



***October 21-22, 2011
Downtown Victoria, Texas***

PRESS KIT

www.Bootfest.org

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About Bootfest

Victoria's newest and biggest signature event, Bootfest, is expected to draw 15,000 people to downtown Victoria on Oct. 21-22, 2011. This free, two-day, family-oriented event will be jam packed with activities and live music for all ages and interests.

This is the first time in several years that Victoria has coordinated a significant event. The purpose of Bootfest is to promote Victoria, while giving the community a sense of pride and an opportunity to "come home" to the historic downtown Victoria area to enjoy live music, kids activities, boot making, arts and crafts, a Texas Hold 'Em Poker Tournament, food and drinks, and a fireworks extravaganza launched from the rooftop of the 12-story One O'Connor Plaza building.

Limited parking will be available downtown in the vicinity of Bootfest. Park and Ride buses will be available from two different Park & Ride locations providing a continuous free shuttle service during the event on Saturday, Oct. 22. Park and Ride locations include the Patti Dodson Health Center parking lot (2805 N. Navarro) and Citizens Medical Center parking lot (2701 Hospital Drive).

Get ready to kick up your heels and have a whole lot of fun! Don't forget to bring your boots!



Schedule of Events

Friday, Oct. 21, 2011

5 pm	Festival Opens
5 pm – 10 pm	Corral (Kid's Activities) Opens. Includes a bouncy house, rock climbing wall, mechanical bull and other activities)
5-10 pm	Arts & Crafts Vendor Booths (Located on Bridge and Constitution Streets)
5-Dark	Branding Exhibit (Victoria County Courthouse Lawn)
5-10 pm	Food Vendors (Main Street)
7 pm – 8:30 pm	Opening Act – JB & the Moonshine Band (Concert Stage is located in front of One O'Connor Plaza on Forrest Street – facing DeLeon Plaza)
8:30 pm	Wade Bowen Performance (Concert Stage)
10 pm	Festival Ends

Saturday, Oct. 22, 2011

10 am	Festival Opens
10 am	*Park & Ride Shuttle Service Begins
10 am – 10 pm	Corral (Kid's Activities) Opens. Includes a bouncy house, rock climbing wall, mechanical bull, and other activities)
10 am – 5 pm	Boot Crafters (De Leon Plaza)
10 am – 5 pm	Boot Artisans (DeLeon Plaza)
10 am – 10 pm	Arts & Crafts Vendor Booths (Bridge and Constitution Streets)
10 am – 11 am	Branding Wall Activity & Living History Presenter (Victoria County Courthouse Lawn)
10 am – Dark	Branding Wall Exhibit (Victoria County Courthouse lawn)
10 am – 10 pm	Food Vendors (Main Street)
11 am	Aces Down the Boot Poker Tournament (120 S. Main Street)
10 am – 2 pm	Radio Disney Performances on the Kid's Stage (205 N. Bridge Street – County Annex Building parking lot)
2 pm	Boot Artisan Judging Begins (DeLeon Plaza)
Noon - 3 pm	Performances by the Clay Crockett Band, The Scott Taylor Band and Curtis & Luckey (Concert Stage)
5 pm	Award Presentations for Poker Tourney and Boot Artisans (Concert Stage)
7 pm – 8:30 pm	Opening Act – Whiskey Myers (Concert Stage)

8:30 pm	Josh Abbott Band Performance (Concert Stage)
10 pm	Fireworks Extravaganza (Launched from the One O'Connor Plaza Rooftop)
10:30 pm	Festival Ends
11:30 pm	*Park & Ride Shuttle Service Ends

*A Free Park & Ride Shuttle Service will be available continuously through the festival on Saturday, Oct. 22. Park & Ride locations include: Patti Dodson Health Center parking lot (2805 N. Navarro) and Citizens Medical Center parking lot (2701 Hospital Drive).



Bootfest Activities

Arts & Crafts

Arts and crafts vendors from throughout the state will be on-hand at Bootfest selling an array of items such as jewelry, candles, leather goods, woodwork, clothing, unique arts and crafts, and much more. Vendors will be set up along Bridge and Constitution Streets.

Boot Artisans

Witness this one of a kind artistic, creative & imaginative showcase where artists from all over Texas will dazzle you with their array of masterpieces. (DeLeon Plaza)

Boot Crafters

Every wonder how boots are made and how they started? Come see top craftsmen from all over Texas showcase this tedious talent. (DeLeon Plaza)

Branding Wall Exhibit

A branding wall exhibit organized and sponsored by the Museum of the Coastal Bend/Victoria College will be set up and local ranchers will have an opportunity to visit the wall with their branding iron. There will also be a historic brand component included at the exhibit for those brands for which a branding iron is no longer available. A “key” will be available indicating the ranch/owners with whom the brand is associated. Living history presenter Dr. Dennis Riedesel of Victoria will set up an 1800’s-era trail drive camp from 10-11 am on Saturday, while ranchers “brand” the wall with their irons. The activity is being organized with the support of the Victoria Crossroads Chapter Independent Cattleman’s Association. (Victoria County Courthouse lawn)

Corral Kid’s Activities

Kids will get a “kick” out of all the activities planned especially for them at Bootfest – including bouncy houses, a mechanical bull, bungee trampoline, sumo wrestlers, alligator slide, Velcro wall, bungee wall, obstacle course, a rock climbing wall and more! The Corral Kid’s Activity Area will be located at 205 N. Bridge Street in the County Annex Building parking lot.

Fireworks Extravaganza

As the stars come out on Saturday night, the skies over downtown Victoria will light up with one of the biggest and best fireworks shows in the State of Texas. A spectacular pyrotechnic show set to music will blast off from the roof top the O’Connor Plaza building.

Food Vendors

There's nothin' like dinner on a stick. There will be plenty of yummy treats to choose from. Food vendors will be located along Main Street.

Live Music Line-Up

This is the place where the guitars are rockin,' the boots are stompin,' and the front row is screaming. The music starts on Friday evening at 7 pm, Oct. 21 with JB & the Moonshine Band, followed by Wade Bowen at 8:30 pm. On Saturday, Oct. 22, festival-goers will enjoy listening to the Clay Crockett Band, Luck & Curtis, the Scott Taylor Band, Whiskey Myers and the Josh Abbott Band. The Concert Stage will be located in front of the One O'Connor Plaza Building on Forrest Street – facing DeLeon Plaza.

Radio Disney Kid's Stage

On Saturday, kids can sing and dance and laugh all day with Radio Disney, which will perform three rockin' one-and-one-half hour shows. The Kid's Stage will be located at 205 N. Bridge Street in the County Annex Building parking lot.

Texas Hold 'Em Poker Tournament

This isn't aces up the sleeve, but an aces down the boot-type showdown. Starting on Saturday, Oct. 22 at 11:00 am, enjoy the Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament at 120 S. Main Street. A \$100 dollar entry fee gets you the chance to walk away as the tournament champ and win some cold hard cash! Only 180 registrants will be allowed, so register now! Must be 21 years or older to participate.



Line-Up of Bootfest Entertainers



JB & The Moonshine Band

JB and the Moonshine Band serves as the opening entertainment at the inaugural BOOTFEST at 7 pm Friday, October 21, 2011. In early 2009, front man JB Patterson gave up a successful advertising career to pursue his dream of being a songwriter. After realizing how difficult it is for a songwriter to break into the music scene, he realized what he had to do—start a band and sing the songs himself!

JB listed an open casting call for musicians in his community. Turnout for the audition was small; only three people showed up, but three was enough. The group had an impromptu jam session and as JB describes it, “It was obvious. Halfway through the first song, I knew they were the Moonshine Band”. After a successful first show at local honky-tonk, JB and the boys were willing to do whatever it took to get their songs out there. “Our motto was if anybody offered us a gig, we would play it. We were going to play every show we could whether they offered us a thousand dollars or a hundred... or sometimes nothing at all”. With a jerry-rigged PA system and a rented U-Haul van, the boys travelled through East Texas, gaining a local following. The group’s big break came while opening for Average Joe’s Entertainment artist Colt Ford in March of 2010. The band’s country sound and outlaw attitude immediately caught the attention of Colt’s team, and in July of 2010, JB and the Moonshine Band signed a record deal with Average Joes Entertainment.

The band’s debut album, “Ain’t Goin Back to Jail” premiered in September of 2010, with Gabe Guevara on drums, Hayden McMullen on lead guitar, Chris Flores on bass guitar and JB providing lead vocals, banjo, and acoustic guitar. JB also serves as the band’s lyricist, writing all of the songs on the record, which is an accomplishment he’s particularly proud of: “What I like is that we write our own songs—I sing my own songs, and I think that adds an element of authenticity that country music fans appreciate. We’re not super polished, we’re not overproduced, we’re raw, we’re real, and we don’t apologize for it.”



JB & The Moonshine Band



Wade Bowen

Wade Bowen takes the stage at 8:30 pm on Friday, October 21, 2011 to open the inaugural BOOTFEST. Born and raised in Waco, Bowen graduated from Texas Tech University, spent two years living in Austin and currently resides in New Braunfels.

His self-released 2002 album [Try Not To Listen](#) consolidated his Texas success as its title tune went Top 10 on the Texas Music Chart. The statewide sensation generated by his live shows led the following year to [The Blue Light Live](#), an in-concert album.

With [Lost Hotel](#) in 2006, the groundswell Bowen had stroked in the Lone Star State took his single "God Bless This Town" to the top of the Texas Music Chart while its video was a Top 20 debut on CMT and spent several weeks at #1 on CMT's Pure Country 12 Pack countdown. The vibrant buzz he had started in Texas also spread further as he hit the national road on the Lee Ann Womack and Friends tour and expanded his fan base for his live appearances into the Midwest and Southeast.

In 2008, Bowen's release, [If We Ever Make It Home](#) debuted at #2 on Billboard's Top New Artist Chart, #29 on the Top Current Country Albums and #176 in the Top 200 Albums. It was the #3 most downloaded country album on iTunes in its first week. [If We Ever Make It Home](#) has produced four number one singles on the Texas Music Chart and Texas Regional Radio Charts. The Texas Music Chart deemed the title track and "Nobody's Fool," as two of the Top 30 songs of 2009. Bowen's current music video, "Trouble" debuted at #1 and is presently aired on CMT's Pure 12 Pack.



Clay Crockett & The Shotgun Riders

Clay Crockett & the Shotgun Riders will perform a mix of country, rock, oldies, pop and original songs during Bootfest from noon to 1 pm on Saturday, Oct. 22.

A native of Inez, Tx, Clay Crockett began playing guitar while attending college and later joined the band, Rhythm of the Road. Shortly thereafter, Clay and his friends decided to start a band of their own and they have played with artists such as Wade Bowen, The Bellamy Brothers, Gary P. Nunn, Bruce Robison, Kelly Willis, Roger Creager, and more. The band regularly plays in dancehalls throughout the crossroads region.

Clay Crockett & the Shotgun Riders consist of Crockett; Mike Vanek of Yoakum, lead guitarist; Johnny Krause of Port Lavaca, bass/vocals; and Marty Reichert of Cat Spring, on the drums.



Clay Crockett & The Shotgun Riders



The Scott Taylor Band

Lots of folks have a hand in the music business for a lot of different reasons. Some for the fame and the glory, some for money, and for The Scott Taylor Band, having fun and making music are at the top of that list. Hailing from Victoria Tx, these guys wake up in the morning to make people dance, sing along, and have a foot stompin' good time every time they hit the stage. And when it comes to making music, they are no slouches. Solid grooves colored with three part harmonies and country picking sound as if they've been together for years. The Scott Taylor Band is set to perform during BOOTFEST at from 1-2 pm on Saturday, Oct. 22, 2011.



The Scott Taylor Band



Curtis and Luckey

From the time they hit the stage until the final note, Curtis and Luckey take their audience on a unique musical journey that promises to lift your spirits. The two combine their gifts of songwriting and singing into a high energy performance gaining fans everywhere they play. The duo will play at BOOTFEST from 2-3 pm on Saturday, October 22, 2011.

Brian Curtis, lead vocalist and founder of the group, found Nashville after traveling around the world from his native California. After earning his degree in International Business from the University of California, Irvine, Brian ventured abroad and soon found himself singing lead for a country cover band in Japan while teaching English during the days. Japan was followed by a year in Italy – it was there that Brian began consistently songwriting, and signs started pointing toward Music City as his next stop. Brian packed up and officially made the move to Nashville. After arriving, he was quickly entrenched in the songwriting and demo session community.

Eric Luckey was raised in Nashville and he has been surrounded by music his entire life. Honing his songwriting craft throughout his teenage years, Eric saw his first hold as a songwriter at 19 years old with a song titled Mad at the Ocean – song both Kenny Chesney and Clay Walker put on hold and considered recording. After studying guitar at MTSU, he left Nashville with guitar in tow and spent a couple years as a hunting guide in Colorado and commercial fisherman in Alabama, only to find his way back home. A few cover bands and hundreds of shows later, he met Brian their synchronicity writing quickly led them to the stage. He has a strong and present bass / baritone range. During a performance you may see on electric or rhythm guitar, or singing harmonies, hitting a dual lead with Curtis, or grabbing center mic and keeping true to his roots with a dirty country up-tempo.

Original songs, strong vocals and energy to spare, Curtis and Luckey are the new kids in town who are already making their mark.



Curtis & Luckey



Whiskey Myers

Whiskey Myers is the opening act for the Josh Abbott Band at BOOTFEST on Saturday evening, October 22, 2011 and will play at 7 pm. Whiskey Myers' musical style is forged from several different genres of music from several different eras. The most obvious of these are the blues rock jam bands such as Lynyrd Skynyrd, The Allman Brothers Band, and Led Zeppelin. Whiskey Myers takes the blues rock genre and mixes it with modern day Texas Country such as Reckless Kelly, Randy Rogers, and Cross Canadian Ragweed to derive a new sound that is sure to take concert listeners on an atmospheric roller coaster. With a sound like no other and a stage presence that captivates anyone close enough to notice, a live concert performed by this young band is something that must be seen to be believed. As the group continues to expand its fan base, new listeners all over Texas are beginning to recognize their talent. They continue to engulf listeners with their sound, ensuring that the name Whiskey Myers is one that will be remembered for ages to come.



Whiskey Myers



The Josh Abbott Band

BOOTFEST'S headlining act, the Josh Abbott Band, will take the stage at 8:30 pm Saturday, October 22, 2011 in historic downtown Victoria. A mere 57 seconds into the opening track of the Josh Abbott Band's *She's Like Texas*, you're likely to be hooked. One intro, one verse and one chorus are pretty much all that's required to recognize something special in the Texas-based act.

While studying communications and political science at Texas Tech in Lubbock, Abbott and his Phi Delta Theta comrades frequently partied at the Blue Light Live, a downtown club on Buddy Holly Avenue that's been a linchpin for such hard-scrabble acts as Cross Canadian Ragweed, Wade Bowen and Golden Globe nominee Ryan Bingham.

During one Blue Light visit with a couple of friends around 2004, Abbott saw the Randy Rogers Band for the first time. He would never be the same.

"It was packed," he remembers. "I watched them play and how they moved on the stage, how they sang their songs, and how they connected with the audience. I literally looked at my friend-and this is the story she tells to this day to her friends-and I said, 'I think I can do that.' She was like, 'What are you talkin' about?' I said, 'I think I can be that guy on stage, singing and writing songs that people connect with. I think that I can do that.' She was like, 'Well, go do it.' That night or the next day, I started writing country songs."

After doing a few acoustic open-mic nights at the Blue Light, Abbott and three frat buddies formed a complete band and started playing the club, where they were greeted by a full house their first night. Word spread quickly about the Josh Abbott Band, and soon they were opening shows for the acts they were trying to emulate: Cory Morrow, Pat

With *She's Like Texas*, it's paid off in the form of a sturdy, emotional album that sets up the do-it-yourself Josh Abbott Band as the Lonestar State's next authentic breakout. It might take years to analyze the depth of the sound, but it takes only minutes-maybe just seconds-to recognize the powerful uniqueness it adds to Texas music, and to the whole of country music.



Josh Abbott

Bootfest Logos

