. Then we'll be done with it.'

I tried to explain that I wanted to make a movie about him, his music, and his life and that I would need to do more than one interview. He said, 'Now see, you're not listening to me. Just come down to some festival I'm playing at and get your interview and you'll have what you need and we'll be done.'

I kept pushing back, saying that I wanted to get some 'clarity about what kind of film I'm trying to make.' And he kept pushing right back at me. Finally after a while he said 'Boy, I don't know what this clarity is you keep talking about, but why don't you just get your camera and come on down here and let's do this thing and get to it.' Perfect.

'But, we're not doing nothing till next spring. Call me after coon hunting season is over.' Not the answer I had in mind, but we were making progress. I confirmed that we were talking about making a film about his life and that it would take much more than one interview and he agreed and hung up.

I sent him a letter confirming our plans. I then gave notice at my job, where I had been for four years, and then called him after coon hunting season, but never heard back. Finally after calling a number of times he

called one morning and left a message. I called him back and he acted as if he didn't remember our conversation. So I re-pitched the idea. The phone went silent. I pitched it again. He grunted. Again. He hemmed and hawed, then finally I make one final pitch and said 'what do you think, does this sound like a good idea?' And he said, 'I don't know, do you think it's a good idea.' I said 'Yeah, I think it a great idea.' He responded 'You do?'

Well, all right then. Let's get to it and do this thing. Hell, you could come on down this weekend. I just mowed the grass and cleaned the pen. It'll look real good for your camera.'

I wasn't ready for the trip to happen so quickly. Not even close. No crew, no clue, limited gear, and it was the same weekend as, my girlfriend at the time, Sarah's birthday. I had kind of blown her birthday the year before and had big plans to do it right this year. Sarah didn't flinch and told me to get down there and make it happen. I pulled together what gear I could and jumped in my truck and headed down to Nashville.

That first meeting was one of about 20 trips that were taken as part of the production of the film.

On about 5 trips I went solo, but more often than not had at least one other person with me to run sound. I was most often accompanied by one of three guys that I was in a band with at the time. Will Wall, Lawrence Peters, and Jason LaBrosse.

But, it was that phone call that was the beginning of a four year journey (two filming, one editing, and one getting the DVD and VHS together) that was financed almost entirely on credit cards. It was quite a risk, but was well worth it.

The film is now available for sale on VHS and DVD at [www.kingofbluegrass.com](http://www.kingofbluegrass.com) We have been accepted to 9 film festivals thus far and recently won the Jury Award for Documentary Achievement at the Sidewalk Moving Picture Festival. The film will soon be carried in stores throughout the world.





## Bluegrass Trivia Quiz


by Gordon Daugherty

Who was it that called bluegrass music "folk music in overdrive"?

- a) Joan Baez
- b) Pete Seeger
- c) Alan Lomax
- d) Woody Guthrie
- e) Roy Dean Balucek

Answer on calendar page

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# CALENDAR

## LOCAL SHOWS

**Nov. 18, HTML**, Triple Crown, San Marcos, 512 396-2236  
**Nov. 23, Let It Ride** at Artz RibHouse (6:00 – 8:30 PM)  
**Jan. 30th & 31st, 2004, Steve Kaufman**, two-day, 8-hour guitar workshop, Artz Ribhouse.. \$80. A deposit of \$40 holds your spot. Email or call Eddie Collins for information: eddiec@constant.com, 512-836-8255.  
**Jan. 31st, Steve Kaufman** at the Live Oak Unitarian Universalist Church, 3315 El Salido Parkway. 7:00 P.M. Tickets are \$10 and can be ordered in advance by contacting Eddie Collins, eddiec@constant.com, 512-836-8255.  
 \*Artz Rib House: 2530 S. Lamar, Austin 512 442-8283

## FESTIVALS & EVENTS

**Oct. 30-Nov. 2**, Tres Rios Park Fall Bluegrass Festival, Glen Rose, TX 245 897-4253 www.tresrioscamp.com  
**Nov. 7-8**, Oakdale Park Bluegrass Jam, Glen Rose, TX 245 897-2321 www.oakdalepark.com  
**Nov. 15**, SETBMA Show, Elementary School, HWY 325 S of 105, Sour Lake, TX 4pm Jam, 5pm show 409 755-0622  
**Nov. 15**, Ross Nickerson Banjo Workshop/Performance, Civic Center, League City, TX 866258-7159  
**Nov 16**, Ross Nickerson Banjo Workshop, Allen Banjo Co., Houston, TX 866 258-7159  
**Nov. 20-22**, Triple Creek RV Park Thanksgiving & Bluegrass Weekend, Woodville, TX 409 283-3642

### Answer to Bluegrass Trivia Quiz

Correct answer: (c)

Until the mid-50s, it was usually called 'hillbilly' though audiences would ask Flatt and Scruggs to play popular 'bluegrass' tunes to avoid asking for 'Monroe' tunes. A '56 issue of Billboard magazine mentioned a country DJ who switched to "all bluegrass and hillbilly material". In 1959, the famous folklorist and musicologist Alan Lomax wrote an article in Esquire entitled: "Bluegrass Background: Folk Music With Overdrive" but the above quote is how it's usually remembered now.

Please contact venues for up to date information.

Please email (soapycows@hotmail.com) or call (512-291-9280) the editor to have your show(s) listed.



### Roy Wilhite 512-244-3935

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*A one year membership includes a subscription to the Central Texas Bluegrass Bulletin.  
 Business membership includes a business card advertisement in each issue.  
 Band membership includes a Booking Info listing.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Email \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

### PLEASE NOTE THAT LISTENERS AND PICKERS ARE WELCOME TO JOIN

Please contact me about volunteering  Please send the Bulletin as  PDF file  Hard copy  
 Note that the following amounts are the minimum contribution amounts.

Type of Membership:  New  Renewal  Individual (\$20)  Family (\$25)  Band (\$25)  
 Patron (\$30)  Business/Sustaining (\$50)  Student (\$15)

For Family, Band, and Patron Memberships, please append a list of the members of your family or band.

I do not want my name and contact information included in a CTBA Membership Directory or in the CTBA mailing list, which may be exchanged with other music and arts related organizations.

**Mail your check and application to: CTBA P. O. Box 9816, Austin, TX, 78766-9816**

*Contributions to CTBA are tax deductible as allowed by Internal Revenue Service Code Section 501 (c) (5).*



## TBA AREA ONGOING EVENTS

### AUSTIN AREA

#### CTBA

• **Beginner/Intermed. Jam**  
1st & 3rd Thursday 7-9 pm  
Steve Mangold 512-345-6155

• **CTBA Jam Session**  
Sunday at Artz Rib House  
2-5 pm, 512-442-8283

• **ARTZ RIB HOUSE**  
• **Live Bluegrass Show**  
2330 S. Lamar, Sunday 6:00 pm  
512-442-8283

• **AAAMS JAM**  
• 2nd + 4th Wed, Anderson Mill  
Baptist Church, 10633 Lake Creek  
Pkwy 259-7702 for more info

• **AFTM (Austin Friends of  
Traditional Music)**  
• **Contra Dance**  
3rd Sat., Lutheran church at 3501  
Red River 8-11 pm, \$7, 462-0511

• **AFTM Jam Session**  
2nd Sun at Threadgill's South  
Barton Springs & Riverside, 2pm

• **Georgetown On the Square Jam**  
• 2nd Sun, 1 pm, wkly jams M/T  
contact Jon, 512-869-8076

• **SMITHVILLE**  
• **WayStation Opry**  
1st Sat, 205 NE 2nd, 6 pm, Steve  
Boatright, 512-272-8008

• **BRYAN/COLLEGE STATION**  
• **Jam Session**  
Monday: 6:00 to 8:00 pm  
Buppy's Catering 979-690-6951

• **Jam Session and BG Show**  
2nd Sat: Jam-4pm, Show-7pm  
Wellborn Com. Ctr. 979-690-6951



The Central Texas Bluegrass Association

P.O. Box 9816

Austin, TX 78766

### CHRIESMAN

• **Jam**  
3rd Sat: 7-10 pm  
Chriesman Community Center  
Don Cook 979-567-0573

### CLEBURNE

• **Show & Jam**  
3rd Fri Cleburne Civic Center,  
1501 W Henderson (Hwy 67) 7 pm,  
\$3 www.geocities.com/ntbbbluegrass

### GARLAND

• **Bluegrass on the Square**  
Sat- March thru October between  
Main and State Sts. at 6th, 7:30-  
1 am Jim Miller 972-276-3197

### GRANITE SHOALS

• **Bluegrass and Gospel Jam**  
Last Sat: 6:30-10:00 pm  
706 Phillips Ranch Rd.  
830-693-8408

### THE GROVE

• **Outside Pick**  
General Store, 15 mi. west of  
Temple on Hwy 36, Sat, 6 pm til...  
M. Anderson 512-282-1215

### HARWOOD

• **Stage Show & Jam Session**  
3rd Sat, 9 mi. E. of Luling,  
Hwy 90, 2-9 pm,  
Ben Buchanan 512-263-7193

### LEAGUE CITY (BABA)

• **Jam & Free Bluegrass Show**  
3rd. Sat: Jam 5pm, Show 6:30  
Jan-Nov, League City Civic  
Center, 300 W. Walker St.  
713-990-5171

### PARIS

• **Jam & Stage Show**  
3rd Sat: Jam 5:00, Show 7:00  
Chisum HS, Hwy 19 & 24, south  
of Paris \$5-members \$6-others  
Brenda Burks 903-784-8859

### PEARL

• **Jam & Stage Show**  
1st Sat: Jam 12:00, Show 4:30  
Hwy 183, 7 mi. south of Purmela  
Ronald Medart 254-865-6013

### ROCKNE

• **Bluegrass/Country Jam**  
1st Sat: 3pm til ..., 8 mi. S. of  
Cedar Creek on FM 535

### TOMBALL

• **Spring Creek Club Jam/Show**  
4th Sat: 5pm-jam, 7pm-show  
Oklahoma Community Center,  
NE of Tomball 281 376-2959

### SAN ANTONIO

• **Contra Dances**  
3rd Sat: 7:30 pm, International  
Folk Culture Center at Our  
Lady of the Lake Univ.  
512-434-6711, ext. 407

### SOUR LAKE (Beaumont)

• **Jam & Free Show**  
Southeast Tx BG Music Assn  
3rd Sat: 4pm, Elementary  
School, Hwy 326 S.  
Edy Mathews 409-755-0622

### WIMBERLEY

• **Bluegrass Jam**  
Fri: 8-12 pm, Charlie's Catfish

