

Correspondence: NIBGA, 1020 Wyandot Rd, Bucyrus, OH 44820 (260) 918-4790 , news@nibga.com
Memberships: \$10 one, \$15 two w/one mailing, Published 2nd Sunday, Mailed 3rd Sunday monthly,
Next Jam: 1-5 PM, Jan 18, SW Conservation Club, 5703 Bluffton Rd., Ft. Wayne, IN 46899

President's Corner - Joe Steiner



As we start getting ready for the snow to fly, I guess we need to face the fact that we're now done picking outdoors until 2026! As the weather gets colder the NIBGA board and captains will be busy planning for next year's festivals. And we want next year's festivals to be great, because we will be celebrating 50 years of the Northern Indiana

Bluegrass Association!

As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday, I'm thankful for the board members and captains who built NIBGA and supported this great organization for these last 49 years. I'm especially thankful for the current board members and captains -- I'm confident that their energy, hard work, and great ideas will help set the foundation for many more great years.

We already have the Kevin Prater Band lined up for the fall festival, and that is certainly fitting for this celebration year since he has been a fan favorite and strong supporter of the festival for many years. I remember Kevin from the early days at the Noble County Fairgrounds, playing in the Merchant's Building with the James King Band.

We also have Crabgrass booked for next year, at the spring festival. It will be fun getting ready for this milestone, and we want your input to help make it a great one! We want to hear from anyone who has ideas on how best to celebrate this milestone.

Cont. next column

If you have thoughts on a favorite band, or if there's a special event or workshop you think would be appropriate, please let us know. You can contact us by email, phone or text using the contact information shown above. Or better yet, stop by one of the NIBGA winter jam sessions at the Southwest Conservation Club and chat with us! The jams are the third Sunday of each month from January through April.

See you at a jam session!

Joe



In the next few newsletters we will be asking for volunteers to assist during the festivals, but during the "non-festival" times, we can still use volunteers! At this point in time, we are seeking a T-shirt design to celebrate our 50th year. Are you creative? Or know someone who is? Contact us for information on submitting designs.

Current 2025 (& new 2026) NIBGA Patrons Thank you!

For the remainder of this year (through April 2026), if you sign up to be a Patron and elect to get your newsletters via email, you will receive all of the 2026 Patron benefits, **PLUS receive the remainder of this year's newsletters.** This would make a great holiday gift for your bluegrass friends. Contact us for more information.

Anonymous Families (2)
Evan & Megan Argueta *
Ron Armstead
Randy & Cindy Bellamy *
Wayne Boltz
Steve Carroll
Jim Chilton
Jim Clay
Ben & Connie Crofoot *
Verl & Sue Dasher
Dan Denny *
Larry & Karen Donaldson *
Charles & Jane Downey *

Julie Goldsmith
Keith & Terri Grannis
Mark Hauenstein & **Ava Bailey***
Rick & Sher Krassow *
William Lake
Jordan Liebman *
Bob & Carol Mauck
Jerry & Sioux McLane
Jim & Mary Ellen Miller *
Rick & Diane Muhlenkamp *
Tom & Donya Rondo
Leslie Skal *
Joe & Chris Steiner

Ron & Sandy Tedford
Stephen Troyer
Chris Vogie
Dave & Marianne Vogie
Roger & Jody Vogie
Cathy Voors
Terry & Peggy Wallace
Paul & Barb Welch
Stewart White
Jay Winger *
Jim & Linda Winger
Shari Wolf

* **New Patrons** Thank you very much!

NIBGA Earns State Arts Grant for 2025–2026

The Northern Indiana Bluegrass Association (NIBGA) has once again been awarded an Arts Organization Support (AOS) grant from the Indiana Arts Commission for fiscal year 2025–2026. The award recognizes NIBGA's long-standing contributions to preserving and promoting Bluegrass and Americana music through festivals, educational programs, scholarships, and community outreach.

Reviewers praised the organization's "excellent programs" and "strong leadership," noting that NIBGA offers "a variety of high-quality activities that directly align with its mission." They also highlighted the club's commitment to accessibility, youth engagement, and inclusion—especially through free community jams, scholarships for young musicians, and outreach to rural and underserved audiences.

The grant will help NIBGA continue expanding educational opportunities such as the Hoot Camp youth string program at Purdue Fort Wayne, the annual festival workshops, and ongoing music scholarships for students studying Bluegrass and Americana performance. These initiatives ensure that traditional acoustic music remains vibrant in Northeast Indiana and beyond.



NIBGA activities are made possible in part by Arts United, the Indiana Arts Commission, a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

If you get your newsletter via email, it arrives IN COLOR and a few days before the USPS-mailed newsletters. AND.... It saves the club money on postage. Please consider switching to email. Contact NL@nibga.com or call (260) 918-4790

Upcoming Events

Please check the BluegrassUSA.net website for updates to the events and the jams.

INDIANA

1st Sun (mostly) Central Ind. BGA jams
307 W South H St, Gas City, **IN**
46933 317-508-2642 12/6/25 &
1/4/26 are next jams

1st Thurs Wakarusa Bluegrass Jambo-
ree, Doc Able Pavilion, 116 W.
Waterford St, Wakarusa, **IN**
46573 6:30-9p Free since 2000
574-862-2200

2nd & 4th Thurs Whiteriver Folk &
Bluegrass jam, Emery Lee Build-
ing, Beulah Park Jam, 400 E. 4th
St., Alexandria, **IN** 46001 6-9p

2nd Thurs Bluegrass Gospel Jam,
2nd Floor Old Bag Factory, 1100
Chicago Ave, Goshen, **IN**
46526 6:30-9p

Bill Landow 574-202-5502

3rd Fri Winamac Bluegrass Jam,
Knights of Columbus,
340E50N, Winamac, **IN** 46996
Tom 574-205-2274 7-10p

3rd Sun Northern Ind. Bluegrass jam &

meeting, SW Conservation Club,
5703 Bluffton Rd, Fort Wayne,
IN 46809 noon-6p free, all wel-
come, acoustic only instruments,
food & beverages available. NO
DECEMBER MEETING.

Every Sat. 6090 S. Oakwood St.,
N Judson, **IN** 46366
219-878-3123 5:30p CDST

Every Sun. Mouse Trap bar, 5565 N
Keystone Ave, Indianapolis,
IN 46220 317-255-3189 8p

12/04 Old Crow Medicine Show's Hol-
iday Hootenanny; Brown County
Music Center, 200 Maple Leaf
Blvd, Nashville, **IN** 47448 7:30p
\$52

MICHIGAN

Every Weds. jam with Ron Hammon,
Moose, 4043 Howe Rd, Grand
Blanc, **MI** 48439 6:30-9p
Ron - 810-309-0032

1st Sat Manton Jamboree, Ranger
room, Manton HS, 105 5th St,

Manton, **MI** 6-9p

lwestbrook17@hotmail.com

1st Sat West MI Bluegrass, FOE, 32 E.
Lake St, Sand Lake **MI** 49343
jam 1-3p 269-806-8561

1st Su Farm Pickin', River Saint Joe,
15475 Walton Rd, Buchanan,
MI 49107 1-3pm

1st Su Mountain Dulcimer Jam, Bob's
Barn, 1417 Johnson St., Lake
Odessa, **MI** 48849 10:30a-12p
616-374-8205

bobwarner40@gmail.com

1st & 3rd Mon Library; 7215 Headley
St SE UNIT 309, Ada, **MI** 49301
5-7:45p

1st & 3rd Tues Dyer Center, Wayne
Westland Education Center,
36745 Marquette, Westland
MI 48185 (between Wayne &
Newburg Rd) acoustic only. 7-9p

1st & 3rd Tues Presbyterian Village
32001 Cherry Hill Road
Westland, **MI** 48135 7-9:30p



313-617-4864 Wendy Hause
whause@frontier.com

1st Fri Old Time Jam, Elderly Instruments, 1100 N. Washington Ave. Lansing, MI 48906 5-6:30 pm 517-372-7880

2nd Sat Maumee Street Music jam, First Presbyterian Church, 156 E. Maumee, Adrian, MI 49221 6p 517-607-8085 or 517-270-2870

2nd Tues West MI Bluegrass; Slow Jam, Library, 6260 92nd St SE, Caledonia, MI 49316 989-430-2149 5-7:45p free

3rd Wed (note was Fri) Lake Diane Jams, Hillsdale Community Center, 1810 W. Territorial Rd, Camden, MI 49232, snack bar, Mullins 517-270-2870, Atkins 517-607-9868 6p

3rd Thur Bluegrass Jam, Elderly Instruments, 1100 N. Washington Ave. Lansing, MI 48906 5-6:30 pm 517-372-7880

3rd Fri Irish Jam, Elderly Instruments, 1100 N. Washington Ave. Lansing, MI 48906 5-6:30 pm 517-372-7880

3rd Sat West MI Bluegrass, Aiden's Place, 42 E Lake St, Sand Lake, MI 49343 989-430-2149 jam 2-4:30p

3rd Sat Heritage Park Barn, 121 Tefft St, Hanover MI 49241 Nov - April 6-11p

3rd Sun Woldumar Nature Center, 5739 Old Lansing Rd., Lansing, MI 48917 2-5p \$5 donation 517-505-2809

4th Sat Michigan Bluegrass Assoc., Armstrong Middle School, 6161 Hopkins Dr., Flint, MI 48506 6p 810 736-5332

12/04 The Tim Shelton Syndicate; The Ark, 316 S. Main St, Ann Arbor, MI 48104

12/06 RFD Boys; The Ark, 316 S. Main St, Ann Arbor, MI 48104 8p

OHIO

1st Sun Church on the Hill, 1861 Mill St., Albany, OH 45710. Hosts Jim & Alan Stack of Rarely Herd. I heard they have resumed the jam, but call to confirm. Alan 740-698-6609

1st & 3rd Mon Doug Fox & the Cedar Hill, VFW, 1131 Sugar Grove Rd, Lancaster, OH 43130 6:30-9p

2nd Thu Richwood Acoustic Jam, Baptist Church, 101 E. Ottawa St. Richwood, OH 43344 6-8p

3rd Sat Central Ohio "Big Jam" Lutheran Church, 15 Clinton Heights Ave, Columbus, OH 43202 11a-5p. Slow jam with Fred at noon.

Mon Jam, 2210 Summit Street, Columbus, OH 43201 6-9p (8-9 fast jam)

Tues FOTMC, 1196 Ross Millville Rd, Millville, OH 45013 6:30-8:30p 419-568-1220

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

2nd & 4th Tues Frosty Morning - American Legion Post 285, 108 Waters St, Hebron, OH 43025 6:30p 740-403-7896

Tues slow jam @ Violet Church, 8345 Blacklick Eastern Rd, Pickerington, OH 43147 6-8p 614-562-9730 to confirm.

Wed Central Ohio Bluegrass, Eagles, 3800 Westerville Rd, Columbus, OH 43224 6-9p

Thurs TNT Bluegrass, American Legion Post, 108 Waters St, Hebron, OH 43025 7-9p 740-403-7896

Sat Bluegrass Musicians Supply, 1370 S. High St. Columbus, OH 43207 longest running weekly jam session! 10a-3p (NO 3rd Sat)

12/03, 10, 17 Vern McIntyre's Appalachian Grass; Vinoklet Winery, 11069 Colerain Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45252 513-385-9309 6:30p

12/05 Kevin Prater Band. Muddy Krick Band; Pennyroyal Opera House, 139 Fair Ave, Quaker City, OH 43773 7p

12/05 Walahalla Ramblers; Byrne's Pub, 1248 W. Third Ave., Columbus, OH 43212 614-486-4722 7-9p

12/06 Kevin Prater Band at Bluegrass Opera Barn, Oakwood, OH 7 pm

12/06 Muleskinner Band; Clifton Opera House, 5 S Clay St, Clifton, OH 45316 937-767-1767 2-5p

12/06 Max Mobley; Sterling Bluegrass Concert, 26 E. Main St., Mt Sterling OH 43143 614-323-6938 6p

12/12 Ricky Skaggs & Kentucky Thunder at Memorial Hall OTR, 1225 Elm Street, Cincinnati, OH 8 pm

12/12 Open Highway; Byrne's Pub, 1248 W. Third Ave., Columbus, OH 43212 614-486-4722 7-9p

12/12 Ralph Stanley II; Sterling Bluegrass Concert, 26 E. Main St., Mt Sterling OH 43143 614-323-6938 7p

12/13 The Crusaders; Sterling Bluegrass Concert, 26 E. Main St., Mt Sterling OH 43143 614-323-6938 6p

12/14 Joe Mullins & the Radio Ramblers at A Bluegrass Christmas Supper, Schneider Banquet Center, 697 Tyndale Drive, Xenia, OH Doors open at 4:30. Dinner begins at 5. Music follows.

12/18 Dailey & Vincent at Ludlow Garage, 342 Ludlow Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 7:30 pm

12/19 Jeff Parker Band, Steve Ludwig & Casual Hobos; Pennyroyal Opera House, 139 Fair Ave, Quaker City, OH 43773 7p

12/19 Kody Norris Show; Sterling Bluegrass Concert, 26 E. Main St., Mt Sterling OH 43143 614-323-6938 6p

12/27 Chris Davis Band; Sterling Bluegrass Concert, 26 E. Main St., Mt Sterling OH 43143 614-323-6938 6p

01/08-10 Larry Efaw, Kevin Prater, Ottawa County, Kody Norris, WonPeace, Remington Ryde, Harbortown, Muddy Krick, Rhonda Vincent, 7 Mile Bluegrass, New Outlook, Open Highway; Bluegrass in Superclass, Maumee Bay Center, 1750 State Park Road, Oregon, OH 43616 419-836-1466 Lodge, 330-388-7280 show

01/09 Joe Mullins; Methodist Church, 207 S Court St. Marysville, OH 43040 7p

01/16 Ricky Skaggs; Ohio Star Theater, Dutch Valley, 1387 Old State Route 39, Sugarcreek, OH 43040 7p



There is magic in the music. We know that. Here is one of my testimonies to that.
I was sitting afar from the stage at the festival in Kendallville. I noticed this lovely lady in a wonderful hat. She took several rest breaks as she shuffled the short distance to the pavilion. The cane was a structural element of her journey. She made it to a chair in the shade. A short time later, the magic kicked in. She came out of the pavilion. But the slow deliberate shuffle was now dancing. Her arms were swaying and her feet were happy. The unsteadiness was gone... as was the cane. This went on for several songs. If not for the hat, you would swear it was a different person.

Later I witnessed her again. Slowly shuffling as I had first seen her, utilizing her cane to travel.

Maybe it was the hat... But I know the real magic was in that music. I bet she would agree.



Submitted by Rob Hathaway, NIBGA Member



There will be NO club jam/meeting/newsletter in December.

Also, club or Patron memberships make GREAT holiday gifts for your music-loving friends! Just sayin'

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



Dec 2025/Jan 2026

If your name and address are not correct, please notify us so that our records are up-to-date. Call (260) 918-4790