



It has been too long since Frank Ray and **Cedar Hill** have been at the Tri-State festival – their last appearance was 8 years ago in 2011. Frank was recently inducted into the SPBGMA Preservation Hall of Greats in 2019.

That's no surprise to those who are aware of his 50 year history as a stalwart supporter of bluegrass in Missouri, playing mandolin in his trademark syncopated style and providing his unmistakable tenor vocals.

His band was originally called the Ramblin' Bluegrass Boys, formed with Rich Orchard in 1967. The band was renamed Cedar Hill Grass in 1972, and, with Orchard's Departure in 1976, Frank became the sole leader.

By 1980, he had shortened the name and was performing as simply Cedar Hill.

Over the years, his group included many different members, but he has always maintained the same soulful, traditional bluegrass style.

The current lineup of Dan Stokely (guitar), Patti LaFleur (bass), Pete Brown (fiddle), and Jim Bunch (banjo) is no exception, delivering top-notch instrumental work and tight vocal harmonies.



There are not many folks in bluegrass music who aren't familiar with **Audie Blaylock**. Before stepping out on his own, he worked with some of the legends in bluegrass music: Jimmy Martin, Red Allen, Lynn Morris, Harley Allen, and Rhonda Vincent.

Although he started his Band, **Redline**, in 2004, he put the group on hiatus for a few years to join forces with Michael Cleveland in Flamekeeper. Now in his second decade as a bandleader, he can look back on IBMA Instrumental Group of the Year and

Cont. →

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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 17. SW Conservation Club, 5703 Bluffton Rd., Ft. Wayne, IN 46899

President's Corner



We recently read the following on a web site:
"Volunteerism is one of the most important and beneficial actions that we can take as

human beings. Our ability to provide our time and expertise can make an immense difference in the world around us and within the communities that we reside. The fact of the matter is without volunteerism nonprofit organizations cannot fulfill their mission and achieve their goals."

This holds very true to NIBGA. This year we lost two of our dedicated volunteers, Maggie Bilby and Dave Keiper. They worked tirelessly to make the festival an enjoyable experience at a reasonable price. This leaves us asking whom we might find to offer similar skills, and we hope that others will step forward and ask, "Is there something I can do?"

Some of the club tasks are physically strenuous, or require a little handyman skill, so may not be within the capabilities of certain volunteers.

But, the NIBGA board wants to be sure everyone realizes that there are plenty of jobs that require only a smile and a friendly attitude. A willingness to say; "here is my skill can you use it?" can get anyone started in helping make NIBGA a better club to ensure that it is viable into the future.

How much time does the club need or want? As little as 2 hours can make a difference -- we do not ask folks to give up jamming or watching the stage show for the weekend. We ask only for a small part of your time, but many who have offered their services end up realizing that helping the club is one of the most enjoyable parts of their festival experience.

The following information from the web site I mentioned earlier indicates that volunteering has many benefits which, although they cannot be quantified, improve a person's health and well-being:

- *Volunteerism improves health by strengthening the body, improving mood, and lessening stress in participants.*
- *Those who volunteer regularly have a 27% better chance of gaining employment.*
- *Aristotle (born: 384 BC) once said: "the essence of life is to serve others and do good."*

Dr. Mark Snyder, a professor at the University of Minnesota who has researched the psychology of volunteerism for years, says: "When it comes to younger people career goals usually outweigh desires to volunteer. But when you get people who are approaching retirement age, career considerations aren't so important.

What you see is a sense of volunteering as an act of citizenship and leaving something for next generations and leaving a legacy behind."

Continuing he remarked: "Overall, the most enthusiastic volunteers tend to keep volunteering because they've found a way to bring together two things: the satisfaction of doing good for other people along with gaining something for themselves."

If you enjoy the festival, please consider becoming more involved and volunteering to help – you may find it is one of the best things you've ever done!

If the good Lord's willin' and the creek don't rise, we'll see you at an area bluegrass event.

James A. Winger
President

BUZZ on the Bands, cont.

Entertainer of the Year awards, as well as nominations for both Male Vocalist of the Year and Guitar Player of the Year.

True to his training with the greats, Audie has founded Redline solidly on bluegrass tradition; however, his approach is anything but a cookie-cutter tribute to those who came before.

Redline thrives on innovation, and this is reflected in their creative arrangements, crisp instrumentals, and powerful vocals. The current lineup is Evan Ward on banjo, Mason Wright on fiddle, and Reed Jones on bass.

Continue watching the next two newsletters for the “buzz” on the remaining Spring 2019 bands.

Joe Steiner

Congratulations to the 2019 SPBGMA Bluegrass Band Competition winners February 3, 2019, Nashville TN



1st The Family Sowell
2nd **That Dalton Gang ***
3rd Turkey Creek
4th Dead End Road
5th Dixie Jubilee

6th Night Shade
7th Carolina Divide
8th High Lonesome Senate
9th Po Anna
10th Echo Valley

- **Promoter of the Year** – DA Callaway
- **Radio Station of the Year** – Sirius XM 062
- **DJ of the Year** – Kyle Cantrell
- **Songwriter of the Year** – Larry Cordle
- **Album of the Year** – *Good Things*, The Farm Hands (Pinecastle Records)
- **Bass Fiddle Performer of the Year** – Zak McLamb
- **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** – Laura Orshaw
- **Female Vocalist of the Year** – **Dale Ann Bradley ***
- **Male Vocalist of the Year** – Russell Moore
- **Gospel Group of the Year** – The Farm Hands
- **Vocal Group of the Year** – Doyle Lawson & Quicksilver
- **Instrumental Group of the Year** – The Grascals
- **Bluegrass Band of the Year (Overall)** – The Grascals
- **Entertainers of the Year** – Doyle Lawson & Quicksilver
- **Bluegrass Song of the Year** – *Hillbilly Graham*, The Farmhands (Pinecastle Records)

*** Appearing at Tri-State in 2019**

Over Jordan

It is with great sadness that we must share news of the passing of another Tri-State Bluegrass Festival icon. **Dave Keiper** had been involved with the festival for many years, serving most recently as the chairman of the maintenance committee.

Dave was the first one called for any water, electrical, mowing, or other grounds issues at the festival. He worked tirelessly during the weeks leading up to the festival ensuring facilities were in good order, and he served as liaison with the Noble County Community Fair Board when necessary to resolve issues. His input was also significant and essential at club meetings when evaluating festival results and setting club policy.

Dave always camped along the midway, next to the log ice cream booth which often served as the taxi dispatch station. Most will recognize his wife Pam as one of the club’s longtime board members and head gate captains. Dave was a good friend to bluegrass music, and to the NIBGA board and membership.

He will be greatly missed.



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

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

Every Fri. Fulton Branch Library, 514 N SR 25, Rochester, IN 46975 574-857-3895 6:30-8:30p

1st Mon 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 MS, 301 N. Elkhart St., Wakarusa, IN 46573 6:30-9p 574-862-2200

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

2nd Fri. Gospel open Mic and Jam, Church of the Nazarene 506 N. Main Street Columbia City IN 46725 260-213-3142 7-9p

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

3rd Sun jam; Northern Ind. Bluegrass, SWCC, 5703 Bluffton Rd, Fort Wayne, IN 46809 noon-5p 260-918-4790 drinks & sandwiches available, no carry in please;

3rd Mon 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

4th Sun Maple Wood Nature Center, 4550 E 100 S LaGrange, IN 46761 1:30-5p bluegrass, folk 260-350-2666

03/15 April Verch Band; Delphi Opera House, 109 S Washington St, Delphi, IN 46923 765-564-4300 7:30p

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

Every Fri. Acoustic jam; Bob's Barn Jamborees Performance Art Theater 1417 Johnson St., Lake Odessa, MI 48849

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

3rd Thur jam; Elderly, 1100 N Washington, Lansing, MI 48906 517-372-7880 6-8:30p

3rd Sun 03/17/19 Mid-Michigan jams, Woldumar Nature Center, 5739 Old Lansing Rd., Lansing, MI 48917 517-482-2382 \$4 donation

4th Sun 03/23, 04/27, 05/18 Michigan Bluegrass Music Assoc. open stages & jams 6-10p Armstrong Middle School, 6161 Hopkins Dr, Flint, MI 48506 810-736-5332 donation

03/01 Red White & Bluegrass; **Kentuckians of Michigan**, 28391 Bredow Rd., Romulus, MI 46174 734-782-0132 \$7

03/06 The Earls of Leicester; Ark, 316 S Main St, Ann Arbor, MI 48104 734-761-1800 \$40 8p

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

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

2nd Sat Central Ohio Bluegrass Assoc., Grace Chapel Church, 7798 Big Wal-

nut Rd., Westerville, OH 43082 jam: 5:45-7p bands 7p

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

Every Sun., Mon.; Open Jam Sun, Open Mic Mon, Clay Valley Pizzeria 6921 Ceramic Road Roseville, OH 43777 740-469-8000 740-469-8000 6-9p Free

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

Weds. Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian Grass; Vinoklet Winery, 11069 Colerain Ave.. Cincinnati, OH 45252 513-385-9309

03/01 Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian Grass; Butler County Coon Hunters Club, 200 Warwick Rd, Hamilton, OH 45013

03/02 Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian Grass; Sterling Bluegrass Concert, 26 E. Main St., Mt Sterling, OH 43143 614-323-6938 5p

03/02 Summer Brook & Mountain Faith; Centerville HS, 500 E Franklin St, Centerville, OH 45459 7p

03/02 Coal Cave Holler Boys; Combustion Brewery, 80 W. Church Str, Pickerington, OH 43147 614-834-9595 10-11p

03/03 Perennial Rye; Combustion Brewery, 80 W. Church Str, Pickerington, OH 43147 614-834-9595 7-10p

03/08 Tom Ewing & Friends; Byrne's Pub, 1248 W. Third Ave., Columbus, OH 43212 614-486-4722 7-9p

03/08-09 Fri. 6p - Randy Murphy & Nowhere, Caney Creek, Midnight Storm, Heather & Tony Mabe, karaoke w/ Clay Hess band: Sat. 5p - Caney Creek, New County Grass, Nightflyer, The Clay Hess Band w/ Nick Newton, Heather & Tony Mabe, karaoke w/ Clay Hess band, workshops, contests; Lafayette Hotel, 101 Front St, Marietta, OH 45750 740-331-0802

03/09 Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian Grass; Haddix Hall (next to Hunters Pizzeria), 4165 St Rt 122, Franklin, OH 45005 6-8p \$5 937-746-5415

03/09 Two by Two; COBA, 7798 Big Walnut Rd, Westerville, OH 43082-9407 5:30p band 7p

03/09 Larry Sparks & the Lonesome Ramblers; Plaza Theater, 33 S Main Cont. →

St, Miamisburg, OH 45342 7p
937-247-5980

03/09 The Price Sisters; Sterling Bluegrass Concert, 26 E. Main St., Mt Sterling OH 43143 614-323-6938 5p

03/09 Fox N Hounds; Combustion Brewery, 80 W. Church St, Pickerington, OH 43147 614-834-9595 7-10p

03/16 The Baker Family; Sterling Bluegrass Concert, 26 E. Main St., Mt Sterling OH 43143 614-323-6938 5p

03/17 Joe Mullins; Baptist Church, 1301 Beacon St, Springfield, OH 45505 6p

03/20 The Punch Brothers; Southern Theater, 21 E Main St, Columbus, OH 43215 614-719-6906 7p

03/22 Gibson Brothers; FUMC, 207 S. Court St, Marysville, OH 43040 937-642-4712 \$25 7p

03/23 Randy Murphy & Bound for Nowhere; Sterling Bluegrass Concert, 26 E. Main St., Mt Sterling, OH 43143 614-323-6938 5p

03/23 Ricky Skaggs & Kentucky Thunder; People's Theater, 222 Putnam St, Marietta, OH 45750 740-371-5152 8p

03/28 Daily & Vincent; Dutch Valley Ohio Star Theater, 1387 Old OH-39, Sugar-creek, OH 44681 855-344-7547 7p \$45-65

03/29 The Wayfarers; Three Tigers Brewery, 140 N. Prospect Street, Granville,

OH 43023 740-920-4680 8p

03/29-30 Joe Mullins, Dailey & Vincent, David Parmley, Donna Ulise, Chosen Road, Malpass Brothers, Russell Moore, High Fidelity, Po' Ramblin' Boys; Southern Ohio Indoor Music Festival, The Roberts Center, 123 Gano Rd., Wilmington, OH 937-372-5804

03/30 Red Dust Mountain Boys, Highway 57, Jimmy Haynes; Bluegrass Junction, Shalersville Town Hall, 9090 OH-44, Ravenna, OH 44266 7-11p

03/30 Open Highway; Sterling Bluegrass Concert, 26 E. Main St., Mt Sterling OH, 43143 614-323-6938 5p

Exciting News!

An **advance camping package** is available that bundles one weekend ticket and the three festival weekend days camping (Friday, Saturday and Sunday) as a package for \$65: a savings of \$15. Additional camping days, member or non-member tickets can be purchased at the gate.

Those who camp and do not purchase the advanced camping package pay for weekend tickets and 3 day weekend camping at the gate.

The advance camping package will be available until May 1 and August 1 in the fall.

Camping prior to Friday of the festival is \$15/day. There is no additional electric charge. Camping opens May 16.

Send your money to **NIBGA Camping, 5034 Wapiti, Fort Wayne, IN 46804**. Include your name, address, contact information and a SASE. In return you will receive a voucher that can be used at the festival gate.

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

Address Service Requested



Vol 43 Issue 11, March 2019

Next NIBGA Jam - March 17, 2019