

September 2008

*This issue: Summer Rambles...*



The Beacon



**...A Trout Lake Moment...**

Jim Caplette, Jay Buckwold & Peter Mesaric enjoy some sunny July picking...

## PBHS in September at the ANZA



The ANZA Club is located at 3 West 8th Avenue  
(the corner of 8th & Ontario)

**Monday, Sept. 1st:** ANZA closed (Labour Day)

**Monday, Sept. 8th:** Slow Pitch with Sue Malcolm

**Monday, Sept. 15th** Regular Jam

**Monday, Sept. 22nd:** Regular Jam

**Monday, Sept. 29th** Regular Jam

Cost: \$4/members, \$6/visitors



## Other Bluegrass Jam Happenings

Jam with the **Valley Bluegrass Music Society**  
**Sundays 7 - 11 p.m. at the Aldergrove Elks Hall,**  
27309 Fraser Highway, Aldergrove

Cost is: members \$4, visitors \$6, first-timers free.

Sept. 7 Open Jam  
Sept. 14 Open Jam  
Sept. 21 Open Jam  
Sept. 28 Slow Jam/Open Jam

## Old Time or Bluegrass Events in Sept/Oct. by Rogue Folk Club (St James Hall)

St. James Hall: 3214 West 10th Ave. Vanc.(Kitsilano)

For more info: [www.roguefolk.bc.ca](http://www.roguefolk.bc.ca)

Sat Sept. 6 Contra dance with the Sybarites (\$10)

**Sat. Sept. 13 Shearwater with Tammy Fassaert**

Ticket Costs: TBA

Sat. Oct. 4 Contra dance with the Sybarites (\$10)

Sun. Oct. 5 Michael Jerome Brown TBA

**Fri. Oct. 10 The Breakmen CD Launch TBA**

**PBHS Mailing Address:**  
#103 - 146 west 13th Ave.  
Vancouver, BC, V5Y 1V7

**PBHS Website:**  
[www.pacificbluegrass.bc.ca](http://www.pacificbluegrass.bc.ca)

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President:**  
Kris Boyd  
[krisboyd@telus.net](mailto:krisboyd@telus.net)

**Treasurer:**  
Peter Krivel-Zacks  
[pkz@shaw.ca](mailto:pkz@shaw.ca)  
604-737-1218

**Secretary:**  
Anne Gilbert  
[agilbert@capcollege.bc.ca](mailto:agilbert@capcollege.bc.ca)  
604-985-3828

**Bookings:**  
Kris Boyd  
[krisboyd@telus.net](mailto:krisboyd@telus.net)  
Linda Bull  
[bull.linda@gmail.com](mailto:bull.linda@gmail.com)

**Open Stage:**  
Mark Vaughan  
[barefootsound@hotmail.com](mailto:barefootsound@hotmail.com)

**Publicity:**  
Georgia Thorburn  
[Gorgia.thorburn@gmail.com](mailto:Gorgia.thorburn@gmail.com)

**Membership/Workshops:**  
Jody Kramer  
[jody\\_kramer@hotmail.com](mailto:jody_kramer@hotmail.com)

**Bluegrass Beacon:**  
Diana E. Sly  
[diana\\_sly@yahoo.ca](mailto:diana_sly@yahoo.ca)



## President's Message

Hi Folks,

Welcome to another year of bluegrass and old-time music with the Pacific Bluegrass and Heritage Society! As the new president of the PBHS, my first order of business is to say thanks. Thanks to all the members of the club who have made me feel welcome and taught me so many things along the way. I still remember the first time I showed up at the Anza for a jam, not knowing anybody, unsure of jam etiquette, and just generally shy and nervous. But almost as soon as I walked in, then-president Graham Blair spotted "a new face" and came over to welcome me and put me at ease. Here we are a few years later, and I hope I can do the same for some newcomers, as I'm sure you all will.

For those of you that don't know me, I play the mandolin and like to sing; I come to the jams as often as I can, and I'm a member of the band Redgrass. You may also have seen me doing sound for the Anza concerts in the last year, and Mark Vaughn and I organized the open stage events. I hope that this year, as your president, I can give back to the PBHS even a small portion of the good it has brought to my life.

I've made some great new friends, seen some fabulous concerts, and most of all, been surrounded by like-minded lovers of bluegrass and old-time music. I'd like to personally invite you all to come and say hi in a spare moment and let me know how you think things are going at the club, what you like and what you think could be improved. I'd also like ask you all to find some time and energy to help make the club the best it can be: by volunteering at events, sharing your favorite lick, learning harmony to that song so-and-so always likes to sing.... I think what keeps us all coming back is the desire to learn new things about this music we're crazy about (obsessed with?)....new songs, hearing the chord changes, harmony singing, soloing ideas, developing solid rhythm, history and culture.....so much to learn and enjoy we'll never have time for all of it. And that's the best part, I think, because it means we'll never run out of reasons to get out to see live concerts or to brave the pouring rain to make it to the weekly jam. See you there!

Kris Boyd



## Beacon Bits

**Howdy!** When I told my partner, Sam, that from now on I might be "**bringing in the Beacon**", he was plum tickled!. A bonus retirement perk?!...(What he thought he heard was that I'd be "**bringing home the bacon**".) Sorry, Sam...However, his charming confusion (and failing hearing) inspired naming these editorial ramblings **Beacon Bits**. :) 'Hope all you Bluegrass and Old Time music fans had the kind of summer doing what we all love best: jamming, picking, attending festivals and workshops. If you live in the Lower Mainland, you didn't have to go far to enjoy foot-stomping music. Summer got off to a perky early start in June with the "**In-the House**" series in East Van, featuring homegrown **Redgrass**, **Dyad** and **Viper Central**. Those of us fortunate enough to find ourselves in the audience in that whimsical backyard were thinking "It doesn't get any better than this: a wide range of original & cover material delivered with spunk by three very talented bands..."

'Hope this intimate series enjoys a LONG life-span.

Look for it again next June!

*DES (more Bits and Ramblings on next pages...)*

**Viper Central** (from left: Mark Vaughan, Kathleen Nisbet, Tyler Rudolph, Steve Charles, Lorraine Cobb and Tim Tweedale) performing June 8th at the **In-the House Concerts Series, East Van.**





For us stay-at-home types, this year's **Vancouver Folk Festival** July 18 -20, was THE highlight, with a stellar Bluegrass/Old Time contingent in the presence of **Abigail Washburn & the Sparrow Quartet**, (Seen here on the Saturday Main Stage, with **Bela Fleck** on banjo, on the left; Ben Sollee on cello; and Casey Driessen on fiddle.) To universal delight, Abigail treated the huge crowd to a couple of her "signature" Mandarin folk songs. This was cross-boundary music-making, & cross-cultural virtuosity of the highest level. I guess we can now use Hillbilly and Highbrow in the same sentence! :)

The **Vancouver Folk Festival** also brought us Victoria's **Outlaw Social**, steadily growing an ever larger and more enthusiastic fan base...They're seen below participating in a feisty, all-women workshop. Outlaw Social's **Pharis Romero** (2nd from left,) **Catherine Black** on banjo, and **Kendell Carson** on fiddle, are shown sharing the stage with roots musician Tamara Nile. (standing, on left.)



**Bluegrass Hero Sightings**  
Shown tuning, above:  
**Dirk Powell & Jerry Douglas**  
at Vancouver Island MusicFest!

These comments & photos, from Caroline Murphy, who ferried across to attend the July 11-13 Festival, and reported back:

"I received a backstage pass for this festival and met two of my favourites musical heroes - Dirk Powell 'cause his expression of Old Time tunes and songs touches something really primal inside me, and Jerry Douglas 'cause...well, the dobro is how I hear music, he's so versatile and his playing so pure and emotive – and

"No, Susan, I didn't 'lick 'im!"



**Also at Musicfest: Shearwater!**

"Featuring **Tammy Fassaert**, (who's banded in the past with Laurie Lewis, John Reischman, Scott Nygaard, Sally Van Meter), & whose current Shearwater mates are Dave Clarke (who also works with David Francey & is acclaimed as 'one of Canada's best acoustic guitarists'), and the 'hot young mandolinist' James Whittall, holding up his end just fine!" *CM (Thanks, Caroline!)*

# Feature Ramble with Deb



Photo from the Vancouver Island MusicFest Website: [www.islandmusicfest.com](http://www.islandmusicfest.com)

## Vancouver Island MusicFest, 2008

By Deb Salmonsens

Festival Artistic Director (and excellent musician) Doug Cox consistently brings a superb line up of music each year to the Courtenay area in the Comox Valley for the **Vancouver Island MusicFest**.

This year was exceptionally strong on old time and bluegrass music, as well as great dance and blues choices. Great banjo offerings this year with **Earl Scruggs** and band, along with **Abigail Washburn and The Sparrow Quartet featuring Bela Fleck**, along with the incredible **Dirk Powell** (often backed by two members of the fabulous **Foghorn String Band**), and former Vancouver banjo player (and Bluegrass Club member) **Jayme Stone**.

**Jerry Douglas** played an impressive set, and a young set of twins from the UK, the **Carravick Sisters**, were great bluegrass multi-instrumentalists and singers, as were Vancouver Island's **Shearwater**. My favourite workshop of the festival was a Saturday morning fiddle workshop with local island sensational fiddler **Trent Freeman, Dirk Powell, Sammy Shaler, Caleb Kalder, the Carravick Sisters, April Verch, and Metis fiddler Patti Lamoureux**.

For those less into bluegrass, there were blues greats like **Joe Louis Walker and Taj Mahal**, Winnipeg rock indie favourites **The Weakerthans**, and dancing under the stars to the **Wailers** (as in Bob Marley and the..).

The festival is a lovely size on a lovely site. The food offerings were sensational and affordably priced, AND when the heat became overwhelming, there was a river on the site where one could go for an afternoon swim and cool off. If the river didn't prove cooling enough, there was a lively beer garden, and a few shade tents and trees. While I didn't camp this year, apparently the campsite is nice – very conveniently located right next to the festival site, and offers great jamming. If you haven't been to the Vancouver Island Festival – GO! It's affordable, always has a diverse and fun line up, great stuff for kids, and generally great weather. The festival usually takes place the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend of July. **Website: [www.islandmusicfest.com](http://www.islandmusicfest.com)**. (Thanks for this report, Deb!)

### ...Another Bit.....Now who's hard of hearing???" ☺

Sam & I got a fun opportunity to perform a few tunes at Britannia's Artful Sundays (thanks to local Bluegrass & go-getter Sharon-Priest Nagata). At the end of our little set, as I was packing up my guitar a young lady came over to tell me she was 'moved by my singing'. After she left, I said to Sam: "Did you hear that? I must be making SOME progress!". Sam shook his head sadly. "Poor Darling! What she actually said was that your singing is causing her to move!"... :)

# The Last Bit...



## Listen Up!



The more genres of music you love and listen to, the easier it is to find your own musical identity. (Tony Rice)

### IN THE PINES

#### COOP Radio

CFRO 102.7 Vancouver –102.9 Cable  
StarChoice Satellite Ch. 845  
2:30 -- 4:00 PM Sundays

### PACIFIC PICKIN

With Arthur & Andrea Berman  
CITR 101.9 FM Vancouver  
6:30 -- 8:00 AM Tuesdays  
or streamed at: [www.citr.ca](http://www.citr.ca)

### UP TOWN BLUEGRASS

With George McKnight  
[www.uptownbluerass.com](http://www.uptownbluerass.com)  
CIGVFM Penticton  
6:30 – 7:30 Saturdays  
CJFW FM Terrace  
9:00 --10:00 PM Wednesdays

### FIRE ON THE MOUNTAIN

Hosted by Craig Korth  
[www.ckua.org](http://www.ckua.org)  
Thursdays 5—6 PM PDT

### INTERNET

In i-tunes , look under the FOLK and COUNTRY categories;  
Or in [www.live365.com](http://www.live365.com), search one of the many BG channels  
many great stations out there, especially [www.bluegrasscountry.org](http://www.bluegrasscountry.org)

If Sam & I had stuck strictly to traditional bluegrass this summer, we would have missed this magical performance by **Eilen Jewell** and her amazing band (including hot Nashville guitarist Jerry Miller) this July. The concert was held in the beautiful Linden Gardens in Kaledan near Penticton, well worth the 5 hour drive to get there!

We also would have missed the dazzling mandolinist **John Reischman** finding his Latino groove with his pal Celso Machado on guitar & sharing the stage with uber-percussionists & guitarists Charanga Cakewalk (July's Vancouver Folk Festival.)  
**Mucho Caliente, mi Amigos!**



## PBHS MEMBERSHIP FORM

Mail to: #103 - 146 West 13th Ave. Vancouver, B.C., V5Y 1V7

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership (tick one):

1 year single membership \$20

Renewal

1 year family membership \$30

Renewal

Mail me *The Beacon* newsletter

Change of contact information only

Please sign me up for email service. (You'll get the latest updates throughout the month with reminders, last minute changes, notice of PBHS member gigs and **The Bluegrass Beacon**.)

# G r a s s i f i e d s

Email your add to [pacificbluegrass@yahoo.ca](mailto:pacificbluegrass@yahoo.ca). Ads run for 3 months (or longer if space allows) at no charge to PBHS members. We reserve the right to edit -- please be brief! Also, please let us know if your ad is no longer current.

## BANDS FOR HIRE

### WANTED

**Male vocal harmony singer** who can play either lead guitar, bass, or fiddle in local Traditional Bluegrass Band. Please contact **Fred** 604-943-0522

#### Unleash Your Inner Hemmingway!

The Beacon is looking for **guest editors**. Diana has to go in for hand surgery in mid-November (no typing or instrument playing for 6 weeks). Thus, at minimum, the PBHS needs someone to handle the Beacon's **December & January** issues.

This is a volunteer position. Ideally the guest editor(s) should be a fairly regular attendee at PBHS events and jams, and be familiar with page layout software. So, if you love Bluegrass/Old time music & and have good communication skills, (attending PBHS meetings and working closely with the PBHS board is needed and expected.) PLEASE contact **Kris Boyd** at [krisboyd@telus.net](mailto:krisboyd@telus.net).

### Fantastic Bluegrass Web Site!

Diana's personal favourite discovery:

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

**Bluegrass multi-instrumentalist, composer & inspiring teacher Jack Tuttle, shares all kinds of musical information of interest to the bluegrass/old-time community, including the best technical singing advice I ever encountered. Also, tab and notation for popular tunes across the board (fiddle, banjo, mandolin & guitar). Check it out!**

### Rising Stars on the Bluegrass Horizon!

You will **LOVE** these bands, if you haven't discovered them yet yourself!

**The SteelDrivers ([www.steeldrivers.net/](http://www.steeldrivers.net/) )**

**The Dixie Bee-Liners ([www.dixiebeeliners.com/](http://www.dixiebeeliners.com/) )**



#### Don & Theresa Dirksen

Don: 604 -521- 6595 or  
[dondirksen@shaw.ca](mailto:dondirksen@shaw.ca)

#### Five On A String

604-931-3765  
[five\\_on\\_string@hotmail.com](mailto:five_on_string@hotmail.com)  
<http://home.lynx/net/foas/>

#### Great Northern

Brian Samuels: 604-732-4046 or  
[samco@axionet.com](mailto:samco@axionet.com)

#### Hungry Hill

Jenny Lester: 250-847-5001  
[aaca1@telus.net](mailto:aaca1@telus.net)

#### John Reischman and the Jaybirds

John: 604-251-7655  
[johnreischman@shaw.ca](mailto:johnreischman@shaw.ca)  
[www.thejaybirds.com](http://www.thejaybirds.com)

#### Lakeside Ramblers

George Garbutt: 250-441-3365  
[gwg@magnet.com](mailto:gwg@magnet.com)

#### Plough

Linda Bull: [bull.linda@gmail.com](mailto:bull.linda@gmail.com)

Redgrass: [krisboyd@telus.net](mailto:krisboyd@telus.net)

#### Rhythm Roundup

c/o Sue Malcolm: 604-469-6649  
[sue@buddy-system.org](mailto:sue@buddy-system.org)  
[www.suemalcolm.com](http://www.suemalcolm.com)

#### The Still Blue

Craig Marce: 604-464-7871  
Colin Goldie: [coling@radiant.net](mailto:coling@radiant.net)

#### Story House

Jake de Villiers:  
604-535-7271  
[www.myspace.com/storyhouse](http://www.myspace.com/storyhouse)



# G r a s s i f i e d s

## FOR SALE

PBHS T-Shirts, hats, & Jackets  
contact Leah Clark:  
604-436-3650

**Englehardt** stand up basses and cellos. Through private dealer. Made in Chicago. Beautiful & affordable. Basses Starting at \$1695; Cellos at \$1100. Call or email

Archie: 604-839-7910  
parchie@hotmail.com

### 2006 Roy Noble

#### **Mahogany/Engelman**

**Guitar** with Calton case: \$3,000.No trades. This is a custom built guitar by Roy Noble one of the oldest steel luthiers. Roy built the guitar that Clarence White played from 1966-1971. Others who owned Nobles: John Hartford/Pete Seeger/Doc Watson/Merle Travis/David Holt. Doc Watson played this guitar a few years back and thought it "A great sounding" guitar that will age perfectly". I am located in Vancouver. This is a perfect Bluegrass guitar and rare in Canada.

Rick Schmidlin:  
rschmidlin@aol.com

### 5 STRING OPEN BACK

**Banjo.** Professional Stu-Mac three ply rock maple pot with classic Whyte Laydie tone ring. Maple neck, ebony fingerboard with tasteful Mother of Pearl vine inlay. Dragon engraved on heel. No-knot tail piece and Renaissance head. Sweet toned banjo for claw hammer or old time picking styles. Gig bag. \$850.00..

Langley.  
Darryl : 604-530-3207

#### **Martin A-model Mandolin**

c. 1950  
sloped top, great clear tone, recent fret dress; internal pick up added by prev. owner; some playing wear near sound hole, with/HSC \$1200

Matt: 604-872-7482

#### **Kay Guitar** \$150

Big Body; Sounds good;  
Donna Jean: 604-876-2463

#### **Larrivee 6 String Jumbo**

**Guitar:** Rosewood & spruce;  
In mint condition;

**Ted:** 604-324-4777  
(leave a message)

## INSTRUMENTS REPAIRED OR BUILT

Instrument set-up & repair of your banjo,bass, mandolin, or guitar by the only authorized Santa Cruz Guitar Company warranty repairman in the area.call **Jake De Villiers** at 604-535-7271  
www.crescentbeachguitar.com

**Expert Instrument Repair &**  
Set up for violin, guitar, banjo, mandolin, and upright base.  
**Theresa Dirksen** at  
604-521-6595

**Master Craftsman:** extraordinary guitars and mandolins  
**Laughlin Guitars**

built in Vancouver.  
604-254-4990 or  
www.laughlinguitars.ca

#### **Superb Quality hand-built resophonic guitars**

at affordable prices. Visit Rayco Resophonics at www.rayco.ca  
Contact Mark: 250-847-5001

## LESSONS

**Mandolin, Guitar, Accordion, Theory &**  
instruction: **Diane Bode**  
604-684-9479

**Bass** lessons for all levels/  
styles: bluegrass/swing  
Call **Paul Bergman:**  
604-435-4463

#### **Mandolin, banjo, guitar or acoustic bass:**

**Don & Theresa Dirksen**  
604- 521-6595  
(New Westminster)

#### **Beginner guitar, voice, coaching, jamming. with**

**Sue Malcolm**, an experienced teacher, performer, recording artist and senior instructor at BC Bluegrass Workshops, (Sorrento) Individual or small group lessons  
604 945-6648 or  
sue@buddy-system.org  
www.suemalcolm.com

#### **Mandolin Lessons**

(beg/int) Learn tunes and techniques to get the most out of your bluegrass experience! Call **Mark**  
604-723-0164 or  
old.jawbone@gmail.com

#### **Clawhammer banjer & Fiddle,**

Old-time reppertoire & technique  
call **Kori Miyanishi:**  
604-874-6220 or  
oldpreacher@gmail.com

#### **Interested in learning rhythm guitar or bluegrass banjo?**

What about song composition, or harmony singing? One-on-one instruction, or small group

(band) lessons. Loads of teaching and performance experience. Unbeatable rates. Bring your band and we'll work out some tunes!

#### **Archie Pateman** at

604-839-7910 or  
parchie@hotmail.com

**Jeremy Penner**, fiddler with the "Bills" out of Victoria for 2 yrs and co-founder of "Scruj McDuhk" 604-677-7347

#### **Swing/jazz rhythm guitar & fiddle**

by experienced musician, composer, teacher. Learn jazz theory, how to apply it and play your favourite kind of music.  
**Pierre** at 604-253-6633

#### **Mandolin and guitar, all styles and levels, plus clawhammer/old time banjo.**

Learn the music you love in a friendly, supportive environment. No theory required, success with all ages. **Steve Quattrocchi** at 604-523-1739 or email arbutusq@yahoo.ca.

#### **Mandolin:** all levels

**John Reichman** at  
604- 251-7655 or  
johnreichman@shaw.ca

#### **Expereinced Fiddle**

teacher & performer with The Paperboys.  
**Shannon Saunders.**  
604-215-2415  
shannonsaunders@thesplinters.com

#### **Aaron Woods:**

**Bluegrass fiddle** with emphasis on good technique call 604-874 6346