

# Central Texas BLUEGRASS Bulletin



VOLUME 27

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OCTOBER 2005

## MONROE'S MANDOLIN INDUCTED INTO HALL OF FAME

By Rod Moag

## New Members

The Piney Grove Ramblers  
Dana Kraft



On September 13 of 2005, a unique and very touching ceremony took place at the Country Music Hall of Fame in Nashville on the occasion of Bill Monroe's 94th birth anniversary. Through the good graces of a Nashville friend, this reporter was one of a crowd of some 400 special invitees who witnessed the induction of Bill Monroe's Gibson F5 mandolin into the HOF's permanent collection. Rickie Skaggs played the mandolin as he and Kentucky Thunder opened the program performing "Mother's Not Dead."

Speeches by various dignitaries of the Country Music Association followed, including remarks by current president Vince Gill and 30-year Grand Ole Opry director Bud Wendel. The mandolin was described by all as "Monroe's

musical partner," highlighting the role which the mandolin played in establishing what we know today as the classic bluegrass sound. James Monroe, from whom the instrument was purchased, also spoke and affirmed that his father's wish was for his mandolin to rest in the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum. Part of the arrangement for acquisition specified that terms of the agreement not be made public. Monroe last played the mandolin on the Opry on March 15, 1996, a few months before his passing on September 9 of that year.

Acquisition of Monroe's musical partner was arranged by philanthropist Bob McClain, who had also earlier arranged for Mother Maybelle Carter's famous Gibson guitar to be added to the HOF's collection. Various speakers recounted bits of the history of the mandolin—serial number 73987 signed by Lloyd Loar on July 9, 1923--purchased from a Miami Florida barber shop in 1945, the year that Monroe put together his classic band comprised of Lester Flatt, Earl Scruggs, Chubby Wise and Howard Watts. They recounted how Monroe had become upset with the Gibson company and scratched the Gibson name off the peghead, how the mandolin had been smashed to bits with a fireplace poker by an irate woman then meticulously reassembled by a master luthier, how Gibson had later restored the mandolin following Monroe's reconciliation with the company. Skaggs, still playing Monroe's mandolin, provided several further classic numbers,  
*continued on page 4...*



# CENTRAL TEXAS BLUEGRASS ASSOCIATION

For information on CTBA membership and activities, contact:

**Central Texas Bluegrass Association**  
P. O. Box 9816

Austin, Tx, 78766-9816

512-261-9440

email: ctba@centraltexasbluegrass.org  
www.centraltexasbluegrass.org

CTBA is a non-profit, tax-exempt  
501 (c) 3 Texas corporation

## **RANDALL'S GOOD NEIGHBOR PROGRAM**

The CTBA number for this program is 9735. If you sign up, Randall's will donate a percentage of your purchases to the CTBA!

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#### **Central Texas Bluegrass Bulletin**

Editor: Howard Hackney

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## *CTBA Artists and Bands* **BOOKING INFORMATION**

**Austin Lounge Lizards:** Tom Pittman 512-476-3991

**Austin Mandolin Orchestra** Joel Hobbs 512-833-5529

**Blazing Bows:** Mary Hattersley 512-873-8925 blazingbows@lycos.com

**BuffaloGrass:** Don Inbody, (512) 295-6977, don@inbody.net

**Cedar Break:** David Wilson 830-257-6043 cedarbreakmail@yahoo.com

**Cooper's Uncle:** 512-736-2644, coopersuncle@hotmail.com

**Cumberland Gap:** Gary Potter 979-690-6951 gdpotter@startel.net

**Eddie Collins:** 512-836-8255 tuneman@texas.net

**The Gray Sky Boys** Tom Ellis 512-442-1000

**Hard to Make a Living:** John Hood 512-376-7767 johnhood@grandecom.net

**Manchaca All-Stars:** B. Buchanan 512-282-2756 manchacaallstars@email.com

**Max Zimmet** Max Zimmet 512-327-6023

**Piney Grove Ramblers** Wayne Brooks, (512) 345-6609,  
wbrooks9@austin.rr.com

**Randy's Rangers** Jon or Sigi Field 512-868-2925 jrf@jrfnet.net

**Red Eye:** Randy Collier 512-423-70918 randyc@comp-utility.com

**Sarah Jarosz:** Sarah Jarosz 512-847-6104 mjarosz@austin.rr.com

**Sieker Band:** Rolf and Beate Sieker 512-733-2857 thesiekers@aol.com

**Stayton Bonner:** 512-431-8443 stayton@staytonbonner.com

**3rd Generation Gospelgrass** Brenda McGlothlin 830-914-4810  
threerationgospelgrass@juno.com

**Twangzilla:** Cory Hicks, 512-563-5584, info@twangzilla.net

**Wayward Pony:** Dale Albright 512-267-4969 dale-mandolin@austin.rr.com

**The Ledbetters** Spencer Drake 210-698-7062 kthdrake@wmconnect.com

**Out of the Blue** Jamie Stubblefield 512-295-5325 jamie5011@aol.com

Please note that you must have a CTBA band membership to be included in this listing. If you already are a CTBA member, simply send in the additional \$5.00 to become a CTBA band member

## **MONTHLY ADVERTISING RATES**

Full Page 7"x9"	\$30.00	1/4 page 3"x4"	\$12.50
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Take \$10.00 off above rates if you are a business member.

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Contact the editor at soapycows@hotmail.com for more info.

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*Bill Monroe, continued from page 1...*

with the Grasscals invited to join them to close the show with Uncle Pen. Immediately following the ceremony the mandolin was placed on permanent exhibit in a sealed glass case on the third floor of the HOF.

Also in the Hall of Fame for the next year is a "spotlight exhibit" on Earl Scruggs, sole survivor of the classic Monroe band of 1945-48, who was also in attendance at the ceremony. The exhibit features Earl's first banjo, costumes, other instruments and memorabilia. It's wonderful to see that the Country Music Association is giving such prominent recognition to some of our bluegrass stars.

This reporter had the Monroe mandolin in his own hands in 1955 when he met Monroe for the first time. A short four years later, the mandolin was hung around the neck of then six-year-old Ricky Skaggs during a Monroe performance at a school in Eastern Kentucky. Who knows how many hands have touched this fabled mandolin through the five decades that it was Monroe's musical partner.

## Central Texas Bluegrass! Volume 2

On [www.bluegrassblog.com](http://www.bluegrassblog.com)

The Central Texas Bluegrass Association has released their second CD of tunes from member bands. There are 23 tracks on the disc presented by thirteen bands/artists who are featured on the project including the Austion Lounge Lizards and Adam Wright the winner of several prestigious flatpicking championships such as Winfield, Merlefest, Rockygrass, Henderson, and the 2005 Texas State Flatpicking Championship.



The CTBA has been around since 1978 offering bluegrass lovers in central Texas a home.

### The Austin Center for the Treatment of Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder

Bruce Mansbridge, PhD  
Director

<http://austinocd.com>

Building 5, Suite 513  
4407 Bee Cave Road  
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Mobile 512 626-3900

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## The Best of Bluegrass (*Old Settler's Music Festival, continued from last month*)

Pillars of the bluegrass world like Doc Watson, Vassar Clements, Del McCoury, Tim O'Brian, Hot Rize, Peter Rowan, Alison Krause, David Grisman, and Bela Fleck have helped Old Settler's make its reputation as a premier bluegrass event. And while Old Settler's is known as a bluegrass festival, it embraces offshoots of the genre also.

The official music starts Thursday night over in the campground pavilion with a show just for the campers. The festival's main stages get going across the street on Friday afternoon, and go until midnight. Saturday it starts all over again, and the grounds fill with people relaxing on blankets, lawn chairs, and even the occasional hammock, as they sit back and enjoy the music.

There are also workshops during the weekend taught by the mainstage artists. Past attendees learned fiddle techniques from Vassar Clements and banjo licks from Bela Fleck. Watching and listening to the artists play together during the workshops is a show unto itself, a one of a kind event not to be missed. Best of all, the workshops are open to anyone who wants to show up and they're free to all festival attendees.

Before, during, and after the official stage acts, you'll find music in the campgrounds, too. For many, this big picking party is the best part of the festival, and they come from all over the U.S. to reconnect with friends from past years and listen and play. Even locals who could easily drive home opt to pitch a tent or hook up an RV so they can play music with friends (and new friends!) or wander the campground as listeners until the wee hours. (There's also a family camping area for those who prefer a quiet place to sleep).

Eat, Shop, Wade in the Water.

You won't go hungry while you're at the festival. The organizers make a point of finding food providers who offer a variety of tasty choices instead of the typical turkey legs and fried everything. Beer, soft drinks and water are available at two conveniently placed Watering Holes staffed by some of the 200+ volunteers.

Many festival fans take advantage of the creek as they listen to music and visit with friends. You can wade in the water, lounge on the boulders, or just stretch out on the patio-like stone bank under the shade trees.

It's also fun to check out the vendors offering straw hats, cotton clothing, hand-made soaps, jewelry, and more. Many have become festival fixtures and festival goers greet them as old friends.

That friendly, welcoming, "we're all here to have fun" attitude may be what long-time fans love most about Old Settlers. Best of all, you don't have to be an old-timer to feel welcome. Even first-time festival goers will find everyone from the volunteers to fellow guests greeting them with a smile. One reviewer called Old Settler's "a festival that's found the perfect mix of acts, manageable crowds, April breezes along the banks of Onion Creek and music that dares to wear a happy face."

So mark April 20-23, 2006 on your calendars now and plan to be there next year. Tickets go on sale September, and there are discounts for buying early. For more information, visit the web site at [oldsettlersmusicfest.org](http://oldsettlersmusicfest.org).

*Story and photos by Rona Distenfeld*

*Rona is a freelance writer and budding mandolin player who writes about travel and music for local, regional and national publications.*

## *Upcomig Steve Kaufman Concert*

### **Steve Kaufman Guitar Workshop and Concert**

Friday (7:00 – 9:00 PM) and Saturday (9:30 AM – 3:30 PM), January 20th and 21st, 2006.

Three-time National Flatpick Champion, Steve Kaufman, who has published over 60 instruction books and videos, will bring his two-day, 8-hour flatpicking guitar workshop to Austin. It will be held at Artz Ribhouse, 2330 S. Lamar. Material and topics covered is tailored to meet the level and needs of those attending. Space is limited. The past two workshops (2001 and 2003) sold out. The cost of the workshop, is \$80. A \$40 deposit reserves your spot. Contact host Eddie Collins to sign up or with further questions: [tuneman@texas.net](mailto:tuneman@texas.net). 512-836-8255.



Saturday, January 21st, 2006, 7:00 – 9:30 P.M. ).

Steve Kaufman in concert at the Live Oak Coffeehouse Concert Series. Live Oak Unitarian Universalist Church, 3315 El Salido Parkway (.2 miles east of Anderson Mill and RR 620 in NW Austin and 2 miles west of US 183. CTBA member band, Cooper's Uncle, a great traditional bluegrass band, will open the show. After Steve's amazing feature set, Cooper's Uncle will join Kaufman for a couple of blazing impromptu numbers. Eddie Collins emcees the show. \$10 at the door or \$8 in advance through CTBA. Contact Steve Zimmet at [thegarage@swbell.net](mailto:thegarage@swbell.net) for advance tickets.

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### ***Bea Lilly, 1921-2005***

We are sorry to report that Bea Lilly, member of The Lily Brothers & Don Stover and a true pioneer in bluegrass music, passed away September 18, 2005 at the Duxbury House Alzheimer Care Center near Plymouth, MA.

Mitchell Burt Lilly, who came to be known as Bea, was born in Clear Creek, WV, as was his brother Everett, his partner in The Lily Brothers. Bea played guitar and Everett mandolin, and the popularity of the style that came to be known as "brother duets" helped propel them to some early success through their regular broadcasts on the powerful WWVA radio station in Wheeling during the '40s.

In the 1950s, the Lillys joined forces with fiddler Tex Logan and banjo picker Don Stover to form The Lily Brothers & Don Stover, who were inducted into the IBMA Hall Of Honor in 2002. Logan and Stover both hailed from northeastern US, and the band eventually settled there in 1952. They are credited by many New England bluegrass pickers as having made a major contribution to the establishment and growth of bluegrass in that part of the US. Their performances at The Hillbilly Ranch in Boston are fondly recalled by a great many Boston bluegrassers, and brought the music to the attention of large numbers of people who might not have discovered it otherwise.

Everett returned to WV in 1970 after the tragic death of his son, Jiles, in an auto accident. Bea moved to WV as well for a short time, only to return to Boston where he remained. The band would reassemble sporadically for shows until Don Stover's death in 1996.

Bea's funeral will be held on Thursday, September 22, and his passing will be mourned by bluegrass fans and musicians in the northeast, and everywhere that the pioneers of our music are fondly remembered.

# DEERING

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## The Tenbrooks Banjos

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This quantum leap in the evolution of the banjo is the culmination of a collaborative effort between Greg Deering, internationally renowned banjoist, Jens Krüger, and the oldest bell foundry in Europe.

Re-evaluating all the components of the banjo, these unique and talented individuals created the Tenbrooks banjo to attain the utmost in performance, comfort, speed, and tonal purity that has raised the bar for all professional bluegrass banjos to a higher level of sound quality and performance.

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### DEERING BANJO COMPANY

Deering, The Great American Banjo  
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(800) 845-7791 (619) 464-8252  
[www.deeringbanjos.com](http://www.deeringbanjos.com)





# CALENDAR

## Local shows

### October

Oct 1, **Cooper's Uncle**, Fiddlin' Fest  
Georgetown, 3:00-7:10 Downtown 512-868-8675

Friday, October 7th starting at 3.00 pm, **The Sieker Band**  
Austin Bergstrom International Airport  
Airport Blvd, Austin, Tx

Friday October 15, 7:30 PM  
**Max Zimmet with Eddie Collins & Jon Kempainen**  
Temptations Bakery  
Available by Dinner Reservation Only- Limited Seating  
Call 830-868-0900 for reservations or information  
201 E. Main St (Historic District)  
Johnson City, TX

Sunday, October 23rd: **Eddie Collins & Friends**  
at Artz RibHouse (6:00 – 8:30 PM) 2330 S.  
Lamar. 512-442-8283. Special guests.

Artz Rib House, 512/442-8283, www.artzribhouse.com

## FESTIVALS & EVENTS

### October

BlueGrass Gospel Festival  
Oct 8.2005 at Yett Park (Pavilion) 1.5 miles  
South of Blanco Texas on U.S. Hwy 281.  
Blue Creek., White Dove., Steveright Band,  
The Herrins, The Moore Family Singers  
and The Surginer Brothers  
Advance tickets donation \$10.00, donation at  
Gate \$12.00 Children under 12 Free.  
For more information call Norma Burton  
210-654-9694 or 210-373-4529 Cell

16-22 Arbuckle Mountain Bluegrass Fall Jam  
Arbuckle Mountain Park  
Between Wynnewood & Davis Exits Take I-  
35 to Exit 60 (Ruppe Road) turn East &  
Follow signs 1 1/2 miles  
Davis / Wynnewood Area, OK  
For more information call 405-665-5226 or  
405-238-4340 or  
Email rosemary@brightok.net

## JOIN CTBA TODAY

*A one year membership includes a subscription to the Central Texas Bluegrass Bulletin.*

*Business membership includes a business card advertisement in each issue.*

*Band membership includes a Booking Info listing.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
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### PLEASE NOTE THAT LISTENERS AND PICKERS ARE WELCOME TO JOIN

Please contact me about volunteering  Please send the Bulletin as  PDF file  Hard copy

Note that the following amounts are the minimum contribution amounts.

Type of Membership:  New  Renewal  Individual (\$20)  Family (\$25)  Band (\$25)  
 Patron (\$30)  Business/Sustaining (\$50)  Student (\$15)

For Family, Band, and Patron Memberships, please append a list of the members of your family or band.

I do not want my name and contact information included in a CTBA Membership Directory or in the CTBA mailing list, which may be exchanged with other music and arts related organizations.

**Mail your check and application to: CTBA P. O. Box 9816, Austin, TX, 78766-9816**

*Contributions to CTBA are tax deductible as allowed by Internal Revenue Service Code Section 501 (c) (3).*

**FREE CD with an additional donation of \$10 or more**

# CTBA AREA ONGOING EVENTS

## AUSTIN AREA, CTBA

### • **Beginner/Intermed. Jam**

1st & 3rd Thursday 7-9 pm  
Steve Mangold 512-345-6155

### • **CTBA Jam Session**

Sunday at Artz Rib House  
2-5 pm, 512-442-8283

### • **CTBA 1st Saturday Show & Jam**

Artz Rib House  
4:00 pm, show 6:00pm

### **ARTZ RIB HOUSE**

### • **Live Bluegrass Show**

2330 S. Lamar, Sunday 6:00 pm  
512-442-8283

### **AAAMS JAM**

• 2nd + 4th Wed, Anderson Mill  
Baptist Church, 10633 Lake Creek  
Pkwy 258-5843,  
Leander Jam, Friday, 7-9, 260-8838

### **AFTM**

### • **Contra Dance**

3rd Sat., Lutheran church at 3501  
Red River 8-11 pm, \$7, 462-0511

### • **AFTM Jam Session**

2nd Sun at Threadgill's South  
Barton Springs & Riverside, 2pm

### **SMITHVILLE, • WayStation Opry**

1st Sat, 205 NE 2nd, 6 pm, Steve  
Boatright, 512-272-8008

### **BRYAN/COLLEGE STATION**

### • **Jam Session**

Monday: 6:00 to 8:00 pm  
Buppy's Catering 979-690-6951

### • **Jam Session and BG Show**

2nd Sat: Jam-4pm, Show-7pm  
Wellborn Com. Ctr. 979-690-6951

### **CEDAR PARK, J&J's BBQ, 1st and**

3rd Friday, 6-8:30 pm. 260-8838.

### **CHRIESMAN**

### • **Jam**

3rd Sat: 7-10 pm  
Chriesman Community Center  
Don Cook 979-567-0573

## CLEBURNE

### • **Show & Jam**

3rd Fri Cleburne Civic Center,  
1501 W Henderson (Hwy 67) 7 pm,  
\$3 www.geocities.com/ntbbbluegrass

### **FLATONIA**

### • **Jam**

4th Saturday  
Stockman's Restaurant  
Stuart & Diane Raef 361-865-2154

### **GARLAND**

### • **Bluegrass on the Square**

Sat- March thru October between  
Main and State Sts. at 6th, 7:30-  
1 am Jim Miller 972-276-3197

### **GEORGETOWN**

### **Georgetown On the Square Jam**

• 2nd Sun, 1 pm, wkly jams Tues.  
contact Jon, 512-869-8076  
<http://Insta-web.com/bluegrass>

### **GRANITE SHOALS**

### • **Bluegrass and Gospel Jam**

Last Sat: 6:30-10:00 pm  
706 Phillips Ranch Rd.  
830-693-8408

### **THE GROVE**

### • **Outside Pick**

General Store, 15 mi. west of  
Temple on Hwy 36, Sat, 6 pm til...  
M. Anderson 512-282-1215

### **HARWOOD**

### • **Stage Show & Jam Session**

3rd Sat, 9 mi. E. of Luling,  
Hwy 90, 2-9 pm,  
Ben Buchanan 512-263-7193

### **LULING**

### • **Bluegrass Jam Session/Show**

1st Sat every month, 200  
E. Travis, 4:00, 830-875-2917

### **LEAGUE CITY (BABA)**

### • **Jam & Free Bluegrass Show**

3rd. Sat: Jam 5pm, Show 6:30  
Jan-Nov, League City Civic  
Center, 300 W. Walker St.  
713-990-5171

## LIBERTY HILL 4th Saturday

Jam Session at 1 pm  
until....., Hwy 29 West.,  
Contact Paula at 512-778-  
5410.

### **PARIS**

### • **Jam & Stage Show**

3rd Sat: Jam 5:00, Show 7:00  
Chisum HS, Hwy 19 & 24, south  
of Paris \$5-members \$6-others  
Brenda Burks 903-784-8859

### **PEARL**

### • **Jam & Stage Show**

1st Sat: Jam 12:00, Show 4:30  
Hwy 183, 7 mi. south of Purmela  
Ronald Medart 254-865-6013

### **ROCKNE • Bluegrass/Country Jam**

1st Sat: 3pm til ..., 8 mi. S. of  
Cedar Creek on FM 535

### **TOMBALL**

### • **Spring Creek Club Jam/Show**

4th Sat: 5pm-jam, 7pm-show  
Oklahoma Community Center,  
NE of Tomball 939-865-5250

### **SAN ANTONIO • Contra Dances**

3rd Sat: 7:30 pm, International  
Folk Culture Center at Our  
Lady of the Lake Univ.  
512-434-6711, ext. 407

### **SOUR LAKE (Beaumont)**

### • **Jam & Free Show**

Southeast Tx BG Music Assn  
3rd Sat: 4pm, Elementary  
School, Hwy 326 S.  
Edy Mathews 409-755-0622

### **WIMBERLEY • Bluegrass Jam**

Fri: 8-12 pm, Charlie's Catfish  
Mike Bond (512) 847-2238



The Central Texas Bluegrass Association

P.O. Box 9816

Austin, TX 78766

