



Message From The President

Hello everybody!! All is well here at the Q.B.B.C and hope it is with you, too?

As I mentioned last month, my husband and I had the great fortune to attend the IB-MAs in Nashville! Well.....what a time, let me tell you!! If you've never been, I strongly recommend it. But be warned, it's not the place to go if you're looking for a little r' n' r!! Heck, you don't ever have to go to bed if you don't want to!! Between the seminars, workshops, special events, fiddle championships, show-cases and jammin', there is a lot going on!! And then there's the great city of Nashville itself to explore! It just leaves me awestruck the talent that is out there, both known and unknown. And they're right there!! I walked up to the likes of Del and Ronnie McCoury, Doyle Lawson, Ronnie Bowman, Dale Anne Bradley, Russell Moore, Tony Tricshka, J.D.Crowe, Pete Wernick and Dailey and Vincent like I'd known them for years!! I'm so glad I got the chance to go!!

Now, that being said, I'd like to bring it back to Canada for a bit! There is another event coming up this month known as the CCBMA at the Deerhurst Resort, Huntsville! Again, a highly recommended event. I look forward to this event every year! For starters, the venue is set in a very picturesque location. The Canadian talent under that roof is amazing. A BIG "Congratulations" go all the nominees this year! There is some great talent on those ballots! Good luck!! We are just as good as our friends south of the border!! I enjoy the vendors, seeing old friends and always eager to do my fair share of "grinnin'" at the jam sessions going on all over the place! This event requires a lot of time and effort to put together and I think Mr. Tony DeBoer (and his family of volunteers) do a great job every year. This event is every bit as good as the IBMAs, only to a smaller scale of course! It is much easier on our wallets and is right here in our backyard!! I strongly suggest you check it out! It's great fun and very entertaining.

"Happy day" to anyone who is celebrating a birthday, anniversary or any other joyous occasion. I send out a special prayer to those who are sick and/or shut in.

I wish to send a special shout out to our friend Denis Belanger of Guelph. Denis is experiencing a very trying time, healthwise, these days and I just want to let him know that I/we are thinking of him. We miss you at the jams, Denis. This can be beaten. You keep your chin up and never EVER give up! We'll see you when you get better.

Our jams have been going well. Nice to see people out! We've noticed that some of the jams are almost too large, and feel that it would be better for the group if we broke it up into smaller groups. This would allow for a slow jam, folk jam, fast jam, etc. depending on the interest amongst the group! I feel it would cut down on the wait time in between your turns and prevent you from losing interest or getting bored before it gets back to you!! We'll deal with that on a need-to basis. There has been some concern with the number in attendance at the Sunday jam at Montana's. We are considering moving this to a different location. We are aware that it is very cold there in the winter and that it is not only hard on voices and instruments, but tough on the spectators, too! More info on that soon.

November is a special month in terms of Remembrance Day. I want to encourage you to take a moment on the 11th and remember those who aren't here and pray for the safe return of those who are still over seas. I am happy to report that our son, Micheal, is home safe and sound. He did a tour in Afghanistan and there wasn't a day that went by that we

didn't think of him. Now that he's home, it doesn't end for us. We still think of the young lives lost and we pray for those families and the men and women who are still faced with this "war" everyday. God bless!!

Winter Concert Series is lined up for 2010! In case you haven't heard, it will be James King (Feb.), Lorraine Jordan (Mar.), and Monroe Crossing (Apr.)!! More details T.B.A. in terms of dates and opening acts, etc. This series is a great way to break up a long, cold winter! Be sure to come out and see the great entertainment we have lined up this year!!

Well folks, I think I have bent your ear (or should I say eyes) long enough! Take care and remember if there is something you want to put in this newsletter, get it out to Doug at doug@queensbush.ca.

See you down the line!!
Shannon Campbell,
Proud President of the best bluegrass club this side of Kentucky!!!!

How Bill Monroe learned "Gospel Plow" - Blair Babcock

This past summer my wife, Mud, our daughter, Sierrah and I took a trip to St John's, NL with some of our close friends. The vacation was wonderful on many levels - one of which the musical journey on which we embarked. We had the opportunity to meet with renowned music historians and play bluegrass with some of the best musicians in the province.

One gentlemen we had the great pleasure of meeting was Dr Peter Narvaez - a retired professor of Folklore at Memorial University in St John's, author and well established blues musician. (Yes, I know, you're thinking well blues ain't bluegrass.....but this story does come around.) Peter plays in band there called the Rowdy Blues (www.rowdyblues.com/peternarvaez.html). Our family was staying with John and Caroline Clarke while in St John's - both well established musicians in their own right. John plays dobro in the Rowdy Blues and Caroline sits in on mandolin periodically (if she can find time away from her bluegrass band "The Rosalines"). One night while we were there, John and Caroline hosted a Rowdy Blues practice. This is where we first had the opportunity to meet Peter. At one point in the night, John said, "You know Peter taught Bill Monroe how to play "Gospel Plow"", to which Peter responded with something like, "Yeah, my only claim to fame in Bluegrass". Being very curious, I asked Peter to elaborate to which he went on to tell me the story. An incredible one for sure! But the story at that point was simply a tale told and lost in time.

The next day the Rowdy Blues were playing a noon-hour concert at the St John's Harbour. We all went down to watch. After the concert I asked Peter if he would mind re-telling the story so I could videotape it. I think my exact words were, "Peter, would you mind retelling the story so I can videotape it. Otherwise, no one back home is going to believe me." Peter being the gracious person he is, obliged my request and now here is the story, in full, for you to hear as well.

If you own the Nashville Grass album from the '90s that has Gospel Plow on it check out the liner notes. Where it says Bill learned this from a young hippy at Bean Blossom they are referring to Peter as the "young hippy". If you're interested in learning more about Peter just google "Peter Narvaez" - you'll be amazed at what you'll find and what he's done!

More next month on meeting former "Blue Grass Boy" and renowned bluegrass historian Neil V. Rosenberg.

Bluegrass Notes

- The 31st Annual Central Canadian Bluegrass Awards show is taking place this month at the Deerhurst resort in Huntsville, On from November 20th through to November 22nd. This year's show will be highlighted by The Gibson Brothers, Valerie Smith, Becky Buller & Liberty Pike, as well as many Ontario band showcases. You can find more information at www.northernbluegrass.com
- The nominees for this year's Central Canadian Bluegrass Awards include several members of the Queen's Bush Bluegrass Club! They include Dan Campbell for banjo, Tyler Beckett for fiddle, Sheldon Speedie for bass, Gary Whitehead for guitar, Doug Van Den Kieboom and Al Widmeyer for dobro, Jim McNulty for male vocalist, Bluegrass Edition and Traditionally Wound for instrumental group, Diamond (Bluegrass Edition) for recording, Traditionally Wound for overall group, and Tom McCreight for entertainer. Congratulations on your nominations! Good luck on November 21st.
- **The Bill Finn Memorial Bluegrass Library:** We now have a new Library of Bluegrass Cassette's, Records, DVD's and Magazines. Blair Babcock (b_gr8ful@hotmail.com) will be looking after this collection and as we compile the data we will post it up on our web site. All available material for borrowing will have to be signed out by club members only. This collection came from Lorraine Finn who's husband passed away quite a few years ago and wanted the club to benefit. Bill was a member of the QBBC and has been sadly missed. We will be taking any donations to help us build our Newly Founded Library.
- **Moments in November History:** Seldom Scene formed (1971); Allen Mills born (1937); Junior Sisk born (1964); A.P. Carter died (1960); Jonathan Ferrabee born; Gene Wooten died (2001); Larry Cordle born (1949); Wayne Uncer born; Shelly White born; Graham Stone born; Charlie Sizemore born (1960); Roy Acuff died (1992); Josh Williams born (1980); Eddie Stubbs born (1961); Stringbean died (1973); Naomi Cooper born; Logan McNeil born; Chris Wilson born; and the First Grand Ole Opry broadcast on the 28th in 1925!!!!
Happy November everybody!!
- Blair Babcock has provided a video of his interview of Dr. Peter Narvaez (see article at left) which we hope to have available on our website in the next few days.



November 11, 2009
Lest we forget



November 2009 Newsletter

Buy and Sell

For Sale: 2006 Eastman Mandolin Model 815 Sunburst with Deluxe Case - \$1400.

Contact: David Blakney, (519) 975-2792 or email dblakney@mnsi.net

For Sale: 1950's German 5/8 bass. Good condition, sounds great. Asking \$1100.

Contact: Jim MacDonald, (519) 797-1824 or email mac.one@bmts.com

For Sale: 1995 Paul Reed Smith Standard 22 Model--pre factory workmanship, natural finish--stop tail piece--wide fat neck--dragon pickups--with original case/warranty card. Guitar is in excellent condition. Asking \$2300. Email for more photo's or info.

Contact: Allan Day in Goderich, (519) 524-9665 or email bluesslider88@yahoo.ca

For Sale: New solid wood 12 Fret square neck Resonator Guitar. This is a beautiful Instrument with a good solid sound It is constructed of curly Maple& has all Gold Hardware with a J.P Quarterman cone. Asking \$2500.

Contact: William Eden, (519) 371-7828 or email ex440@hotmail.com

For Sale: Gibson TB-100. 4-string from 1955. Mahogany with flathead rod tone ring, Original neck, pot assembly, and flange, with new matching resonator. Asking \$1100.

Contact: Jim MacDonald, (519) 797-1824

Lessons: Banjo, Guitar, and Mandolin.

Contact: Dan Campbell, (519) 374-1285

Banjoes: Bought and sold, repairs and set-ups, lessons available.

Contact: Jim MacDonald, (519) 797-1824

If you'd like to place an ad in the buy and sell, and are a club member, then email your information to dkieboom@queensbush.ca

Learning how to become a better "picker."

We loosely refer to anyone playing acoustic music as a "strummer" or a "picker," and especially in bluegrass music, picking, or flatpicking is especially featured as part of the performance aspect of the music. Fans of bluegrass like to see players that can play flawless lines of melodic notes often at great speed, and musicians on the other hand often aim to develop this ability because of the positive exclamation and applause it tends to generate.

What do we mean by "picking" on your instrument? Usually this refers to the plucking of individual or multiple strings either with a finger(s), i.e., finger picking, or with a plectrum or pick as we call it. I will just briefly discuss flatpicking. There are many ways a

Campbells Corner

Hello there bluegrass fans!! Hope you are planning to take time from leaf raking to join us at Deerhurst!! It's our one last "hurrah" to a good year of bluegrass!! We are excited to announce the arrival of the newest Grasstowne, Nitty Gritty, Larry Sparks, Del McCoury, Patty Loveless and Lou Reid and Carolina cds!! There are others, so be sure to check out the website and/or stop by and see us at Deerhurst!! Take care and have a good winter...if that's possible!!

"WHAT'S HOT":

Grascals "Keep on Walkin'" RO-0608

Danny Paisley "Room Over Mine" RO-0589

Special Consensus "Signs" PRC-1169

Lonesome River Band "No Turning Back" Rhy1040

Bluegrass Edition "Diamond" CDN-059

Dailey and Vincent "Brothers From Different Mothers" ROU0617

Russell Moore and IIIrd Tyme Out Rhy1045

Steve Martin "The Crow" ROU0647

"North to Ontario 2009" NTO-09

Alecia Nugent "Hillbilly Goddess" ROU0612

Yours in bluegrass,

Shannon and Dan Campbell

www.campbellscornermusicsales.com

player or amateur musician can do this, and all begin with very simple melodies that you can learn easily to understand the time notation of the music and the up and downward motion of the pick. A players "toolkit" of techniques is quite varied, and there are many little "tools" or techniques one can use to enhance picking ability. You can easily see this by watching accomplished players, and noting the various techniques they use and how they are used in different songs and instrumental tunes. Also, listen to some of your favourite recordings and try to imagine what the players are doing with their pick and hands as they play.

A good way to improve picking ability is to play with others and initially to play songs slowly so that all get a chance to learn how the melody and harmony lines are played, or how to improvise over a melody. The Queensbush Bluegrass Club is also a place where you can develop your picking skills. Every Thursday evening throughout the winter months, there is a music jam at the RC Legion in Owen Sound, and many of the club members are available to show you a few techniques.

Keep on picking.

-Bernie Range

November 2009 Club Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Jam at Montanas	2	3	4	5 Jam at the Legion	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 Jam at the Le-	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 Jam at the Le-	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Jam at the Legion	27	28
29	30	1	2	3 Jam at the Legion	4	5

We meet for jams every Thursday evening from 7:30 p.m.– 10:30 p.m. Owen Sound Legion, North Atlantic Room, 1450 - 2nd Ave. West, Owen Sound, Ontario. And on the first Sunday of each month at Montana's Cookhouse Saloon, 1555 18th Avenue East Owen Sound, Ontario. Club membership fees are \$15 per family, including children under 15, for the year. The year begins and ends in September, excluding July and August. Members receive a monthly club newsletter through either email or regular mail. Members can also submit items for our newsletter and web page buy and sell section.