

9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
**SUSANVILLE  
BLUEGRASS**  
Music Camp

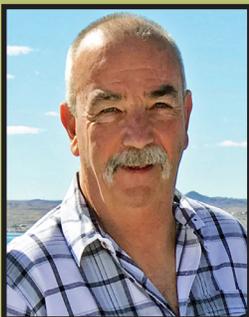
June 19 thru 22, 2018

This year we are providing you with a great and affordable opportunity to improve your instrument playing capabilities and vocal skills in a relaxing classroom atmosphere, including one-on-one time with some of the best Bluegrass musicians/instructors in the industry today. Our instructors specialize in Guitar, banjo, mandolin, bass, fiddle & vocals as well as song writing. Our list of instructors are tough to match with the likes of Rick Sparks, *Music Camp Director*, Rick Sparks, *Banjo Instructor*, Charlie Edsall, *Guitar*, Karen Roemmich, *Bass Instructor*, Zeke Griffin, *Mandolin Instructor*, and Bruce Johnson, *Fiddle Instructor*.

## Music Camp Instructor Profiles



**RICK SPARKS**, (*Virginia City, Nevada*) - **Instructor / Banjo** - Having picked up the banjo at age twelve, Rick has spent most of his life with an instrument in his hands. Rick has taught banjo, guitar, mandolin and dobro for the past twenty years. His patience and great skill at playing by ear is a perfect match for Bluegrass music. In addition to giving private and group lessons in the Reno area, he also is a Wernick Method Jam Instructor, having taught jam camps in Nevada, California, Texas and Arizona.



**BRUCE JOHNSON**, (*Newcastle, California*) - **Instructor / Fiddle** - A stalwart of the West Coast bluegrass scene, Bruce has built a reputation over many years that speaks of tone, taste and energy. When his bow hits the strings, you know it's Bruce. His seasoned baritone vocal anchors the tight harmonies which Sawmill Road is known for. Bruce's "performed with" resume includes Byron Berline and the L.A. Fiddle Band, Doyle Lawson and Quicksilver, The Laurel Canyon Ramblers, plus many others. When Bruce has something to say, his fiddle always does the talking.



**KAREN ROEMMICH**, (*Virginia City, Nevada*) - **Instructor / Bluegrass Bass** - Inheriting a guitar and musical inspirations from her sister, Karen taught herself to play the stand-up bass 14 years ago. Her excellent ear for music and instinctive interpretations led her to playing in various Northern Nevada bluegrass bands including "Nevada Rain", "Mountain Girls", "Westwind" and "Ricochet", in addition to the Americana group, "Southwestern Pilgrimage". Karen says "Music was always around me, as a child. My Dad played an accordion and singing was always a part of family gatherings. My sister played piano and we had lots of living room jams". Partnering up with music instructor, Rick Sparks, she has assisted him in multiple Wernick-method, Bluegrass Jamming classes in Nevada, Texas and Arizona. She also has been a Teaching Assistant at Grass Valley Music Camp. As a Bass Instructor, she emphasizes the importance of the role of the bass player in shaping the rhythm of a song or a band, being an active listener as a key element to success and engaging one's own creativity.

# Music Camp

## Music Camp Instructor Profiles



**CHARLIE EDSALL, (Dayton, Nevada) - Instructor / Bluegrass Guitar ~ Flat-picking / Rhythm - Beginner Level 1 through Advanced Level 4**

Originally from Fort Wayne, Indiana, Charlie started playing guitar at the age of nine. He's well known for his solid rhythm, timing and tasteful flat-picking. In addition to being a consummate guitar player, he also plays bass and banjo. Currently a retired resident of Dayton Nevada, Charlie has taught at Sorrento Music Camp in British Columbia, California Coast Music Camp in Placerville California, CBA Music Camp in Grass Valley California, the Susanville Bluegrass Festival guitar workshop and is currently a guitar instructor at the Mountain Music Parlor in Reno Nevada. In 2009 while on tour in Europe with his Bluegrass band Sawmill Road, he taught numerous workshops at bluegrass festivals in Germany, Switzerland, France, Belgium, Norway and Denmark. He also judged at the prestigious 2009 Walnut Valley National Flat-picking Guitar Contest in Winfield Kansas. As a singer-songwriter, Charlie's self-penned "Cold Virginia Rain" was recorded by Josh Williams and performed by Ronda Vincent and The Rage at the Grand Ole Opry. Interested students can contact Charlie at (775)530-3412, or at chedsall@aol.com



**Zeke Griffin, (Reno, Nevada) - Instructor / Mandolin -**

Zeke started playing the mandolin as a teenager, selling his banjo after hearing Curly Seckler playing on Flatt & Scruggs' "Foggy Mountain Jamboree", and having the clouds part overhead for him. He continued as a working guitarist (*it put him through collage*) for years in Northern California, but kept up his mandolin love in various bands, other artist's recordings, and fill-ins every chance he could. After moving to Reno, he was founding member of Moonlight Hoodoo Revue & Strange on the Range and has kept a regular performance schedule for the last fifteen plus years, releasing numerous CDs as well as being a guest artist on another handful of albums. His "How to Cheat at Bluegrass and sound better than you actually are, NOW!" workshop was created at the Columbia Gorge Bluegrass Festival years ago out of sheer desperation and contains all of his favorite methods of confusing other players into thinking he really knows what he's doing.

**Music Camp Costs: \$150.00. We are offering a \$5.00 per night of camp discount on camping: RV with water & electric (first come first served) - \$20.00 per night • Tent camping - \$10.00 per night.**

On Wednesday evening, June 20, 2018 we will have a free "Locals Night" with music from several bands including Nu-Blu, Blue Summit, Eddy B and Pure Country Plus and the Stone & Straw Band. Tri-tip or chicken dinner with all the fixins will be available for \$15.00 each.