



# IdaGrass

Volume 4 Issue 4

July - August 2008

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## Neighboring Bluegrass Associations

- Arizona Bluegrass Association –  
[www.azbluegrass.org](http://www.azbluegrass.org)
- California Bluegrass Association –  
[www.cbaontheweb.org](http://www.cbaontheweb.org)
- Idaho Bluegrass Association –  
[www.smithfowler.org/bluegrass/IdahoBGindex.htm](http://www.smithfowler.org/bluegrass/IdahoBGindex.htm)
- Inland Northwest Bluegrass Association –  
[www.mtbluegrass.com](http://www.mtbluegrass.com)
- Montana Rockies Bluegrass Association –  
[www.mtbluegrass.com](http://www.mtbluegrass.com)
- Oregon Bluegrass Association –  
[www.oregonbluegrass.org](http://www.oregonbluegrass.org)
- Washington Bluegrass Association –  
[www.washingtonbluegrassassociation.org](http://www.washingtonbluegrassassociation.org)

## Bluegrass Events Calendar

**Southern Zone Monthly Jam** - 7pm at Gerties' Brick Oven Cookery in Twin Falls.

Hot Jam, 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month

Slow Jam, 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month

John Boyer 208-733-4552 [boyerj1@mindspring.com](mailto:boyerj1@mindspring.com)

**Middle Zone Monthly Jam** –

Bill Elmer 208-466-1349 [mandobil@mail2Musician.com](mailto:mandobil@mail2Musician.com)

Bob Greer 208-466-1719

**Northern Zone Monthly Jam**, The Northern Zone is pleased to announce they are having two jams a month:

1st SAT at Orchards United Methodist Church, 1213 Burrell Ave., Lewiston Orchards, Noon - 5pm

3<sup>rd</sup> SAT at Highlander Community Room,

616 Warner, Lewiston Orchards. Noon - 5pm

Steve Gleason (208 798-8280

Pete Northcutt (208) 983-2277

**Bluegrass In The Barn – Saturday, July 14**, "The Jeffries Express" and "Tradition" in Bob Greer's Barn. 1822 West Orchard Nampa, ID 7 p.m. \$8. Open Mike at 9pm, for acoustic bluegrass performers

**Rhonda Vincent and the Rage**, August 14, 7pm @ Jewett Auditorium.

**Valerie Smith & Liberty Pike**, October 10. Time and location TBA. [www.dbrproductions.net](http://www.dbrproductions.net)

## ISBA Website:

[www.idahosawtoothbluegrass.org](http://www.idahosawtoothbluegrass.org)

## The purpose of the Idaho Sawtooth Bluegrass Association:

- To preserve and perpetuate Bluegrass music as a heritage of our country;
- To promote the education and enjoyment of Bluegrass music;
- To promote fellowship among all musicians and supporters who have a love for Bluegrass music, regardless of race, creed, color, ethnicity, or ability to play music.

## Round Valley Bluegrass Festival August 29, 30, 31

Each year the ISBA sponsors two events, the Spring Super Jam held up north in Kamiah and a fall bluegrass festival. After much consideration the fall bluegrass has a new home. The event that has been held at Payette previously, will now be held in Round Valley, about an hour north of Boise.



The new festival site is a beautiful place nestled between Smith's Ferry and Cascade. Some of the things you can expect at the festival site are: dry camping for tents, campers, and motor homes; food vendors for breakfast, lunch, and dinner; jamming night and day; two afternoons and evenings of great bluegrass bands; Kids in Bluegrass; workshops, and a Gospel Jam Sunday morning. Listed below is other important information that you will want to know. If you have additional questions, don't hesitate to call one of the contact people listed at the end of this section.

### Hope to see you there!

**Where:** The event will be held at a new location this year at the Kling Ranch, Cascade Idaho. South of Cascade at the south end of Round Valley -- easy to find; there will be lots of signs. It is a beautiful mountain meadow set against a backdrop of the mountains of Central Idaho.

### On-site:

Dry Camping, no hook-ups: \$5 per night

### Festival Admission

Friday: \$10

Saturday: \$15

Sunday: \$10

Full Weekend: \$30

Children under 12 FREE, if accompanied by an adult.

Pets OK, if at the camper or on a leash.

### Beginner Instrument Workshops Saturday Morning

With the purpose of promoting bluegrass education, the ISBA is organizing beginning instrument workshops to be held Saturday morning, 10 am -noon. There is no pre-registration; however, there will be a \$5.00 fee per student. Those interested in taking the workshop can meet at the membership table, Saturday at 9:45 am, for directions to their particular workshop.

### Special Banjo Workshops by Bill Evans

Bill Evans will be presenting two different banjo workshops at the Round Valley Bluegrass Festival. "Backup Essentials" will be offered Friday, August 29, 9 am–12 noon. "Picking it solid" will be offered Saturday, August 30, 9 am–12 noon. Each class will be three hours long. The Bill Evans workshops are sponsored by Williams Custom Banjos. The fee is \$50.00 per class per student. About 10 spaces are still available. To register for either class, please contact Will Williams: [will@williamscustombanjo.com](mailto:will@williamscustombanjo.com) or by phone at 208-839-2668.

### Special Mandolin Workshops by Mike Compton and David Long

Mandolin masters, Mike Compton and David Long, will be presenting two Monroe-style mandolin workshops at the Round Valley Bluegrass Festival on Saturday, August 30, 10 am-12 noon. Mike will teach an intermediate/advanced lesson and David will teach a beginner lesson. Each will be a 2-hour class.

Call Dennis Stokes for reservations at 208-941-5611. There are 30 spots available for each workshop.

You will not want to miss this!



**KIDS IN BLUEGRASS**

The ISBA will be having a special program featuring our KIDS IN BLUEGRASS at the Round Valley Bluegrass Festival this Labor Day Weekend.

This is how it works... If you are a kid under the age of 18 and can already play a bluegrass instrument or sing a bluegrass tune, then you are welcome to join the KIDS IN BLUEGRASS to perform on stage at the Round Valley Festival. We will have specific information at the membership table about where to meet for practice, so that we can put together a show for the stage. You must already be able to play or sing bluegrass to participate, but we welcome any ability, even the very beginner. If you can just chop a mandolin, or you can sing a tune, we welcome you to join our KIDS IN BLUEGRASS. If you need more information prior to the festival, please contact Raynae Redman, 208-839-2267 (home) or 406-370-0525 (cell)

**See you there...**

**Are you interested in volunteering at the festival?**

Volunteering is a great way to meet new people and connect with others at the festival. There is a need for people to help direct traffic, take tickets, work a shift at the membership table and more. Those interested in Volunteering should contact Sydney Howland at [sydland1z@juno.com](mailto:sydland1z@juno.com)

**Stage Band Performance Times:**

- Friday evening: 6:30 pm -10:30 pm
- Saturday afternoon: 1:00 pm -5:00 pm
- Saturday evening: 6:30 pm -10:30 pm
- Sunday afternoon: 12 noon -4:45 pm

**Additional Information about the Area:**

In **Smith's Ferry**, just five minutes from the festival site, you will find:

- Cougar Mountain Lodge – small convenience store, restaurant and lodging.

In **Cascade**, just a 20-minute drive from the festival site, you will find:

- 5 restaurants
- Inn/motels/RV parks
- Golf Courses
- Lake with boat docks/swimming
- Grocery Store
- Laundromat
- Drug store/Pharmacy/Hospital

At **Tamarack Resort**, within a one-hour drive, you will find:

- Fine dining
- Bicycle trails & Zip Lines
- Golf Course
- Inn/motels



Round Valley Planning – (L to R) Loretta McMinn, Jim McCue, June Greer, Carolyn Johnson and Gail Williams. Photo by Jim McCue.

**For more information contact:**

- Bill Elmer (208)466-1349
- Dennis Stokes (208)941-5611
- Bob Greer (208)466-1719

## Is this banjo heaven or hell?

This photo was taken at the ISBA Spring Super Jam. It's an event you don't see very often - a jam with five banjos. Nothing else, **just banjos!**

Just goes to show you, Kamiah is a very understanding community.



From (L to R): Caleb Dostal, Mike Conroy, a horrified Tari Conroy, Fred Frank, Ron Hillier, and John Boyer. Photo submitted by Fred Frank

## Bluegrass Festivals

### BANNOCK COUNTY BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL, August 22, 23, 24

Bannock County Fairgrounds in Pocatello Idaho  
[www.bannockcountybluegrassfestival.com](http://www.bannockcountybluegrassfestival.com)

### ISBA ROUND VALLEY BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL, August 29-September 1

See flyer for this festival on page 5.

Round Valley, ID (just south of Cascade, ID on State Hwy 55)

[www.idahosawtoothbluegrass.org](http://www.idahosawtoothbluegrass.org)

### PEND OREILLE VALLEY BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL, September 8-September 14

Cusick, WA (50 miles north of Spokane)

Camp n' Jam begins Monday, September 8,

Stage band begin Thursday, September 11

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

## For Sale

FLATIRON MANDOLIN, Model A5-1, made by the Flatiron Mandolin Company, Bozeman, MT. Label No.84030262, Excellent Condition, with original case. Contact: A.J. Barnett, 208-836-5690 or [ajbarnett@core.com](mailto:ajbarnett@core.com)

WEBER MANDOLIN, model Absaroka. Cedar top, with case for sale for \$1800. Excellent shape. Good "bassy" chop sound. Call 208-926-4140.

## Congratulations are in Order!

**Congratulations to Mike and Tari Conroy** on the recent release of their new album, "**Sourwood Mountain.**" It features spirited vocals along with Tari's old-style guitar pickin' and Mike on the 5-string banjo. This album was recorded live to recreate the sound of those great old records from the 1940s and 1950s. Many of these songs are from so far up the creek you can hardly get there from here. Songs contained on this new CD are: *Mountain Bare Naked Breakdown, Little Willie Ramshacked Shack On The Hill, Katy Daily, Cluck Old Hen, It's Rainin' Rainin' Rainin' and Petty-Coat Junction*, to name a few. For more information or to order a CD, contact Mike and Tari at (406)821-3777 or

[tariconroy@hotmail.com](mailto:tariconroy@hotmail.com)

**Congratulation to High Desert Band**, who learned in April that they were included in Mike Kear's, "Music From Foggy Hollow" out of Australia. Kear played *Leave Me in the Rockies*, a selection from their from "**Old Skool**" CD. It's wonderful that Idaho bands are getting air time in other parts of the world. Congrats!

**Congratulations to Will Williams & Gravel Road** on the release of their new CD, "**East Georgia Line**". This album is full of hard-drivin' bluegrass, with Will Williams on banjo, Chris Williams on mandolin, Pete Northcutt on dobro and Helen Smith on acoustic bass. A few of the songs you will hear on this album are: *Take Your Shoes Off Moses, Down the Road, Get Up John, In the Gravel Yard and Train 45*. East Georgia Line also debuts two original bluegrass songs written by Williams. For more information or to order a CD contact Will at: (208)839-2814 or

[will@williamscustombanjos.com](mailto:will@williamscustombanjos.com)

To hear songs from this album visit:

[www.myspace.com/willwilliamsandgravelroad](http://www.myspace.com/willwilliamsandgravelroad)

Start making your plans now for the  
**Annual Labor Day Weekend**



# **ROUND VALLEY BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL**

**August 29, 30, 31 - 2008**

**Just a few miles South of Cascade, Idaho at the south end of Round Valley.**

Come and join us for a three day bluegrass music event in the beautiful mountains of Idaho, featuring daily concerts with 10 fantastic bluegrass bands from Idaho and surrounding states



**Will Williams and Gravel Road**  
**The Buckhorn Mountain Boys**  
**Chicken Dinner Road**  
**Sugarfoot Express**  
**High Desert**  
**Tradition**  
**Bonafide**  
**Jeffries Express**  
**The Panhandle Polecats**  
**Council Mountain Bluegrass Band**



Mike Compton and David Long will perform and conduct workshops at the festival. **Grammy winner, Mike Compton** is perhaps best known as the featured mandolin player on the "Oh, Brother Where Art Thou" movie and soundtrack. They are known as two of the foremost mandolin players on today's traditional acoustic music scene. Contact Dennis Stokes for workshop details.

**Bill Evans Banjo Workshop**  
Contact Will Williams for details  
will@williamscustombanjos.com



"No Alcohol or Drugs, Just Flatt & Scruggs"  
This is a family friendly event so bring your whole family and enjoy.

**Enter Drawing To Win**  
**The Loar Mandolin**  
**Model LM-500-VS**



**General**  
**WORKSHOPS**  
**10:00 am / 12:pm**  
**Saturday**

For Information contact  
**Will Williams** will@williamscustombanjos.com  
**Bob Greer** 208-484-8678  
**Dennis Stokes** 208-941-5611  
**Bill Elmer** 208-466-1349

**Dry Camping**  
**Campers & Tents**  
**No Hookups**

For more Information visit  
[www.idahosawtoothbluegrass.org](http://www.idahosawtoothbluegrass.org)

# Application for ISBA Membership

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

IdaGrass, the ISBA newsletter is offered either in email or printed letter format. Using email saves the Association the cost of postage and printing. HOWEVER, because we want you to enjoy and look forward to the newsletter, we want you to receive the newsletter in a format with which you are comfortable.

I would like to receive the newsletter  Email  US Postal Service

New Member  Renewal

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Yearly membership:  \$10/individual  \$15/family

Please mail to: **Idaho Sawtooth Bluegrass Association  
PO Box 123 White Bird, ID 83554**

## If you have *Ideas, Comments, QUESTIONS, or Concerns*

**ISBA President - Bob Greer**  
bobgreer@msn.com  
(208)466-1719

**Northern Zone**  
Steve Gleason, Lewiston  
(208)798-8280  
Pete Northcutt, Grangeville  
pnorthcutt@mtida.net

**Southern Zone**  
John Boyer, Twin Falls  
(208)733-4552  
boyerj1@mindspring.com

**Middle Zone**  
Bill Elmer, Nampa  
(208)466-1349  
mandobil@mail2Musician.com  
Bob Greer, Nampa  
bobgreer@msn.com  
(208)466-1719  
Stan Strickland, Boise  
(208)377-5326

**Board Chairman - Will Williams, White Bird**  
will@williamscustombanjos.com

**Webmaster - Carolyn Johnson, Boise**  
cthorse@gmail.com

**IdaGrass Editor: Helen Smith, Grangeville**  
trueblue@wildblue.net

