

And Then Life Changes...



Think back to a coldish night last January 24th at the Parkview Community Hall, let's dive into our memories to think of the excitement, the friends, the music, the beverages, the chili, the BLUEBERRY PIE... let's remember life before COVID and the incredible performance (GIFT) we received from the Po' Ramblin' Boys.

-photo credit to Mark Whittington thanks!

Since then we have become all too familiar with the changes that have become necessary to protect each other to the best extent possible. It's fair to say that we likely miss our jamming... I'm sure it's fair to say that we miss our friends and our Bluegrass family...

And what about those incredible summer days and nights when we could gather together to enjoy the energy and the music at the festivals that were so high on our radar not so long ago.

As things have evolved, I have noticed that forced change has brought about a basic human response to restore the passion that we long for in life. In the Fire Hall, we would say that we need to be prepared to adapt, improvise and overcome. Today I am hopeful and proud of our community. I believe that we are adapting, I believe that we are improvising (and we all know that gets better the more you improvise!), AND I believe that we will eventually OVERCOME!

We must be thankful for the great depth that our members bring to their roles within the Board of the Northern Bluegrass Circle Music Society. I'm proud to be able to help deliver a message of hope and opportunity that will bring a gift to each member that chooses to receive it. I'm very grateful to our Workshop Director Anna Somerville, she has put together an opportunity for each one of us. There will be a **Virtual Fall Acoustic Music Workshop**, we will have the opportunity to be re-united with friends, and the best thing about this Workshop is there is SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE. The opportunity to get together in this format will be extended to a much larger circle of the folks that you may know through the previous Workshops you've attended, festivals you've gone to and other Workshops that you may have experienced.

It's time to start getting excited, it's time to start to plan, it's time to change your strings. But before you forget, renew your club membership if you haven't done so already then use the discount code to purchase your seat in the online Fall Acoustic Music Workshop and attend from your own home or as part of a small cohort group from yours or a friends' home. *-newsletter written and prepared by Greg Winter with the help of many others*

"The NBCMS is a non-profit music society that promises to promote, present and preserve Bluegrass Music."



Keeping The Connection

Tune in to learn while staying in touch with friends.

We will all want to return to an active, vibrant music community when this pandemic has ended. Lets stay active and in touch.

After 20 years of hosting workshops

The Northern Bluegrass Circle Music Society
is seizing the opportunity to produce a
LIVE ZOOM workshop!!

Our 2019 NBCMS Workshop community



Each member of our 'Community' brings something very special. I get this crazy powerful 'wellness' from each opportunity I've had to be with you folks that I like to think of as my Bluegrass Family. I've had discovery moments and laughs, personal connections that I couldn't have without these events, I've enjoyed great food (and wine) along with a few too late nights. These experiences are absolute musts for me and I realize that in my small way, I have a responsibility to bring my contributions to our group because I know that this Community is less without me and I can't imagine our family without you.

Think about your first experience with the NBCMS club... your first jam and your first Workshop... your first performance in a band scramble... and your first time singing in a group or on the stage... think about the people you've met... the friends you've grown and look forward to seeing each time we get together... the incredible list of Artists and Instructors that we have the gift of calling members of OUR Community who also include us as part of their Community!

As I write this, I realize that the future of our little gem of a Community is a responsibility that lies with each one of us. I know that I must be present in order to fulfill my responsibility and I want each of you to know that you must be there too. The future is ours to shape and nurture. I'm trying to hold onto as much of life as I can and that means holding onto my Bluegrass family. I never thought I'd be saying this but I'm looking forward to seeing you all on Zoom!

There is a great opportunity that lies before us now... Anna's improvisation on the format and content of our Workshop, thanks to COVID, will bring us together online at a time when we need to connect more than ever. I will get the chance to see and visit with folks that I only get through the Club and our Workshops and Festivals. I will get the opportunity to sit in on 16 sessions with an amazing cast of Artists as they share themselves and their journey in an intimate small group format. I'm looking forward to those Aha! moments that I've had in past Workshops BUT I'm also looking forward to re-connecting with people that I haven't seen for quite some time.

It would be hard to imagine one Workshop with the Artists that Anna has lined up. The challenge of bringing all of them together on one occasion in one place would have led to necessary changes, and yet in the virtual Workshop, each Artist is able to participate by merely giving up an hour (or so) of their time from their homes instead of the better part of a week for the in person experience. Perhaps one of the absolute best features of our Workshop is the opportunity to get back in later to look at recordings of each session. I will be able to listen to our very own Calvin Vollrath talk about music, the guitar and fiddle! I'll get insights from IBMA Mandolin Player of the Year Alan Bibey and Claire Lynch talking about songwriting... the last time I was part of a small group listening to Claire Lynch talk about Bluegrass I had to drive all the way to Lake Cowichan, on Vancouver Island!

Anna has explained that the opportunity to sit in on these sessions is like getting a backstage pass to the Green Room. Each Artist will share a broad variety of insight, they will chat with us! Although I only play guitar (at this point), I can have exposure to each Artist and every instrument in the Bluegrass genre ensemble through this workshop. This would be a fascinating experience for even non-playing folks that appreciate the opportunity to connect with a great assortment of accomplished musicians!

You may be chomping at the bit to register already and to do so you simply need to click on the link:

<https://www.theacousticmusicworkshop.com/shop>

I want to give you more information and let's begin with the schedule:

Friday - October 16

6:15 pm Meet your workshop host
6:30 pm Calvin Vollrath - Fiddle
7:30pm Corrina & Jeremy - the Stevens Brothers - Duet Singing

Saturday - October 17

9:30 am Jenny Lester
- Intro to Jamming
10:30 am Bruce Molsky
- Clawhammer
11:30 am Annie Savage - Fiddle
12:15 pm BREAK - stretch your legs
1:00 pm Claire Lynch - Songwriting
2:00 pm Jim Hurst - Guitar
3:00 pm Alan Bibey - Monroe Mandolin
4:00 pm Joe Walsh & Scott Nygaard - Soloing & Improvising

Sunday - October 18

9:30 am Calvin Vollrath - Guitar backup for fiddlers
10:30 am Tim Stafford - Songwriting
11:30 pm Mike Witcher - Dobro
12:15 pm BREAK - Big Stretch
1:00 pm Jeff Scroggins - Banjo
2:00 pm Tim Stafford - Guitar
3:00 pm Joe K Walsh - Dawg Mandolin
4:00 pm Scott Nygaard - Intermediate/Advanced Guitar

Now let's explore the Artists that are facilitating sessions in the Workshop:



Alan Bibey
MONROE MANDOLIN
Saturday...



Claire Lynch
SONGWRITING
Saturday ...



Tim Stafford
SONGWRITING
Sunday ...



Jim Hurst
GUITAR
Saturday ...



Scott Nygaard
GUITAR
Sunday ...



Calvin Vollrath
FIDDLE
Friday...



Joe Walsh
DAWG MANDOLIN
Saturday...



Jeff Scroggins
BANJO
Sunday...



Mike Witcher
DOBRO
Sunday...



Jeremy & Corrina
Traditional Brother-
Style and Bluegrass...



Bruce Molsky
CLAWHAMMER
Saturday...



Annie Savage
FIDDLE
Saturday ...



Tim Stafford
GUITAR
Sunday ...



Calvin Vollrath
GUITAR BACKING UP
FIDDLE...



Jenny Lester
INTRODUCTION TO
JAMMING...



Joe & Scott
SOLOING &
IMPROVISING Saturd...



Alan Bibey

2019 & 2020 IBMA Mandolin Player of the Year
MONROE MANDOLIN
Saturday

We will cover a few different Monroe tunes and more importantly work on the technique and signature licks he used to make his style the most recognizable in Bluegrass Music. While I don't play strictly that style, knowing that style is a necessity to give Bluegrass songs that authentic sound. We will be doing a lot of pickin'. If you want to prepare, just spend some time listening to his playing. Listening is one of our most powerful tools. It's gonna be a mighty powerful



Claire Lynch

SONGWRITING Saturday

Highways to Hyperjump - Paths to Upgrade Your Songwriting Skills We all have an initial moment when a song's inspiration comes to us. But as you travel down the path of invention, have you experienced being "jolted" into a higher, more descriptive plane? How did it come to you and how can you make it happen again? In this short course, we'll discover "gears" which can nudge your songwriting into the next realm.



Tim Stafford

SONGWRITING Sunday

Distill The Essence Of A Song Songwriting is one of the most subjective and fluid topics --there are a lot of ways to make a good song and even more ideas about what makes one. We will distill the essence of a good song in 45 minutes, focusing on craft and process. What is just the right combination of melody, rhythm, harmony, lyric and spirit that makes a great song? Tips will be given, questions answered. Although our time will be limited, I'll make my extensive print resources from last years Acoustic Music Workshop available for everyone. Session material will be distributed by the workshop organizer.



Jim Hurst

GUITAR Saturday

How To Play Melodies Smooth, and Personalized. Let's work on really playing a simple melody, just the melody, with good timing and tone. That is the heart of the song. Then we'll try some ideas to add notes to embellish just enough to make it more like us. Like you. It all starts with the song. To prepare, I request you begin playing two songs: I'll Fly Away in the key of G You Are My Sunshine in the key of C Speed is not the goal nor are fancy notes. Let's work on finding YOUR melodic style and sensibilities. This will be fun, bring your energy and patience. Make some notes and know that you can refer back to the recorded session once the workshop weekend is over. Let's have some fun catching up Live on Zoom!



Scott Nygaard

GUITAR Sunday

Intermediate/ Advanced Bluegrass Guitar In this workshop, Scott will use a simple fiddle tune to talk about some of the technical problems that keeps guitarists from progressing and show you ways to vary the phrases of melody to create your own version of a fiddle tune or break to a bluegrass song.



Calvin Vollrath

FIDDLE Friday

Cal Tips on Fiddle Learn a tune or two and get some Cal tips on how to sound better.



Joe K. Walsh

DAWG MANDOLIN Saturday

DAWG MANDOLIN David "Dawg" Grisman is a musical hero to nearly every mandolin player, and his tunes/ensembles/soloing have influenced the string band world for decades. Here we will learn a Grisman tune or two, and will examine some of the key aspects of his soloing style.



Jeff Scroggins

BANJO Sunday

Everyone On The Banjo. We are going to learn a couple of tunes and play them together. You will receive the tablature handouts for the class when you register, so that (if you wish) you can work on them ahead of time and be prepared to play along with the class and ask lots of good questions! The first is a Don Reno classic, "I Know Your Married (But I Love You Still)". We will learn Don's classic intro, one of the craziest 'rock and roll breaks that were a huge part of Don's unique approach to banjo. The other song is my Scroggs style, Alan Munde influenced arrangements of the great Norman Blake tune, "Billy Gray," in the key of F (which is where Norman played and sang it).



Mike Witcher

DOBRO Sunday

In this workshop I'll walk you through a common scale shape and show you how to turn it into a handful of useful licks that we will learn through call and response. Once we have the licks down we'll play along to a backing track to experience how they sound over a basic I IV V chord structure. If time allows we'll play along to a song with vocals and experience how these licks can be used as fills to back up a singer.



Jeremy & Corrina

DUET SINGING Friday

Traditional Brother Style and Bluegrass Duet Singing. The way artists approach harmony singing has changed over time. The workshop will explore the foundations of duet singing in old time and early bluegrass music. We will discuss where the styles came from, how they evolved, and how they function today. The styles and harmony structure of such artists as the Delmore Brothers, the Blue Sky Boys, the Louvin Brothers, Don Reno & Red Smiley, Jim & Jesse and others will be discussed and demonstrated. Tips on how to hear and execute harmony will be offered.



Bruce Molsky

CLAWHAMMER Saturday

Listening And Playing. Bruce will take participants through some of the elements of clawhammer banjo including the basics of frailing, double thumbing, rolls, pull-offs and hammer-ons and use them to build a couple of great old time tunes. The workshop is as much about developing aural skills as it is about music. There will be no handouts for this workshop.



Annie Savage

2020 IBMA Mentor of the Year

FIDDLE Saturday

Free The Strings! World Tunes With Annie Savage Have you been looking for some catchy new fiddle tunes? Annie will guide you through a series of tips designed to help you connect more directly to chords and create your own breaks from melodies. There are 10 great tunes to cover. To get the most out of this 45 minute workshop you can prepare by reviewing the tunes at www.free-strings.com. The website makes it easy to read and play along. Go learn those tunes and be ready! Free The Strings. go the main menu and click on REQUEST WORKSHOP MATERIAL. scroll down to Annie's tab. You will be taken to the web page where the tunes are listed. Press, it plays and you learn.



Tim Stafford

GUITAR Sunday

Tips, Tricks, Fast Tracks. We have 45 minutes to learn new things about the guitar, so I'll be talking about my approach: tips, tricks, fast tracks (there are none), The "Ts" - timing, tuning, technique, tone and taste, taking your questions and demonstrating lead and rhythm techniques in Bluegrass. Although our time will be limited, I'll make my extensive print resources, including exercises and tabs, available for everyone. (go to "Request Workshop Material" from the workshop website menu.)



Calvin Vollrath

GUITAR BACKING UP FIDDLE Sunday

Enhancing What The Fiddler Does. Learn how to add more chords to three chord fiddle tunes.



Jenny Lester

INTRODUCTION TO JAMMING Saturday

A traditional bluegrass jam will often go in a circle...when it comes around to your turn are you ready? Here is a chance to learn how to prepare for leading a song in a jam while playing along. We will cover the basics of music theory, prepare an arrangement for jamming, discover some harmony lines and have fun playing traditional bluegrass songs.



Joe & Scott

SOLOING & IMPROVISING Saturday

Joe K Walsh and Scott Nygaard will talk about their approaches to playing solos on bluegrass songs and tunes and answer questions from students on the subject. Topics will include varying a melody, soloing on chord changes, creating dynamics within a solo, and more.

You're probably convinced that this workshop will be a great opportunity to re-connect online and that the sessions will be of great value, but it gets better! In the last couple of days a very generous donor came forward to combine resources with our regular partners making a lottery for prizes available to all registered Workshop attendees.

This donor wishes that we don't fuss over his generosity, however, I can tell you that Rick plays Banjo so suddenly Banjo players are my new favourite people! Just kidding, I've always loved Banjo... he's also a fellow that some of you may know from last fall's jams at Pleasantview, I'll just say he's an 'out of townner'... from Lloydminster and he travelled many nights to enjoy our jams! I hope I haven't blown his cover... but if I have so be it, we're very grateful Rick Blanchard.

All participants names are entered in the draw.

Attend all 16 workshop and have your name entered 16 times!

First Prize \$750 Myhre's Music Gift Card

Second Prize Instructor CD Package

Third Prize \$150 Myhre's Music Gift Card

Fourth Prize \$50 Myhre's Music Gift Card

Fifth Prize \$50 Myhre's Music Gift Card



DRAW LIVE ON ZOOM - Sunday October 18th at 5:30 pm

Prize winner names will be posted on the website and contacted by phone or email.

Prizes will be sent by mail.

Thank you to our sponsors.

BLANCHARD & ASSOCIATES LLP
CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS



Anna has also offered to make herself available for questions and discussions related to the Workshop by Zoom. The times and dates she is offering are below. Please contact her on Zoom if you have any questions about the Workshop, you can e-mail her at annadsomerville@gmail.com she will provide you with the Zoom meeting log-in to be able to get online for the chat. This will be a great opportunity to test drive Zoom prior to the weekend. If you haven't done so already, you'll need to download the Zoom app to your computer. This is really easy to do, you just need to go to <https://zoom.us/> then click on the orange "Try it, it's free" button on the top right to begin downloading the Zoom app.

Anna will be available for chatting:

- *Monday, October 5 at 7pm*
- *Tuesday, October 6 at 10:00 am*
- *Tuesday, October 6 at 7:00 pm*
- *Thursday, October 8 at 1:00 pm*
- *Thursday October 8 at 6:30 pm*
- *Saturday, October 10 at 10:30 am*

Pick a time that works for you. Send me an email. I will reply with an email containing a zoom code. YOU MUST SIGN UP AND JOIN ZOOM PRIOR TO ATTENDING MEETINGS.

MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT:



Hi NBCMS members and friends,

2020 has been quite the year to say the least! Although the NBCMS has outwardly appeared quiet, you should know that your board has been actively meeting monthly to discuss how we can adapt to the ever changing situation around Covid 19 and to see how we can continue to serve our members in the meantime. Although we came to the conclusion that we cannot not open the hall for regular jams until we get to Stage 3, we are very excited to announce that we are going ahead with our annual Fall Workshop from October 16 to 18! It will be in a virtual format, please check out theacousticmusicworkshop.com for details and registration. There is something there for everyone.

Thank you all for standing by the NBCMS as we continue to adapt to this ever-evolving situation and know that we look forward to seeing you (virtually of course!) at the Fall Workshop. Community is the basis of our club and we are very excited to take this opportunity reengage with both our members as well as people who are just now hearing about us and our workshop. Remember that we are a membership based club and we cannot exist without you. Your membership and support are very important to us and keeping it updated supports your bluegrass community. Other benefits of being a member include being involved in decision making at our club, discounts on club events, keeping you involved as a part of the bluegrass community and it helps us to stay in touch with you so we can keep you informed about upcoming events. Thank you for your time, keep on jamming and we'll see you soon!

Sincerely,

Scott Degen

President

Northern Bluegrass Circle Music Society

BLUEGRASS 101:

Darcy Whiteside provides weekly opportunities to stay connected with our Club members and a new tune each week with Bluegrass 101.

Darcy's Virtual Bluegrass 101
-by Karen Trace

Just like clockwork; Wednesday at 7 p.m. Fire up the Zoom link and there he is with a freshly pressed cowboy shirt and a sparkle in his eyes. "Howdy folks. I'm Darcy Whiteside and this is another Bluegrass 101 Covid edition. Each week we take one bluegrass song and break it down for singing and playing. This week we're doing.....OK now.... I want to hear that back beat."

It's a familiar kick off for many of us who have dutifully attended at the Pleasantview Hall every Wednesday at 7 p.m. for the past few years. Through Darcy's heart, ears and voice we have been drawn into the world and community that is Bluegrass music. Each Wednesday he shares his love and passion for the music and we are all blessed to have a front seat in this evolving songbook. Darcy is clearly one of Alberta's bluegrass treasures.

Thanks to the Northern Bluegrass Circle Music Society, it's the best two dollars you will ever spend on this planet. And boy, you are going to be educated. When you start at Camp Darcy,

you may know a couple of Carter family tunes, but after a couple of years you will know the whole bluegrass family tree from Bill Monroe to the Boston sound and beyond. (Of course you might not remember who played fiddle on the 1952 recording of Well, you get the point.)

Even in these times of Covid, Darcy continues to remain a comforting constant. Shortly after a CKUA song request and exchange, the first online edition of 101 began in early April with the appropriately-chosen, 1954 Flatt and Scruggs classic, "Don't this Road Look Rough and Rocky". In the first few taped editions on You Tube, you see Darcy in a tee shirt or sweat shirt and a basic wall in the background. Later in April, with Zoom and Facebook heating up, the set is transformed. In the fourth edition Darcy leads us in the 1957 Monroe classic "Sittin' Alone in the Moonlight". That's when we see the pressed cowboy shirt and a new musical background with shelves of vinyl on one side and two shelves on the other with 8 guitars and 8 cases (yes, I counted them). Of course there is a banjo nearby and even a mandolin! (Yikes).



Emily and Bob Leitch join a number of regular attendees as they stay connected with their Bluegrass family thanks to Darcy's Bluegrass 101!

Darcy's Virtual Bluegrass 101 (continued) -by Karen Trace

Now here we are, 18 weeks or so later, and Darcy's Virtual 101 is part of our new rhythm of life. Some religiously make it to the Zoom and Facebook live versions on Wednesday's and others (this writer included) chooses the lazier route of watching the You Tube taped version. As for weekly participants, a rough count indicates there are 35 or so who continue to receive email notices and still others who subscribe to the Bix Mix Boys You Tube channel, which is where Darcy downloads and stores the video.

Two diehard members, Emily and Bob Leitch, say Bluegrass Wednesday is something they look forward to and Darcy's enthusiasm "leaves them with a big smile". These two have only missed a handful of Zoom offerings: Bob has had to attend monthly NBCMS Board Meetings (thanks Bob) and Emily had some technical problems on her iPad. Kate Pronovost is another regular Wednesday attendee. She says she's happy that Darcy is "getting a much deserved shout-out". She really appreciates "his energy, humour and encouragement". We all know how much time it takes to prepare and then deliver such an amazing product.

But don't think Virtual 101 hasn't been without controversy (tongue in cheek). There was one incident started by someone who shall remain nameless (Clayton). Let's call it "Sudsgate". Darcy was leading the group in the 1918 song "Where the Soul of Man Never Dies" (also known as "Canaan's Land") which is one of our more religious tunes. During the session Darcy noted the strategic placement of a glass of beer in one of the screens. It was quickly followed by a glass in another screen. Of course Darcy couldn't help but commenting on the combination of bluegrass music and beer. Later a You Tube subscriber thanked Darcy for the lesson but warned against too much beer and the need to preserve men's souls. Hey...it's the internet. Darcy still received two thumbs up.

Of course all is forgiven thanks to the presence of Mom. Each week there is always a lovely moment when Darcy stops what he is doing and, with a sparkle, says "Hi Mom. I love you." It's all part of the new rhythm of life and bluegrass. It's all good.

If you want to be included in the weekly 101 email group, please contact Karen at karenandmichael@shaw.ca and I'll be glad to hook you up!

2020 Virtual IBMA Awards Winners

- **New Artist of the Year:** Mile Twelve
- **Entertainer of the Year:** Sister Sadie
- **Male Vocalist of the Year:** Danny Paisley
- **Female Vocalist of the Year:** Brooke Aldridge
- **Album of the Year:** "Live in Prague, Czech Republic" — Doyle Lawson & Quicksilver (artist); Doyle Lawson and Rosta Capek (producers); Billy Blue Records (label)
- **Song of the Year:** "Chicago Barn Dance" — Special Consensus with Michael Cleveland & Becky Buller (artists); Becky Buller/Missy Raines/Alison Brown (writers); Alison Brown (producer); Compass Records (label)
- **Vocal Group of the Year:** Sister Sadie
- **Instrumental Recording of the Year:** "Tall Fiddler" – Michael Cleveland with Tommy Emmanuel (artists); Jeff White, Michael Cleveland, Sean Sullivan (producers); Compass Records (label)
- **Collaborative Recording of the Year:** "The Barber's Fiddle" – Becky Buller with Shawn Camp, Jason Carter, Laurie Lewis, Kati Penn, Sam Bush, Michael Cleveland, Johnny Warren, Stuart Duncan, Deanie Richardson, Bronwyn Keith-Hynes, Jason Barie, Fred Carpenter, Tyler Andal, Nate Lee, Dan Boner, Brian Christianson and Laura Orshaw (artists); Stephen Mougin (producer); Shadow Recording (label)
- **Guitar Player of the Year:** Jake Workman
- **Mandolin Player of the Year:** Alan Bibey
- **Bass Player of the Year:** Missy Raines
- **Fiddle Player of the Year:** Deanie Richardson
- **Resophonic Guitar Player of the Year:** Justin Moses
- **Banjo Player of the Year:** Scott Vestal
- **Gospel Recording of the Year:** "Gonna Rise and Shine" – Alan Bibey & Grasstowne (artist), Mark Hodges (producer), Mountain Fever Records (label)
- **Instrumental Group of the Year:** Michael Cleveland & Flamekeeper
- **Broadcaster of the Year:** Michael Kear
- **Event of the Year:** Augusta Heritage Centre Bluegrass Week, Elkins, WV
- **Graphic Designer of the Year:** Michael Armistead
- **Liner Notes of the Year:** Katy Daley, *Live at the Cellar Door* -The Seldom Scene
- **Writer of the Year:** Derek Halsey
- **Sound Engineer of the Year:** Stephen Mougin
- **Songwriter of the Year:** Milan Miller



IBMA

INTERNATIONAL BLUEGRASS MUSIC ASSOCIATION

MESSAGE FROM YOUR EDITOR:



This bloody “UNPRECEDENTED” time is testing all of us, our discipline, our respect, our honesty... Thanksgiving is coming, then Hallowe’en, then Remembrance Day, then Christmas... throw in some birthdays and retirements which are all reasons we use to get together because we love to be together. I’m becoming aware of a new found respect for illnesses such as the common cold because it’s just as bad right now as COVID with respect to expectations for managing the illness.

Live music has been pretty much on hold and if you’re feeling like me, you’re a little cautious about the prospects of ‘getting together again’. Those of you that know me, know that I love our get togethers and like to exercise my vocal chords when we do so. That’s also on hold, so the only places I get to howl and make some noise are outside, mostly at our little cabin.

We’re seeing people beginning to gather more than before, and in the ways we’ve all come to know, those risks are being managed. Yet we’re continuing to see

the effects of gatherings showing up in the numbers. We’re all concerned about personal risk, but also about the responsibility of protecting others. The Fiddlers are perhaps the most venturesome group and with the precautions they are exercising, it seems to be doable. Each person has a tolerance level for risk that will be discovered as we proceed into more situations in which risk must be managed.

We must be patient and respectful for each decision and situation as we cannot assume the risk for each other. We’re seeing some excellent examples of humanity and I’m sure that everyone has also seen some not so excellent examples. I’m trying to focus on the positive and to support those as much as I can. Risk management was something I had to do for a living and I didn’t find it acceptable to ‘roll the dice’. I liked situations where risk was present and yet I had a clear path through to the comfort and safety of the other side. Many of the decisions I made had risks that would be imposed on others and that’s the reason why I liked to plan and make decisions carefully.

I’m really looking forward to our future ‘in person’ gatherings when we can all enjoy making the music we are so passionate about AND then return to the comfort and safety of our own homes without any additional hangers on -if you know what I mean... For now, I’m really looking forward to seeing you at the 2020 Virtual Fall Acoustic Music Workshop because for me that’s my only opportunity right now.

CKUA’s The Bluegrass Hour -hosted by our very own Darcy Whiteside plays a classic mix of Bluegrass and Old Time music spanning approximately 60 years of the genres. “I try to introduce bands from all over the world... stuff you’ve never heard before but hopefully will enjoy.”

Darcy brings a variety of music coupled with an insightful focus on some of the history of this passion inspiring music.

The Bluegrass Hour can be heard Sundays 12 - 1 p.m. and Mondays 4 - 5 a.m. at 94.9 in Edmonton and area.

Calgary 93.7

Red Deer 107.7

Edson 103.7 Hinton 102.5

Whitecourt 107.1 Grande Prairie 100.9 Spirit River 99.5

Peace River 96.9

Athabasca 98.3 Fort McMurray 96.7 Lloydminster 97.5

Canmore Bow Valley 104.3

Drumheller Hanna 91.3 Medicine Hat 97.3 Lethbridge 99.3



FRIENDS OF BLUEGRASS

Catherine Robertson fiddle and



Myhre's Music

The NBCMS members enjoy a special and long standing relationship with a local music store... A cornerstone of acoustic and roots music in Edmonton... a family owned and operated store with family values that has served the Edmonton area since 1967! Myhre's Music has been a great supporter and promoter of the Northern Bluegrass Circle Music Society, for which we say THANKS! Staff in the photo are left to right: Lydia Myhre,

violin luthier, daughter Haley, Byron Myhre, Alfie Myhre, Bob Potoniec, missing Thomas Slaymaker guitar luthier, George Back, and son Tanner Myhre.

Classified Ads -if you have an item you'd like to publish in the newsletter, please let Greg know by e-mail to:

winski.greg.winter@gmail.com

each issue requires confirmation of your desire to re-publish your item.

Thanks Contributors!

Photos Mark Whittington

-Anna Sommerville for putting the 2020 Fall Acoustic Music Workshop together

-Anna Sommerville and Carolyn Hotte for all the bits and bytes that helped me to put together the newsletter in support of the 2020 Fall Acoustic Music Workshop

-Karen Trace for her article on Darcy's Virtual Bluegrass 101

-Darcy Whiteside for keeping the wheels on the Bluegrass 101 bus on the road and allowing our members to stay connected weekly!

