



Artwork by Emily Isbell

THE GRASSY GAZETTE

Fall 2022

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Listen y'all, we've got a lot of business to cover this quarter, I'll keep it brief. I love music, I love bluegrass, please **mark your calendars** for the **2022 CTBA Annual Meeting** and **watch your inboxes** for your **CTBA Board Election ballots**. And I hope to see each and every one of you at Oskar Blues Austin some Sunday soon! Here we go...

Jon Lundbom
President, Central Texas Bluegrass Association

CTBA BAND SCRAMBLE & GARAGE SALE RECAP



The **CTBA Band Scramble & Garage Sale**, hosted by **Eddie Collins**, was a tremendous success. We ended up with **six bands** made from **35 pickers**, and we raised **over \$1500** to help support bluegrass in Central Texas!

Here's the **full lineup**, please forgive the spelling errors, I'm sure there are many, we're doing our best over here...

Los Bluegrass Papis

Christopher Melas, Chris Jones, Shawn Spiars, Chip Bach, Jeff White, Rob Lifford

Anniversary Band

Randy Collier, Doug Sultenfuss, Ed Seykota, Cristian Lieneck, Ben Hulan, Celebrindal Roberts

Great River Valley Far Sighted Pickers

Jeff Robertson, Ginger Evans, Izaak Mora, Mike Bond, Karen Abrahams, Fred Langer

Leftovers

Jon Cook, Jim Trainer, Eddie Collins, Keith Davis, Will Shubert

Back in 30 Seconds

Parker Jensen, Ryan Hagler, Julian Root, Charlotte Jensen, Evan Hall,
Scott Stegall

The Head Band

Greg Jones, Paul Grovenant, Wayne Ross, Jackson Wreden, Earl Hunt,
Sheryl Sultenfuss

Many thanks to **Eddie**, **Oskar Blues**, everyone who **came out**, everyone who **threw their name in a hat**, and everyone who **made a purchase** to help support bluegrass in Central Texas!



CTBA ANNUAL MEETING: SAVE THE DATE!

The **2022 CTBA Annual Meeting** will be held at **Suds Monkey Brewing Company** (12024 US-290, Austin, TX 78737) on **Sunday, November 13th**. There will be jamming, there will be performances, there will be election results, there will be new t-shirts...all this and so much more! **Mark your**

SUDS MONKEY

BREWING CO.

CTBA 2023-2024 BOARD ELECTIONS



Which means it's also time for the **CTBA Board Elections!** This year we will be electing CTBA members in good standing to serve on the **Board of Directors** for the **2023-2024 term**. Ballots went out over the weekend, so **check your inboxes**. Results will be announced at the Annual Meeting.

CENTRAL MACHINE WORKS BREWERY

CTBA Business Member Feature

Bluegrass in Central Texas is constantly growing: we regularly welcome new pickers, gigs, jams, and friends to the scene. We are happy to extend a hearty howdy to East Austin brewery **Central Machine Works**, one of our most recently-drafted business members.

Central Machine Works opened its doors in 2019. Or, rather, they reopened the doors - the brewery occupies an **80+ year old fabrication shop** in an industrial corner of East Austin. When the building was erected as Capitol Machine Works in 1940, it was dedicated to the **production of aircraft parts** and **transport trailers** for the nationwide effort to **bolster American troops in World War Two**. After the war, the shop built industrial supply machinery for local businesses.



After standing shuttered for decades, the building was revitalized - not rebuilt! - as a brewery and beer hall. **Massive fermenters stand** right alongside denizens and patrons of the beer hall. No separate brew room here - the **earthy aromas of beer brewing** waft between the diners, drinkers, pints, and pizzas. The Austin-sized patio in the back of the building

features a **large stage** with professional audio gear and a tasteful array of string lights.

OK, enough about the beer and pizza and patio, **what about the Bluegrass?!?** Manager **Justin Zamieroski** loves bluegrass and old time

music. While living in Floyd, VA, after college, Justin got bit hard by the string band bug. Naturally, when he was approached about **hosting a bluegrass night earlier this summer**, he was immediately interested. But he didn't stop there - he quickly informed the CTBA that he'd love to **support bluegrass in Austin and Central Texas** by becoming a business member.

Thanks to Justin and the whole crew at Central Machine Works, East Austin bluegrass fans can now enjoy **live Bluegrass the first Sunday of the month** from **4-6PM**, while filling up on pizza and beer.

Thank you, Central Machine Works!**We love our business members!**



CTBA WILLA BEACH-PORTER SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE

The CTBA is thrilled to announce we have awarded two more **ArtistWorks** scholarships for 2022! We awarded a scholarship to **Bo Seamon** (last seen performing at CTBA Memorial Fest) as well as a second year of **ArtistWorks** to **Martina Stecklein**. Congratulations to the both of you!



The CTBA still has ArtistWorks scholarships available for 2022, available to any resident of Texas. Head on over to CentralTexasBluegrass.org/Scholarship and apply today!



CTBA MERCH UPDATE

Due to overwhelming popular demand, the CTBA is proud to announce we have **new trucker hats!** We have **high-profile hats** in **pink** and **royal blue**, as well as **lower-profile hats** in **beige** and **navy**. We are working on getting the new hats up at CentralTexasBluegrass.org/Store, but in the meantime you can shoot us a line at CTBA@CentralTexasBluegrass.org or say howdy if you see us out and about at a local bluegrass event.



And as we hinted at above, we will have a special, **new CTBA shirt** available at the **Annual Meeting!** More information to come...



FALL FESTIVAL SEASON IS HERE

Bloomin' Bluegrass & Farmgrass

Much of the country may consider summer to be festival season, but here in the land of the ninety-degree night, our festival season is the fall. The **Bluegrass Heritage Foundation's** 13th annual **Bloomin' Bluegrass Festival** in Farmer's Branch runs **October 14th & 15th** for two days of world-class **stage performances** during the day and **hotel pickin'** into the wee hours of the night. **Jamming** will also be present all over the festival grounds from **4:30-10PM Friday** and from **Noon-10PM Saturday**.

The lion's share of performances will be on Saturday, featuring shows from **Balsam Range, the Del McCoury Band, Dan Tyminski, the Seldom Scene**, and others. However, bluegrass fans who arrive on Friday will be able to catch **Rhonda Vincent and Alan Bibey** (pro tip: be there both days!). The **Grassroots Stage** will feature CTBA member-band **Bobby Giles & Texas Gales**, as well as many other local talents.



The package hotels are unfortunately all booked, but camping is available nearby. Other area hotels have vacancies as of our deadline. For tickets and more information, please visit BloominBluegrass.com.



If you haven't gotten your festival fix after Bloomin' or are longing for a less "urban" festival, we highly recommend checking out the **Farmgrass Camp & Jam Festival** the following weekend! **Farmgrass**, a **local nonprofit that raises funds for Central Texas farmers**, will host its rebranded Farmgrass Camp & Jam on **October 21st & 22nd** at **The Old Settler's Homestead** (1616 FM 3158, Dale, TX).

This fun, intimate festival will feature local bands **Ley Line, Randy Collier & Grassland, Lost Pines, Jomo & The Possum Posse, Big Cedar Fever, Tiger Alley**, and more. Overnight camping is available on Friday night, and you can expect a down-home campsite festival scene just like grandma used to make. **Gates open at 3PM Friday and 10AM Saturday.**

For more information about the festival as well as the Farmgrass organization, head on over to Farmgrass.org.



FARMGRASS

CAMP & JAM

SUPPORTING FARMSHARE AUSTIN

LEY LINE

JOMO & THE POSSUM POSSE | BIG CEDAR FEVER
LOST PINES | RANDY COLLIER & GRASSLAND
BO TYLER BLUEGRASS BAND | ANDY SPROUTS
TIGER ALLEY | MYSTERY BEANS | SUMMER RENTAL

October 21-22, 2022 in Dale, Texas
at the Old Settler's Homestead



HELP PEARL BLUEGRASS

by Celebrindal Roberts



Pearl Texas Community Center Bluegrass has been around since the 90's. I remember camping out there and picking until the sun came up! It is geographically well situated to bring in folks from Houston, Dallas, Abilene, and all over Texas to play bluegrass together. The pie alone is a great reason to drive some miles and hear some good music. Since COVID,

attendance has been dropping. There is a **Pearl Community Center Board Meeting** on **October 24th** at **6:30pm CST** at the community center.

As a bluegrass player in Texas I have two questions: (1) **What would make pickers come back?** And (2) **What does Pearl Community Center need to keep Pearl Bluegrass going?** If you ever **went to Pearl** and **had a great experience** please **let us know** what you loved and what would draw you and your instruments back to this historic meeting place. Just drop us a line at **Pearl@CentralTexasBluegrass.org**. Thanks!

CTBA BUSINESS MEMBERS

The CTBA is proud to have the following businesses as members, please consider supporting them as they support Bluegrass in Central Texas!

Barton Springs Mill
BartonSpringsMill.com

Central Machine Works
CMWBrewery.com

Country Guitar Online
CountryGuitarOnline.com

Heart & Hands Massage

Madrone Coffee Co.
MadroneMountainCoffee.com

Oskar Blues Austin
Oskarblues.com/location/austin-tx-oskar-blues-taproom/

Old Settler's Music Fest
OldSettlersMusicFest.org

St. Elmo Brewing Company
StElmoBrewing.com

Texas Bluegrass Music
TXBluegrassMusic.com

Vista Brewing
VistaBrewing.com

Woodtone Strings
WoodtoneStrings.com

If you and your business are interested in becoming a part of the CTBA, please head on over to **CentralTexasBluegrass.org/Join** or reach out at **CTBA@CentralTexasBluegrass.org**.

' Possum with the

WiFi Password

*...and other juxtapositions
by your editor, Julian Root*



Last week marked the 60th anniversary of the premier of "The Beverly Hillbillies." Its theme song, "The Ballad of Jed Clampett," was swiftly seared into the collective subconscious of a generation. However, this was not the first time bluegrass

music was used as soundtrack material.

In 1961, Ohio State University film director Joe Anderson utilized accelerated frame speed ("time lapse") footage of a day in the life of a college football team to create a bizarre, fragmented short film called "Football as it is Played Today." The frenetic film needed frenetic music.

Enter the Country Cutups. This local Columbus, OH, based outfit – led by Sid Campbell – was playing the coffeeshop circuit around the university and would later evolve into the Dixie Gentlemen. The Country Cutups were "discovered" by the film's music director, Franklin Miller. The Cutups recorded "Dallas Rag," which was used in the short film.

The avant-garde film made it all the way to the fourth-annual American Film Festival in New York the following year, where it took first place in the "film as art" category. The whopping, unexpected success of this film led Columbia Pictures to approach the film's owners (OSU) about mass distribution. The offer was never accepted, as OSU football head coach Woody Hayes was upset by the music's connotation, claiming it made OSU look like a "cow college."

Post script: while Ross Branham played banjo on the soundtrack, he was replaced shortly thereafter by young banjo phenom John Hickman, who passed away last year. He would have been 80 years old this Friday (October 7).



