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Next Jam: Noon-6 PM Date TBD SW Conservation Club, 5703 Bluffton Rd., Ft. Wayne, IN 46899

President's Corner



The time has come to put away our camping RV. We stay north in the winter and do our camping at summer festivals.

This year we camped 4 weeks at Kendallville, a week each at Lowell, MI spring & fall, Marshall and Charlotte, MI. If you add in a couple of trips to see our granddaughter at IU, we were in the camper about 67 nights. If you haven't noticed, we truly enjoy the RV and especially playing music and camping with friends at a bluegrass festival.

While I was on the IBMA board a few years ago, I had the privilege of getting to know Don Tucker, a promoter who managed the Huck Finn festival in southern California. Don was a genius in promoting bluegrass. He died a few years ago and the festival was then managed by the area Visitors Bureau. They must not have had the drive and dedication that Don had. We saw on the web that this is the last year for that festival. It wasn't attracting enough visitors to the

area to fit their needs.

A number of bluegrass events have reduced in size or gone away in the last few years. At the club board meetings this is an often discussed topic with little satisfaction as to what needs to be done. It is not a new subject as, when I was on the IBMA board years ago, it was a hot topic then.

Bands need performance venues AND they need attendees to cheer them on. The winter is a slow time for bluegrass in the wintery north but there are shows. The central Ohio area around Columbus seems to have a hot bed of activity with many local groups performing at churches, restaurants and bars. Your newsletter tries to list one-day gigs in the upper Midwest. If you know of a happening, drop us an email but most importantly, make plans to attend and support the band and the venue that hosts them.

If the good Lord's willin' and the creek don't rise, we'll see you at a bluegrass show!

Jim Winger
President

Reminder: The October 16 and November 20 jam is canceled

Your board will be meeting on those dates at 2p at the Richards Restaurant 252 Frontage Rd, Columbia City, IN 46725. They have set aside a small area for us. You are welcome to attend the meeting or contact us to have items discussed at these meetings.

We visited the Conservation club on October 4 and found they had installed new windows, the interior partitions are up, dry wall and insulation have been delivered. Progress is being made.

Jim

Well, the 2016 Tri-State festivals are now history! I have to say that I am very pleased with the quality of entertainment provided by the lineup at both festivals.

I am especially pleased with, and would certainly be remiss if I didn't mention, the terrific sound at the Labor Day festival by GBS Productions, Dave and Traci Chichester. Their sound equipment was state of the art, providing both a standard mixing console format as well as wireless control, and they also provided some very nice stage lighting.

Providing good sound reinforcement involves much more than employing good equipment, of course, and Dave and Traci were very knowledgeable and attentive. They will be back for 2017's festivals.

Your board will have many items to discuss over the next few months, and one of those will be the lineup for the 2017 festivals. I have already received several suggestions and started making a "long" list.

We will likely also need to consider the size of our band budget and admittance price structure. Our current ticket prices have been unchanged for several years, but, of course, band prices have increased (as is only fair in keeping with our goal of furthering bluegrass music).

Personal golf carts at the festival will likely be another topic for board discussion. As most are aware, a change regarding liability on behalf of NIBGA's insurer prompted the board to allow personal carts for the first time this year.

I want to extend thanks to all who brought their personal carts this year and operated them responsibly. With very few exceptions, owners ensured that their carts were operated by licensed drivers and observed the designated cart parking areas in the stage area.

We did not encounter any significant issues, and, although there may be room for some minor adjustments

Continued on next page

VP News, cont.

to the policy, I think it is safe to say the board will continue allowing personal carts at the festival for the foreseeable future.

If you have any band recommendations, or thoughts to share on these (or any other matters), please drop us a line by email or Facebook. We always like to get suggestions – we may not always be able to follow them, but they always receive consideration.

Joe Steiner
Vice President



International Bluegrass Music Awards

The 27th Annual International Bluegrass Music Association (IBMA) Awards Show was held on September 30, 2016 in Raleigh, North Carolina, celebrating excellence in bluegrass music. As an IBMA member, the Northern Indiana Bluegrass Association has a vote, along with many other individuals and organizations, in determining the award recipients at this event.

The Earls of Leicester won big again this year, bringing home Entertainer of the Year, for the second time, and receiving individual instrumentalist awards for Dobro (Jerry Douglas), banjo (Charlie Cushman), and bass (Barry Bales). Flatt Lonesome also had a big night, bringing home Vocal Group of the Year, Album of the Year (*Runaway Train*), and Song of the Year (“You’re the One”).

This year’s Female Vocalist of the Year, Becky Buller, and Male Vocalist of the Year, Danny Paisley, both graced the Tri-State stage this season at the spring festival. This year’s Songwriter of the Year, Donna Ulisse, also graced our stage, in the fall (and gave an excellent songwriting workshop).

Special Consensus, who appeared at Tri-State this past spring, won Instrumental Recorded Performance of the Year for “Fireball,” featuring Rob Ickes, Trey Hensley, and Alison Brown. The Instrumental Group of the Year, Frank Solivan & Dirty Kitchen, has also ap-

Fall Festival Reflections

A huge Thank You goes out to all the people that helped me by announcing on the stage during the Labor Day Festival! They really made great bands run smoothly.

A heartfelt thanks to:

Elaine Vogie Bill Merrill Terri Grannis
Terry Thacker Donnie Voiles

Thanks Again!

Chris Vogie
Stage Chairman

peared (twice) at Tri-State – we were one of the first events to hire this fine group.

In addition to her vocal award, Becky Buller was also named Fiddle Player of the Year, and Brian Sutton received Guitar Player of the Year honors. This was the first year that a woman received Mandolin Player of the Year, as Sierra Hull received that honor, and Mountain Faith won the Emerging Artist of the Year award.

For the past several years, the IBMA has also been presenting several “momentum” awards, whose recipients are relatively new to the field of bluegrass and are nominated outside the main award balloting process. Last year, Summer McMahan, Mountain Faith’s lead singer and fiddle player, received one of these awards.

It was nice to see that one of this year’s “momentum” awards went to broadcaster and clawhammer banjo player, Brad Kolodner. I have known Brad’s father, Ken Kolodner, for many years through his performances on hammered dulcimer, both as a member of Helicon and a soloist, but Brad is truly a newcomer to bluegrass and old time music, only becoming involved within the last few years.

As space allows, we will highlight more IBMA winners in the next newsletters.

~ Joe Steiner



What is your talent? Do you just LOVE to post things on Facebook? What about teaching an instrument? Do you enjoy coming up with new ideas for children’s activities, and then implementing them? Are you a go-getter grant writer? Whatever your passion, your club needs YOU! We are always looking for volunteers to assist with the club and festival activities. Please consider joining our team.

Contact Chris Steiner for more information at [cooperrider @ yahoo.com](mailto:cooperrider@yahoo.com) or 419-721-8016.

Upcoming Events

If you are traveling any distance, be sure to call ahead to make sure the event is still as scheduled.

Indiana

- 1st Sun.** Central Indiana jam, Hall Community Bldg, 307 W South St, Gas City, **IN** 46933 noon-?? (Oct. 2, Nov. 6, Dec. 4, 2016) 765-674-5117
- 1st Thurs.** Wakarusa Jamboree, Northwood Middle School, 301 N. Elkhart St., Wakarusa, **IN** 46573 6:30-9p (Sept. – May) 574-862-2200
- 1st Sat** Contra Dance, First United Methodist Church, 215 South 5th St., Goshen, **IN** 46526; 1st Sat., General Public: \$7, Members \$6, Students: \$4, Student members \$3, Children under 12: free, Family maximum cost: \$18. 7:30p beginner lessons, 8-11p dance 574-533-9906 year around
- Every Tues.** Old Timey jam; Fiddler's Hearth, 127 N. Main St., South Bend, **IN** 46601 574-232-2853
- 2nd Wed.** Jam, CrossRoads Inn, 5975 S SR 9, Columbia City, **IN** 46725 260-396-2144 6:30-8:30p
- 2nd Thurs.** 5:30p meeting; 6p jam White River Folk & Bluegrass jam, FOP, 2614 Mounds Rd., Anderson, **IN** 46016 765-606-0761 (Oct '16-April '17)
- 3rd Fri.** Bluegrass, Country, Gospel Jam 7-9pm SR 14, Community Center, North Akron, **IN** 46910
- 3rd Sun** jam; Sheridan Public Library 103 W. 1st St., Sheridan, **IN** 46069 1-5p year around
- 4th Thurs.** 6p jam White River Folk & Bluegrass jam, FOP, 2614 Mounds Rd., Anderson, **IN** 46016 765-606-0761 (Oct '16-April '17)
- 10/27** The Matchsellers; Pine Room Tavern, 51 Chestnut St, Nashville, **IN** 47448 812-988-0236 8p
- 11/03** Rhonda Vincent; Emens Auditorium, Muncie, **IN**
- 11/19** Blue Mafia; Mitchell Opera House, 7th & Brook St., PO Box 37, Mitchell, **IN** 47446 (812) 849-4447 7-9p \$12

Michigan

- Every Tues.** Jam/dance, Scotts Community Center, 8450 36th St S, Scotts, **MI** 49088 6-9p 269-388-3839 free
- Every Tues.** jam; Senior Center, Main St., E. Jordan, **MI** 49727 6-10p 231-434-9153
- 2nd Tues.** slow jam, Public Library, 6260 92nd St., Caledonia, **MI** 49316 616-891-8825
- 2nd Tues** Jam ; 3rd Floor Van Deusen Room, Kalamazoo Public Library, 315 S. Rose St., Kalamazoo, **MI** 7-8:30pm
- 3rd Thur** jam; Elderly, 1100 N Washington, Lansing, **MI** 48906 517-372-7880 7-8:30p

- 3rd Sun 11/20, 12/18, 03/19, 05/21** Mid-Michigan jams, Woldumar Nature Center, 5739 Old Lansing Rd., Lansing, **MI** 48917 517-482-2382 \$4 donation (no Easter)
- 10/26** Yonder Mountain String Band; Ark, 316 S Main St, Ann Arbor, **MI** 48104 734-761-1800 7:30p \$39.50
- 10/28** Lindsay Lou & The Flatbellys; State Theatre, 913 Washington Ave, Bay City, **MI** 48708 989-892-2660 7p
- 10/29** Lindsay Lou & The Flatbellys; Founders Brewing Co., 235 Grandville Ave SW, Grand Rapids, **MI** 49503 616-776-1195 9:30p \$5
- 10/29** Dale Keene & Fulton County Bluegrass; Eagles, 13636 Telegraph Rd, Flat Rock, **MI** 48134 313-381-7751 \$7
- 11/04** Northwood Ramblers Band; Kentuckians of Michigan, 28391 Bredow Rd., Romulus, **MI** 46174 734-782-0132 \$7
- 11/11** North Back 40; Kentuckians of Michigan, 28391 Bredow Rd., Romulus, **MI** 46174 734-782-0132 \$8
- 11/12** Harbourtown w/Isaac Smith; Zellie's Opry House, 230 E. Edgerton St., Howard City, **MI** 49329 \$10 2p
- 11/18** Waynewood Band; Kentuckians of Michigan, 28391 Bredow Rd., Romulus, **MI** 46174 734-782-0132 \$7
- 11/19** The Stray Birds w/ Anthony da Costa; Ark, 316 S Main St, Ann Arbor, **MI** 48104 734-761-1800 8p \$15

Ohio

- 1st Sat** – Traditional, bluegrass, country music with acoustic instruments – Three rooms of jammin' for your musical pleasure. Nettle Lake United Brethren Church, 18560 County Road 5-75, Montpelier, **OH** 43543 6p 517-270-2870 or 419-485-4112
- 10/26** The Honey Dewdrops; Natalie's Coal Fired Pizza, 5601 N High St, Worthington, **OH** 43085 614-436-2625 9p
- 10/28** Fox N Hounds; Casa Nueva, 6 W State St, Athens, **OH** 45701 740-592-2016 10p
- 10/29** Erika Hughes & The Well Mannered; Rambling House, 310 E Hudson St, Columbus, **OH** 43202 614-468-3415 9p
- 11/04** Sugar Creek Bluegrass; Sterling Bluegrass Jamboree, 26 E Main St, Mt Sterling, **OH** 43143 6:30p
- 11/04** Strung Up Bluegrass; Harvest Moon Cafe, 7 N.High St., Canal Winchester, **OH** 43110 7-10
- 11/04** Ma Crow & the Lady Slippers Village Troubadour, 46 Eswin St., Greenhills, **OH** 45218 513-648-9357 7-9p
- 11/04** Kevin Prater; Byrne's Pub, 1248 W 3rd Av, Columbus **OH** 43212 614-486-4722
- 11/05** Kevin Prater; Bluegrass Opry Barn, 9461 SR66, Oakwood, **OH** 45873 419-594-2816
- 11/05** Ma Crow & the Lady Slippers; Plain Folk Cafe, 10177 SR 132, Pleasant Plain, **OH** 45162 7:30-10p
- 11/06** Kevin Prater, Chestnut Ridge Bluegrass; Presbyterian Church, 732 N. Main St, Newark, **OH** 43055 4p
- 11/06** Sugar Creek Bluegrass; Northside Church of Christ, 4588 Marion Rd. NE, Newark, **OH** 7p
- 11/06** Kevin Prater; Hanover Presbyterian Church, 732 N. Main Street, Newark, **OH** 43055 4p
- 11/11-12** Larry Cordle, Junior Sisk, Rhonda Vincent, Malpass Brothers, Joe Mullins, Spinney Brothers, Larry Sparks, Darrin & Brooke Aldridge, Sugar Creek Bluegrass; Southern Ohio Indoor Music Fest., Roberts Centre, 123 Gano Rd, Wilmington, **OH** 45177 937-372-5804
- 11/12** Buffalo Wabs & The Price Hill Hustle; Oddbody's, 5418 Burkhardt Rd, Dayton, **OH** 45431 937-813-4272 7p
- 11/18** Fox N Hounds; Woodland Tavern, 1200 W 3rd Ave, Columbus, **OH** 43212 614-299-4987 9p
- 11/19** Ma Crow & the Lady Slippers; College Hill Coffee Co, 6128 Hamilton Ave., Cincinnati, **OH** 45224 513-542-2739 7:30-9:30p
- 11/20** The Stray Birds w/ Anthony da Costa; Natalie's Coal Fired Pizza, 5601 N High St, Worthington, **OH** 43085 614-436-2625 8p
- 11/26** Fox N Hounds; Weasel Boy Brewing, 126 Muskingum Ave, Zanesville, **OH** 43701 740-605-7468 8p
- 12/02** Strung Up bluegrass; Byrne's Pub, 1248 W 3rd Av, Columbus **OH** 43212 614-486-4722
- 12/03** Ma Crow & the Lady Slippers; Reflections@PMG, 3377 US-35, West Alexandria, **OH** 45381 937-839-4500



12/09 Ma Crow & the Lady Slippers
Village Troubadour, 46 Eswin St., Green-
hills, **OH** 45218 513-648-9357 7-9p
12/09 Erika Hughes & the Well Man-
nered; Rambling House, 310 E Hudson
St, Columbus, **OH** 43202
614-468-3415 9p
12/10 Sugar Creek; COBA, Grace Chapel,
7798 Big Walnut Rd., Westerville, **OH**
43082 7p

12/11 The Seldom Scene; Natalie's Coal
Fired Pizza, 5601 N High St,
Worthington, **OH** 43085
614-436-2625 8p
12/16 Fox N Hounds; Rambling House,
310 E. Hudson St, Columbus, **OH** 43202
614-468-3415 \$5 9-midnight



Other States

10/29 Yonder Mountain String Band;
House of Blues, 329 N Dearborn St,
Chicago, **IL** 60654 312-923-2000 \$27.50
11/16 The Tillers; The Hideout, 1354 W
Wabansia Ave, Chicago, **IL** 60642
773-227-4433
11/19 Special Consensus; Down Home
Guitars, 11 S White St, Frankfort, **IL**
60423 815-469-6321 7:30p

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your Holiday
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Next NIBGA Jam - TBD