Leslie Haenny, Seattle Siren, July 2012

"Still being new to the state of Washington, I've made it my mission to experience as much as possible, especially while the weather is decent. This past Friday, July 20, I drove down to the beautiful Cedarbook Lodge in Seattle with my new friend Teresa to take in some bluegrass with the Downtown Mountain Boys. It was quite a treat.

Cedarbrook Lodge is tucked away in a neighborhood near the Sea-Tac airport. Teresa, who has lived in the area for 20 years, had no idea that she used to work near the Lodge. We were immediately greeted by beautiful architecture and a fantastic staff. We made our way down to the lawn area outside the Lodge's Copperleaf Restaurant, where a stage, rows of chairs and tables had been set up. A jovial crowd had already gathered to sip some wine, enjoy delicious food and listen to some hilarious bluegrass music.

The Downtown Mountain Boys, based in Seattle, Wash., are an exciting and accomplished bluegrass band. Veteran bluegrassers and recording artists Terry Enyeart (bass, lead and harmony vocals), Dave Keenan (banjo, fiddle, lead and harmony vocals), Don Share (guitar, lead and harmony vocals), Tom Moran (mandolin) and Paul Elliott (fiddle), have come together in a match made in musical heaven. You can read more about this amazing band and hear samples of their music at their website. The Downtown Mountain Boys were so much fun to listen to. I found myself tapping my feet, clapping and laughing at their catchy lyrics. At one point, they asked the crowd, "Has anybody ever heard of Buck Owens?" Being from Southern California and going to college in Mr. Owens' hometown, I haphazardly yelled out, "Bakersfield!" I definitely received some strange looks, but I have a feeling it was because I was one of the youngest attendees at the event, and the fact that I knew where Buck Owens was from might have thrown a few people off."