

SPRING APRIL 2012

Bluegrass Bulletin

Official newsletter of the

Northern Bluegrass Circle Music Society



bluegrassnorth.com



Publisher
Michelle Guidera

Visit us online at
www.bluegrassnorth.com

♪♪♪♪♪
The Bluegrass Bulletin is published four times a year to provide information and recognition to NBCMS members
♪♪♪♪♪

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Bluegrass Music Jam Every Wednesday at 6:45 pm

Pleasantview Community Hall-10860-57 Avenue

Jamming Since '96



Presidents Message



Thanks everyone for supporting my nomination as the new NBCMS president. What a wonderful club to be involved in with so much talent and dedication from everyone. My first official duty was to round up my newly elected execu-

tive and we participated in an informative 4 hour meeting. It's important to know where we stand on our aspirations, goals and opinions. I can promise the membership a great year with a lot of cooperation. The summer bluegrass season is coming soon. I see lots of activity looming: Nimble Fingers Workshop (our own Matt Hotte will be instructing there), Blueberry Bluegrass and Country Music Festival (a stellar line-up of the top acts in bluegrass, thanks Norm and crew), Shady Grove Bluegrass Festival and Flatpicking contest (hats off to Al Lamonaca for constantly coming up with good ideas), and our own fall concert at the beautiful Capitol Theatre (featuring Frank Ray and Cedar Hill).

I have read over all the comments from our on-line surveys and will be discussing these with the executive. You folks have a lot of ideas I would like to try to implement. My main objectives are to focus on "jamming" and to always "keep it bluegrass". Anything that promotes these fundamentals will be explored.

Later,
Ron Mercer



Ron Mercer report for 2012

B- gets along with other people

C basic talent

F practices his scales everyday

A brings his lunch to every jam session

D remembers to apologize before/ after every banjo solo

Please have your parents and at least two other musicians that are not friends sign this report card and return to your Teacher

Parent

musician

another musician



A Greeting from the new Newsletter Director—Michelle Guidera



I will do my best to make the newsletters fun and full of information! That being said, I would greatly appreciate any submissions and feedback for the upcoming newsletters. Happy Pickin'!

Michelle Guidera

Hello fellow Bluegrasser! I am Michelle Guidera. For those of you who don't know me, I have been playing Bluegrass for over eight years. I started to learn and play at this very club! I am playing in a band called *Cabin Fever* (cabinfeverband.org) We have four members including my husband Pat Guidera (past NBCMS president and Blueberry Bluegrass & country Music Festival Entertainment Director) who sings with me and plays guitar, Don Lecky sings and plays mandolin, & fiddle and Jeff Reiter on the banjo. I play the bass and sing. Although I started with guitar and then mandolin & I like the bass best! We first started as the NBCMS house band and decided to keep playing together! Anyway enough about me, I am so excited to be asked to fill this position.



Welcome New NBCMS Board!!

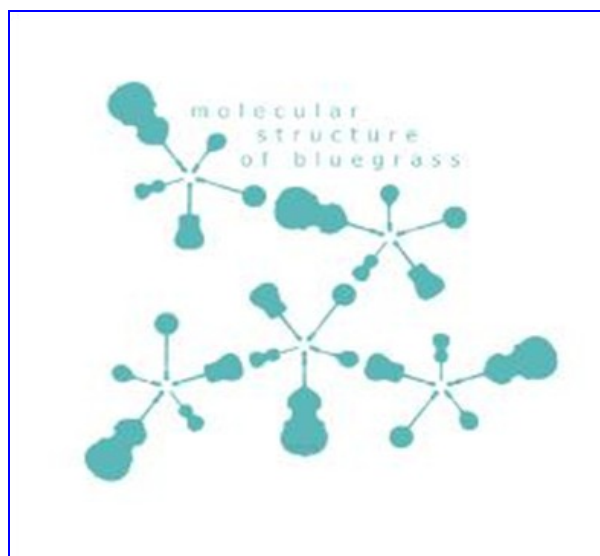
Thank you to all of the 2011 Executive for your time, efforts and dedication to the club! The new board is made up of:

Executive

Ron Mercer – President
 Doug Reid – Vice President
 Rob Baker – Treasurer
 Kayla Hotte – Secretary

Directors

Bob Whaling – Front of House
 Noel McNaughton – Advertising
 Steve Schroeter – Equipment
 Mike Bunting – Membership
 Shawn Robinson – Website
 Anna Somerville – Workshop and Concert
 Michelle Guidera - Newsletter



Spring Creek Concert—By Rob Baker, Photos By Doug Reid

THE WAY I SAW IT- Rob Baker

February 11, 2012 WHERE WERE YOU ????

I just happened to be at Stencil Hall checking out some great Bluegrass shows.

First up on deck was Edmonton's own, The Bix Mix Boys.

Now if you don't know who the Bix Mix Boys are, well you just missed out seeing one of Edmonton's oldest & finest Bluegrass bands. The Boys came well prepared & served up a platter of some good old tunes and some originals that had Canadian content. The group of 5 hit the stage and just started right into their set. Their vocals were strong & the instruments tight. Fronted by banjo wiz Darcy Whiteside, Darcy shared the spotlight with all the members of the band, who each had their own respective job to do. And do it, they did. People weren't really dancing in the aisles, but toes were tapping. Good luck Boys, and thanks for a job well done.

The next act hailing from the great State of Colorado, was none other than Spring Creek.

Now these guys must have been drinking coffee with steroids in it. I don't know where else they got the energy from, but it was contagious. The mando picker couldn't stand still. HE WAS THAT INTO IT !!!! And could he play. His STRONG tremolo (right hand work) was incredible...enough to make any mandolin student & lover of the instrument drool all over. And that was only 1 member of the band.

When I first met Taylor Simms (Guitar player, singer/song writer, Front Man) all I could see was this mop of red hair. I'll call him Red from now on. Well Red knew how to work a crowd, let me tell ya. His stories were funny and his energy was only surpassed by.....well, by himself. He was smokin'. Great Pipes too & cool original songs & professionally executed at that.

Now the 5 string player may not have drunken as much of the steroid laced coffee as the other boys did, but having won the State Banjo competition...well should I say it? He Was No Slouch. His arrangements & instrumentals were as tasty as anything written out there.

Now holding down the fort with the bottom end and a solid beat was the Bass Fiddle. I don't think I-IV-I-V was in his vocabulary. His harmony singing was on the money but the Bass playing took you soaring in anticipation wondering what he would be doing next. Is that a Bass Bow I see in his hand? Yessiree. One word is all it takes..."WOW"!!!

Spring Creek is definitely not Monroe or Scruggs oriented music even though ghosts and even songs were covered by the band. They are in fact a mostly original "Tunes & Songs" band. I overheard people say "New Grass" which might not be too far off of the mark, but one listen and the unique endings & intros & lyrics, you knew you were in for a treat.

Hard Core, Traditional, Contemporary, New Grass. You may have your preference, but what the heck... Good music is Good music, and Spring Creek did it so good that it was served on a platter and it was just a steaming!

February 11 2012 was a great night in Edmonton for some live Blue Grass Music. The Bix Mix Boys & Spring Creek. Does it get any better than that?

Well I dunno, but for sure I'm going to The Chapman's on March 23,2012 at the RAM (Museum). And they're going to be opened by Edmonton's own Crooked Creek. Again I ask....does it get any better than this?

The Way I See It,
Rob Baker



Grass Clippings

History of the Name Bluegrass

Although the influences that formed bluegrass music have a long history in European and African traditional music, the term "bluegrass" was first coined in the 1940s. The moniker originated when musician Bill Monroe named his band Bill Monroe and the Blue Grass Boys after their native Kentucky, known as the Bluegrass State. As their sound gained popularity, the name stuck and their style became widely known as bluegrass. Bluegrass music has always had a dedicated "grassroots" following, the style occasionally makes a splash in pop culture, particularly through bluegrass songs featured in successful movies. In 1967, the film "Bonnie and Clyde" featured Earl Scruggs's "Foggy Mountain Breakdown," first bringing the bluegrass sound to a wider audience. In the 1972 film "Deliverance," the song "Dueling Banjos" was featured prominently. More recently, the Bluegrass song "Man of Constant Sorrow" from the 2000 film "Oh Brother, Where Art Thou" became a hit, pushing the soundtrack to multi-platinum status, and winning a Grammy award for "Best Country Collaboration."

Clippings taken @ IBMA 2011 by Michelle Guidera



David Peterson & Matt Hotte



Kayla & Carolyn Hotte, Patrick & Michelle Guidera

Music Terms Word Search Puzzle

S	V	V	S	O	D	N	A	R	E	L	E	C	C	A
A	S	E	F	E	S	U	A	P	K	F	A	T	I	U
O	A	A	L	R	I	O	Y	S	R	T	A	L	F	V
T	M	L	B	U	T	O	E	O	E	M	I	N	O	R
E	G	W	L	R	P	N	K	P	B	A	L	L	A	D
N	A	D	E	E	O	A	L	R	L	G	C	I	C	O
O	M	B	C	T	P	T	E	A	T	E	U	D	H	L
R	L	A	H	B	S	P	G	N	O	M	N	T	O	O
E	Q	R	O	M	Y	J	A	O	K	E	D	E	R	S
B	L	S	R	R	E	W	T	C	X	A	A	R	U	S
A	Y	P	D	H	K	L	O	C	A	S	K	O	S	H
L	R	I	E	Y	T	R	O	R	N	U	L	C	P	A
T	I	T	S	T	V	U	E	D	X	R	O	S	R	R
O	C	C	F	H	O	S	N	D	Y	E	P	I	C	P
E	S	H	X	M	T	N	M	E	M	I	T	G	A	R

ACAPPELLA	MINOR	TREBLE
ACCELERANDO	NOTE	TUNE
ALTO	PAUSE	
BALLAD	PITCH	
BARS	POLKA	
BASS	RAGTIME	
CHORD	REST	
CHORUS	RHYTHM	
DUET	ROCK	
FLAT	SCORE	
KEYS	SHARP	
LEGATO	SOLO	
LYRICS	SOPRANO	
MEASURE	TENOR	
MELODY	TONE	



Bluegrass Festival Happenings

Welcome to the world of **bluegrass music**. Grab your guitar, banjo, fiddle, mandolin, dobro, or bass, and head out to jam with other like minded souls. Get your family together; take your wife (husband) and your kids. Plan for a full week-end. Camping is pretty much your first choice. Hotel accommodations can be arranged.

But the first objective is the music.

Bluegrass music as a genre is more interactive than others. Bluegrass music is more absorbed than listened to. It requires interactivity. It screams, "Hey, let's pick."

That being said, here is a little list of some of the Bluegrass festivals happening this summer around Canada! For all of you diehard Bluegrassers here are a few Bluegrass Festivals happening in Canada! GO BLUEGRASS!!!

- Blueberry Bluegrass & Country Music Festival** (Stony Plain, Alberta) – August 3 - 5, 2012
- Sorrento BC Bluegrass Festival** (Now called NimbleFingers) - August 25, 2012
- Canadian Rockies Bluegrass Festival** (David Thompson Resort) – June 15 -17, 2012
- Shady Grove Bluegrass Festival** (Nanton, Alberta) – August 17-19, 2012
- Great Canadian barn Dance Bluegrass & country festival** (Hillspring, Alberta)-July 27-29 2012
- Chilliwack Bluegrass festival** (Chilliwack B.C) – August 31- September 2, 2012
- Coombs Bluegrass festival** (Coombs B.C) – August 2-5, 2012
- Upper Canada Bluegrass Festival** (Morrisburg, Ontario)- September 14-16, 2012
- Northern Lights Bluegrass Festival** (Saskatchewan)- August 17-19, 2012
- Tottenham Bluegrass Festival** (Ontario) -June 15-17, 2012
- Conestoga Trail Bluegrass & Gospel Festival** (Princeton, Ontario) -August 17-19, 2012
- Sandroad Bluegrass Festival** (Moosecreek, Ontario) – August 16-19, 2012
- Lighthouse Bluegrass Festival** (Qualicum Bay, B.C) – June 29- July 1, 2012



IBMA 2011—The Spinney Brothers & NBCMS Board & members (When asked, Ron said this was his Banjo face)

Letter to the Editor

Patrick Guidera, Entertainment

Director
Blueberry Bluegrass and Country Music Festival
(Past NBCMS President)

March 12, 2012

NBCMS Folks,

A breath of fresh air has come upon Northern Bluegrass Circle Music Society as the new Board takes the reins of our Edmonton based special Bluegrass club! I was delighted to hear about your new President Ron Mercer and the new Executive Board being elected and wait to hear what special plans and changes their 2012-13 Board has in mind for the Club.

A heartfelt and sincere thank-you to the past Board under the long running guiding direction of Carolyn Hotte and her dedicated Board members. A lot has been accomplished under your care and attention that we can all be proud of in the past several years. As the past-President, 2004-2005, I realize how challenging managing a non-profit organization, with no hired staff, can be, particularly with so many various opinions. Thank you to the entire 2011 Executive for your hard work, time and dedication to the club and bluegrass music in our music community!

As I am now in my third year volunteering with the Blueberry Bluegrass and Country Music Festival as the Entertainment Director, I see many opportunities we could collaborate on including:

- explore our common mission to promote, present and preserve Bluegrass music
- collaborate on planning of future concerts and
- discussing new opportunities that we can work together on and respect our individual mandates
- input into talent NBCMS members would like to see at Blueberry Festival

We can accomplish more through collaboration by working together, when it makes sense.

All the very best in 2012 for your continued success and happy picking!

Patrick Guidera, Entertainment Director,



More Grass Clippings.....



Pat & Michelle Guidera with Sierra Hull— IBMA 2011



Kayla Hotte with Jesse Baker of Doyle Lawson & Quicksilver—IBMA 2011

NBCMS Thanks Our Sponsors!

Support the businesses that support our club

Our mission is to Preserve, Promote and Present Bluegrass Music

Avenue Guitars

10550 - 82 AVE. (780)
448-4827

No GST on Accessories

Card must be presented



8735 -118 Ave., (780) 477-1586

10% off all non-sale accessories

Card must be presented



9913 - 82 Ave, (780)433-3545

10% off all regular priced items

Card must be presented

2012 Blueberry Bluegrass Festival Lineup:

[Blue Highway](#)

[Michael Martin Murphey](#)

[Four Chords Of Wood](#)

[The Quebe Sisters Band](#)

[Calvin Vollrath](#)

[The Roys](#)

[Rhonda Vincent](#)

[Gibson Brothers](#)

[Good Brothers](#)

[Mark Phillips](#)

[Larsgard Family](#)

