



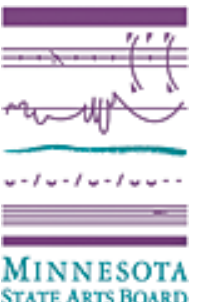
Minnesota Bluegrass & Old-Time Music Festival



AUG. 10-13, 2017


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and features the pristine playing of his closest musical heroes, including Del McCoury, Rob Ickes, Jerry Douglas, Sam Bush, Ronnie McCoury, John Cowan, Mike Bub, Shawn Camp and Megan McCormick.



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PO' RAMBLIN' BOYS

Born in the shadow of the Great Smoky Mountains, springing to life with all the zest and zeal you'd expect from a 1940s-style Tennessee bluegrass band, the Po' Ramblin' Boys have rambled far from home, touring throughout the United States and Europe. Yet, these four friends – C.J. Lewandowski (vocals and mandolin), Jereme Brown (vocals and banjo), Josh 'Jug' Rinkel (vocals and guitar) and Jasper Lorentzen (bass) – remain close to their musical roots by cranking out some of the tightest and hardest-driving traditional bluegrass you'll find anywhere.

"We want to be known for keeping the old music alive and making some

new music that's still close to the roots," says Lewandowski, a native Missourian who is the group's eldest member as well as its lead singer and mandolin player. "A tree can't stand without its roots. So we are just trying to keep those roots alive. We want to complement and not take away."

"We want to take the best from all the bluegrass pioneers," added Brown, the band's youngest member and a fourth-generation banjo player whose own roots include a grandmother raised just a stone's throw from Bill Monroe's hometown of Rosine, Ken. "That's why C.J. plays the Monroe-style mandolin, and I play a Ralph Stanley-style banjo. It all ties together.

It works."

It works, all right. It works like a Missouri mule. Just ask the band's fast-growing legion of fans. Whether they're playing a standard by bluegrass giants Bill Monroe or Ralph Stanley or a new heartbreaker penned by rhythm guitarist Rinkel, there's an unmistakable energy to it. The hard-driving bass pounds like a jackhammer as it keeps time; the melodic rhythm hooks you deep with the first note and doesn't let go until the last playful note of the banjo.

"We are all on the same musical footing," Lewandowski says. "We're all big into rhythm and timing, so we build off of that."

Shuttle service



You may have noticed various shuttles at the festival. There are three main routes. One runs through the reserved camping area, one to the day parking lots and the south half of rough camping, and the third covers the north half of rough camping.

All routes end at the main venue area drop-

off point within easy walking to the Main Stage concert area, Marketplace Stage, Showcase Tent, Family Area, Workshop Area and the Gathering Place. The shuttles are free. But please, children should ride only when accompanied by an adult, no dogs are allowed and no smoking either. There are racks for your

coolers, instruments and lawn chairs. Look for the "shuttle stop" signs. Trolley stops are marked with a big "T" on the published festival maps. Shuttles will operate from 5 p.m. to midnight Thursday, 10 a.m. to midnight Friday; 10 a.m. to midnight Saturday; and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

2017 MBOTMA FESTIVAL

Welcome to the 38th annual Minnesota Bluegrass & Old-Time Music Festival. This event is produced by the non-profit Minnesota Bluegrass & Old-Time Music Association and has now been nominated five times as Event of the Year (2005, 2007, 2010, 2013 and 2014) by the International Bluegrass Music Association in Nashville. This is the big one!

We are pleased to offer you a huge variety of exciting activities crammed into four days and three nights. There is so much more than the 30 hours of main-stage concerts, so we hope you will check out all the other stage areas and the campground, too. There



will be dances, clogging demonstrations, instrument showcases, uke jams and even bluegrass karaoke in the Showcase Tent. There will be fun and games and music in the Family Area. There will be 20 hands-on workshops in the Workshop Area, new and exciting music at the Underground, casual performances on the Marketplace Stage, late-night shows at Ranch House Live, plus the Gathering Place and all the campground jam ses-

sions. There will be dozens of food and merchant booths to visit. It will be impossible to do it all (but you can try).

These activities are also made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a Minnesota State Arts Board Operating Support grant, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. We also owe our thanks to our sponsors and our 400 volunteers (yes, 400!). Thank you all for keeping us going.

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Aug. 19 - Kaleb Braun-Schultz
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BLUEGRASS MARTINS

The Bluegrass Martins are a young, entertaining, talented and award-winning ensemble of individuals who just happened to be a part of the same amazing family. But youth and bloodline notwithstanding, their peers and their many fans agree about this group's quality musicianship, stellar vocals and pure entertainment.

The Bluegrass Martins have roots that run deep. They've studied at the school of the masters and have graduated with flying colors. Their sincere respect for traditional music is evident in every aspect of their craft. It's no surprise this band is becoming one of the most celebrated and requested bands on the touring circuit today. For quality and professionalism personified, the name to know is the Bluegrass Martins.

Today as yesterday,

bluegrass music remains as down-to-earth and as relevant as ever in the hands and hearts of those who have the desire to come of age immersed in its soul. Among today's musicians, there is but a remnant talented enough to call forth and build upon the music's heritage. Bluegrass Martins is just such a band.

Affirming the musical legacy they carry forward, Bluegrass Martins have begun to receive impressive recognition, including 12 times voted SPBGMA Instrumental Group of the Year by Midwest fans and winners of the SPBGMA International Bluegrass Band Championship in Nashville, Tenn. in 2007.

Born and raised where the prairie meets the Ozark hills in Morgan County, Mo., the band is now based in the "Show Me" state's capital, Jefferson City. While

becoming perennial favorites on the bluegrass circuit since 2001, they have entertained tens of thousands of guests at hundreds of events from California to the Carolinas, Minnesota to Texas, from Florida to Maine and many stops between, including some trips out to Canada as well, drawing an increasing number of fans to their fold.

They instill hope for the future of the music through their tradition-honoring stagecraft, but perhaps more importantly, a younger generation of fans through their dynamic concerts. They are dedicated to paying their dues – a witness not only to the bond they share among each other but the commitment to share their love of music with their fans young and old. Simply put, they embody the best of bluegrass music's heritage.



Festival rules and policies

Under the terms of admission, you enter the grounds on your own responsibility and assume all related risks. All federal, state and local laws will apply.

Wristbands must be worn on wrists at all times.

Admission to the festival grounds will be permitted between 9 a.m. and 11 p.m. only Thursday-Sunday, Aug. 10-13. Advanced festival admission to the grounds will be permitted between 2-10 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 6 and between 10 a.m. and 10 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, Aug. 7-9. The gate will be closed to admission at all other times.

All vehicles shall be parked in one of three places: 1.) day parking (if you are attending for the day); 2.) your campsite (if you are staying overnight), or 3.) in handicapped parking (by request only). All vehicles in day parking lots must be removed by midnight each day. Vehicles left overnight may be towed.

Campfires are allowed only in campground-provided fire rings or suitable off-the-ground fire containers. Where fire rings are not installed, you must provide your own suitable off-the-ground fire container. Fires must not be left unattended.

No firewood will be allowed to be brought into the campground. Campfire wood will be available for purchase on the grounds.

No roping of sites is allowed in the rough camping area. Tents or vehicles must occupy space.

Generator hours are 9 a.m. to noon and 5 to 7 p.m. daily. No generator running is allowed at other times except in 24-hour generator area. Generators must be spark-arrested and meet guidelines for use within Minnesota state parks. Wash-Machine Field is a generator-free zone where generator use is not allowed at any time.

Excessive noise, use of foul language or other rowdy behavior will not be tolerated and will be grounds for ejection.

The Family Area should be considered a family affair. Please attend events with your children.

No gas- or electric-powered cycles, dune buggies, go-carts, ATVs or other personal vehicles are allowed on the grounds. If you have special accessibility needs, please contact the festival administration at 1-800-635-3037 prior to the festival so we can best accommodate your needs. Use of private motorized handicapped vehicles is allowed under certain conditions.

Use of bicycles is limited to daylight hours only.

The swimming beach is for campers' use only. No lifeguard is on duty so please supervise your children. The beach closes at dusk. No glass, vehicles or pets are allowed on the beach.

The main concert area (including the Food Court, the Family Area, all public tents and buildings, and the trolleys) are non-smoking areas.

Absolutely no fireworks of any kind are allowed on the festival grounds or in the campgrounds.

No alcohol is allowed in the main concert/vending area. You may be asked to open containers for inspection upon entry.

Pets are not allowed in the main concert/vending area. Pets must be leashed or enclosed in campers or cages in all other areas. Pets are not allowed on the beach. All debris from your pet must be picked up. The MBOTMA Festival reserves the right to ask any pet be removed from the premises if there are any problems or disturbances, especially barking.

You may leave your chair in place all weekend, however the MBOTMA Festival will not be responsible for chairs or other items left unattended in the concert area. If you leave the concert area, we consider it to be "Minnesota nice" to allow others to occupy your chair until you return. Please, no sun umbrellas in the concert area.

All individuals entering camp on Thursday are required to have a Thursday-Sunday ticket package. Individuals entering camp on Friday are required to have at least a Friday-Sunday ticket package. Individuals entering camp on Saturday are required to have a Saturday-Sunday ticket package. No camping will be allowed with single-day tickets.

The rough camping area will not be open until 2 p.m. on the Sunday prior to the opening of the festival. Prior to Thursday night, rough campers are subject to a per-night fee of \$15/person (with a maximum of \$30), payable to El Rancho Mañana.

All campers under 18 years of age must camp with, and be supervised by, a responsible adult.

Monte's Meadow, and other portions of rough camping adjacent to the day parking area, is designated as a quiet camping area. Noise, including instrument playing, will not be allowed after 10 p.m. in these areas.

Campers, please bag your garbage in yellow bags, aluminum in white bags and leave them along the road to be picked up nightly between 6 and 8 p.m.



EVAN KINNEY AND HIS DIXIELAND SQUIRREL SKINNERS

They come from Atlanta, Ga., and their intent is pretty simple:

"We strive to recreate

rowdy renditions of old-time, blues and jug-band tunes from the turn-of-the-century and beyond,"

the band stated in a press release.

And that simple intent they fulfill with joy

and gusto. Please give a welcome to Evan Kinney and His Dixieland Squirrel Skinners.

Festival first aid

To make the Minnesota Bluegrass & Old-Time Music Festival the safest possible for you and your family, we have professional medical personnel on duty 24 hours from 6 p.m. Thursday through 6 p.m. Sunday.

If you need assistance or advice for minor medical needs, come by the medical-service station located adjacent to the festival headquarters tent and just across from

the main shuttle stop. For more serious problems, we have a First Responder service that will come and assist you.

You can contact any of the festival volunteers at the various entertainment venues if you need help. For purposes of making your own 911 call, you should know that you are at El Rancho Mañana, 27302 Ranch Road in Richmond, Minn.



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PARTIAL LIST OF FESTIVALS AND CLIENTS:

Big Island Rendezvous, Albert Lea, MN - 1996-2017
Bluff Country Gathering, Lanesboro, MN 2002-2017
Hiawatha Traditional Music Festival, Marquette, MI - 1998-2017
Laughing Waters Bluegrass Festival, Mpls, MN – 2000-2017
MN Bluegrass & Old-time Music Festival, Richmond, MN - 1987-2017
MBOTMA Winter Bluegrass Weekend, Mpls, MN - 1987-2017
MN Homegrown Kick-off, Richmond, MN – 1993-2017
Porcupine Mountain Music Festival, Ontonagon, MI 2005-2017

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ROOCHIE TOOCHIE AND THE RAGTIME SHEPHERD KINGS

The mission of Roochie Tooachie and the Ragtime Shepherd Kings is to perform the weirdest songs from the early days of Tin Pan Alley on the format on which they were first recorded – wax cylinder. They aim to mine the zaniest and most obscure songs from the early 20th century and record them for a new audience to underscore both the absurdity and importance of popular music in American history.

Timmy Findlen is a ukulele player from Aroostook County, Maine, but is currently based in Nashville, Tenn. He is the former bandleader of Over A Cardboard Sea: Portland, Maine's premier ukulele novelty act. When in Maine, he plays in the

Vododeyos, a ukulele duo with Joel Eckhaus, with whom he also builds and repairs ukuleles. He also likes ukuleles. He currently plays electric bass with the honky-tonk group J.P. Harris and the Tough Choices.

Lindsay McCaw has been playing American old-time music and calling dances for more than 15 years. She is also part of several theater and puppet companies, including her own, based in Vermont and called The Dolly Wagglers. She has won several musical distinctions such as two-time winner of the Minneapolis Jug-Band Contest and four-time first-place winner of the Sheffield Field Days Fiddle contest.

Matt Bell is a guitarist from New Orleans, where

he is the bandleader and arranger for Bustout Burlesque, a troupe that re-creates 1950s'-style nightclub entertainment at the House of Blues. In 2012, he received a master's degree in jazz studies from the University of New Orleans, and he now works exclusively as a musician and teacher of the guitar and lap steel.

Aaron Jonah Lewis is a multi-instrumentalist, performer and educator. He has won awards at the Clifftop Appalachian String-Band Festival, including First Place Neotraditional Band in 2008 and at the Galax Old Fiddlers' Convention, including First Place Bluegrass Fiddle in 2007. He has performed at major festivals from the United States to the United Kingdom and from Italy to



Finland. Lewis has appeared on dozens of recordings from bluegrass and old-time to swing jazz, modern experimental and Turkish classical music projects. He has taught workshops at the Royal Scottish Academy

of Music and Drama in Glasgow and at the English Folk Dance and Song Society in London. He also plays and teaches banjo, mandolin, guitar and bass and is currently based in Detroit, Mich.

Joy Patterson is an art-

ist, musician, Foley artist, clown and Mr. T impersonator living and working in New Orleans. Her mastery of the kazoo and washboard are rumored to exist, and her fashion sense impresses the world via her Etsy Store.



DUGOUT CANOE

Dugout Canoe is a tribe of four St. Louis old-time musicians drawn inexorably to one another's hard-driving approach to string-band and dance-band music. With a heavy emphasis on fiddle tunes of the Midwest region, they also bring in some original fiddle tunes. Collectively they draw from a huge wealth of experience playing festivals, fiddle contests, workshops, contra and square dances, bars and everything in between. Geoff Seitz, violinmaker and violin shop owner in St. Louis, Mo. for almost 30 years,

is best noted for his relentless bow arm when he gets on a fiddle tune. He brings a vast store of tune knowledge and experiences drawn from a wide array of fiddling greats from around the entire country. Taking first-place trophies at the Galax, Va. and Clifftop, W.Va. national fiddle contests is testament to his ferocious skill as a fiddler. He has played with and recorded with the Ill-Mo Boys and has released a critically acclaimed solo CD entitled *The Good Ol' Days Are Here*.

Marc Rennard has gained huge local and regional fame as a fiddler in several iconic bands, including the Ill-Mo boys, the Geyer Street Sheiks, the Flying Mules and his contra/square-dance band, the Marcoleptics. Marc's out-of-this-world mercurial fiddle style is as at-home playing for a hot set of square dances as it is playing a beautiful waltz. He was the Arizona State Fiddle Champion for two consecutive years. He has worked as repairman in Geoff Seitz' St. Louis-based violin shop since 1995.

Dave Landreth, on five-string clawhammer banjo,

gained fame in the Allen Street Stringband, the New Bad Habits (with Chirps Smith, Andy Gribble and Tim Foss) and in innumerable hot dance bands around Missouri, Indiana, Wisconsin and Illinois. He has recently completed recording a CD project in Kentucky with the great fiddler, Nikos Pappas, as well as his well-received solo CD *Chairs*. Dave's high level of musicianship and hard-driving clawhammer keeps the Canoe upright.

Last but far from least, we present Andy Gribble, on the old arch-top Gibson guitar, laying down superfine, solid guitar back-up for fiddlers all over the Midwest, including Garry Harrison's New Mules, Chirps Smith's New Bad Habits, White Mule (with Gena Harrison-Koester, Smith Koester and Abby Ladin) and north Missouri's fiddling legend Vesta Johnson, all of whom he has recorded with. Andy recently joined with Dave in recording with Nikos Pappas down in Kentucky. Dugout Canoe takes great pride in its stewardship of a vast collection of old and new tunes and songs.



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THE GOOD INTENTIONS

Led by Chris Silver, the Good Intentions are inspired by the sounds of Hot Rize, Doyle Lawson and Quicksilver, Tony Rice and J.D. Crowe. The Good Intentions delivers traditional bluegrass with polish and drive. The band plays songs from the bluegrass masters as well as material penned by Silver. Soulful original arrangements of their songs have already established the band in the hearts of the Mid-west bluegrass fans. Their success is based on the complimentary picking and singing skills of some of the best-known names in the area's bluegrass scene.

Formerly of the bands Stoney Lonesome, Tangled Roots and the Kate

Mackenzie Band, Chris Silver plays fiddle and mandolin with a deep appreciation for traditional bluegrass music, but it doesn't stop there. His solos stretch beyond the boundaries of bluegrass, including hints of jazz, blues and roots music. Chris has amassed a credible-sized discography featuring bluegrass, Americana and global acoustic styles.

Banjo player Heath Loy enjoyed growing up in a "bluegrass music household." Heath's fiddle-playing father, Bob Loy, owned a music store in Rochester and was one of the founders of the Minnesota Bluegrass Music Association. Heath's playing is rich with the styles of J.D.

Crowe, Earl Scruggs and Ralph Stanley. He also performs with his wife, Becky Schlegel.

Guitarist Mike Cramer is a music major from the University of Northern Iowa. His award-winning flatpicking technique has earned him championship titles in both the Minnesota State Fair Flatpicking Competition and Wisconsin's Upper-Midwest Flatpicking Contest. Mike is a four-tool player who is as comfortable playing jazz standards as he is playing instrumentals from Bill Monroe. His technique is fluid and powerful.

J.D. Shaffer holds down the bass role with precision and tone. A fellow music-program grad-



uate from the University of Northern Iowa, he sings tenor in a clear and powerful voice. Some of that ability might be

related to his training in classical and opera techniques. He has the unique ability to blend with any vocal style, and

his range seems limitless. He also sings lead vocals on a couple of the group's contemporary tunes.



Sloughgrass

The Family Area

Presented by



The Family Area has become a festival tradition for many of the families that attend the festival. In addition to the stage shows that are intended for a wide range of ages, there will be games, contests and craft projects, too.

Each day at the Family Area will start at 10 a.m. with a scheduled craft- and kid-friendly area to play

some rhythm instruments, sing some songs and, weather permitting, hold a Maypole dance. Then one of the highlights of the Family Area will be the "Pick Up and Play An Instrument" at 10:30 a.m. both Friday and Saturday mornings. This is a hands-on workshop event and anyone can join in. Our friends from Sloughgrass will help you and even loan you an instrument to learn a tune on.

The family-friendly stage shows start about noon each day. Check the schedule so you don't

miss One Ukulele, Carver Creek, the Wild-Goose-Chase Cloggers, the Hummingbirds, Sloughgrass or the Gloryland Gospel Band. Both Friday and Saturday will feature jam sessions led by Tim Jenkins and Bill Cagley. And the Family Area Talent Show will be back on both Friday and Saturday. One act will be selected each day to do a "tweener" spot on the main stage later in the day. And we intend to create various categories for all runners up that highlight their particular talents and foster a posi-

tive experience for all participants.

Watch for many additional activities to be posted on the board just outside the Family Area. There will be ongoing activities like crafts, painting and various projects from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and our joyful clean-up at 1 p.m. Sunday. There will be some kind of treat for everyone to look forward to when we're all done, and one last good song or dance before we all split up for another year. Come join our family.



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A Showcase Tent preview

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With its stage, large dance floor and room for several hundred people, the Showcase Tent will hold some unique events as well as nightly dances. The so-called "showcases" are special shows or demonstrations usually revolving around a theme or an instrument. Several performers of the same instrument but different bands, for example, are brought together to share the intricacies of their instrument. This is a forum for musicians to talk about their instruments, influences, techniques and style, as well as to demonstrate their craft in an informal manner. It is also a forum for festival-goers to ask questions and talk with the performers.

At night the Showcase Tent becomes a dance hall, and we have some great dances planned including square, old-time barn and Cajun. In the morning it becomes an exercise yard with the return of Lucy Weberling and Inner Smiles Yoga. Below is a schedule for the 2017 Showcase Tent.

FRIDAY

- 10 a.m. – Inner Smiles Yoga with certified Kripalu Yoga instructor Lucy Weberling
- 12:30 p.m. – Ukulele Workshop For Beginners. Join the Bartig Brothers for one of these ukulele workshops and then for the Ukulele Jam at 6:30 p.m. Don't have a uke? They'll supply you with one to try out for the workshops. Warning: Uke playing can be addictive!
- 2:30 p.m. – Ukulele Workshop For Intermediate Players.
- 3:30 p.m. – Harmony Singing Showcase with The Woodpicks.
- 4:30 p.m. – Bluegrass Fiddle Showcase. Chris Silver (Good Inten-



- tions) will host Frank Solivan (Dirty Kitchen), Luke Birtzer (Sawtooth) and Aaron Lewis (Ragtime Shepherd Kings),
- 5:30 p.m. – Flatpicking Guitar Showcase. Mike Cramer (Good Intentions) will host Clint Birtzer (Sawtooth), Dale Martin (Bluegrass Martins), Josh Rinkel (Po Ramblin' Boys) and Chris Luquette (Dirty Kitchen).
- 6:30 p.m. – Ukulele Jam with the Bartig Brothers
- 7:30 p.m. – Square-dance Basics Workshop with Terrence Smith
- 8 p.m. – Barn Dance with The Wild Goose Chase Cloggers and Rooster Riot with caller Terrence Smith.
- 9:45 p.m. – Square Dance with Evan Kinney and His Dixieland Squirrel Skinners and caller Sarah York.

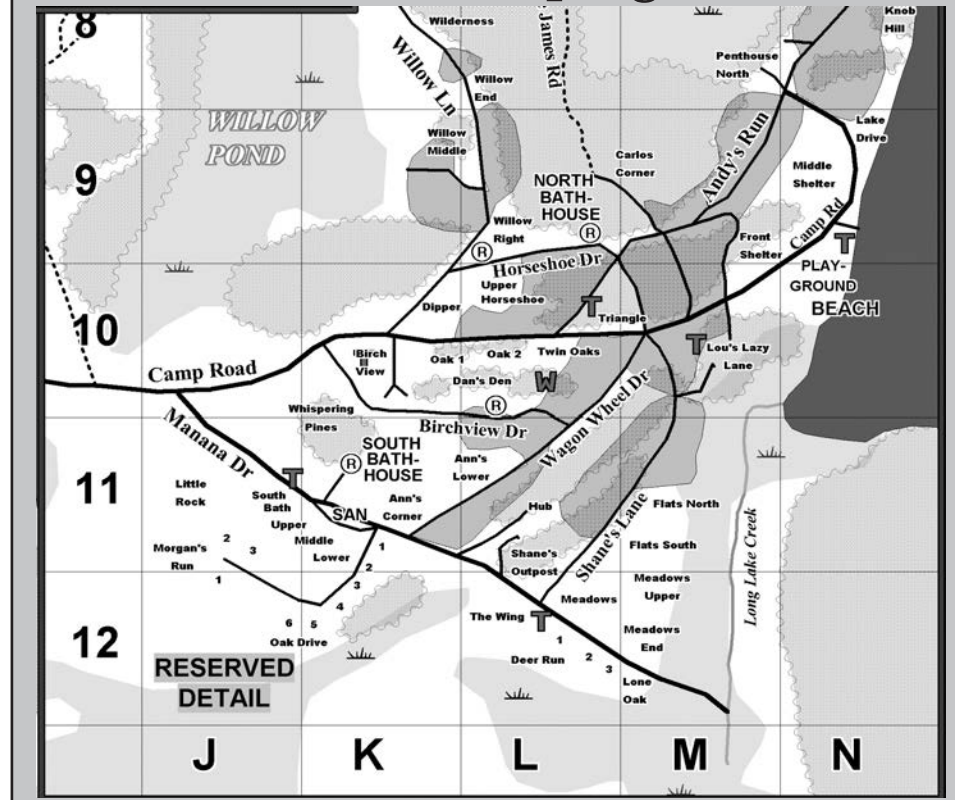
SATURDAY

- 10 a.m. – Inner Smiles Yoga with certified Kripalu Yoga instructor Lucy Weberling.
- Noon – Clogging Showcase and Workshop with the Wild-Goose-Chase Cloggers.
- 1 p.m. – Old-Time Fiddle Showcase. Aaron Lewis (Ragtime Shepherd Kings) will host Geoff Seitz (Dugout Canoe), Michael Jonas (Dugout Canoe), Evan Kinney (Dixieland Squirrel Skinners) and Lindsey McCaw (Ragtime Shepherd Kings).
- 2 p.m. – Bluegrass Banjo Showcase. Dale Reichert (High Water) will host Heath Loy (Good Intentions), Mike Munford (Dirty Kitchen) and Graham Sones (Tony Rook

Band).

- 3 p.m. – Bluegrass Karaoke. It was so much fun last year we wanted to do it again. With Def Lester as your back-up band, this will be your chance to get up and sing with some of the best. Festival attendees will get a chance to pick a song and join the band on stage to show off their talents. This event is open to all ages that can carry a tune, an instrument or both. Participants will be encouraged to choose a vocal selection (within the realm of bluegrass or related "standards"), although instrumental pieces are also welcome. Sign-up will be available starting on Saturday at 10 a.m. in the Gathering Place, and should there be open spots after that time, you can find the sign-up sheet at the Showcase Tent starting at 2 p.m. Please note: these five-minute time slots are designed for individual performers. Hosted by Sophie Galep.
- 4:30 p.m. – Old-Time Banjo Showcase. Dave Landreth (Dugout Canoe) will host Aaron Lewis (Ragtime Shepherd Kings) and Timmy Findlen (Ragtime Shepherd Kings).
- 5:30 p.m. – Bluegrass Mandolin Showcase. Bruce King (Highwater) will host Frank Solivan (Dirty Kitchen), Lee Martin (Bluegrass Martins) and Jesse Moravec (Sawtooth).
- 6:30 p.m. – Duet Singing Showcase. Duet harmonies are a style and sound distinct from three-part harmonies

Reserved Camping Area



and have a rich history in bluegrass music. Art and Stephanie Stevenson (High Water), Clint Birtzer and Jesse Moravec (Sawtooth), and Lincoln Potter and Kathe Liners (Def Lester) are all award-winning duet singers.

- 8 p.m. – Square Dance with Dugout Canoe with caller Terrence Smith
- 10:45 p.m. – Cajun Dance with music from New Riverside Ramblers

SUNDAY

- Noon – Pick and Pack: The Dance Floor Tear-

down Party. Bring your instrument and your knee pads and come take turns jamming and lending a hand packing up the dance floor. Old-time jam for all levels will be led by Chicken Sedan for your packing pleasure.



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PLEASURELAND is our Thursday Main Stage presenter. Check out their

display of campers for sale at the Underground stage and find them online at www.pleasurelandrv.com.

Join the revolution, the **NECHVILLE BANJOS** revolution. This



year they are presenting our Sunday Main Stage show, and they are builders of our top raffle prize. Visit them at their booth in the Marketplace or at www.nechville.com.



We welcome the **STATE BANK OF RICHMOND** as our Showcase Tent Presenter. It is their mission to provide high

value products and financial services, and to promote economic growth and stability in the community. www.statebankofrichmond.com.



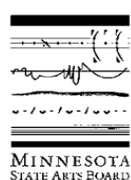
For over 20 years **GRUBER PALLETS (GPI)** has been enhancing the beauty of homes and businesses while helping to preserve the

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The **DEERING BANJO COMPANY** is our Marketplace sponsor. They champion the banjo and inspire creativity around the globe by supplying the best quality, American made banjos available to players of all abilities. Check



them out at www.deeringbanjos.com.



Thursday Ranch House Live

Open Mic in the Ranch House: Sign up at Gathering Place during the day or at Ranch House during RH Live hours. 8:00, 8:35, 9:00, 9:35, 10:00, 10:35, 11:00, 11:35

THURSDAY SCHEDULE



Main Stage Evening Show

MC: Pam Kolupailo
6:30 Bluegrass Jamcamp Recitals
7:30 Black River Revue
8:25 The Good Intentions
9:20 Po' Ramblin' Boys
10:30 Tony Rook Band

Marketplace Family Fair

Presented By



Music, games, prizes, and of course food in the marketplace from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM. Come on down and enjoy this festival opener.

4:00 Rosby Corner
5:00 Dan & Friends

MBOTMA FESTIVAL FRIDAY ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE

Main Stage Friday

Afternoon Show

MC: Kim Curtis-Monson
12:15 Woodpicks
1:10 Po Ramblin' Boys
2:05 Mother Banjo
2:55 Family Talent Winner
3:05 Evan Kinney & His Dixieland Squirrel Skinners
4:00 Bluegrass Martins

5:00 Dinner Break

Evening Show

MC: Adam Kiesling
6:00 Dugout Canoe
6:55 Po Ramblin' Boys
8:00 Tweener
8:10 The Good Intentions
9:05 Frank Solivan & Dirty Kitchen
10:15 Roochie Tooche

Showcase Tent

Presented By



10:00 Yoga session with Lucy Weberling
12:30 Beginners Uke Workshop with the Bartig Brothers
2:30 Intermediate Uke Workshop with the Bartig Brothers
3:30 Harmony Singing Showcase with The Woodpicks
4:30 Bluegrass Fiddle Showcase
5:30 Flatpick Guitar Showcase
6:30 Ukulele Jam with The Bartig Brothers
7:30 Square Dance Basics Workshop
8:00 Barn Dance with Wild Goose Chase Cloggers & Rooster Riot with caller Terrence Smith
9:45 Square Dance with Evan Kinney & His Dixieland Squirrel Skinners and caller Sarah York

Workshop Area

11:00 OT Guitar H.O.W* L-A with Ali Kafka
OT Guitar H.O.W* L-B with Andy Gribble
12:00 OT Mando H.O.W. L-A with Evan Kinney
OT Mando H.O.W. L-B with Michael Jonas
1:00 OT Banjo H.O.W L-A with Camden Pugh
OT Banjo H.O.W L-B with Dave Landreth
2:00 OT Fiddle H.O.W L-A with Geoff Seitz
OT Fiddle H.O.W L-B with Michael Jonas
3:00 BG Mando H.O.W. L-A with CJ Lewandowski
BG Mando H.O.W. L-B with Brent Fuqua
4:00 BG Banjo H.O.W. L-A with Mike Munford
BG Banjo H.O.W. L-B with Graham Sones
5:00 Bass H.O.W. L-A with Jasper Lorentzen
BG Bass H.O.W. L-B with Terry Johnson

*Hands-On-Workshops: Limited to seven people with instrument. Sign-up sheets posted 9:45 AM each day.
• L-A: Level -Advanced
• L-B: Level- Beginner

Family Area

Presented By



10:00 Start the day with a song and a Maypole dance, plus some crafts in a kid friendly area.
10:30 Pick An Instrument & Play One Tune with Sloughgrass. Bring an instrument or borrow one of ours, we'll teach you to play one song.
11:30 Make An Instrument: Everyone Welcome

1:00 Talent Show: Scavenger Hunt To Follow
2:00 The Hummin' Birds
3:00 One Ukulele
4:00 Slow Jam & Dance

Ranch House

8PM **Ranch House Live:** open mic - sign up at Gathering Place during the day or at the Ranch House during Live. 8:00, 8:35, 9:00, 9:35, 10:00, 10:35, 11:00, 11:35

The Underground

Presented By



6:30 St Paul Mudsteppers
7:30 Dumpy Jug Bumpers
8:30 Black River Revue
9:30 Lowland Lakers
10:30 Bluegrass Martins

Marketplace Stage

Presented By



10:00 Breakfast Break w/The Hummin' Birds
10:45 One Ukulele
11:30 Lunch Break with Wailing Loons
5:00 Dinner Break with Sloughgrass

Gathering Place

11:00 Beginner 's Jam with Bill Cagley
3:00 Intermediate Level Jam with Bill Cagley

MBOTMA FESTIVAL SATURDAY ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE

Main Stage Saturday

Afternoon Show

MC: TBA

12:15 Tony Rook Band
1:10 The Woodpicks
2:05 Sawtooth Brothers
2:55 *Family Talent Winner*
3:05 Roochie Toochee
4:00 Art Stevenson & Highwater

5:00 Dinner Break

Evening Show

MC: Laura Cooper

6:00 The Wild Goose
Chase Cloggers
6:55 New Riverside
Ramblers
7:45 Tweener
7:55 Evan Kinney &
His Dixieland
Squirrel Skinners
8:50 Frank Solivan &
Dirty Kitchen
10:00 Bluegrass Martins

Showcase Tent

Presented By



10:00 Yoga session with
certified Kripalu yoga
instructor Lucy
Weberling
12:00 Clogging Showcase
& Workshop
1:00 Old-Time Fiddle
Showcase
2:00 Bluegrass Banjo
Showcase
3:00 Bluegrass Karaoke
4:30 Old-Time Banjo
Showcase
5:30 Bluegrass Mandolin
Showcase
6:30 Duet Singing Showcase
8:00 Square Dance with
Dugout Canoe with
callers Rina Rossi &
Tim Jenkins
10:45 Cajun Dance with music
from New Riverside
Ramblers

Workshop Area

11:00 OT Fiddle H.O.W L-A
with Aaron Lewis
OT Fiddle H.O.W L-B
with Lindsay McCaw
12:00 Resophonic H.O.W L-A
with Dale Reichert
Resophonic H.O.W L-B
with Larita Martin
1:00 OT Guitar H.O.W L-A
with Matt Bell
OT Guitar H.O.W L-B
with TBA
2:00 BG Mando H.O.W L-A
with Lee Martin
BG Mando H.O.W L-B
with Bruce King
3:00 BG Fiddle H.O.W. L-A
with Jeana Faris
BG Fiddle H.O.W. L-B
with Chuck Millar
4:00 BG Banjo H.O.W* L-A
with Janice Martin
BG Banjo H.O.W* L-B
with Heath Loy
5:00 BG Guitar H.O.W* L-A
with Chris Luquette
BG Guitar H.O.W* L-B
with Dale Martin

*Hands-On-Workshops: Limited to
seven people with instrument. Sign-
up sheets posted 9:45 AM each day.
• L-A: Level -Advanced
• L-B: Level- Beginner

Family Area

Presented By



10:00 Start the day with a
Song & Maypole Dance,
plus some crafts in a kid
friendly area.
10:30 Pick An Instrument
& Play One Tune
with Sloughgrass
bring an instrument or
borrow one of ours, we'll
teach you to play one song.
11:30 Parachute & Potato
Sack races
12:00 Young People's Jam
with Bill Cagley
1:00 Jugband with Your
Toddler
1:30 Talent Show
2:30 Games
3:00 Carver Creek
Stringband
4:00 Wild Goose Chase
Cloggers & Limbertoy
Workshop Following
5:00 Open Jam

Gathering Place

3:00 Beginner's Jam
with Bill Cagley

Marketplace

Presented By



10:00 Breakfast Break with
Halvorson Family
11:00 Lunch Break with
Rosby Corner
5:00 Dinner Break with
Def Lester

The Underground

Presented By



6:30 Lowland Lakers
7:30 Halvorson Family
8:30 St Paul Mudsteppers
9:30 Dumpy Jug Bumpers
10:30 Sawtooth

Ranch House

8PM **Ranch House Live:**
open mic - sign up at
Gathering Place during
the day or at the Ranch
House during Live.
8:00, 8:35, 9:00, 9:35,
10:00, 10:35, 11:00, 11:35

SUNDAY ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE

Main Stage Sunday

Presented By



Sunday Show

MC: TBA

10:30 Art Stevenson &
Highwater
11:20 Sawtooth
Brothers
12:10 Tony Rook Band
1:05 Raffle Drawing
1:15 Bluegrass Martins

2:15 Close

Showcase Tent

Presented By



12:00 Pick & Pack: Dance
Floor Teardown Party.
Bring your
instrument and your
knee pads, take turns
jamming with
Chicken Sedan and
packing up the dance
floor.

Gathering Place

9:00 Gathering Place Open
3:00 Gathering Place Close

Marketplace

Presented By



9:30 Gospel Jam Session
with Gloryland Gospel

Family Area

Presented By



10:00 Start the day with a
song and a Maypole
dance.
11:00 Sloughgrass
12:00 Gloryland Gospel
1:00 Medallion Hunt, Camp
Cleanup, & Last Song &
Dance



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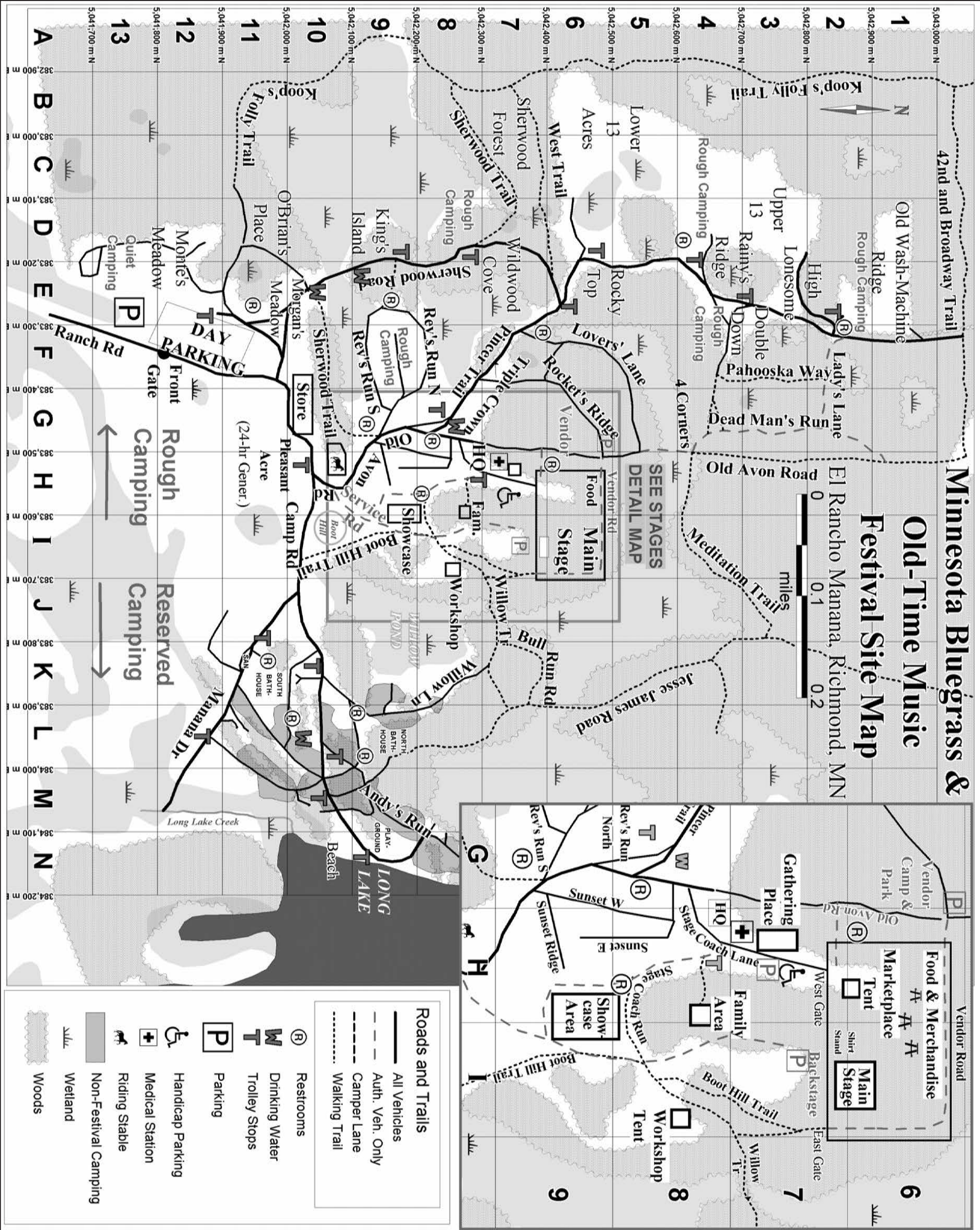
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August 9-12, 2018 at El Rancho Manana

MBOTMA Festival Raffle

Pick Your Bucket - Choose Your Prize

Prize #1) Nechville Custom 5-String Banjo.
Prize #2) Deering Banjo Ukulele
Prize #3) Frost River Travel Bag
Prize #4) Mandolin from Rocktown Music

Raffle tickets are \$10 each and are available in the Main Concert Area at the raffle &
membership table across from the MBOTMA merchandise booth.
Winners will be drawn at 1:05 PM Sunday on the Mainstage.



Hands-on workshops

Workshops at the Minnesota Bluegrass & Old-Time Music Festival are meant to be “hands-on” workshops. In other words, they are for people to bring their instruments, get them out and actually learn something they didn't know before.

That is not going to happen with just one instructor and a large crowd of people, so we limit each of these workshops to seven advance-registered people. That is why there are only eight chairs at each workshop tent. To sort out who gets to sit in one of those chairs, you must reserve a spot by signing up ahead of time at the workshop tent. Sign-up sheets for the day will be posted at the workshop tent at 9:45 a.m. each day. Advanced-level workshops (tent A) are intended for players with several years of experience and beginning level (tent B) workshops are intended for those just starting out. If you're not lucky enough to be one of the seven, or you are interested but don't have an instrument, you are welcome to “audit” the workshop by standing and observing from the back.

Banjo (Bluegrass) Workshops. Level A on Friday at 4 p.m. with Mike Munford (Dirty Kitchen) and on Saturday with Janice Martin (Bluegrass Martins). Level B on Friday at 4 p.m. with Graham Sones (Tony Rook Band) and on Saturday at 4 p.m. with Heath Loy (Good Intentions).

Banjo (Old-Time) Workshops. Level A on Friday at 1 p.m. with Camden Pugh (Dixieland Squirrel Skinnners). Level B on Friday at 1 p.m. with Dave Landreth (Dugout Canoe).

Bass Workshops. Level A on Friday at 5 p.m. with Jasper Lorentzen (Po' Ramblin' Boys). Level B on Friday at 5 p.m. with Terry Johnson (Tony Rook Band).

Resophonic Guitar Workshops. Level A on Saturday at noon with Dale Reichert (High Wa-

ter). Level B on Saturday at noon with Larita Martin (Bluegrass Martins).

Fiddle (Bluegrass) Workshops. Level A on Saturday at 3 p.m. with Jeana Faris (Bluegrass Martins). Level B on Saturday at 3 p.m. with Chuck Millar (BG Jam-Camp).

Fiddle (Old-Time) Workshops. Level A on Friday at 2 p.m. with Geoff Seitz (Dugout Canoe) and on Saturday at 11 a.m. with Aaron Lewis (Ragtime Shepherd Kings). Level B on Friday at 2 p.m. with Michael Jonas (Dugout Canoe) and on Saturday at 11 a.m. with Lindsay McCaw (Ragtime Shepherd Kings).

Guitar (Bluegrass) Workshops. Level A on Saturday at 5 p.m. with Chris Luquette (Dirty Kitchen). Level B on Saturday at 5 p.m. with Dale Martin (Bluegrass Martins).

Guitar (Old-Time) Workshops. Level A on Friday at 11 a.m. with Ali Kafka (Dixieland Squirrel Skinnners) and on Saturday at 1 p.m. with Matt Bell (Ragtime Shepherd Kings). Level B on Friday at 11 a.m. with Andy Gribble (Dugout Canoe) and on Saturday at 1 p.m. with TBA.

Mandolin (Bluegrass) Workshops. Level A on Friday at 3 p.m. with CJ Lewandowski (Po' Ramblin' Boys) and on Saturday at 2 p.m. with Lee Martin (Bluegrass Martins). Level B on Friday at 3 p.m. with Brent Fuqua (Tony Rook Band) and on Saturday at 2 p.m. with Bruce King (High Water).

Mandolin (Old-Time) Workshops. Level A on Friday at noon with Evan Kinney (Dixieland Squirrel Skinnners). Level B on Friday at noon with Michael Jonas (Dugout Canoe).

Bill Cagley-led Slo-Jams. Friday 11 a.m. (beginners) and 3 p.m. (intermediate). Saturday noon (in the Family Area) and 3 p.m. (beginners). Bill Cagley will host slow jams on both Friday and Saturday. These are a great way

for beginners to get a taste of playing with others. Bill will intro all the songs, call out the chords as you go and generally lead everyone through a great time. The young-folks jam will be in the Family Area and the others at the Gathering Place.

Square Dance Basics Workshop will take place at 7:30 p.m. Friday in the Showcase Tent. Have you ever thought about trying this out? Now is the time. Terrence Smith will show you how easy and fun square dancing can be, and you'll be ready for all the evening's barn dances.



No partner needed; come as you are.

Ukulele Workshops and Jam is set for 12:30 p.m. Friday, at 2:30 p.m. and again at 6:30 p.m. Join the

Bartig Brothers on Friday for one of their ukulele workshops at the Showcase Tent (12:30 p.m. for beginners and 2:30 p.m. for intermediate players) and then for the

Uke Jam at the Showcase Tent 6:30 p.m. Don't have a uke? They'll supply you with one to try out for the workshops. Warning: Uke playing can be addictive!



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Fri. & Sat. 11am - 11pm

Sun. 10am - 2pm

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ART STEVENSON AND HIGH WATER

Art Stevenson and High Water is Wisconsin's best-known bluegrass show and has been in demand throughout the Midwest festival circuit since 1993. The band's bluegrass sound comes from the close duet singing of husband-and-wife team, Art and Stephanie Stevenson, along with the spirited banjo and dobro playing of Dale Reichert and the hard-driving mandolin picking of Bruce King. They have released six albums: *Art Stevenson and High Water* (1996), *Dusty Boxcar Wall* (1998), *Lonely Days* (2000), *The Winding Stream* (2001), *Like A River* (2004) and *New Ground* (2006). High Water's music is heard on bluegrass radio programs throughout the United States and has received critical acclaim in the magazines *Bluegrass Unlimited* and *Bluegrass Now*. Recording artist James King and country-music historian

Bill Malone agree Art and Stephanie Stevenson rank among the best duet singers active today.

High Water's repertoire is taken from many sources: the bluegrass classics of Bill Monroe and the Stanley Brothers, early country music, mountain songs and new material. Their blend of traditional bluegrass numbers, originals, contemporary songs and instrumentals satisfies a wide range of music lovers. Art, Stephanie and Dale have each written songs or instrumentals frequently performed by the band. The band's mission is to preserve the hard-driving traditional bluegrass sound while including material from other musical styles. Art and Stephanie's singing, Dale's banjo instrumentals, Bruce's tasteful mandolin and Art's harmonica tunes always bring a rousing response from the audience. Be sure to watch

for Art Stevenson and High Water at a festival or venue near you.

Guitarist, harmonicist and lead singer Art Stevenson has been playing bluegrass music in the Midwest for 25 years and was with the award-winning Wisconsin River Bluegrass Boys from 1982 to 1996. He has appeared on WSM's *Midnight Jamboree*, Bill Monroe's *Early Bird Bluegrass Show*, the IBMA *Fan Fest* and the *Renfro Valley Jamboree*. Art organized High Water in 1993 and has contributed several original songs to the High Water repertoire. He has appeared on a dozen different bluegrass, country and folk music CDs and cassette albums. In November 2000, Art received the Favorite Male Bluegrass Vocalist Award by the Minnesota Bluegrass & Old Time Music Association.

Stephanie Stevenson plays string bass, guitar



and sings lead and tenor in close duets with her husband Art, whom she married in 1994. In November 2000, Stephanie was nominated for the Favorite Female Bluegrass Vocalist Award by the Minnesota Bluegrass & Old Time Music Association. Dale Reichert picks the five-string banjo in a hard-driving, lightning-

fast style. Dale also sings baritone and bass vocals, plays the dobro and is featured on all of High Water's recordings. Dale lives with his wife and daughter near Custer, Wis. In November 2000, Dale was nominated for the Favorite Banjo Player Award by the Minnesota Bluegrass & Old Time Music Association. Bruce King (man-

dolin, vocals) joined High Water in March 2001. Bruce has lived in Wisconsin for most of his life and has played with many of the state's best-known bluegrass bands, including Alive And Pickin', The Rounders, Jerry Wicentowski and Blue Eagle. Bruce lives in Wauwatosa, Wis. with his wife and two sons.

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Ranch House Live hosts 'open mic' series

What Is It? Ranch House Live is a laid-back informal open-mic series. This is a chance for you and your friends to put together a few tunes to perform on the Ranch House Live stage. The idea is to strut your bluegrass, old-time or related stuff in a casual and laid-back environment. The emphasis is on friends, fun and good music, not perfection. The sets will be 30 minutes on the hour and 20 minutes on the half hour, allowing for a five-minute emcee and setup time between sets. This odd-time format allows for some shorter sets to encourage groups that only have a short set list or have never been on stage to just have fun or show us what they've got.

Where Is It? Ranch House Live is held in the newly remodeled El Rancho Mañana Campground & Riding Stables ranch house (campground office) located near the main entrance to El Rancho Mañana. It will be held from 8 p.m.-midnight Thursday,



Friday and Saturday. This is the venue you can sit down inside and order a beer and food. There is also a new outdoor deck with fireplace and speakers. The wait staff will be available to serve your needs so invite all your friends to this unique venue.

Can I Emcee? We also use this series to develop additional emcee talent which we can draw upon in the future for our

other stages and festivals. This is an important role as the emcee binds together the entire process keeping the audience connected and engaged during the band change-overs and the bands within the time slots. We are especially looking for younger volunteers to get involved as emcees. Mentoring and assistance is provided along with a clipboard of information and jokes. Please consider

signing up as an emcee.

How Do I Sign Up? Advance festival sign up was available on the MBOTMA website at MinnesotaBluegrass.org. During the festival you can sign up for any remaining times at the Gathering Place during the day or at the Ranch House during Live hours. If you have problems or questions contact Earl at 612-868-1313 before or during the festival.

THE SAWTOOTH BROTHERS

Dazzling audiences with precision picking and sharp harmonies developed during eight years of playing, performing and growing up together, the Sawtooth Brothers have created a strong musical rapport with one another, which is channeled through their infectious original material. The sound of the Sawtooth Brothers is rooted in traditional bluegrass instrumental and harmony work and is influenced by modern acoustic sounds, blending pop and indie rock sensibilities with heartfelt Americana.

During a live performance by the Sawtooth Brothers, audiences can expect creative original songs, hard-driving bluegrass, classic country, gospel and classic rock. Tying it all together is the band's ability to put on a good show. Each band member's strong passion for performing music is com-



municated through their entertaining and endearing stage show.

The Sawtooth Brothers have performed across seven states and Ontario and have gained a reputation as sincere and hard-working professionals. They've shared the stage

with Garrison Keillor and Dr. Ralph Stanley and are the winners of the 2008 MBOTMA Race-For-a-Place band competition. Guitarist Clint Birtzer is the 2009, 2011 and 2013 Minnesota Flatpicking Guitar Champion, as well as the 2015 SPBGMA Midwest Guitar

Performer of the Year and 2015 SPBGMA National Guitar Performer-of-the-Year nominee. He and Jesse Moravec are winners of the 2011 Minnesota Duet Championship. Fiddle player Luke Birtzer is winner of the 2010 Bluegrass Idol competition.

Tony Rook was 12 years old when he first picked up a guitar. But it was well before that that the North Carolina native decided he wanted to perform. Like millions of others, he was mesmerized by the Beatles' Ed Sullivan Show debut, realizing then and there that music was going to be part of his life. His parents were early musical influences. Dad, Carl, played guitar, and mother, Jean, played the piano during their church's Sunday School services. But it was his uncle, Bill Meacham, who really turned him on to bluegrass.

A Baptist preacher and mandolin picker who played professionally in the eastern North Carolina areas he served, Meacham willingly shared his tapes of his performances and mentored the young budding musician. The lyrical mandolin sounds and bluegrass beats lured the teen, who was gaining an interest in rock 'n' roll. And while

TONY ROOK BAND



Tony joined several rock bands, he never lost that early appreciation for that "high, lonesome sound."

By his early 20s, Tony was performing professionally as part of the folk duo, Riggs and Rook. When the partnership dissolved, Tony's longtime love of bluegrass music drove him toward the banjo. By the early 1980s, he was studying the five-string with Bobby Hicks, Ricky Skaggs' longtime fiddle player. Before long,

the singer/songwriter was playing with several bands in the North Carolina area, most notably the Eno Ramblers, and then Rook and Wood, who in 2000 released the CD *Labor of Love*, containing 14 original tunes.

Songwriting remains a focus for Tony, whose contemporary bluegrass compositions are largely based on personal experiences. While Tony's musical influences include Tony Rice, Bryan Sutton,

Earl Scruggs, Tony Trischka and Bela Fleck, he attributes his unique style to a lifetime of musical exploration and interest in a variety of musical genres.

In 2006, Tony was transferred to Minnesota and quickly jumped into its bluegrass scene. He currently plays guitar and sings lead and tenor with his own Tony Rook Band. His first solo project, *The Road Back Home*, was released in early 2016.

Volunteers needed

The Minnesota Bluegrass & Old-Time Music Festival depends on volunteers to serve your needs and fill more than 500 time slots to keep this festival operating smoothly. Prior to the festival, the volunteer MBOTMA Festival staff does the planning and preparatory work. During the festival, volunteers take tickets, sell shirts, watch the gates, provide handicap services, set up the grounds and clean up afterward.

Can you help us? Please stop by the festival headquarters and check out the volunteer schedule for openings. And don't forget to thank all the volunteers you see. For their efforts they receive a specially designed volunteer shirt, and they make new friends, learn new skills and have fun too.

We hope you enjoy your weekend at the
**38th Annual Minnesota Bluegrass
 & Old-Time Music Festival!**

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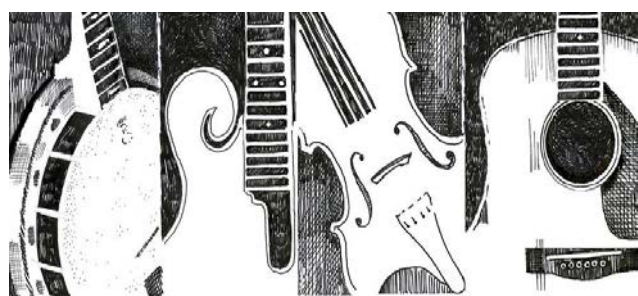
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Stay nimble w/morning yoga

Lucy Weberling is the founder of Inner Smile Yoga located in Tulsa, Okla. She is a 200-hour certified yoga instructor educated at the Kripalu Center for Yoga and Health in Lenox, Mass., and is registered with the Yoga Alliance. Both organizations are dedicated to maintaining the integrity of yoga teaching. Weberling is also a

long-time bluegrass musician and festival-goer, and is therefore well-versed in the rigors of the festival lifestyle. She will lead a morning yoga session at 10 a.m. both Friday and Saturday at the Showcase Tent. Come stretch your body, relax your mind, calm your spirit and prepare for another grueling festival day of fun.



THE WOODPICKS

Unique talents of the five members of northern Minnesota's the WoodPicks have helped them forge a unique blend of instrumental dexterity and vocal presence. Their enjoyable stage show incorporates strong harmonies and musical style that features their own arrangements of original music and old favorites. The group first appeared on the stage of the Minnesota Bluegrass & Old-Time Music Festival in 2009 after having won the band contest at the Harvest Jam Acoustic Music Experience at the Marriot West Hotel in Minneapolis, making them the 2008 MBOTMA Race-For-A-Place Champions.

The group came about in 2005, when the band started playing venues in the northwest region of Minnesota. The members have 30-plus years



experience playing in various groups throughout the United States, Canada and Alaska. Be it country, rock 'n' roll or old-time music, their past has allowed them to forge an instrumental and vocal presence. The WoodPicks share an enjoyable stage show with

a strong emphasis on vocal harmonies highlighted with arrangements by the WoodPicks. For some time now, the group has consisted of pickers Greg Dally on vocals and mandolin, Dustin "Boy" Keller on vocals and playing "Harold" the bass fiddle, Gene Lunset-

ter on vocals and flat-top guitar, Milo Ballingrud on vocals and banjo and J.D. Kezar on fiddle, harmonica, jaw harp and vocals. They play a mix of Gospel, bluegrass and Americana music at county fairs, festivals and various events throughout the area.

Bluegrass Karaoke is back

It was so much fun last year we wanted to do it again. Bluegrass Karaoke is back! This year it will be on Saturday starting at 3 p.m. in the Showcase Tent. With Def Lester as your back-up band, this will be your chance to get up and sing with some of the best. Festival attendees will get a chance to pick a song and join the band on stage to show off their talents. This event is open to all ages that can carry a tune, an instrument or both.

Participants will be en-

couraged to choose a vocal selection (within the realm of bluegrass or related "standards"), although instrumental pieces are also welcome. Sign-up will be available starting at 10 a.m. Saturday in the Gathering Place and should there be open spots after that time, you can find the sign-up sheet at the Showcase Tent starting at 2 p.m. Please note: these five-minute time slots are designed for individual performers. Hosted by Sophie Galep.

Armadillo Sound & Design

Armadillo Sound & Design provides the high-quality sound reinforcement for both the Main Stage and the Showcase Tent at the Minnesota Bluegrass & Old-Time Music Festival. The company was established in 1986 by Doug Lohman to specialize in providing production (sound and lights) for acoustic-music events.

Lohman has more than 40 years experience as a musician, having performed many styles of music, such as hootenan-

ny, acoustic rock, country rock, blues, bluegrass, folk, swing and Cajun.

Lohman brings to his love of music of all genres the production of sound, and his technicians focus on making the voices and instruments as clear as possible to allow the audience to fully appreciate what the performers are doing. This love for the music and attention to detail are what sets Armadillo apart. You can visit them at ArmadilloSound.com.

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UNDERGROUND



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The Underground is the newest stage venue at the Minnesota Bluegrass and Old-Time Music Festival. We hope you'll find the Underground a cool place to hang out and meet friends and hear great music that may be just a bit out-of-the-box. Some of our main-stage acts will be visiting the Underground, including Bluegrass Martins and The Sawtooth Brothers. But many of the acts here won't be seen anywhere else at the festival.

On Friday starting at 6:30 p.m. you'll have a chance to see the St. Paul Mudsteppers, Dumpy Jug Bumpers, Black River Revue, Lowland Lakers and Bluegrass Martins up to 11:30 p.m. Then on Saturday it's the Lowland Lakers, Halvorson Family Band, St. Paul Mudsteppers, Dumpy Jug Bumpers and The Sawtooth Brothers.

Black River Revue plays what they call "freshwater bluegrass from the twin ports of Duluth and Superior." Using bluegrass instrumentation, they have crafted their own sound made up of mostly original music, which can be heard on their debut album *Garbage Pickin'* (released in April of 2013). Their sopho-



Black River Revue



Lowland Lakers

more album *Spring Thaw* (released June 2014) added another year of songwriting and live performance experience to their sound.

Five years of touring, personnel change and personal growth have inspired a third record due out in the fall of 2017. Black River re-

vue is Adam Stariha (guitar, harmonica), Ian Kvale (bass), Tim Leutgeb (banjo, guitar) and Nate Hynum (mandolin).

WIN A BANJO, UKULELE, FROST RIVER BAG

Don't forget to test your luck by purchasing a ticket for the MBOTMA raffle. You choose your prize by placing your ticket in the appropriate bucket for each prize. The winner for each prize will be drawn and announced from the main stage at 1 p.m. Sunday afternoon. You do not need to be present to win. In addition to the main prizes, we'll be drawing throughout the weekend for additional prizes that will be on display at the raffle booth in the main concert area.

The four main prizes this year are a Nechville Custom five-string banjo, a Deering banjo-ukulele, a Frost River custom handmade travel bag and a fourth surprise item (stop by the booth in the main concert area to find out what it is). Tickets are \$10 so stop by and try your luck while sup-

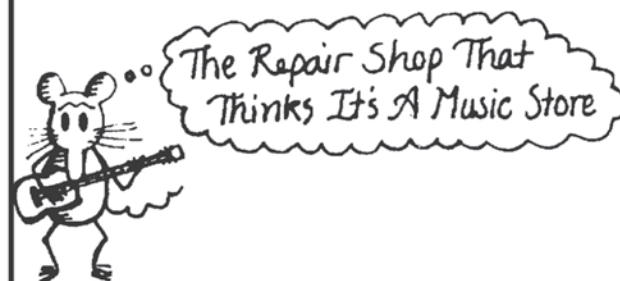


porting the Minnesota Bluegrass & Old-Time Music Association. And while you are at the raffle table, become a member of MBOTMA. Members receive the *Minnesota Bluegrass* magazine, discounts on tickets and much more.

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WILD-GOOSE-CHASE CLOGGERS

The Wild-Goose-Chase Cloggers is a non-profit organization that promotes traditional Appalachian clogging by offering concerts and workshops anywhere it can find an audience. It was established in 1979 and consists of 12 energetic dancers accompanied by the lively music of Rooster Riot. The Geese were delighted to have been honored with a 2009 SAGE Award along with

our Steppin' Out collaborators, the DeLaSouljah Steppers from DeLaSalle High School.

The Wild-Goose-Chase Cloggers characteristically get their choreography from varied sources, including social dancing outside of the group, frequently contra or square dancing. What makes the bulk of their work traditional in character is the type of rhythmic accompani-

ment expressed by the foot movements. Occasionally, they adapt tap or Irish step-dancing to the clogging style, an approach that is more daring because it requires the group to change the rhythmic aspect of the foot movements. In addition to dances in formation, the group also features special dances allowing members to improvise or dance their fanciest steps.

NEW RIVERSIDE RAMBLERS

The New Riverside Ramblers band brings high-energy Cajun dance music from the prairies and bayous of south Louisiana up to the Minneapolis-St. Paul area. The band's compelling version of Cajun French music blends many influences from different

south Louisiana communities and includes two-steps, waltzes and blues. The members of the band have been immersed in Cajun music for many years. They have studied and performed with Cajun music greats such as Dewey Balfa, Tracy Schwarz, Steve Riley, Marc and

Ann Savoy, DL Menard, Eddie LeJeune, Calvin Carriere, Lionel Leleux and others.

The New Riverside Ramblers have been playing together for more than 25 years for dances, festivals, parties and other special events. Members of the group include Eric Mohring (fiddle and vocals), John Terr (Cajun accordion), Karen Kleinspehn (rhythm guitar), Doug Lohman (bass), Paul Loughridge (drums and triangle) and AJ Srubas (fiddle).



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MOTHER BANJO

Featuring Ellen Stanley on banjo and vocals, Mother Banjo is a New England-raised, Minneapolis-based songwriter. Called "an outstanding poet" (*Inside Bluegrass* magazine), she was a Midwest finalist for the prestigious Mountain Stage NewSong Contest and has been featured nationally on Sirius XM Radio and CMT.com. An engaging live performer, Mother Banjo weaves humorous stories with fun covers and her own original material. She has performed at prestigious venues like The Ark (Ann Arbor, Mich.) and the Cedar Cultural Center (Minneapolis, Minn.) and has shared the stage with notable songwriters

(Lucy Wainwright Roche, Cliff Eberhardt, Tracy Grammer and Storyhill) and poets (Robert Bly and Todd Boss). She has toured across North America, performed at South By Southwest and just played a sold-out release show at the world-renowned Dakota Jazz Club.

Following up on the success of her CDs *Stray Songs* and *The Sad and Found* (named the #10 album of the year by the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*), she releases her highly anticipated new album *The Devil Hasn't Won* on her own label, So Low Recordings. An Americana gospel collection produced by Steve Kaul (The Brass Kings), it showcases

her all-star five-piece band that includes guitarist Dan Gaarder (Trailer Trash and The Roe Family Singers), bassist Eric Paulson (The Roe Family Singers, and Jennifer Markey and The Tennessee Snowpants), mandolin player Jim Parker (Ukrainian Village Band and Town Hall Stompers) and pianist/drummer Ben Cook-Feltz (The Federales and Art Vandalay). Featuring lively originals and unique covers of songs that she calls "pub gospel," the new album shows why Mother Banjo has been hailed for her poetic songwriting and powerful vocals, winning the praise of such artists as Josh Ritter and John Gorka.

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- ♫ Chris Jones and The Night Drivers
- ♫ Claire Lynch Band
- ♫ Della Mae
- ♫ Marley's Ghost
- ♫ Tim May & Steve Smith
- ♫ John McCutcheon
- ♫ John McEuen with Matt Cartsonis
- ♫ Joshua Messick Trio
- ♫ Adam Miller
- ♫ The Outside Track
- ♫ The Paperboys
- ♫ Barry Patton
- ♫ John Reischman & The Jaybirds
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2017 Minnesota Americana-Roots music contests

Which band and duo will be the 2017 Minnesota State Champions?

MBOTMA's competitions at the Minnesota State Fair will be bigger and better than ever. The 2017 Minnesota Americana-Roots Music Contests once again will feature a vocal duet contest and a Battle of the Bands. Both contests are limited to acoustic groups playing Americana "Roots" music, including bluegrass, old-time, newgrass and related music. Music professionals will judge the duos and bands on material selection and arrangement, instrumental and vocal performance, stage presence and entertainment value.

On Friday, Sept. 1, the Americana-Roots Duet Contest will award ribbons and cash prizes (\$500/\$250/\$100) to the top three duos. Additionally, the first-place duo will receive five hours of studio time at the Wild Sound Recording Studio and a cover article in *Minnesota Bluegrass*. All the performers will receive a contest T-shirt and admission to the Fair.

The duet contest will consist of vocal musical performances presented by two individuals for two voices and acoustic instruments, includ-

ing at least one stringed instrument. Electric instruments are not permitted, with the exception of the bass. The state fair will provide all required sound equipment, including mics, stands, cables and a bass amplifier (Gallien-Kruger MB112-II 150 Watt 1x12). Individuals may participate in only one duo and may not also participate in the 2017 Americana-Roots Band contest.

Members of MBOTMA's board of directors and of the competition planning committee are not eligible to participate in the competition. No one is eligible who has participated in a first-place duo in this contest within the last three years (2014, 2015, 2016). All duos will perform two songs in the preliminary round, and the top five duos will perform one additional song in the final round. Sherri and Chuck Leyda, the 2016 State Duet Champions, will serve as emcees and perform while scores are tallied.

The contest is limited to 11 duos, registered on a first-come-first-served basis. Go to minnesotabluegrass.org to

register. Duos must pay a \$20 entry fee with their on-line registration. The registration deadline is Monday, Aug. 14. Registration will not be considered completed until the entry fee has been received. Visit the website for contest registration and complete rules. The entry fee will be refunded if the contest has filled at the time the entry form is received.

On Saturday, Sept. 2, the Americana-Roots Band Contest, emceed by Adam Granger, will award ribbons and cash prizes to the top three bands (\$1,000/\$500/\$250). The first-place band also will receive a paid set at the 2018 Minnesota Homegrown Kick-off Festival, a cover article in *Minnesota Bluegrass*, five hours of studio time at the Wild Sound Recording Studio and a video session at Baby Blue Arts. All of the performers will receive a contest T-shirt and admission to the Fair.

The contest is limited to eight bands, each with three to six members. Individuals may participate in only one band and may not also partici-

pate in the 2017 Americana-Roots Duet Contest. Members of MBOTMA's board of directors and of the competition planning committee are not eligible to participate in the competition. No band is eligible which has won first place in the band contest within the last three years. This restriction applies to any band that has two or more members from the previous first-place band. Electric instruments are not permitted, with the exception of the bass. The state fair will provide all required sound equipment, including mics, stands, cables and a bass amplifier (Gallien-Kruger MB112-II 150 Watt 1x12). As part of the entry form, bands must provide a "Stage Plot &

Tech Request," showing the musicians and instruments, as well as the number and placement of microphones.

The stage crew will position microphones for each band member according to the stage plot. A downloadable Stage Plot and Tech Request form is posted on the registration page at minnesotabluegrass.org. Bands must print and complete the form, and email a digital copy of the completed form to ann@silvercranes.com by the Aug. 14 deadline.

The contest will consist of two rounds. The eight bands will perform two songs in the preliminary round. The three bands earning the highest scores in the preliminary

round will perform two or three songs in the final round, depending on the time remaining for the competition. The contest is limited to eight bands, registered on a first-come-first-served basis. Go to minnesotabluegrass.org to register. Bands must pay a \$50 entry fee with their on-line registration. The registration deadline is Monday, Aug. 14. Registration will not be considered completed until the entry fee and the Stage Plot and Tech Request form have been received. Visit the website for contest registration and complete rules. The entry fee will be refunded if the contest has filled at the time the entry form is received.

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