

Central Texas BLUEGRASS



Bulletin

VOLUME 25

NUMBER 12

DECEMBER 2003



IN THIS ISSUE:

Bluegrass Music & Old-Time Music:

WELCOME
NEW & RENEWING
MEMBERS

Edward and Ann Collins

Mick Del Greko, The Wayfarers

Luling Chamber of Commerce

BOARD NEWS

Michael Scully reported that the Bluegrass in the Schools flyer outlining the proposed program is being forward to AISD for consideration by the teachers and administrators. Gordon Daugherty believes that we should also be contacting other school districts in the area. Howard Hackney mentioned that the School for the Blind was interested in the program. Mr. Steve Mangold stated that he understood that the School for the Deaf might be interested in a banjo concert. Since he said it with as much of a smile as Mr. Mangold can muster, those directors with a fondness for the 5-string allowed this bit of banjo-bashing to not detract from the harmony of the meeting.

Howard Hackney and Greg Jones, elected as directors beginning January 1, 2004, were also in attendance.

Steve Mangold reported that 135 ballots were mailed and 55 were returned, and that Howard Hackney and Greg Jones had been elected as directors beginning January 1, 2004. A motion was made that Howard and Greg be accepted as the elected directors for 2004, and the board approved the motion unanimously.

Gordon Daugherty brought up the issue of a proposal from Old Settler's Festival, and it was suggested that we should verify that we could have a CTBA table at the event.

Any volunteers?



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!

OFFICERS

President

John Hood
johnhood@grandecom.net
512-376-7767

Vice President

Gordon Daugherty
cgdaugh@io.com

Treasurer

Stephen Mangold
fiddle@samangold.com
512-345-6155

Secretary

Russ Gunn
RAUS7070@aol.com

DIRECTORS

Jane Laughlin
mejane@yaho.com
Michael Scully
mfs@mail.utexas.edu
Steven Zimmet
thegarage@swbell.net

COMMITTEES

Beginner/Intermediate Jam

Stephen Mangold

Membership

Jacque Austin

Webmaster

Jon Field

bluegrass@cox-internet.com

Central Texas Bluegrass Bulletin

Editor: Howard Hackney

CTBA Artists and Bands BOOKING INFORMATION

Austin Lounge Lizards: Tom Pittman 512-476-3991

Blackland Prairie Boys: Ken Brown 512-795-0981

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

Convict Hillbillies: Bryan Eagle 748-0380 eags@convicthillbillies.com

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

Pet Rooster: Jay Richardson 979-297-2709 5rs@quik.com

Pine Island Station: Gary & Janine Carter 979-826-4068

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

Shawn Spiars 512-218-3928 sspiars@abac.com

Sieker Band: Rolf and Beate Sieker 512-733-2857 thesiekers@aol.com

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

Wayfarers Mick Del Greco 210-491-8815 mickdel@juno.com

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

Willa & the Wanderers Willa Porter 512-497-6780 wlbporter@aol.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.

The Central Texas Bluegrass Bulletin is published monthly by the Central Texas Bluegrass Association. Members of CTBA receive the Bulletin as a member service of the Association. Subscription rate for additional copies and for non-members is \$15.00 per year. Contact the editor for advertising rates and information. Copyright © by Central Texas Bluegrass Association.

Publisher's Copy Protective Clause: Advertisers assume liability for all contents of advertisements and from any claims arising therefrom. We reserve the right to reject advertising for reasons of space availability or publication standards.



NEW FIDDLER SPOTLIGHT

Austin is home for a lot of things: art, the legislature, the happy, weird people in South Austin, and of course MUSIC. And now it's home again for local fiddler, Willa Porter.

In the years while she was away from Austin, she toured in several different bands. One of the groups she was in opened for such greats as Bill Monroe and John Hartford. At one point, she did a recording in Nashville with Sam Bush, Jerry Douglas, and the late Roy Husky, Jr. playing on the session. "My ex-husband and I had a good career going there for a while after the CD was released." Willa told CTBA, "but eventually that came to an end. After that there came a long hiatus of not playing and not performingthat is until about three years ago when I came back to Austin to visit my brother...(he does sound for folks like the DeRailers and Tony Price). That's when I realized I'd come home. And now I'm really happy to be back playing and singing again."

She has a new group called "Willa and the Wanderers." And they'll be playing at Artz Rib House on December 4th, 7:00 p.m. (That's the first Thursday after Thanksgiving.) "I don't really have



a set band yet." She said in our interview. "The Wanderers" are just that...I've been getting these really great musicians who just "wander" in and out of the band. I opened for another wonderful new band, the Texas Swing Kings, at the Palace Theatre a couple of weeks ago and had Tom Duplissey, Bruce Mitchell, and Larry Bailey in the band, doing western swing-style tunes."

"The gig at Artz will feature Austin's own Randy Collier on guitar, multi-instrumentalist Kevin Willette on banjo and mandolin, and the totally cute and talented, Trish Taylor on bass. These guys are

awesome players, and I count myself so fortunate to be playing with them! This will be a night of straight ahead bluegrass and fiddle tunes; the kind of music I really love to play!"

In addition to Artz's on Dec 4th, "Willa and the Wanderers" will be performing at the Lulling Bluegrass Show and Jam on Sat. Dec. 6th. The jam starts at 4:00 and there will be several bluegrass bands on the venue. (See our CTBA website for more information.) For bookings, e-mail: wlb-porter@aol.com or willa@willyafiddle.com or call 512-497-6780.

Tres Rios Amateur Bluegrass Band Contest

Steve and Joyce Marx have taken over as promoters for the Tres Rios Bluegrass Festivals. They are having their 3rd annual Amateur Bluegrass Band Contest on May 7 and 8.

There are many new bands out there that would like a chance to be seen and get some stage experience. There is no charge for this event and there is no entry fee for the bands.

It is all done in an effort to promote

bluegrass music and give bands that are just starting out a chance to be heard and compete and, of course, to have people come and see the beautiful 65 acre park where the three rivers meet.

There is a \$600 first prize and contract for the Fall festival as well as a \$400 2nd and a \$200 3rd prize. So, all you bands out there get to practicing and get in shape for the contest in the Spring.

PRO TOOLS | HD

AVALON
PURE CLASS A

*We Understand
Bluegrass Music
Recording...*

- Two Rooms
- Complete Renovation with over \$100k in new equipment
- Friendly staff and engineers
- ProTools and Digital Performer Platforms
- From concept to final CDs - a complete service provider.
- Located in San Antonio - central to all players in Texas.
- Extremely competitive rates



(210) 342-0421

www.rhapsodystreet.com



BLUEGRASS MUSIC & OLD-TIME MUSIC:

What's the difference?

by Wayne Erbsen

Bluegrass music evolved from an earlier type of country music we now call old-time music. As it's commonly played, old-time music is a mostly instrumental string-band style with a beat that's designed for square dancing. As such, the music is spirited and upbeat. The main lead instrument in old-time music is the fiddle. The fiddler normally chooses the tunes, sets the rhythm, begins the tune, and signals to the other musicians when the tune will end. Another key ingredient in old-time music is the banjo, which is played in what is called "clawhammer style." This is a rhythmic style with the right hand striking or brushing down on the strings. An old-time band would also feature a guitar player who keeps the rhythm and plays a few runs, but does not play the melody. Additional instruments in an old-time band often include a string bass, which keeps the rhythm and occasionally a mandolin player, who plays chords and also helps keep the rhythm. In old-time style, the instruments generally all play together all the time, with no breaks or solos. The melodies used in old-time music tend toward the traditional tunes brought over from the British Isles by Scots Irish immigrants in the mid to late 19th century. Newly composed tunes are rare in old-time music.

Although bluegrass evolved from old-time music, it is now quite different. In contrast to the happy, danceable sounds of an old-time stringband, bluegrass music is often sad music based on themes of hard times. One tongue-in-cheek writer called it "A celebration of pain." Bluegrass music is mainly a vocal style, where the instruments support the voices. The typical bluegrass singer sings at the top of his or her vocal range, and often there are two, three, or four part harmonies. The songs them-

selves often dwell on themes of loneliness, heartbreak and nostalgia. In contrast to old-time music which is strongly fiddle-influenced, in bluegrass no single instrument dominates. Instead, the banjo, fiddle, mandolin or guitar take turns playing breaks or solos, while the other instruments play back-up. In bluegrass style, the banjo is played with finger picks in a three-finger style as developed by Earl Scruggs, from Boiling Springs, North Carolina. In some ways, bluegrass is akin to jazz or dixieland, because the instruments taking solos or breaks freely improvise off the main melody, while the rest of the band lays down a solid rhythmic foundation. In addition to influences from jazz and dixieland, bluegrass also draws heavily on the blues. This is expressed most often in notes played by the fiddle and sometimes the mandolin and the guitar. Some bluegrass singers also sing an occasional "blue note."

So to put this in a nutshell, old-time music is mainly an upbeat instrumental dance music while bluegrass is a vocal style where the instruments freely improvise. In old-time, the fiddle is boss, and in bluegrass, most often the singer takes the lead.



Check out more of Wayne Erbsen's books and recordings by visiting his website at www.nativeground.com, or by calling 1-(800) 752-2656.

★
Thursday-Sunday
April 15-16-17-18, 2004
★



★
Salt Lick BBQ Pavilion
Camp Ben McCulloch
★

"THE PEOPLE AT OLD SETTLER'S ARE SOME OF THE KINDEST AND FRIENDLIEST FOLKS I'VE EVER MET. I'VE BEEN THERE A LOT. THEY REALLY KNOW HOW TO PUT ON A FESTIVAL. IT'S REALLY SPECIAL, AND THAT'S THE REASON I KEEP COMING BACK." -- VASSAR CLEMENTS

—
COME JOIN US AGAIN APRIL 15-18, 2004!

CAMPING, MUSIC, FUN FOR ALL AGES, THE STARS AT NIGHT AND BLUEBONNETS -- IN THE HEART OF THE TEXAS HILL COUNTRY! COME ONE DAY OR ALL FOUR AND TAKE IN THE BEST ACOUSTIC MUSIC ON THE PLANET. BRING AN INSTRUMENT AND JAM WITH YOUR FRIENDS, MEET NEW ONES. ENJOY THE WORLD FAMOUS SALT LICK BARBECUE AND THE HISTORIC CAMP BEN McCULLOCH, A VAST CAMP GROUND WITH LOTS OF SHADE, BEAUTIFUL ONION CREEK AND SCENERY.

—
**PAST PERFORMERS HAVE INCLUDED:
VASSAR CLEMENTS, PETER ROWAN, TONY RICE, BELA FLECK & THE FLECKTONES, JOHN HARTFORD, YONDER MOUNTAIN STRING BAND DEL MCCOURY BAND, JERRY DOUGLAS, TIM O'BRIEN, NICKEL CREEK ALISON KRAUSS, DAVID GRISMAN & PATTY GRIFFIN.**

**FOOD & ART VENDORS, KIDS ACTIVITIES, OPEN MIC AND MORE!
BENEFITING AUSTIN SUNSHINE CAMPS, CAPITAL AREA FOOD BANK & AUSTIN SAFEPLACE**

—
**HOTLINE: 512-370-4630
WWW.OLDSETTLERSMUSICFEST.ORG**





Restaurant **Artz RIB HOUSE** Catering

Art Blondin
Zenobia Sutton

2330 South Lamar Blvd.
Austin, Texas 78704
(512) 442-8283
Fax: (512) 442-9342

www.artzribhouse.citysearch.com
e-mail: artzribhouse@juno.com



Guitar Tex
Mark Waldrop
expert repair

New • Used
Trades &
Consignments

4330 McCullough
San Antonio, TX 78212

210-822-1595
Weber Mandolins • Gold Tone Banjos
www.guitartex.com

SALMON LAKE PARK
Where the Bluegrass is Best!

Floyd & Fannie
Salmon



936-687-2594
936-687-4141
Summer Afternoon
Hours Only

P. O. Box 483
Grapeland, TX 75844



REAL COUNTRY 92.5 FM

Rick Star
Program Director

P.O. Box 8715 • Horseshoe Bay, TX 78657
Phone: 830/598-9479 • Fax: 830/598-6534
Cell: 512/636-7855 • Member Americana Music Assoc.

Bluegrass Trivia Quiz

by Gordon Daugherty

What famous banjo player was the victim of a drive-by shooting?

- a) Roy Dean Balucek
- b) Doug Dillard
- c) J. D. Crowe
- d) Billy Ray Latham
- e) Bill Emerson




Answer on calendar page



DEERING
The Great American Banjo

At Deering Banjos
SIZE DOESN'T MATTER,



IT'S HOW MUCH
YOU ENJOY
PLAYING,
THAT COUNTS.

Ryan Holiday and his
Deering Banjo.

Photograph by Tiny Robinson

DEERING
banjo company

DEERING
Quality Banjos
Dept. CTBA, 3733 Kenora Dr.,
Spring Valley, CA 91977
Free Catalog
Call (800) 845-7791
Deering, America's Favorite Banjo
www.deeringbanjos.com



Brian Meadors of the band **Pine Island Station** won 1st place at the Tres Rios Bluegrass Festival Master of the Strings flatpick guitar contest in Glen Rose.

Brian won a Gibson Advanced Jumbo guitar with case. He played the songs "Big Mon", "Lady Be Good", and "Temperance Reel".

Brian placed 2nd in the Texas State Flatpicking Championship at the Fire on the Strings festival in May, so you know he's good!

Congratulations, Brian, enjoy that guitar.



Not all banjos get to Heaven...



Roy Wilkite 512-244-3935

Music Instruction And Performance

Guitar, Bass Guitar, Song Writing, Mandolin, Voice
Dulcimer, and Other Instruments. Acoustic or Electric



CALENDAR

LOCAL SHOWS

- Dec 4, **Willa and the Wanderers**, Artz RibHouse 7:00
- Dec 5, **Alison Krauss and Union Station**, El Paso, TX
- Dec 5, **Cedar Fever**, Waterloo Ice House on 38th, 9:00
- Dec 6, **Willa and the Wanderers**, Lulling Bluegrass Show/Jam, Lulling, TX 4:00 p.m.
- Dec 6, **Hard To Make A Living**, Chamber of Commerce - Stonewall, TX, 7:00
- Dec 6, **Alison Krauss and Union Station**, San Angelo, TX
- Dec 7, **Alison Krauss and Union Station**, San Antonio, TX
- Dec 7th, **Cedar Fever**, Momo's, 8:00
- Dec 7, **Blackland Prairie Boys**, Artz RibHouse
- Dec 13, **Sieker Band**, Artz RibHouse
- Dec 14, **No Strings Attached**, Artz RibHouse
- Dec 21, **Shawn Spiars**, Pioneer Farm with Elizabeth Bradshaw Pittman
- Dec 26, **Grazmatics**, Artz RibHouse
- Dec 26, **Hard To Make A Living**, Manchaca Fire Hall Manchaca, TX
- Dec 27, **Hard To Make A Living**, Artz RibHouse
- Dec 28, **Eddie Collins**, Artz RibHouse

*Artz Rib House: 2530 S. Lamar, Austin 512 442-8283

FESTIVALS & EVENTS

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. **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.

Answer to Bluegrass Trivia Quiz



Answer: (e) Bill Emerson in 1972. Rumor at the time suggested it was either a religious fanatic, a tone-deaf Fuller Brush man, or a fiddler.

JOIN CTBA TODAY

*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 _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phones: Home _____ Work _____ Fax _____
 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

