

**GENERAL MEETING  
of the PEI Bluegrass & Old Time Music  
Society**

Sat., January 14, 2017 11:00 A.M.  
Room 125, 40 Enman Crescent,  
Charlottetown

**Potluck Lunch & Jam** after the meeting so  
bring something for **Potluck** and  
**Instrument to Jam**.

Storm date is January 21, 2017

To ensure a quorum is present, please  
confirm your attendance:

smedleyjay@icloud.com  
or leave a message at 566-2641.

*Thank you.*

**Happy  
Holidays!**



**Joy, Peace, Good Health and Blessings to you  
all as you enjoy time with family and friends  
over the Christmas Season & a Happy New  
Year 2017**

**Grandma Got Run over by a John Deere**

Grandma got run over by a John Deere  
Running home from our house Christmas Eve  
You can try and blame it on the banjo  
But as for me and Grandpa Jones we believe

She'd been drinking too much moonshine  
And that banjo's got to go  
She forgot to bring her earplugs  
And she staggered out the door into the snow

When we found her Christmas morning  
Her ears have all turned black  
She had tire tread on her forehead  
And fingerpicking nail marks on her back

Grandma got run over by a John Deere  
Running home from our house Christmas Eve  
You can try and blame it on the banjo  
But as for me and Grandpa Jones we believe



**THE BLUEGRASS MUSIC ASSOCIATION  
OF CANADA**

**For more info:**

[info@bluegrasscanada.ca](mailto:info@bluegrasscanada.ca)

<http://www.bluegrasscanada.ca>



**Jam Sessions**

Murphy Centre Bluegrass Slow Jams, hosted by  
Caroline Jones, Wednesday nights at 7PM  
[carolynjones@bellaliant.net](mailto:carolynjones@bellaliant.net)

For Friday / Other Jams contact Shirley at:  
[smedleyjay@icloud.com](mailto:smedleyjay@icloud.com)

The PEI Bluegrass & Old Time Music Society is a  
non-profit organization that has as one of its  
objectives; the promotion of Bluegrass & Old Time  
Music on PEI. Come out and learn about the music  
and have fun!

## ***What I Learned on the Internet about Bluegrass Music!***



Recently, Ian Perry of the Banjo Newsletter magazine brought Canadian bluegrass legend Eddy Poirier and Gerry McCaie to The Twelfth Fret. Eddy and Gerry played four tunes on various Deering banjos and a Martin D-18. We were thrilled to have such great players come by and show off their skills.

Eddy Poirier was born in Rogersville, New Brunswick to a musical family - his father played the fiddle, mostly Irish reels and jigs.

Eddy started to play the fiddle at the age of 7, played lots of square dances for weddings, and at the age of 11 he got his first guitar. At about 19 he bought his first banjo, and he decided to move to Toronto in 1966 where he became part of the beginning of the bluegrass scene in Toronto, joining a country band called The Blue Diamonds.

And that's where he started to record bluegrass, old time, and bluegrass music. During that period Eddy Poirier made multiple recordings, but in 1974 he decided to return to the Maritimes and Moncton N.B.

Here, Eddy started his own bluegrass band called 'The Bluegrass 4'. That band was pretty well the first bluegrass band in New Brunswick, and so it was the beginning of bluegrass in N.B. So now Eddy has about 15 recordings of old time and bluegrass recording of his own. 50 years later, Eddy Poirier still does plenty of playing and promoting Old time and bluegrass music.

We hope you enjoy Eddy Poirier and Gerry Mackay playing classic bluegrass tunes- Cripple Creek, Foggy Mountain Breakdown, Lonesome Road Blues and Weeping Willow. You can watch the video at <http://www.12fret.com/just-in/eddie-poirier-bluegrass-at-the-twelfth-fret/>



Throughout the summer I have been adding to my collection of records. I managed to grab several great records that feature Eddie Poirier along with Al Hooper, Doug Watters, and Roy MacCaull. Included in the Maritime Fiddler and the Live at Collins Bay Penitentiary album is Eddy's first original song entitled "Cousin Bill Hornpipe". I recommend taking a listen to these by viewing them on youtube by searching The Blue Diamonds - Live At Collins Bay Penitentiary (1970) - Canadian Country - Vinyl <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j0W9Y27qZVk>

### **Bluegrass on the Tube**

Get Bluegrass Music Videos sent to your email everyday by subscribing to Bluegrass on the Tube. Dedicated to the preservation and enjoyment of bluegrass music -- past and present

<http://www.bluegrassonthetube.com/>

### **Top 10 Bluegrass Christmas Songs 2016**

1. Beautiful Star of Bethlehem – Ralph Stanley, Clinch Mountain Gospel 1977.
2. White Christmas – Larry Sparks
3. I'm Going Home, IT's Christmas Time – Ralph Stanley & The Clinch Mountain Boys
4. Christmas Time at Home – Rhonda Vincent
5. The Friendly Beats – Johnson Mountain

Boys

6. Bluegrass Christmas – Del McCoury Band
7. Christmas Time Back Home – The Country Gentlemen.
8. Santa Train – Patty Loveless
9. Call Collect at Christmas – James King
10. Christmas Time's a Coming – Bill Monroe

Send your NEWS! We want to hear from you. Please send us your offerings for the 2017 Newsletters:  
[smedleyjay@icloud.com](mailto:smedleyjay@icloud.com)

## Remembering Carter Stanley



The great Carter Stanley passed away on December 1<sup>st</sup>, 1966 at the age of 41. Stanley was born in Big Spraddle Creek in Dickenson County, Virginia. The son of Lucy and Lee Stanley, Carter grew up in rural southwestern Virginia. In 1946 he and his brother Ralph formed the Stanley Brothers, one of the most respected and influential bands in the new genre of bluegrass music. Carter played guitar and sang lead while Ralph played banjo and sang with a strong, high tenor voice. Their harmonies are much admired, and many consider Carter Stanley to be one of the greatest natural singers in the history of country music. Carter also composed more than a hundred songs, and many of them remain standards in the bluegrass genre. He had a particular knack for deceptively simple lyrics that portrayed strong emotion (wiki). The picture above displays the cover for the album that was released after Carter Stanley's death. It was released in 1967 and is entitled "An Empty Mansion: In Memory of Carter Stanley".



Bluebridge Carter Stanley Memorial Steel String, 2006 www.12fret.com

## Recipes



### Classic Pound Cake

#### Ingredients:

- 6 Eggs
- 1 cup Cold Unsalted Butter (8 Oz.), cut in ½-inch pieces
- 1 (8 ounce) package Cream Cheese, cold, cut in 1-inch pieces
- 2-¾ cups Sugar
- 1 tsp Kosher Salt
- 4 tsp Pure Vanilla
- 3 cups Sifted Cake Flour\*

#### Directions:

1. Let eggs stand at room temperature about 30 minutes or until they are room temperature (no more than 2 hours). Generously butter and lightly flour two 8x4x2-inch loaf pans or one 10-inch tube pan. Using large bowl of heavy-duty stand mixer with paddle attachment beat cold butter about 2 minutes on low speed, occasionally raising to moderately high speed for 5 seconds to dislodge butter from paddle.
2. Add cream cheese. Beat on low speed 3 minutes with occasional short bursts on high speed to dislodge mixture from paddle. Beat butter and cream cheese mixture until waxy and well-blended. Still mixing on low, add the sugar in a slow continuous stream. (This should take 1-½ to 2 minutes). Add salt. Continue creaming butter and cream cheese mixture for 5 minutes, scraping sides and bottom of bowl once halfway through. Increase speed to medium; continue mixing 2 minutes more, scraping once.
3. Add eggs, one at a time, beating 20 to 30 seconds after each addition or just until each egg is fully incorporated before adding the next egg. Scrape sides and bottom of bowl after first three eggs. Beat in vanilla with the last egg.
4. Gradually add about 2-½ cups of the flour on low speed, mixing until just blended (this should take about 1 to 1-½ minutes). Turn of mixer. Fold in remaining flour by hand with a rubber spatula, just until combined.
5. Turn batter into prepared pan(s). Shake pan(s) gently to distribute batter. Run a



spatula in zigzag pattern through batter. Drop filled pan(s) from a height of about 6 inches onto kitchen counter to dislodge any large air pockets.

6. Place on center rack of cold oven. Turn oven setting to 300 degrees F. Bake for 1 hour 15 minutes to 1-½ hours without opening oven door for the first 1 hour and 15 minutes. (Bake 1 hour 45 minutes for tube pan.) Test for doneness by carefully inserting a cake tester in center of cake or gently removing cake from oven and listening for light bubbling sounds that soften and slow as cake approaches doneness.
7. Transfer to cooling rack. Cool for 10 minutes before removing from pans. Cool completely before serving. Makes 2 loaves (24 servings) or one 10-inch tube cake.

### Chocolate Coconut Balls



#### Ingredients:

- 1 170 ml can Thick Cream (Small Can)
- ¼ cup Butter
- 1 tsp Pure Vanilla
- 3 cups Coconut,

Unsweetened, Feathered Or Desiccated

- 4-5 cups Icing Sugar

#### Directions:

1. Put cream, butter and vanilla in mixer bowl and mix until combined.
2. Add coconut and icing sugar, 1 cup at a time mixing until combined.
3. Put in fridge until firm (2-4 hours or overnight).
4. Roll into balls. Melt chocolate chips in top of double boiler pot.
5. Dip coconut balls in melted chocolate. I use two forks and place on a large sheet of wax paper. Let sit until chocolate has firmed up. Enjoy! NOTE: The thick cream is NOT evaporated milk, however, you will find it next to the evaporated milk on the supermarket shelf. Delicious chocolate balls for folks who do not enjoy peanut butter chocolate balls. :):)

### Winter Fantasy Cupcakes



#### Ingredients:

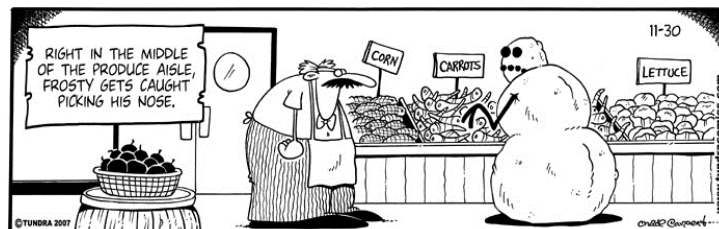
- 1 to 2 cans vanilla frosting (16 ounces each)
- Cupcakes of your choice

#### SNOWMEN:

- Coarse sugar
- Chocolate wafers
- Semisweet chocolate chips and miniature semisweet chocolate chips
- Orange candy slices
- Additional vanilla frosting
- Blue food coloring, pearl dragees, blue jumbo diamond sprinkles and edible glitter, optional

#### Directions:

1. Frost cupcakes, reserving some frosting for decorating as desired.
2. For snowmen cupcakes: Dip the top of each cupcake in coarse sugar; gently shake off excess sugar. For stovepipe hats, microwave chocolate wafers for a few seconds to slightly soften as needed. Use a serrated knife to cut two narrow strips from opposite sides of each wafer. (Large center piece will form crown of hat; one strip will form the brim.)
3. Add chips and mini chips to cupcake to form eyes and mouth. Cut a small piece of orange slice to form the nose.
4. Stick brim of hat, rounded side up, into top of cupcake; insert hat crown into the top edge. Secure with additional frosting. Color frosting if desired; place in a resealable plastic bag. Cut a small hole in corner of bag. Pipe a decorative hat band; add dragees and sprinkles if desired. Sprinkle cupcakes with glitter if desired. Yield: varies.



## **32nd Annual (2016) Eastern Canada Bluegrass Music Award Winners**

The Downeast Bluegrass & Oldtime Music Society is pleased to announce the winners for the 32nd Annual Eastern Canada Bluegrass Music Awards:

**Banjo Player of the Year:**

Greg Hamilton (Oxbow Mountain Boys)

**Bass Player of the Year:**

Brian Hazlett (Ryan Dillman & Shadow River)

**Dobro Player of the Year:**

Phil Harris

**Fiddle Player of the Year:**

Lukas Munroe (Ryan Dillman & Shadow River)

**Guitar Player of the Year:**

Jeff Nauss (The Bluegrass Unit)

5 Time Winner - Master Award - 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016

**Mandolin Player of the Year:**

Waylon Robicheau (Ryan Dillman & Shadow River/The Bluegrass Unit)

**Male Vocalist of the Year:**

David Doyle (Ryan Dillman & Shadow River)

5 Time Winner - Master Award - 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016

**Female Vocalist of the Year:**

Karen DeCoste (Bluegrass Tradition)

**Individual Entertainer of the Year:**

Brian Hazlett (Ryan Dillman & Shadow River)

**Vocal Group of the Year:**

Bluegrass Tradition

**Gospel Performance of the Year:**

Ryan Dillman & Shadow River

**Most Promising Band of the Year:**

Oxbow Mountain Boys

**Band of the Year:**

Ryan Dillman & Shadow River

5 Time Winner - Master Award - 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016

**Recording of the Year:**

Bluegrass Tradition

**Composer of the Year:**

Karen Decoste

**Promoter of the Year:**

Ward Robicheau

**Emcee of the Year:**

Brian Hazlett

**Radio / TV DJ of the Year:**

Nancy Keddy - Bluegrass Atlantic (CIOE 97.5FM Sackville)

**Participation Award:**

Annapolis Valley Bluegrass & Oldtime Music Association

**Lifetime Member:**

Eddy Poirier

**Fan of the Year:**

Rita Farrell

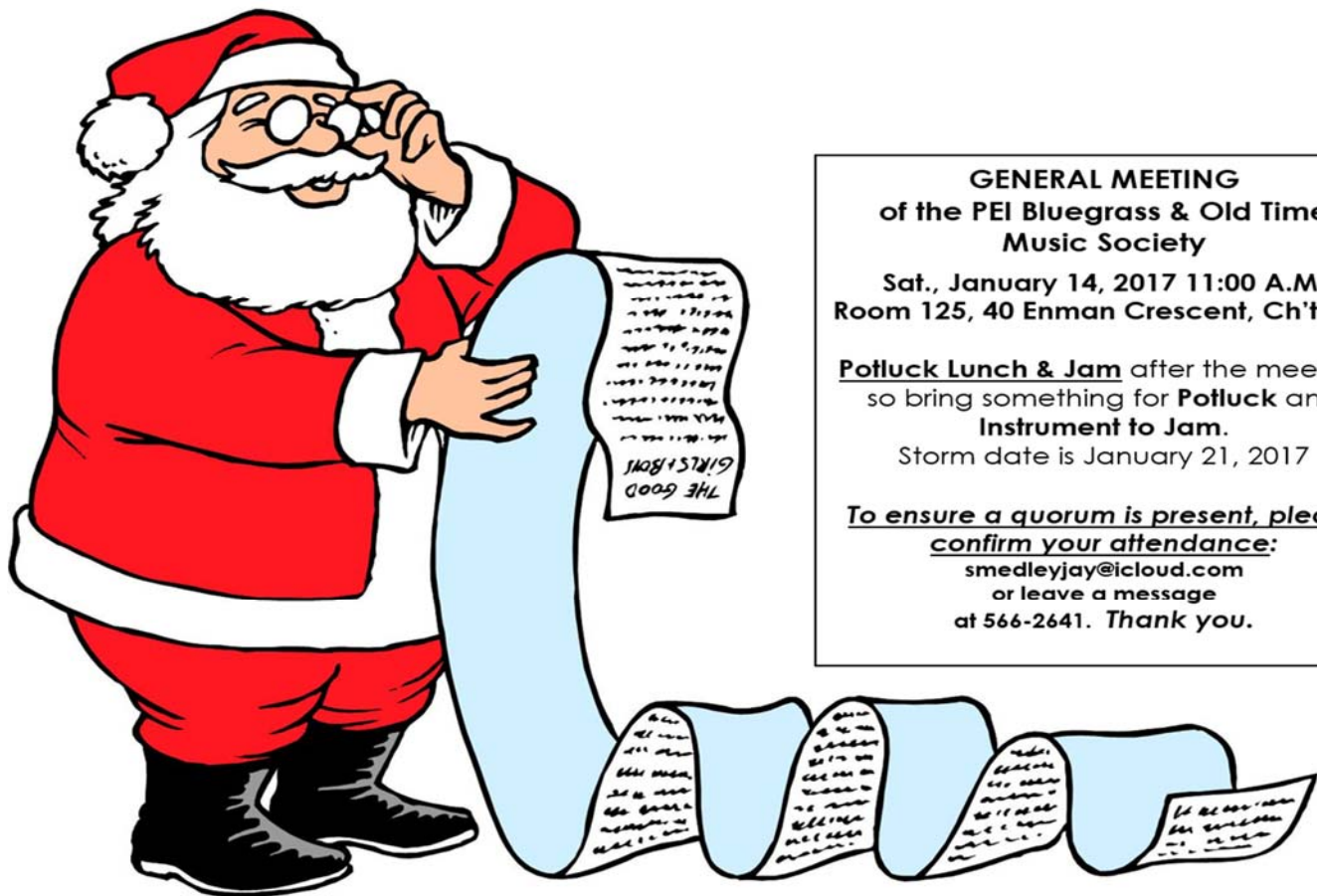
Information is taken from [downeastgrass.com](http://downeastgrass.com)

## **The International Bluegrass Music Awards (IBMA), 2015 Winners.**



As we celebrate our own Bluegrass Music Awards on the East Coast, we are also celebrating Bluegrass on the International stage as well. Below are the IBMA 2016 award winners.

- **Instrumental Recorded Performance Of The Year** – *Fireball* – Special Consensus featuring Rob Ickes, Trey Hensley, and Alison Brown (artist), *Long I Ride* (album), Compass Records
- **Recorded Event Of The Year** – *Longneck Blues* – Junior Sisk and Ronnie Bowman (artist), *Poor Boy's Pleasure* (album), Mountain Fever
- **Banjo Player of the Year** – Charlie Cushman
- **Dobro Player of the Year** – Jerry Douglas
- **Bass Player of the Year** – Barry Bales
- **Mandolin Player of the Year** – Sierra Hull
- **Fiddle Player of the Year** – Becky Buller
- **Guitar Player of the Year** – Bryan Sutton
- **Female Vocalist of the Year** – Becky Buller
- **Gospel Recorded Performance Of The Year** – *All Dressed Up* – Joe Mullins and the Radio Ramblers (artist), *Sacred Memories* (album), Rebel Records
- **Male Vocalist of the Year** – Danny Paisley
- **Vocal Group of the Year** – Flatt Lonesome
- **Emerging Artist of the Year** – Mountain Faith
- **Song of the Year** – *You're the One* – Flatt Lonesome (artist), Dwight Yoakam (writer), Mountain Home Music
- **Instrumental Group Of The Year** – Frank Solivan & Dirty Kitchen
- **Album of the Year** – *Runaway Train* – Flatt Lonesome (artist), Mountain Home Music
- **Entertainer of the Year** – Earls of Leicester
- Congratulations to all of this year's winners!



### ADDITIONAL INFO:

- 2017 Membership Fees may be paid before the meeting begins.
- Please bring the enclosed agenda/minutes with you to the meeting.
- Storm date will be put on all radio stations, if necessary.

### Tentative Agenda

1. Welcome/Memberships
2. Approval of Agenda January 14, 2017
3. Approval of Minutes September 24, 2016 as circulated
4. Reports
  - 4.1 Treasurer's Report
  - 4.2 Festival Update; Contracts
7. New Business
  - 7.1 Social/Ways & Means Committee
  - 7.2 Fundraisers
  - 7.3 Jams/Newsletter
8. Next General Meeting: Sept. 16, 2017



## **PEI Bluegrass & Old Time Music Society General Meeting Minutes: September 24, 2016, 11:00 p.m.**

Rm. 149 Royalty Centre, Charlottetown

1. Welcome/Call meeting to order.

2. Approval Agenda September 24, 2016

MOTION: To approve agenda as circulated.

Moved by Peter Richards. Seconded by Audrey Barlow. Motion carried.

3. Approval Minutes January 16, 2016

MOTION: To approve minutes.

Moved by Dave Ross. Seconded by Bruce Martin. Motion carried.

4. Business Arising from the minutes - None.

5. Financial update

a. Treasurer's report:

Canadian Account Balance \$27,731.84 US Account Balance \$5,928.00

Share \$5.86

\$6,426.67 balance of Income & Expenses Report

\$3,767.94 owed to Receiver General for HST

MOTION: To carry bank account funds forward to next fiscal year

Moved by Pat MacKinnon. Seconded by Allen Boland. Motion carried.

MOTION: To update bank signing authorities to include the following: President - Shirley Jay, Vice President - Allen Boland, Treasurer - Pat MacKinnon, Secretary - Denise MacLeod.

Moved by Ann Hay. Seconded by Dave Ross. Motion carried.

MOTION: To approve 2017/2018 Society & Festival Budget.

Moved by Pat MacKinnon. Seconded by John Barlow. Motion carried.

b. New Financial Contract Request:

Albert Shepard requested two days wages for field marking services. The board is recommending a new contract to pay for field marking when there isn't enough volunteers to do this task at festivals going forward. Amount \$250.00 was discussed. Considerations: setting a precedent; expertise needed for tasks; cover expenses vs. wages.

MOTION: To move Field Marking Contract decision to next meeting in January 2017.

Moved by Ann Hay. Seconded by Bruce Martin. Motion carried.

Note: Members were asked to consider contract wording and send to board members.

MOTION: To pay Albert Shepard for 2016 festival field marking expenses.

Moved by Audrey Barlow. Seconded by Glenda Johnston. Motion Carried. 5 against.

## 6. Other Reports

### a. Society's Festival Report 2016

Gate income is up for 2016. Attendance was down for 2016. Moving RVs in faster on Wednesday was very appreciated by our customers. Big thanks to all the volunteers in 2016 for a successful festival.

## 7. New Business

### a. Nominations/Elections

Current board members agreed to sit for another year. Dave Ross accepted nominated to the Board as a member at large. Executive Members: President - Shirley S. Jay, Vice President - Allen Boland, Secretary - Denise MacLeod, Treasurer - Pat MacKinnon, Board Members: David Clarke, Glenda Johnston, Dave Ross

MOTION: To accept nominations and that nominations cease.

Moved by Allen Boland. Seconded by Glenda Johnston. Motion carried.

### b. Fundraisers/Newsletter

Allen Boland will continue with the Newsletter. Please send news items to Allen.

Shirley will organize a couple of concerts over the Winter.

### c. Bluegrass Jams/Promotion and preservation of Bluegrass & Old Time Music in PEI.

Jams at the Buzz will continue from January to April 2017 every second week on Fridays.

Slow Jams at the Murphy Centre will continue on Wednesdays.

## 8. Adjournment: MOTION: To adjourn the meeting. Moved by Bruce Martin.

Next General Meeting: January 14, 2017 (Storm date: January 21, 2017)



## 32nd Annual PEI Bluegrass and Old Time Music Festival

at "The Big Field" In Rollo Bay, PEI - July 7, 8, & 9, 2017



The 32nd annual PEI Bluegrass and Old Time Music Festival features: Sideline, Lost and Found, and Salt and Light as well as perennial favourites, The Bluegrass Diamonds, back for their 24th appearance.

Other maritime bands will be added later in the fall.

Also all your island favourites.

Island bands will be added in due course according to availability.



We will also have a full lineup of acoustic instrument workshops, open mic on Wed July 5th & Thur July 6th, and lots of concessions and fun for the whole family.

Check our website at: [www.peibluegrass.tripod.com](http://www.peibluegrass.tripod.com) for more information on the festival

Gates open Wednesday July 5th at 1:00PM.

For advanced tickets or information call:

Glenda Johnston (902)569-4501, or Shirley Jay (902)566-2641

We are in constant contact with many other bands and hope to present the finest lineup in the maritimes this summer.

Stay tuned for more information on bookings.

*We reserve the right to change the program without prior notice.*



Gouvernement  
du Canada

Government  
of Canada

## Having a Coffee with ..... Allan Spinney

Posted on [April 8, 2015](#) By [Richard Thompson](#)



*Having A Coffee With... is a fun series in which we ask bluegrass music personalities, some famous, some not so famous, about some of their interests, as well as about the music that they love.*

Allan Spinney is the older of the two [Spinney Brothers](#) who come from Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, although he prefers to be known as a Nova Scotian (he spent many of his early years in Wolfville NS).

He was raised in the midst of a musical family, with country and bluegrass music playing the largest role in his musical up-bringing. At a very early age, Spinney demonstrated the desire to be a performer. Home recordings have documented his vocal abilities, as early as age six. Shortly after, he took a strong interest in the organ.

At the age of 14 he acquired his first guitar and began the journey towards a life of playing music full-time and appearing on stages not only in his home country but beyond. He began studying the guitar works of Canadian country music singer, songwriter, and musician Smiley Bates, as well as the sounds of Bill Monroe & Flatt & Scruggs.

However, it was the vocal harmonies of the Stanley Brothers that really appealed to him.

He strongly encouraged his brother Rick to explore the music as well.

**What would you like to drink?**

“Well, I indulge in a lot of various beverages. However, I do enjoy a glass of fresh pressed apple cider that I make each fall with our very own Nova Scotia apples.”

**Do you want anything to eat as well?**

“Yes, of course, being from the Maritimes, it’s hard to pass on seafood such as lobster scallops, clams etc...”

**What’s your favorite food?**

“I’m an old fashion kind of guy, so although I’m not at all fussy, I would have to say a good ole sugar-cured smoked ham dinner with all the fixins would be my favorite food.”

**And what would you have to drink with that?**

“All I would want with my ham dinner would be a tall glass of cold spring water.”

**What’s the nicest meal that you have ever had?**

“I was very fortunate to have been raised next door to my grandparents, and my grandma cooked everything homemade from scratch, so I have enjoyed the very best of meals at their dinner table, too many to mention.”

**Let’s talk bluegrass.....**

**Where/when did you first hear bluegrass music?**

“My brother Rick and myself were introduced to bluegrass music, that is ‘traditional bluegrass’ while working in the mountains of British Columbia. There were only cassette tapes to listen to so, thanks to our dad who had tapes of Flatt & Scruggs, Stanley Brothers Reno & Smiley etc, we were able to have an introduction to a great genre of music.”

**Which of your own songs do you have a particular liking for?**

"I would say one song I have a liking, or bit of a soft spot for, would have to be a song I co-wrote with Paula Breedlove called *She Doesn't Mourn Anymore*. It's a very emotional song that talks about seeing the illness of Alzheimer's from a more comforting and not so sad perspective."

**What about a song written by someone else?**

"I really like sad songs, so songs with a heartfelt story, melody and good tight harmonies really catch my interest. For example, *The Model Church* by the Bluegrass Album Band is a song I really like."

**Which particular album do you like best and why?**

"There are way too many albums that I like equally, from anything Vern Williams ever put out to the Osborne Brothers and Jimmy Martin. I simply LOVE TRADITIONAL bluegrass music."

**You play a guitar ....**

"The model of guitar that I usually perform with on our stage shows is either a Martin D-28 or a D18. Both are from the vintage year of 1953. But when I am home just playing or rehearsing by myself, I favor my 1945 Gibson SJ. It is just such a pleasure to play; its tone truly helps me relax."

**What's your favorite bluegrass memory?**

"After being around bluegrass for nearly 30 years I have many fond memories, but I would have to say my favorite memory of all would have to be the very first time a stand-up bass accompanied us in a jam at a festival. It just filled the void that had been missing."

**How do you keep fit and healthy when you spend so much time on the road?**

"I'm not as fit and healthy as I would like to be. However, I do try to be disciplined and eat salads, fish and chicken as often as possible, and I drink a lot of water, NO SODAS. Just the odd indulgence of a cold beer on a hot day or a social glass of wine.

I believe most things in moderation are fine."

**Are you a sports fan? Who do you follow?**



“Actually I don’t follow sports much at all, but have been known to watch some basketball back in the days of Michael Jordan.”

**What hobbies do you have?**

“My hobbies are of the simpler things in life. Like outdoor activities such as cutting logs in the woods, and hunting and fishing. I also like to collect old currency.”

**What is the last movie film that you watched?**

“The last movie film I watched at the theater was called *God’s Not Dead*. Very inspirational...

But my all-time favorite film would be a documentary series called *Alaska: Silence and Solitude. The Life of Bob Mercer*. It’s about a man who in the 1950s, decided to move to the wilderness and live off of the land in total isolation. 5\*\*\*\*\*”

**Do you get much time to watch TV?**

“As a matter of fact I do get time to watch TV as I am not much interested in computers or social media. National geographic programing is great, as is crime solving shows.”

**What would you be doing if you weren’t involved in bluegrass music?**

“If I wasn’t on the road full time performing bluegrass music, I would be farming on my farm that I owned and very recently sold in order to keep up with our busy performance schedule.”

In 1989, Allan Spinney co-founded his first bluegrass band – Bluegrass Student Union – with his brother Rick and their good friend, Steve Jackson. The trio performed at various school functions, variety shows and benefits.

Two years later, the brothers were ready to put together a full bluegrass band. Allan Spinney’s dream was realized in the creation of The Spinney Brothers Bluegrass Band.

They released their first album in 1993. Since then the brothers have released six independent albums and three for Mountain Fever Records. The latest is [\*Tried & True\*](#), released in August 2014.

Allan Spinney now makes his home in Grand Pre, just outside Wolfville, Nova Scotia, with his wife Lynn and step daughters Lindsey and Jennie, and grandson Ethan.



## **“Merry Christmas Everybody” Hits the Airwaves!**

Well, Canada's Thanksgiving was October 10th so we figured it was okay to go ahead and usher in Christmas just a little early this year. Honestly, we're so excited about our Christmas release that we just can't wait any longer! That's right, we have a Christmas song being released to radio TODAY! *“Merry Christmas Everybody”* was first released in 1973 by another artist. The single is available to radio today via Airplay Direct and fans can purchase the song beginning November 29th. We hope you like it as much as we do and if nothing else, maybe it'll get you in the Christmas spirit just a little earlier than usual!