

Central

# Texas Bluegrass

IBMA Member

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The annual **Central Texas Bluegrass July 4th weekend Band Scramble** tradition comes a week early this year. At **2:00 pm on June 30th**, bluegrass fans and pickers will again converge on **Waterloo Ice House** in Central Austin for the annual CTBA Garage Sale and Band Scramble. Last year was the first year that Waterloo hosted the event after 15 years at Artz Rib House. By all accounts, it was a huge success, so we are glad to be back.

The Bluegrass Garage Sale part of the event is supported by donations of new & used music-related items, such as instruments, CDs, DVDs, strings, books, etc. These then are made available for purchase, or presented as silent auction items.

In past years, donations have included several banjos, guitars, fiddles, a Dobro, and a dulcimer. We will have a couple of instruments this year and a number of instructional DVDs to go along with a myriad of CD titles. Donated items are tax deductible. Contact Eddie Collins (tuneman@austin.rr.com) if you have something to donate, especially if you need to have it picked up. Otherwise, items can be dropped off at Fiddler's Green, 1809 W. 35th St., Austin, during regular business hours.

All pickers with stage experience are invited to throw their name in the appropriate hat (bag, jar, or whatever else we come up with) for their instrument. As many as **six bands will be formed**, each complete with guitar, banjo, mandolin, fiddle, and bass and even Dobro and/or piccolo banjo on occasion. The bands will have about an hour to prepare three songs (two plus the demanded encore!). While rooting each other on, a tip jar is passed with the proceeds going to the CTBA's general fund.

In recent years members of bands such as Air Cargo, Wood and Wire, Rod Moag and Texas Grass, The Showman Bluegrass Band, The "A" List Players, The Piney Grove Ramblers, Randy's Rangers, Grazmatics, The Siekers, The Upham Family Band, Steelhead String Band, Blacktop Bend, Karen Abrahams, Out Of The Blue, Christy and the Plowboys, and numerous others have participated. Everyone signs up the day of the event, but contact Eddie Collins (512-873-7803, [tuneman@austin.rr.com](mailto:tuneman@austin.rr.com)) if you have questions, or just to give him a heads up that you will be participating.



2012 Band Scramble

Photo by Ken Brown

Here is the **time line** for the events on Sunday, June 30th.

2:00 - 5:00: Bluegrass Garage Sale: Buy new/used music-related items.

3:00: Up to six new, on-the-spot bands are formed from Bluegrass/old-time pickers with stage experience who sign up to join the fun.

4:00 - 6:00: Bands perform their tunes.

Invite your friends and family for this super-fun annual event. All proceeds go to the Central Texas Bluegrass Association to help support their mission of promoting bluegrass in Central Texas and providing music scholarships for young deserving musicians.

Special thanks to **Waterloo Ice House** for once again hosting this special event! Wahoo!



## Multi-Educational Cross Cultural Arts Association

*MECCA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit educational organization that teaches music & dance to adults and children. We provide ethnic/cultural/patriotic music and dance groups for civic, schools, churches, and club programs events.*

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Join us on Saturday, July 6 for the first Wylie Jubilee featuring live bluegrass music on Ballard Avenue in the center of historic downtown Wylie! This Independence Day celebration will feature live bluegrass music

from 3:00pm until 10:00pm as well as a car show, chili cook-off, arts and crafts fair, and pony rides for the kids!

**And it's all FREE with no ticket required!**



This great event is presented by the North Texas Equestrian Center, the Wylie Downtown Merchants Association, the City of Wylie, and the Bluegrass Heritage Foundation.

Downtown Wylie has great places to jam, so come join us and pick all afternoon and evening!

The Wylie Best Western Plus is the host hotel for this event. Call 972-429-1771 discounted room rates.

Ballard Avenue just North of Highway 78  
 in Downtown Wylie, Texas 75098

Wylie Texas is located just a few minutes north of Firewheel Mall on Highway 78 northeast of Garland and south of Lake Lavon.

Proudly Presented by:



# A Pearl of a Jam

by Steve Pettit

Portions of this article originally printed in the Killeen Daily Herald, April 28, 2013. It and the accompanying photographs are reprinted here with their kind permission. All photos by Steve Pettit.

PEARL, TX — In a deeply rural Coryell County town so small it was once taken off the map, a grass-roots bluegrass community thrives.

Pearl comes to life the first Saturday of each month when scores of musicians and devotees flock to the 100-year-old stone school building to perform, listen and jam to what many of the participants call “roots music.” It’s formally called the Pearl Bluegrass 1st Saturday Jam and Stage show.

“This is the real deal,” said Brian deGraffenreid. “We travel from our home in Goldthwaite each month without fail to see and hear all of this true, American music. It’s a completely unique setting and atmosphere.”

Visitors experience a near total immersion in bluegrass, which begins as soon as they’ve parked. Informal jam sessions under trees, beneath sheltered outside seating and on the steps of the community center set the mood for live stage shows. The old school’s modest auditorium with its gently raked pine floor and intimate proscenium stage is bathed in soft daylight from the east windows. Curved plywood theater-style seats and mahogany church pews fill with audience members of all ages.



“We only use amplification for the stage shows,” said Fred Knorre from Round Rock, a fixture at the monthly event. High-ceilinged classrooms off the hallways host ever-changing ensembles for impromptu jams. “It’s totally acoustic in the jams. No amps allowed,” Knorre said.

Although the stage shows start at 1 p.m. Saturday, the area behind the center begins filling with RVs and camper trailers on Friday. Attendance swells during the next day as musicians of all ages warm up, fraternize and learn new “licks” from other participants.



Justin Shawn Doyle of Gatesville watched the stage show with his son, Justin II. “We came to Pearl to hear bluegrass as a special birthday celebration for my dad. He was born in 1943 and was in the last graduating class at the Pearl School.”

The prevailing musical style — bluegrass — has been described as a mix of gospel, old-time fiddle music and country harmonies. What you won’t see at Pearl are keyboards, wind instruments or any percussion. And watch your nomenclature, please. “It’s a fiddle, not a violin,” Tracie Upham from Austin said firmly, but with a smile.

Beginners are numerous and welcome, with much of the repertoire passed down from player to player. “No formal training” is an oft repeated phrase.

In many ways, the clock seems to have stopped years ago in Pearl. There’s no charge to participate as a musician and audience members can see as many performances as they want for free. Participation in the jams either as a musician or listener costs nothing. Attached to one wall is a box for monetary contributions and homemade style food and drinks are for sale in the cozy cafeteria.

"Those pies the ladies bake are really good," de Graffenreid said.

There is a \$10 RV hookup fee, "Too low," according to Knorre, and somehow the whole enterprise seems to work.

Visible from the school's elevation is Swayback Mountain, the inspiration for Pearl's original name: Swayback. In 1890, the name Pearl was made official, reportedly in honor of the postmaster's comely young cousin. The stone school structure dates from 1914 and has been through various trials including additions, fire, re-roofings and community uses. Standing across the road, at the front gate of the Pearl cemetery, a visitor looks back at the school and the nearby stone house built to house a teacher.

"It's worn its years well," said Kurt North, a bass fiddle player from Arlington. "Pearl is like bluegrass music. Down to earth and here to stay."

Daniel Kott is the Director of MECCA, the Multi-Educational and Cross Cultural Arts Association in Killeen (mecatx.ning.com). In an e-mail conversation, he had this to say about Pearl. "Having read the article in the Killeen Daily Herald about the Pearl, Texas jam session, I decided to drive there and see the event in May.



It is about a one-hour drive from Killeen. I took a friend who is learning to play the guitar with me. I teach music to senior citizens and lead some local jam sessions. In Killeen, we are newcomers into the world of bluegrass and old time music. We started about three years ago to learn the protocols and music for these jam sessions.

I found the event very interesting. The workshop by Dick Gimble on the Nashville Numbering System was excellent, and he is to be commended for the two books that he has published with the song tablature in the numbering system. I purchased both books for future reference. (Unfortunately,) he did not publish his material on the website, as the previous workshop presenter did.

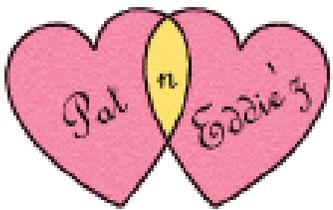
We watched a few stage performances. One performance was a young fiddler playing lead. Another was with a husband and wife playing guitar and bass. They are both seasoned performers and spend their life travelling the USA and Canada entertaining audiences with variety music.

We observed one of the jam sessions indoors and one outdoors. It was a warm and sunny day. All but two of the RV hookup sites were occupied.

We even picked up a fine fiddler for our local sessions as a result of Steve's article.

I intend to go back and see where we can fit in for the July event. This was a worthwhile day of fun at little cost."



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# Artist Profile - Billy Bright & Danny Barnes

Touring through the Austin area and Texas June 22-30, Danny Barnes and Billy Bright set out for a whirlwind tour that will showcase the grit, groove, jam, and glam that is inherent in each of their styles. Their tour takes them from Denton, to Terlingua, to Corpus and lots of miles in-between.

Danny Barnes ([www.dannybarnes.com](http://www.dannybarnes.com)) is a premier banjo player, singer/songwriter, and producer who also runs his own Minner Bucket Records, a weirdo cassette label, out of his kitchen [well technically it's his dining room]. Danny is constantly forging into uncharted 'scapes on the musical frontiers and ever expanding the territories of the banjo-related sub-genres. The present manifestation of Barnes' music, Barnyard Electronics, merges the ancient banjo tones with digital technology, effects pedals, and a software rig he built. Danny's songs will make you wish you'd thought of that and his banjo shredding and singing will set you free.



Danny Barnes



Billy Bright

Mandolinist Billy Bright ([www.billybright.com](http://www.billybright.com)) first introduced audiences to his unique brand of acoustic music in the late 1990s while attending the prestigious Berklee School of Music in Boston. The subsequent 10 years, Billy spent touring extensively with his own Two High String Band and with the Peter Rowan and Tony Rice Quartet. Currently Billy is recording and performing with Two High guitarist Geoff Union and bassist Steven Crow, is producing an ongoing recording project of banjo/mandolin instrumentals with another banjo great - Alan Munde. He produces recording projects (Geoff Union's 'Cold as Steel' - 2012) out of a little section of his garage he refers to as the "mando cave".

As part of an e-mail conversation, Billy had this to offer about their banjo/mandolin project tour.

**You're all over Texas this month with your 12-date tour. How did that come about?**

Well, it started out as three shows, we put some feelers out, and it ended up as 12. I guess it was just a few e-mails and phone calls away and maybe a little "meant to be".

**Looks like a lot of driving. You up for that?**

Yep - part of the gig! Working out of Austin, I have to be ready to drive a long way to play anywhere.

**How did you two get together?**

I don't know, really. Other than the simple answer that Danny called me up. I grew up in El Paso and, as soon as I could, I started making trips to Austin to visit my older brother. My brother, Ben, was always my sole resource for new music, including the Sex Pistols, David Grisman & Jerry Garcia ... and the Bad Livers.



As I was becoming interested in the mandolin in High School in El Paso, I never had the opportunity to experience bluegrass live - just punk and metal. So, on one of my trips to Austin, around '92, seeing the Bad Livers at the Cactus Cafe was the first time I ever got to hear and see the banjo performed live - by Danny Barnes, no less. That was it for me. So, yeah, Danny was more than a little influential in the direction I chose as a musician. Years later, I did get to play with Danny in the studio on some sessions. I got to play with him on a gig or two of Eddie Collins' at Artz Rib House and I opened up for him and sat in with him once at the Cactus. We have been aware of each other for a long time. This will be our first endeavor as our own "act".

**Banjo and mandolin are both fairly loud instruments (at least to us guitar players!). Any concerns on how this duo will come off?**

Hopefully, something like a Grateful Dead concert during the "wall of sound" years. But, seriously, until you mentioned it, no concern had entered my mind. I am just looking forward and thrilled to be playing with Danny. I guess, even though I consider myself a newbie, in the sense that I feel like I am still working hard to study how to play the mandolin, I have been doing this long enough to know that I have no idea what is 'liked'. And, honestly, I just like to play, and I try to do the best I can for the audience and hope it comes off well! This will not be conventional, in any sense of the word. Banjo and mandolin duos, though they happen, are still irregular. I dig irregular. It might even come off better because of that. Interestingly, I find with only two instruments, less really is more, and the sonic space is so vast that it is possible to explore much more, and the rhythmic groove territory becomes expansive as compared to larger bands where one's function becomes much more specific and limited. Regardless, I am looking forward to exploring those places. The drive to the gig will be just the beginning of the journey.

**Tell us about the music you'll be playing. I have a feeling it ain't grandpa's bluegrass?**

No, probably not. We'll basically be accompanying each other on each other's tunes. I know there's a bunch of Danny's songs I want to do. I am sure we will play some standards so the folks can see if we are any good or not! On the 'Barnyard Electronics' shows, I will be doing an opening set where Danny will accompany me for a portion of it, then Danny will go into the Barnyard and I will accompany him there some. On the acoustic duo shows, we will play as such, and probably do some solo pieces in there, as well. It's not Grandpa's bluegrass, but I think that my Grandpa would have liked it. They're good songs and we'll make 'em sound as good as we can. Danny and I both come from Grandpa's bluegrass, so the spirit will be there whether it is readily obvious or not.

Together, Barnes and Bright will perform a bunch of each other's songs, as well as shed some different colored light on some of the good old favorites. The sets are a combination acoustic duo and barnyard electronics. You can find the tour schedule on Billy's website ([www.billybright.com](http://www.billybright.com)). Look for them in a town near you and, if you go, take some duct tape to make sure your head doesn't explode from all that talent!



## Fiddler's Green Music Shop

Clay Levit, Owner

1809 W. 35<sup>th</sup> Street Austin, TX 78703  
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*Proud to Support CTBA!*



## City of Leander

**Megan Pumphrey**  
**P. O. Box 319**  
**Leander, TX 78646**

# CTBA Youth Scholarship Deadline Extended

by Tracie Upham

CTBA has extended the deadline for Willa Porter Music Scholarship applications to **June 9**.

Each year CTBA awards scholarships to area youth who have shown a serious interest and talent in bluegrass music. These scholarships are available to help cover tuition and room and board at any bluegrass music camp the student chooses.

Please forward this information to anyone you know that might want to apply. Details are posted on the CTBA website at [www.centraltexasbluegrass.org](http://www.centraltexasbluegrass.org) or by writing to CTBA, P. O. Box 9816, Austin, TX 78766-9816.



## Bluegrass Dates to Save!

### November 2nd

As has been our recent fall tradition, CTBA is in the process of planning a special event that will feature some fine bluegrass on Saturday, November 2nd. There are even rumors there will be a segment of "Central Texas Has Got Bluegrass Talent!" with special prizes to be awarded to contest winners. Stay tuned.

### December 6th and 7th

Three-time National Flatpick Guitar Champion, **Steve Kaufman** will be presenting a special series of workshops:

- Friday, December 6th, 7:00 - 9:30 pm, Bluegrass Rhythm and Swing Rhythm
- Saturday, December 7th, 10:00 - 12:30 pm, Beginning Intermediate Flatpicking  
1:30 - 4:00 pm Intermediate/Advanced Flatpicking. CTBA will then host Steve for a Saturday evening concert.

CTBA has committees formed to help in organizing both of these events. Please e-mail Eddie Collins ([tuneman@austin.rr.com](mailto:tuneman@austin.rr.com)) if you would like to help out.

### Saturday, June 15

Bluegrass Night in League City features **The Laughing Lizards** in the Johnnie Arolfo Civic Center, 300 West Walker. Jam sessions start at 5:00 and the stage show starts at 7:00. Admission is free. For info, see [www.bayareabluegrass.org](http://www.bayareabluegrass.org).



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# AUSTIN ALE HOUSE

301 W 6TH STREET, AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701

## SAT. JUNE 29<sup>TH</sup>

The **David Thom Band** is coming to Austin.

David Thom has been a fixture of the bluegrass scene of Northern California for some time. Heading his own band, The David Thom Band ([www.thedtb.com](http://www.thedtb.com)), he has played at the most prestigious of California's festivals, including the Strawberry Music Festival In Yosemite, Father's Day Festival at Grass Valley, Great American Music Hall and The Hardly Strictly Bluegrass Festival in San Francisco, and a long list of festivals and venues across the country.

David recently played a couple of showcases during the recent SXSW in Austin and returns to share his music with a wider audience here in Central Texas. Billed as "David Thom - Lone Star Edition", they are David on guitar, Matt Downing on banjo, Jacob Roberts on bass, and Adam Roberts on mandolin.

Check out David's amazing vocal range and hard-driving style at one of these gigs:

- Friday, June 28, **Salt Lick** in Driftwood, 6:00 pm
- Saturday, June 29th, **Austin Ale House**, 9:30 pm, along with the UK-based Toy Hearts
- Sunday, June 30th **Salt Lick** in Driftwood, 1:00 pm then following the CTBA Band Scramble at **Waterloo Ice House** on 38th St.



**THE DAVID THOM BAND**  
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All the way from NorCal!

**UK-based, sister-fronted: The Toy Hearts open the show!**  
[www.thetoyhearts.com](http://www.thetoyhearts.com)

**\$10 Cover**      [WWW.THEDTB.COM](http://WWW.THEDTB.COM)      **9:30 Start**

### What do you think?

Got a band or CD you like? An event you enjoyed? A bone to pick? Drop us a line at [ctba@centraltexasbluegrass.org](mailto:ctba@centraltexasbluegrass.org) or P. O. Box 9816, Austin, TX 78766-9816

# CTBA Bluegrass Bands

## **The 145s**

David Diers  
512-814-5145  
www.the145smusic.com

## **Air Cargo**

Ray Cargo  
raybo@raylcargo.com

## **Alan Munde Gazette**

Bill Honker  
214-693-1620  
bhonker@gmail.com

## **Allen Hurt & The Mountain Showmen**

Allen Hurt (Sherman, TX)  
www.allenhurt.com

## **Austin Steamers**

Joe Sundell  
501-416-4640  
www.theaustinsteamers.com

## **Bee Creek Boys**

Jim Umbarger  
512-922-5786  
info@beecreekboys.com

## **Better Late Than Never**

Duane Calvin  
512-835-0342

## **Blacktop Bend**

George Rios  
512-619-8536  
blacktopbend@yahoo.com

## **Bluebonnet Pickers**

Brooks Blake  
830-798-1087

## **Blue Creek String Band**

Thomas Chapmond  
512-791-3411  
tchapmond@gmail.com

## **Blue Skyz Band**

Mike Lester  
210-913-9597  
www.blueskyzband.com

## **Buffalo Grass**

Don Inbody  
512-295-6977  
don@inbody.net

## **Carper Family Band**

Jenn Miori  
carperfamilyband@gmail.com

## **Chasing Blue**

512-963-7515  
suzoleson@aol.com

## **Christy & the Plowboys**

Christy Foster 512-452-6071  
christyfoster@earthlink.net

## **David & Barbara Brown**

361-985-9902 (Corpus Christi)  
ddbrown@grandecom.net

## **Dave Seeman**

512-557-2939  
davidseeman7@gmail.com

## **Dueling Hearts**

Wil Wilson  
duelinghearts@att.net

## **Eddie Collins**

512-873-7803  
www.eddiecollins.biz  
tuneman@austin.rr.com

## **Grazmatics**

Wayne Ross  
512-330-2188  
lwayneross@gmail.com

## **Hem & Haw**

Ben Hodges & Jenn Miori  
hemandhawmusic@gmail.com

## **James Reams & The Barnstormers**

718-374-1086  
james@jamesreams.com  
www.jamesreams.com

## **Karen Abrahams**

Babyhead Promotions  
512-659-5256  
www.karenabrahams.com

## **The Ledbetters**

Spencer Drake 830-660-2533  
kthdrake@wildblue.net

## **The Lost Pines**

Talia Bryce 512-814-5134  
thelostpines@gmail.com  
www.lostpinesband.com

## **Manchaca All-Stars**

Ben Buchanan  
512-282-2756  
manchacaallstars@ email.com

## **Missing Tradition**

Diana & Dan Ost  
512-848-1634  
missingtradition@gmail.com

## **Out of the Blue**

Jamie Stubblefield  
512-923-4288  
jamie5011@aol.com

## **Piney Grove Ramblers**

Wayne Brooks  
512-699-8282  
www.pgramblers.com

## **Ragged Union**

Geoff Union  
512-563-9821  
gunion@austin.rr.com

## **Randy's Rangers**

Sigi Field 512-869-8076  
www.jrfnet.net/rr  
sigi@sigi.us

## **Robertson County Line**

Jeff Robertson  
512-629-5742  
jaydubya7@yahoo.com

## **Rod Moag and Texas Grass**

Rod Moag  
512-467-6825  
rodmoag@texas.net

## **The Sieker Band**

Rolf & Beate Sieker  
512-733-2857  
www.siekerband.com

## **Shawn Spiars**

512-627-3921  
www.banjohangout.org/my/sspiars  
sspiars@gmail.com

## **String Beans**

Mike Montgomery  
mikemon@astro.as.utexas.edu

## **Joe Sundell & the Show & Tellers**

Rebecca Patek  
262-617-4152  
www.joesundell.com

## **Third Rail**

Susannah Armstrong  
936-870-7819  
thirdrailbluegrass@gmail.com

## **Upham Family Band**

Tracie Upham  
uphambluegrass@gmail.com

## **Wires and Wood**

David Dyer  
210-680-1889

## **The Wimberley Bunch**

Marilyn Lumia  
512-557-2112

## **Woodstreet Bloodhounds**

Robert Becker (Oak Park, IL)  
708-714-7206  
robertbecker1755@sbcglobal.net



## Fiddler's Green Music Shop Collings MT Mandolin Giveaway!

For the month of June any purchase of \$50 or more (before tax and/or shipping) will enter you in a drawing for a **NEW Collings MT Mandolin!**

Your choice: Sunburst or Honey Amber. This is a \$2500 value! Only one entry per person. Drawing will be on Tuesday July 2nd

More info on our website: [www.fiddlersgreenmusicshop.com](http://www.fiddlersgreenmusicshop.com)



## Wanted: New Venue for Weekly Sunday CTBA Jam

It was a little over a year ago that we relocated the weekly CTBA Sunday afternoon jam from the now-closed Artz Ribhouse to Scholz Garten. While Sholz's has made us feel welcome, there have been several times when jammers have shown up to find it closed to the general public due to a private event being held at that time.

Do you know of a good location in the Austin area that would welcome a regularly-scheduled group of jammers? The CTBA board welcomes the input of all our members and those attending the jams to help us locate a new jam location. If you know of a centrally-located venue that you think would be a good jam location, send your suggestions with a contact name to [ctba@centraltexasbluegrass.org](mailto:ctba@centraltexasbluegrass.org) or via snail mail at PO Box 9816, Austin, TX 78766.

We will continue to meet at Scholz's until another location can be found.



The **Big Sandy Bluegrass Show & Jam** is happening on June 8th.

Join the acoustic jam at 4:00 pm.

The show, featuring the guest band *The Purple Hulls*, starts at 7:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

204 S Tyler, Big Sandy, TX

For more information, call 903-738-3216.

Admission \$6.00

## Visit Llano

[www.promotellano.org](http://www.promotellano.org)

Ann Matlack  
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# Claire Lynch: Artist, Songwriter, Winner

The following is printed here with permission from *Cybergrass – The Bluegrass Music News Network* ([www.cybergrass.com/node/2027](http://www.cybergrass.com/node/2027)).

Bluegrass music artist and songwriter **Claire Lynch** ([compassrecords.com/claire-lynch](http://compassrecords.com/claire-lynch)) is among 54 remarkable artists to receive one of 50 USA Fellowships (some collaborative) from United States Artists (USA). The national arts advocacy organization announced the award of the 2012 fellowships, each of which comes with an unrestricted grant of \$50,000. The 2012 USA Fellows represent the most innovative and influential artists in their fields. Reflecting the diversity of artistic practice in America, they include cutting-edge thinkers and traditional practitioners from the fields of architecture and design, crafts and traditional arts, dance, literature, media, music, theater arts, and visual arts.

Out of the 54 winners, only seven are in the music field. Lynch joins 2012 fellow Tony Trischka and 2010 fellow Rob Ickes as the only USA fellows whose roots are in the bluegrass tradition.

Lynch has long been recognized as a creative force in acoustic music and at the forefront of women who have expanded the bluegrass genre. She has twice earned The International Bluegrass Music Association's "Female Vocalist of the Year" title, and two GRAMMY nominations among others. For over two decades, Lynch has delighted audiences and enjoyed reverent standing ovations for her shows at prestigious music festivals and theaters around the world.

"On a personal level, it makes me feel "bona fide" and will fuel my creativity and confidence and allow me to take my work to new levels," shares Lynch. "... the thrill of being selected (brought) an incredible energy to the (studio) sessions."

Lynch has crafted one of the most instantly identifiable sounds in acoustic music. Her style encompasses classic bluegrass and thoughtful infusions of contemporary folk, country, rock, and swing. As a songwriter of inventive and evocative Music Row hits, her songs have been recorded by Kathy Mattea, Patty Loveless, and others, and she has performed as a backing/harmony vocalist with Dolly Parton, Linda Ronstadt, Emmylou Harris, and Pam Tillis -- just to name a few.



In an e-mail conversation, Claire told CTBA, "One of the greatest things this win has done for me is to endorse my artistic efforts as bona fide, not only in the bluegrass world, but in the music world at large. That kind of 'atta girl' has done wonders for my confidence and career."

United States Artists (USA's) mission is to invest in America's finest artists and illuminate the value of artists to society. Through the USA Fellows program, which annually awards 50 unrestricted grants of \$50,000 each to outstanding performing, visual, media, and literary artists across the country, USA has put \$17.5 million in the hands of artists in the seven years since its founding.

Claire's latest CD, *Dear Sister*, showcases Lynch and her razor sharp band (Mark Schatz – bass, Matt Wingate – guitar, mandolin, Bryan McDowell – fiddle, mandolin, guitar) on a rock-solid, 10-song set of bluegrassy folk and Americana. Mix up a little Emmy Lou and a little Pam Tillis and you get Claire's smooth, accessibility that invites you in

for something that feels both familiar and comfortable: like stepping out of the car after a long drive, looking up the driveway, and seeing your family smiling back at you. From Compass Records, *Dear Sister* is one of those CDs you put in the player, go about your business, then realize you've stopped doing whatever was so important because of Claire's voice and the music she's made. Enjoy.

# BLUEGRASS JAMS!!!

**NOTICE:** Be sure to contact the venue and/or host to ensure the jam/show is still active. The only info we have about each of these is what was sent to us. If you find a problem with any venue or need to change your information, drop us a line at [ctba@centralbluegrass.org](mailto:ctba@centralbluegrass.org).

## AUSTIN

2nd & 4th Saturday, CTBA Sponsored, 3801 Berkman Drive, 78723, slow jam, 2 to 4 pm; intermediate jam 4 to 6 pm

1st & 3rd Thursdays 7:00 pm at Bruce Mansbridge's home  
Call Steve Mangold 512-345-6155 for info on all Austin jams

Every Sunday, Scholz Garten, 1607 San Jacinto, 78701 2:00 pm

1st Wed., Musicians Woodshed, 7:00 - 10:00 pm, 3698 RR 620 South, Ste. 107, 78738, [themusicianswoodshed.com](http://themusicianswoodshed.com)

Every Tuesday, Texas Old Time Fiddlers Jam, 8:00-10:00 pm, Scholz Garten, 1607 San Jacinto, 78701. Info: Tom Lindsey, [lindseytg@aol.com](mailto:lindseytg@aol.com)

## BANDERA

4th Friday, 6:30 pm at Silver Sage Corral, east of Bandera. Info: 830-796-4969 (No jam on Good Friday)

## BELLVILLE

4th Saturday, Jam & Show (Spring Creek Club Sponsored), Jan. - Sep, JAM 6:30 pm, SHOW, Coushatta RV Ranch, 979-865-5250, [bluegrass221@peoplepc.com](mailto:bluegrass221@peoplepc.com), [www.springcreekbluegrass.com](http://www.springcreekbluegrass.com)

## Carrollton

Saturdays (March - Nov), 7:30pm -1:00 am, between Main and State Streets at 6th, Info: Jim Miller 972-276-3197  
[www.meetup.com/bluegrass-142](http://www.meetup.com/bluegrass-142)

## Corpus Christi

2nd Sunday, 2:00 pm, Heritage Park, Corpus Christi, South Texas Bluegrass Association, Info: Bill Davis 361-387-4552

## Dallas

1st Tue., Bluegrass Heritage Foundation jam, 7:00 pm, Charley's Guitar Shop, 2720 Royal Lane, [www.charleysguitar.com](http://www.charleysguitar.com), 972-243-4187

## FAYETTEVILLE

2nd Sat, April - November, starts at 6 pm, Courthouse Square  
[info@texaspickinpark.com](mailto:info@texaspickinpark.com), [www.texaspickinpark.com](http://www.texaspickinpark.com)

## FIELD CREEK

1st Sat, Field Creek Music - 6:00 pm, Field Creek is between Llano and Brady on Hwy 71. Info: Bill Tuckness 325-247-3223

## Garland

Saturdays, Mar-Nov, 7:30 pm, between Main and State streets at 6th, Info: Jim Miller 972-276-3197

## GEORGETOWN

Every Thursday at Duke's BBQ, 5:30 to 7:30 pm, 512-869-8076 or [sign@sigi.us](mailto:sign@sigi.us), [pages.suddenlink.net/jrf/rr/](http://pages.suddenlink.net/jrf/rr/)

## GLEN ROSE

3rd Sat., Oakdale Park, Paluxy River Bluegrass Assn., free stage show, camping encouraged, Info: John Scott 817-525-0558

## HARWOOD

3rd Sat., 2-9 pm, JAM & Stage Show, 9 mi. E. of Luling, Hwy 90, Info: Tony Conyers 512-601-1510 or 512-940-3731

## HONDO

1st Friday, Hondo Hootenanny, starts at 11 am. Hondo Community Center, 1014 18th st, Hondo, TX Info 830 426 2831

## LEAGUE CITY

3rd Sat., (Jan-Nov) Jam 5 pm (BABA Sponsored) Show 6:30 pm, Info: Rick Kirkland 281-488-2244, [www.bayareabluegrass.org](http://www.bayareabluegrass.org)

## LIBERTY HILL

4th Sat., Jam, 1-6 pm, Hwy 29 West, Info: Paula 512-778-5410

## LLANO

4th Sat. (Jan. - Oct.), Bluegrass in the Hill Country Jam, 5:30-10:30 pm, at The Badu House, Info: [info@BluegrassInTheHillCountry.org](mailto:info@BluegrassInTheHillCountry.org)

1st & 3rd Tue., Beginner/Intermediate, 7:00 pm First Presbyterian Church, Info: Jeff White 325-248-4114

1st Sat., Field Creek Fiddle Jam, 6-9 pm, Field Creek is between Llano and Brady on Hwy 71, Info: Bill Tuckness 325-247-3223

3rd Sat., Pontotoc Fiddle Jam, 6-9 PM, Pontotoc is between Llano and Brady on Hwy 71, Info: Bill Tuckness 325-247-3223

## MANCHACA

Thur., 6:30-9:00 pm, Manchaca Railroad Bar-B-Q, FM 1626, Info: Dave 512-680-4433

## MEDINA

2nd Tue., All Gospel Jam 6: pm, First Baptist Church, Info: Linda Barton 830-589-2486

## MONTGOMERY

1st Sat., Jam, 10 am-2 pm, downtown historical District, Discount coupons at local KOA, Info: Mike Davis [mld@consolidated.net](mailto:mld@consolidated.net)

## PEARL

1st Sat, Pearl Bluegrass Jam & Show, 1 pm, Old School House, FM 183 (not US 183) 7 mi South of Purmela, RV hookups available, Info: Ronald Medart 254-865-6013, [www.pearlbluegrass.com](http://www.pearlbluegrass.com)

## ROUND ROCK

3rd Sat., 2-5 pm, Danny Ray's Music, 12 Chisholm Trail, [www.dannyraysmusic.com](http://www.dannyraysmusic.com), 512-671-8663

## SAN ANTONIO

Every Monday, "In-A-Jam" Bluegrass Jam Session, 7-9 pm at Grady's BBQ #7, 327 E. Nakoma (at Hwy 281). Info: Peyton Starr 210-870-4321 or Sheryl Sultenfuss

## SHULENBURG

1st & 3rd Tue., RV Park Clubhouse, 6:30-9:00 pm, Contact: Loretta Baumgarten 979-743-4388 or [Camp@SchulenburgRVPark.com](mailto:Camp@SchulenburgRVPark.com)

## UTOPIA

3rd Friday, Jam, 7:00 pm, Senior Citizens Center, Info: Skip Doerr 830-966-6362

## Victoria

3rd Friday, 5:00-10:00 pm, American Legion Post #166, 1402 E. Santa Rosa, Free Admission. Info: Stan Kendrick 935-4413, Gary Moses 550-5466, or [crossroadsbluegrass@yahoo.com](mailto:crossroadsbluegrass@yahoo.com)



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CTBA's Volume 2, \$10.00, (includes shipping to anywhere in the United States).

The printed newsletter costs CTBA about \$26/year per mailed subscription. If you can, please select E-mail Newsletter.

Membership Rates:	with E-mail Newsletter	with Paper Newsletter
Individual	\$25.00	\$30.00
Band	\$35.00	\$40.00
Student	\$15.00	\$20.00
Family	\$35.00	\$40.00
Business	\$50.00	\$55.00
Lifetime	\$300.00	\$300.00

CTBA has 100% pre-shrunk cotton, high-quality t-shirts with CTBA's logo on the front, available in Black and White in S, M, L, XL, and XXL for only \$15.00. The new Mona Lisa and Earl Scruggs t-shirts are \$20.00.

Take \$5.00 off the advertising rates if you are already ad business member. Copy deadline is the 15th of the month. Publication is on or about the 1st day of the each month. Send electronic notices to: [ctba@centraltexasbluegrass.org](mailto:ctba@centraltexasbluegrass.org). Send payment to:

Central Texas Bluegrass Association  
 Attention: Editor  
 PO BOX 9816  
 Austin, TX 78766

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If you would like CTBA to review CDs or would like us to include promo material for artists performing in Texas, please send to our e-mail at [ctba@centraltexasbluegrass.org](mailto:ctba@centraltexasbluegrass.org) or snail mail to the PO Box listed above.

Please Join CTBA: <http://www.centraltexasbluegrass.org/join.html>

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THE CENTRAL TEXAS BLUEGRASS ASSOCIATION IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION WHOSE MISSION IS TO PROMOTE BLUEGRASS MUSIC IN CENTRAL TEXAS.

Our members range from listeners and lovers of bluegrass music to world-class professional musicians who all have the same desire: to promote the music.

CTBA provides a link between clubs, restaurants, and other venues and Central Texas Bluegrass musicians.

CTBA sponsors jams, workshops, provides scholarships to needy musicians, donates to other non-profit organizations, supports radio stations that promote bluegrass music & musicians, and provides festival venues for our readers and fans of bluegrass music to enjoy. KEEP ON PICKIN'!



Did you know that **MECA** is in Killeen, Texas, halfway between Waco and Austin? It is. It's the home of the **Multi-Educational Cross Cultural Arts Association**.

Run by Daniel Kott, Director, MECA is a network of people from around the world, dedicated to international music and dance with emphasis on research, teaching, and publications.

MECA became involved in bluegrass and old-time music about three years ago. Prior to that, MECA presented workshops and jam session in the accordion and mariachi world of music.

They also present a few styles of dance, such as international folk dance, Mexican folklorico, patriotic and clogging. We teach children and adults and publish most of our music and arrangements.

Bluegrass and old time music classes are given twice a week at our two senior citizen centers. We have fiddlers coming from Waco, Bunett, and Salado for these sessions.

We also have Texas style gospel sessions and, on some Sunday afternoons, there are jams sessions. Most of our sessions are open to the public and free.

MECA has performances about once a month at a community event in the regional area and, on occasion, in cities close to I35 ranging from Dallas to San Antonio.

On Saturday, July 20, we will be have a jam session and will present a workshop at the Brazos Valley Cloggers convention at the Waco Convention Center.

We usually include some dance instruction in our workshops such as old time contra, square, and modern clogging. We try to teach musicians to play live music for many styles of dance.

For more information about MECA and its offerings and how you can get involved, see its website at [www.mecatx.ning.com](http://www.mecatx.ning.com), the youtube.com channel *mecatx*, or the ustream.tv channel *mecatx*.

Stop by and join us for a fun musical and dance experience.



**Texas State Mandolin  
Contest**

Johnnie Arolfo Civic Center, 300 West Walker

**Saturday, July 20, 2013**

Grand Prize - \$300 + paid admission to  
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2<sup>nd</sup> Prize - \$150

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize - \$50

Contestant Entry Fee - \$20

Competition Starts at 7:00 p.m.

