



Blue Water Folk Notes

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A Note from the President

Thumbfest 2015, held on Saturday, September 5 in the Village of Lexington, was another successful community music festival. Lexington was filled with people, musicians, and the sound of music.

The Blue Water Folk Society Board of Directors wishes to thank the following financial sponsors/advertisers: Lexington Downtown Development Authority, Town & Country Realty, LLC, Lexington Brewing Co. and Wine House, Lexington Business Association, Lakeside A&W, Virginia McNabb Realtor, Mel & Jeannine Kirchoff, Raven Café, Camp Cavell, Eastern Michigan Bank, Ruth & Marty Habalewsky, Sanilac Consortium for the Arts, Talmer Bank and Trust, Blue Gryphon Service, Inc., Ehardt's Pharmacy, Foley's Market, Angel's Garden, Chef Shell's Restaurant & Catering, The Town Shoppe, Bunny's Frozen Custard, Security Credit Union, Village Pub, Lexington Village Theatre, Sweetwater Gourmet Deli & Bar, and Southern Thumb Music.

The Times Herald, the Voice, the Jeffersonian, WPHM-FM and WGRT-FM, Comcast, EBW.TV and WJRT-TV really helped let our community know about Thumbfest.

The Guitar for Kids Program was expanded, awarding 3 guitars, due to the generosity of the BWFS, Shirley and Dean Barnett, Theresa and Randy Orchard and Diane Rizzo.

The 14th Annual Thumbfest was not possible without the support of the Village of Lexington, the dedicated volunteers, the musicians, and the audience. The BWFS appreciates the Blue Water Community involvement with Thumbfest, and it invites everyone's participation in next year's event, Thumbfest 2016.

Ruth Habalewsky, President of the Blue Water Folk Society, Lexington, Michigan.

Your comments, suggestions & pictures of Thumbfest 2015 & the Coffeehouses can always be sent to:
barnettsjmd@gmail.com



Our first Coffeehouse Open Mic of the 2015-2016 season is Saturday, October 10 from 7:00pm-10:00pm at the Trinity Episcopal Church at 5646 Main St., Lexington, Mi. 48450. Join us for a great evening of live music hosted by the Blue Water Folk Society. Admission is FREE but donations are very welcome. Refreshments are provided and a 50/50 raffle will be held. We suggest you bring a non-perishable food item for Project Blessing. *We ask that performers sign up beginning at 6:15pm (but no earlier) so please arrive early to avoid being left off the schedule.*

We suggest that audience members arrive early. It's very possible we could fill all available seats and not have room for those arriving too late. Remember that we will always happily accept your contributions to our refreshment table!

Martin Habalewsky will serve as emcee on our 1st night and Tom Schlichting and Dale George will handle set-up and sound. We are also always in need of volunteers to help set up/tear down chairs and tables, and volunteers to work the kitchen and help with refreshments. Please contact Dawn at dawnmalek@comcast.net if you can help!

How do we use your donations?

You may not be aware that the Blue Water Folk Society, a 501c3 non-profit pays for everything for the Thumbfest out of the money we raise. Our goal is \$20,000 per Thumbfest.

We pay for the performers, sound, rental of stages, hall, tents, tables, chairs, porta-johns, golf carts, and the shuttle, program, signs, posters, set-up items, ice, water, advertising, Guitar for Kids program, shirts, buttons, etc.

We do all of this so we can bring you a quality, no admission, all-day, family friendly live acoustic music festival to the thumb of Michigan. *Without your help, there would be NO Thumbfest.*

You can always donate by sending a check made out to the [Blue Water Folk Society](http://www.bluewaterfolk.org) to: BWFS, P.O. Box 83, Lexington, Mi. 48450 Please note the purpose of the check (Thumbfest, BWFS, Guitar For Kids, etc.)

Who performed at Thumbfest 2015?

Performers in BLUE are Blue Water Folk Society Members

- Jill Jack, Dragon Wagon
- The Luddites, Creole du Nord
- Nicky Boy Street Band
- Nessa, **Whistle Stop Revue**,
- Finvarra's Wren, Matt Watroba,
- Mustard's Retreat, Sel de Terre
- Annie and Rod Capps
- Kitty Donohoe, David Youngman
- Jan Krist and Jim Bizer
- Floyd Old Time Gopher Hour
- Carl Henry, LeCompagnie
- Genot Picor, Yellow Room Gang
- Lost Cuzzins, Ourselves**
- Circle of Friends, Denny Dwyer**
- Floyd & BuckRooster King
- John Finan & Sharon Tse
- Still Running, Blood Harmony**
- Tritone Paradox, Dan Hazlett**
- Waynewood Boys
- Jean Marie and the Lads
- William Henry Russell**
- Rockafellas, The Barones**
- Rocky Top, Wells & Witz**
- Marty Kohn, Andy Mather
- Tom McGovern, Tracy Kash**
- Taller Than They Appear
- Banjo Jim and Ricky**
- Jimmy DeHeno, **Butterhair**
- Emilie and Andrew, Bobby**
- Budd, Heritage String Band,**
- Mike and Ande McCarthy,**
- Camp Cavell Folk Dance,**
- Bryan Keefe, Balloonatic,
- Lesley Durik, **Ed Dombrowski,**
- Phil and Marsha Larson**

Find more info at:

www.bluewaterfolk.org

BWFS member performance dates to consider:

More details can be found at:
<http://www.bluewaterfolksociety.org/bwfs-event-calendar.html>

Friday, October 9

6:00pm
 Julianne Ankley at Rix's on the Rocks
 8:30pm
 William Henry Russell at Dessert Oasis

Saturday, October 10

7:00pm
 BWFS Coffeehouse Acoustic Open Mic
 8:00pm
 Still Running at Lexington Brewing Co.

Sunday, October 11

12:00pm
 Keith and Company at the Great Lakes Maritime Center

Wednesday, October 14, 21, 28

5:00pm
 William Henry Russell at Juan Miquels

Thursday, October 15

8:00am
 Julianne Ankley at Mackinac Island Songwriters Workshop

Friday, Sat., Sun. Oct. 16, 17 & 18

8:00am
 Julianne Ankley at Mackinac Island Songwriters Workshop
 7:30pm
 Lost Cuzzins/Ruby Hill at the Raven Cafe

Saturday, October 17

12:00pm
 Dynasty The Band at McCallum's Orchard
 7:30pm
 William Henry Russell at the Raven Cafe
 8:00pm
 The Whistle Stope Revue at Lexington Brewing

Sunday, October 18

10:30am
 Ruby Hill at Unity of Bluewater

Thursday, October 22

7:00pm
 William Henry Russell at MacDonald Public Library

Friday, October 23

7:00pm
 Butterhair at the Golden Rodent
 8:00pm
 Dean Barnett at the Lexington Brewing

Sunday, October 25

12:00pm
 Keith and Company at Great Lakes Maritime Center
 1:00pm
 Dean Barnett at Great Lake Maritime Center

Saturday, October 31

7:30pm
 Still Running at the Raven
 8:00pm
 Open Mic at the Lexington Brewery

Support our BWFS Musicians!

Submit your performances for the list and calendar to:
barnettsjmd@gmail.com

Guitar for Kids Winners at Thumbfest 2015



Grace LaDouceur, Ted Pratt, Michael Wentzel receiving their guitars at the Lexington D.D.A. Stage



Irish Spencer, Shirley Barnett & Randy Orchard presenting guitars to Ted Pratt, Michael Wentzel.

The Blue Water Folk Society gave away three Yamaha guitars as part of the Guitar for Kids program at Thumbfest 2015. 2 were Yamaha Gigmaker Deluxe Guitar Kits and one was a 1965 Yamaha guitar.

The winners were 17 yr. old Michael Wentzel of Lexington, 14 yr. old Ted Pratt of Lexington, and 12 yr. old Grace LaDouceur of White Lake. Congratulations to Michael, Ted and Grace!

On their applications for the guitar, Michael Wentzel stated he was practicing on an old school guitar and wanted to own his own guitar; Ted Pratt said he was inspired by music and wants to make his own music, let loose and inspire others; and Grace LaDouceur said she plays the clarinet and her vocal chords plus she writes her own songs on her free time.

Nine Thumbfest 2015 musicians graciously participated in the judging of the applications submitted by 37 youths to pick three winners. Musicians that helped with the taking of applications, interviews and judging were Mike Salowitz, Iris Spencer, Brandon Moitke, Rick Novak Sr., James Foerch, Martin Kohn, David Youngman, Bill Russell and Dean Barnett.

After winning the guitar, Bill Russell and Al Lewandowski helped winner Grace LaDouceur tune her guitar and gave a quick review of the guitar.

The 3 guitars for the Guitar for Kids program were provided by the Blue Water Folk Society, Randy & Teresa Orchard, Diane Rizzo and Dean & Shirley Barnett.

The Guitar for Kids program began with Craig Carrick of the NorEast'r Music and Art Festival in Mio, Michigan. This year the NorEast'r gave away 12 guitars.



Al Lewandowski, Grace LaDouceur & Bill Russell demonstrating tuning



Jim Foerch, Mike Salowitz, Ted Pratt and Bill Russell



Dean Barnett, Ricky Novak & Martin Kohn reviewing some of the 39 applications received

Become a part of Guitar for Kids in 2016!

Watch for announcements!

Found a Vendor You Liked or Want more information on our Sponsors & Advertisers, Performers and Lodging?

More information with links to their websites can be found at www.bluewaterfolk.org and then go to Thumbfest 2015. Information on Thumbfest 2015 will be available for your use until March 2016. Thumbfest pictures will be posted as they come in, both professional ones and ones that are submitted to barnettsjmd@gmail.com.

You can also find an event calendar on the website with performance dates of BWFS members at:

<http://www.bluewaterfolksociety.org/bwfs-event-calendar.html>

Support our BWFS members by attending their performances!

Are You a BWFS Member?

We need your yearly support by joining the Blue Water Folk Society.

Individual membership is just \$10 and runs through June 30, 2016. You can renew or join the BWFS at our next Open Mic Coffeehouse, or send a check to our new BWFS Membership Chair, Leigh Marciniak, 7489 Beechwood Road, Lexington, MI 48450.

Please include your phone number, email and mailing addresses.

Please make all checks payable to: Blue Water Folk Society & note dues on the check.

Come Join Us!!

MORE BWFS member performance dates:

Note: Performances listed are those that the BWFS member performers submitted to: barnettsjmd@gmail.com

- Wednesday, November 4, 11, 18 & 25**
5:00pm
William Henry Russell at Juan Miquels
- Thursday, November 5**
7:30pm
Julianne Ankley at the Raven Cafe
- Saturday, November 7**
7:00pm
Palmer Jam at Palmer Park Recreation
- Sunday, November 8**
12:00pm
Keith and Co. at the Great Lakes Maritime
1:00pm
Dean Barnett at the Great Lakes Maritime
- Friday, November 13**
8:00pm
Campfire Compadres at Live from the Living Room
7:30pm
Ruby Hill at the Raven Cafe
8:30pm
William Henry Russell at Dessert Oasis
- Saturday, November 14**
7:00pm
BWFS Coffeehouse Acoustic Open Mic
7:00pm
Campfire Compadres at the Paint Creek Tin Whistle Concert
8:30pm
Whistle Stop Revue at Shorts Brewery
- Sunday, November 15**
10:30am
Ruby Hill at Unity
- Wednesday, November 18**
6:00pm
Julianne Ankley Hotel Baronette in Novi
- Friday, November 20**
8:00pm
Dean Barnett at Lexington Brewery
- Saturday, November 21**
7:30pm
William Henry Russell at the Raven Cafe
8:00pm
The Whistle Stope Revue at Lex. Brewing
8:00pm
Julianne Ankley & the Rogues at the Lexington Village Theater
- Sunday, November 22**
12:00pm
Keith and Company at Great Lakes Maritime Center
- Saturday, November 28**
7:30pm
Still Running at the Raven
8:00pm
Open Mic at the Lexington Brewery
- Saturday & Sunday, November 28 & 29**
10:00pm
The Whistle Stop Revue at Papa Petes

Thank You to our Volunteers

Every Thumbfest is different but one thing that has not changed is our gratitude for the volunteers that so generously give up their time to help the Blue Water Folk Society present a successful Thumbfest Acoustic Music Festival.

The Thumbfest Committee included as Director, the entire Blue Water Folk Society Board (*Ruth Habalewsky, Barb Ernsberger, Jerry Huff, Dale George, Marty Malek, Tom Schlichting and Shirley Barnett*); Artistic Director, *Mike Mercatante*; Finance Director, *Dale George*; Vendor Director, *Dawn Malek*; Publicity Director & Program, *Jenna Reed*; Site Director, *Marty Malek*; Volunteer Director & Recorder, *Shirley Barnett*; Ad Sales, *Ruth Habalewsky*; Shirts, *Bea Castillo*; Village Liaison, *Ginny McNabb*.

Although we may not have the complete list of volunteers at this time, we don't want to delay thanking the following people for volunteering for a variety of duties including working at a table, passing buckets, emceeing, selling 50/50, set-up on Friday of stages, chairs, tables, sign boards, duties on Saturday, clean-up on Sunday, sound relief, reviewing Guitar for Kids applications and more.

Thank you to the behind the scene crew. You are so important to the festival!
Amato, Sue; Amato, Victor A.; Anderson, Pat; Anderson, Ronald; Baker, Aaron; Baker, Linda; Barnett, Dean; Barnett, Shirley; Baron, Jeff; Bennis, Dave; Blashill, Jane; Broadwell, John; Broadwell, Susan; Bruce, Mary; Castillo, Bea; Cole, Kate; Cole, Larry; Crimmins, Dennis; Crimmins, Jo; DeWilde-Kohler, Tess; Domanski, Stan; Ernsberger, Barbara; Ernsberger, Dean; Falk, Dave; Foerch, Jim; Geck, Juliet; George, Toni; Habalewsky, Marty; Harrison, Patrick; Harvey, Betty; Houston, Jeanne; Huepenbecker, Jackie; Huff, Jerry; Kingsbury, Dennis; Kirchoff, Mel; Kopf, Joe; Kohn, Martin; Krueger, Kent; Lewandowski, Al; Malek, Dawn; Marciniak, Dennis; Marciniak, Leigh A.; Marcotte, Amanda; Maxwell, Glenn; McCarthy, Marie; McPhail, Ron; Merritt, Catherine; Merritt, Elizabeth; Merritt, Emily; Miotke, Brandon; Mousigian, Richard; Novak, Rick; Orchard, Randy; Orchard, Teresa; Pringle, Carolyn; Repp, Mark; Rizzo, Diane; Roberts, Carol; Russell, Bill; Salowitz, Danielle; Salowitz, Mike; Sawdon, Kit; Schlichting, Tom; Spencer, Iris; Spencer, Mary; Squire, Marilyn; Steerzer, Rachel; Stevens, Kathe; Swarts, B.J.; Swarts, Frank; Swarts, Jessica; Williams, Doris; Williams, Jim; Wilson, Sue; and Youngman, David.

Without our volunteers, we could not do what we do!



Danielle Salowitz



Dave Falk at EMB Stage Sound Board



Tess deWilde Kohler & Ginny McNabb

A Volunteer Appreciation Dinner is being planned for Saturday, November 14 at 5pm, before our Coffeehouse Open Mic. Watch for details on our website or by email.
Contact: 810-300-2388 or 586-727-5197
Thank you to all the volunteers that worked extra hours in the hot, humid weather!

Other Open Mics/Jams/Opportunities

- Palmer Park Recreation Center Jam** on Garfield in Port Huron at 7pm on the 1st Saturday of the month until May, 2016 810-987-9278
- Lexington Brewing Co. Open Mic** in Lexington, Mi. at 8 pm on the last Saturday of the month 810-359-5012
- Lake Bonisteele Music Association Activities** contact Jeff Baron jbaronjbaron@yahoo.com
- Free Guitar Lessons** at Trinity Episcopal Church on Tuesdays, 4:30-5:30pm Classes began Sept. 22 and end Nov. 10. Contact: Gordon MacDonald; 810-327-6937 gjmacdonald@comcast.net

Special Thanks to:

- Terry Brown** for a donation to Thumbfest in memory of Tim Brown.
 - Jeff Baron** for a donation to Thumbfest in memory of Dave Rutkofske, a former BWFS Board member.
 - Tom McGovern** for a generous donation to help cover our expenses.
 - Lexington Dental Care** for the use of their electricity for the info table.
 - Lexington Brewing Co.** for the Thumbfest Thunder Beer on tap.
 - Village of Lexington** (people and businesses) for allowing us to use your beautiful town.
 - Lakeside A & W** for your generous gift of 50% off event day food coupons for volunteers and musicians.
- Thank You to All of you that donated!**



Blue Water Folk Society
P.O. Box 83
Lexington, Michigan 48450

*Promoting Traditional and Acoustic
Music in the Thumb of Michigan*

BWFS Event Calendar:

[www.bluewaterfolksociety.org/
bwfs-event-calendar.html](http://www.bluewaterfolksociety.org/bwfs-event-calendar.html)

Website:

www.bluewaterfolksociety.org
www.thumbfest.org

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/thumbfest

Join us for only

\$10/year Membership

Send your dues & info to:

Leigh Marciniak

7489 Beechwood Road

Lexington, Mi. 48450

leighmarciniak@gmail.com

Coffeehouse Director

Contact: Dawn Malek

dawnmalek@comcast.net

586-995-1974

Newsletter editor:

Shirley Barnett

**We welcome your suggestions,
pictures and submissions.**

Send your information to

barnettsjmd@gmail.com

Did you know??

The **Blue Water Folk Society**
is a 501c3 volunteer nonprofit

**BWFS members can submit
their performance dates for
publication in the newsletter,
email updates and the event
calendar on**

www.bluewaterfolksociety.org
by sending the information to:
barnettsjmd@gmail.com

**Special thanks to the Village of
Lexington, Lexington Business
Association & Village of
Lexington DDA for
their support!**

BWFS Current Board Members

*Working to bring you folk, traditional music!
Help us to do that ...join us!*

Ruth HabalewskyPresident rhabalewsky@comcast.net

Jerry HuffTreasurer jlhuff221@yahoo.com

Barbara Ernsberger...Secretary secbwfs@gmail.com

Marty Malek ..Trustee mdmalek@comcast.net

Dale GeorgeTrustee dtgeorge1@aol.com

Shirley BarnettTrustee barnettsjmd@gmail.com

Tom SchlichtingTrustee tomschlichting@hotmail.com

term expires 2016 election

term expires 2016 election

term expires 2017 election

term expires 2018 election

term expires 2017 election

term expires 2018 election

term expires 2018 election

Main Contact Phone Number: Ruth Habalewsky at 810-300-2388



Floyd King & Annie Capps



Three award winning guitarists.
Bill Russell, David Youngman,
and Jimmy Deheno



Some of the crowd watching the Lost Cuzzins



Still Running



Jan Krist & Jim Bizer



Taller Than They Appear



Hazlett



The Luddites at the McNabb Stage



Lost Cuzzins at the EMB Stage



Maddie Spada



Waynewood Boys



Jill Jack Band

Photos by Shirley Barnett,
Leigh Marciniak, Nancy Rolfe Kogelschatz & Bobby Pennock
Photos will be found at www.bluewaterfolk.org