

Correspondence: NIBGA, 5034 Wapiti Ct., Fort Wayne, IN 46804-4946 (260) 918-4790 NL@nibga.com
Memberships: \$10 one, \$15 two w/one mailing Published 2nd Sunday, Mailed 3rd Sunday monthly
Next Jam: Noon-6 PM, March 15. SW Conservation Club, 5703 Bluffton Rd., Ft. Wayne, IN 46899

President's Corner



When I first attended the Tri-State Bluegrass Festival, the Northern Indiana Bluegrass Association had already

been in existence over 15 years and experienced its formative history.

I've had the luxury of being associated with the club while it has been on solid footing. Although a few things have changed over the years, and we've had a few challenges, we have had a solid foundation to build on with our semiannual festival, monthly jam sessions, and community outreach initiatives.

Sincere, heartfelt thanks are in order for Jim Winger and Barb Collins, who were around during those formative years and were instrumental in bringing the club to where it is today. Please join us at the Memorial Day festival to celebrate their decades of work for our club.

I'd also like to welcome Stephanie Dray, who will be taking over for Barb as Secretary, and our new Vice President, Jim Winger (hey, I know that name from somewhere).

NIBGA was founded, and still exists today, as a service organization. That's why none of the board members or captains receive salaries or compensation for the work they do. We all do this for the love of the music, and helping the music thrive and grow while expanding its audience is all the reward we need. I hear often from bands performing at our festi-

val that they feel "at home" here, and they want to come back because the people are so good to them.

For a lot of folks, driving through the festival gate on Memorial Day and Labor Day weekends each year just "seems right". To a lot of us, the event is as much a reunion as a bluegrass festival. That's something I don't want to lose.

As we look forward to the future, we have a lot of reasons to be optimistic. But we also have some work to do. If we are going to continue our family atmosphere, and be a great place for fellow musicians to come for parking lot picking, we need to be welcoming to new attendees. To me, this begs a couple questions:

- How do we get the word out to people who aren't yet familiar with us? NIBGA currently advertises on Facebook, and through flyers at other bluegrass events. But, the world is changing, and bluegrass music along with it. Can we do more, or take a different approach, to reach the many young folks who are discovering the appeal of, and developing an interest in, roots music?

- Can we change or add events at the festival to make new attendees feel welcome, like they are "part of the family"? We currently have the Thursday night community dinner (hosted by, and proceeds to, the fairgrounds), and we all like to feel we are open to visitors at our camp site and fellow jammers. But, is it time to consider some type of welcoming event. Maybe an open potluck dur-

ing the early part of festival week? I would love to hear your thoughts.

I'd like to close this month by adding that it is important for NIBGA to develop our expertise in finding and securing grants and sponsorships. Now that NIBGA is a 501c3 organization, we can receive tax deductible donations. Although we pursued these in the past, with some success, we have a responsibility to get better, out of respect for NIBGA's past and so as to ensure her future for upcoming generations of bluegrass musicians.

The NIBGA board will be discussing these things over the next few months – please feel free to let me or one of the other board members or captains know if you have any thoughts you'd like to be considered. Remember, too, that you are always welcome to attend the board meetings on the third Sunday of the month. If you would like to address a particular topic, please let me know in advance so it can be put on the agenda.

See you in Kendallville!

Joe Steiner

BUZZ on the Bands



I had never heard of **Cane Mill Road** until they contacted us through the NIBGA Facebook page last year. I was really impressed upon hearing them -- I can understand why they garnered an IBMA Momentum Band of the Year award in 2019, and why they have been nominated five times for an IBMA Momentum award.

They hail from Deep Gap, North Carolina, not far from the home of Doc Watson. No doubt drawing inspiration from Doc's old timey roots music, their brand of bluegrass is not anchored in the classic Stanley/Monroe/Flatt & Scruggs sounds of 1940's and 50's. Rather, their brand of bluegrass





Buzz on the Bands, continued

has moved on down the road from those stalwart beginnings.

They pay homage to the older styles not as much from direct imitation as through furthering it with their own creative prowess. This is evident in the instrumental stylings of all members, leader Liam Purcell's mandolin and fiddle stylings, banjo player Tray Wellington's innovative approach, Casey Lewis's blues-laden guitar work, and bassist Elliot Smith's jazz-influenced playing. Vocally, they build some nice harmonies around either Casey's or Liam's lead.

They do some of the standard bluegrass repertoire, although they tend to rock them out a bit as one might expect from a band whose members are in their upper teens and early twenties. But they focus on original tunes and, to quote their web site, "Cool bluegrass covers of Dylan, The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, Tom Petty, Gordon Lightfoot." If you want to see the future of bluegrass, you'll definitely want to check out Cane Mill Road.

Joe Steiner

Save \$\$ on Camping

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.

Those who camp and do not purchase the advanced camping package will pay for weekend tickets and camping, including 3 day weekend camping, at the gate. There is a 3-day minimum for camping.

The advance camping package will be available until May 1 for the Memorial Day Festival and August 1 for the Labor Day Festival.

Camping prior to Friday of the festival is \$15/day. There is no additional electric charge. Camping opens May 14.

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.

A Note From the V.P.



As the board does a little reorganizing, there are number of functions that are moving to different people. Over the past many years, Linda has been treasurer and has taken care of several functions that should have been distributed to other board members.

When Don McFarland passed the club to us it was 100% pen and paper. When the club was running in the '90's, computers were scarce among the board so that type of work rested with us with the only computer. Slowly many things were switched from manual to com-

puter. It was very gradual and seemed like just a minor addition.

Now is the time to re-examine processes and move them to others as all board members now have computer and internet access

Our plan is to make this pretty much transparent to all members and festival attendees but *stuff can happen* as the saying goes.

The good lord willing and the creek don't rise, your new Vice President will see you at an upcoming event.

JW

FROM THE MAIL BAG... Jim,



As someone who has been there from the beginning, I want to thank you and Linda for everything that you have done for the club. At the time you took over, Mac

had decided that we would no longer have a festival, just a newsletter. As V.P., you asked the members if this was what we wanted, we said no. So, you and my husband (Charlie Carnes), Donnie Voils, and (I think) T.J., went looking for a spot. You found Kendallville. For the first time, we put on a well-run, orderly festival. The festival grew to become the best festival in Northern Indiana.

I was your V.P. for ten years and was in charge of the

vendors. I can't tell you how many people told me that this was the best run festival that they went to. It took many people to make things run as smooth as they do.

You and Linda introduced the two-way radio (thank you-thank you). Russ Baur insisted on the golf cars. Everyone who has ever worked at the festival owes him a BIG THANK YOU! These changes came about because of the thoughtful, orderly way that you ran the club and meetings.

I am comfortable that Joe will carry on a good club because of the blueprint that you have laid out for him.

NOW.... The big question is.....Are you going to give him your parking spot?!

Sandra L Carnes

Upcoming Events

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

Indiana

- Every Mon.** Arthur's Music Store, 931 Shelby St, Indianapolis, IN 46203 317-638-3524 5-8p
- Every Tues** Old Timey jam; Fiddler's Hearth, 127 N. Main St., South Bend, IN 46601 574-232-2853 7-10p year around
- Every Fri.** Fulton Branch Library, 514 N SR 25, Rochester, IN 46975 574-857-3895 6:30-8:30p
- 1st Mon** Old Timey 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
- 1st Sat** [Contrhttp://godancing.org/a](http://godancing.org/a) 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 also jam on 4th Thurs.
- 2nd Fri.** Jam, City Hall, 210 N Jefferson St, Converse, IN 46919 765-395-3459 5p
- 2nd Fri.** Jam, VFW, 4202 N 400 E, Rolling Prairie, IN 46371-8881 219-575-1369 5:30-10p CST
- 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; 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** Old Timey 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
- 4th Mon** mostly Irish jam; 3 Rivers Grocery, 1612 Sherman Blvd, Fort Wayne, IN 46808 6:30-8:30p 260-445-3348
- 03/11** Yonder Mountain String Band; The Vogue, 6259 N College Ave,

Indianapolis, IN 46220
03/21 Lick Creek Band; Opera House, 217 N 7th St. Mitchell, IN 47446 812-849-4447

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
- 2nd Sat** Maumee St. Jam, First Presbyterian, 156 E. Maumee, Adrian, MI 49221 517-270-2870 church 517-265-2168 6-11p
- 2nd Sat** Portage Prairie UMC, 2450 Orange Rd, Niles, MI 49120 989-544-0342 5p
- 3rd Thur** jam; Elderly, 1100 N Washington, Lansing, MI 48906 517-372-7880 5-7:30p
- 3rd Sat** West Michigan Bluegrass Assoc. meeting & jam, Lake Michigan Sports Bar, 4072 Lake Michigan Dr. NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49534 616-288-7587 1-4p
- 3rd Sun** Mid-Michigan jams, Woldumar Nature Center, 5739 Old Lansing Rd., Lansing, MI 48917 517-482-2382 \$4 donation 2-6p
- 4th Sat usually** Michigan Bluegrass Music Assoc. open stages & jams 6-10p Armstrong Middle School, 6161 Hopkins Dr, Flint, MI 48506 810-736-5332 donation for hall rental
- Last Wed** jam; Boatyard Brewing Company, 432 E. Paterson St., Kalamazoo, MI 49009 269-226-0300 7-?p
- 03/01** Family Strings (Billy Strings & Terry Barber); The Ark, Ann Arbor, MI **Sold Out**
- 03/06** We Banjo 3; Ark, 316 S Main St, Ann Arbor, MI 48104 734-761-1800
- 03/13** Trout Steak Revival; Ark, 316 S Main St, Ann Arbor, MI 48104 734-761-1800 8p
- 03/14** Molly Tuttle; Ark, 316 S Main St, Ann Arbor, MI 48104 734-761-1800 8p

03/14 Full Cord Bluegrass; Wildwood Family Farm, 7970 Snow Ave SE, Alto, MI 49302 6p

03/27 The RFD Boys; Ark, 316 S Main St, Ann Arbor, MI 48104 734-761-1800 8p

Ohio

- 1st Sat** - acoustic instruments - 3 rooms, Nettle Lake United Brethren, 18560 County Rd 5-75, Montpelier, OH 43543 6p 517-270-2870 or 419-485-4112
- 2nd Sat** Central Ohio Bluegrass Assoc., Grace Chapel Church, 7798 Big Walnut 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 6-9p Free
- Tues.** Bluegrass Opry Barn, 9461 OH-66, Oakwood, OH 45873 419-594-2816 6p year around
- last Fri.** Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian Grass; Fibonacci Brewing, 1445 Compton Rd, Cincinnati, OH 45231 7-9p 513-832-1422 (March thru Oct)
- 03/01** Slate Ridge; Combustion Brewery, 80 W. Church St, Pickerington, OH 43147 614-834-9595 4-7p
- 03/04** We Banjo 3; **Kent Stage**, 175 E Main, Kent, OH 44240 330-677-5005 8p
- 03/05** Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian Grass; Miami Downtown, 221 High St, Hamilton, OH 45011 7-8:30
- 03/06** Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian Grass; Butler Co BG Assoc., 5113 Huston Rd, Collinsville, OH 45004 7-9p 614-384-5640
- 03/07** Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian Grass; Sterling Bluegrass Concert, 26 E. Main St., Mt Sterling OH 43143 614-323-6938 5:30p
- 03/07** Allegheny Drifters, Kyle Jarvis & 3rd Generation; Johnson Community Center, 800 Gillmer Rd, Leavittsburg, OH 44430 330-240-1904 7p
- 03/07** Joe Mullins; Centerville HS, 500 E. Franklin St, Dayton, OH 7p
- 03/13** Joe Mullins; Sterling Bluegrass Concert, 26 E. Main St., Mt Sterling OH 43143 614-323-6938 6:30p
- 03/14** 7 Mile Bluegrass; COBA, 7798 Big Walnut Rd, Westerville, OH 43082-9407 4p
- 03/20** Midnight River; Moon City Music, 1208 Lunar Dr, Wapakoneta, OH 45895 567-204-0929 6:30p
- 03/20** Junior Sisk; Sterling Bluegrass Concert, 26 E. Main St., Mt Sterling OH 43143 614-323-6938 6:30p

03/20 Michael Cleveland; Methodist Church, 207 S. Court St., Marysville, **OH** 43040 937-642-4712 7p

03/21 Jr Sisk, Caney Creek, Kyle Jarvis, Ottawa County, Acoustic Edge, Echo Valley; Richland Fairgrounds, Hartz Bldg, 750 N Home Rd, Mansfield, **OH** 44906, open 3p. Music 6p

03/21 Crabgrass; Sterling Bluegrass Concert, 26 E. Main St., Mt Sterling **OH** 43143 614-323-6938 4:30p

03/21 Steep Canyon Rnagers w Che Apalache; Finkelman Auditorium, Miami University, 4200 N University Blvd, Middletown, **OH** 45042 \$38 7p

03/22 Steep Canyon Rangers; People's Bank Theater, 222 Putnam St, Marietta, **OH** 45750 740-371-5152 3p

03/27 Kevin Prater; Three Tigers Brewing, 140 N Prospect St, Granville, **OH** 43023 740-920-4680 FREE

03/27 Barachah Valley; Sterling Bluegrass Concert, 26 E. Main St., Mt Sterling **OH** 43143 614-323-6938 6:30p

03/27-28 Rhonda Vincent, Joe Mullins, Little Roy & Lizzie, Volume 5, Kevin Prater, Blue Highway, Primitive Quartet, Newtown, Carolina Blue, E. Tenn. U Pride Band; Southern Ohio Indoor Music Festival, The Roberts Center, 123

Gano Rd., Wilmington, **OH** 937-372-5804 Doors 10a daily.

03/28 Churchmen; Sterling Bluegrass Concert, 26 E. Main St., Mt Sterling **OH** 43143 614-323-6938 4:30p

03/28 Highway 57, South 79; Grange, 9778 Old SR, Chardon, **OH** 44024 330-240-1904 6:30p

03/28 Kevin Prater; Historical Society, 213/221 W Canal St, Newcomerstown, **OH** 43832 7p

03/28 CANCELLED Kevin Prater Band Harmony Barn, 612 N. Center Street, LaGrange, **OH** 7 pm



I was walking through the cemetery with my daughter the other day.

Daughter: *Dad, I didn't know they buried two people in the same grave.*

Me: *Sweetie, they don't do that. Why do you think that?*

Daughter: *Because his headstone says "Here lies a banjo player and a talented musician"!*

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

Address Service Requested



Next NIBGA Jam - March 15, 2020