



Joe Mullins & the Radio Ramblers

The 26th Annual PEI Bluegrass & Old Time Music Festival, July 1-3, 2011.....features Joe Mullins & the Radio Ramblers from Ohio, Jerry Butler & The Blue J's from Tennessee, Larry Gillis & The Hard Driving Swampgrass Band as well as favourites, The Bluegrass Diamonds, and A New Shade of Blue. Here's more info on Joe Mullins & the Radio Ramblers.

Joe Mullins, a Ohio native, an active Bluegrass performer for 25 years, began working on radio and playing banjo professionally while in high school in the early 1980's.

Adam McIntosh, Ohio, the guitarist/vocalist with the Radio Ramblers, started playing Bluegrass at age 11. **Evan McGregor**, born in Dayton,

Ohio, is the band's fiddler and vocalist. **Mike Terr**- mandolin player/vocalist has been involved with Bluegrass music most of his life. **Tim Kidd**, bass



Larry Gillis *and the Hard Driving Bluegrass Band*



The Bluegrass Diamonds



A New Shade Of Blue

player, appreciates the unique sound of Bluegrass and is influenced by musicians Tony Rice, Ben Isaacs, Jerry Douglas and the Hinsons.



Jerry Butler & The Blue Jays

Jerry Butler & The Blue-J's www.jerrybutleronline.com/ are bluegrass festival favorites. Their repertoire consists of original and traditional bluegrass songs, familiar classic country songs and heartfelt gospel. Fans will enjoy the energy, fresh sound and entertaining show this gro up brings to the stage "We just want the folks in attendance to have a good time with us, laugh, cry, sing along, whatever they're feeling at the time. When we're done we want them to be able to say 'now that was fun'."

Larry Gillis & His Hard Driving Swampgrass Band

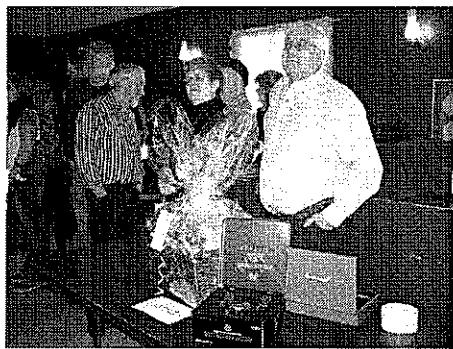
www.larrygillisband.com/contact_us.html

Comes from a little town called Soperton, located in southeast Georgia One half of the legendary Gillis Brothers, Larry continues with his music career in bluegrass. A world renowned banjo picker, and one of the few who still plays the old claw hammer style. He definitely has a traditional style of his own. 2010 marks thirty years in the business for Larry and truly justifies the title "Dr. Swampgrass Gillis".

A stellar lineup of local and

regional bands, with many bands to be announced. Don't forget to inquire about our band showcase. We will also have a full lineup of acoustic instrument workshops, open mic on Wed. June 29th and Thurs. June 30th, and lots of concessions and fun for the whole family.
www.bluegrass.pei.com

Gate opens Wed. June 29th at 1:00 PM. For advanced tickets/info, call Glenda Johnston 569-4501 or Shirley Jay 566-2641. We are taking bookings for the showcase- peifestival@yahoo.ca We'll be making the lots in the main field two feet wider in 2011. Stay tuned! *We reserve the right to change the program without prior notice*



Volunteers - Hay Benefit



Crowd - Hay Benefit

President's Message

On behalf of the PEIBOTMS we send sincere condolences to Angela MacCormac on the loss of beloved husband, Owen and to Harold Noye in the loss of his sister.

Members of the Society, family and friends put on a benefit for Sandy Hay in Feb. raising over \$5,500. Thank you to everyone who helped out! (See 3 pics on this page)



Leonard McEwen's band - Hay Benefit

2011 PEI summer festivals will start up in June with Eileen & Frank's - St. Louis Campout, June 17-19 followed by 26th Annual PEI Bluegrass & Old Time Music Festival in Rollo Bay July 1 - 3, Evangeline Bluegrass Music Festival on July 8-10 and PEI Red Clay Bluegrass Festival on August 12 - 14.

6th Annual Laurie Blue Festival November 4-6, 2011 New England Band - Della Mae www.haydellamae.com More info to be released later

See Jerry & Bernice Murphy's 2011 Festival Calendar in this issue. Plan to attend some of these Festivals in our region this summer.

Shirley Jay, President

William(Bill)Smith Munroe Centennial Celebration **Sept 12-14, 2011**

The International Bluegrass Music Museum will have the biggest birthday celebration ever, with concerts, films, a musical, exhibits, presentations, field trips and more! They'll commemorate what would have been the 100th birthday of Bill Monroe with performances by every living, still-performing member such as Ralph Stanley, Earl Scruggs Doc Watson and more.....of the International Bluegrass one-of-a-kind concert experience that has never been presented before!

www.bluegrass-museum.org/general/CentennialCelebration.php

Origins of Bluegrass Music

Bluegrass music is a form of American roots music, and is a sub-genre of country music. It has mixed roots in Scottish, music of African-Americans, and the English, Welsh and Irish traditional music. Bluegrass was inspired by the music of immigrants from the United Kingdom and Ireland (particularly the Scotch-Irish immigrants in Appalachia).

In bluegrass, as in some forms of jazz, one or more instruments each takes its turn playing the melody and improvising around it, while the others perform accompaniment; this is especially typified in tunes called breakdowns. This is in contrast to old-time music, in which all instruments play the melody together or one instrument carries the lead throughout while the others provide accompaniment.

Traditional bluegrass is typically based on a small set of acoustic stringed instruments including mandolin, acoustic guitar, banjo, fiddle, resonator guitar and upright bass, with or without vocals. Bluegrass music has attracted a diverse and loyal following worldwide. **Bluegrass pioneer Bill Monroe** characterized the genre: "Scottish bagpipes and ole-time fiddlin'. It's Methodist and Holiness and Baptist. It's blues and jazz, and it has a high lonesome sound. It's plain music that tells a good story. It's played from my heart to your heart, and it will touch you. Bluegrass is music that matters.

Unlike mainstream country music, bluegrass relies mostly on acoustic stringed instruments. The fiddle, five-string banjo, acoustic guitar, mandolin, and upright bass are often joined by the resonator guitar (popularly known by the Dobro brand name). This instrumentation originated in rural dance bands and was being abandoned by those groups (in favor of blues and jazz ensembles) when picked up by European-American musicians.

Instrumental solos are improvised, and are frequently technically demanding. The acoustic guitar is now most commonly played with a flatpick unlike the style of Lester Flatt who used a thumb and finger pick. The style is known as flatpicking. The banjo players often use a three-finger style made popular by Earl Scruggs.

The music is characterized by the rhythm of the instruments on the beat and back beats

without the use of drums common in other forms of music. Traditional bluegrass music is all acoustic, with harmony singing may times by males singing above their normal vocal register to produce what's referred to a "high lonesome sound". In the past, bluegrass music to a large extent has been folk music of the people played by the people for the people in informal settings as entertainment. While it's played as performance music, it's also played in impromptu jam sessions by strangers, which has lead many to enjoy it as relaxation and a hobby.

Bluegrass musicians, fans, and scholars have long debated what instrumentation constitutes a bluegrass band. Since the term bluegrass came from Bill Monroe's band, the Blue Grass Boys, many consider the instruments used in his band the traditional bluegrass instruments

These were the mandolin (played by Monroe), the fiddle, guitar, banjo and upright bass. At times the musicians may perform gospel songs, singing four-part harmony and including no or sparse instrumentation (often with banjo players switching to lead guitar). Blue-grass bands have included instruments as diverse as the resonator guitar (Dobro), accordion, harmonica, piano, autoharp, drums, drum kit, electric guitar, and electric versions of all other common bluegrass instruments, though these are considered to be more progressive and are a departure from the traditional bluegrass style. These departures are referred to as "Newgrass".

Besides special instrumentation, a distinguishing characteristic of bluegrass is vocal harmony featuring two, three, or four parts,

often with a dissonant or modal sound in the highest voice (see modal frame). The high-pitch vocal style has been characterized as the "high lonesome sound". Commonly, the ordering and layering of this harmony is called the 'stack'.

A standard stack has a baritone voice at the bottom, the lead in the middle (singing the main melody) and a tenor at the top; although stacks can be altered, especially where a female voice is included. **Alison Krauss and Union Station** provide a good example of a different harmony stack with a baritone and tenor with a high lead, an octave above the standard melody line, sung by the female vocalist.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bluegrass_music

Q: How many bluegrass players does it take to change a light bulb? None They won't touch anything electric.

Q: How do you make a banjo player's car more aerodynamic?
Take the pizza delivery sign off the roof.

Join the PEI Bluegrass & Old Time Music Society
Membership Fee **\$10.00 pp** Mail cheque to: PEI Bluegrass & Old Time Music Society PO Box 2812 Charlottetown, PEI C1A 8C4

Next Newsletter - June 2011
Send comments/articles to:
asjay@eastlink.ca

Mail to: PEI Bluegrass & Old Time Music Society Box 2812 Charlottetown PE C1A 8C4
www.bluegrasspei.com

BERNICE & JERRY'S 2011 FESTIVAL & EVENTS CALENDAR

March 25-26	Bluegrass old country Jamboree	Summerside, PEI.	902-439-2344
April 24	E. H. Club Spring Bluegrass Jamboree	Nine Mile River, N.S.	902-883-7189
May 27-29	Port George Camp-out	Port George, N.S.	902-847-0581
June 3-5	Frolic de Ste-Anne (Bluegrass & Acadien)	Ste-Anne de Kent, N.B.	506-743-6953
June 9-12	Digby Bluegrass (CANCELLED FOR 2011)	Haynes Lake, N.S.	902-245-4886
June 10-12	Music Barn Bluegrass Festival	Sackville, N.B.	506-536-3031
June 16-19	Blistered Fingers Bluegrass Festival	Litchfield, Maine	207-873-6539
June 23-26	Jenny Brook Bluegrass Festival	Tunbridge, Vermont	802-463-1184
June 17-19	Stewiacke Bluegrass Festival	Stewiacke, NS	902-639-2556
June 17-19	Old Mill Bluegrass Spring Campout	Magnetic Hill, N.B.	506-858-8747
June 17-19	St. Louis Bluegrass & Oldtime Campout	St. Louis, PEI	902-882-3056
June 23-26	Fox Mountain Bluegrass Festival	Aylesford, N.S.	902-624-9492
July 1-3	Stan Rogers Festival	Canso, N.S.	902-366-2325
July 1-3	PEI Bluegrass Festival	Rollo Bay, PEI	902-566-2641
July 3-6	Sherbrook Village Fiddle Camp	Sherbrook, N.S.	1-888-743-7845
July 7-10	Basin Bluegrass Festival	Brandon, V.T.	802-247-3275
July 8-9	Stewiacke Newfie/Country Festival	Stewiacke, N.S.	902-639-2556
July 8-10	Evangeline Bluegrass Festival	Abram Village, PEI	902-854-3391
July 8-10	Fredericton Bluegrass Camp-out	Woolastook Park, N.B.	506-459-4823
July 15-17	Kempt Shore Maritime Acoustic Festival	Kempt Shore, N.S.	902-633-2535
July 15-17	Old Mill Bluegrass Summer Campout	Magnetic Hill, N.B.	506-858-8747
July 21-24	Ossipee Valley Bluegrass Festival	Cornish, Maine	207-625-8656
July 21-24	The County Bluegrass Festival	Fort Fairfield, Maine	207-227-6242
July 22-24	Cape Tormentine Bluegrass Festival	Cape Tormentine, N.B.	506-538-2900
July 22-24	Down River Music Festival	Neguac, N.B.	506-776-5111
July 29-31	Annual Nova Scotia Bluegrass Festival	Bible Hill, N.S.	902-883-7189
July 29-31	Blueberry Bluegrass & Country Festival	Stony Plain, Alberta	780-922-4973
August 4-7	Fox Mountain Country Music Festival	Aylesford, N.S.	902-543-5053
August 4-7	Pemi Valley Bluegrass Festival	Campton, New Hampshire	603-726-3471
August 5-7	Blackville Bluegrass Festival	Blackville, N.B.	506-622-5045
August 5-7	Campbellton Bluegrass Campout	Campbellton, N.B.	506-789-2700
August 12-14	Clare Bluegrass Festival	Saulnierville, N.S.	902-649-2708
August 12-14	Red Clay Bluegrass & Oldtime Festival	Tignish, PEI	902-882-2385
August 18-21	Hank Snow Tribute	Bridgewater, N.S.	902-354-4675
August 19-21	Kempt Shore Bluegrass & Oldtime Festival	Kempt Shore, N.S.	902-633-2535
August 19-21	Larlee Creek Hullabaloo	Perth-Andover, NB	1-877-778-7271
August 25-28	Blistered Fingers Bluegrass Festival	Litchfield, Maine	207-873-6539
August 26-28	Rogersville Bluegrass Festival	Rogersville, N.B.	506-773-5444
Aug 29 – Sept 4	New Richmond Bluegrass Festival	New Richmond Quebec	418-392-6484
September 2-4	Stewiacke Bluegrass Festival	Stewiacke, NS	902-639-2556
September 2-4	Frolic de Ste-Anne (Bluegrass & Acadien)	Ste-Anne de Kent, N.B.	506-743-6953
September 1-4	The County Bluegrass Festival	Fort Fairfield, Maine	207-227-6242
September 2-4	Vacationland Bluegrass Weekend	Brackley Beach, PEI	1-800-529-0066
September 9-11	Old Mill Bluegrass Fall Campout	Magnetic Hill, N.B.	506-858-8747
September 17	NS Country Music Hall of Fame Induction	T. B. A.	902-543-5053
October 15	Eastern Canada Bluegrass Music Awards	Truro, N.S.	902-883-7189
November 3-6	Annual Laurie Blue Bluegrass Festival	Summerside, PEI	902-436-3333
December 11	E. H. Club Christmas Bluegrass Jamboree	Nine Mile River, N.S.	902-883-7189

Please Note: Dates include only those confirmed at time of printing and are also subject to change without notice

Advance tickets for some festivals are available from **Bernice & Jerry Murphy**. See them at the festivals Or before **June 1st**, you may contact them at **902-883-7189** or email jerry1939@eastlink.ca to arrange pick up in Lantz, NS

CALENDAR ARRANGED AND PRODUCED BY BERNICE & JERRY MURPHY