



# IdaGrass

Volume 13 Issue 2

March – April 2017

## UPCOMING BLUEGRASS EVENTS

### TREASURE VALLEY BLUEGRASS NIGHT

April 21, 2017

7:00 pm

Nampa Senior Center, Nampa, ID

### BLUEGRASS GUITAR WORKSHOP

May 6, 2017

Slocum Hall, Weiser, ID

Contact: Gary Eller at 208-284-4700 or

email: [pgaryeller@aol.com](mailto:pgaryeller@aol.com)

### SHAPE NOTE SINGING WORKSHOP

May 13, 2017

Slocum Hall, Weiser, ID

Contact: Gary Eller at 208-284-4700 or

email: [pgaryeller@aol.com](mailto:pgaryeller@aol.com)

### BLUEGRASS BANJO CAMP

May 18, 19, 20, 21, 2017

Slocum Hall, Weiser, ID

Contact: Gary Eller at 208-284-4700 or

email: [pgaryeller@aol.com](mailto:pgaryeller@aol.com)

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The purpose of the Idaho Sawtooth Bluegrass Association:

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

## **NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

### **Treasure Valley Bluegrass Night:**

In the tradition of "Bluegrass in the Barn" the Idaho Sawtooth Bluegrass Association (ISBA) is presenting an evening of bluegrass music featuring "Hickory Bluff" and "False Bottom String Band" opening at the Nampa Senior Center on Friday, April 21st at 7:00 pm. Both groups play a great mix of traditional bluegrass, old time and gospel music. Admission is \$10.00, children 12 and under are free. The Senior Center is located at 207 Constitution Way, Nampa, ID (near 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Iowa next to St. Alphonsus Hospital). For more information call: 208-377-5326 or visit the association web site at <http://idahosawtoothbluegrass.org/>

There is always a good jam happening somewhere. It is also time to start planning and putting together the next Kamiah Spring Super Jam. The jam doesn't just happen, and it takes a few good people to step up and volunteer to help with it, and we need some people who love Bluegrass music to help out again this year. We need new ideas and perspectives to build on what we've done in the past. So if you are interested in helping out with organizing the event for this coming year, I would like to hear from you. Even if you would like to just comment on what we've done in the past. We do not always know what is liked by the attendees unless we get feedback.

The more committee members we have on the committee, the less work has to be done by just one person. This will be the 11<sup>th</sup> year for this event, and I am proud to have enjoyed and been a part of it for many of those years. I am planning our first Committee meeting, so if you are interested in joining the committee or just want to come and see what goes on, give me a call at 208-816-1263.

Best Regards  
Randy Berg

## **AND ONE FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD**

### Chairman's Corner

Dear ISBA Members,  
By the time you read this report, the ISBA will have completed its third Treasure Valley Bluegrass Night at the Nampa senior center. Attendance at the February show was more than two times what we had in January, thanks to the more favorable weather conditions. Hickory Bluff, our ISBA house band, delivered their usual top notch performance and The Reeder Family Band, our guest performers, gave us a nice mix of bluegrass, folk and fiddle music.

Our third TVBN on March 24th was a moderate success. Over 40 dedicated bluegrass fans showed up in spite of the rainy weather.

Hickory Bluff came through again with their usual grade A performance. We can always count on them for some good old traditional bluegrass music. The Story Tellers provided a mix of interesting and very enjoyable folk, old time and original songs. Gary Eller, the historian of this group, pleased the audience with his talk and songs about Idaho's rivers, steamboats and trains.

Two of the board member wives brought cookies and sweet breads to go along with coffee during intermission. That seemed to be a hit with many of the folks in attendance. Any of you other ladies who would like to share your baking talents, feel free to bring your creations to our next event.

Mark your calendars now for the next TVBN on April 21st and then on May 12th. Please tell all your friends about the ISBA Treasure Valley Bluegrass Night (TVBN). We would like to see 100 people at future events.

Hope you are making plans to come to the Spring Super Jam at Kamiah on June 2nd, 3rd and 4th.

### **AND ON A VERY SAD NOTE.....**

We received the sad news that John Limehouse, past co-editor of IdaGrass, passed away on Sunday, March 26, at his home in White Bird with loving wife Priscilla by his side. A good friend & true American patriot, Johnny will be missed by all those who knew him.

That's all for now,  
Stan Strickland

### **FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK**

Winter has come to an end and thank goodness for that! It was a tough one but we now look forward to a beautiful Spring and Summer. The grasses, flowers and trees are all coming back to life and all the little creatures are scampering about, letting us all know that there is hope and life renewed!

We now look forward to all the upcoming events, workshops, campouts, contests and music, music, music!

Due to all the events happening in the next couple months, the next issue of this newsletter will be coming out within the first two weeks of May. So, if anybody has any articles or suggestions for the newsletter, please do not hesitate to contact me. I will be starting on any articles submitted immediately.

You can reach me by email at:

[admin@fiddlecontest.com](mailto:admin@fiddlecontest.com)

Thank You - Aimee Burdette

**ONGOING BLUEGRASS JAMS—  
IDAHO BLUEGRASS ASSOCIATION**

**Beginners' Jam every Wednesday**

A beginner bluegrass jam is held on Wednesdays from 6:30 to 9pm in the Pioneer Building (106 N 6th St), right next to Wise Guys Pizza (Main and 6th)

**Intermediate Jam every Thursday**

From 6:30 to 9pm in the Pioneer Building (address above)

**Open Jam at Boise/Meridian KOA  
RV Park**

Meridian, Idaho  
Every Tuesday 7 – 9:30 pm

**ONGOING ISBA SPONSORED  
BLUEGRASS JAMS**

**Middle Zone Jam:**

On the first and third Thursday of each month at Stan and Trudee Strickland's home in Boise. 7-9 PM. Call for details: Stan Strickland 208-377-5326.

**Northern Zone Jam:**

On the third Sunday of the month at the Lenore Store on Highway 12, from 1-4 PM.  
Call for details: Steve Gleason at 208-553-1597

**The Saturday jam at Jack in the Box is on hiatus until further notice.**

**Southern Zone Jam:**

On the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month, 7-9 PM, downstairs at Gertie's Pizza in Twin Falls. Call for details: John Boyer at 208-733-4552

**FIDDLEVIDEO.COM JOINS THE ONLINE  
INSTRUCTION FIELD**

Revolutions can sweep away what came before them in swift and surprising ways, and we see that in the manner that music education has changed in the digital and internet age. New companies appear on a regular basis that take advantage of technological innovations that can bring the most qualified instructors right into your home, who will play a difficult piece over and over for you without a complaint.

[Fiddlevideo.com](http://Fiddlevideo.com) is just such an outfit, focusing exclusively on teaching tunes and techniques for players of traditional fiddle music. They embrace the breadth of musical styles that have emerged from the Celtic heritage, including Irish and Scottish fiddling, Canadian, Cape Breton, old time, and bluegrass music. Four instructors have created lessons that cover basic and style-specific techniques, plus more than 100 tunes taught in great detail. They use the membership model whereby all of the content on the site is available for

FIDDLEVIDEO.COM (cont.)

viewing online to subscribers for as little as \$35/month. All videos on the site can be played back at different speeds to make critical study of hand positions easier, with split screen presentation showing the left and right hands in close up detail.

Instructors include master Irish fiddler Kevin Burke, US National Scottish fiddle champ Hanneke Cassel, US bluegrass/old time fiddler Casey Willis, and Canadian Métis/Québécois fiddler Patti Kusturok.

Even non-subscribers can view the performance videos for each tune, but the beginner and advanced tutorial videos, audio practice tracks and sheet music are restricted to members. But, they do offer a three-day free trial membership without all the bells and whistles to give potential subscribers a chance to test drive site the before committing.

Tunes can be selected by style, by instructor, by difficulty, or by tune form. Fiddlevideo.com also hosts an active discussion forum where members can ask each other questions or simply engage in online fiddle chat.

More details can be found by reading the FAQ at [www.fiddlevideo.com](http://www.fiddlevideo.com)

John Lawless, *Bluegrass Express*,  
3 August 2016

## **Treasure Valley Bluegrass Night**

**April 21, 2017 7:00pm**

**Nampa Senior Center**

**207 Constitution Way, Nampa, ID**

**Adults \$10.00 12 and under free**



**Featuring Hickory Bluff  
and**



**False Bottom String Band**

***Presented by the Idaho Sawtooth Bluegrass Association***

**<http://idahosawtoothbluegrass.org/>**

# BLUEGRASS GUITAR WORKSHOP

**Weiser, Idaho      Saturday May 6, 2017**



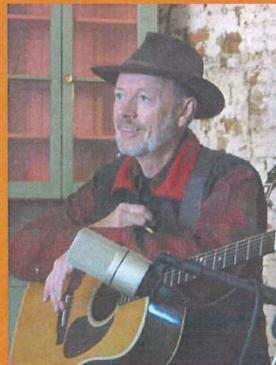
At historic Slocum Hall, home of the National Old Time Fiddle Contest

For workshop details see:  
[www.banjocontest.org](http://www.banjocontest.org)

- experienced instructors
- for beginner and intermediate students
- 5pm instructor concert
- evening jam session
- parallel rhythm and lead guitar classes (9am-4pm)
- limited to thirty students
- \$50 tuition



**Glen Garrett**  
instructor (rhythm)



**Gary Eller**  
camp organizer and  
Instructor (lead)

# SHAPE NOTE GOSPEL HARMONY WORKSHOP

**WEISER, IDAHO**

**Saturday, May 13, 2017**



At historic Slocum Hall, home of the National Old Time Fiddle Contest

**For workshop details:**

**<https://sites.google.com/site/weiserbanjo/home>**

**or**

**[pgaryeller@aol.com](mailto:pgaryeller@aol.com)**

- experienced instructor
- prior musical knowledge not required
- all welcome, including families and quartets

- instruction 9am-4pm
- 7:00pm Saturday evening gospel sing



**Glen Garrett**

**instructor**



**Gary Eller**

**workshop organizer**

**\$30 tuition**

**\$20 18 and under  
or 65 and older**

**\$50 couples**

 <p><b>Weiser</b> <b>Banjo</b> Camp &amp; Contest <a href="http://www.banjocontest.org">www.banjocontest.org</a></p>	<p align="center"><b>2017 WEISER BANJO CONTEST</b>                  Beardsley Hall Lawn at the Intermountain Institute.                  Bring your lawn chairs.                  Free admission but donations appreciated to cover contest costs.                  Audience participation encouraged in novelty contests.</p>
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<u>Saturday June 17</u>	<u>Banjo Events</u>	<u>Novelty Events</u>
2:00-4:30pm	Banjo Open Mike	Sugar Beet Throwing Contest
6:00-8:30	Intermediate Banjo Contest	Air Banjo Contest
<u>Sunday June 18</u>		
2:00-4:30pm	Advanced Banjo Contest	Crazy Things I've Seen Humans Do Contest
6:00-8:30pm	Banjo plus Fiddle Contest	Hog Calling Contest
Immediately after banjo+ fiddle contest	Banjo / Fiddle "war" across Paddock Avenue	
Immediately after banjo/fiddle "war"	World's longest continuous banjo jam begins at Slocum Hall	

**Banjo contest registration on Sat./Sun. mornings at Slocum Hall Information Center.**  
**Late banjo contest registration at the events (space permitting).**  
**Novelty contest signup at the events.**  
**Banjo contest rules at Slocum Hall Information Center and [www.banjocontest.com](http://www.banjocontest.com) .**

<b>Contest prizes:</b>	
Intermediate Banjo (1 <sup>st</sup> /2 <sup>nd</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup> )	\$40/30/20 + handmade Idaho fruit pie
Advanced Banjo (1 <sup>st</sup> /2 <sup>nd</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup> )	\$50/40/30 + handmade Idaho fruit pie
Banjo + Fiddle (1 <sup>st</sup> /2 <sup>nd</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup> )	\$100/80/60 + handmade Idaho fruit pie
Novelty Contests (1 <sup>st</sup> /2 <sup>nd</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup> )	small handmade pie/gag prize/gag prize

**DUES INFORMATION AND MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

City\_\_\_\_\_State\_\_\_\_\_Zip\_\_\_\_\_

Phone\_\_\_\_\_Email Address\_\_\_\_\_

IdaGrass, the ISBA newsletter, is offered either in email or printed letter format. Using email saves the Association the cost of postage and printing. We want you to receive the newsletter in whichever format you prefer. To offset production and mailing costs, membership dues for those electing USPS hard copy of the newsletter are \$20.00. For those members choosing email delivery, annual dues are \$15.00 for an individual or family.

I would like to receive the newsletter:     Email                       US Postal Service

I am joining as:                                       New Member       Renewal

Date:\_\_\_\_\_

Yearly membership runs April-April.

Please mail to:    **Idaho Sawtooth Bluegrass Association**  
**c/o Rich Johnson**  
**1544 W Dakota Loop**  
**Nampa, ID 83686**

**Have ideas, comments, questions, or concerns?  
Want to get involved? Here's your Board of Directors:**

**Northern Zone**

Randy Berg, Orofino  
[rlberg@live.com](mailto:rlberg@live.com)  
Bodie Domiguez, Clarkston  
[bdominguez2001@yahoo.com](mailto:bdominguez2001@yahoo.com)  
John Lazzarini, Lenore  
[jlazzarini@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jlazzarini@sbcglobal.net)

**Southern Zone**

John Boyer, Twin Falls  
[boyerj1@mindspring.com](mailto:boyerj1@mindspring.com)

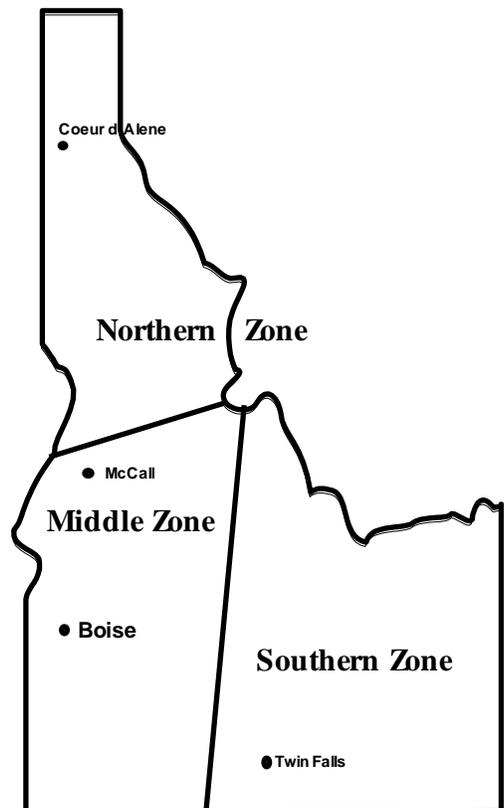
**Middle Zone**

Bill Estes, Star  
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Doug Jenkins, Nampa  
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**Webmaster:** Carolyn Johnson, Boise  
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**Membership:** Rich Johnson, Boise  
[Johnsonr46@hotmail.com](mailto:Johnsonr46@hotmail.com)

**Newsletter:** Aimee Burdette, Weiser  
[admin@fiddlecontest.com](mailto:admin@fiddlecontest.com)  
(208) 414-0255



**Check us out on the web:** [www.idahosawtoothbluegrass.org](http://www.idahosawtoothbluegrass.org)

