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Next Jam: Noon-6 PM, Oct 20. SW Conservation Club, 5703 Bluffton Rd., Ft. Wayne, IN 46899

President's Corner

[Joe Steiner is "pinch hitting" for the President this month]

Now that the Memorial Day festival is behind us, and we are finalizing plans for the Labor Day festival, I'd like to pause to look back in appreciation.

We could not have put on the festival without the help of many folks who volunteered many hours out of love for the music. The board really can't adequately express our appreciation -- we have been truly blessed over the years with members willing to volunteer their time and talent, and this past festival is no exception.

While I can't list every one who volunteered (although I wish I could), I would like to mention a few folks who were instrumental (pun intended) in putting things together.

I'd like to start with our gate captains: Pam Keiper, Jim Miller, Brenda Aldrich, Leslie Ellis, and Patty Page. As we have experienced a shift in attendance toward younger folks who are just starting to become familiar with bluegrass music, we have also seen those folks arriving later in the week, which means the gate captains have fewer folks to draw from when recruiting help during the earlier days of the festival. That results in the gate captains selflessly working more shifts themselves.

I'd also like to thank Ben Crofoot, Bryan & Stephanie Dray, and Larry Finseth who coordinated the Intermediate Jam Session (the Maggie Bilby Memorial Jam), Shari Wolf and Joyce Harrison for leading the gospel sing and Rachel Lehman who handled the Kids' Korner.

Bob Gilson coordinated the taxi service (and, like the gate captains, worked many shifts himself). Greg Aldrich was responsible (and on call) for maintenance items throughout the festival.

Of course, the stage show is a major part of the festival, and it could not have gone on without our MCs, Terri Grannis, Terry Thacker, Elaine Vogie, and MC Chairman, Chris Vogie.

Other volunteers who deserve kudos include Jeanette Young (vendors), Lydia Gerken (merchandise), Dick and Carolyn Bacon (green room), Alexis Goldsmith (50/50) and Julie Goldsmith (FB posting/publicity). A special thanks should also be extended to Ciera Buckley who designed this year's t-shirt.

You will read more about the Tri-State Youth Bluegrass Academy, which was a tremendous success, in the next newsletter. I would like to thank Chris Steiner for all her hard work in making that dream become a reality. Verl Dasher assisted in picking up and setting up instruments for the academy, and Sue Fickel and Rachel Lehman assisted during the academy with food and preparation.

Of course, I would be remiss to not also thank all of the NIBGA board who have worked year-around to plan and implement every aspect of the festival. I am sure I have missed some volunteers, and I truly apologize!

I am impressed when I think back on what we have accomplished by working together for the common goals of providing family friendly entertainment, fur-

BUZZ on the Bands



Breaking Grass is a fine, young group from Mississippi. They have drawn from influences outside the bluegrass world, but they approach the music with a straight ahead drive of the classic bluegrass bands.

They feature the energetic vocal work of Cody Farrar, and their harmonies are powerful and haunting.

They nail it instrumentally in every corner, with Cody anchoring the rhythm on guitar and Britt Sheffield driving the sound like a locomotive on bass. Tyler White's acrobatic fiddling serves to stoke the fire as does Jody Elmore's driving banjo. Zach Wooten's creative mandolin work rounds out the ensemble.

They are adept at many styles, running the gamut from traditional to progressive, and they feature some great original material, penned largely by Cody. They have a high-energy stage show which draws the audience in and makes them feel at home.

If you want a glimpse into the future of bluegrass music, you'll definitely want to catch Breaking Grass -- I think you'll agree that the future is in good hands!

The 2018 IBMA Emerging Artists of the year, **The Po' Ramblin' Boys**,

→ Cont. on back page

thering bluegrass music, and providing a place for pickers to gather, play music, and socialize. I am truly in awe when I consider that we are now in our 30th year of festivals in Kendallville and the many hard hours that we and those that came before us have worked to get us to this point. Certainly, many things have changed in that time, but our love for bluegrass music has been unwavering.

In light of these changes, we do find ourselves faced with some new challenges. The music itself has changes somewhat, just as the listeners have, but those same down-to-earth elements that drove the music when Bill, Lester, Earl, Ralph, and Carter were around are still at the core of the



music today as the newer generations pick up the torch. So, too, our festival has changed somewhat, and it will need to continue to change and adapt as we welcome new generations to the world of bluegrass music.

Although the internet has had a profound impact on the way folks access music, the festival experience, allowing access to live, top-notch music and the opportunity to jam and share with others in impromptu sessions, is still one of the most valuable resources for musicians and

fans. But younger folks who are just getting familiar with the music, may not yet realize that, and introducing those folks to the experience is one of our biggest challenges.

Another big challenge is developing new volunteers. It is truly encouraging to see the many younger faces in attendance at the festival, especially young families such as those with kids in the Tri-State Youth Bluegrass Academy. Please consider donating your time to help at the festival – volunteers are needed in many areas – and encourage others to do

the same.

As closing thoughts for my reflection, I'm proud and pleased with the journey we've made over the last 46 years, and this latest festival serves to further highlight our accomplishments. If we work together, I know we have an even better road ahead.

And, as President Winger would always say... "If the good Lord's willing and the creek don't rise, we'll see you in September."

Joe Steiner

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

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 Grocery, 1612 Sherman Blvd, Fort Wayne, IN 46808 6:30-8:30p 260-445-3348

1st Thurs. Wakarusa Jamboree, Schmidt Furniture Co., 903 Nelson's Parkway, 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

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 also jam on 4th Thurs.

2nd Sat Gospel open Mic and Jam, Church of the Nazarene, 506 N. Main Street Columbia City, IN 46725 260-213-3142 2-4:30p

2nd Fri. Jam, City Hall, 210 N Jefferson St, Converse, IN 46919 765-395-3459 5p

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

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

3rd Wed. Jam: Legion, 1122 N Main St, Roanoke, IN 46783 6:30-8:30p

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

7/20 Metamora Opry Barn, 19189 Pennington Rd, Metamora, IN 47030, Vern McIntyre & Appalachian Grass

Michigan

Every Sun. Open Mic with the Orphans; Coldwater American Legion, Coldwater MI 49046

260-242-8553 2-6p free

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. Slow Jam; 3rd Floor Van Deusen Room, Kalamazoo Public Library, 315 S. Rose St., Kalamazoo, MI 6:30-8pm

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

Last Wed jam; Boatyard Brewing Company, 432 E. Paterson St., Kalamazoo, MI 49009 269-226-0300 7-?p

07/21-27 Sideline, Steve Gulley, Sammy Adkins, Brad Hudson Band, Kevin Prater, Tony Holt, Boys, Caleb Daugherty, Rick Prater, Har



Upcoming Events, continued

bourtown, Red White Bluegrass, Bluegrass Mountaineers, New Outlook, Crabgrass; Marshall BGF, Fairgrounds, 720 Fair Rd., Marshall, **MI** 49068

Ohio

1st Sat Traditional, bluegrass, country music acoustic instruments - 3 rooms for jammin', Nettle Lake United Brethren Church, 18560 County Road 5-75, Montpelier, **OH** 43543 6p 517-270-2870 or 419-485-4112

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 6-9p Free

Tues. Bluegrass Opry Barn, 9461 OH-66, Oakwood, **OH** 45873 419-594-2816 6p year around

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

Last Fri. Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian Grass; Fibonacci Brewing, 1445 Compton Rd, Cincinnati, **OH** 45231 7-9p 513-832-1422

07/04-06 Anthony & The Ramblers, Breakline, Ottawa County, Out of Mind, Crabgrass, Harbourtown, New Outlook, Acoustic Edge, Caleb Daugherty, Caney Creek, Kevin Prater, Volume 5, Terry Lee Goffee, Danny Paisley, Edgar Loudermilk w/Jeff Autry, Bootleg, Hammertown, Larry Efaw, Tony Holt, Red, White & Bluegrass; Norwalk Festival, Fairgrounds, 940 Fair Rd, Norwalk, **OH** 44857

07/06 Echo Valley; Sterling Bluegrass Concert, 26 E. Main St., Mt Sterling **OH** 43143 614-323-6938 5p

07/07 Danny Paisley, Echo Valley; House concert, 18132 Marne Rd, Nashport, **OH** 43830 \$20 includes food, bring chairs & covered dish appreciated reservation, S. Wright 740-641-7884 2p

07/07 Mike Gorrell; Velvet Ice Cream Co., 11324 Mt Vernon Rd, Utica, **OH** 43080 2p

07/11 Joe Mullins; Springfield Arts Festival, 250 Cliff Park Rd, Springfield, **OH** 45504 8p

07/12-13 String Therapy, Tall Grass, Wood & Strings, Sawmill Ridge, Like Father-Like Son, Out of Mind, Cedar Hill, Sour Mash String Band, Red Brush; Poston Lake BGF, 8865 New England Rd, Stewart, **OH** 45778 740-591-7113 1p daily

07/13 Grassahol; Sterling Bluegrass Concert, 26 E. Main St., Mt Sterling **OH** 43143 614-323-6938 5-8p

07/16 Honey Dew Drops; Refectory, 1092 Bethel Rd., Columbus, **OH** 43220 6-9 pm

07/18-20 Illrd Tyme Out, Clay Hess, Caney Creek, Out of Mind, Young & Blue, Midnight Storm, Kyle Jarvis; Bluegrass Jamboree, Trumbull Fairgrounds, 899 Everett Hull Rd., Cortland, **OH** 44410 330-770-9515

07/20 The Wayfarers; Party in the Park, 14 Gallagher Ave., Logan, **OH** 43138 6:30 pm

07/20 Sawmill Ridge; Clifton Opera House, 5 S Clay St, Clifton, **OH** 45316 937-767-1767 7:30p \$10

07/20 Bobby Maynard, South Ridge, Diamond Ridge; Sterling Bluegrass Concert, 26 E. Main St., Mt Sterling **OH** 43143 614-323-6938 3-9p

07/21 Sugar Creek; Liberty Church Festival, 8576 Liberty Church Rd., Johnstown, **OH** 43031 4-8 pm

07/21 Northwest Territory; Copley Summer Concert Series, Gazebo, Copley, **OH** 44321 7p

07/24 SBJ House Band, Rated BG, Evan Lanier, Open Highway; Free after paid fair admission. Sterling Bluegrass Jamboree Day, Ohio State Fair, 717 E 17th Ave, Columbus, **OH** 43211 12-9p

07/24-27 Claybank, Feller and Hill, Carolina Blue, Larry Sparks, Larry Stephenson, Russell Moore, Doyle Lawson, Po' Ramblin' Boys, Doyle Lawson/Russell Moore/Dudley Connell/Steve Dilling/Marshall Wilbourn/Bobby Hicks, Caleb Daughtery, Jaelee Roberts, Appalachian Road Show, Junior Sisk, Tim Shelton, Heidi & Ryan Greer, Tim Stafford, Michael Cleveland, Sideline, Blue Highway, Mo Pitney Newtown, Dave Adkins, Band of Kelley's, Darin & Brooke Aldridge, Joe Mullins, Band of Ruhks, Paul Williams, MACC Opry, Hammertown, Kenny & Amanda Smith, High Fidelity, Larry Cordle, Breaking Grass, David Parmley, Grascals, Red Marlow, JD Crowe/Ricky Wasson/Don Rigsby; MACC, Cardinal Center Campground, 616 SR 61, Marengo, **OH** 43334

07/27 The Wayfarers at Party in the Park, 14 Gallagher Ave., Logan, **OH** 6:30 pm

07/27 Awesome Possum; Coshocton Village Inn, 115 N. Water St., Coshocton, **OH** 43812 7p

07/27 Bill Bynum & Co.; Sterling Bluegrass Concert, 26 E. Main St., Mt Sterling **OH** 43143 614-323-6938 5p

07/28 William Lee Ellis, Johnny Staats, Robert Shaffer; Tony Ellis 80th Birthday Celebration, Natalie's Coal Fired Pizza, 5601 N. High St, Worthington, **OH** 43085 614-436-COAL 8p

07/30 Wood Pickers; Rambling House Soda, 310 E Hudson St, Columbus, **OH** 43202 614-468-3415 9-12p



have turned back the clock, musically speaking, about 75 years. They remind me of Danny Paisley in that they are unabashedly traditional. No holds barred, hell bent for leather, eat my dust traditional, that is. They do not just imitate the sound of Flatt & Scruggs, Monroe, or the Stanleys, they ARE that sound.

Perhaps they have rounded the corners off, just a little, as they've updated the sound slightly for a modern world, but the edge is there. I'm not talking about a cautious version of the music that just avoids the sounds that don't

fit. I'm talking about the true edge that comes from a no-apologies, full-energy, feel-it-in-your-bones version of the music. The kind that puts every ounce of emotion and feeling into every single note, so much so that the audience feels years of bluegrass history emanating from the stage.

If you didn't catch the Po' Ramblin' Boys last year, you will definitely want to catch them this year to see what all the buzz is about. CJ Lewandowski, mandolin; Josh Rinkel, guitar; Jeremy Brown, banjo; and Jasper Lorentzen, bass, have truly found the recipe.

Dave Adkins has quickly become one of the most recognizable voices in bluegrass music. He garnered an IBMA Emerging Artist award following his collaborative album with Edgar Lourdermilk, *Adkins and Lourdermilk*. He is recognized not only as a musician, but also a songwriter. His original *Change Her Mind* spent 10 months on the Bluegrass Unlimited Top 30 chart and 3 times hit #1 on the Bluegrass Today Top 20 chart. We are pleased that he will be appearing at Tri-State for the first time this fall.

Joe Steiner

Makin' Camping Plans

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, and member or non-member tickets can be purchased at the gate. **The advance camping package will be available until August 1.**

Those who camp and do not purchase the advanced camping package pay for weekend tickets and 3 days weekend camping at the gate. Camping prior to Friday of the festival is \$15/day. There is no additional electric charge.

Please send \$65 check to NIBGA Camping, 5034 Wapiti, Fort Wayne, IN 46804. Include your name, address, contact information and a SASE. Instead of a check, you can send your payment with paypal to [paypal.me/NIBGA](https://www.paypal.com/US/merchandise). 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



Next NIBGA Jam - October 20, 2019