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# BLUEGRASS BULLETIN

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*Official Newsletter of the Northern Bluegrass Circle Music Society*

## Meet our 2013 – 14 Board of Directors



Left to right: (Back) Anna Somerville, Pat Sundahl, Kayla Hotte, Carolyn Hotte, Valerie Driessen (Front) Shawn Robinson, Steve Schroeter, Doug Reid



### She's back!

Carolyn Hotte returns for another year of Presidency.



**Renew your membership**

**Memberships expired  
March 1, 2013.**

**Stop by the jam, renew online or  
mail the enclosed membership  
form and fee.**

### **In this issue:**

**Meet the new Board of Directors**

**Membership Appreciation Night**

**Sorrento Instructors: Announced**

**Meet our new Secretary / Treasurer**

**An interview with our new Front of  
House**

**Winter Jam Camp**

**Fall Workshop Info**

**Our 2013 AGM summary**

## A message from our President: Carolyn Hotte

Well another term begins. Thank you to all 14 of the people who came out for the Annual General Meeting and Election that was held February 13, 2013. The turn out to say the least was very disappointing. Membership support is very important to keep our club vibrant, aid in our ability to fulfill our mission to promote present and preserve bluegrass music and also to acknowledge the tireless amount of work that the board puts into sustaining your club. Enough said about that.

We say good-bye to Arlene Eberhardt, Ron Mercer, Mike Bunting, Michelle Dentinger, Noel McNaughton and Bob Whaling. Thank you for your contribution to the NBCMS. We wish you every success in your next endeavor. We welcome to the board Valarie Driessen as Treasurer/Secretary and Pat Sunduhl Front of House Director, staying on, adding to, or changing their position, Doug Reid Vice-President, Steve Schroeter Equipment Director, Anna Somerville Workshop/Advertising Director, Shawn Robinson Website/Membership Director, Kayla Hotte Newsletter Director and I am returning after a year away Carolyn Hotte President/Concert Director.

We are looking forward to and are committed to the future of the NBCMS. We will be getting together in April to set some goals for the upcoming year.



Photo by Kayla Hotte

Please take the time to thank all of the past years board and say welcome this years board when you see them.

We have a board meeting the first Wednesday of the month downstairs 7:15 pm and you are welcome to come and join us if you wish.

Declining attendance at our events jam included is a cause for concern. We the board need to know what is important to you. Please feel free to contact me if you have a comment or concern that is keeping you from our events. Via e-mail [hottecarolyn@hotmail.com](mailto:hottecarolyn@hotmail.com) or phone 780-922-4204 I would be happy to discuss them with you.

We have a concert coming up on April 6, the Spinney Brothers at the Capitol Theatre, Fort Edmonton Park. Plan to attend. Tell your friends and neighbors, help spread the word.

We will have a Membership & Volunteer Appreciation Night on May 15<sup>th</sup>. Visit our website or the jam for more information.

Keep on Jammin' – Carolyn Hotte

## **A Letter from the Editor: Kayla Hotte**

It is a pleasure to be your new newsletter director. It seems like only yesterday our beloved Linda Saboe was making sure I was meeting submission deadlines for newsletters, and here I am making my own. I would like to personally thank our past executive this year for their hard work. To the new ones, I look forward to working with all of you.

I am creating this newsletter from Nashville, Tennessee! (Can you imagine that?) I got the opportunity to represent the NBCMS at Leadership Bluegrass 2013 (but you will have to read my article about it for all the details). I'll be brief and just say hello to everyone and thanks for all the submitted articles and photos.

Warmly,  
Kayla C. Hotte

## **Thank You 2012/13 Board of Directors**

We have some directors staying on but of course some have left. Thanks Ron Mercer, Arlene Eberhardt, Noel McNaughton, Bob (and Colleen) Whaling, Michelle Guidera, and Mike Bunting. Your hard work so appreciated. – *Kayla Hotte*



Photo by Carolyn Hotte

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### **The Newsletter Team is:**

**Kayla Hotte**

**hottekayla@gmail.com**

**Carolyn Hotte**

**Doug Reid**

**Valerie Driessen**

### **Official Photographer:**

**Doug Reid**

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**If you would like  
to submit an  
article to the  
Bluegrass  
Bulletin, the  
deadline for our  
summer edition is  
June 1, 2013**

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**Our mission is to promote,  
preserve and present  
Bluegrass Music**

Visit our website  
[www.bluegrassnorth.com](http://www.bluegrassnorth.com)

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## The Spinney Brothers April 6, 2013 – The Capitol Theatre

Our Concert Season will kick off with the Spinney Brothers from the Annapolis Valley of Nova Scotia. April 6, 2013 at the Capitol Theatre, 1920's Street Fort Edmonton Park. Doors open at 7:30 pm the show will start 8:00 pm.

The Spinney Brothers have been our guest a few times. They are a great bunch of guys very entertaining and down to earth. They always put on a great show!

The Spinney Brothers are comprised of Allan Spinney, Rick Spinney, Gary Dalrymple and Darryl Hebb.

Brothers Allan and Rick debuted their band in 1992, showcasing a tight brother duet vocal style that was immediately recognized for its energetic and distinctive sound.

The cornerstone of the Spinney Brothers musical identity is the sound of traditional, southern-flavoured bluegrass music. The first generation bluegrass legends have been an important musical influence, yet their music is equally shaped by their personal lives and local heritage. By incorporating original material, which draws from various sources, the Spinney Brothers effortlessly intertwine the past with the present.

The Spinney Brothers believe in freshness and excitement of traditional bluegrass music. Brother duet singing, backed by supportive and complimentary instrumentation, is the foundation of their tasteful and recognizable

sound. Give a listen, and you are sure to be entertained. – *Carolyn Hottel*

SAT. APRIL 6 TH

NORTHERN BLUEGRASS CIRCLE MUSIC SOCIETY  
PRESENTS CANADA'S OWN  
SPINNEY BROTHERS



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**7:30 PM**

**Show**  
**8:00 PM**

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Pleasantview Community Hall *Wednesday nights only*  
Myhre's Music and at the Door if not sold out

[www.spinneybrothers.com](http://www.spinneybrothers.com)








## Get to know our new Front of House Director, Pat Sundahl

**Q:** How did you end up at the jam?

**A:** First of all, I am very new to Bluegrass because it found me only about a year ago. One Friday evening, I was up till 2 am sewing in preparation for a market the next day. While sewing, I watched a PBS documentary about the Banjo. It fascinated me. Next day, at the market, a couple stopped by my table to comment on the vintage sewing machine I was using as well as remark that I was almost dozing. I told them the banjo special kept me up very late. They suggested I attend the jam sessions at Pleasantview Community Hall, which happens to be a few blocks away from where I live. The rest is history. I like bluegrass

songs because they validate the story of my life. I started to take banjo lessons in the hope that one day I would join the circle.

I attended the workshop in October and took the program "Take 12 Songs Home". Loved being there!!!

**Q:** Do you come from a musical family?

**A:** One uncle played the fiddle while another played a dulcimer. Lots of music at family gatherings. One of my sons teaches classical guitar. When my grandparents immigrated from Europe they brought a small trunk and my grandfather decided the only thing valuable to bring was his classical records. Grandmother was not pleased!!!!

**Q:** Where do you like to eat?

**A:** I like to eat at home because I like to cook.

**Q:** Do you have a favorite band?

**A:** I don't have a favorite band as I have not really listened to so many to decide.



Pat & her Assistant Cat

## Good Friends for a Good Cause A Benefit for Marc Ladouceur By Carolyn Hotte

A group of friends got together to help a friend in need and it turned into a wonderful day of fantastic entertainment and a huge silent auction. More than they ever imagined it would be. What an amazing day it was Marc has touched so many lives and it was evident in the support that was shown for him on January 27, 2013. Right from the start the bands kept your toes a tappin. The Bix Mix Boys started the show followed by Celtera, Hank Lionhart with Lionel Rault and Don Marcotte, Kayla Hotte & Her Rodeo Pals, Karla Anderson, Maria Dunn, Jeremiah McDade & Shannon Johnson, Andrea House, Bob Jahrig & Marc Ladouceur, Black Lightning, Terry Morrison & John Gorham and the day ended with the Lionel Rault Trio (LRT) - Lionel, Don Marcotte, Marc Ladouceur. Such a variety of genres and Marc played with almost every band it was great to see him enjoying himself so much. Photos by Brian Zahorodniuk, Jacques Driessen, Greg Yavorsky and Carolyn Hotte







Thank you to Mark Scholz and Sheri Somerville our MC's. They did a wonderful job of keeping the show rolling.

The silent auction had over 300 items. It was awesome everything you could imagine and more like gift baskets, season tickets, studio time, vocal lessons, banjo/dobro lesson, festival passes, gift certificates, concert tickets, musical instruments, books, home décor, salon services, workshop registrations, sun glasses, photo session, books, CD's, DVD's, small appliances, various wines, a quilt and many more items.







A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who contributed an auction item and/or made a personal contribution to Marc. ED Folk Fest, Terry Lawson, Somerville Wine Room, Blue Chair Cafe, Acquired Taste Tea, Kluane BG Festival, Ron Mercer, Donna Lee Randon, Great Canadian Barn Dance, Citadel Theatre, Arden Theatre, Stony Plain Records, Rhonda Withnell, Kayla Hotte, New Asian Village, Myhre's Music, Full Moon Folk Club, Strathcona County, Big Dreamer Sound, Northern Lights Folk Club, Acoustic Music Shop, Uptown Folk Club, Blueberry BG Festival, The Acoustic Shop, Northern Lights BG Festival, Nimble Fingers BG & Old Time Music Workshop, Northern BG Circle Music Society, Lumberjacks Music Camp, Riverdale Studios, the Hotte family, Michelle Guidera, Doug Ritchie, Rob Baker and many more anonymous contributors the list goes on. Please accept my apologies if I missed your name. THANK YOU also the many volunteers that helped make this a huge success. You are AWESOME. We couldn't have done it without you.

**The “Friends of Marc Ladouceur Committee” would like to THANK everyone for their generous support and contributions! We haven't taken away Marcs medical issues but we have helped elevate some financial stress. This day exceeded our expectations and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.**

*Don Marcotte, Marilyn Hnit, Bill & Betty Jo Werthmann, Bob Jabrig, Cheryl Ann Orr, Anna Somerville, Anne Marie Lauf and Carolyn Hotte.*



**Support Your Local Bluegrass Club**



## **Phone Committee Volunteers Wanted**

We are looking for people who want to help us advertise our events by joining our phone committee! Call old and new friends in a comfortable, fun atmosphere. Follow a script or add your personal touch.

We want to make sure all our members know about our events and bluegrass happenings.

Contact Kayla at [hottekayla@gmail.com](mailto:hottekayla@gmail.com) or 780-922-4204

## Meet Valerie Driessen Our new Treasurer / Secretary

**Q:** What brought you to the NBCMS?

**A:** I have always loved music and had wanted a guitar since I was little. Then after our Mother passed away in May of 2011 after a long and painful illness and I was searching for something to fill the big empty space left behind I started searching online and found NBCMS jams.

**Q:** Do you play any instruments?

**A:** I have had my Tama guitar since 1974 and have travelled with it from Alberta to Vancouver Island to California to North Ontario, but I never had the confidence to believe that someday I would learn to play it well, I've played, but just chording. Basically putting it aside to keep it safe while raising a family. What I should have done was to take it out often and play it with the children like Carolyn Hotte did. Also, I have a banjo, which I have had for a year and a half, and am trying to learn as time allows.

**Q:** How did you hear about bluegrass?

**A:** Growing up in rural Alberta I have heard Bluegrass on the radio over the years and have enjoyed the sound that the combination of instruments creates, although I know

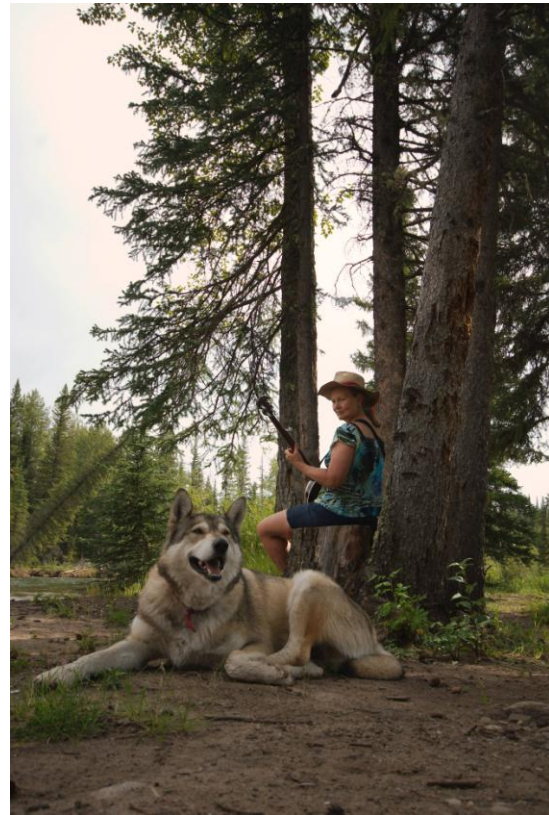


Photo by Jacques Driessen

next to nothing about it, there is so much to learn.

**Q:** What is your favorite album (bluegrass or non)?

**A:** My first albums were some of my favorites, don't laugh, but Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young was my fav for years, especially when I first got it back in 1969.

**Q:** What is the last movie you saw?

**A:** Movies, who has time to watch movies, but seriously I really can't remember, it's been awhile.

## Winter Jam Camp 2013 by Anna Somerville

The Winter Jam Camp is one of those weekends where everything is measured by music. Three carefree days without pressure to do much of anything other than keep time...musical time. This year the same thing happened as it does every year... we had a good time.

The Band Scrambles get easier to put together every year and the Open Stage is a great way for people to present what they have been working on. I always come away from the camp with a list of new songs I want to learn.

The Forced March, on Saturday afternoon, was met with resigned compliance. The winter

walk stretched out as we were so busy visiting we delayed heading back to comfort offered by the warm indoors. Camp He Ho Ha is such an accommodating facility. Between the comfortable rooms, great food, beautiful winter setting and the friendly musical environment it will be easy to return next year.

Have a great summer but remember when the coldest part of winter arrives next year, the Winter Jam Camp will be there to hide you away for a weekend. **All the Jam Camp Photos were taken by our Official Photographer Doug Reid.**





## A Sneak Preview into our Fall Music Workshop By Anna Somerville

This year **Dale Ann Bradley** and her band mates **Steve Gulley, Phil Leadbetter, Greg Hodge Bryan Turner and Mike Sumner** will be teaching at the Acoustic Music Workshop at Camp He Ho Ha October 18, 19 & 20.

The word is out about our hospitality and enthusiasm for learning; each year we are able to attract world class musicians to our camp. A big thank you to past participants who have put their support behind the events hosted by the NBCMS. As the Workshop Director I look forward to organizing a friendly, lively and comfortable learning environment, and invite members of our community to come out again this year in support of the Acoustic Music Workshop. – *Anna Somerville*



**Renew your membership**

**Memberships expired March 1, 2013.**

**Stop by the jam, renew online or mail the enclosed membership form and fee.**

## NimbleFingers Bluegrass & Old-Time Music Festival & Workshop

REGISTRATION OPEN – Held in Sorrento, BC, NimbleFingers is a tried and true way to wrap up your summer. Take music workshops, with music lovers, in a beautiful orchard.

Visit [www.nimblefingers.ca](http://www.nimblefingers.ca) to register

### Week 1

August 18 – 23, 2013

Beginning Guitar (101): KC Groves

Int/Adv Bluegrass Rhythm Guitar: Eli West

Intermediate Flatpicking Guitar: Dave Keenan

Advanced Flatpicking Guitar: Greg Blake

Beginning Bluegrass Banjo: Keith Yoder

Intermediate Bluegrass Banjo: Jeff Scroggins

Advanced Bluegrass Banjo: Patrick Sauber

Beg / Int Clawhammer Banjo: Tom Sauber

Backing up the fiddle Int/ Adv Clawhammer Banjo:

Chris Coole w/ Sarah Hamilton

All Levels Bass: Steve Roy

Beg / Int Dobro: Chris Herbst

Beginning Fiddle: Annie Savage

Int / Adv Bluegrass Fiddle: Alisa Rose

Intermediate Old-Time Fiddle: Miriam Sonstenes

Advanced Old-Time Fiddle: Brad Leftwich

Beginning Mandolin: James Whittall

Intermediate Mandolin: Tristan Scroggins

Advanced Mandolin: Ben Winship

Square Dance Calling: Larry Edelman

Singing: Alice Gerrard

Songwriting: Anne Louise Genest

### Week 2

August 25 – 30, 2013

Beginning Guitar (101): Nadine Landry

Int/Adv Old-Time Rhythm Guitar: Jere Canot

Intermediate Flatpicking guitar: Keith Yoder

Advanced Flatpicking Guitar: Scott Nygaard

Beginning Bluegrass Banjo: Dave Keenan

Int/Adv Bluegrass Banjo: Robert Trapp

Beg/Int Clawhammer Banjo: Chris Coole

Int/Adv Clawhammer Banjo: Riley Baugus

All Levels Bass: John Fabke

Int/Adv Dobro: Tim Tweedale

Beginning Fiddle: Sarah Hamilton

Intermediate Bluegrass Fiddle: Shad Cobb

Advanced Bluegrass Fiddle: Byron Berline

Intermediate Old-Time Fiddle: Sammy Lind

Advanced Old-Time Fiddle: Greg Canote

Beginning Mandolin: Steve Roy

Int/Adv Monroe Style Mandolin: John Reischman

Lead and Harmony Singing:

Anne Louise Genest and Jim Miller

Bluegrass Singing and Songwriting: Bradford Lee Folk

Recording 101: Andrew Collins

Rover and Dance Caller: Paul Silveria

## Leadership Bluegrass

by Kayla Hotte

I was given the opportunity to be part of Leadership Bluegrass 2013, held in Nashville, Tennessee. It is an intensive three-day program filled with guest speakers and seminars. I got to attend seminars on subjects such as New Trends in Music Education, The State of the Industry & a Profile of the Bluegrass Consumer, Navigating the Digital Jungle, and much more. I learned so much about the Industry and the IBMA Organization. I made life-long friends and professional contacts. I was honored not only to represent the NBCMS, but also to be the only Non US-Resident in the group. We had many discussions and debates, but one recurring theme was Contemporary Bluegrass, Traditional Bluegrass, their fans and how to

keep everyone satisfied. In short, we decided co-existing is the best method. We need both Traditional and Contemporary to have a prosperous music genre. Respecting each others music tastes is crucial in creating a happy bluegrass scene, club or bluegrass festival. I would recommend this course to everyone. I also would like to thank The IBMA for presenting a scholarship, George and Natalie McCeney for their contributions to my Nashville Experience, and my Mom and Dad for their continued support.



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**Kayla Hotte** and her **Rodeo Pals**      **Black Lightning**      **Sonny Bandura**

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**FIDDLER'S ROOST**



## The Annual General Meeting? ....Yes, we had one.

Although it was poorly attended, thankfully there was enough interest to fill the positions left vacant. The real nail biter of the evening was who would take on the role of treasurer. Without a treasure we would lose funding, without funding we lose the workshops, concerts and Pleasantview Hall. Without a board the NBCMS would cease to exist. You will be relieved to know that although Arlene Eberhardt, who has devotedly kept our financial records, was stepping down Valerie Driessen did step up.

I have been a member of the NBCMS for 14 years; this is my fourth year to volunteer on the board. What makes me continue? I remind myself how welcoming this community was when I first walked down the staircase at the Fiddlers Roost. Someone welcomed me, showed me how to hold a pick, strum a guitar and handed me a songbook. I was so thankful to find experienced musicians who encouraged me to continue. The circle as always offered opportunities to help and be helped, a place to practice patients and work cooperatively with other musicians at every level. My gratitude extends to my duties as a board member today. I willingly volunteer a tremendous amount of time to organizing the workshops and serve within the club because I remember how incredible I felt when I first joined. I think about all the people who have

become friends over the years because of the club. Consider what it would be like without the club. Think about all the musicians out there who are looking and have not yet found us. I wonder if we take for granted how fortunate we are to be able to connect with our community when we need to.

A club cannot run by the efforts of board alone. It needs support and input from its members. Any insight, suggestions or feedback you might have are welcome. Something made you join the NBCMS; what was it and is it still there? – *Anna Somerville* -



... are vital to the success of the Northern Bluegrass Circle Music Society. Have you volunteered some of your time and energy this year? THANKS!

**Membership & Volunteer Appreciation Night**

NBCMS Members FREE \* Non-Members \$5

**May 15, 2013**

Doors open 6:30 PM  
Pizza served at 9:00 PM

Pleasantview Community Hall 10860-57 Ave

**Everyone Welcome!**

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**Executive**

**President & Concert Director:**

Carolyn Hotte  
[hottecarolyn@hotmail.com](mailto:hottecarolyn@hotmail.com)  
(780) 922 - 4204

**Vice President:**

Doug Reid

**Treasurer & Secretary:**

Valerie Driessen

**Directors**

**Advertising & Workshop:**

Anna Somerville

**Website & Membership:**

Shawn Robinson

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