

# Blue Water Folk Society

Promoting Traditional & Acoustic Music in the Thumb of Michigan

Volume 5, Issue 4
October 2013

# Blue Water Folk Notes



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# Save these dates: Traditional Acoustic Open Mic

\*\*\*Saturday, Oct. 12

Trinity Episcopal Church 5646 Main St.(M-25) Lexington , Mi. 48450

7:00 pm to 10:00 pm sign up at 6:30 pm

# BWFS Open Mic

\*\*Saturday, January 25

Lexington Brewing Company and Wine House 5475 N. Main St. Lexington , Mi. 48450

6:30 to 9 pm

# Have you thought of Joining us?

The Blue Water Folk Society is a 501c3 all volunteer non-profit and is open to ALL.

### Dues \$10 a year/per person

YOU can join us or renew your dues by mailing your dues and your contact information including your address, phone number, email to:

> Shirley Barnett 1809 Caughill Columbus,Mi., 48063

Make checks out to:
Blue Water Folk Society

Contact: barnettsimd@gmail.com

# Fírst Open Míc Coffeehouse is Saturday October 12

It's Coffeehouse season again! Mark your calendar for October 12 and join us for a great evening of live music in Lexington. Our emcee this month is Denny Dwyer. It takes a lot of volunteers to make the Coffeehouse work, and as always, we are in need of folks to help set-up and clean up. Please contact Dawn at 586.995.1974 or at

dawnmalek@comcast.net to lend a hand! Thumbfest 2013 is done! Our very popular Traditional Acoustic Open Mic will begin again on Saturday, October 12 from 7:00 pm to 10 pm at the Trinity Episcopal Church Hall, 5646 Main St. (M-25), Lexington, Mi. under the direction of Dawn Malek, Coffeehouse Director. Sign-up for a performance slot will begin by 6:30 until all performance slots are gone.

A solo performance slot will be allowed no more than 2 songs or 10 minutes and bands will be allowed 3 songs or 15 minutes. Be ready to play when it is your turn as excessive set up time will be deducted from the performance time that you are allowed.

The Open Mic Coffeehouses are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the Month, on October 12, November 9, December 14, January 11, February 8 & March 8.

This month's emcee will be *Denny Dwyer*, with *Dean Barnett, Marty Malek, Jenna Reed & Mike Mercatante* handling set-up & sound, *Dawn & Marty Malek* in the kitchen, *Ruth Habalewsky* running the 50/50 Raffle and *Mike McCarthy* serving as greeter.

The donations for refreshments and the raffle help to fund the coffeehouse, refreshments and Thumbfest. Good luck to every ticket buyer!

It is suggested you bring a canned good for *Project Blessing* at the Church.Project Blessing's mission provids food and emergency assistance to people in need. You can read more about Project Blessing at: <a href="http://www.trinitylexington.com/">http://www.trinitylexington.com/</a>

Special Thanks to the Trinity Episcopal Church for all their support in our endeavor to bring acoustic music to the Thumb of Michigan. We could not do it without them.

# Lexington Brewing Co. and Wine House (Old Town Hall Winery) Will Continue the BWFS Open Mics

Connie Currie, co-owner of the Lexington Brewing Company and Wine House has announced that "Just for fun, we are starting up the Open Mic on the fourth Saturday of the month. This gives our Blue Water Folk Society folks another place to play all fall and winter long. Lucky Us! Bring your instrument and/or your voice and let's see what happens."

The Open Mics will be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month at the Lexington Brewing Co. & Wine House, 5475 N.Main St., Lexington. The next one will be on Saturday, January 25 from 6:30 to 9 pm. At this time, others are scheduled on Saturdays on February 22, March 22 & April 26.

The format for these Open Mics usually

include a host band to lead the Open Mic and sign-up the performers. Time slots are 10 minutes or 15 minutes for groups.

Refreshments are not provided but you can purchase some of the wonderful award winning wine and micro-brewed beer as well as other beverages and food.

You can enjoy the music of the scheduled 4 to 6 pm performer, William Henry Russell on Oct. 26, Nov. 23 & Dec. 28.

The Old Town Hall Winery has recently changed their name to Lexington Brewing Company and Wine House to reflect the addition of the fine micro-brewed beers and their award winning wines.

Check out the Thumbfest Photos by Amanda Marcotte, a Thumbfest volunteer who has taken photos of Thumbfest since 2009 and generously allows us to use them for our newsletter and on our website & Facebook page.

http://www.amandolinphoto.com/Music/Thumbfest-2013

Amanda has 200 photos in the Thumbfest 2013 gallery that are available for purchase. Amanda is available for your photo needs and publicity photo shoots. Amanda photos in the newsletter are identified by **AM** with the rest from Shirley Barnett identified by **SB**. Amanda can be reached at: <a href="mailto:am@amandolinphoto.com">am@amandolinphoto.com</a>

# BWFS member performance

#### Dean Barnett

Sunday Oct.20 2-3 pm & Sunday Nov. 3 12-1 pm Great Lakes Maritime Center Port Huron, Mi.

dates to consider:

> Sat. October 19 7:00-10 pm With Mary Foley Baseline Folk Society, Plymouth, Mi bionomic2@yahoo.com

#### Ruby Hill

- > Sunday October 13 3:00-5:00pm Sanilac Museum Church Port Sanilac, Mi.
- > 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Month Unity of Bluewater, Port Huron jimwilliams@1150@gmail.com

# **Denny Dwyer**

- Thurs. October 10 7:30-10:30pm Raven Café, Port Huron, Mi.
- Port Huron Lanes, Port Huron, Mi. > Sat. November 2 6:00 -9:00 pm
- Old Town Hall Winery Lexington, Mi.

d.dwyer@comcast.net

# William Henry Russell

> Fri. October 18 TBD

> Sat. October 19, November 16 & Dcember 21, 7:30-10-30 pm Raven Café, Port Huron, Mi. russell.william@att.net

#### Hackwells

Friday Nov. 15 7:30 – 10:30 pm Raven Café Port Huron, Mi. johndobat@comcast.net

### Judy Insley

- > Wed. October 16 7:00-9:00 pm Songwriters in the Round Midland Brewing Co. Midland, Mi.
- Sat. November 23 8:30 pm with Almost Perfect Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tearoom Ann Arbor, Mi. insleyjc@comcast.net

#### Mustard's Retreat

- > Fri. November 8 7:00 10 pm Ten Pound Fiddle, East Lansing, Mi
- > Sat. November 9 8:00 pm Trinity House, Livonia, Mi. **DVD** Filming
- Tues. December 13 7:00 pm **Great Flint Arts Council** Flint, Mi.
- > Sat. January 4 8:00 pm Yellow Room Gang Show & CD release at The Ark Ann Arbor, Mi. david@tamulevich.com

# Blue Water Folk Notes

# Thank you, Thumbfest 2013 Volunteers by Ruth Habalewsky Thumbfest 2013 has come and gone. I had a great time; I hope that you did too! The

volunteers made Thumbfest a successful community music event; their time, support, and hard work were greatly appreciated. The many tasks could not have been accomplished without you! Words cannot express my gratitude for your help! I wish to thank the following volunteers and extend an invitation to you to be a part of the Blue Water Folk Society Thumbfest next year.

Thumbfest 2014 planning meetings will begin soon! Gratefully, Ruth Habalewsky

### The Thumbfest Planning Committee

(the ones who work all year behind the scenes)

Carl Kammer/President Board

Overall Direction: The entire Board & Committee Mike Mercatante: Artistic Director(performers/scheduling)

Marty Malek: Set-up/Site Director/Event Day/Tear-

down director:

Ruth Habalewsky: Volunteer Coordinator/CD table/T-

*shirt/Raffle/Donations* 

Jenna Reed: Publicity, T-Shirt lead Marty Habalewsky: Publicity Dawn Malek: Craft/Food Vendors

Virginia McNabb; Parking; Lexington Liaison

Shirley Barnett: Trifold design; Information table; Ads;

fundraisina Pat Cutler; Ads

Tom Schlichting/Mike McCarthy; Finances

**Terry Nolan**: Ads

Connie Currie/Steve Veloff...Fundraising **Emcees** 

# Friday Set-up

Marty Malek Al Lewandowski **Dave Bennis** Mel Kirchoff Dean Barnett **Shirley Barnett** Judy Meno **Dennis Crimmins** Marty Habalewsky Al Vandergraff

# **Ruth Habalewsky Sunday Tear-down**

Marty Malek Al Vandergraff Al Lewandowski **Dave Bennis** Dean barnett **Shirley Barnett** Tom Schlichting

Dean Ernsberger

# Marty Habalewsky Carl Kammer Phil Larson Ginny McNabb Dee Walsh Mike Mercatante Rhonda Johnson Barbara Ernsberger **Dennis Kingsbury** Vic Amato Sue Amato Tom McGovern

Jenna Reed

**Shirley Barnett** 

Dean Barnett

Al Lewandowski

# Jeff Baron Breakfast for Tear down crew provided & cooked by:

Dennis Kingsbury; Jack Ferguson & Pat Harrison

# Many Thanks to our Musician Donations:

Setup & Ran Sound **Donation of Sound** Jim Williams Equipment Ron McPhail **Lost Cuzzins** Dean Barnett Still Running Kent Krueger Ourselves

#### **Donation of their Thumbfest Performance:**

Dean Barnett(3), Kent Krueger, Judy Insley and Almost Perfect, Emilie Lewandowski, Bishops of South Shore (John Broadwell, John Skidmore, Mike Skidmore, Mike Salowitz) Rocky Top with Jeremy Yeager, Andy Mather & Pat Harrison (aka Lord of the Gourd)

# Many Thanks to our Fundraising Hosts:

Old Town Hall Winery; Dawn & Marty Malek; Port Sanilac Music at the Harbor; and to the organizers; Tom Schlichting, Dean Barnett; Dawn Malek & Mike Mercatante.

# Thanks for the use of your sites / service

Mike and Lanae Kettlewell; Peggy Stencel, The Stencel Family; Lion's Club, Village of Lexington, Lexington Police and DPW, Welcome Center, Trinity Episcopal Church, Oldford's Marina; Butler B&B; Captain's Quarters

# Buckets/Information Table/CD Table/ 50/50 Tickets And all Other Tasks

Vic Amato Sue Amato Shirley Barnett Mary Bruce Ed Dombrowski Sue Dombrowski Barbara Ernsberger Dean Ernsberger **Brooke Geck** Juliet Geck Tess Geck Theresa Geck Rachel Steerzer Anne Howard **Brittany Howard** Pat Cutler Jeane Houston Edna Poole Shelia Dunbar Rhonda Johnson Jean Butler **Judy Butler** Gene Butler Pavanne Lapham Jeannine Kirchoff Jean Marie Learmain Marty Habalewsky Nicole Taylor

# Special Thanks to the Facepainters who

donated their supplies & talent that brought smiles: Juliet Geck, Brooke Geck, Theresa Geck & **Brittany Howard** 

Thanks to Andy Mather of the pictures on pages who donates all the

harmonicas for his workshop.

Nora McCanna Mike McCarthy Paul Maxwell Judy Meno Catherine Merritt Elizabeth Merritt **Emily Merritt** Pamela Hockey Wiley Don Reid Mary Jean Reid

Jennifer Nowak Dawn Malek Claire Spencer **Iris Spencer** Mary Spencer Mark Spencer Suzanne Strodawa

**B.J. Swarts** Frank Swarts Al Vandergraff Chris Noetzel Pat Anderson

Ron Anderson Diane Herpolsheimer Roger Herpolsheimer

Toni George Amanda Marcotte

Come join us next year It takes a lot of people to make Thumbfest a success...

AND it can be fun! Just take a look at some

> 5 & 6 Contact:

rhabalewsky@comcast.net

# MORE BWFS member performance dates:

#### Still Running

- > Sat. Oct. 26; Nov. 30; Dec. 28 7:30-10:30 pm Raven Café Port Huron, Mi.
- > Sun. December 8 7:15-9:30 pm Christmas Concert at St. Mary's Port Sanilac, Mi.
- Fri. January 17 8:15 10:30 pm Live from the Living Room Oakland Arts Bldg., Pontiac, Mi. mmercatant@aol.com

### **Ourselves**

- > Fri. October 18 6:30-7:30 pm
  Hoptoberfest on the Port Huron
  Museum Lightship
  Port Huron, Mi.
- Sat. November 9, TBA Remembering the Storm of 1913 St. John Lutheran Church Port Sanilac, Mi. tomschlichting@hotmail.com

### Replay, Classic Rock and Roll

> Sat. October 19 8:30 pm-12:30 am Holly Meadows at 4855 Capac Rd. Mussey Twp., Mi. gjmacdonald@comcast.net

### Brother-in-Arms

- Sat. Oct.12; Nov 9; Dec.14 & Jan.11 7:30 – 10:30 pm Raven Café , Port Huron, Mi.
- > Sunday Sessions
  Great Lakes Maritime Center
  12 3pm 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays
  Port Huron, Mi.
  clanmenzsofwales@aol.com

## **OPEN MIC OPPORTUNITIES:**

### ACOUSTIC JAM AT PALMER PARK

> 1<sup>ST</sup> Saturdays October to March
7:00 – 10 pm
Palmer Park Recreation Center
2829 Armour, Port Huron, Mi.
georget@porthuron.org

### JAM AT BRIDGES

Ath Fridays of the month 7:00 – 9:00 pm 1101 4<sup>th</sup> Street Port Huron, Mi. Blue Water Musicians Network ted@theimprinthouse.com

Send your performance dates to: barnettsjmd@gmail.com

Support our BWFS musicians by attending their performances!

# Thumbfest 2013 Wrap Up by Mike Mercatante

Happy post-Thumbfest everyone!
We just finished up the BlueWater Folk
Society's (BWFS) review of Thumbfest
2013. I'm pleased to announce that this
year's event was the most successful of our
many wonderful festivals.

Sometimes the planets just align and 2013 was the year and Lexington, MI on Aug. 31 was the day when they did. Thousands of people gathered and stayed and danced and swayed and sang along. What a magical day.

Thumbfest 2013 featured fifty acts spread out over 11 performance sites. These site were located throughout the beautiful lakeside village of Lexington. That's the most acts that have ever performed at one Thumbfest. It was so nice to be able to walk around town with music in the air wherever you went. And music is what Thumbfest is all about.

The festival this year featured a wide variety of musical genres. Take your pick. We had Le Compagnie and their centuries old French-Indian music. New Orleans brass band sounds from Nicky Boy Street Band. High energy world music fusion came from Red Sea Pedestrians. Festival rookies The Appleseed Collective wowed everyone with their swing ala the Hot Club. Cajun and Creole music came from Creole du Nordand and newcomers, Sel de Terre. Irish/Celtic music was well represented with Dragon Wagon, Kitty Donohoe and Ourselves. Lots of bluegrass this year with the Black River Bluegrass Boys and the Waynewood Boys (we'll try and get some bluegrass Girls next year). Country was represented by the award-winning Julianne Ankley and the western swing sounds of

Cornpone. Multiple Detroit Music Award winners Jo Serrapere and the Willie Dunns, Stella!, and Billie Brandt and Sarana VerLin wowed the crowds with their unique Americana sounds. These performers are just a small example of the scope of musical genres.

There was something for everyone. Thumbfest 2013 was not just a place to listen to music. It also featured opportunities to participate. There were bluegrass, Irish & Old Time , Blues and open jams where people got a chance to sit in with many of the festival performers. These are always fun and exciting and this year was no exception. Some people just come for the jams and stay there all day! Fun fun fun.

There were lots of new and interesting workshops this year. Eleven in all. Workshops ranging from ukulele to harmony singing to playing Cajun music and more. It is a great chance to get instruction on your instrument/voice in an intimate setting with festival performers.

I want to say thank you to all the hard working volunteers that helped put this festival together. There is a really cool vibe about people coming together for the common cause of putting on the best show that we can. A big thanks to all the performers for the gift of their music.

Thanks to the sound people who make those performers sound good. And finally, a big thanks to all of you who attended and donated whatever you could afford to help keep this event going. It is through your generosity that this festival happens. This is what the Thumbfest community is all about. Time to start thinking about Thumbfest 2014. Peace. Mike

# Thanks to our Advertisers, Stage & Corporate Sponsors & Donors We can NOT do it without you!

TRIFOLD SPONSORS; Town & Country Realty, Eastern Michigan Bank, Old Town Hall Winery; ADVERTISERS: A Thyme to Blossom, Alva Mills, Bunny's Frozen Custard, The Beach Basket, Talmer Bank & Trust, Wimpy's Place, Lexington Dairy Queen, Foley's Market, Oh Fudge/Crazy Joe's, The Town Shoppe, Irish Rose Gift & Travel Woolen Shoppe, Angel's Garden; STAGE SPONSORS; Lexington D.D.A, Virginia McNabb Realtor, Irish Rose Gift & Woolen Shop, Paintcreek Folklore Society, Lakeside A&W, Mel & Jeannine Kirchoff, Old Town Hall Winery, Oldford's Marina, Cadillac House Restaurant, Marty & Ruth Habalewsky; CORPORATE SPONSORS; Captain's Quarters, Thumb Cellular, Jeff's Market & the Bed & Breakfast Group (Butler's B&B, Carroll House, Captain's Quarters Inn, Powell House, Inn the Garden, Shady Rest B & B) Thumbfest Beer Donation: Connie Currie and Steve Velhoff



**Blue Water Folk Society** P.O. Box 83

## Lexington, Michigan 48450

Promoting Traditional and Acoustic Music in the Thumb of Michigan

#### Phone:

President: 248-689-2840 Secretary: 810-982-3382

### \*\*Membership \$10/year

Contact: Shirley Barnett barnettsjmd@gmail.com 586-727-5197

# \*\*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

Blue Water Folk Society is a 501c3 volunteer nonprofit

barnettsjmd@gmail.com

Donations can be made at any time by mailing a check to:

**Blue Water Folk Society** P.O. Box 83 Lexington, Mi. 48063 Make all checks payable to Blue Water Folk Society

# Thanks to our Advance **Thumbfest 2013 Donors**

Sandra Oldford, Dean & Shirley Barnett, Marty & Ruth Habalewsky, Dawn & Marty Malek, Ricky & Mary Novak, Custom Acoustic Research, Theresa Brazier, Lillian & Larry Rader, Greg Groth, Laurie Kohler, Ivan DeWilde, Dana Lochniskar, Christine Beck, Jim Balcerski, Don

& Judy Harthorn If we have missed listing you, please let us know!

Volunteer for Thumbfest? Contact: Ruth Habalewsky rhabalewsky@comcast.net

# Your Current Board Members

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

Carl Kammer ......President carl@bluewaterfolk.org Mike McCarthy .... Treasurer Jenna Reed ....Secretary Mike Mercatante...Trustee Ruth Habalewsky....Trustee

See info below 2jnsgrover@comcast.net mmercatant@aol.com rhabalewsky@comcast.net

term expires 2014 election term expires 2016 election term expires 2014 election term expires 2015 election term expires 2016 election

# A BWFS Board Position is Open

Unfortunately, Mike McCarthy, our new Treasurer, has had to resign for personal reasons. Mike has done a wonderful job with the duties of a Treasurer and we will miss

The By-laws for the Blue Water Folk Society does allow for the board to appoint a person to a board position, if they choose, or they can decide to hold an election. The Board then elects a person from the Board to the position of Treasurer. The Board position that is open expires in June 2016.

The issue will be discussed at a Board meeting. If you are a member and have an interest in being on the Blue Water Folk Society Board, please contact the Board members whose emails are listed above.

# Notes from the Editor: by Shirley Barnett

Every year, we discover all over again how wonderful our loyal crew of volunteers are. When you read the long list of volunteers that Ruth Habalewsky provided you will see many names on more than one list. These people volunteer to do whatever is needed and often step in to do jobs at the last minute. Speaking just for the CD table and the information table, it is great to have our loyal core of volunteers that return year after year. When asked why I'm still involved with Thumbfest, I had to say for the love of the music. I'm sure that is true for many of the volunteers.

It would be wonderful to have so many volunteers that we all only had to do one small part of the whole. There is plenty of room for YOU to volunteer. Volunteering is not just work... it can be fun! You get to talk to and meet so many interesting people plus volunteering is fun. Take a look at some of the pictures of the volunteers having fun.

Folk musicians are generous with their talent and time. Some special treats this year was the breakfast cooked and provided to the Sunday Tear-down crew by musicians Dennis Kingsbury, Jack Ferguson and Pat Harrison.

We had a last minute donation of facepainting at the information table that brought lots of children and their parents some smiles. There were lots of children this year.

We would like to have the family area again next year. Are you interested in being a part of that?

We received about \$4600 in event day donations with one of our biggest crowds. We are thinking about ways to raise more funds. Do you have some ideas for that?

The weather was perfect... no rain and not too cold or hot with very little sun to make it easy to stand outside of a tent. That was good as the crowds overflowed the tents. I wish we had more chairs but at \$1 per chair, it doesn't seem like that will happen so remember to bring your chair next year.

There will be a Thumbfest Planning meeting in November so watch for the announcement and come be a part of planning next year. All persons are welcome. Will you be at Thumbfest next year? We will!

# Have you seen the new Blue Water Folk Society Website?

You can find up to date information on meetings, open mics, Thumbfest, pictures, links, some history with more to come. We can post your pictures on the page if you submit them to <u>barnettsjmd@gmail.com</u>. Check out this link and let me know what you think.

http://www.thumbfest.org/sandvox/public html,www,/thumbfest.org/sandvox/



Volunteer Coordinator Ruth Habalewsky taking time to enjoy herself. (AM photo)



Sign on side of Old Town Hall Winery (RS photo)

Our future exists in the youth we see participating as musicians, volunteers & audience at the Thumbfest AND the supporting businesses, audience and musicians that spread the word about Thumbfest & the BWFS! Look at all the HAPPY Faces in the pictures. Come Join Us!



Marty Malek working hard setting up. AM photo.



Marty Habalewsky Emcee Volunteer (AM)



Iris Spencer Volunteer with her Ukulele (AM)



Sound man Tom Wilson keeping the show on time (with Buck Buchanan of the Troubadads) AM photo



Volunteer Hooping Time (AM)



Volunteers Juliet Geck & Brittany Howard doing free facepainting (SB)



Morning Information Table Volunteers: Rachel Steerzer, Judy Meno, Juliet Geck, B.J.Swarts, Shirley Barnett, Elizabeth Merritt, Theresa Geck, Brooke Geck & Emily Merritt (AM photo)



Volunteers Jenna Reed, Mike Mercatante with Jim Bizer (AM)



running sound at the Irish & Frank A Volunteer Musician Rose Stage (AM)



a laugh (SB)



Volunteers Tom Schlichting, Dean Ernsberger, Shirley Barnett, Dean Barnett, Pat Harrison, Dennis Kingsbury, Jack Ferguson, Al Vandergraff, Marty Malek Clean Up Crew Breakfast on Sunday (SB photo)



Volunteers Dean Ernsberger, Marty Malek, Dave Bennis, Pat Harrison, Tom



Volunteer B.J. Swarts after a job well done. (SB)



Busy Facepainting with Rachel Steerzer & Theresa Geck (SB)



Happy overflowing audience at the McNabb Stage, overflowing the entire day. (AM)





Large crowd watching the Lost Cuzzins at the Irish Rose Stage (SB)

More of the audience at Irish Rose Stage (AM)



Ron McPhail tuning (AM)



Gabrielle having her face painted by Rachel (SB)









Appleseed Collective (AM)

Swing Dancing (AM)



Mike & Jenna (AM)



Time to go!



Bobby Budd, Emilie Lewandowski & Andrew Hale



Happy Dancing (AM)



Kitty Donohoe (AM)



First song of the Hootenanny led by Billy Brandt and Sarana VerLin (AM)



One of the last songs of the Hootenanny led by Maggie Ferguson, Ricky Novak, Banjo Jim, Jenna Reed, Bobby Budd, Emilie Lewandowski, Shirley Barnett, Jere Stormer