



Of Interest . . .

■ **Spencer Walts** awarded by IBMA 2006. Brian Grondin from Milwaukee let us know this terrific news: A graphic artist from Madison named Spencer Walts (I'm sure you know him well) just won a fairly significant award at the International Bluegrass Music Awards (IBMA) down in Nashville, TN.

BEST GRAPHIC DESIGN FOR RECORDED PROJECT

Spencer Walts, Eyewerks Studio & Sarah Lainie Smith (designers) for She Waits For Night by Uncle Earl, Rounder Records
http://www.ibma.org/ibma.awards/currentpress/list_winners.asp

■ **SWBMAI Trip To 41st Bean Blossom Bluegrass Festival.** Plan now for next summer's 2007 41st annual Bill Monroe Bluegrass Festival scheduled for Saturday, June 9 through Saturday, June 16, 2007 at Bean Blossom, Indiana. Bruce Nichols will again be the SWBMAI group coordinator providing information to anyone wishing to attend, to the extent of helping to line up car pools, picking a group camping area and making general information available. Call Bruce at 608-273-4807 with questions.

■ **The Dirty Shirts** play on Saturday December 2 at the Crystal Corner Bar 1302 Williamson St. in Madison at 9:30 pm. The Dirty Shirts are a conglomeration of members of the Cork 'n Bottle String Band, Cajun Strangers and the infamous Ted Weigl. They've Pat Logterman (bass and vocals) and Kurt Kellesvig (lap steel) of the Cork n Bottle; Jeff Burkhart (guitar and vocals) and Colin Bazsali (drums and vocals) from the Cajun Strangers, and Ted Weigl, formerly of Cornelius Klein and a sound engineer who knows nearly every riff from 1960 to 1997. They play a collection of classic honky tonk from artists such as Hank Williams, George Jones, Gram Parsons, Roger Miller, Merle Haggard, Johnny Cash, Buck Owens, Lefty Frizell, Willy Nelson and many more. Opening for them will be Owen Temple, a native Texan, who has been gathering press locally for his songwriting

Enjoy Bluegrass Weekly!

Every Tuesday: **Lonesome Rogues**, 8-10:30pm Wonder's Pub, 1980 Atwood Ave., Madison

Every Thursday: **Cork 'n Bottle StringBand**, 6-8pm, UW Madison Memorial Union

Every 2nd Tuesday: **If We Only Knew**, 7pm-9pm, Freeport Elks Club, 608 Stephenson St. , Freeport, IL

Every 2nd Thursday: **New Pioneers**, 7pm-9pm, Cafe Carpe, 18 S. Water St., Fort Atkinson, WI

Every 3rd Sunday: **Sparetime Bluegrass Band**, 4-7pm, Hody Bar, 1914 Aurora St., Middleton, WI

Every Sunday: **The Weary Traveler**, 2-4pm, 3201 Williamson St., Madison, WI. Performance/jam hosted by Arvid

The Fireball Mail is a publication of the Southern Wisconsin Bluegrass Music Association, Inc. Visit our website at www.swbmai.org

Send change of address to:

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Fireball Mail

Southern Wisconsin Bluegrass Music Association, Inc. Newsletter

November-December 06

Bluegrass Pioneer! Josh Graves: 1927-2006

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In This Issue: Heritage Concert...calendars, reviews, announcements and more!



Pass on the **Fireball Mail** to a friend!



Visit our website at www.swbmai.org



Fireball Mail

Volume 23 Issue 6

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SWBMAI is a member of IBMA (International Bluegrass Music Association) and GMCVB (Greater Madison Convention & Visitors Bureau).

SWBMAI is a proud sponsor of
WORT 89.9FM

Every Tuesday

Pastures of Plenty,

9-noon with John Fabke

Every Wednesday

Back to the Country,

9-noon with Bill Malone

Every Friday

Mud Acres Bluegrass Special,

9-noon with Chris Powers



Southern Wisconsin Bluegrass Music Association, Inc.

The SWBMAI is a non-profit educational organization devoted to the preservation and promotion of bluegrass music, and supported by the volunteer efforts of its members.

SWBMAI Mission Statement:

The SWBMAI mission as stated in the by-laws:

- 1) To promote bluegrass music and musicians
- 2) To bring together persons of all ages who enjoy singing, playing and listening to bluegrass music
- 3) To hold regular bluegrass jam sessions
- 4) To publicize information about bluegrass concerts and festivals
- 5) To promote family weekend camping with bluegrass music
- 6) To help younger persons obtain instruments and instruction in bluegrass music
- 7) To introduce bluegrass music to new listeners

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Writer - **Jim Roberts**

Fireball Mail Newsletter:

Editor - **Mary Helmke**

Graphic Designer - **Paul Kienitz**



In Memory...

The Passing of Uncle Josh Graves

By Jim Roberts

Burkett "Buck" "Uncle Josh" Graves, born September 27, 1927, died in Nashville on September 30th, a few days after his 79th birthday. He had been in declining health for several years suffering from several chronic conditions, including diabetes (which led to the amputation of his legs). With characteristic humor he commented that leg room would no longer be a problem traveling to gigs.

Few musicians can be said to have revitalized and revolutionized the playing of their instrument in any musical genre. In bluegrass, listeners can point to Earl Scruggs and Don Reno on the banjo, Bill Monroe and Jesse McReynolds on the mandolin, Chubby Wise on the fiddle, Doc Watson on the guitar---and Buck Graves on the resophonic guitar (sometimes called by its trademark name, Dobro).

Before Graves there were several resophonic guitar players of note, Cliff Carlisle and "Bashful Brother" Oswald Kirby (with Roy Acuff) being the most conspicuous. What Graves did, beginning in 1950 when he was with Wilma Lee and Stony Cooper, was to incorporate three-finger right hand patterns in order to approximate the sound Earl Scruggs was getting from his banjo. He'd talked to Scruggs several times during that period and Earl showed him the rudiments of rolls. Buck Graves went from there.

By the time he joined the Foggy Mountain Boys in 1955 he had perfected his style, a style featuring a bluesy flurry of notes, slides, hammer-ons and pull-offs. It fit perfectly with Scrugg's banjo and Paul Warren's fiddle. It was an integral component of the Flatt & Scruggs sound from 1955 to the end of the group in 1969.

He teamed with English P. "Cousin Jake" Tullock (the Flatt and Scruggs bass player) in the comedy segment of the Foggy Mountain Boys shows. They also did some comedic singing work on the shows (I've seen a wonderful clip of "Ain't Nobody's Business" from an old show).

If a listener wants to hear how well Graves fit into the bluegrass genre, just listen to Flatt & Scruggs' rendition of "Salty Dog Blues" and "Groundspeed".

Graves was much copied. Both Jerry Douglas and Mike Audridge have readily admitted they would not be in music but for Uncle Josh Graves. A couple of years ago, a tribute concert was given at the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, featuring every resophonic guitar player they could jam on the stage. It was a moment when the famous and not-so-famous could pay a complement to a man who managed to retain the musicality of the resophonic guitar while pushing the boundaries of the instrument.

After Flatt and Scruggs split, Graves worked with both The Earl Scruggs Review and Lester Flatt and The Nashville Grass. He changed his approach somewhat for each. He was also, in his later years, working in partnership with Kenny Baker-a partnership that he said gave him his most rewarding moments in music.

Of the monumental Flatt & Scruggs and the Foggy Mountain Boys of the 1955 to 1969 era (Flatt, Scruggs, Warren, Seckler, Tullock, and Graves), only Seckler and Scruggs remain. Burkett Graves and his (as Lester Flatt would say) 'Hound Dog Guitar' is now silent.

In Memorium From Wikipedia

Josh Graves

(September 27, 1927 - September 30, 2006)

Josh Graves was an American Bluegrass musician born Burkett K. Graves in Tellico Plains, Monroe County, Tennessee. He was also known by the nicknames "Buck" and "Uncle Josh". He is credited with introducing the dobro into bluegrass music shortly after joining Lester Flatt, Earl Scruggs and The Foggy Mountain Boys in 1955. He was inducted into the International Bluegrass Music Hall of Honor in 1997.

His career had him playing with many:

1942: Joined the Pierce Brothers playing in Gatlinburg

Played with Esco Hankins and Mac Wiseman

Joined the Wheeling Jamboree with Wilma Lee and Stony Cooper

1955 to 1969:Lester Flatt, Earl Scruggs and the Foggy Mountain Boys

1969 -1971:Lester Flatt's Nashville Grass

1971-1974: The Earl Scruggs Review

1974: Started a solo career.

Josh Graves originally joined The Foggy Mountain Boys as a bass player but he got together with Earl Scruggs to develop a new style of dobro-picking based on Earl's three-finger syncopated banjo style. After only one month on bass, Graves switched to dobro and it soon became a defining feature of the bluegrass sound. He played fast and loud but also created extremely sensitive melodic backing to bluesy ballads and slower gospel numbers. Josh Graves is credited as being a major influence on many leading resophonic guitar players, including Jerry Douglas, Mike Audridge and Phil Leadbetter among them.



The 2006 Bluegrass Masters Heritage Event!

By Carolyn Hegeler

The 2006 Bluegrass Masters Heritage Event on October 21, in honor of Jesse McReynolds, was close to perfect. The weather could have been better, but even snow and rain were not a deterrent to over 200 bluegrass fans who came to the Lussier Center in Madison. It was a wonderful time!

Jesse McReynolds & The Virginia Boys were simply terrific. Four band members participated in the afternoon jam with 20+ area musicians. They and Jesse pulled out all the stops for the evening performance. Opening act Above the Town led the afternoon jam and played a dazzling opening set. Our own Bill C. Malone, country music historian and host of WORT89.9FM's 'Back to the Country', led the informal and interesting afternoon audience-participation conversation with Mr. McReynolds. Bill was masterful as emcee of the evening concert – his introduction of Jesse and his articulateness about the value of the Heritage Concert were superb. SWBMAI president Doug Hodge presided over the afternoon events and kept them running like clockwork. At the concert Doug presented Jesse with a plaque from SWBMAI “in appreciation for Jesse’s wonderful contributions to Bluegrass Music.” Madison Mayor Dave Cieslewicz put the icing on the cake, proclaiming “October 21, 2006 to be Jesse McReynolds Day in Madison.” SWBMAI thanks you all for being the heart of the event.

It took close to a small village to bring about the success of the 2nd Annual Bluegrass Masters Heritage Concert. Many people and organizations were involved and we thank them all.

Grantors, donors and other friends:

Thank you to the Dane County Cultural Affairs Commission, with additional funding from the Overture Foundation and Pleasant T. Rowland Foundation; Bill Graham, BlueHighways TV, WORT89.9FM, Charter Communications, Ellis & Sue Bauman, Bernie Cesnik & Karen Stevenson, Phil & Audrey Dybdahl, Carolyn Hegeler & Fred Newmann, James & Betty Maginnis, Sharon Manion & Dale Ward, John Icke, Alice & Norris Tibbetts, Jane Richardson, 2 Anonymous Donors, Marilyn Carien, Francois Sales, Flatrock Music & Bluegrass Jamboree, Alan Munde Gazette, Audio for the Arts, Dunn’s Import Inc., Full Compass, Gene’s Professional Hair Care, Madison Music Company, Nichols Design, Rendler Maginnis & Company, Roxbury Tavern, Tex Tubb’s Taco Palace, The Shoe Box, Rick’s Café, The Printing Place, and Four Lakes Traditional Music Collective. A special thank-you to Denise Hitchcock of BlueHighways TV and Bob Pinter at Charter Communications.

Volunteers & others:

Event Planning Committee: Carolyn Hegeler, Ellis Bauman, Sharon Manion, Catherine Rhyner, with special thanks to Paul Kienitz & Nancy Nikora.

Thank you to Mike Schmidt, Jim Robarts, Fred Newmann, John Fabke, Bill Malone, Chris Powers, Doug Hodge, Dale Ward and Jim Nikora.

Thanks also to B-Side, Borders West, Madison Music and Spruce Tree Music; Audio for the Arts; Full Compass, Lussier Family Heritage Center; Blue Plate Catering; Linda Lewis and Mayor Dave Cieslewicz; and Milwaukee Area Bluegrass Music Association. THANK YOU ALL!

Responses to the Jesse McReynolds concert

Following are some responses to the Jesse McReynolds concert. These folks are all on the Board of the Association, but I will be sharing others’ impressions in the next issue. Please send me your impression of the day, the concert or the music itself and I will share this with the Fireball Mail readers. Thanks, Mary Helmke

We attended the concert and the full days’ activities. I cannot say when I have had a more memorable “Bluegrass” day. The atmosphere was warm and relaxed and everything was arranged to give the attendee the feeling that they an important part of the event. Hearing about the early days of Bluegrass from one of the founders of that music and how he lived the life of those early musicians was very interesting. No book could have provided the “feel” of what those early days were like. The concert was extraordinary. Jessie at near 80 years old played with the speed and agility of a man half his age. It was a very special experience to see and hear the man who developed the special sound of the cross picking mandolin play right in front of me. Anyone who doesn’t sign on for the next Masters Heritage Concert will miss the chance to see and hear where Bluegrass came from. - Jim Maginnis

(Heritage Concert Responses ...continued on pg. 6)



Mona At The Tuesday Night Learner/ Beginner Jam, Madison, WI

By Mona Wasow

For years I wanted to play better, and with a group - never found one, and was so self-conscious about my mediocre playing. Then Ellis Bauman told me about the Tuesday group. I shyly came to try it out.

Oh my! Such a warm, jolly, inclusive group!

I immediately felt at ease and all my energy was put into trying to play the autoharp! I cannot praise this group highly enough! I am 100% happy with it and recommend it highly to anyone interested in having fun and learning something at the same time.

(We all hope to meet more new bluegrass friends at the Coliseum Bar in Madison, WI sometime soon. It is every Tuesday evening at 6:30, and we have Jon Peik teaching each first Tuesday - Ed.)



Capital Brewery Picnic Jam 9/23: Fun - In Spite of The Rain

by Marilyn Carien

As we gathered under the patio roof of the Capital Brewery, our first chords were accompanied by thunder and rain on the metal roof. Once the beat caught on, the bluegrass jam was going right along through the storm. The pros were there along with beginners and lots of support and smiles all around.

If you play an instrument, but have never played in a jam, you need to do it before you can’t anymore. Going around the circle, we chose our songs, keys, tempos and soloists. It’s a democracy, when you are leading, the others support you to help you sound great.

At the picnic tables, smiling enthusiasts were joining in on the chorus-singing and foot-tapping. There were trays of delicious brownies baked by Sharon Manion, our SWBMAI secretary.

These kept folks going, along with the wonderful Capital Brewery beer.

Toward the end of our time, three ‘superplayers’ arrived to turn up the heat and make the old favorite ‘Will The Circle Be Unbroken’ sound pretty fine.

Here’s hoping to see you at the picnic jam next year!

(Ed. - This was the first picnic jam sponsored by SWBMAI in awhile - it was quite a good turnout in spite of the rain. There were around 30 people total throughout the time we spent at the Capital Brewery. Thanks to all who participated - We hope to do this again in 2007!)

It was nice to meet and honor such a kind, down-to-earth icon of bluegrass music. Bill Malone did a wonderful job interviewing Jesse. Many good stories and questions were told and answered. The jam was very organized and all enjoyed the hour. It was great to have Donny, Buddy and Daniel of The Virginia Boys and some members from Above The Town being a part of the jam. I thought that Above The Town did a great set, even though not so traditional. Jesse and The Virginia Boys were great. - *Doug Hodge*

Mid-October blew in its most discouraging and nasty weather, but the fans streamed into the Lussier Center on Saturday night. The day had gone virtually without a hitch, starting with a bountiful buffet followed by the insightful conversation that Bill Malone moderated for the fascinated audience. A toe-tapping, smile-inducing jam, led skillfully by Above the Town, included the brilliant and fun loving Virginia Boys and a sizable number of event attendees, from the rookies to the pros. After the break, during which the "Jim and Jesse Story" was aired, courtesy of Charter Communications and BlueHighways TV, the feature concert kicked off with Above the Town. This relatively new Milwaukee band showed our audience what all the praise is about, with their smooth harmonies, and instrumental prowess. As I sat near the front to make photos, in my peripheral vision, I saw more and more folks arrive. I was moved beyond words when we filled the hall with enthusiastic fans. Standing Room Only. WOW. What a great reception for the incomparable Jesse McReynolds and the Virginia Boys. When they took the stage and started to play, the energy level and warmth in the room just went through the roof. Tune after tune, Jesse showed us all why he has endured and been so admired for his 60 years in Bluegrass. His playing is technically complex, and still so joyful. His manner is self-effacing, but his presence on stage was larger than life. He engaged the audience, teased his bandmates, and laughed at himself. It was almost an anti-climax when Mayor Dave stepped up to proclaim the day for Jesse McReynolds. For those of us who were there the whole day, Jesse took that honor, with great modesty, the minute he stepped off his bus and walked, with a warm smile, through the cold October rain to join us for a magical day. - *Nancy Nikora*

Bill Malone's interview of Jesse gave us a rare opportunity to hear first-hand about the history of bluegrass music but also to experience the warmth, humor and modesty of this bluegrass icon. As the freezing rain fell outside the window, I felt almost euphoric to be jamming inside the lovely Lussier Center with about thirty excellent musicians who played lightly and softly, listening to one another and gracefully passing the solos around the circle. What magic that music can bring such a spirit of creativity, of happiness, of mutual appreciation! - *Marilyn Carlen*



Attention Madison Bands!

The Madison Area Music Awards Seek Bluegrass Bands

Article courtesy of Bob Batyko

The Madison Area Music Awards, MAMAs, is a vibrant organization committed to the expansion of all forms of musical education in the Madison, Wisconsin metro area. In furtherance of this goal, the organization presents the annual Madison

Area Music Awards ceremony, with the purpose of:

- Raising public awareness of the need to preserve and support the existence of music education in our public schools.
- Encouraging and promoting the advancement of young musicians and others in the Madison area by recognizing their musical achievements.
- Providing an opportunity for young musicians who are interested in pursuing careers in music to learn about the music industry.
- Providing a forum for young musicians and others in the Madison area to participate in live performances.

MAMA, Inc. is a non-profit organization that honors the accomplishments of musicians in the Madison area and also raises awareness and funds for youth music programs. Its goal for 2006 is to contribute \$25,000 to the Madison Metropolitan School District.

The MAMAs invites local bluegrass bands to submit entries for this year's awards. Go the website <http://www.themamas.org/> and follow the directions for submitting your music. The submissions and voting will culminate in the awards ceremony at the Barrymore Theater, May 12th, 2007. Bluegrass is a large part of the Madison community that is under-represented at the MAMAs. Bands can submit music and fans can log in and vote on their favorites in a comparative setting.

For additional information contact Bob Batyko at bob@spare-timebluegrass.com

Music Of The Heart - Patti Graham

By Sandy Nowack

Before I moved back to Wisconsin from Oklahoma - just about five months ago now - I had a conversation with my friend, Scotty, a dobro player. I was worried that I wouldn't find musicians to play with here and Scotty assured me that "They have bluegrass way up there too". About three weeks after I moved here, I discovered Scotty was right.

My first excursion among Wisconsin bluegrassers was the Monday night jam at Madison's Dry Bean Saloon. I went intending to lurk behind the scenes; I didn't even take my guitar. I immediately noticed a woman at the center of much of the music - a dobro player with Hazel Dickens-esque harmonies. Later, I saw her gather several women and head for the door. I heard her say something about 'Girls' Grass'.

"Did I just hear you say Girls Grass?" I asked her. She smiled and said, "Yeah, and you look like a musician, Come on and practice with us."

So that's how on my first Monday night jam, I ended up singing in front of a microphone for the first time in my life. For the record, it was the Carter Family's 'Keep On The Sunny Side'. I now know that the singing dobro player was Patti Graham, and I'm so grateful she reached out to bring me into the fold.

In this short time, I've seen countless examples of how effectively Patti Graham uses her musical gifts to enrich the lives of those around her. I have come to know her as an enthusiastic cheerleader for women in bluegrass, a passion which is reflected on her truck's bumper sticker. Patti wrangles, soothes and encourages other musicians, without regard for the quality of their voices or playing ability.

Since that first Monday, I've seen her take her magic to an area nursing home. Patti had arranged a performance in the nursing home dining hall. Upon our arrival, I'd seen one elderly woman who was obviously new to the facility. The grieving woman clung tearfully to the nurse's aide who wheeled her into the room. Eventually though, the music soothed and then transformed the woman. She smiled, clapped and sang along. At the end of the evening, she grasped our hands in thanks, declaring the music was just what she'd needed.

Like many people Patti Graham came back to bluegrass after a tragedy in her life. Perhaps that's why she so clearly sees its potential for providing joy and peace. She uses the music regularly in her work as a nursing assistant at the local hospice facility. She sings to and with people as she cares for them and as they experience death. Patti recently shared a young woman's last song, 'Dance With Me Once Again Darling, as she put her arms around the woman to move her from the bed. She returned to the hospice center in her off-hours to sing for the family as the woman's body was escorted from her room.

Bluegrass musicians understand what the music does for the performers; Patti Graham knows what it does for others in need. She is an inspiration to all of us.



Center: Sandy (guitar) and Patti (dobro) at the Orfordville jam



From our neighbors . . .

Bluegrass in the Schools Artist Training Coming to Harvest Jamboree in Minneapolis

In an effort to reach more young people with bluegrass music IBMA, in conjunction with the Minnesota Bluegrass & Old Time Music Association (MBOTMA), will host a Bluegrass in the Schools Training for Artists at the new Harvest Jamboree scheduled for Nov. 3-4, 2006 in Minneapolis.

The goal for these new regional trainings, hosted at major bluegrass festivals or association events across the country, is to give local musicians and bands (along with interested event producers and association leaders) some tools to develop effective educational bluegrass programs for students.

The workshop will be held on Saturday, Nov. 4, from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. in Workshop Room A at the Marriott Minneapolis West in Minneapolis, Minn. during the Harvest Jamboree. Attendees will receive a Bluegrass in the Schools Certificate of Participation for the training session.

The Bluegrass in the Schools session will be part of a comprehensive workshop series designed by MBOTMA, intended specifically for bands that want to develop their performance and business skills. Entire bands or individual musicians representing local or touring bands are welcome and encouraged to attend any of these workshops. There will be no additional fee for the workshops other than the purchase of a festival ticket for the day they take place.

Nancy Cardwell from IBMA will be joined by Phil Nusbaum, Ph.D. and Bob Bovee & Gail Heil (a old-time band with several years experience in presenting programs at schools), at the Bluegrass in the Schools Training for Artists. Course content will include information on current IBMA tools available and a "tip sheet" of advice compiled from more than a dozen experienced bands with ideas on how to develop and present educational bluegrass programs for students. Also included in the program will be a live demonstration of a presentation for students, info on relating to students at different ages, suggestions on how to book Bluegrass in the Schools programs in local schools, ideas about how to fund school presentations and a Q&A session.

You may register for the training on site, Nov. 4. For more info on course content contact IBMA at 888-438-4262 or nancyc@ibma.org. For more info on the Harvest Jamboree, go to <http://www.minnesotabluegrass.org/>

Sail with Friends!

Monroe Crossing invites you to escape the long cold winter and join us in the Bahamas, February 4-8, 2007, for the Bell Buckle Music Cruise. Leave your snow shovels behind and come sail with friends, pick some bluegrass, explore the islands of the Bahamas and relax in the Caribbean sun.

The Bands:

It's a Bluegrass Festival at Sea hosted by Valerie Smith & Liberty Pike, with The Lonesome River Band, Randy Kohrs & The Lites, Ernie Evans, Smokey Greene, The Riverbend Bluegrass Band, Swinging Bridge and Monroe Crossing.

The Ship:

We will be sailing on Carnival Cruise Line's SENSATION. The SENSATION is 855 feet and over 70 tons of boat. It can hold over 2000 people with a staff of 920.

As of two weeks ago, there were less than 40 rooms still available for the Bell Buckle Music Cruise, so we recommend you make your reservations immediately. Tickets from \$699 (double occupancy) include all concerts, workshops & jamming, all meals & shipboard activities. For reservations, call Celebration Travel at 800-426-1994, ask for the Bell Buckle Music Cruise, and be sure to tell them Monroe Crossing sent you.

For more info, visit : <http://www.monroecrossing.com/bluegrasscruise.html>



Songwriting Competition . . .

The International Songwriting Competition has extended its submission deadline, so if you haven't already entered, you still have a chance. If you've already entered and want to submit additional songs, you still have the opportunity to do so. This is the **FINAL deadline**. There will be no further extension. All entries must be posted on or before November 17, 2006. ISC will continue to take online entries, as well as entries through the mail; the online submission platform will be open until 11:59 p.m. EST, November 17. ISC gives away over \$150,000 in cash and prizes to 56 winners. The Overall Grand Prize includes \$25,000 (US) in cash - the largest cash Grand Prize of any songwriting competition in the world - and \$20,000 in prizes. ISC is open to all levels of amateur and professional songwriters throughout the world.

ISC has the most prestigious panel of judges in any songwriting competition, offering a rare opportunity for songwriters and artists throughout the world to have their songs heard by judges which include the **top executives of 14 record labels** and legendary recording artists such as **Tom Waits, Brian Wilson (Beach Boys), Robert Smith (the Cure), Jerry Lee Lewis, John Scofield, John Mayall, and Rosanne Cash**, just to name a few. Scroll down for a complete list of 2006 ISC judges.

How To Enter The 2006 Competition

You may submit as many songs as you would like into any of the following categories: AAA, Americana, Blues, Jazz, Dance/Electronica, Latin, R&B/Hip-Hop, Folk/Singer-Songwriter, Lyrics Only, Rock, Children's Music, Gospel/Christian, Performance, Teen, Country, Instrumental, Pop/Top 40, and World Music. You may also submit the same song into multiple categories.

For FAQ's about ISC, please click [here](#).

If you choose to mail in your entry, please make sure to include the following:

1. ISC 2006 Entry Form (Click [here](#) for entry form or call 615.251.4441)
2. Your song(s) on a CD or cassette tape. No recording is necessary for the Lyrics Only category.
3. Two copies of the lyrics for each song (unless entering an instrumental song)
4. Entry fee (US \$30 per song per category). For example, if you enter one song in one category, the fee is \$30. One song in two categories is \$60. If you enter two songs in the same category (or in different categories), the fee is \$60. If you enter three songs in different categories, the fee is \$90, and so forth.

Mail your entry to:

International Songwriting Competition
1307 Eastland Ave
Nashville, TN 37206

To Enter ISC Online:

Powered by Sonicbids, ISC's online submission process is convenient and easy. Just fill out a form online and upload your songs as MP3s. All online entrants will receive a complimentary six-month membership to Sonicbids. If you would like to enter online, start your online entry process [here](#).

Please read the complete rules and regulations for the 2006 competition, and feel free to contact our office if you have any questions, need more information or would like an entry form sent to you.

It's an Evening of Bluegrass and Laughs when

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MEET



'ROUND THE BEND



At the Stoughton Opera House

November 18, 2006 7:30 pm

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\$10 series/\$12 single

The proceeds from this event directly benefit the Stoughton Opera House.



Getting Down to Business . . .

Southern Wisconsin Bluegrass Music Association, Inc. Board Meeting Minutes (condensed), September 5, 2006

Present: Doug Hodge, Ellis Bauman, Catherine Rhyner, Carolyn Hegeler, Mary Helmke, Nancy Nikora, Sandy Nowack and Sharon Manion

Regrets: Marilyn Carien

Absent: Jim Maginnis, Jon Peik, and Mike Schmidt

The meeting was called to order at 5:40 p.m. by Doug.

The minutes from the August 1, 2006 meeting were accepted.

The treasurer's report had been distributed via e-mail prior to the meeting by Jon for the board's review. Total assets as of August 30, 2006 were \$12,837.52.

Doug made a motion to accept two new board members, Nancy Nikora and Sandy Nowack, which was unanimously approved by the board.

Carolyn provided an update on the Heritage Concert which included information on the concert's budget and a review of the allocation of tickets.

Ellis provided an update on Blue Highway which he was planning on meeting with Bob P. from Charter to discuss future activity between us. Doug and Nancy agreed to be involved with this meeting which Ellis will set up.

The director of the Lussier Center contacted Carolyn regarding its October 6th Harvest Moon Festival which will include food and a campfire songfest. SWBMAI was invited to have a presence there, i.e. flyers, tickets, etc. Discussion on providing musicians to help with the songfest and volunteers to be there with tickets and flyers followed.

Mary reported that she had been in contact with Channel 3 regarding submitting material for the Madison's Sesquicentennial 50-year Time Capsule and she will see that our material is submitted by the deadline of September 15.

Doug reported that a table will be set up at the East Troy Festival to hand out material on the Heritage Concert and the SWBMAI association. The table will be staffed by board members.

Ellis gave us an update on our tax status. He had been in contact with the Madison Community Foundation who suggested that we talk to an accountant or lawyer and several names were given to him. Ellis will contact both to see if either is willing to work with us on changing our tax status and possibly come to a future meeting to discuss our options.

Sharon reported when she had contacted Rick Tvedt of Rick's Café for Heritage sponsorship, he had asked if there would be someone interested in representing bluegrass music and work with Madison Area Music Association (MAMA) and there spring music awards. Doug will contact Bob Batyko to see if he may be interested.

The next meeting will be October 3, 2006 at 5:30 p.m. at the Coliseum Bar.

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RHONDA VINCENT & RAGE
Saturday

"Premiere Male Vocalist"



MARTY RAYBON BAND
Friday (2 Shows)

"From Virginia"



NOTHIN' FANCY
Friday (2 Shows)

"2005 IBMA Entertainers"



CHERRYHOLMES
Saturday

"Roy Thomson"



DRY BRANCH FIRE SQUAD
Saturday/Sunday

"2004 Showcase Winners"



THE BANKSTER FAMILY
Saturday Evening/Sunday

"From North Carolina"



BLUERIDGE
Friday (2 Shows)

"Dr. Banjo"



PETE & JOAN WERNICK
Friday

The Crowne Plaza Convention Hotel and adjoining Holiday Inn Express in Springfield, Illinois, offer a total of 428 sleeping rooms with ample parking. The properties are located off I-55 at Exit 94. The Crowne Plaza Grand Ballroom has concert seating for 1500 music fans. The 24-Hour Pickin' Area is a 20,000-sq. ft. room and has a \$5.00 weekend donation or concert ticket required. No smoking or alcohol in the Pickin' Area. Not responsible for any accidents or theft.

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Program	Time	Admission
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Saturday Morning Talent Show	10:30 am - noon	Pickin' Pass or \$5.00
Saturday Evening	7:00 pm	\$39.00
Sunday Concert	10:00 am	\$39.00
WEEKEND PASS - GENERAL ADMISSION (ALL SHOWS)		\$75.00
WEEKEND PASS - RESERVED SEAT (No available)	ALL SHOWS	\$99.00
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Lots of Jams . . . Sept.-Oct. 2006 Call ahead just to be sure. For a great jam, bring your pickin' pals!

Every Monday

Dry Bean Saloon, 6:30-10:30pm, 5264 Verona Rd., Madison, WI (608-752-6321 or dhodge@merr.com) Host: Doug Hodge

Newgrass Jam, 6-10pm, Bar Next Door, 222 E. Olin Ave. Madison, WI - just off John Nolen Drive next to Jingles. Host: Spencer Walts (Info: eyewerks@tds.net)

Every Tuesday:

Learner Jam at The Coliseum Bar, 232 E. Olin Ave. Madison, WI 7-10pm, Just off John Nolen Drive. SWBMAI sponsored instruction on first Tuesday, 7:30-9pm by Jon Peik, \$5.00 donation for instructor requested. Other weeks are facilitated without charge. (Info: Catherine 608-835-8117 or helmkeml@verizon.net)

Every Wednesday

Northland Ballroom, 8-11pm, HWY 49 (at CTY C) between Rosholt & Iola, WI (715-884-6996 or 715-677-3491) Hosts: Art & Stephanie Stevenson with Dale Reichert

Emily's Restaurant, 8-11pm, Cedar Creek, WI. (262-677-0138 or www.emilysrestaurant.com)

Every Saturday

Culvers, 1-4:30 pm Acoustic Music Jam Session, Culvers, Coon Rapids Blvd NW, Coon Rapids, MN. Free (Barb 763-784-7881 or www.MinnesotaBluegrass.org)

Escape Java Joint & Gallery, 8pm - midnight, 916 Williamson St., Madison, WI (608-255-0997), Host: Stephen Lee Rich

1st Saturday

Riley Tavern, 2pm, 8205 Klevenville-Riley Rd., Mt. Horeb, WI (608-845-9150) Take CTH PD to CTH J between Mt. Horeb & Verona. Host: Archie Lowman

1st Sunday

Orfordville American Legion, 12pm-6pm. Orfordville, WI (608-897-4286) On Hwy 213 S, just south of Hwy 11. Please note the December date is December 10, January is January 7, 2007. (Last jam will be June 3, 2007, to restart in Oct.) Host: Fritz Jaggi

Life Spring Coffee Shop, 1-4pm, 7578 Hwy 51, Minocqua, WI. Host: Rich Gadow (715-588-9498) (www.headforthe-dome.com)

2nd Saturday

R.H. Landmark Saloon, 3pm, 138 S. Main St. Jefferson, WI. Host: John Short (920-563-7441)

2nd Saturday

Spring Green General Store, 3-6 pm, 137 S. Albany St., Spring Green, WI. Host: Paul Bentzen (608-588-7070 or www.springgreengeneralstore.com)

2nd Sunday

Hazelhurst (Yawkey) Town Hall, 1-5pm, Hwy 51, Hazelhurst, WI. Host: Keith Justice (715-356-3793)

Borders Books-Milwaukee Jam, 2-5pm, River Point Shopping Center, Bayside, WI. (414-961-0660) Take I-43, exit Brown Deer Rd.

2nd & 4th Sunday

Park View Manor, 1:30-4pm, Rock St., Viroqua, WI (except December) (David Peterson 608-637-3820)

2nd & 4th Thursday

Books 'N Brew, 7-9pm, Milton, WI. (608-868-3371, Maureen)

2nd and 4th Friday

Harmony Bar Open Jam with The StringRays, 9:30 pm, 2201 Atwood Ave. Madison, WI (608-249-4333) Hosts: The StringRays

3rd Saturday

Grove Bar & Restaurant, 1-5pm, Poplar Grove, IL, fiddler@direcway.com) Host: Poplar Grove Jam Band

3rd Sunday

Chestnut Avenue Center for the Arts, 1-4pm, 208 S. Chestnut Ave., Marshfield, WI. Host: Roman Stauber and Max Winkels (715-676-2305 or maxwinkels@commplus.net or stauber.roman@marshfieldclinic.org)

3rd Tuesday

Hartland Music, 7-9 pm, 1125 James Dr., Harland WI. off Hwy 83, just south of Hwy 16 (rwschwartz@aol.com)

Last Sunday

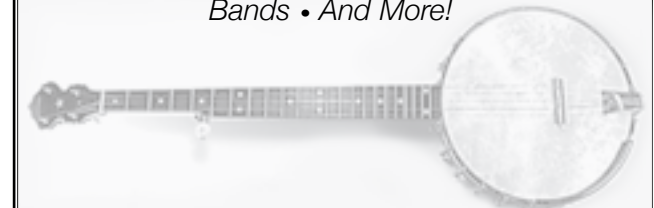
Tom's Garage, 1-5pm, Appleton, WI (920-882-2183 or www.toms-garage.com) Host: The Acoustic Buffalo.

Last Monday

Fellowship Hall of United Methodist Church-Acoustic Music Jam Session, 7-10 pm, 4405 Oakland Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN Free, (Roy 612-822-1926 or www.MinnesotaBluegrass.org)

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Events in Other States . . . November/December 2006

Arizona

Nov 10-12 **Four Corner States Bluegrass Festival**, Wichenberg, AZ
(Info: Julie Brooks,928-684-5479 or 928-684-0977)

Arkansas

Nov 17-18 **16th Annual Midwest Promoters Showcase of Bands**, Springdale, AR
(Info: Chuck Stearman,660-665-7172, www.spbgma.com)

Florida

Dec 1-3 **10th Annual Bonita Springs Lions Charities, Inc. Bluegrass Festival**, Bonita Springs, FL
(Info:Ken Shivel,239-992-0154)

Georgia

Nov 10-11 **Marietta Bluegrass Festival** (Info: Jack Masters, 770-961-5974, www.JackGrass.com)
Dec 28-30 **31st Annual New Year's Bluegrass Festival**, Jekyll Island, GA (Info: Norman Adams, 706-864-7203, www.aandabluegrass.com)

Illinois

Nov 8-10 **Pete Wernick (Dr. Banjo) Bluegrass Jam Camp**, Springfield, IL (Info: www.DrBanjo.com)
Nov 10-12 **20th Annual Greater Down-State Indoor Bluegrass Festival**, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Jacksonville, IL
(Info: 217-243-3159,e-mail: info@bluegrassmidwest.com)
Mar 23-25, 07 **13th Annual Naperville Indoor Bluegrass Music Festival**, Naperville, IL
(Info: www.bluegrassmidwest.com)

Iowa

Nov 24-26 **Newton Thanksgiving Weekend Bluegrass Festival**, Newton, IA (Info: www.spbgma.com)

Minnesota

Nov 3-4 **MBOTMA's New Harvest Jamboree**, Marriott, Minneapolis West, Minneapolis, MN
(Info: www.Minnesota Bluegrass.org)
Nov 17 **The DitchLilies CD Release party**, 9-11pm,The 331 Bar, 331 13th Ave NE Minneapolis, MN
(Info: 612-331-1746)

Missouri

April - Nov **Friday & Saturday nights Lake Wappapello Outdoor Theatre**, Wappapello, MO
(Info: John Worley or Shelley McClintock, 573-222-8083, 573-820-4138)
Nov 17-18 **25th Land of Mark Twain Bluegrass Festival**, Hannibal, MO (Info: Erma Spray, 573-853-4344, e-mail: edspray@marktwain.net)
Jan 12-14, 07 **33rd Annual SPBGMA Bluegrass Music Awards**, Jefferson City, MO (Info: www.spbgma.com)
Feb 23-25, 07 **17th Annual Gateway City Indoor Bluegrass Music Festival**, St.Louis, MO
(info: www.bluegrassmidwest.com)

Ohio

Nov 17-18 **Southern Ohio Indoor Music Festival**, Wilmington, OH (Info: Joe Mullins, 937-372-5804, e-mail:info@somusicfest.com or www.somusicfest.com)

South Carolina

Nov 23-25 **37th Annual South Carolina State Bluegrass Festival**, Myrtle Beach, SC (Info: Norman Adams, 706-864-7203, www.aandabluegrass.com)



Places to Go . . . November/December 2006

November

- 1 **Nob Hill Boys**, 3-5pm, Oakwood Village West, 6209 Mineral Point Rd., Madison, WI (Info: John Fabke, 438-3981)
- 3 **Monroe Crossing**, 7-11pm, The Grand Event Center with The Bridgewater Ramblers, Northfield MN
(Info: 507-663-1773)
- 3-5 **Stringalong Weekend Retreat**, Oconomowoc, WI (Info:1-800-229-4622 or www.StringalongWeekend.com)
- 4 **Nob Hill Boys**, 8pm, Cedarburg Cultural Center, Cedarburg, WI, (Info: www.cedarburgculturalcenter.org)
- 4 **Round The Bend**, Duck Soup Cinema, Overture Center, Madison, WI (www.overturecenter.com)
- 11 **Dan Paisley & The Southern Grass**, Two Rivers, WI (Info: 920-794-7258 or www.bluegrassbrad.org)
- 11 **Ditchlilies**, 8-10pm, Gelly's Pub and Eatery, Stockholm, WI (Info:715-442-2023)
- 17 **Ditchlilies**, 9-11pm, The 331 Bar, Minneapolis, MN (Info: 612-331-1746)
- 18 **Ole and Sven Meet Bluegrass Round the Bend**, Stoughton Opera House, Stoughton, WI
(Info:608-877-4400, www.stoughtonoperahouse.com)
- 18 **Straight Up Bluegrass & Pickin' Up Speed**, 7pm-?,Wild Grove Bluegrass Night at the Wild Grove Roastery and Coffeehouse, Milwaukee, WI (Info: 414-961-0660)
- 19 **SpareTime Bluegrass**, 4-7pm, Hody Bar, Middleton, WI

December

- 2 **New Pioneers**, 8:30pm, Cafe Carpe, Ft. Atkinson, WI, (Info: www.cafecarpe.com or 920-563-9391)
- 2 **The Dirty Shirts with Owen Temple**, 9:30pm, Crystal Corner Bar, Madison, WI
- 2 **SpareTime Bluegrass**, 7-10pm, Tyraneena Brewery, Lake Mills, WI
- 9 **Valerie Smith & Liberty Pike**, Two Rivers, WI (Info: 920-794-7258 or www.bluegrassbrad.org)
- 16 **Cream City & Pickin' Up Speed**, 7pm-?, Wild Grove Bluegrass Night at the Wild Grove Roastery and Coffeehouse, Milwaukee, WI (Info: 414-961-0660)
- 31 **SpareTime Bluegrass**, New Years Eve For Geezers, 7-9pm, Roxbury Tavern, Roxbury, WI

January 2007

- 20 **Liberty Bluegrass Band & Pickin Up Speed**, 7pm-?,Wild Grove Bluegrass Night at the Wild Grove Roastery and

Chicago Shows Featuring Peter Rowan And Tony Rice And Jerry Douglas

Jorge Alva-Huerto sent this notice to share with the membership about two great shows coming to Chicago. Both shows are going to be at :

Old Town Fok School

4544 N. Lincoln Avenue
Chicago, IL 60625
For more information: www.oldtownschool.org

Saturday November 18 - 7pm and 10 pm Peter Rowan and Tony Rice

Grammy-award winner Peter Rowan went from playing alongside Bill Monroe in the Bluegrass Boys to forming Old & In The Way with David Grisman, Jerry Garcia, Vassar Clements and John Kahn. Arguably the finest flat-picking guitarist of all time, Tony Rice is revered as perhaps the single most important bluegrass guitarist alive.

Saturday December 2 - 7 pm and 10 pm Jerry Douglas

Jerry Douglas is widely acknowledged as America's foremost master of the dobro. The nine-time Grammy winner is a freewheeling, forward-thinking recording artist whose output draws upon a bottomless well of musical inspiration, incorporating elements of bluegrass, country, rock jazz, blues and Celtic into his distinctive musical vision.