



A black silhouette of a person's head and shoulders, facing right. The person is wearing a wide-brimmed hat, possibly a cowboy hat. The silhouette is filled with black, and the text is overlaid on it.

# **The Bluegrass Way**

**The world as seen  
by the everyday  
Bluegrasser**

**by  
Wichita Rutherford**

Wichita Rutherford has millions of loyal listeners who love "5 Minutes With Wichita" where he interviews Bluegrass, Country and NASCAR stars. You can hear him on over 275 radio stations in America and across the world. The very first podcaster to get a deal with SIRIUS Sattelite Radio, he's won the hearts of millions with his "old timey" outlook and attitude.



"If your Dad says he wouldn't do it, then don't"

"Always capitalize the word Bluegrass."

"Clap and whistle real loud at every show, be it at Carnegie Hall or in the kitchen."

"A free banjo and 2 lessons is what you give your enemy's kid."

Hillbilly savant, Wichita Rutherford, shares his philosophy on life, the world and how things should and shouldn't be. It's been described as "Redneck Philosophy" Some say its just plain old funny. Thes life lessons remind you of how things used to be, and how they could be like that again, if we would only adhere to...

"The Bluegrass Way"

GrooveGrass Books  
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5MinutesWithWichita.com

*Dedicated to:  
My Mother and Father,  
who taught our family  
to live The Bluegrass Way*

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“Life is a big old boat we’re all on...  
and we’re not driving.”

--- Dr. Jim Rouse

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# INTRODUCTION

This book is a little different than most books you've read. Like the old Bugs Bunny cartoons, it has several levels of understanding hidden in it. The pages aren't numbered. Why? Because no matter what page you turn to, you'll get a message or thought that could just as well be on page 2 as page 43. "So?" You may ask. So, this book is not designed for reading front to back. Its designed to pick up and go to any page while you're on hold, or waiting in line or sitting in traffic. Or when have a few minutes to yourself at the office and you just want to "go away" for a minute or two while you're drinking your coffee. It holds a collection of thoughts and views that describe a "way" people are beginning to think and act due to the state the world is in. It's really no different than the way people viewed the world 40, 50, 60 even 70 years ago.

However, nobody talks about those views anymore. It seems no one, if anybody at all, teaches those views to their children. Worst of all, it seems no one cares to.

If you find yourself staring at your television and/or newspaper in disbelief as you are made aware of the way people are acting toward each other now, then you may find some solace in these little sayings and thoughts by passing them on to loved ones. They may already be familiar to you. They may say the exact things you say and teach your friends, children or grandchildren. They are a look at the past while at the same time an uncanny view of modern times and things that may be just down the road. There's a message in these thoughts and sayings. You may not see it at first. But one afternoon when the traffic is stopped, you'll look over and see a little child in a car seat with a frown on it's face while the parents are either

talking on the phone or fussing with each other or worse. You'll smile at the child and wave. The child will stop frowning and smile and wave back at you. You'll both smile at each other some more and you'll share "it". For those brief moments, just before the traffic starts back up, in the middle of these modern, scary, impersonal times, you experienced "it" and passed it on. You now "get it". What is "it"? It's The Bluegrass Way.

---Jim Scott



## **FOREWORD**

Growing up, I was surrounded by good people. People who saw the world as a wonderful place. Where everyone helped and loved each other. Everybody respected everybody. They would rather lose an arm than lie to you. They were proud of America and respected and appreciated

those who fought and died to keep them free. They went to Church as often as they could. They were thankful they could go to school to learn the tools that would help them provide for their families. They loved to eat and didn't mind spending the time needed to make good healthy meals for their families. They loved having the extended family and friends over to eat every Sunday. They loved their music too. They loved the music their parents and aunts and uncles taught them. They appreciated it and respected it.

They hoped and believed everyone they met was the same way. I call that view "The Bluegrass Way."

This book is filled with little insights and thoughts that fill a Bluegrasser's mind. Some are funny, some are serious and some may bring a tear to your eye. That's OK if it does. That just tells you you're seeing and feeling the same

way. The Bluegrass Way. We all have the same feelings when we see little babies, puppies or kittens. The same goes for hearing children laugh or a baby cry.

The way things are in the world today we may suppress those feelings and let them pass without breathing them in and “living” them. Don’t ever let that happen to you. If you’re already there and didn’t even know it, it’s OK, its not too late. Just start seeing things the way you used to. The way you saw them when you were little. Watch a caterpillar. Watch a frog when it comes by. Stop and look at those flowers by the road. Watch the squirrels playing. Stop and watch those children on the swing set.

When you see these things, smile. It’s important. Appreciate them. Don’t forget they are a part of your life. Take 1 minute. Just one minute and stand there and take it in. Look at

that old couple together. They're in love. They've been together for a mighty long time and you can see it. Wave at the kid in the car next to you. Hold the door open for that lady coming in through the out door. If you're in line at the store and have a full basket, let that man behind you who just has a few things go before you. After doing things like this a few times you'll start to feel a little different. You'll start to feel better. You'll start to smile more and laugh more. The people close to you will notice.

They'll tell you something is different about you. They'll say you seem happier. They'll say you have a different "way" about you. That's when you'll know you've found it. That's when you'll know its all gonna be OK and that there's a reason for everything... a purpose... a "way" about and to the world. At that point the world whole world will look different. You'll see familiar things in a way you've never seen

before. You'll hear familiar things in a way you've never heard them before. You'll live life in a way you've never lived it before... A new, yet old way... A familiar and exciting way...

The Bluegrass Way.

## Cases Are Sacred Places

Have you ever gotten a look inside somebody's instrument case? If you ever get a chance get a look. At first glance you'll just see a picture of a little kid or some scraps of paper and some meaningless junk. Maybe some spare change and some picks. Ask if it's OK to look at what they've got in there. They'll be more than happy to share with you what's in there and why. You'll find there's always more than one picture. If it's a guy's case, there's always a picture of his wife or girlfriend.

If it's a girl's case, a picture of her husband or boyfriend. Some times you'll find pictures of little babies, little kids, grandparents and family members. Some are still here with us. Some have already gone home. A lot times you'll find a picture of a hero. Like Mac

Wiseman, Bill Monroe or somebody in the service.

Jason Carter has a picture of The Tiger in his case and Tim Stafford has a picture of Doc Watson as well as Tony Rice. Look at one of the little pieces of paper. You'll find they always have a sentence or two and at the bottom it always says "I love you". You'll be surprised at how many pictures of Jesus there'll be. I've even seen a pacifier and an old dog's collar. A guitar string package with Mutt Lange's autograph next to an old worn autographed picture from the 50's of Lester and Earl. Doc Watson's case always has a recipe somebody's given him to give to Rosa Lee and Ricky Skaggs always has a Bible verse somebody's given him before one of his shows that week.

These cases are sacred places. Musicians rely on them. They make their living with the old friends protected inside them. And the

inside of that case is the last thing they see before they start walking toward the stage; that small scrap of paper, that old picture of their Dad with a flat top haircut, that quarter Bill Monroe gave them when they were a kid and that picture of Jesus their Mom gave them. It all goes with them, in their hearts, on stage. That's something else. It sure is. It's the Bluegrass way.

**Always capitalize  
the word “Bluegrass”**

**Just because you can’t  
play the mandolin, guitar,  
fiddle or banjo, doesn’t  
mean you can’t learn.  
Starting today.**

**The more you jam with  
folks, the better you're  
gonna get.**

**If I'd know'd you wanted  
to went, I'd a seen you'd  
got to get to go.**

**The going there is more  
fun than the getting there.**

**No matter what band  
you're in, never forget:  
You are the most  
important player.  
(Just ask your mother)**

**When you play with a  
beginner, let them play  
the lead parts.**

**Become a better player  
than anybody expects you  
to. That's what makes a  
master musician.**

**If you put on a festival,  
would you pay good to get  
in, or not go because it's  
too expensive?**

**Stage fright can hit any of  
us, so clap loud at every  
show.**

**If you judge other players  
out loud, you don't worry  
about your own playing  
enough.**

**Clap and whistle real loud  
at every show, be it in the  
kitchen, on the front  
porch or at Carnegie Hall.  
It's the Bluegrass way.**

## The Bluegrassers' Prayer

Here's a little prayer I pray when it seems there are more non-Bluegrassers around than Bluegrassers. You may find it helps you at work or when you're at the mall or out with friends or when you're enjoying your Bluegrass at a pretty good volume and aren't sure "what kind of people" are listening. It goes like this:

"Dear God,  
May those who don't like  
Bluegrass love us.  
And those that DON'T love us, please  
turn their hearts; and if You don't turn  
their hearts please turn their ankles,  
so we'll know them by their limping.  
Amen"

**Talk loud when you're  
telling a player how  
good he/she is.  
It's the Bluegrass way.**

**Its not how fast you play,  
It's what you play and  
how good you listen.**

**A free banjo and two  
lessons is what you give  
your enemy's kid.**

**A sausage, biscuits and  
gravy breakfast can glue  
a friendship back together  
in a big hurry.**

**Friendship and Love are  
the first two chapters in  
the book of Bluegrass.**

**A good person, when  
exposed to Bluegrass, is  
never the same again.  
They can't help it.**

**Always smile when the  
music starts.**

**It's the Bluegrass way.**

**Bluegrass icons always  
encourage the beginner.  
Always have. Always will.  
It's the Bluegrass way.**

**You can tell someone  
you're his friend; you can  
prove it by listening to his  
kid play his new banjo.**

**Never let a festival go by  
without whistling at least  
twice and yelling "Jimmy  
Martin!" at least once.**

**In the Bluegrass show of  
life, don't be the audience,  
be the singer!**

**Be patient with yourself  
when learning to play an  
instrument.**

## Hats

Do you like hats? I love seeing them on somebody who wears them well. Jerry Cherryholmes wears a hat well. So do his boys. Bobby Osborne goes without saying as do Mac Wiseman and Charlie Daniels. Do we even need to bring Bill into this? Few things are more humorous than someone who tries to wear a hat that just doesn't "take". My uncle Edward for example. 78 years old and nobody ever told him that when he wears a hat it looks like there's been an attempt to kidnap him and he got away and forgot to take off the blindfold they tried to put over his face. Oh it's pitiful. You'd think one of his closer loved ones would say something to him. I guess I could. But what would we talk about at Thanksgiving?

His sister, Aunt Mayetta, always thinks the flower arrangement on the table is a cat and she

tries to “shoo” it away. “If Marilyn catches you on her table she’ll gut you like a Christmas goose! She will too. I’ve seen her do it!” She’s been saying that as long as I can remember. I believe NASA is studying her for their Mars program because she’s been 87 for about 36 years and has apparently discovered some sort of suspended animation without having to be asleep. She wears a little Christmas hat every year. It’s the same one. It just sits there... bobby pinned to the side of her head just daring me to pull it off and put it on myself and start talking like her. It would be so easy. She probably wouldn’t even know it. Oh bless her heart.

Then she looks at me with those sweet little old lady eyes and says “How are you honey? I sure love you. You’re getting’ so big...” Then she tells me the same story she always tells about how she got me my first hat on my 5th birthday. A little cowboy hat. With a badge on the front.

You've seen them at The Cracker Barrel. I've been wearing one ever since. Sans badge. "You looked like a little Bill Monroe" she'd say. "Of course he had his own teeth and took better care of his hair. But you sure were sweet." Oh the older ones loving the younger ones and the younger ones loving the older ones. A bizarre dichotomy when you get right down to it. Then add a bunch hats to all that. Wow. But you know what? It's the Bluegrass way.

**Sometimes the person  
who catches the biggest  
fish, fishes an extra 15 or  
20 minutes before calling  
it a day.**

**Never blame the sound  
man when you  
sing out of key.**

**“Fox on the Run” comes  
before “The Wildwood  
Flower” only in the song  
books.**

**Play the music you love,  
and you’ll never “play a  
job”, you’ll only play gigs.**

**New strings look and  
sound good, but old  
strings?  
They just feel better.**

**A Bluegrassier doesn't  
play for somebody.  
He plays with them.**

**Stay in tune. People will  
listen longer.**

**Listen to the older folks.  
Believe me, they've been  
there and done that  
long before you ever  
thought about going there  
and trying That.**

**If you can't get to a church, this week, at least listen to a Doyle Lawson Gospel album.**

**If your dog doesn't like him, maybe your friend has ulterior motives.**

**Always smile at children.  
It's The Bluegrass Way.**

**Louder isn't better.**

**When a lady walks up to  
your table, always stand  
up. It's The Bluegrass  
Way.**

**Be the first to speak, smile  
and say hello.  
It's The Bluegrass Way**

**No matter what's going  
on or where you are, offer  
to let somebody play your  
instrument.**

**Don't start a fuss with somebody. Even if they did mess with you first.**

**A Bluegrassers' home is always a welcome place for other bluegrassers, as well as all good people.**

**Don't camp over near the  
mean people. Don't even  
look over at their camp.**

**Friends are assets. Mean  
people are liabilities.**

**Music belongs to  
everybody.**

## **Dinner on the Ground**

Have you ever had “dinner on the ground”? If you haven’t you ought to because you’d love it. To some people dinner on the ground is a picnic. With fried chicken, potato salad and canned peaches on real plates and there’s celery with peanut butter and raisins on it and pie and real forks and cloth napkins. And all the mothers and aunts and sisters have worked on it most of the morning so there would be enough for everybody and a bunch left over for later. To others dinner on the ground is potted meat, crackers, sandwiches and drinking a grape Coke on the tailgate of a pickup truck. Or in the middle of the floor back in the stock room of their grandfather’s small town grocery store as he takes a few minutes off to eat lunch and tell his grandchildren how he used to do this with

his grandfather when he was a little kid like them. Little kids just love it too. Even if you do it just one time, when they grow up they'll say "Remember when we had dinner on the ground that time and we..." You should do it. It's not too late. This next week find somebody and have dinner on the ground with them. Somebody you love. A bunch of people you love. Even if they don't "get it" they will when it's over. And you know what else? They'll never forget it. I never have. I never will. You won't either. You know why? Because it's The Bluegrass way.

**If you can't keep time,  
don't play loud.**

**A banjo is a guitar  
designed by  
the hard of hearing.**

**There are no Bluegrass  
stars. Just legends and  
heroes.**

**He may be the fiddle  
champion this year, but in  
Bluegrass, there's always  
another festival and  
another contest next year.**

**In bluegrass it's OK to  
ask if it's a good song.**

**A “shined up” man’s  
words are a “non shined  
up” man’s thoughts.**

# **Bluegrass Rules for Kids:**

**Its OK to do if...**

**1. Nobody gets hurt.**

**2. Nobody's feelings  
get hurt.**

**3. Nobody has to clean  
anything up.**

**When somebody hits a  
bad note, don't laugh.**

**Listen to at least one  
Bluegrass song a day.**

**Eat squirrel at least once  
in your life. But try not to  
eat possum. Shew.**

**Go to at least one  
Bluegrass festival every  
year.**

**Send birthday cards to  
Bluegrassers.**

**Go to the doctor at least  
once a year. He'll help  
you stick around.**

**Give at least 2 things you  
own away at a  
Bluegrass festival. A  
pick, a tie a set of strings.  
Whatever.**

**Sing old Bluegrass songs  
while in the shower.**

**When you need to tell  
somebody you're sorry  
about something, do it  
with them standing there.**

**Give Bluegrass music as  
Christmas and birthday  
presents.**

**If you hear a Bluegrass  
song that reminds you of  
somebody, send it to  
them.**

**Send an email to your  
favorite singer.**

**Know the color of your  
mother's eyes.**

**Listen to your favorite  
Bluegrass song at least  
once a month.**

**Give friends a copy of  
your favorite Bluegrass  
album at least twice a  
year.**

**In Bluegrass, your word  
is your bond.**

**Call your wife/husband  
by their pet name the first  
thing in the morning and  
the last thing at night.**

**Always say “Yes  
sir/ma’am” to the older  
folks.**

**Watch your language  
around women and  
children.**

**Take some sausage  
biscuits to work and share  
them. People will love  
you for it.**

**Folks can tell a lot about  
your parents by the way  
you act in public.**

**If your dad says “I  
wouldn’t” then don’t.**

**When practicing the  
banjo, have manners.**

**Don’t turn the TV on at  
supper time.**

## When I was Little

When I was little nobody I knew was embarrassed of the music they listened to. My friends liked everything from children's songs to rock to R&B. Nobody laughed when you'd listen to one style then the next song you picked was a completely different style. It was just music. We were little kids. We liked it. In some cases we even loved it. I liked the big orchestras just as much as I liked Bill Monroe. My Daddy would play bosa nova records and we'd dance around then he'd play a Beatles record. We thought the Beatles was children's music, made especially for us. Ever hear "Octopus's Garden"? Well that's a kid's song if I ever heard one.

Now when I listen to it at age 43 I laugh at thinking what those boys must have been doing

15 minutes before writing songs like that. Now that I'm grown up I've got a couple of shows on Satellite Radio. And I'm a part of the biggest syndicated Bluegrass radio show in the world. I was the very first Podcaster to get a major media deal. And since then I've built a strong following playing the old stuff. I mean THE OLD STUFF too. The roots of American popular music. Like the Carter Family, Jimmie Rodgers, Uncle Dave Macon and the Monroe Brothers. At the beginning of my shows I always tell the listeners to turn it up. To "Get loud and be proud!" Its funny how someone will get in trouble at work for playing "That old fiddle... banjo... well I don't know what it is but its too loud" stuff. Then cut to 6 months later and that person is emailing me telling me how I need to play more of the Skillet Lickers and the Jimmy Martin songs I'm playing is only the "hits". Oh it's hilarious really.

Then I think back to when I was little. My Daddy playing all that old scratchily music. Then we'd go over to Doc Watson's house and they would talk about Jimmie Rodgers in these hushed tones like he might be listening from the next room or something. It was respect is what it was.

Then we'd eat supper and talk about the music on the way home. It's amazing how those old songs and that old music will embed itself so deeply into one's heart. Especially in your formative years. You can always tell when somebody was raised around our kind of music. They've got that look in their eyes. That shiny little light that glimmers when they smile. Like all the kids had when I was little. It's the Bluegrass Way.

**Always kiss the kids  
goodnight.**

**Always kiss their new  
baby.**

**Always pat their dog.**

**Have at least one hat that  
has a Bluegrass band or  
artist on it.**

**Call the folks once a  
week. One day you'll be  
so glad you did.**

**When you walk into a  
crowded room, smile.**

**Get at least 25 miles away  
from a wine list at least  
twice a year.**

**Give the old folks more  
time.**

**Bake something for  
somebody at least two  
times a year.**

**Don't "talk shop" at a festival. You're there to get away and enjoy the music.**

**If a friend calls you from jail to bail them out, don't ask what they did, ask where they are.**

**Get a nice pair of overalls.  
They're good for you.**

**Just because they're  
doing it doesn't mean you  
should.**

**If you play an instrument,  
then teach somebody.**

**When you're mad,  
keep quiet, or you'll give  
the greatest speech you'll  
ever regret.**

**Be nice to everybody.  
You don't know what  
they may be going  
through.**

**Collect banjo jokes.**

**When you play, play loud.**

**When a lady enters the  
room, stand up and take  
your hat off.**

**Don't talk with your  
mouth full.**

**Don't send flowers if you  
can be there.**

**Go out of your way to  
open the door for a lady.  
Even wait on her to get  
there.**

**It's the Bluegrass way.**

**Don't cuss. No matter  
how mad you get. It  
lowers you to the other  
person's standards.**

**Don't stare. You might  
hurt somebody's feelings.**

**Always take your hat off  
for the prayer.**

**Wait 'til everybody gets  
some chicken before you  
start eating.**

**If you're on the shuttle at  
the festival and there are  
no seats and a lady  
gets on, give her your  
seat.**

**Everybody's little baby is  
so beautiful and precious.  
It's The Bluegrass Way.**

**In a parking lot:  
One bluegrass musician is  
a good ole boy.  
Two bluegrass musicians  
is a couple of friends.  
Three bluegrass  
musicians sounds pretty  
good.  
Four bluegrass musicians  
is a band.**

**In a parking lot,  
If you just listen to you,  
folks won't jam with you  
anymore.**

**Smile in the parking lot as  
big and sincere as you do  
on stage.**

**You know you're getting  
good when you draw a  
crowd of folks who aren't  
in your family.**

**Keep playing when you  
break a string.  
Tony Rice does.**

**Practice, rehearse, sing  
and jam! Doc Watson  
didn't become a Bluegrass  
legend by just listening.**

**It's OK to miss a ball  
game, movie or TV show  
to rehearse or practice.**

**Mac Wiseman spent  
many a late night alone  
honing his craft at the  
kitchen table by  
candlelight.**

**There are two ways to  
play an instrument; in  
tune and out of tune.**

**Old sayings have been  
around for a long time for  
good reason.**

**Your dog is YOUR dog,  
and that dog loves you.  
Treat him good.**

**Don't be afraid to spank  
your kids, sometimes a  
time-out just doesn't get  
the message across.**

**Before 12:00 you go  
looking for trouble. After  
12:00 trouble comes  
looking for you.**

**If a man will lie to his  
wife, don't think for a  
second he won't  
lie to you.**

**Your wife is your best  
friend in the whole world.  
Make sure she knows it.**

**Every now and then when  
somebody says “I love  
you”, pause and smile and  
say “I know you do, and  
I’m glad you do. I love  
you too.”**

**Its important to let people  
know that you know they  
love you.**

**Thank folks. A lot.**

**Sometimes you need to  
say “I sure do love you”  
while looking them  
in the eye.**

**Don't embarrass your  
children of front of other  
people.**

**Always close you eyes  
when you kiss your  
wife/husband.**

**Tell somebody you like  
their laugh.**

**Fellas, every now and  
then run your wife a big  
hot tub and put bubble  
stuff in it and put some  
candles around it and give  
her a flower.  
She'll talk about for  
weeks.**

**Don't know what you  
want to be just yet?**

**That's fine. Mac  
Wiseman was a farmer, a  
student, a treasurer, a  
salesman, a DJ and a  
record executive before he  
decided to be a full time  
performer. And oh yeah,  
HE HAD POLIO.**

## What makes “us” different?

Why are we different? I don't mean as humans from apes or one celled animals. Why are we, “Bluegrass people”, different from everybody else? You know who you are. And I know who you are, the very minute I meet you. And you know me too. We don't have a secret handshake. Or do we? There are no code words. Or are there?

When you meet somebody you shake their hand and you hold on just a nano-second longer. You look them in the eyes. Hoping to see “it” as you shake. You may ask yourself “Does this person love the dobro? I wonder if he cries when he hears ‘The Fields Have Turned Brown.’ Is he mad because Sonny messed up his rotator cuff?” When you get that gut feeling as well as that “knowing stare” back into your eyes you almost

expect them to say “I wish Blue Highway would do another Gospel album too.”

Oh the unspoken kinship that runs rampant among “us”. What is it you ask? It’s the Bluegrass way.

**Fellas, at least once a month bring your wife some flowers. It means so much to her. It makes her feel pretty and loved. And all her friends will think you're precious.**

**Every now and then its  
OK to see something and  
say “Now that’s stupid.”  
Just every now and then.**

**Be nice to everybody.  
You never know what  
they may be going  
through at home.**

**Always smile and say  
“hello” when passing  
people on the sidewalk or  
at the store. You may be  
the only person that is  
nice to them that day.**

## People I Like

I don't think I'm alone when I say I've never met somebody I didn't like. Now that's a famous saying and everything but I find it to be true. When you first meet somebody they show you the best smile they've got and that handshake their Dad taught them or that smile their Mom gave them and they look you right in the eye. You know you do the same thing. It makes you both feel good because you are showing each other all the best of "you" that you can both whip up. Oh, that's just so nice.

I find the people I like to go visit and that I really like to come visit me are people who love a lot of folks, and that are loved by a lot of folks. I like people who wear overalls and people who sometimes wear t-shirts that fit fine at the shoulders but have a whole other thing going on

at the stomach area. I like people who have some dogs and like to fish.

I like people who eat at The Cracker Barrel. I like people who want a bass boat real bad and people who like sausage biscuits and buy the same brand because their Mom bought it. I like people who don't snicker when an old person tells them something that's important to them for the third time. I like people who like to be out working on their farm moving rocks or mowing and people who make things that nobody makes anymore like butterscotch pie and hominy. I like people who like my parents. I like people who love and respect their own parents. I like people who make the "honk your horn" sign at truck drivers. I like people who know what color their Mother's eyes are and know how their Grandmother met their Grandfather and know what their Father's first job was. I like people who remember the

Tennessee Barn Dance over in Knoxville and the Opry when it lived in the Ryman. I like people who tell me I dropped a dollar and smile at me when they know they've spent too much time in the intersection. I like people who tear up when they hear a good Mac Wiseman song and people who start a sentence with "Awwe" when I thank them for something they've done for me when I didn't ask them to. I like old people who say "Well, bless your heart" and waitresses that call me "Honey". I really like a lot of people. I really love a lot of people too. I don't think I'm alone when I say I've never met somebody I didn't like. It's The Bluegrass Way.

**When you go outside, if  
nothing else, make sure  
your shoes are clean.**

**Vultures and hawks hang  
around with vultures and  
hawks. Eagles and owls  
hang around with Eagles  
and owls.**

**Keep an eye on your barn  
door.**

**In business, trust only  
your mother and father.**

**An insincere smile shows  
an insincere heart.**

**Tattle on somebody and  
nobody will tell you  
anything.**

**You can tell a lot about a  
person from their  
Bluegrass collection.**

**If somebody doesn't like  
Bobby Osborne, I'd keep  
an eye on them.**

**Don't ever use a fork  
when you're eating  
bar-b-que ribs.**

**If somebody says “Yeah, I  
pick a little every now and  
then”, watch out.  
They’re almost always  
really good.  
REALLY good.**

**If you're getting ready to  
do or say something you  
couldn't do or say with  
your mother standing  
there, then don't do it or  
say it.**

**Always remember, tattoos  
and moms don't mix.**

**Tattoos are like bad  
luggage. They're with  
you from here on out.**

**Tattoos are more  
expensive to take off than  
to put on.**

**Comedians are funny,  
until they start cussing.**

**Kiss a little baby on the  
head every chance you  
get.**

**Always ask how the kids  
are doing by name.**

**Some of the best catfish in  
the world is at Cracker  
Barrel every Friday.**

**A cat is your friend.  
A dog is you pal.  
A fish is your lunch.**

**If you meet someone  
who's never been fishing,  
stop what you're doing  
and take them fishing  
right then.**

**If one hits your line first  
then let the new  
fisherman reel it in. He  
will never, never, ever  
forget you.**

**When kids are camping in  
the back yard, always go  
out and tell them the  
“Who’s got my golden  
arm!” story.**

**Every now and then make  
the “honk your horn”  
sign at a truck driver.**

**If you see somebody in  
the armed services, thank  
them for keeping you free.**

**Those little old men  
walking around with the  
hats that say “WWII” on  
them are the reason the  
French folks don’t speak  
German. ALWAYS be  
extra nice to them.**

**Every now and then,  
sneak in and give the kids  
a cookie when they're  
supposed to be  
going to sleep. They'll  
never forget it.**

**Just because folks can  
hear you talking all  
around the world,  
doesn't mean you're any  
smarter than when they  
could only hear you  
talking from your front  
porch.**



## About the Author

Wichita Rutherford is THE world-renowned Podcast celebrity. He is recognized as a true pioneer of the Podcasting movement and continues to push the envelope with his cutting edge, innovative digital content. He's also precious.

“I want to educate people about Bluegrass, get them interested in it. No matter what kind of music they like, no matter where they’re from, or what they’re background or age is. Bluegrass is for EVERYBODY.”

When Wichita first came on the scene, it was obvious he was something special; an interviewer / Bluegrass historian with a penchant for making famous people laugh. It didn't take long for people to notice...

Alison Krauss, Dierks Bentley, John Paul Jones, Ricky Skaggs, Gillian Welch, Bela Fleck and Doc Watson are just some of the superstars who lined up to be interviewed. Demand became so insatiable that Wichita soon found himself the very first Podcaster with a deal at SIRIUS Satellite Radio.

He now hosts three shows; His flagship 5 minute Podcast interview show “5 Minutes With Wichita”, “Wichita Rutherford’s GrooveGrass Show” (30 minutes) and “Nothing New Here with Wichita Rutherford” (1 Hour). “These shows are all designed to educate people about the history of Bluegrass music” says Wichita. His “5 Minutes With Wichita” interviews are also heard on 256 terrestrial radio stations in the United States and 11 other countries in Europe, Asia, South America and the middle east every week.

At just a little over a year after his first interview hit the radios and iPods owned by millions of now converted Wichita fans, he continues to top the media lists. What’s his goal? “I want to get Bluegrass to people who don’t even know it exists.”

Visit Wichita at:  
[5MinutesWithWichita.com](http://5MinutesWithWichita.com)

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