

VICTORIA BLUEGRASS ASSOCIATION

*Bringing people together for the preservation, enjoyment
and advancement of bluegrass and related acoustic music.*

Message From the VBA Board

The new bluegrass season is upon us, and the VBA has been hit with a major change. The Orange Hall, our regular Tuesday venue, has been sold. The new owners intend to convert the hall to a single-family dwelling, so as of October, we will need a new bluegrass home.

There are more places and dreams out there than we could possibly check out, so we need your help in locating the new home for our club. While the perfect location is unlikely, we are seeking this kind of place: cozy performance space, stage, kitchen, room(s) for jamming or socializing, centrally located, available Tuesday nights, cheap as dirt.

It's no secret that the Orange Hall was an inexpensive venue, and we should expect to pay more for whatever building becomes its replacement. We are fortunate that previous directors of the VBA knew this day would come, and they have accumulated funds to see us through this year of transition.

While we have a strong attachment to and fond memories of the Orange Hall, this change provides us with an opportunity for revision and renewal. Your VBA board is excited to check out all the possibilities and potential in a new site or sites.

If you have suggestions or leads on a good place for jamming or a concert, we need to know right away. We may not find a place suitable for all our activities, so if you know of a spot which would be good for just concerts, or just the slow-jam, pass that along too.

But why stop there. If you have other ideas that will make the club a stronger supporter of bluegrass and old-time music, don't hesitate to contact one of the directors.

After 12 years of VBA activity, every Tuesday night, the Open Stage and Feature at the end of this month will be our last show at the Orange Hall. It's up to all of us to give it a decent farewell.

See you there.

September's Feature Act: Maple Mountain Boys Tuesday September 25th, 9:00 pm, Orange Hall, 1620 Fernwood Road

The Maple Mountain Boys are a bluegrass band based in the Cowichan Valley who are quickly becoming fan favourites. Bringing together a group of veteran and new musicians, they showcase their own unique style of hard driving bluegrass that ranges from easy listening to traditional flavoured songs. A crowd pleaser, they will definitely make you sit up and take notice!



Lead by multi-instrumentalist **Jeff Ellis** on mandolin and vocals, they feature **Mike "Boomer" Boyd** on guitar and vocals, **Mike Dempster** on banjo and **Barry Fairall** on acoustic bass.

Board of Directors 2012/2013

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VBA Membership

\$25 single or \$40 couple



Victoria Bluegrass Association

c/o Old Town Strings Repair Shop
1034 Hillside Avenue,
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September Feature Act: Additional Information:

Doors open: 7:30 pm (Remember Last Feature Act and Open Stage at Orange Hall!)

The evening starts with an **Open Stage** from 7:45pm to 8:45pm. You can sign up for a spot on the Open Stage by contacting Jeb Gordon at 778.678.4570 or email openstage@vicbluegrass.ca

Admission: \$7 general, \$5 for VBA members, free for open stage performers

More info: Alan Law at 250-388-4520 or email bookings@victoriabluegrass.ca

Bluegrass Happenings

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	SATURDAY
<p>Afternoon Hootenanny at <i>Logan's Tavern</i> 1821 Cook St., 4:00pm Hosted by Carolyn Mark. Free admission More info: 250-360-1832</p>	<p>Spiral Grove: Old-Time String Music Jam at <i>Spiral Cafe</i> 418 Craigflower Rd., 7-9:30pm</p>	<p>Victoria Bluegrass Association Jam at the <i>Orange Hall</i>, 1620 Fernwood Rd., (Last one at this location!) 7:30-10pm, Slow Pitch and Circle Jams. Players of all levels welcome. Admission: players \$2 (non-members \$3), listeners by donation. More info: Al Law or www.victoriabluegrass.ca</p>	<p>Cornerstone Bluegrass Jam at <i>Cornerstone Cafe & Resource Centre</i> Fernwood at Gladstone 7:30-10pm. Featuring premier acoustic string band musicians. Enjoy hot coffee or chocolate while listening to local top acoustic roots musicians jam it out. Organized by the Fernwood Bluegrass Coalition, a group of local business/promoters/musicians. More info: Larry Stevens at larrystevens@shaw.ca</p>	<p>Bluegrass Brunch with the <i>Stowaways</i> at <i>Logan's Tavern</i> 1821 Cook St., 1:00 - 4:00pm every Saturday. Admission Free. More info: 250-360-1832 Brunch begins at 11:00. Great food, music and friends.</p>
<p>Sooke Legion Bluegrass and Acoustic Jam 6726 Eustace Rd., Sooke 1st and 3rd Sunday 2:30-5:00pm (new time!) Contact: Al Planiden, 250-642-3395</p>				
<p>Bluegrass / Old Time Jam at <i>Ocean Island Backpackers Inn</i> 791 Pandora Ave., 8pm-12am, all ages Hosted by Doosie and Decker. Bring an instrument along and be part of the fun!</p>				
<p>The Moonshiners at <i>Swan's</i> 506 Pandora Ave., 8:30-11pm. Performers: Zev Roman, Miriam Sonstenes, Chris Herbst, Mike Brooks and Cluny McPherson</p>		<p>The Sweet Lowdown at <i>The Fernwood Inn</i> 302 Gladstone Ave., 8-11pm. Amanda Blied, Shanti Bremer, Miriam Sonstenes. More info: www.myspace.com/the.sweet.lowdown</p>	<p>Old Time Jam at the Solstice Cafe 529 Pandora Street, 6-9pm Admission is free, but please buy something to eat and/or drink.</p>	

Musicians Wanted

Music Lessons with Chris Herbst: Guitar Dobro and Music Theory. 200.885.5999

Guitar and Mandolin Lessons with James Whittall: Ten years experience teaching bluegrass. Beginner to advanced players. It's never too late to sound better. 778.430.7729 or mandolinjames@gmail.com

Banjo Lessons with Shanti Bremer: 5-string banjo, in both Clawhammer (Oldtime) and Bluegrass (picking) styles. Please contact for rates, lesson times, etc. 250.516.6107

Victoria Mandolin Orchestra: New members on various instruments including guitar and bass welcomed. Intermediate level playing and music reading. Practice: Tuesdays 7:30-9:30pm. Contact Chandra at chandrac@shaw.ca. Check out: www.members.shaw.ca/cmvaroe