

Correspondence: NIBGA, 5034 Wapiti Ct., Fort Wayne, IN 46804-4946 (260) 918-4790 NL@nibga.com
 Memberships: \$10 one, \$15 two with one mailing Published: 2nd Sunday, mailed 3rd Sunday monthly
 Next jam: Noon - 6 PM 10/16/11 SW Conservation Club, 5703 Bluffton Rd., Ft. Wayne, IN 46809

PRESIDENTS CORNER:

This time of year is a little sad as we prepare the camper for winter storage. We do not travel south to Florida or Texas in the winter like many of our members do. If you receive your newsletter by e-mail, it will follow you south. If you get it by regular mail, it is sent first class and will get forwarded if that is what you do with your mail.

The events listing on the web have some southern festivals for our snow birds. The flyers page on the NIBGA web site lists many more. If you know of events in your area that are not on the flyers page, send us a note and we will update the page.

Our treasurer, Linda Winger, has reviewed the many items that make up the festival report that is given to the board. The report has details of income and expenditures for the festival. The preliminary report shows a loss on the fall festival. The final report won't be completed until the November board meeting.

Last month we mentioned that the electric meters were whirling because of the hot weather. The club pays for all utilities plus grounds rent. Labor Day festival utilities were:

- Electric - \$2,780
- Water/Sewer - \$732
- Trash - \$1,099

NEXT WINTER JAM:

The second NIBGA jam and meeting is Nov. 20 from noon until 6p at the Southwest Conservation Club in Fort Wayne, IN. Come early, enjoy breakfast for a very reasonable cost and help assemble the newsletter. This will be the last meeting in 2011 as we do not meet in Dec. and there is no Dec. newsletter mailing.

LETTERS & E-MAILS:

A few of you did attend the FIRST festival at the Van Wert, Ohio fairgrounds promoted by Steve Scott and Randy Moore. We all can say it was a GREAT festival and per the promoters, they do plan on having it again next Oct. (some rumor they may attempt a spring one, too, like Ottawa had - hmm ...). They were pleased with the turn out & want to make a go of it.

For those of you who were not there, here are the positives:

- 1 - lots of camping with 30 amp and water

Meters were read before and after the festival giving our usage. The trash was just ours and did not include "left over" from prior events. It also did not include the trash from the Thursday dinner.

Given that both festivals had a loss this year, the board will have some difficult decisions to make over the winter. The whole year needs to be reviewed since there are expenses other than just the festivals such as newsletters which are published at a loss, insurance, government fees, internet, office expense, phone bills, etc. Other than membership dues, there is only minor income from interest on bank accounts and donations. The festivals are the main income of the club.

The NIBGA treasury is adequate to tide us over for 2011 and even a few more years. If the economy continues to look poor, then what if any changes will have to be made in the future. I foresee many extended conversations about alternatives for 2012 and beyond.

November is the annual election for the NIBGA board. All board members have indicated that they want to continue in their positions. If you are interested in being a board member or committee chair contact us.

If the good Lord's willin' and the creek don't rise, we'll be finding an indoor concert. Support your bands this winter by attending their events!

Jim Winger - President

2 - HUGE building for the state show - great acoustics. The neatest stage(s) made by Randy.

3 - Delicious food at vendors - wow many of us can attest to the sirloin tip soup, homemade ice cream, funnel cake, apple dumplings, ribs, Mexican plates, etc. LOTS of great vendors (on Sat. they brought most of them into the bldg so you did not have to venture out.

4 - GREAT bathroom & shower facilities
 5 - Buildings for jammers to pick in at night - HEATED even

6....hmm....downtown businesses EVEN knew about the event (many were advertising sponsors)

7 - I know there is more - Jamming was down this time because of the extreme weather, it did turn out decent Sat. evening. They really want this to become a jammers weekend, too.

There was only ONE downfall some of us discussed & that was HOW the poor musicians

had to get up on the stage. Their only way was to climb up & down bales of hay, NO steps. We discussed this with Steve & Randy, they know what needs to be done.

Please pass this on to all bluegrassers on your list - they plan on it being the first full weekend of Oct., just like Ottawas was. Once we get any flyer, we will pass it on to you. This place has the potential of becoming an awesome picking/bluegrass festival!

Hope to see you all there next year!
 Keep music in your hearts,
 Maggie & Gary Bilby

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Picking on Cystic Fibrosis

With terrible weather for the second year in a row, with a terrible turnout for the festival, with some of the best bands to play in Michigan this year, with some good sponsors, with some generous fans, great volunteers and KC campground, we managed to come out ahead this year and will be making a donation to CF Research through Hunt for a Cure. It was a very difficult year. Thank you to all that helped and supported us.

Jimmy Kittle and the Cystic Fibrosis families
 (Sept. 8-10)

RECORD REVIEW:

A Skaggs Family Christmas - Volume Two

Includes a bonus DVD with 26 songs, produced by Ricky Skaggs

SFC10122 www.skaggsfamilyrecords.com

CD Songs: Christmas Times A Coming; Light Of The Stable; The First Noel; What Songs Were Sung; Silent Night; Flight to Egypt; Reunion Song; Children Go; Oh Come, Oh Come, Emmanuel; Joy To The World.



A Skaggs Family Christmas...Volume Two kicks off with an energetic version of "Christmas Times A Coming." Then, Cheryl and Sharon White trade lead vocals on "Light of the Stable", followed by an a capella version of the "The First Noel" with Ricky Skaggs singing lead. Molly Skaggs, Ricky's daughter, plays piano and sings "What Songs Were Sung", followed by Luke, Molly's brother,

burning up his own composition, "Flight to Egypt." Rachel, Cheryl's daughter, along with Luke and Molly do a fine original arrangement with wonderful harmony of "Oh Come, Oh Come, Emmanuel."

Anyone familiar at all with Ricky Skaggs and his music understands the quality of a Skaggs production. Timing, harmonies, instrumentation and performances are all unquestionably perfect. The same can be said of the bonus DVD accompanying the CD. The 26 songs on the DVD were recorded live at the Ryman Auditorium during the Skaggs Family Christmas Show. Kentucky Thunder, Skaggs band, backed by The Nashville Strings, an outstanding strings orchestra, complement one another on many of the songs. The DVD is packed with two hours of solidly super Christmas music with the 26 songs ranging from "Santa Claus is Coming to Town" to "Go Tell it on the Mountain."

The Skaggs Family Christmas - Volume Two includes both recorded and live performances. Every song is an excellent piece of work. The qualities of the CD and the DVD can not be out done. The price of the package is a great value even if a person was buying the CD and DVD separately. With the CD and DVD together the music is a must for any lover of The Skaggs Family, The Whites, Christmas music or traditional bluegrass. And that includes just about everybody!

Roger Stowers - www.kaybass.com

IBMA AWARDS:

The Recipients of the 2011 International Bluegrass Music Awards:



Del McCoury & George Shuffler
2011 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

- Entertainer of the Year - Steve Martin & The Steep Canyon Rangers



- Vocal Group of the Year - The Gibson Brothers



- Album of the Year - *Help My Brother* by The Gibson Brothers
- Male Vocalist of the Year - Russell Moore
- Female Vocalist of the Year - Dale Ann Bradley
- Instrumental Group of the Year - The Boxcars



- Emerging Artist of the Year - The Boxcars
- Instrumental Recorded Performance of the Year - *Goin' Up Dry Branch*, Michael Cleveland & Flamekeeper
- Gospel Recorded Performance of the Year - *Prayer Bells of Heaven* by J.D. Crowe, Doyle Lawson, & Paul Williams
- Song of the Year - *Trains I Missed* Balsam Range
- Recorded Event of the Year - *Prayer Bells of Heaven* by J.D. Crowe, Doyle Lawson & Paul Williams
- Banjo Player of the Year - Kristin Scott Benson and Ron Stewart (tie)
- Guitar Player of the Year - Bryan Sutton
- Fiddle Player of the Year - Michael Cleveland
- Bass Player of the Year - Marshall Wilborn
- Mandolin Player of the Year - Adam Steffey
- Dobro Player of the Year - Rob Ickes

I NEED INSTRUCTION:

NIBGA receives calls asking for instructors in the callers area. We help where we can but

we are frustrated because we don't know what help is available in your area.

We received an email on a new offering that might be just the ticket this winter to improve your picking skill. We have no direct knowledge of Artistworks but they do employ great talent.

THE ARTISTWORKS ACADEMY OF BLUEGRASS presents the most comprehensive beginner, intermediate and advanced two-way video lessons for guitar, banjo, mandolin, fiddle and bass combined with online chat, forums and exclusive interviews accessible 24/7.

The AAOB consists of: The School of Banjo with Tony Trischka, School of Guitar with Bryan Sutton, School of Fiddle with Darol Anger, School of Mandolin with Mike Marshall, and The School of Bass with Missy Raines. Each individual school contains hundreds of high quality video lessons starting at the Beginner level and progressing to Advanced. All schools connect to the AAOB Hub where players of all instruments can come together to share ideas and the love of bluegrass.

Unlike other video-based sites, AAOB schools offer much more than one-sided learning. Each student has the opportunity to send their teacher recorded videos of themselves practicing and receive personal feedback and individualized instruction from the teacher through video responses. These videos are then posted for the entire school to view and learn from as "Video Exchanges".

Membership Plans include 3 months for \$90, 6 months for \$150 and 1 year for \$240.

Their web site is: <http://tinyurl.com/43rkuju>

WEST MICHIGAN FESTIVAL:

After spending two weeks at Kendallville for our festival, Linda and I took a break. We headed up north to Montague, MI for a couple of quiet days before swinging over to Lowell, MI to attend the West Michigan festival.

We arrived on the Sunday before the festival and shortly were met by Dave Simmonds, President of their club. We chatted for a couple of hours exchanging ideas and discussing various common issues. It is good to have someone to bounce ideas around that has similar interests.

As hot as Kendallville was, Lowell two weeks later was COLD! The weather didn't stop us from visiting local restaurants for breakfast and a couple of dinners. It is nice to eat in new places and Lowell has just the kind of spots we like.

Our friends parked next to us and we picked most evenings after dinner. I'm sorry to say that my fingers are not as padded now as they were at the end of this festival.

While preparing supper Wednesday, we observed a motor cyclist scurrying about south of the trailer. He was painting the grass and planting flags. After 30 minutes or so, a race track took shape, but what would be racing? A finish line with checkered flags was erected, a starters booth was positioned and a PA system was put in place. Slowly, cars began to arrive with bicycles on their roofs and in the trunks. This was a slalom race course for bikes!

We were amazed at the number of riders who showed up to race. There were three flights of different skill levels in the race. The best riders started, followed a few minutes later by a flight with not quite as skilled riders, finally followed by children in the 8-12 range.

Not bluegrass, but it was very entertaining and it was within a short distance from our camp.

On Thursday, the club has a carry-in dinner. I'm a sucker for those and generally overeat even if I restrain myself. Just too much new and good food on the table. After dinner, the club held an idea exercise with the members. "What can we do to improve the club?", they asked. A number of thoughts were captured that should help their board with decisions this winter.

Our daughter, Julie, and granddaughter Alexis showed up on Friday in time to go to town for breakfast. That evening, we gave Julie lessons on how to play the bass. We kept to "D" songs and Alexis accompanied us on her fiddle. The jam was a lot of fun and a good family time other than the blisters Julie acquired.

All of the shows were held indoors so the weather outside didn't matter. The bands were good and entertaining. We are not one to set and listen all day so we were back and forth to the trailer. Alexis felt comfortable to venture out on her own to jams and the show.

The fairgrounds did not have WiFi so we brought along our own system that allows WiFi via cell phone towers. It cost \$20 for one month's service. If you need to be on the net, take a look at Virgin Mobiles Broadband2Go system at WalMart.

Too quickly the festival was over and of course the best weather was the day we left. If you haven't tried this festival put it on your calendar for next year. It is the week end before Memorial weekend and two weeks after Labor Day.

OVER JORDON:

Wade Mainer, 104, of Flint MI died in Sept.

Wade & Julia played many area festivals in the '80s & '90s. Mainer was not only a bluegrass legend around Flint, but also in country music and was the oldest living musician of the musical industry.

INTERNET FEATURES:

NIBGA chat room: tinyurl.com/yh3ew5t

NIBGA Facebook:

<http://tinyurl.com/3ce7v8w>

NIBGA Blog: nibga.blogspot.com

NIBGA web page: BluegrassUSA.net has links to the above and includes all the events in the newsletter plus additions between newsletters.

BLUEGRASS EVENTS IN INDIANA

10/22 Diamond Hill Station, Pizza City, 315 N. 2nd St., Terre Haute **IN** 7:30pm 812-236-7184

10/27 Tim O'Brien & Bryan Sutton, The Lafayette Theater, 600 Main Street, Lafayette, **IN**

10/29 Diamond Hill Station, Haney's Bar, 3101 Schaal Ave., Terre Haute, **IN** 47803 9pm 812-236-7184

11/05 Del McCoury & Preservation Hall Jazz Band; The Palladium, 355 City Center Drive, Carmel, **IN**

11/12 The Chicago Bluegrass Band with guest Bobby Davis on bass; 2nd Annual Harvest Concert, Indian Trail Grange Hall, 109 E. 181st Avenue, Lowell, **IN** 46356 \$10 per adult, children under 10 free 219-865-1829 7pm-10pm CST

11/20 NIBGA jam; Southwest Conservation Club, 5703 Bluffton Rd., Fort Wayne, **IN** 46899 noon-6p food service available. 260-918-4790

12/03 Bobby Davis, Kenny Stone & their Circle of Friends Christmas Concert, 7-9p Wheatfield Municipal Building, 170 S. Grace St., Wheatfield, **IN** 46392 \$10 advance, \$12 door, 219-869-8864

12/09 Special Consensus, Fiddler's Hearth, 127 North Main Street, South Bend, **IN** 46601 574-232-2853

BLUEGRASS EVENTS IN MICHIGAN

10/21 Summertown Road \$12; Kentuckians of Michigan, 28391 Bredow Rd., Romulus, **MI** 46174 734-782-0132

10/26 Tim O'Brien & Bryan Sutton, 8p \$22.50 The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor, **MI** 48104 734-761-1800

10/28 Bridge County \$7; Kentuckians of Michigan, 28391 Bredow Rd., Romulus, **MI** 46174 734-782-0132

10/29 Halloween Dance, Waco Band \$20 includes Buffet & Beer; Kentuckians of Michigan, 28391 Bredow Rd., Romulus, **MI** 46174 734-782-0132

10/29 Rock Island Plow Company, \$7, Huron Valley Eagles #3732, 13636 Telegraph Rd (US 24 & Telegraph Rd.), Flat Rock, **MI** 48134 8 - 12 PM

11/04 Northend String Band \$7; Kentuckians of Michigan, 28391 Bredow Rd., Romulus, **MI** 46174 734-782-0132

11/04 The RFD Boys, 8p \$11, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor, **MI** 48104 734-761-1800

11/05 Uphill Climb; Zellie's Opry House, P. O. Box 332, 230 E. Edgerton, Howard City, **MI** 49329 zelliesopryhouse @ gmail.com 616-260-3032 \$5

11/11 Fossil Creek \$7; Kentuckians of Michigan, 28391 Bredow Rd., Romulus, **MI** 46174 734-782-0132

11/18 New Memphis Express \$7; Kentuckians of Michigan, 28391 Bredow Rd., Romulus, **MI** 46174 734-782-0132

11/19 7:15pm: RJ Thomas & Windy Mtn., 8:15pm Jonas Ridge WMBMA Membership Mtg & Hotbands Fundraiser, Zellie's Opry House, P. O. Box 332, 230 E. Edgerton, Howard City, **MI** 49329 zelliesopryhouse @ gmail.com 616-260-3032 \$5

12/02 Kati Penn & Newtown \$8; Kentuckians of Michigan, 28391 Bredow Rd., Romulus, **MI** 46174 734-782-0132

12/02 April Verch, \$15, 8p, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor, **MI** 48104 734-761-1800

12/03 Bill Bynum & Co.; Zellie's Opry House, P. O. Box 332, 230 E. Edgerton, Howard City, **MI** 49329 zelliesopryhouse @ gmail.com 616-260-3032 \$5

12/09 North & South Connection \$8; Kentuckians of Michigan, 28391 Bredow Rd., Romulus, **MI** 46174 734-782-0132

12/16 Eddie Adkins & the Southerners \$7; Kentuckians of Michigan, 28391 Bredow Rd., Romulus, **MI** 46174 734-782-0132

12/17 7:15pm: Luke Lenhart Family, 8:15pm: Steam Powered Grass WMBMA Membership Mtg & Hotbands Fundraiser, Zellie's Opry House, P. O. Box 332, 230 E. Edgerton, Howard City, **MI** 49329 zelliesopryhouse @ gmail.com 616-260-3032 \$5

12/31 New Years Eve Party with Waco Band, \$35 includes Buffet & Beer; Kentuckians of Michigan, 28391 Bredow Rd., Romulus, **MI** 46174 734-782-0132

BLUEGRASS EVENTS IN OHIO

10/20 Bluegrass Café' \$5 7-9p Famous Old Time Music Company, 20322 US 33, Wapakoneta, **OH** 45895 419-568-1220 \$5

10/21 Lorraine Jordan, Lonesome Heart; Pennyroyal Opera House Exit 198 off I-70 Fairview, **OH** doors 5 pm show 7 pm 740-695-6291

10/21 Tim O'Brien & Bryan Sutton; Kent Stage, 175 E. Main St., Kent **OH** 44240 330-677-5005

10/22 Grassahol; Three Rivers Bluegrass, Agents Reality Bldg, 1 mile north east of Coshocton, **OH** on 36E, turn right on 621, behind Pink's Boot Shop 7 P.M. - 9:30 P.M 740-502-0443

10/22 Caney Creek, Gipson & Fitz, Second Wind \$10, Buckeye Valley Bluegrass Opry, 2300 National Road SW, Hebron, **OH** 43025 5p

10/22 Opry with Appalachian Grass; \$10 7-10:30p, Famous Old Time Music Company, 20322 US 33, Wapakoneta, **OH** 45895 419-568-1220 \$10

10/22 Tommy Webb; Bluegrass Opry Barn 9461 State Route 66, Oakwood, **OH** 7p 419-594-2816

10/27 Bluegrass Café' \$5 7-9p Famous Old Time Music Company, 20322 US 33, Wapakoneta, **OH** 45895 419-568-1220 \$5

10/28 Tim O'Brien & Bryan Sutton, 7:30p Miami Hamilton **OH** University, 513-529-3200 \$15-22

10/29 Black Diamond Bluegrass, Don Rigsby and Midnight Call; Maranatha Community Center 6240 Lucas Pike, Plain City, **OH** Doors @ 5

10/29 Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian Grass, Whitaker Brothers; FOP Bluegrass Benefit; Muskingham County Fairgrounds Veterans's Complex 1300 Pershing Rd., Zanesville, **OH** 43701 6pm 419-568-1220

11/03 Bluegrass Café' \$5 7-9p Famous Old Time Music Company, 20322 US 33, Wapakoneta, **OH** 45895 419-568-1220 \$5

11/04 David Davis & the Warrior River Boys, Wills Creek Famous; Pennyroyal Opera House 198 off I-70, Fairview, **OH** doors 5 pm show 7 pm 740-695-6291

11/11 Slate Ridge; Byrne's Pub, 1248 W. Third Ave., Columbus, **OH** 7-9 p.m. 614-486-4722

11/12 Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian Grass, more; Famous Old Time Music Company, 20322 US 33, Wapakoneta, **OH** 45895 419-568-1220 \$10 4p

11/12 Berachah Valley, Almost Famous \$10, Buckeye Valley Bluegrass Opry, 2300 National Road SW, Hebron, **OH** 43025 5p

11/17 Bluegrass Café' \$5 7-9p Famous Old Time Music Company, 20322 US 33, Wapakoneta, **OH** 45895 419-568-1220 \$5

11/18 Joe Mullins & the Radio Ramblers, Bluegrass Express; Pennyroyal Opera House Exit 198 off I-70, Fairview, **OH** doors 5p show 7p 740-695-6291

12/09 The Grascals, The Sharp Brothers Pennyroyal Opera House Exit 198 off I-70, Fairview, **OH** doors 5 pm show 7 pm 740-695-6291

12/10 Missy Werner, Frosty Morning \$10, Buckeye Valley Bluegrass Opry, 2300 National Road SW, Hebron, **OH** 43025 5p

12/16 Rarely Herd, Timberline; Pennyroyal Opera House Exit 198 off I-70, Fairview, **OH** doors 5 pm show 7 pm 740-695-6291

12/17 Caney Creek, The Kentucky String Quintet \$10, Buckeye Valley Bluegrass Opry, 2300 National Road SW, Hebron, **OH** 43025 5p

12/17 Opry with Appalachian Grass; \$10 7-10:30p, Famous Old Time Music Company, 20322 US 33, Wapakoneta, **OH** 45895 419-568-1220 \$10

12/17 Kentucky Border; Bluegrass Opry Barn 9461 State Route 66, Oakwood, **OH** 7p 419-594-2816

11/04 Grassahol Byrne's Pub, 1248 W. Third Ave. Columbus, **OH** 7-9 p.m. 614-486-4722

11/05 Wendy Miller & Mike Lilly; Bluegrass Opry Barn 9461 State Route 66, Oakwood, **OH** 7p 419-594-2816

11/10 Bluegrass Café' \$5 7-9p Famous Old Time Music Company, 20322 US 33, Wapakoneta, **OH** 45895 419-568-1220 \$5

11/11-12 Bobby Osborne, Rhonda Vincent, Michael Cleveland, Joe Mullins, Crowe Brothers, Alternative Strings and an All-Star Veterans Salute; Southern **OH** Indoor Music Festival, Roberts Convention Center, Wilmington, **OH** www.somusicfest.com or 937-372-5804

11/11 Audie Blaylock , Deep Water Famous; Pennyroyal Opera House Exit 198 off I-70, Fairview, **OH** doors 5 pm show 7 pm 740-695-6291

11/19 New Outlook, Slate Ridge \$10, Buckeye Valley Bluegrass Opry, 2300 National Road SW, Hebron, **OH** 43025 5p

11/19 The Wildwood Valley Boys; Bluegrass Opry Barn 9461 State Route 66, Oakwood, **OH** 7p 419-594-2816

11/26 Opry with Appalachian Grass; \$10 7-10:30p, Famous Old Time Music Company, 20322 US 33, Wapakoneta, **OH** 45895 419-568-1220 \$10

12/02 Little Roy Lewis and Lizzy Long at Licking Valley Elementary School, 1510 Licking Valley Road, Hanover, **OH** show 7:30p doors 6p 740-763-3680.

12/02 The Gibson Brothers and Southbound Express-Pennyroyal Opera House Exit 198 off I-70, Fairview, **OH** doors 5 pm show 7 pm 740-695-6291

12/03 Kati Penn & Newtown; Bluegrass Opry Barn 9461 State Route 66, Oakwood, **OH** 7p 419-594-2816

BLUEGRASS EVENTS IN ILLINOIS

10/21 Henhouse Prowlers Arcada Theater, 105 E Main St., St. Charles, **IL** 7:30 PM 630-962-7000 7:30p Fund raiser for the Rotary Club of St. Charles and the River Corridor Foundation.

10/29 Jeff & Vida Band w/ Michael Cleveland; Bubbly Creek; American Legion, 1030 Central St., Evanston, **IL** 60202 (cash only) \$20, \$15 seniors/children

11/12 New Found Road; American Legion, 1030 Central St., Evanston, **IL** 60202 (cash only) \$20, \$15 seniors/children

11/20 Steel Drivers; Old Town School of Folk Music, 4544 N. Lincoln Ave, Chicago, **IL** 7 PM 773-728-6000

12/10 Larry Stephenson; American Legion, 1030 Central St., Evanston, **IL** 60202 \$20 (cash only) at the door, \$15 seniors/children

12/10 NIBA Holiday Party & Chili Cook Off. 2:00 PM - 8:00p Community Center, 141 Main St., Sugar Grove, **IL** Dinner from 5-6p, Chili cook-off judged at 4:30p free to NIBA members \$15 other

Northern Indiana Bluegrass Association
5034 Wapiti Court
Fort Wayne, IN 46804-4946

Address Service Requested



Next winter jam
Nov. 20, 2011