

- July 2017

[jerryflorian@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jerryflorian@sbcglobal.net)

## Popular Midsummer Bluegrass Music Festival returns

**MANITOWISH WATERS** – Set among the towering pine trees and lake-dotted landscape in Manitowish Waters comes some of the sweetest bluegrass music you will ever hear. The 28th annual **Midsummer Bluegrass Music Festival** on Thursday-Sunday, July 27-30 will feature music by artists and bands from all over the nation.

Hosted by the Cozy Cove Tavern & Restaurant, this year's outdoor event (Wisconsin's longest running bluegrass festival) features three headline bands/artists: Bryon Berline, the Bryon Berline Band, and the Bluegrass Martins.

While there will be innovative tunes from a number of genres including folk, blues, Texas Swing, rock, roots, Americana, acoustic jazz, Cajun and Celtic, this Bluegrass cast represents the most approachable and accessible of all the genres of music. For example, at the scheduled Bluegrass Institute of the Northwoods Sponsored Question & Answer sessions, patrons may ask Byron Berline, 3 time national fiddle champion, about his dabbling with Hollywood screen projects and of his experience on the screen set with the then twenty-something Arnold Schwarzenegger and Jeff Bridges. Mr. Berline, Bluegrass Boy (1967), will also add to the oral legend of Bill Monroe & The Bluegrass Boys (Bill Monroe, known as the "Father of Bluegrass" performed at the 2nd Midsummer Bluegrass Festival in 1991). Byron Berline's long string of accolades includes being a charter member of the onetime bluegrass super band "California" (3 time instrumental Bluegrass Band of the Year) and a member of The Flying Burrito Brothers

Also, look for the Bluegrass Martins, performers since age three, to inspire standard bearers of bluegrass music's future with their Bluegrass in the Schools workshops at 3:30 PM Friday and 11:30 AM Saturday. The Bluegrass Martins will be honored as the "emerging bluegrass artists of the year" inside the 1930s vintage Cozy Cove.

The line-up for Thursday, Friday and Saturday includes Graves and Graham of Yooper Nation, Hand-Picked Bluegrass (Tomahawk), The Bluegrass Martins (Springfield, Missouri) The Byron Berline Band (Guthrie, Oklahoma) and Sparrow Tree Bluegrass (Marquette). Thrown into the mix is Down From The Hills, a Cajun-Bluegrass Band from Madison, and the intriguing HurleyWoodz.

0

Sunday's unplugged Gospel line-up allows for farewell performances by The Byron Berline Band (10 AM) followed by the Bluegrass Martins premiere of their newly released Gospel Album.

Daily and weekend, family special and all access pass (includes camping on-site) are among your ticket options. RV or trailer camping is also available; all campsites are rustic. Cozy Cove is located on 5786 U.S. Highway 51. Bring a blanket or lawn chair for the musical performances.

Make it a full week of fun by staying at one of the local lodging facilities. A serene natural Northwoods beauty frames the township of Manitowish Waters. Just across the street is a paved hike/bike path leading to the downtown and elsewhere. So, bring your bike and walking shoes for an excursion in between sets.

For more information, contact bluegrass festival founder and Cozy Cove owner Jerry Florian at 715-543-2166, [jerry@CozyGrass.com](mailto:jerry@CozyGrass.com). Visit [www.MidSummerBluegrass.com](http://www.MidSummerBluegrass.com) to see the full schedule and detailed ticket information.