

Hola Amigos - Angela and I are back from a working winter vacation in Mexico and we are looking forward to seeing all you music lovers soon. Max reports that we survived our winter months in better shape than last year despite the economic woes that have hit absolutely everyone one way or another. Hopefully you folks that came out and visited the Rancho these past months were able to forget your troubles for a while and get some bang for your buck. Now that the weather has broken the real fun begins. Our BBQ schedule has been posted and our June calendar is attached. As usual I tried to book something for everybody but I'd like to highlight a few shows.

We started outdoors a week early last Sunday because **THE AVETT BROTHERS** were on the West Coast and they were just terrific. They hail from North Carolina and have grown to be true national stars. They just finished opening a series of shows for the Dave Mathews Band. It was a beautiful afternoon and a great start to the season.

Coming up, our Memorial Day Weekend doubleheader features **THE BLUES BROADS 2009**. Opening for Tracy, Angela & Co. will be Dave Gonzalez's (Paladins, Hacienda Brothers) new band **THE STONE RIVER BOYS** on Sunday May 24th. On Monday the 25th **THE FLATLANDERS** of Lubbock, Texas will be on the lawn with a "don't miss" rare get together. **JOE ELY, JIMMIE DALE** and **BUTCH!** That's some 48 hours for our little joint. By the way, **CARLENE CARTER** of the famous Carter/Cash clan (again one of the BROADS) and her band will be doing a show Friday night May 22nd.

Father's Day, June 21st we invited my old band **PABLO CRUISE** who, as far as I'm concerned, are better than ever. Their hit songs sound like they could be hits all over again.

We were lucky enough to land the subdudes again this summer on July 19th. They have been a sell out each time in the past so be advised. Same with our Mississippi hero **PAUL THORN** on August 2nd. If you still haven't seen this guy do yourself a favor and be there. No kiddin'.

On July 26th our good neighbor **ELVIN BISHOP** will cheer everybody up because nobody on the planet makes people feel better about having the blues. To add fuel to his fire our new favorite "winter" Sunday afternoon attraction, **RANCHO DELUXE** will make their BBQ debut. A fun package.

I want to mention **JIM LAUDERDALE**'s appearance on July 12th. He is an important Americana singer/songwriter (a Grammy winner) and a great entertainer out of Nashville. Angela and I have been big fans of his for years. His latest project is bluegrass based and he will be joined by **POOR MAN'S WHISKEY** a local "newgrass" group whose star is definitely on the rise.

It's all good and the dates I haven't mentioned are just as special to us. They are listed and are a bit later so maybe you'll hear more from me in a while. If you have any questions about anything just e-mail me through our website.

By the way, on our calendars you'll notice quite a few Saturday nights that only say "Western Room open for dinner" and that's because we have a lot of weddings and private parties booked this year on the Lawn that carry over to the Rancho Room. This is something we have consciously tried to develop. I'm real proud of our catering guru, Julii Ashby, Chef Max and our whole staff. Their dedication to making these private events customized and special has been recognized and has become an important part of our business. It's good for Rancho Nicasio and will hopefully allow us to be around to serve you all for years to come. As always thanks for your longtime support.

Nos veremos, see ya'll soon,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Poor", written in a cursive, stylized font.