

June 2012

Published by the PEI Bluegrass and Old Time Music, Established in 1986

Festival goers setting up for a weekend of Bluegrass & Old Time music in Rollo Bay.



The PEIBOTM Society's Festival is fast approaching **July 6 – 8, 2012.** All the band selection has been done and finalized. As you all know our US bands have been selected for some time and are all ready to make the trip across the border.

Our festival lineup is as follows:

US bands:

- Grasstowne SC
- The Darrell Webb Band TN
- Nu Blu NC

Maritime bands:

- The Bluegrass Diamonds NB
- Windy Creek NB
- The Blue Tie Affair NS
- Eight Wheel Drive NS

Island bands:

- Janet McGarry & Wildwood
- Joe Casey & Westwind
- Country Grass
- Two + Three
- Simply Acoustic
- Blue Persuasion
- Bluegrass Revival

We may be adding another island band but basically the lineup is set and we're all ready to go. See you in Rollo Bay.



Send in your nominations/votes for the Society Awards - Chesley MacDougall Award and Life Membership Recognition. The Chesley MacDougall Award is awarded annually to the person that best exemplifies the spirit of Bluegrass and Oldtime Music. The award will be presented at the Society's Festival, held in Rollo Bay.

The Life Membership is not an annual recognition award. When deemed appropriate by the board, a Life Membership is presented to individuals who have volunteered and contributed to the Society over a number of years in many aspects of the Society's festivals and events working to promote Bluegrass & Old Time Music in PEI. Send your votes to Glenda Johnston garyandglena@hotmail.com or call her at 569-4501 by June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012.



Martin D16 GT Guitar Raffle for the PEIBOTM Society Festival July 6-8, 2012

Martin Hardshell Case

Tickets: 1/\$2 or 3/\$5

Draw date: Sunday, July 8/12.

Tickets will be sold at the Festival.

#### INTERNATIONAL BLUEGRASS MUSIC ASSOCIATION WORLD OF BLUEGRASS NASHVILLE CONVENTION

The International Bluearass Music Association World of Bluegrass Nashville convention is scheduled for September 24-30, 2012. This year IBMA will be in Nashville, next year in RALEIGH, North Carolina. Raleigh may or may not be the home of bluegrass - but for at least three years, it will be home of the World of Bluegrass. IBMA will bring its week-long convention and awards show to Raleigh for a three-year run starting in 2013. Russell Johnson and the Grass Cats opened and closed today's announcement ceremony on downtown's City Plaza by playing "Foggy Mountain Breakdown" and other bluegrass classics. A four-day business conference, an awards show and a three-day "Bluegrass Fan Fest" featuring more than 60 acts, Raleigh's first edition of IBMA will be Sept. For more information see 23-29, 2013. http://ibma.org.



Q: How many bluegrass players does it take to change a light bulb?

A: None. They won't touch anything electric.

Steve Martin: How do you slow down a banjo player? Put sheet music in front of him.

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How can you tell if the stage is level? If the banjo player drools out of *both* sides of his mouth.

## Grasstowne from South Carolina, is a

band comprised of a very well respected veteran of bluegrass music as well as four of the finest young musicians in bluegrass today. This combination together is one of the hottest and energetic bands touring today! The band's first two projects "The Road Headin' Home" and "The Other Side of Towne" went to #1 and #2 respectively on the National Bluegrass Charts. The Road Headin' home remained at #1 for three months and also won the 2008 "Album of the Year" award. Their latest project "Kickin' Up Dust" is currently in the top 5 on the singles and CD chart and rising!



Band members are:

Alan Bibey, one of the most creative and technically gifted mandolin players in bluegrass and acoustic music. A stylist who turned heads as an original member of The New Quicksilver, Illrd Tyme Out, BlueRidge and now Grasstowne his tasteful innovations and pristine execution earned him inclusion in The Young Mando Monsters project, Mel Bay's Mandolin book "The Greatest Mandolin Players Of The Twentieth Century" as well as The Bluegrass All-Stars Sugar Hill Records project.

**Guitarist Dustin Pyrtle** comes from a musical family and area rich in bluegrass tradition. He and Alan are both from Stokes County, NC as well as a host of other great musicians(including Dustin's Great Uncle, Lou Reid). Dustin is from a little town called Westfield. He started playing bluegrass at the age of 8 and is very accomplished on guitar and bass. He has played with many top regional bands including Broken Wire, Midnight Ramblers, Amber Collins and No Speed Limit and Riverview. He has an incredible vocal range and is a great rhythm guitar player.

Justin Jenkins (banjo) has been playing music since the age of six. His first professional gig was around the age of twelve when he was asked to become a regular member of the Renfro Valley Barn Dance. In 2003 he appeared on the Grand Ole opry as a guest of Mike Snider. After high school he hit the road with Mountain Heart to sell merchandise where he got his first taste of road life. He soon joined the group Blue Moon Rising where he recorded two highly acclaimed projects "On The Road" and "One Lonely Shadow".

**Kameron Keller (bass)** is a tremendous young musician playing bass with Grasstowne. His timing and tone are that of a player well beyond his young age of 20. He has played in several regional bands and most recently

spent two years with the Gospel band "Strong Ties". Kameron is already a seasoned player and has the potential to be one of the best bassists in bluegrass and acoustic music.

Adam Haynes (fiddler) is our resident fiddler and baritone/bass vocalist. Originally from Norwalk, Ohio, Adam spent a lot of time in eastern Kentucky where his family originated. The ties to bluegrass music were strong and he learned to play at an early age. He now carries on the great tradition of bluegrass fiddle playing that has long been synonymous with the mountains of eastern Kentucky. He currently makes his home in Portland, TN. He has played with such great acts as Dailey & Vincent, Larry Stephenson, the James King Band and David Parmely & Continental Drive just to name a few. Adam brings a wealth of knowledge and firepower to Grasstowne. He is also a great harmony singer being featured on baritone and bass vocals. The band is very excited to have such a talent join the band.

http://www.grasstowne.com

**Darrell Webb Band**, performs acoustic music with electrifying energy. The band tours North America and Canada appearing at outdoor music festivals, concert venues, clubs and private parties.



Darrell Webb, Band leader, Mandolin, Vocals - The band records for Rural Rhythm Records in Nashville, Tennessee. Their first recording project, Bloodline released in 2010 stayed on bluegrass and acoustic music charts from 11 months. The title track Bloodline was written by Larry Cordle and Connie Smith. Adam Steffey congributed the liner notes and the band produced a music video on the song Miner's Hell. They have a new album set for release later this year; produced by Grammy nominated solo artist and Grammy winning session musician Jim VanCleve. Darrell is a Grammy nominated session musician as well as an IBMA and SPBGMA award winner.- He has recorded with Dolly Parton, Bobby Hicks Marty Rabon and Rhonda Vincent. His 20 years career includes performing with legendary banjo pioneer J. D. Crowe and the Lonesome River Band. Darrell has appeared on stage with Bill Monroe, Ralph Stanley, Dierks Bentley, Doyle Lawson, and Ken Mellons.

Jeremy Arrowood, Vocals, Bass – Jeremy plays an NXT NS Design Bass, Jeremy's electric acoustic bass is a unique design that allows freedom and flexibility to the travelling artist while keeping a clear powerful sound.

Jake Joins, Dobro, Vocals – Jake plays a Wayne Henderson Resonator Guitar and is an award winning finger style guitar picker. He has played Carnegie Hall in 3 national tours of "Masters of the Steel-String Guitar" and in 7 Nations throughout Asia. Jake is a luthier of great renown producing 20 instruments a year – mostly guitars. He is a recipient of 1995 National Heritage Award presented by Endowment for the Arts.

Other band members include **Chris Wade**, **Banjo** and **Jared Hensley Guitar**, **Vocals**.

http://www.darrellwebbband.com/Biographies.html

**Nu-Blu** is a fine young band from North Carolina which features a very tight, polished sound, impressive instrumental work, and excellent vocals led by Carolyn Routh. On this, their second release (and the first for the newly active Pinecastle label) they present 12 wellchosen and engaging cuts that range from solid bluegrass to modern country. In addition to **Carolyn Routh on vocals and bass**, the band includes Routh's husband **Daniel on guitar**, **resonator guitar and vocals**, **Levi Austin on banjo**, **guitar**, **resonator guitar and vocals**, and **Kendall Gales on mandolin**. Rob Ickes guests on resonator guitar on five cuts, and Greg Luck supplies fiddle on seven cuts.

"Nu-Blu has the fortune to be blessed with not only Carolyn Routh's vocal abilities—she can sing ethereal as on Roses And Rust and Look To You and hard and punchy on That's Who I'm Supposed To Be, all with a purity of voice that conjures visions of Alison Krauss—but also with a harmony blend with Daniel Routh and Levi Austin that seems almost perfect it is so smooth..." Bluegrass Unlimited Magazine

http://www.nu-blu.com/ Nu-Blue is a "hard-driving" band founded by Carolyn (bass) and Daniel Routh (guitar)

**Carolyn, on bass**, provides her trademark lead vocals with impressive clarity and vocal range and Daniel, on guitar, brings his songwriting and vocal talents to the group. The two young guns, Levi Austin (banjo and vocals) and Austin Koener (mandolin) fill out the ranks providing the band with a solid and talented backbone. Carolyn began taking the stage at the age of 7.- It was while fronting one of her bands, *Faithful Journey*, that she met Daniel.

**Daniel Routh** began playing guitar at the age of 15. Banjo soon followed, which he played in the bands Different Directions and The Donna Hughes Band. It was while playing in Donna's band that he and Carolyn met. After a chance meeting in Wal-Mart, Daniel learned that Carolyn was in need of a bass player, so he agreed to learn bass to fill the spot. They attended a festival that Carolyn's long time friend John Wade was performing at. It only took till the second song by Lonesome River Band to bring Carolyn back to her roots. "I have told Sammy Shelor many times that he is directly responsible for my bluegrass addiction," Carolyn says.

Levi Austin, Banjo - When Levi was 9 years old, he was not a big fan of bluegrass music, at least not until a Sunday evening church service that included a bluegrass gospel group. After watching and hearing the banjo during that concert, Levi instantly fell in love with the instrument. After the show, he spoke with the banjo player, who advised him to take lessons. He asked his Dad for a banjo and was told "If you can live without it for two weeks, then you don't need it!" The continued nagging for the following month resulted in him getting a Washburn B-12 from Harold Chriscoe. Soon after he began lesson from Jerry Stuart, Levi was ready to make the upgrade to a Gibson Mastertone. He truly has developed his own style on banjo and guitar, and continues to impress his audiences with his abilities.

Austin Koerner (mandolin) Austin didn't grow up in a musical family; however he was interested in learning music since he was a kid. During middle school, he learned to read music and play the trumpet and french horn in his school band. After that, he picked up the drums, got into hardcore and metal music for about three or four years and eventually joined a metal band. The played a few shows here and there, but nothing serious. He then began exploring different idioms of music like Latin and jazz and even country. Austin's grandfather took him to see Al Batten when he was around 11 years old and he immediately fell in love with the mandolin. By the age of 13, he got his first mandolin but only played for a few months. At this time he was still playing drums in metal bands. In the spring of 2007, he started playing mandolin regularly and began learning theory at that time too. The mandolin came so easy to him and he really favored the more traditional sound of bluegrass playing Bill Monroe, Stanley Brothers and Jimmy Martin songs.

http://www.nu-blu.com/about.html





### 46TH ANNUAL BILL MONROE'S MEMORIAL BEAN BLOSSOM BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL June 9 – 16, 2012

Detailed Performance & Workshop Schedule Now Available. The Mecca of Bluegrass

Includes 8 Big Days of Entertainment with Over 55 Bands "The oldest, continuous running bluegrass festival in the world" http://www.beanblossom.us/events.html

### **OTHER UPCOMING FESTIVALS**

Other Festivals coming up beginning mid-June:

St. Louis Bluegrass Campout

St. Louis, PEI June 15 – 17, 2012 eileenbrown45@hotmail.com

#### Evangeline Bluegrass Festival

Abrams Village, PEI July 13 – 15m 2012 http://www.evangelinebluegrassfestival.ca/

#### **Red Clay Bluegrass Festival**

Tignish, PEI August 17-19, 2012 http://www.redclaybluegrass.com

# NEXT NEWSLETTER - SEPTEMBER

Send your comments/articles to: <u>asjay@eastlink.ca</u>

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**GENERAL MEETING**, TBA 3rd or 4th weekend in September 2012