

NIBGA, 1020 Wyandot Rd, Bucyrus, OH 44820 (260) 918-4790 , news@nibga.com
Memberships: \$10 one, \$15 two w/1 mailing, Published 2nd Sun, Mailed 3rd Sun monthly
Next Jam: 1-5 PM, Oct 20, SW Conservation Club, 5703 Bluffton Rd., Ft. Wayne, IN 46899

President's Corner - Joe Steiner



The 2024 festival season is almost here... I can't wait! Pretty soon it will be picking outdoors, sitting around the campfire, listening to the stage show, and just generally having a great time being immersed in bluegrass music and camping!

Certainly, bluegrass music and campgrounds were made for each other. Acoustic stringed instruments can go anywhere without the need for cords or amplifiers – all it takes to start a jam session is for folks to get together and pull their instruments out of their cases. And there is just something about the ambience of a campfire that serves as a magnet for bluegrass music!

I'd like to take a couple minutes here to thank our board members and captains for 2024. The efficiency of this team is unbelievable, and they work tirelessly and selflessly all year to make the festival happen.

- Vice President: Jim Winger (IN)
- Treasurer: Linda Winger (IN)
- Secretary: Leslie Ellis Skal (IN)
- Director: Pam Keiper (IN)
- Director: Jim Miller (IN)
- Director: Jim Clay (OH)
- Publicity Chair: Julie Winger (IN)
- Vendor Chair: Jeanette Young (IN)
- Merchandise Chair: Lydia Gerken (IN)
- Special Events Chair: Chris Steiner (OH)
- Membership Chair: Patty Page (IL)
- Technical Support: Evan Argueta (OH)

Of course, there are many other volunteers who share generously of their time and talent to make the festival happen, and, although I can't mention them all here, they are very much appreciated. And, most certainly deserving of the highest level of thanks are our NIBGA Patrons, who have kept this club going since early 2020 – their names are mentioned in the monthly newsletters, and you may see them around the campground wearing their stylish Patron T-Shirts! I am honored and privileged to be part of the great NIBGA bluegrass family!

Last, but not least for this month, as we celebrate the 48th anniversary of the Tri-State festival and get ready to enjoy this year's events, it's only fitting to recognize those who have gone before us. Many of those folks are no longer around, but it is thanks to the foresight that we are ready to embark on another great festival season -- they started this club forty-eight years ago and kept it going. I started to list some of the names from the club's records, but it quickly proved an impossible task since so many were involved in getting us to where we are today. It is awesome to consider that the only reward these many folks received was furthering bluegrass music: the music that they loved, and that we enjoy and love today.

Joe

I have mentioned some of the bands that will be playing at the Memorial Day festival in previous newsletters, and I would like to mention the rest of the lineup here. We'll be welcoming the Matchsellers back, and I will of course be anxious to see what kinds of stories (and possibly other antics) that Andrew Morris has in store for us. He and Julie Bates still head up this fine group.

We're happy to welcome Ottawa County Bluegrass to our stage. Joe and Dennis Mitchell (on banjo and guitar, respectively) have headed up this band for many years. Although they have always been featured favorites around Northern Ohio, I think they are sounding better than ever now, with Danny Bryant on mandolin and Simon Edwards on string bass.

Rounding out the lineup over Memorial Day this year will be Blue Diggity, Cedar Creek, Mud-dy Krick Mountain Band, The Carl Bentley Band, and Fresh Cut Grass.

Behind the Scene this winter

Renegotiating the NCCFC Contract:

This winter it was time to renegotiate the contract with the Noble County Fair board. They, as we are, are a nonprofit organization. The fairgrounds is 65 or so acres that require maintenance to keep them in shape. The obvious requirements are mowing but there are others like upkeep on roads, electrical support for all the buildings and the camping areas.

Water annually has to be drained from all the lines so they don't freeze in the cold weather. Restrooms need attention and some are in disrepair almost beyond saving.

Against this background it is obvious that this not-for-profit, volunteer organization needs help both monetary and physical to keep going. Not mentioned is the need to organize and put on the annual 4H Fair, a major project on very limited funds.

An obvious source of more money is to raise rent on the existing major renters, the Apple Festival and the two Bluegrass festivals. This endeavor required a delicate balance, ensuring fairness to all parties involved. Joe facilitated the development of an updated three-year contract that addressed the needs and concerns of all stakeholders involved.

Our thanks to Joe and all those involved in securing this vital contract. *(continued page 3)*

Upcoming Events - confirm event status before leaving home

INDIANA

Jams:

1st Sun mostly Central Indiana BGA jams Hontz Hall, 307 E South H St, Gas City, IN 46933 765-674-5117 noon-?? (12/3)

1st Thurs [Wakarusa Bluegrass Jamboree](#), 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 Building, 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 info: 574-202-5502 *Starts Feb. 8, 2024*

3rd Fri [Winamac Bluegrass Jam](#), Knights of Columbus, 340E50N, Winamac, IN 46996 574-205-2274 7-10p

3rd Sat Mar-Nov - [Metamora Opry Barn](#), 19189 Pennington Rd, Metamora, IN 47030 6:30p [MetamoraMusic \[at\] gmail \[dot\] com](#)

3rd Sun Northern Ind. Bluegrass jam & meeting, SW Conservation Club, 5703 Bluffton Rd, Fort Wayne, IN 46809 noon-6p free all welcome, acoustic only instruments, food & beverages available. , no summer jams next jams (10/20, 11/15 2024)

Every Sat. 6090 S. Oakwood St., N Judson, IN 46366 219-878-3123 5:30p CDST 5:30P except during Kendallville Festival

Events:

04/20 [Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian Grass](#); [Metamora Opry Barn](#), 19189 Pennington Rd., Metamora, IN 47030 6:30p

04/27 [Mandolin Gathering](#); Metamora Opry Barn, 19189 Pennington Road, Metamora, IN 47030

05/10 [Blue Highway](#); Concert Seriesm [Northminster Presbyterian Church, 1660 Kessler Boulevard East Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46220](#) 7p

05/10 [Molly Tuttle](#); The Vogue Theatre, 6259 N College Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46220 9p

05/11 Ro; Hoosier Forest Fiddle Festival, 18568 Parks Rd Magnet IN 47520 1p

05/18 [Roger Brown & Borrowed Tyme](#); [Metamora Opry Barn](#), 19189 Pennington Rd., Metamora, IN 47030 6:30p

05/23-26 [High Fidelity](#), [Dry Branch Fire Squad](#), [My Brother's Keeper](#), [Appalachian Swing](#), [Debutants](#), [The Matchsellers](#), [New Outlook](#), Fox Crossing, [Muddy Krick Mtn. Band](#), [Blue Dig-city](#), [Ottawa County Bluegrass](#), [Cedar Creek](#), [The Carl Bentley Band](#), [Steve Scott & Scott Bros](#), [Suzuki Fiddlers](#), [Fresh Cut Grass](#); [Tri-Statre Bluegrass Festival](#), 580 N Fair St, Kendallville, IN 46755 **camping starts 5/16** @\$15/night with weekend ticket

Events:

04/30-05/01 [Rhonda Vincent & The Rage](#); Amish Country Theater, 4369 SR 39, Berlin, OH 44654 888-988-7469

05/01, 08, 15, 22, 29 [Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian Grass](#); [Vinoklet Winery](#), 11069 Colerain Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45252 513-385-9309 6:30-8:30p

05/03 [McIntyre Bluegrass Trio](#); [Urban Backyard Tap Room](#), 501 Main St, Hamilton OH 45013 513-893-9HUB 7-10p

05/03 Seth Mulder & Midnight Run, Old Hometown; [Pennyroyal Opera House](#), 139 Fair Ave, Quaker City, OH 43773 7p

05/03 Other Brothers; [Byrne's Pub](#), 1248 W. 3rd Ave., Columbus, OH 43212 614-486-4722 7-9p

05/03 [Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian Grass](#); [First Friday Concert](#), 11069 Colerain Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45252 513-385-9309 6:30-8:30p

05/04 [Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian Grass](#); [Clifton Opry](#), 5 S. Clay St, Clifton OH 45316 937-767-1767 7-9p

05/04-05 [Central Ohio Folk Festival](#), Metro Park, 9466 US Rt 23 N, Lewis Center, OH 43035

05/07 [Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian Grass](#); [Music Live at Lunch](#), 318 E. 4th St, Cincinnati, OH 45202 513-621-1817 noon-1p

05/09 [Henhouse Prowlers](#); OSU Marion, 1465 Mt. Vernon Ave., Marion, OH 43302 7:30 pm

05/10 [Henhouse Prowlers](#); GAR Hall, 6138 River-view Rd, Peninsula, OH 44264 7:30p

05/10 Wood Pickers; [Byrne's Pub](#), 1248 W. 3rd Ave., Columbus, OH 43212 614-486-4722 7-9p

05/10 [Dry Branch Fire Squad](#); [Sterling Bluegrass Concert](#), 26 E. Main St., Mt Sterling OH 43143 614-323-6938 6p

05/10 Scott Miller *not bluegrass*, Robbie Fulks; Kent stage, 175 E Main St, Kent, OH 44240 6:30

05/11 Fast Track; [Clifton Opry](#), 5 S. Clay St, Clifton OH 45316 937-767-1767 7-9p

05/12 [Dry Branch Fire Squad](#), Danny Burton & Thunderbirds, Cecil Jackson, Sammy Adkins, Wayfarers, Forest Hills Bluegrass, Red Idle Re-jects, [Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian](#)

[Grass](#); [Appalachian Festiv](#); al, 6201 Kellog Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45230 513-251-3378

05/15 Old Time Jam; [Stuart's Opera House](#), 52 Public Square, Nelsonville, OH 45764 Instruction 6:30p Open jam 7:30p

05/17 Brothers Randall & Friends; [Pennyroyal Opera House](#), 139 Fair Ave, Quaker City, OH 43773 7p

05/17 Ramblin Bluegrass; [Byrne's Pub](#), 1248 W. 3rd Ave., Columbus, OH 43212 614-486-4722 7-9p

05/17 [Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian Grass](#), [Fibonacci Brewing](#) 1445 Compton Rd, Mt. Healthy, OH 45231, 513-832-1422 7-9p

05/18 [Dailey & Vincent](#); [Ohio Valley Opera](#), 15 W Main St, McConnelsville, OH 43756 2 shows 4 & 8p 740-962-3030

05/18 Carson Peters & Iron Mountain; [Sterling Bluegrass Concert](#), 26 E. Main St., Mt Sterling OH 43143 614-323-6938 6p

05/18 Mark Whitt & Truegrass; ; [Clifton Opry](#), 5 S. Clay St, Clifton OH 45316 937-767-1767 7-9p

05/19 [Rob Ickes](#), [Trey Hensley](#); [Fur Peace Ranch](#), 39495 St. Clair Rd, Pomeroy, OH 45769 4p

05/23 Appalachian Swing/w Keith Billie; [Natalie's Grandview](#), 945 King Ave, Columbus, OH 43212 6:30p

05/24 Grassinine; [Byrne's Pub](#), 1248 W. Third Ave., Columbus, OH 43212 614-486-4722 7-9p

05/24-26 Kenny & Amanda Smith, Crabgrass, Coney Carver, Clay Hess, Lincoln & Heather, Russell Smith, Muddy Krick, gospel music, Speed Limit; [Mitch & Cindy's Bluegrass Festival](#), 899 Everett Cortland Hull Rd.,

Cortland, OH 44410 [mitchandcindysbluegrass \[at\] gmail \[dot\] com](#)

05/25 New Mountain Heritage; [Sterling Bluegrass Concert](#), 26 E. Main St., Mt Sterling OH 43143 614-323-6938 6p

05/30-06/01 ~~CANCELLED~~ [WOBO Bluegrass Bash](#), Owensville, OH 45103

05/31 [Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian Grass](#); [MayFest @Alms Park](#), 710 Tusculum Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45226 513-607-1874 1-2p 3-4p 6-9p

MICHIGAN

Jams:

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

every Weds. Eagles, 301 Detroit St, Jackson, MI 49201 Jam leader: 248-247-9766 6-9p acoustic only!

every Sun. Bob's Barn Jamborees, 1417 Johnson St., Lake Odessa, MI 48849 616-374-8205

1st Sat Jamboree, Ranger room, Manton HS, 105 5th St, Manton, MI 6-9p lwestbrook17@hotmail.com

1st Sat West MI Bluegrass, Aiden's Place, 42 E Lake St, Sand Lake, MI 49343 989-430-2149 jam 1-3p

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

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

1st Tues Presbyterian Village 32001 Cherry Hill Road Westland, MI 48135 313-617-4864 7-9:30p

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

3rd Tues Presbyterian Village 32001 Cherry Hill Rd Westland, MI 48135 313-617-4864 7-9:30p Snack Bar

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

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

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

3rd Tues Presbyterian Village 32001 Cherry Hill Road Westland, MI 7p 313-617-4864

4th Sat MI Bluegrass Assoc., Armstrong MS, 6161 Hopkins Dr., Flint, MI 48506 6p 810 736-5332 (5/21 is 3rd Sat.)

OHIO

Jams:

3rd Sun Church of the Nazarene (south entrance), 7951 Tylersville Rd, West Chester, OH 45069 937-530-2127 3-5p

Tues - FOMC jam, 1196 Ross Millville Rd, Millville, OH 45013 7-9p 419-568-1220

Tues - [Bluegrass Opry Barn, 9461 OH-66, Oakwood, OH 45873](#) 419-594-2816 6p

Thurs Slow Bluegrass Jam, Violet Baptist Church, 8345 Blacklick-Eastern Rd NW, Pickerington, OH 43147 614-562-9730 6-8p

Advertising:

Since COVID, people have turned more and more to forms of entertainment that doesn't include being in a large crowd. In the process they have lost the feeling that comes from enjoying entertainment in an audience. It also impacts the performers who need feedback from an audience. This trend has impacted live music like us.

In the past, the club would distributed 10,000 or more paper flyers to the many locations that had Bluegrass events. The number of those events has been dropping and that accelerated during COVID. NIBGA has searched for alternatives.

The web site was updated and included information on our events. The Facebook page had details on the bands that were planning to appear. Our visibility improved but those efforts seemed to only reach a specific, limited Bluegrass audience.

We were very fortunate to have as a member, Evan Argueta, who has extensive experience in the promotion of corporations on the web as his day job. He and his wife joined Julie Goldsmith's team and began to expand our advertising reach on the internet. Having a volunteer professional was a stroke of luck.

Instead of just putting up Facebook pages which bring limited results, they implemented advertising directly to specific groups on Facebook and via Google ads to RV owners, festival go'ers, specific age groups and more.

Using tracking cookies allowed them to obtain information about potential festival attendees. This allows feedback on the effectiveness of their efforts allowing them to shift advertising directions and funding based on solid information instead of guessing like in the past.

The board has high hopes to see a significant increase in attendance at the festival.

Thank you to our 2024Patrons!

Thank-You to our 2024 and past Patrons. YOU are helping to keep bluegrass alive in the Tri-State area! Check out

anonymous
Ron Armstead
Steve Carroll

Jim Chilton
Mark Hauenstein
Jim & Linda Winger

Joe & Chris Steiner
Verl & Sue Dasher
Keith & Terri Grannis

Jerry & Sioux McLane
Stewart White

NIBGA 2024-2025 Membership Form a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit www.BluegrassUSA.net

Due by May 1, 2024* ● NIBGA - 5255 E. 5000 N Rd, Bourbonnais, IL 60914 ● ph: 260-918-4790 ● email: DF24@nibga.com

* Current memberships 2023 expire April 30, 2024.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ e-Mail: _____

Yes: e-Mail mine: _____ No, snail mail it _____ Canada: snail mail (1 or 2) \$15, e-Mailed(1) \$10/(2) \$15

New: _____ Renewal: _____ \$10 Single: _____ \$5 ea addl same address 16 & older _____

OR TO BE A PATRON (includes dues and one T-shirt)

I want to be a 2024 Patron and support my club: \$100 _____ T-Shirt Size? S M L XL XXL XXXL

Optional Additional 2024 Patron T-shirt: \$ 20 _____ T-Shirt Size? S M L XL XXL XXXL

OR For renewing Patrons - T-shirt : FREE _____ T-Shirt Size? S M L XL XXL XXXL

(renewing Patrons get the 2nd T-shirt Free)

Patron name(s) as it should appear on recognition board: _____

(Please print clearly)

Events:

05/04 Old Michigan Fiddlers, Chase Township Hall, 8296 US- 10, Chase, MI 49623 231-734-2508 jam 1:30-4p dance 5p

05/11 Molly Tuttle & Golden Highway; Majestic Theatre 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit, MI 48201-2027 7p

05/11 Michigan Fiddlers, Maple Leaf Grange, 7490 M-66, Nashville, MI 49073 616-374-8205 1-5p

05/16 Schlitz Creek; McCarty's Bar & Grill, 46065 M-40 Hwy, Paw Paw, MI 49079 7-10P

05/18 Old Michigan Fiddlers, Cadillac Senior Center, 601 Chestnut St., Cadillac, MI 49061231-734-2508 jam 1:30-4p dance 5p

05/18 Square Dances @ Studio 18, 1818 142nd Ave., Dorr, MI 49323 616-318-5270 6:30-9p

05/18 Schlitz Creek; VFW, 8031 E Court St, Davison, MI 48423 248-561-0077

05/24 Calabogie Road, Schlitz Creek, more non-bluegrass; Allegan Folklife Festival, Allegan High School, 1560 M-40, Allegan, MI 49010 269-993-7678

Next NIBGA Jam in Fort Wayne, Oct. 20, 2024



Mark your calendars now for the
Spring Memorial Day Weekend Festival!
May 23-26, 2024
Make plans to come early to camp, hang out with friends, and visit local attractions. Only \$15/night camping!

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



May 2024

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