

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, Feb 16, SW Conservation Club, 5703 Bluffton Rd., Ft. Wayne, IN 46899

President's Corner - Joe Steiner



The winter blues are starting to set in, and you may be thinking that it's difficult to come up with ways to occupy yourself with music. But there are certainly opportunities for bluegrass entertainment.

While it's much easier to find events during the summer, they do also exist during the winter. In addition to indoor festivals and concerts, you may want to look for jam sessions, even if you're not a picker yourself. These don't hold quite as much interest for listeners, since there is not a dedicated "show" to hold the audience's interest. But it is an opportunity to visit with friends while listening to bluegrass music in the background.

It is fun to watch performers in a jam session – it's a unique opportunity to see them in a different light, when they are coming up with musical ideas completely on the fly rather than in a rehearsed context.

I think it is a good rule of thumb to give an event the benefit of the doubt. If you're not familiar with a particular event or location, just go anyway and look at it as an adventure. Even if you attend only to find that it falls short of your hopes or expectations, you will still have fun and meet friends.

If you play, or are learning to play an instrument yourself, winter is a good time to check out the opportunities jam sessions present. Each jam is a unique experience and sets you up to try your chops in a different environment – this gives you an opportunity to explore your creativity as you get into someone else's groove.

If you are learning to play, sometimes it's difficult to decide whether you are looking for a concert or a jam session. Concerts are a great opportunity to listen, and to be entertained by dedicated performers. But you don't want to underestimate the educational value of getting into a situation where you can pick a little yourself, especially if you are relatively new at playing music.

Jamming with others helps grow an appreciation of the music, and the way the instrumental parts and vocals fit together. This helps you build a comfort level for getting into similar situations in the future. It also makes watching concerts more enjoyable in the future when you understand more about the creativity involved in putting the pieces together.

Especially for younger folks, I think it's prudent to make ways to get out and around to musical events during the winter. The reputation that you build now, as you associate with others in the bluegrass

As we have been busily preparing for the 2025 festivals, Chris Steiner has been doing a great job of hiring a variety of bands for the stage show.

This lineup has representation from all corners of the bluegrass world, from traditional to progressive and local to nationally-touring.

As of the date this went to press, the following are the bands confirmed so far. More to come!

Memorial Day Weekend

David Mayfield Parade
West Liberty Mountain Boys
Gravel Yard
Debutants
Kentucky Blue
7 Mile Bluegrass
Crabgrass
Watershed Ramblers
... and more

Labor Day Weekend

Lincoln Mash and Heather Alley
Sammy Adkins & the Sandy Hook
Mountain Boys
Tony Hale & Blackwater
My Brother's Keeper
Blue Diggity
Hillbilly Chic
New Outlook
The Boozehounds
New Strength
New Mountain Heritage
Low Landers

Watch future newsletters for more information on these bands and the rest of the lineup.



Northern Indiana Bluegrass Association is a 501 (c)(3) organization and contributions are tax-deductible to the extent provided in the Internal Revenue Code.

Upcoming Events - confirm event status before leaving home

INDIANA

- 1st Sun** mostly Central Ind. BGA jams
Hontz Hall, 307 E South H St, Gas
City, **IN** 46933
765-674-5117 noon-??
- 1st Thurs** Wakarusa Bluegrass Jambo-
ree, Doc Able Pavilion, 116 W.
Waterford St, Wakarusa, **IN** 46573
6:30-9p Free, 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
- 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 welcome,
acoustic only instruments, food &
beverages available.
- Every Sat.** 6090 S. Oakwood St., N
Judson, **IN** 46366 219-878-3123
5:30p CDST 5:30P
- Every Sun.** Mouse Trap bar, 5565 N
Keystone Ave, Indianapolis, **IN**
46220 317-255-3189 8p
- 02/15** Kentucky Blue; Mitchell Opera
House, 217 North 7th St., PO Box
37, Mitchell, **IN** 47446
812-849-4447 7-9p
- 02/16** Keller Williams, The HillBend-
ers, Debutants (bluegrass versions
of Grateful Dead, Tom Petty
more); Clyde Theatre, 1808
Bluffton Rd, Fort Wayne, **IN** 46809
7p \$30-55
- 02/28** Appalachian Road Show;
Presbyterian Church, 1660 Kessler
Bla E. Drive | Indianapolis, **IN**
46220 317-251-9489 7p

MICHIGAN

- every Weds.** jam with 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 Acoustic only!
Eagles: 517-782-5622
Jam leader: 248-247-9766 6-9p
- every Sun.** Bob's Barn Jamborees,
1417 Johnson St., Lake Odessa,
MI 48849 616-374-8205
bobwarner40@gmail.com
- 1st Sat** Manton 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 Sun** Farm Pickin', River Saint Joe,
15475 Walton Rd, Buchanan,
MI 49107 1-3pm
- 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 313-617-4864
7-9:30p Wendy Hause
whause@frontier.com
- 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 Fri** Lake Diane Jams, Hillsdale
Community Center, 1810 W.
Territorial Rd, Camden, **MI** 49232
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 Sat** Heritage Park Barn, 121 Tefft
St, Hanover **MI** 49241 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
- 02/08** Appalachian Road Show; Ark,
316 S Main St, Ann Arbor, **MI**
48104 734-761-1800 8p

OHIO

- 1st Sun** Church on the Hill, 1861 Mill
St. in Albany, **OH** 45710 (Hosted by
Jim & Alan Stack of Rarely Herd)
2-4p
- 2nd Thu** Richwood Acoustic Jam,
First Baptist Church of Richwood.
101 E. Ottawa St. Richwood, **OH**
43344 6-8p
- 3rd Thu** Open Bluegrass Jam,
Thomas Auction Center, 176 S.
Main St, Fredericktown, **OH** 43019
740-507-5392 7p
- 3rd Sat** Jam Central Ohio "Big Jam"
Clinton Heights Lutheran Church,
15 Clinton Heights Ave,
Columbus, **OH** 43202 11a-5p
- 3rd Sun** Church of the Nazarene
(south entrance), 7951 Tylersville
Rd, West Chester, **OH** 45069
937-530-2127 3-5p
- Mon** Central Ohio Bluegrass Jam,
Summit Music Hall, 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

Continued on next page →

Tues Diner-20 jam, 10938 US-20, Lyons, OH 43533 5-7p

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

Thurs Slow Jam, Violet Baptist Church, 8345 Blacklick-Eastern Rd NW, Pickerington, OH 43147 614-562-9730 6-8p confirm event status: Fstaunton59@gmail.com

Sat Bluegrass Musicians Supply, 1370 S. High St. Columbus, OH 43207 longest running weekly jam session! 10a-5p

02/07 Appalachian Road Show; Methodist Church, Life Center, 207 S. Court St Marysville, OH 43040 7p 937 642 4712

02/07 Open Highway; Byrne's Pub, 1248 W. Third Ave., Columbus, OH 43212 614-486-4722 7-9p

02/07 Hillbilly Chic; Natalie's Grandview, 945 King Ave, Columbus, OH 43212 9p

02/08 Kevin Prater w/ New Kids in Towne; Wapakoneta, OH 45895 7p

02/14 Dr. Chris Bingman & the Buttermilk Biscuit Boys; Byrne's Pub, 1248 W. Third Ave., Columbus, OH 43212 614-486-4722 7-9p

02/14 New Mountain Heritage, Perry Morgan Pickers; Pennyroyal Opera House, 139 Fair Ave, Quaker City, OH 43773 7p

02/15 Kevin Prater Band; fund raiser, Deerassic Park, 14250 Cadiz Rd, Cambridge, OH 43725 7p

02/21 7 Mile Bluegrass; Byrne's Pub, 1248 W. Third Ave., Columbus, OH 43212 614-486-4722 7-9p

02/21-22 The Cleverly's, The Po' Ramblin' Boys 7p Sat band mixer workshop, Concerts free tickets required. No tickets mixer. Bluegrass & American Roots Festival, Denison University, Swasey Hall, Granville, OH 43023

02/24 Creek Bluegrass; Opry Barn, 9461 OH-66, Oakwood, OH 45873 7p

02/28 Gipson & Fitz; Byrne's Pub, 1248 W. Third Ave., Columbus, OH 43212 614-486-4722 7-9p

02/28 Open Highway, Steve Ludwig & Casual Hobos; Pennyroyal Opera House, 139 Fair Ave, Quaker City, OH 43773 7p

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN - continued

world, will carry with you for the rest of your life. The folks you meet at winter events may result in good opportunities now, and that will translate to opportunities in the future. Opportunities to play music are much more elusive later in life if you don't already have a reputation.

The bottom line, for me anyway, is not to overlook an opportunity for music, especially during the winter when the opportunities are less plentiful.

Of course, one great opportunity during the winter is NIBGA's own monthly jam session at the Southwest Conservation Club in Fort Wayne. It's the 3rd Sunday of each month during the winter. I hope to see you there!

Joe

Over Jordan



Marten VanEyck, age 72, passed away on January 8, 2025. Born in the Netherlands, Marten immigrated to the U.S. at a young age. He served as a probation and parole officer until retiring to open a coffee shop.

However, we know him best as the fiddle player for Calabogie Road, who has played at Tri-State many, many times and assisted with the Bluegrass presentations in some of the local schools. When asked to play at Tri-State last year, they had to turn down our invitation because of Marten's health at that time.

We are extremely sad to hear of Marten's passing, and send our prayers for peace and comfort to Marten's family - both biological and musical.

Thank-You to everyone that signed up to be a Patron for 2024/25... YOU are helping to keep bluegrass alive in the Tri-State area! I am so thankful for all of the NEW Patrons this year, and for the continuing support of previous Patrons. When you see someone wearing a Patron t-shirt (no matter WHICH year), please tell them "thank you!".

Stay tuned for next year's Patron shirt design! It will be featuring the resophonic guitar (Dobro). This will be number 6 of the limited edition shirts.

Watch for membership renewal information in the newsletter after the new year. Please consider joining the Patron program and helping to support Bluegrass music in the Tri-State area. See the next page for the list of our current Patron members. Remember to tell them THANK YOU!

Current NIBGA Patrons Thank you very much!

Anonymous Patron 1
Anonymous Patron 2
Ron Armstead
Wayne Boltz
Steve Carroll
Jim Chilton
Jim Clay
Verl & Sue Dasher

Uwe Eickert
Roy & Nancy Fike
Jim & Julie Geise/
 Goldsmith
Keith & Terri Grannis
Mark Hauenstein
William Lake
Jerry & Sioux McLane

Bill Merrill
Anita Moran
Thomas & Donya Rondo
Joe & Chris Steiner
Ron & Sandy Tedford
Stephen Troyer
Visit Noble County
Chris Vogie

Dave & Marianne Vogie
Roger & Jody Vogie
Cathy Voors
Terry & Peggy Wallace
Paul & Barb Welch
Stewart White
Jim & Linda Winger
Shari Wolf

Next NIBGA Jam in Fort Wayne, February 16, 2025



I can officially confirm that the way to a man's heart isn't through beauty, good cooking, sexiness, or alluringness of character — it's the ability to smile and endure a half-day trip to Elderly Instruments. The gift certificates to Sweetwater and Musicians' Friend just seal the deal.

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



Feb 2025

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