

# Here's What They're Saying...

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## About James Reams & The Barnstormers

NOMINATED BY A COMMITTEE OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL BLUEGRASS MUSIC ASSOCIATION (IBMA) AS A  
2002 EMERGING ARTIST OF THE YEAR  
AND  
NOMINATED FOR 2002 RECORDING EVENT OF THE YEAR BY IBMA

"Straight-up, no-nonsense, take-no-prisoners bluegrass"

*Steve Daugherty, WUWG, GA*

"James Reams and the Barnstormers rely on early country material and originals written in authentic style. The results are a virtual history of the music and its roots, played in a clean, heartfelt manner that is somewhere between Monroe's and the Stanleys'."

*Stephanie P. Ledgin, Homegrown Music: Discovering Bluegrass*

"James is such an inspiration to watch. He truly feels his music, and sings from his very soul.... If James is ever within your area, he is a 'must see' bluegrass icon."

*Jerry Paul, former editor of Acoustica*

"[James Reams and the Barnstormers] have been around almost two decades, playing their own style of music. There's no indication that he feels bound to the Monroe tradition and you'll hear some old-time sound in his music, but if he isn't in the same vein of coal with Monroe he's certainly in the same coal mine."

*Larry Stephens, Lonesome Road Review  
Review of One Foot in the Honky Tonk, 2011*

"James Reams and the Barnstormers have built a solid reputation for lively, spirited, soulful, no-frills-added bluegrass with a nice mix of traditional numbers, covers and originals. Fronted by his rustic and rural lead vocals, they dish up exciting bluegrass in a classic old-school style of yesteryear... This album has plenty of songs that belong on today's jukeboxes and ipods."

*Joe Ross, reviewer for Bluegrass Now and SPBGMA's Bluegrass Music News*

"This is the best traditionally oriented bluegrass band in the area, bar none. They combine wonderful harmonies and instrumental back-up in a very sensitive but energy-charged show."

*Doug Tuchman, first editor of Pickin' magazine,  
DJ on NYC's WKCR, and a bluegrass promoter for 30 years*

With a voice like Del McCoury's, Reams has captured the feel of old honky-tonk jukebox music. 'I Can't Settle Down' is a great example of what Reams and the Barnstormers can do. 'Snake Eyes' is an original Reams tune about bad luck and gambling, with clean instrumentals and surprising harmonies on the chorus... Reams' style turns even this topic into a song you might dance to on a Saturday night."

*JP Tausig, Country Standard Time  
Review of One Foot in the Honky Tonk, 2011*

"[James Reams &] The Barnstormers' 2011 release 'One Foot in the Honky Tonk' was one of the finest bluegrass albums of last year and certainly one of my favorites... It is a bluesy album, one that is every inch bluegrass but dripping with the blues and country sounds that informs it."

*Donald Teplyske, Fervor Coulee Bluegrass  
Review of One Foot in the Honky Tonk, 2012*

"I think James Reams & The Barnstormers are bringing us bluegrass fans the sounds we long for... solid bluegrass timing, great pickin' and singin'. And original material that is so good that any of the first generation pickers could have done 'em."

*Rik James, DJ, Bluegrass Traditions / Americana Backroads  
KGLT FM, Bozeman, MT*

"[James Reams & the Barnstormers] traffic in... 'traditional grass'...inspired by the late 1940s/'50s sound of founders Bill Monroe, the Stanley Brothers and Flatt & Scruggs - which they take into our own time with tasteful adjustments... It's hard for me to imagine how anyone who likes bluegrass could dislike what James Reams & the Barnstormers are doing with it."

*Jerome Clark, Rambles.net*

"Listening to James Reams and the Barnstormers takes you back to the hills of old Kentucky and the sweet and sometimes mournful sound of bluegrass that echoed through the mountains and valleys of the Bluegrass State. James is truly a gift to the bluegrass world, and a testament to the beauty of the deep seeded roots of the music he loves."

*Ron Kodish, Festival Promoter (upon release of EPK 2013)*