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Memberships: \$10 one, \$15 two w/one mailing, Published 2nd Sunday, Mailed 3rd Sunday monthly,
Next Jam: 1-5 PM, Oct 17, SW Conservation Club, 5703 Bluffton Rd., Ft. Wayne, IN 46899

President's Corner - Joe Steiner



The 2021 Tri-State Bluegrass Festival is now behind us, and what a great one it was! It was sure terrific to see all our old friends again (finally!), and we also saw quite a few new faces at the festival -- new folks to welcome to our Tri-State Bluegrass family.

The weather was certainly cooperative, as we saw temperatures and humidity recede from the previous week to some very comfortable highs in the low to mid 70s. Although we did see a bit of rain on Saturday night, (it WAS Kendallville, after all!) it wasn't enough to put a damper on things.

I'm really pleased with the way the lineup turned out, as all the bands met with an enthusiastic response. I was particularly impressed with Fort Wayne's own Debutants, and I think the club needs to find ways to partner with them in the future so as to increase both their and our exposure.

By all measures, our first festival since the start of the pandemic was a success! One of my favorite parts of the festival was on Saturday afternoon, when we were able to show our appreciation to Jim Winger (former President) and Barb Collins (former Secretary).

It would be impossible to overstate the effect Jim and Barb have had on NIBGA and the Tri-State Festival. It was Jim's vision that led the site selection process and originally brought the Tri-State Festival to Kendallville. And both Jim and Barb had the vision to carry the club and festival forward through the years, working with other board members and captains to make NIBGA the successful entity it is today.

Over the next few weeks, the board will be evaluating the financial results from the festival, and starting to make plans for 2022. Although we still are facing some uncertainty, I am cautiously optimistic that we will be back next year stronger than ever!

I can't wait!

Joe Steiner



This year's **50/50 winners** took home a combined \$665 over Friday and Saturday at the Labor Day weekend Tri-state Festival. Friday raised a total of \$402 in ticket sales, with \$201 in winnings going to long-time festival goer Ron Nartker. Saturday's winner was



NIBGA Patron (thanks, Anita!) Anita Moran who took home \$464 in extra cash, which she intends to use



for attending music workshops and camps.

The Northern Indiana Bluegrass Association also got a little extra cash, with the other half of the \$1,330 pot going to support the festival and continuation of bluegrass music.

You can catch next year's 50/50 drawings: tickets are sold the day-of at the merchant's table or roving golf cart. Submitted by Alexis Goldsmith

NIBGA Awarded IAC Grant

A grant application from the Arts Recovery Program from the National Endowment for the Arts was prepared and submitted in July. The club was awarded \$3,000 in August.

The award must be used from Sept. 1, 2020 through June 30, 2022. It is anticipated that the funds will be used for the following purposes:

- Subsidizing a twice-a-year free community concert event
- Youth programs such as the "Kids Academy" held over Memorial Day weekend 2019
- Support for other youth programs such as the Suzuki fiddlers and a violin program in Fort Wayne
- Nursing home shows by professional bands provided at no charge to the nursing home
- Expanded educational activities during the 6 winter club meetings, especially related to youth
- Appropriate health actions such as a handicap port-a-jon for campers
- Rent assistance for the winter meetings
- Expanded tracking of the estimated number of people served
- Advertising

The club is very grateful to the Indiana Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts for this award.

Thank you to all of our volunteers! We couldn't have a festival without YOU!

It takes a LOT of people to run a festival. The board and committee members meet monthly (or more!) year around to plan the festivals and affairs of the association. But when it is "boots to the ground" time, it takes an army of volunteers to make everything happen smoothly. NIBGA has always been very blessed to have volunteers that not only agree to help out, but search US out to volunteer their help without even being asked. This past festival was no exception. In fact, most of the volunteer sign up sheets were filled before the festival started. Thank you so much! I apologize in advance for missing someone. So many people just helped out without signing up.

Thank you to the volunteers that drove **Taxis** this year. This was the first year that Janet Smith coordinated the taxi drivers, and all of the experienced volunteers made it easy for her. Because campers are allowed to bring their own golf carts now, the need for taxis has been reduced, but they always manage to find someone that needs a ride to the stage or back to their car. Thank you to David Buhler (5 shifts!), Cliff Lawton, Poul Sandersen, Ron Tedford, Jeff Thacker, and Jay Winger.

This year's **Band Green Room** was hosted by Rachel Lehman. Due to Covid restrictions, food had to be prepackaged. Snacks included granola bars, cheese sticks, snack mix, crackers & cheese, etc. Although it was healthy fare, we had several people that mentioned they missed the Bacon's cookies! We'll blame Covid for that one.

The **Merchandise Tables** stayed busy the entire festival with an energetic crew nearly selling out all of the merchandise. Merchandise volunteers included: Claire Gerken, Hannah Gerken, Mark Gerken, Michaela Gerken, Bruce Heffner, Jeanette Young and Joel Young. Thank you, Lydia Gerken, for coordinating the merchandise.

Emcees were under the direction of Chris Vogie. I'm sure you recognized Terri Grannis, Terry Thacker and Elaine Vogie. As always, they did a great job of keeping the bands on schedule and entertaining the audience.

And there are always a **million other things** that need done, and magically someone appears to handle them. Thank you so much to Verl Dasher and Don Meade who made sure things kept working on the grounds. And to everyone who cleaned up the fairgrounds, even when it wasn't their mess. It didn't go unnoticed or unappreciated! Once again, a huge thank you, too, to the Board members and committee members who spent nearly two weeks at the fairgrounds making sure things were in order, running smoothly, and cleaning afterwards.

The **Gate Crew** is an invaluable part of the festival. Our hats off to the volunteers that stand out there during 98 degree weather (or 45 degree weather!). Gate Captains this year were spearheaded by long-time Chairman, Jim Miller, and new-this-year, Brooklyn Rummer. Gate Captains were Leslie Ellis Skal, Patty Page, Jan Meade, Michaela Gerken and Andrew Shields. Volunteers this year included: Ed Bronson, Virgie and Dave Buhler, Kevin Chriss, Jim Clay, Wendy Conner, Ben Crowfoot, Verl Dasher, John and Ruth Lakatos, Carl Miller, Linda Sandersen, Wayne Vincent, Marianne Vogie, Wayne Warren and Barb Welch.

Thank you so much!!

50/50 drawing

You will find an article in this newsletter about the 50/50 drawing winners. Thanks to Jay Winger, Lydia Gerken, and Alexis Goldsmith for soliciting donations.

Stage Set-Up was spear-headed by Bryan Dray (who doesn't seem to mind climbing tall ladders and straddling rafters). He had a lot of help by Jim Miller, Jim Clay, Kevin Chriss and several others who just stopped by to lend support. I wish I had thought to get everyone's name so I could thank them properly!

Thank you to Shari Wolf who hosted the Sunday **Morning Gospel Sing**. It is always a special part of the festival.

October Events

It is great to see so many events starting to happen again. However, please call ahead to make sure it is still on before you travel a distance.

INDIANA

- 10/01** Rhonda Vincent; Blue Gate, 105 E Middlebury St., Shipshwana, **IN** 46565 888-447-4725 8p
- 10/03** Cornfield & Crossroads; Mallow Run Winery, 2564 W. Whiteland Road, Bargersville, **IN** 46106-9199 317-422-1556
- 10/07** Isaacs; Blue Gate, 105 E Middlebury St., Shipshwana, **IN** 46565 888-447-4725 8p
- 10/16** New Trad Ramblers; Metamora Opry Barn, 19189 Pennington Rd, Metamora, **IN** 47030 6:30p MetamoraMusic@gmail.com
- 10/23** Kenneth Beverly & friends; from 4-8pm @ First Church of God, 777 N Detroit St, LaGrange, **IN** 46761 4-8p 260-463-3700
- 10/23** Dead Horses (folk); the 615, 615 N Williams, Portland, **IN** 47371

MICHIGAN

- 10/09** Michigan Fiddlers Assoc., Barry County on Aging, 320 W. Woodlawn, Hastings, **MI** 49058 231-871-0320 1-7:30p dinner 5-6p
- 10/09** Bridge Country Bluegrass; Maybury Farm, 50165 8 Mile Rd., Northville, **MI** 48167 (248) 704-9211 12-3p
- 10/09** Calabogie Road; Book-Nook Bluegrass Weekend Festival, 8744 Ferry St., Montague, **MI** 49437 (231) 894-5333 10a
- 10/19** The Steel Wheels; Listening Room at Studio Park 123 Ionia Ave. SW Grand Rapids, **MI** 49503.

OHIO

- 10/03** Rhonda Vincent and The Rage; Stuart's Opera House, Town

- Square, Nelsonville, **OH** 2p
- 10/08** Sam Bush; The Holland Theatre, 127 E Columbus Ave., Bellefontaine, **OH** 43311 937-592-9002
- 10/08** Del McCoury Band, Hocking River String Band, Scott Mulvahill & Dead Horses, more eclectic bands; Hocking Hills music festival, 26792 US 33, Rockbridge, **OH** 43149
- 10/09** Kenny Stinson & Perfect Tym'n; Clifton Opera House, 5 South Clay St., Clifton, **OH** 45387 7:30p
- 10/09** Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian Grass; Ohio Eagles Recreation Park, 5118 US 68 N, Bellefontaine, **OH** 43311 7p (937) 593-1565
- 10/09** Wildfire; Sterling Bluegrass Concert, 26 E. Main St., Mt Sterling **OH** 43143 614-323-6938 5p
- 10/10** Dailey and Vincent, The Rarely Herd, Johnny Staats & The Delivery Boys,, Bob Evans Farm, 10854 OH 588, Rio Grande, **OH** 45674
- 10/14** Adam Schlenker, Hayes Griffin, Evie Ladin; Natalie's Coal Fired Pizza, 5601 N. High St, Worthington, **OH** 43085 9:30p 614-436-COAL 8p
- 10/15** Open Highway, The Wayfarers; The Apple Butter Stirin' Festival, Roscoe Village, 600 N. Whitewoman St., Coshocton, **OH** 43812 2p
- 10/16** The Steel Wheels; G A R Hall 1785 Main St Peninsula **OH** 44264 330-657-2633
- 10/16** Bluegrass Mountaineers, Conney Carver & The Rainbow Valley Boys; Bluegrass Junction, Shalersville Town Hall, 9090 OH-44, Ravenna, **OH** 44266 7-11p
- 10/16** The Wayfarers; The Apple Butter Stirin' Festival, Roscoe Village, 600 N. Whitewoman St.,

- Coshocton, **OH** 43812 11a
- 10/16** Acoustic guitar player Evan Holcombe; Combustion Brewery, 80 W. Church St, Pickerington, **OH** 43147 614-834-9595 8p
- 10/16** Vern McIntyre & Appalachian Grass; Sterling Bluegrass Concert, 26 E. Main St., Mt Sterling **OH** 43143 614-323-6938 5p
- 10/16** Joe Mullins & the Radio Ramblers; Caesar Ford Park, 520 S. Stringtown Rd., Xenia, **OH** 45385 2p
- 10/17** Project Delta; Brewery 33, 12684 College Prospect Dr., Logan, **OH** 43138 2-5p
- 10/17** Chestnut Ridge Bluegrass; Apple Butter Stirin' Festival, Roscoe Village, 600 N. Whitewoman St., Coshocton, **OH** 43812 11:15-12 noon 1-2:15p
- 10/21** Joe Mullins & the Radio Ramblers; Sauder Village, 22611 SR 2, Archbold, **OH** 43502 1-800-590-9755. 7p
- 10/22** The Infamous Stringdusters, We Banjo 3; EXPRESS LIVE! 405 Neil Ave. Columbus, **OH** 43215 614-461-5483 6p
- 10/22** The Steeldrivers; The Murphy Theatre, 50 W. Main St., Wilmington, **OH** 45177 937-382-3643 7p
- 10/22** Slate Ridge; Bluegrass Happy Hour, Byrne's Pub, 1248 W. Third Ave., Columbus, **OH** 43212 614-486-4722 7-9p
- 10/23** The Steel Wheels; The Holland Theatre, 127 E Columbus Ave., Bellefontaine, **OH** 43311 937-592-9002
- 10/23** The Denison Bluegrass Ensemble; Three Rivers Bluegrass, Coshocton Village Inn, 115 N. Water St., Coshocton, **OH** 43812 6p

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10/23 7 Mile Bluegrass; Bystone Farm, 8677 Oregon Rd., Canal Winchester, **OH** 43110 7p

10/23 Berachah Valley; Clifton Opera House, 5 S Clay St, Clifton, **OH** 45316 937-767-1767 7:30p

10/23 Echo Valley; Sterling Bluegrass Concert, 26 E. Main St., Mt Sterling **OH** 43143 614-323-6938 5p

10/26 Sierra Hull with Scott Mulvahill & Dead Horses; The Holland Theatre, 127 E Columbus Ave., Bellefontaine, **OH** 43311 937-592-9002

Next NIBGA Jam in Fort Wayne - Oct 17, 2021

**Thank
You!**

These are the 2021 Patrons, including our most recent Patron who signed up at the festival. Thank you so much! You are keeping bluegrass alive in the Tri-State area!

Wayne Boltz
Kevin Chriss
Verl Dasher
Mary Day
Bryan & Stephanie Dray
Julie Goldsmith & Jim Geise
Jerry & Sioux McLane
Anita Moran

Ian Oliveros
Terry & Irene Rassi
Linda & Poul Sandersen
Jim & Joan Settlemyre
Mark & Cheryl Smith
Joe & Chris Steiner
Chris Vogie
Dave and Marianne Vogie

Cathy Voors
Terry & Peggy Wallace
Robert & Gail Warfel
Ronald Wedekind
Paul & Barbara Welch
Stewart White
Jim and Linda Winger
Marvin Woollet

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