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

President's Corner - Joe Steiner



The Spring Tri-State Bluegrass Festival is now behind us, and what a great time it was! Unfortunately, the wet, cold weather early in the week dampened the outdoor picking prospects and had a detrimental effect on the gate during that time. But we still had a nice crowd when the festival arrived. And it was safe to say a good time was had by all with some great entertainment from energetic bands playing to an enthusiastic audience.

One observation that I had during the festival is that the nature of our attendees has changed over the last few years. We still have a lot of familiar faces that we enjoy seeing at each event, but we also see a lot of new faces and younger faces. That helps us meet a goal of our board to attract younger folks to the festival, to help ensure that the event, which our patrons and volunteers have invested in, continues well into the future.

Years ago, a lot of attendees would arrive earlier during the week, many a week before the festival even started! Younger families can often not arrive as early because of other commitments, and that manifests itself in a larger percentage of our audience arriving later in the week. That's something we'll need to take into account in our future planning and pricing discussions.

I would certainly be remiss if I didn't thank the many, many volunteers who helped out with the festival. I don't have space here to list their names, or even the many functions they perform. But, they are listed elsewhere in this newsletter. We could not hold this festival without volunteer support, since the price would be exorbitant if we needed to hire help for the festival. Keep in mind that everyone you see working at the festival, including the NIBGA board, are volunteers. They are investing their time in the event and its future, simply because of their love for bluegrass music. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Last, but not least, I want to send out special thanks to our patrons, who are listed elsewhere in the newsletter. These folks help carry us through, because they love and want to support bluegrass music. Other than their membership and a special T-Shirt (which is way cool!), they do not receive anything except the knowledge that they are investing financially in the club and its support of the music we all love. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Now to get ready for fall!

Joe

My Brother's Keeper was an instant hit the first time they appeared on the Tri-State stage. My first thought on hearing them was, "how can a band without a banjo player be this good?" These guys are solid all the way around! They have soulful lead vocals and top-notch, smooth harmony vocals as well as terrific, creative instrumentals. These are packaged up with a rhythm that is rock solid, but yet flexible and creative enough to introduce the artistic freedom they need to get their message across. And the best part regarding their message is that it's delivered in a package of awesome original material.

They describe themselves as "a progressive bluegrass band" and acknowledge inspiration from rock and gospel music as well as bluegrass; but on hearing them you will not doubt that their foundation is on the syncopation and improvisation of bluegrass. The group consists of Benjamin Luckhaupt (guitar), Titus Luckhaupt (mandolin), and Joshua Luckhaupt (fiddle), Wyatt "Sawmill" Murray (upright bass), and Adam Moehlman (fiddle). All are crazy good. And, to top it all off, they also have a comfortable, yet energetic stage presence. The banjo? OK, I guess you don't miss it that much!

Sammy Adkins and the Sandy Hook Mountain Boys play music in the hard-driving Stanley-style as well as anyone I have ever heard. No doubt that is partly due to Sammy's previous association as lead singer with the man, Ralph Stanley, himself. It takes a lot of talent and finesse to get just the right amount of attack and edge to handle that style – in the right hands, the music clicks together and barrels ahead like a freight train. But, as Sammy deftly demonstrates, the train is under complete control, kept on the tracks by solid rhythm, fiery instruments, and fantastic vocals (with just the right amount of "edge" of course). In the wrong hands, the train can derail quickly (which is why groups performing that style aren't more common), but you never have to worry about that with the Sandy Hook Mountain Boys!

Stay tuned for more "Buzz on the Bands" in the next newsletters!

Upcoming Events - confirm event status before leaving home

INDIANA

2nd 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 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 Bill Landow 574-202-5502

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

3rd Sat Mar-Nov - Metamora Opry Barn, 19189 Pennington Rd, Metamora, **IN** 47030 6:30p MetamoraMusic@gmail.com

Last Weds. Bluegrass and folk Jam; Davey's Delicious Bagels, 1006 Broadway, Fort Wayne, **IN** 46802 6-8p 404-960-4210

Last Fri. March-Oct, Metamora Opry Barn, 19189 Pennington Rd, Metamora, **IN** 47030 6:30p

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

07/02 Mama Said String Band; Lions Club Park, 11053 Sycamore St, Zionsville, **IN** 46077 6:30p

07/19 The Shady Pine; Opry Barn, 19189 Pennington Rd, Metamora, **IN** 47030

MICHIGAN

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

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 Su 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, 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

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

07/21-26 Junior Sisk, Edgar Loudermilk Band, Kevin Prater Band, Fast Track, Lorraine Jordan, Riley Gilbreath Band, Larry Efaw & The Bluegrass Mountaineers, Ottawa County, Tyler Gitchel Band, Uniontown, Harbourn town; Marshall **MI** BGF

07/26 Schlitz Creek; Gilmore Car Museum, 6865 W Hickory Road, Hickory Corners, **MI** 49060 11-2:30p (269) 671-5089

07/30 Schlitz Creek; Concert Series,

250 N Anderson St, Plainwell, **MI** 49080 7-8:30p

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

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

07/02 Greensky Bluegrass; Rose Music center, 6800 Executive Blvd, Huber Heights, **OH** 45424 6:30p

07/02 Vern McIntyre's Appalachian Grass; Greenhills Commons, 24 Farragut Rd, Greenhills, **OH** 45018 513-825-2100 7-9p, free

Continued on next page →

- 07/03-06** Greensky Bluegrass, Molly Tuttle, Del McCoury Band, Infamous Stringdusters, Railroad Earth, Peter Rowan & Sam Grisman Project, Steeldrivers, Travelin' McCoury's, Michael Cleveland, Yonder Mountain String Band, Steep Canyon Rangers, Kyle Tuttle Band, David Mayfield Parade, Rumpke Mountain Boys and others; Grassfire BGF, Nelson Ledges, 12001 State Rt. 282, Garrettsville, **OH** 44231
- 07/07, 14, 21, 28** Vern McIntyre's Appalachian Grass; Rib City BBQ, 746 NW Washington Blvd, Hamilton, **OH** 45013 513-829-7427 7-9p free
- 07/9, 16, 23, 30** Vern McIntyre's Appalachian Grass; Vinoklet Winery, 11069 Colerain Ave, Cincinnati, **OH** 45252 513-385-9309 vinokletwinery@fuse.net 6:30-8:30p
- 07/11** Ramblin' /Ensemble; Byrne's Pub, 1248 W. Third Ave., Columbus, **OH** 43212, 614-486-4722, 7-9p
- 07/12** Farmer & the Crow w/Chris Haddox; Clifton Opera House, 5 S Clay St, Clifton, **OH** 45316 937-767-1767 7p
- 07/16** Leftover Salmon, The Infamous Stringdusters, The Kitchen Dwellers; Rose Music center, 6800 Executive Blvd, Huber Heights, **OH** 45424 7p
- 07/17-19** Rhonda Vincent, Grascals, Malpass Brothers, Junior Sisk, Kody Norris Show, Kenny & Amanda Smith, Larry Stephenson Band, Hammertown, Fast Track, Clay Hess Band, Tony Holt & the Wildwood Valley Boys, Larry Efaw, host band Joe Mullins & the Radio Ramblers; Industrial Strength Bluegrass Summerfest, Expo Center, 120 Fairground Rd, Xenia, **OH** 45385 camp \$35/day w 2 weekend tickets @ \$152.55 ea.
- 07/18** Rhonda Vincent; Hoover Auditorium, 236 Walnut Ave, Lakeside, **OH** 43440 7:30p
- 07/19** Hop River Band; Clifton Opera House, 5 S Clay St, Clifton, **OH** 45316 937-767-1767 7p
- 07/19** Vern McIntyre's Appalachian Grass; Garber Nature Center, 9691 OH-503 North, Lewisburg, **OH** 45338 7-9p, free
- 07/20** Vern McIntyre's Appalachian Grass; Butler County Fair, 1715 Fairgrove Ave, Hamilton, **OH** 45011 513-892-1423 7:30-9p \$10
- 07/20** Slate Ridge; Combustion Brewery, 2971 N High St, Columbus, **OH** 43202 3-6p
- 07/24** Kevin Prater Band; Rowdy's Smokehouse, 495 Ralph St, Jackson, **OH** 45640 6p
- 07/24** Vern McIntyre's Appalachian Grass; Ottawa Metro Park, 2632 Ada Rd, Lima, **OH** 45801 jumpd@jumpd.com or 419-221-1232 7-9p free
- 07/24-26** Lonesome River Band, Larry Efaw, 7 Mile Bluegrass Band, The Hillbilly Biscuits, Authentic Unlimited, Lorraine Jordan, Little Roy & Lizzy Show, Backline, Kenny Stinson, Lincoln Highway, Lynda Hanby, Nick Chandler & Delivered, Kauffman Road, The Gravel Yard, Kevin Prater, Vernon McIntyre, Presley Puig & Jordan Fox and Won Peace; 7 Mile Bluegrass Festival, 415 Lancaster Pike, Circleville, **OH** 43113 740-701-0834
- 07/26** Willow Creek; Clifton Opera House, 5 S Clay St, Clifton, **OH** 45316 937-767-1767 7p
- 07/30** Joe Mullins; Ohio State Fair, Ohio Exposition Center, 717 E 17th Ave, Columbus, **OH** 43211 6p

Thank You to all of our Volunteers!

Just as Joe mentioned earlier in his column, this festival is successful because of the many volunteers that work throughout the entire year, culminating in our two festivals. So first, I would like to thank the board members and chairpersons that meet every month to discuss the operations of the Northern Indiana Bluegrass Association and plan for the Tri-State Festivals.

Your board consists of Joe Steiner (Pres.), Jim Winger (VP), Linda Winger (Treas), Leslie Skal (Secy) and Directors Jim Miller, Jim Clay, and Pam Keipper. Chairpersons are Julie Goldsmith (Publicity), Jeanette Young (Vendors), Lydia Gerkins (Merch) and Chris Steiner (Events/Bands). In addition, Evan & Megan Argueta head up

social media and marketing, and Patty Page, who, in addition to being a gate captain, assists with memberships.

Thank you to Marianne Vogie and crew who handled all of the taxi duties, and Jay Winger for driving taxi.

Also, a huge round of applause to the Emcees; Duffy Brown, Chere McKinley, and Beth Schram. (If you want to train to be an emcee in the future, please contact me!)

And speaking of bands on the stage.... It takes a crew to set up and tear down the stage, too! Dan Denny was a huge help this year in many volunteer capacities, including the stage and gate (and a new Patron!). Assisting Jim Clay and Jim Miller in stage set up was Paul Welch, Dan

Denny (and others who will be mentioned next month when we get all of our notes coordinated!) Tear-down help included Ryan Winger, Wayne, Conner, Sophia and Aiden Boltz, and board members Joe, Jim M, Jim C, and Jim W.

Thank you to our workshop instructors, Patty Page (dancing) and Alexis Goldsmith (fiddle and 50/50) and to Jim Clay for helping with the Kids' Korner.

In the next newsletter I will list all of the gate volunteers and hopefully any others that I missed. These are all just coming from memory - and once the notes have been compiled, I'm sure we will have others!

Chris Steiner

Current 2025 NIBGA Patrons Thank you!

Thank-You to everyone that signed up to be a Patron so far for 2025... 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!".

Anonymous Families (2)
Evan & Megan Argueta *
Ron Armstead
Randy & Cindy Bellamy *
Wayne Boltz
Steve Carroll
Jim Clay
Ben & Connie Crofoot *
Verl & Sue Dasher
Dan Denny *
Julie Goldsmith

Keith & Terri Grannis
Mark Hauenstein & **Ava Bailey***
William Lake
Jordan Liebman *
Bob & Carol Mauck
Jim & Mary Ellen Miller *
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!

Don't
Forget!



Debutant's Newgrass Hoot Camp 7/28-8/1.

Designed for students in grades 4-12, this week-long camp will explore ear training and improvisation in an acoustic string band setting. Stay tuned or BluegrassUSA.net for a link.

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



July 2025

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