



Blue Water Folk Notes

Every issue of the **Blue Water Folk Notes** contains a list of BWFS member performances! Join us and have your performance listed in the newsletter & on our website Event calendar! **More info at:**

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

BWFS Member Performance Dates

Saturday, January 9

7:00pm Thumb Dance Club, Sandusky, Mi.

7:00pm

BWFS Coffeehouse Acoustic Open Mic, Lexington

7:00pm Jill Jack Birthday Bash at the Ark in Ann Arbor

Sunday, January 10

4:30pm Julianne & the Rogues at American Legion, Oxford,

Saturday, January 16

4:00pm School for Strings Fiddle Club at First Congregational Church, Port Huron

Sunday, January 17

10:30am Ruby Hill at Unity of Blue Water, Port Huron

12:00pm Keith Menzies Sunday Sessions at the Raven Cafe

1:00pm Dean Barnett at Sunday Sessions at the Raven Cafe

Friday, January 22

7:00pm Golden Rodent Open Mic, Port Huron

8:00pm Julianne Ankley at the Harson Island Brewery, Marysville, Mi.

Saturday, January 23

5:30pm School for Strings Fiddle Club at Port Huron Golf Club

7:00pm Thumb Dance Club, Sandusky, Mi.

8:30pm Julianne Ankley & Brian "Roscoe" White at the Vintage Tavern, Port Huron

Friday, January 29

7:30pm Julianne Ankley & the Rogues at the Howell Opera House, Howell, Mi.

Saturday, January 30

7:30pm Still Running at the Raven Cafe

15th Anniversary of the BWFS Acoustic Coffeehouse Open Mic

Our very popular Coffeehouse Open Mic is celebrating its 15th Anniversary.

The Traditional Acoustic Open Mic coffeehouse series has taken place monthly from October through March on the second Saturday of the month beginning at 7:00pm and ending at 10:00pm at Trinity Episcopal Church, 5646 Main St., Lexington, Michigan since January 2001.

The support of Trinity Episcopal Church to our success has been immeasurable. We thank the entire Trinity Episcopal congregation!

We have been able to keep the admission free but, donations are very much appreciated. A 50/50 Raffle is held to benefit Thumbfest and non-perishable food is collected to benefit [Project Blessing](#).

Refreshments are available by donation. Performers sign up begins at 6:15pm. Slots are available on a first come, first serve basis until all available slots are gone. Slots are 2 songs or 10 minutes for individual performers and 3 songs or 15 minutes for groups, **whichever comes first.**

It is very important to adhere to these times to allow time for other performers to play. The emcee for the night will set the order of play and may ask for you to cut your time to fit everyone in the show.

A complete sound system is provided with vocal and instrument microphones along with direct input. The only thing you need to bring is your acoustic instruments, a ¼ inch cable to plug in and songs to play.

Volunteer positions at the Coffeehouse are set-up, tear-down, sound, emcee, kitchen, greeter and sales.

If you want to volunteer at a Coffeehouse, contact Coffeehouse Director Dawn Malek at: coffeehouse@bluewaterfolk.org

We are very grateful to Trinity Episcopal Church which allows us to use their fine hall and kitchen for the Open Mic! We could not do it without them!

Come Join Us for a night filled with music!

More Coffeehouse Information

Our next BWFS Coffeehouse Open Mics are Saturday, January 9, February 13 and March 12, 2016. We take a break after that until the 2nd Saturday of October.

Our first three BWFS Open Mics of the season were quite the success with large crowds.

One of the best features of our Coffeehouse Open Mics is that our audience is a listening and appreciative audience.

Our performers in the first three BWFS Coffeehouse Open Mics were Gary Kreuger; Dean Barnett & Tom Schlichting Duo; M-25; John Johnston; Blood Harmony; Ron Hreha; Ron McPhail; Rhonda Johnson; Circle of Friends; Blaire deWilde Kohler; Wells & Witz; The Kohler Sisters; Dean Barnett; George Verras; Ed Dombrowski; Bobby Budd; John Broadwell; Dale George; Mike Balysh; Brandon Moitke; Dave Faley & Alexis; Pete Hartung; Phil Larson; Bea Castillo; Tom Schlichting; Leigh Marciniak; GlenBrooke & Mary Foley.

Many thanks to the donors for our fine refreshment table from Sue Dombrowski, Leigh Marciniak, Halusia Witkowski, Penny & Alan Phillips, Judy Butler, Lily Raker, Marie McCarthy, Sharon Walby, Judy Butler, Lynn Roe, Lynn O'Dell, Lily R, B.J. Swarts, Ruth Habalewsky, Marie McCarthy, Judy & Don Harthorn, Pat & Ron Anderson, Bea Castillo, Chris Noetzel, Steve Bas?, Diane Rizzo, Mimi Johnson, Shirley Barnett.

The BWFS Coffeehouse Open Mic serves a valuable purpose for those returning to music after many years or just beginning their music adventures providing a non-threatening venue to perform. It is always interesting hearing the performers gain confidence over the months.

Many musical collaborations have happened because of various Open Mics providing the perfect venue to meet other musicians from many different areas including musicians that came from Royal Oak, Windsor, Sterling Heights and all around the Blue Water Area.

Some of your donations were used to purchase a new speaker and some sound cables for the sound system.

Did you know, the stage lights were made by George Stewart from coffee cans?



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

Promoting Traditional and Acoustic Music in the Thumb of Michigan

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

Website:
www.bluewaterfolksociety.org
www.bluewaterfolk.org

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/thumbfest

Join us for only \$10/year Membership
 Send your dues & info to:
 Leigh Marciniak
 7489 Beechwood Rd.
 Lexington, MI. 48450
membership@bluewaterfolk.org
 248-766-6898

Coffeehouse Director
 Contact: Dawn Malek
coffeehouse@bluewaterfolk.org
 586-995-1974

Newsletter editor:
 Shirley Barnett
We welcome your suggestions, pictures and submissions.
 Send your information to
newsletter@bluewaterfolk.org

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:
newsletter@bluewaterfolk.org

Special thanks to Trinity Episcopal Church for their support for all of our 15 years of Open Mics !

BWFS Current Board Members

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

Ruth HabalewskyPresident	president@bluewaterfolk.org	term expires 2016 election
Jerry HuffTreasurer	treasurer@bluewaterfolk.org	term expires 2016 election
Barbara Ernsberger..Secretary	secretary@bluewaterfolk.org	term expires 2017 election
Marty Malek ..Trustee	marty@bluewaterfolk.org	term expires 2018 election
Dale GeorgeTrustee	dale@bluewaterfolk.org	term expires 2017 election
Shirley BarnettTrustee	shirley@bluewaterfolk.org	term expires 2018 election
Tom SchlichtingTrustee	tom@bluewaterfolk.org	term expires 2018 election

Entire Board email: board@bluewaterfolk.org **Main Contact Phone Number:** 810-300-2388

Some History of the Blue Water Folk Society

The Blue Water Folk Society, is an ALL volunteer, 501c3 nonprofit organization founded in 2001, is dedicated to promoting and sponsoring traditional and acoustic music events in the Thumb area of Michigan.

Our original Board included President George Stewart, Treasurer Tom Schlichting, Secretary Shirley Barnett, Trustee Maggie Ewalt and Trustee Mike Tremblay.

Current Board members include President Ruth Habalewsky, Treasurer Jerry Huff, Secretary Barbara Ernsberger, Trustee Dale George, Trustee Tom Schlichting, Trustee Marty Malek and Trustee Shirley Barnett.

We have sponsored a 1960's style "Coffeehouse" the 2nd Saturday of every month from October thru March in at Trinity Episcopal Church in Lexington **since January 2001.**

Our newest venture is "Guitar for Kids". In 2015 we gave away three guitars and hope to increase the number in 2016.

We also sponsor or provide music for various music events in Michigan's "Thumb Area" throughout the year.

We organize and fund an acoustic music festival held on the Saturday of Labor Day

weekend called "Thumbfest".

The first Thumbfest was in 2002 at Camp Ozanam and it moved to downtown Lexington, Mi. in 2005. In 2005 Thumbfest featured multiple stages, a dance hall, jam Sites, workshops, crafts and more.

Thumbfest now takes place on the shores of Lake Huron in downtown Lexington and changes each year. At the present time, it is a FREE event that could only happen because of our dedicated volunteers, donations from the community, numerous fundraisers and the talents of many generous musicians. We do it for the love of the music. Volunteers are always needed.

Donations are always welcome. Checks can be made out to Blue Water Folk Society and mailed to BWFS; P.O. Box 83; Lexington, Mi. 48450. Please mark on your check the purpose of the check.

Membership is open to everyone. Membership, with dues of \$10 per year, is another way of showing support for the Blue Water Folk Society.

We publish a newsletter four times a year. You can find more information and past copies at www.bluewaterfolk.org

Other opportunities to perform

- **Palmer Jam** 1st Saturday of the Month, Palmer Park Recreation, 2829 Armour St., Port Huron 7-10pm
- **Golden Rodent Open Mic** Friday, Jan.22, 7-10pm Exquisite Corpse Coffeehouse, 410 Water St., Port Huron
- **Live from the Living Room Open Mic** Friday, January 15 8-10:30pm \$10 Unity Church of Lake Orion, 3070 South Baldwin, Lake Orion, Mi.

Contacts for Thumbfest & Guitar for Kids

- **Thumbfest Director:** Dawn Malek at thumbfestdirector@bluewaterfolk.org
- **Thumbfest Booking:** Mike Mercatante thumbfestbooking@bluewaterfolk.org
- **Guitar for Kids:** Shirley Barnett at shirley@bluewaterfolk.org

More information on Thumbfest & Guitar for Kids will be in the next issue.



Hootenanny at October 2015 BWFS Coffeehouse Open Mic



More Hootenanny October 2015 See you at a future Coffeehouse! More pictures next issue!