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Memberships: \$10 one, \$15 two w/one mailing Published 2nd Sunday, Mailed 3rd Sunday monthly
Next Jam: Noon-6 PM, Mar 18. SW Conservation Club, 5703 Bluffton Rd., Ft. Wayne, IN 46899

President's Corner



Here we are at the middle of February and I am feeling really cooped up -- can't wait for warmer weather to get here so we can

pick outside again! Like most of us, President Jim and his wife, Linda Winger, are anxiously awaiting old man winter's exit, but they are also anxiously awaiting the arrival of some major renovations at their home. In fact, the majority of their first floor is currently under construction and they have been relegated to just a couple rooms upstairs. Since Jim is busy coordinating the remodel, and, more importantly, staying out of the contractors' way, I am pinch hitting for this month's President's Column.

As the winter stretches on, and I start getting stir crazy, I find it is good therapy to attend as many jam sessions as possible. Apparently, I am not the only one who feels that way, because the NIBGA monthly jam sessions have been



Jam at the SWCC in January 2018

I "googled" my symptoms.... Turns out that I just need to jam more!

especially well attended recently.

As most folks are aware, our winter home, the Southwest Conservation Club, was recently damaged by fire, but the silver lining of that dark cloud is that the club's kitchen and jamming areas are better than ever thanks to a recent remodel. There is always great picking at the monthly jams, of course, and The Southwest Conservation Club features good eats, too. You never know who will show up at the monthly jams, but you know they will always be a lot of fun. Plan to join us if you are in the area on the 3rd Sunday of the month (except February's meeting/jam will be the 4th Sunday due to scheduling conflicts this month).

Anticipating old man winter's exit and preparing to welcome spring, the NIBGA board has been busy planning the upcoming 2018 festivals. One of the items which we have been discussing is the best way to spend the club's advertising dollars. We will most likely continue focusing on social media advertising, as we have the past few years.

Please keep in mind that all members can help with social media advertising by posting on the club's Facebook page and sharing the club's Facebook posts. If you have friends who might be interested in bluegrass music, or enjoy attending a family-friendly, low-cost event over the Memorial Day or Labor Day weekends, please share NIBGA's posts with them. And, if you enjoy, or have information about, any of the bands who will be appearing at the

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BUZZ on the Bands



As I mentioned in a previous newsletter, I am really excited that **Danny Paisley** will be returning to the Tri-State Festival in 2018. Over the next few weeks, I will be giving you some information on the other groups that will be appearing in 2018.

A new artist appearing on the Tri-State stage in the spring is **Billy Droze**. Although most folks won't be familiar with him by name, I bet a lot are familiar with his work.

He has co-written many songs that have been recorded by top bluegrass artists, including "I Know Better" which was recorded by the Grascals and rose to #1 on the Bluegrass Today Weekly Chart. Other songs to his credit are "Her Memory Again" (recorded by Flatt Lonesome, #5 on Bluegrass Today Weekly Chart), "Bottle Was a Bible" (Junior Sisk), "Big Pain" (Marty Raybon), and "Free Again" (Shenandoah).

Although he is only 29, he has been touring worldwide for over a decade, and he currently features David Freeman on mandolin, Matthew Davis on banjo, and Greg Martin on bass.

A unique singer/songwriter, his stage show not only pulls from his own original material, but also from the bluegrass tradition, and he mixes in some old country standards done up in bluegrass style. At Tri-State, he will be featuring songs from his recent release on Rural Rhythm records, *To Whom It May Concern*.

There are many other exciting groups who will be appearing in this year's lineup, including Nu Blu, 4-time NAMM show official performing artists, and the Trinity River Band, featuring two-time IBMA Momentum vocalist nominee, Sarah Harris. So keep your eye out for more details in upcoming newsletters!

Joe Steiner

**Congratulations to the 2018 SPBGMA Bluegrass Band Competition winners.
February 1-4, 2018, Nashville TN**



1st	Trailblazers	6th	That Dalton Gang
2nd	Dead End Road	7th	Bluegrass One
3rd	Turkey Creek	8th	Barefoot Nellie and Company
4th	Petersons	9th	Dixie Jubilee
5th	The Baker Family	10th	Sabine River Road

SPBGMA Music Awards went to:

- **Bluegrass Promoter of the Year** – DA Callaway
- **Bluegrass Radio Station of the Year** – Sirius XM 062-Bluegrass Junction
- **Bluegrass DJ of the Year** – Kyle Cantrell Sirius XM 062
- **Songwriter of the Year** – Donna Ulisse
- **Album of the Year** – *Colors*, The Farm Hands on Pinecastle Records
- **Bass Fiddle Performer of the Year** – Mickey Harris
- **Dobro Performer of the Year** – Tim Graves
- **Guitar Performer of the Year** – Josh Williams
- **Mandolin Performer of the Year** – Alan Bibey
- **Banjo Performer of the Year** – Kristin Scott Benson
- **Fiddle Performer of the Year** – Hunter Berry
- **Female Vocalist of the Year** – Rhonda Vincent
- **Male Vocalist of the Year** – Russell Moore
- **Bluegrass Gospel Group of the Year** – Joe Mullins & The Radio Ramblers
- **Bluegrass Vocal Group of the Year** – Doyle Lawson & Quicksilver
- **Bluegrass Instrumental Group of the Year** – Michael Cleveland & Flamekeeper
- **Bluegrass Band of the Year (Overall)** – The Farm Hands
- **Bluegrass Entertainer(s) of the Year** – Doyle Lawson & Quicksilver
- **Bluegrass Song of the Year** – *Rural Route*, The Farmhands on Pinecastle Records

President's Column, continued

festivals, please post your comments.

Another subject of recent board discussions has been the trash removal situation. At the request of the Noble County Fair Board, we recently began using dumpsters instead of trash cans. These seem to be working out pretty well, and we want to thank festival attendees for their cooperation in adjusting to this new method of trash collection. Please remember to use the dumpsters rather than leaving trash at your campsite as you exit the fairgrounds.

As many of you are aware, we will not be holding a band scramble at this year's events. Although it has been very popular in past years, it has become increasingly difficult to get contestants for the band scramble.


A couple club members have expressed a willingness to assist with the band scramble in the future, but the board felt it would be difficult to coordinate the event for this year. If you are interested in helping bring the band scramble back, though, please contact one of the board members to let them know you are interested. If there is enough interest, we will determine how to bring the band scramble back in the future.

Speaking of the band scramble, I am reminded that it was originated due to suggestions from club members. In fact, many popular parts of the festival, such as the gospel sing, beginner/intermediate jam, extended workshop sessions, and taxi service, were originally suggested by members and festival attendees.

Before I sign off on this column, I would like to make a request for members to please make their ideas known. It takes all of us to make a festival like ours successful. Although the board can't promise to implement every suggestion we receive, we can promise that each will be considered. And, it is our combined efforts, and our combined ideas, on which NIBGA's successful 40+ year history is built.

And, as Jim Winger always ends his column... "if the good Lord's willing, and the creek don't rise"... see you in the Spring!

Joe Steiner



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Upcoming Events

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

Indiana

Every Tues Old Timey jam; Fiddler's Hearth, 127 N. Main St., South Bend, IN 46601 574-232-2853 7-10p year around

Every Tues Arthur's Music Store, 931 Shelby St, Indianapolis, IN 46203 317-638-3524 5-8p

1st or 2nd Sun. 02/11, 03/04, 04/01, 10/14, 11/04, 12/09 but 2nd on 12/10 Central Indiana jam, Hall Community Bldg, 307 W South St, Gas City, IN 46933 noon-?? 765-674-5117

1st Tues Old Time Jam, 3 Rivers Natural Grocery, 1612 Sherman Blvd, Fort Wayne, IN 46808 6:30-8:30p 260-445-3348

1st Thurs. Wakarusa Jamboree Northwood Middle School, 301 N. Elkhart St., Wakarusa, IN 46573 6:30-9p 574-862-2200 (Sept - May)

1st Sat Contra Dance, 1st United Methodist Church, 215 S. 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

2nd Mon mostly Irish jam; J K O'Donnell's, 121 W Wayne St, Fort Wayne, IN 46802 7-10p 260-420-5563

2nd & 4th Wed. Jam; CrossRoads Inn, 5975 S SR 9, Columbia City, IN 46725 260-396-2144 6:30-8:30p

2nd Thurs. Whiteriver Folks & Bluegrass, FOP Lodge, 2614 Mounds Rd., Anderson, IN 5:30p meeting, carry-in, 6:30p jam

3rd Sun jam; Sheridan Public Library 103 W. 1st St., Sheridan, IN 46069 1-5p year around (317) 758-5201

3rd Sun jam Jan-April 2018; Northern Ind. Bluegrass, SWCC, 5703 Bluffton Rd, Fort Wayne, IN 46809 noon-5p 260-918-4790 drinks & sandwiches available

3rd Tues Irish Jam; 3 Rivers Natural Grocery, 1612 Sherman Blvd, Fort Wayne, IN 46808 6:30-8:30p

3rd Fri. Bluegrass, Country, Gospel Jam; Community Center, 815 Rural St, Akron, IN 46910 7-9p

03/09 Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian Grass, Joy River; Roberts Park, 2900 N. Park Rd, Connersville, IN 47331 6-??p

03/09 Chicago Bluegrass Band; **Fiddler's Hearth**, 127 North Main Street, South Bend, IN 46601 574-232-2853

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

1st & 3rd Sat Eagles, 13636 Telegraph Rd., Flat Rock, MI 48134 8p usually \$7

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

2nd Sat Maumee St. Jam, First Presbyterian, 156 E. Maumee, Adrian, MI 49221 517-270-2870 church 517-265-2168 6-11p (Sept - May)

3rd Thur jam; Elderly, 1100 N Washington, Lansing, MI 48906 517-372-7880 6-8:30p (thanks Roberta for the updated time)

3rd Sun Mid-Michigan jams, Woldumar Nature Center, 5739 Old Lansing Rd., Lansing, MI 48917 517-482-2382 \$4 donation (no Easter)

3-24, 4-28, 5-19 Michigan Bluegrass Music Assoc. open stages & jams 6-10p Armstrong Middle School, 6161 Hopkins Drive, Flint, MI 48506 810-736-5332 donation

03/02 North Back 40 with Matt Thacker; Kentuckians of Michigan, 28391 Bredow Rd., Romulus, MI 46174 734-782-0132 \$8 8p

03/03 Ricky Skaggs; Ark, 316 S Main St, Ann Arbor, MI 48104 734-761-1800 \$55-150 Sold Out

03/10 Newtown; Zellie's Opry House, PO Box 332, 230 E. Edgerton, Howard City, MI 49329 2p 616-260-3032 1p

03/16 New County Grass; Kentuckians of Michigan, 28391 Bredow Rd., Romulus, MI 46174 734-782-0132 \$7 8p

03/17 RFD Boys; Ark, 316 S Main St, Ann Arbor, MI 48104 734-761-1800 8p \$10 mbr

03/17 Railsplitters; Seven Steps Up, 116 S Jackson St, Spring Lake, MI 49456 616-678-3618

03/20 Railsplitters; Ark, 316 S Main St, Ann Arbor, MI 48104 734-761-1800 \$15 8p \$15

03/23 Southern Echos; Kentuckians of Michigan, 28391 Bredow Rd., Romulus, MI 46174 734-782-0132 \$7 8p

03/31 Edgar Loudermilk, w Jeff Autry Zellie's Opry House, PO Box 332, 230 E. Edgerton, Howard City, MI 49329 2p 616-260-3032 2p

03/31 Edgar Loudermilk, w Jeff Autry; Eagles Club, 13636 Telegraph Rd, Flat Rock, MI 48134

03/31 Edgar Loudermilk Band feat Jeff Autry; Eagles Club, 13636 Telegraph

Rd, Flat Rock, MI 48134

Ohio

1st Sat - Trad., bluegrass, country music w/ acoustic instruments - 3 rooms of jammin' for your musical pleasure. Nettle Lake United Brethren Church, 18560 Cty Road 5-75, Montpelier, OH 43543 6p 517-270-2870 or 419-485-4112

2nd Sat Central Ohio Bluegrass Assoc Grace Chapel Community Church (in the Recreation Hall), 7798 Big Walnut Rd., Westerville, OH 43082 jam: 5:45-7p bands 7p (Nov. - May)

Sun Old Time Jam; Rambling House Soda, 310 E Hudson St, Columbus, OH 43202 614-468-3415 7p

Tues. Bluegrass Opry Barn, 9461 OH-66, Oakwood, OH 45873 419-594-2816 6p winter months

Weds jam with Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian Grass, Pit to Plate BBQ, 8021 Hamilton Ave., Mt. Healthy, OH 45231 7-9p 513-931-9100 (This event is on again off again. Call first)

03/02 The Wayfarers; Rambling House Soda, 310 E Hudson St, Columbus, OH 43202 614-468-3415 9p

03/02-03 Greensky Bluegrass, Billy Strings, Larry Keel, Rumpke Mountain Boys, Kitchen Dwellers, Blue Moon Soup, Still Shine; Bluestone, 583 East Broad St., Columbus, OH 43215 Doors 6p 614-884-4646

03/03 Molly Rose Band; Sterling Bluegrass Concert, 26 E. Main St., Mt Sterling OH 43143 614-323-6938 \$12

03/03 Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian Grass; Haddix Hall, 4165 SR 122, Franklin, OH 45005 937-746-5415 6-8p

03/03 The Ramblers and Lloyd Blevins & Ramblin' Mountain; Johnson Community Ctr. 800 Gillmer Rd., Leavittsburg, OH 44430 Doors 6p, music 7p 330-240-1904

03/03 Blue Highway; Performing Arts Center 500 E. Franklin Street Center-ville, OH 45459 937-439-3535 7p

03/05 Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian Grass; Miami University Downtown Downhome, 221 High St., Hamilton, OH 45011 7-9p

03/09 Kati Penn & Newtown, Mountain Home, New Outlook; Moon City, 1208 Lunar Dr., Wapakoneta, OH 45895 567-204-0929 7p \$10

03/10 7 Mile; Sterling Bluegrass Concert, 26 E. Main St., Mt Sterling OH 43143 614-323-6938 \$10 5p

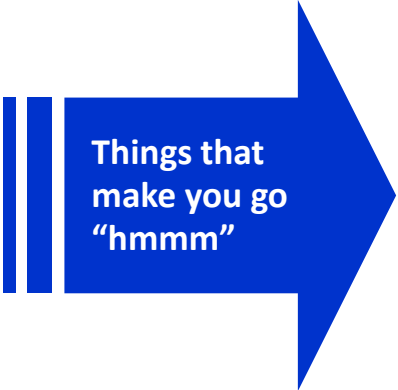
03/10 Sandy Tar Brothers; Grace Chapel COBA, 7798 Big Walnut Rd,

Continued on back

Westerville, OH 43082-9407 5:30p
03/11 Ralph Stanley II. Vintage Ramblers
 Eagles, 509 Sports St., Fairborn, OH
 45324 937-878-9211 1p
03/16 Balsam Range; Methodist Church,
 207 S. Court St., Marysville, OH
 43040 937-642-4712 7p \$25
03/17 Hwy 57, Anna Allen and Traditional
 Plus; Lincoln Way Rec Center, St Rt
 602, Bucyrus, OH 44820 7p
 419-462-4363
03/17 Evan Lanier and Bluegrass Express
 Sterling Bluegrass Concert, 26 E. Main
 St., Mt Sterling OH 43143
 614-323-6938 \$10 5p
03/17 Mike Gorrell, Darla Evans doing
 solo sets; Des Dutch Essenhaus, 176
 N. Market St, Shreve, OH 44676
 5:30pm
03/21 The Railsplitters; The Refectory,
 1092 Bethel Rd, Columbus, OH
 43220 614-451-9774

03/23-24 Fri. Price Sisters, Little Roy &
 Lizzy, Art Stevenson & High Water, Joe
 Mullins, R Vincent & The Rage; Sat.
 Art Stevenson & High Water, Po' Ram-
 blin' Boys, Nothin' Fancy, Primitive
 Quartet, Joe Mullins, R Skaggs & KY
 Thunder; S. Ohio Music Fest, Roberts
 Center, 123 Gano Rd, Wilmington, OH
 45177 Doors 10a music noon
 937-372-5804
03/24 Ottawa County and Hwy
 57; Grange, 9778 Old State Road,
 Chardon, OH 44024 330-240-1904 7p
03/24 Ma Crow; Sterling Bluegrass Con-
 cert, 26 E. Main St., Mt Sterling
 OH 43143 614-323-6938 \$12 5p
03/24 Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian
 Grass; Plain Folk Cafe, 10177 SR 132,
 Pleasant Plain, OH 45162

513-877-2526 7:30-9:30p
03/24 Jr. Sisk, Caney Creek, Larry
 Efaw; OJ Work Auditorium, 151 Main
 St, Wadsworth, OH 44281
 330-645-1541 \$20 7p
03/24 Northwest Territory; Village Inn,
 115 N. Water St., Coshocton,
 OH 43812 7p 740-498-8456
03/25 Ricky Skaggs and Kentucky Thun-
 der; Kent Stage, 175 E Main, Kent, OH
 44240 330-677-5005 \$37-47
03/29-30 Edgar Loudermilk Band w/Jeff
 Autry; McCance Cabin, 11012 CR 17,
 Wauseon, OH 43567 7p 419-307-3070
 \$20
03/31 Kenny Stinson; Sterling Bluegrass
 Concert, 26 E. Main St., Mt Sterling
 OH 43143 614-323-6938 \$12 5p



The stages of a musician's life:

1. Who is *name*?
2. Get me *name*.
3. Get me someone who sounds like *name*.
4. Get me a YOUNG *name*.
5. Who is *name*?

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

Address Service Requested



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Next NIBGA Jam - March 18, 2018