

Central

Texas Bluegrass

IBMA Member

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CTBA Year-end Wrap-up

by Stacy Holt, President

Now that 2014 is winding down, I thought I would take this time to look back at our CTBA year in review. I am proud of our accomplishments and what our CTBA board and members did this year.

First, we found a new home for the CTBA Sunday jam at **Hill's Cafe**. What I hear from most folks is that it has been a great success. Lots of jamming space available and great drinks and food available have made for a good time. Hill's has definitely made us feel at home and has done an excellent job with the two other events we held there this year.

Our **Willa Beach-Porter Scholarships** were given to three very deserving kids. Brothers **Ethan and John-Samuel May** attended Camp Bluegrass as a part of their scholarships. **Ryan Chatterjee** was our other recipient. He attended Gerald Jones' Acoustic Music Camp in Arlington. I have met these young men and their families and can safely say, this is by far the best way our membership dollars are spent. To see fine young people continue the love and spreading of bluegrass music brings a great joy.

CTBA was at the forefront of the **Llano Blue Bell Bluegrass Festival** with great thanks to our own webmaster, **Jeff White**. Jeff was once again in charge of booking acts for the festival and chose a fantastic line-up from CTBA bands. I strongly encourage you to attend next year's event. Llano really shines at this festival every year.

Our annual CTBA **Band Scramble and Garage Sale** was a huge success this year. Total money raised was the highest ever (\$2000+) as well as 49 musicians participated – another new record. Our thanks to **Eddie Collins** for once again spearheading one of CTBA's biggest fund-raisers of the year.

This year, CTBA tried something bold and worked with a local promoter in Hallettsville to produce the **Lone Star Bluegrass Festival**. CTBA supplied music featuring nationally known Audie Blaylock and the Redliners, as well as regional acts. CTBA provided a first-class pure bluegrass festival in central Texas. Thanks to board members **Adam and Jacob Roberts** for spearheading the event for CTBA.

This year also brought some sadness as we said goodbye to a group of people who had a great influence on CTBA:

- **Ray Cargo** – Passed away April 8th, 2014. Founder of *Air Cargo* along with Randy Collier and Kevin Willette. *Air Cargo* just released a CD, titled *Years*, of their recordings.
- **Carla Wilson Miller** – Passed away on May 23rd, 2014. Carla, wife of Ted Miller, was instrumental in organizing CTBA with Ted in their home 37 years ago!
- **Art Blondin** - Passed away Aug. 30th, 2015. Best known as the owner of Artz Rib House, Art was a great friend to Austin live music. He helped not only bluegrass musicians and music, but was a great friend to CTBA, hosting our CTBA jams for years.

Also, many thanks go to Steve and Jacque and Chris and Joy for running the CTBA Beginner / Intermediate jam each month at the Mueller Wildflower center. It continues to thrive each year. Thanks to Bob Vestal for an incredible year of newsletters and Jeff White for his work on the CTBA website. Thank you both for your hard work!

So, looking back, we had a great year and here's hoping 2015 will be even better for CTBA.
Stacy Holt - President, CTBA

Meet a CTBA Band - Four Fights Per Pint

by Bob Vestal

Have you been paying attention to some of the band names that are popping up lately: Infamous Stringdusters, Leftover Salmon, Paper Bird, Four Fights Per Pint. Wait. What? Four what per what? There's got to be story behind that name so let's find out from this month's CTBA band profile - **Four Fights Per Pint**. As always, let's start with getting to know each of the band members.

- Jay Littleton, guitar, lead and backup vocals. I'm originally from Barnsdall, Oklahoma, and moved to the area in 1986. I live in Pflugerville.
- Bo Slone, banjo, silent vocals, brings good looks to the band. From Muncie, Indiana. I've lived in the Austin area for six years.
- Carlos Gonzalez, mandolin, lead and backup vocals. Originally from Minneapolis and moved from Boston to Austin in 2011.
- Russell Holly-Hurt, fiddle, lead and backup vocals. I'm From Odessa, TX, and have lived in Austin for eight years.
- Ray Fisher, standup bass. I grew up in Baytown outside of Houston. I moved to Austin in 1972 to go to college and never left, aside from a two-year sojourn co-living between here and Boston.

How long have you been playing?

J. L. - I started playing in my teens and 20s. I took a little break and have been playing for about 20 years now.

B. S. - I've been playing for 13 years. I picked up the banjo at age 31.

C. G. - I've been playing mandolin for 20 years.

R. H. H. - I played violin from age 12 through college but never was any good. I started playing fiddle only when I joined FFPP three years ago.

R. F. - I played three years in high school and college. I took a seven-year break where I worked on classical guitar. I started playing bass again in 1978 and have never stopped since then.

Has it always been bluegrass for you?

J. L. - I started out playing in rock and country bands.

B. S. - I listened to a variety of music growing up (jam-bands, bluegrass, hip-hop, pop, metal, alternative, etc.). I spent time going to bluegrass festivals as a kid with my grandparents. I rediscovered bluegrass in graduate school and began taking banjo lessons in response.

C. G. - No, I studied classical music and have been in rock, Americana, and metal bands playing bass and guitar as well.

R. H. H. - I have played guitar in blues, rock, funk, and hip-hop bands and only got turned on to bluegrass a few years ago. It took some time to grow on me.

R. F. - This is my first outing in bluegrass. I mainly play in symphonies. I also play jazz. I have a bit of experience playing progressive country and Americana as well.

If not, why did you switch and how is playing bluegrass different from what you were playing before?

J. L. - When I started playing again, I was and am into acoustic music. In 1999, my wife and I took



the kids up to Ohio for the holidays. My wife's brother is real heavy into music. He and I started to run some errands in his car. He popped in a CD and said "Check this out." The CD was *The Mountain* by Steve Earle and Del McCoury Band. Man, that really opened things up. From then on, I started soaking up as much bluegrass as I could find; from Bill Monroe to the present.

C. G. - I still play electric too, but playing acoustic is much more natural.

R. H. H. - Bluegrass is similar to other music I have played because of the emphasis on improvisation and relatively simple tunes, so the switch was natural. The biggest difference is using acoustic instruments, which exposes all the little details of your playing. No hiding behind distortion!

R. F. - I never switched, I just added this to my list. It's a very different skill set from classical and jazz. It's more playing by ear. My role here is focused more on keeping the key and the rhythm; to keep it simple and try to focus on those two things mostly.

Who most influenced your interest in music and playing?

J. L. - My family on both sides. Uncles, aunts, cousins, mother, grandmother played instruments. Piano, organ, accordion, guitar, banjo, steel guitar, dobro, bass, harmonica. I have an uncle who played dobro a little with Jimmy Martin. He has a "Pickin' Barn" on his property in Dewey, Oklahoma. He threw these jams and would invite a lot of his friends. There would be 50 pickers playing old country and bluegrass in little groups all around this barn. These jams would be pot luck and would go late into the night. My parents used to take me and my brothers ever since I was able to walk or probably before. Harold, who is in his late 70s, still plays a great dobro and still puts on jam sessions. A lot smaller than the old days but there are still some great pickers in that area.

B. S. - Yonder Mountain String Band, Earl Scruggs (and Lester too), Del McCoury, Greensky Bluegrass, The Stanley Brothers.

C. G. - My parents started me playing violin from a very young age, so music has always been a part of my life.

R. H. H. - Bela Fleck's bluegrass recordings did the most to bring me to bluegrass. Once I started to appreciate it, I began to find influences everywhere. Recently Greensky Bluegrass and Punch Brothers have interested me the most.

R. F. - Beethoven, Bach, Mozart, Duke Ellington, Charlie Hayden, Francois Rabbath.

Working or retired? What do/did you do for a living?

J. L. - I work for Bella Vita Custom Homes as a builder.

BB. S. - Working as a Geologist for Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

C. G. - I work at Wheatsville.

R. H. H. - I am a web developer.

R. F. - I make my living doing bankruptcy law.

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What do you like most about playing with other folks and with the band?

J. L. - Playing with others is great. It's quite a feeling to set down with one or more and combine your sounds and be able to say, hey that's pretty good. Playing with Four Fights Per Pint is really cool. Everyone is laid back, no egos and we're friends. Even if we weren't tied together through the music, we could hang out and have a good time. I feel pretty lucky playing with these guys. We have a lot of fun.

B. S. - Their charming dispositions.

R. H. H. - Everyone brings their own piece to any musical interaction. It is a very intimate experience, but one that can be shared with a number of people. My favorite thing about playing with FFPP is that we all have the freedom to explore our ideas and try something new.

R. F. - Playing with other people is great because it exposes you to so many musical ideas and personalities. I play with people ranging in age from late teens to late 80s. It's a wonderful way to interact in a creative and stimulating way with so many people of different ages with different points of view, both musical and otherwise. This is a fun band playing fun music. I like everyone in the band. We take it seriously but make sure we have fun. We practice. We are always adding new music. I think that is important.

How and when did the group get started and where did the name come from?

J. L. - I started running Craigslist ads looking for players. Besides playing, there had to be a good fit. Bo was the first and I think we been playing together six years. Carlos about over three years. Russell over two and Ray about two. Bo came up with the name. I'll let him tell it.



B. S. - Jay was looking for pickers online and found me on Craigslist. The two of us stuck together and patiently found the others the same way after trying several different people.

The name is a reference to a moonshine documentary. In the movie, a reference is made to proofing the moonshine "this here is about Four Fights Per Pint". (J.L. - The better the shine, the higher the fights per pint. The scale only goes to four.)

R. F. - I am the newest member. I joined about two years ago in response to a Craigslist posting for a bass player.

Where does the group play and do you have a schedule or website?

J. L. - We play the Green Mesquite, Threadgill's Bluegrass Brunch, and got to play the Sudden Link Bluegrass Festival in Leander this year and a quick set at the Austin Friends Of Traditional Music Festival last year. We also do private parties and weddings. We play out once or twice a month. We all have real jobs. We aren't very high tech; we do FB and post gigs on it. We also have tunes on ReverbNation.

B. S. - We'll play wherever they will have us. Facebook. ReverbNation....



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What do y'all play: originals, covers, mix?

J. L. - We play covers and originals. We have four people who write songs in the band. We also like to take covers from different genres and play them in a bluegrass style.

B. S. - It's a mix; everyone in the band contributes.

You've spent some time in the studio. How did that work out?

J. L. - Russell turned us on to Justin with Shine Studios. He did an amazing job. He really knows his equipment.

B. S. - Awesome; we are retiring now.

R. F. - I thought (it went) rather well.

When did you get involved with CTBA and why?

J. L. - I got involved with CTBA a few years ago. CTBA is a great way to find out what's going on in the area for the bluegrass fan and player.

How important do you think it is to attend one or more of the jams around central Texas?

J. L. - The jams are great. I don't get to hit as many as I would like due to work and family. I know Russell hits a few and always comes back ranting about the fun he had.

R. F. - We have not been doing it as a group, but I think it is a good idea.

What advice would you give to anyone wanting to start learning how to play an instrument?

J. L. - Buy the best instrument you can afford. If you don't know about instruments take someone with you that is knowledgeable. Take lessons, if possible. Play only on the days you breath and play with others as much as possible. The jams with CTBA gives ample possibilities for jams. Also, You-Tube is a great way to learn.

B. S. - Just do it. I am living proof it can be done as an adult (if you can call me an adult). Take some lessons if it is not inherently obvious to you. Practice every day and stick with it through the plateaus.

R. F. - Take lessons. Spend time on it every day. Keep it fun. Always be in learning mode. No matter how good you are, how long you have played, etc., you will always have stuff to learn. I always say that I am learning to play the bass. If I ever reach the point where I say I know how to play the bass I think I have to quit. Beyond all of that.... SCALES and arpeggios. Lots of scales.

What do you have planned for the coming year?

J. L. - Keep playing and having fun. Come see us sometime. We'll leave the light on for ya.

Keep playing and having fun. That seems to be a familiar theme that runs through nearly every interview I conduct, whether it's a member, a fan, or a band. And, these guys seem to put that advice into practice at every opportunity. Thanks to Four Fights Per Pint for being our spotlight band this month. Go hear them play whenever you get a chance. You'll be glad you did.



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Meet New Board Member - Jason Pratt

by Bob Vestal

2015 brings new board members to CTBA to replace those who are completing their tenure on the board. I thought a little more in-depth information would be helpful as a way to get to know “the new kids on the block”. So, this month, let’s start with banjo player **Jason Pratt**.

Tell us a little about where were you born and reared?

I was born in Dallas in 1971, along with Texas Stadium and the Bangladesh Air Force. It was a Wednesday. I grew up in the South -- Dallas, Vicksburg, Mississippi; El Dorado, Arkansas; Pensacola, Florida, and San Antonio. My dad was in the radio business before Clear Channel owned everything and my brother and I had our FCC broadcast licenses by the time we were teenagers, which we mainly used to impress girls, since neither of us had a DJ voice.

When/why did you come to Austin?

After graduate school in North Carolina, I went to live in the Bay Area of California. My daughter was born in San Francisco in 1998 and we were having a great time with everything, except that we lived in a shoebox, couldn’t afford anything, and our families were 1500 miles away.

So, in September of 2001, we packed up and moved back to Texas and settled in Austin (Rosedale neighborhood.) We’ve been here ever since then. We’ll sometimes tell people that Kelly and I have been here since 1988 (which is when Kelly started at UT) when we’re trying to talk about how bad it’s gotten what with all the new people here and the traffic and South Lamar and whatnot.

Married? Kids?

I met my wife when I was 18 years old, married since 22. Two children - Megan, 16 and John, 12. The kids both claim to hate banjo music, but I know that I am secretly getting to them.

What do you do, career wise, to support your banjo habit?

I work for a software company that helps big companies who advertise on the Internet. The company is based in Israel and our US headquarters is in San Francisco, so I travel a lot and see the world.

What instrument(s) do you play and for how long?

I started to play the five-string banjo about 3.5 years ago. If it weren’t for Eddie Collins, I might have given up by now.

Any other musicians in your family?

My dad is the reason I started playing banjo. He has played the guitar since he was a little kid in Arkansas, and I grew up listening to him and my uncle and their friends, during jams at our house that went late into the night with lots of laughing and singing. In grade school I played classical violin for a few years in the orchestra, but I stopped playing in high school as other interests took over.

Dad got into playing the mandolin a few years ago and wanted to learn how to play bluegrass, so I decided since he was going to learn a new instrument and “start over”, I would too. So, I picked up the banjo, found Eddie, and signed up for lessons, and that’s how I got here, to being interviewed for the CTBA newsletter.

Who are your favorite artists/musicians?

I like all kinds of music really, not just bluegrass. I actually think our beloved genre sounds much better in person than it does on a recording, and I don’t know why that is. My theory has maybe to do with the depth and complexity being ‘flattened out’ when you listen to a recorded bluegrass song. Anyway, some favorites are of course Flatt & Scruggs (still untopped, in my opinion), JD Crowe & The New South, Bill Monroe (for the mando/fiddle tunes mainly), Alison Krauss & Union Station, Steeldrivers, Steep Canyon Rangers, Noam Pikelnny, that kind of thing. I also recently discov-



Jason (left) with Eddie Collins at the November CTBA Annual Meeting at Hill’s Cafe in Austin. Photo by Bob Vestal.

ered the Clay Hess Band and like some of what they're doing, and I just started listening to the new Rob McCoury album, *The 5 String Flamethrower*.

Has bluegrass always been your focus?

Bluegrass hasn't always been my focus, I came here because I wanted to play some music with my dad. I stayed because I love the sound.

With your work responsibilities, what do you do to stay in shape, musically? How do you practice/jam, etc.?

With travel it's hard to practice every day unless I want to lug my 20 lb. banjo and case all over the world. So I practice more when I am at home, and I visualize playing sometimes while I'm sitting on a plane, which really does help (science has proven that visualization works to learn a skill, I learned that as a kid.) I play with a small group on weekends, go to jams from time to time, and play along to recordings like Grasstrax, which I recently discovered and have really helped me get better with my timing and stuff. My crippling stage fright is getting better -- but I still get to enjoy it loud and clear when I try to play on stage, so that's something I'm working on.

How/when did you get involved in CTBA?

I got involved with CTBA a couple of years ago -- the Scholz Garten event with Alan Munde is when I joined CTBA. Joining the board is a way for me to contribute in some small way and try to help carry on the tradition of this fine music any way I can.

Thanks to Jason for the interview and for his contribution and involvement in CTBA. It's people like Jason who will ensure that CTBA is in good hands and has a bright future. If you'd like to get more involved with CTBA, be sure to submit or renew your membership today. It's as easy as click, click, click on our website at centraltexasbluegrass.org/join.html.



Back in [July](#) of this year we told you about how Academy Award-winner Matthew McConaughey, Oxford American magazine editor Roger D. Hodge, and the Texas Music Office announced that the state of Texas would be the focus of the OA's 16th annual music issue. The announcement was at Austin's iconic Continental Club. Well, that issue is now available. It honors the profound musical history of Texas in 160 pages of writing and art, along with a 25-song CD compilation. The OA's Texas Music issue (\$12.95) makes a perfect holiday gift for music lovers. To order a single copy, visit your local bookstore or newsstand, including every Barnes & Noble store in the US, or purchase a copy at OxfordAmerican.org.



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Bluegrass Week - June 21-27: Flatpicking: Mark Cosgrove, Roberto Dalla Vecchia, Andy Hatfield, John Kael, Mike Kaufman, Tim May, Scott Nygaard, Molly Tuttle; **Mandolin:** Alan Bibey, Paul Glasse, David Harvey, Emory Lester, John Moore and John Reischman; **Bluegrass Banjo:** Dennis Caplinger, Gary Davis, Alan Munde and Chris Quinn; **Songwriting:** Wil Maring; **Bass:** Clint Mullican, Missy Raines, and Steve Roy; **Bluegrass Singing:** Jim Hurst and Dede Wyland; **Ukulele:** Marcy Marxer; **Dobro™:** Curtis Burch, Jimmy Heffernan, Ivan Rosenberg; **Bluegrass Fiddle:** Becky Buller, Danny Kelly, Annie Staninec; **Jam Instructors:** Keith Yoder, Annie Savage, Tony A.

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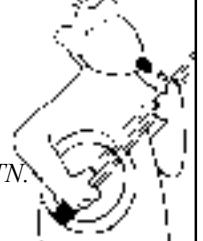
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Musical notation for the first system, measures 1-4. Chords: A, A, A, A, A. Includes Mandolin and Guitar parts with tablature.

Musical notation for the second system, measures 5-8. Chords: A, A, E, A, A. Includes Mandolin and Guitar parts with tablature.

Musical notation for the third system, measures 9-12. Chords: A, D, A, A, A, A. Includes Mandolin and Guitar parts with tablature.

Musical notation for the fourth system, measures 13-16. Chords: D, A, A, E, A, A. Includes Mandolin and Guitar parts with tablature.



Hill's Cafe welcomes the CTBA annual meeting.
Photo by Bob Vestal.



The High Stakes Rollers, Eddie Collins, Wes Green, and Clayton Elliott, are joined by Rachael Hutton at the CTBA annual meeting.
Photo by Bob Vestal.



Bright/Munde headline the CTBA annual meeting at Hill's Cafe in Austin in November. (l-r) Billy Bright, Steven Crow, Elliott Rogers, and Alan Munde. Photo by Bob Vestal.

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Burnt Ends

Not the main course but some mighty tasty bits.

I got a note from David Polacheck saying "I want to extend a personal invitation to all bluegrass musicians to the **Stone Soup Sessions** at the Texas Music Museum, 1009 E 11th St., Austin. The Stone Soup Session is a free event where traditional folk musicians of all types are welcome to join in and share their gifts. Listeners are also welcome. The event is held on the third Sunday of every month from 2:00-5:00 p.m." The Stone Soup Sessions are a collaboration between the **Austin Friends of Traditional Music** and the **Texas Music Museum**. For more information, contact David at polacheckdavid@gmail.com or 512 750 8142.



Hillcrest Bluegrass in Lubbock starts back up in January through September on the last Friday of the month. They usually start around 7:00 p.m. at the Hillcrest Country Club, 4011 N Boston Ave. For more information you can check out their Facebook page at [facebook.com/HillcrestBluegrass](https://www.facebook.com/HillcrestBluegrass) or send an e-mail to Tommy Reece at hillcrestbluegrass@gmail.com.

The International Bluegrass Music Association (IBMA) announced plans to air an edited version of the **25th Annual International Bluegrass Music Awards** on television in late February or early March 2015. The Awards show, filmed live on October 2, 2014, in the Memorial Theatre in Raleigh, North Carolina and hosted by Lee Ann Womack and Jerry Douglas, will be part of American Public Television's "Music City Roots" series in 2015. Check your local listing for dates and times.



The **Winter Hill Country Acoustic Music Camp** runs from Friday, January 09 - Sunday, January 11, 2015, at the Mt. Wesley Conference Center, 610 Methodist Encampment Rd., in Kerrville, TX. Winter HCAMP is designed to teach both instrument and jamming skills - playing your instrument in a group with other instruments. Morning classes are instrument classes and afternoon classes are jamming classes, learning and improving the skills involved with playing with other instruments in a group. Alan Munde, Steve Smith, Chris Sanders, Anne Luna, Billy Bright, Eddie Collins, Tim Porter, and Dick Walker make up our 2015 faculty. Billy Bright will be teaching mandolin with Steve Smith. Ann Luna will be teaching bass and beginning guitar. Eddie Collins will be teaching guitar and banjo. For more information and to register, see www.hcamp.org or call them at 830-895-5700.

The **Lone Star Fest**, put on by the Bluegrass Heritage Foundation, takes place Friday & Saturday, **March 13-14, 2015**, at the Doubletree by Hilton, 981 North Central Expressway, **Richardson, Texas 75080**. For more information, see their website at www.bluegrassheritage.org/Events.php.



The **Marksmen Quartet**, from left, Earle Wheeler, Aaron Johnson, Mark Wheeler, and Darrin Chambers have released a new CD, *Generations*. Earle said, "This is my 44th album and each time we create a new one, its is just as exciting as the first time, the creativity, the love that is shared through the music, and the hope that God uses it to reach those who need to hear his message." The CD is available at for download on iTunes, Amazon.com, and CD-Baby. For more information, visit www.marksmenquartet.com.

CTBA Bluegrass Bands

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Blue Creek Bluegrass Gospel Band
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CTBA member, **Danny Santos**, for the first time will be taking his band, Los Bluegrass Vatos, with him on a tour of Europe in the spring of 2015. Santos has toured Europe numerous times in configurations anywhere from a solo act to a trio. You can find dates for the tour posted on his website at www.dannysantosmusic.com.



Fiddler's Green is offering a series of month-long music classes designed to provide a fun group environment for people to learn a new instrument, improve existing skills, make some new friends, and just have fun! Classes begin on the first Sunday of each month and run for four consecutive Sundays, for a total of six hours of instruction. Cost is \$120. Class size is 5 - 25 participants. For more info, see tinyurl.com/pkau5mm.

"I've Never Seen A Love That Wasn't Blind" is the #1 song on the Bluegrass Today Weekly Airplay Chart, making an impressive leap from the #5 position earlier. The song, which appears on **Phil Leadbetter's** latest album *The Next Move*, was written by Steve Gulley and Tim Stafford. It features deft vocals by Gulley and Dale Ann Bradley, along with the always remarkable Phil Leadbetter pickin' on the Dobro. For more on Phil, visit www.unclephilonline.com.



One room. One mic. Six Traditional tunes, the traditional way. The first of many volumes. Pay what you want. Available December 1st. #woodandwire #woodshedsessions www.woodandwireband.com



Smile Amazon Program

Remember, you can have a dollar amount donated to CTBA simply by registering and purchasing items through smile.amazon.com instead of just amazon.com. Amazon donates an amount to the charity of your choice based on your purchase price. The donation amount comes directly from amazon.com and is not added on to the item price. Sweet!



Randall's Good Neighbor Program

The process to get this started is a bit of a pain, but it makes donating to CTBA, your local schools, or your favorite non-profit organizations very, very easy. Just go to the link below, print the form and fill it out, enter CTBA's code 9735, and take to your local Randall's store:

http://shop.safeway.com/corporate/randalls/gn_houston_austin.pdf.

You can also request the form from your local store.

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.

Austin

2nd & 4th Saturday, CTBA Sponsored beginner-intermediate jam, 3801 Berkman Drive, 78723, 3:00 - 5:00 pm. Steve Mangold, 512-345-6155.

3rd Saturday, AFTM Contradance, 7:30 - 11 pm, Info: 3501 Red River, \$7, 512-453-8936

1st & 3rd Thursday, beginner/intermediate, 7:00 pm, 512-345-6155.

Every Sunday, Hill's Cafe, 4700 S. Congress Ave, Austin 78745, 2:00 pm

Every Tuesday, Texas Old Time Fiddlers Jam, 8:00-10:00 pm, Scholz Garten, 1607 San Jacinto, 78701. Info: Tom Lindsey, lindseytg@aol.com or 512-301-3856.

Every Thursday, beginner/intermediate jam, Texican Cafe, 11940 Manchaca Road, 6:00-9:00 pm. Info: Dave Stritzinger 512-689-4433

Bandera

4th Friday, 6:30 pm, 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 @ 4:00 pm, Show @ 6:30, Coushatta RV Ranch, 979-865-5250, bluegrass221@peoplepc.com, www.springcreekbluegrass.com

Carrollton

Jam info at: www.meetup.com/bluegrass-142

Clear Lake - First Tuesday, 7-9 pm at Fuddruckers, 2040 NASA Pkwy, Houston, 77058, Info: www.bayareabluegrass.org/Jam_Stacks.html

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, 972-243-4187

Dickinson - Every Friday, 7-9 pm, Dickinson BBQ and Steakhouse, 2111 FM 517 East, 77539, Info: www.bayareabluegrass.org/Jam_Stacks.html

Fayetteville

2nd weekend, April - November, starts at 6:00 pm, Courthouse Square, info: www.texaspickinpark.com, Tom Duplissey at 512-415-3177

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

Bluegrass on the Square between Main & State Streets at 6th from 7:30 - 1:00 AM. Contact: Jim Miller 972-276-3197.

Georgetown

Every Thursday at Dickey's BBQ Pit, 723 W. University Ave, 78626, 5:30 to 7:30 pm, 512-869-8076 or sigi@sigi.us.

Glen Rose

3rd Sat., Oakdale Park, Paluxy River Bluegrass Assn. Jam 2:00 pm, free stage show @ 6:00 pm, Friday night camping encouraged, 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

Kerrville

2nd Friday, 6-9pm, Unity Church of the Hill Country, 1016 Jefferson St., Kerrville, Info: Sandra Lane, 830-257-9892

League City

3rd Sat., (Jan-Nov) Jam 4:30 pm (BABA Sponsored) Show at 7:00 pm, Info: Rick Kirkland 281-488-2244, www.bayareabluegrass.org

Liberty Hill

4th Sat., Jam, 4-9 pm, Hwy 29 West, Info: Teresa Garner 512-963-4612

Llano

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

2nd & 4th Thursday, 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

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

Pearl

1st Sat, Pearl Bluegrass Jam & Show, 10 am, Pearl Community Center, FM 183 (not US 183) 7 mi South of Purme-la, Info: Ronald Medart 254-865-6013, www.pearlbluegrass.com

Round rock

3rd Sat., 2-5 pm, Danny Ray's Music, 12 Chisholm Trail, www.dannyraysmusic.com, 512-671-8663

San Antonio - Mondays, The Barbecue Station, 1610 N.E. Loop 410, Harry Wurzbach exit, 6:30 pm, 210-824-9191

Shulenburg

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

Utopia

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

Membership and Advertising Rates



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
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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, White, and Burnt Orange, S, M, L, XL, and XXL for only \$15.00. The Mona Lisa and Earl Scruggs t-shirts are \$20.00.

Take \$5.00 off the advertising rates if you are already a 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. Send payment to:

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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 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'!

Merry Christmas



& Happy New Year
from all of us at CTBA

