



Blue Water Folk Notes



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Blue Water Folk Society Annual Meeting

On Saturday, June 9th, the Blue Water Folk Society, held their Annual General Membership meeting at Ruth Habalewsky's home in Port Huron. At this meeting an election was held for the board position that expired. Mike Mercatante graciously agreed to continue in his board position as a trustee. There were no by-law changes. The treasurer's report showed that the April Fundraiser raised over \$1800 towards Thumbfest 2012. At the meeting, details were discussed about the upcoming Thumbfest fundraisers in July. Following the General meeting, a board meeting was held and all board members agreed to stay in their current positions. **Contact info** on all the board members are on page 4.

At the Thumbfest meeting immediately following the board meeting, some decisions were made about stage locations based on what is available this year. There will be some changes to the locations. The price structure for the stages and ads were discussed. There is still a need for team leaders & volunteers at Thumbfest, including site work, sound, sales and information tables, set-up and break-down work. A volunteer potluck is being planned for August 25. If you want to volunteer, please contact any member of the board at board@bluewaterfolk.org

We NEED YOU to help us make Thumbfest a success!

Have you considered making a donation and/or joining us? Some people have told us that they give what they would pay for a concert but any amount is welcome. Donations can be mailed to: Blue Water Folk Society; P.O. Box 83; Lexington, Mi. 48450

Time to Renew/Join Blue Water Folk Society

It is **time to renew** your membership dues, which **expire June 30, 2012**, for the current year if you haven't renewed in the past few months. Our dues are still only **\$10 a year per member**. All dues go to support the activities of the **Blue Water Folk Society**, including the popular **Coffeehouse Open Mics** and the **Thumbfest Acoustic Music Festival**. The **Blue Water Folk Society** is a 501 c 3 (ALL volunteer) non-profit and is open to ALL! **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

Please make all checks out to: Blue Water Folk Society

This is also a good time to add a little bit to your dues and make a donation but please note on the check if the money is also for a donation to Thumbfest.

Contact: shirley@bluewaterfolk.org



Save these dates:

Thumbfest Benefits

*****Saturday, July 7th**

Music at the Harbor in Port Sanilac, 6 pm to 10 pm
..followed by fireworks

*****Saturday, July 14th**

Pine Grove Park in Port Huron, 10 am to 6 pm ..come watch the boats on the St. Clair River

Do you want to host a Thumbfest Fundraiser?

Contact the board at board@bluewaterfolk.org

*****Thumbest 2012**

Saturday, September 1

in Lexington 10 am to 10 pm
Bring your CHAIR, instrument and voice and join us!

Free but donations are always needed and welcome !!

Benefits of Blue Water Folk Society membership

- Performances are listed
- Musical activities listed
- Discount on BWFS Events and merchandise
- Newsletter mailed if desired
- Ability to run for the board of the BWFS
- Able to vote at June Annual meeting
- Showing your financial support for the music.

Thumbfest Update....Mike Mercatante

BWFS member performance dates to consider:**NOTE: SAMFEST is CANCELLED !****Dean Barnett**

- > **Friday June 22, July 27, August 10** during Farmers Market 3 to 6 p.m. Port Sanilac, Mi.
- > **Thursday, July 12 1:30-2:30 pm** Quay St. Parking Lot Port Huron, Mi. bionomic2@yahoo.com

Ourselves

- > **Saturday July 28 6-8 pm** Drake Park Marine City, Mi. tomschlichting@hotmail.com

Ruby Hill

- > **Saturday June 16 7:30-10:30pm** Raven Café Port Huron, Mi.
- > **Saturday July 14 3:45-4:30pm** Thumbfest Benefit Pine Grove Park, Port Huron, Mi. jrwms@advnet.net

Lost Cuzzins

- > **Saturday July 7th 9:00 to fireworks** Thumbfest Benefit at the harbor in Port Sanilac, Mi.
- > **Saturday July 14, 5-5:45 pm** Thumbfest Benefit Pine Grove Park, Port Huron, Mi.
- > **Friday July 27 8 - 10 pm and Saturday July 28 8-10 pm** St. Clair County 4 H Fair Goodells County Park Goodells, Mi bionomic2@yahoo.com

Denny Dwyer

- > **Friday August 10 7:30-10:30 pm** Raven Café, Port Huron, Mi. d.dwyer@comcast.net

William Henry Russell

- > **Saturday June 23, July 21 & August 18, 7:30-10-30 pm** Raven Café Port Huron, Mi.
- > **Saturday, July 7 at 7:00 pm** Port Austin Community Playhouse Port Austin, Mi \$10/\$5/\$25
- > **Saturday July 14 10- 11 am** Thumbfest Benefit Pine Grove Park Port Huron, Mi russell.william@att.net

Judy Insley

- > **Saturday July 7 8-9 pm** Thumbfest Benefit at the Harbor Port Sanilac, Michigan
- > **Friday-Sunday, , August 10- 12** Farmfest, Johannesburg, Mi. www.farm-fest.com insleyjc@comcast.net

Greetings, music fans! Only two and a half months to go until the Thumb area's grand finale of summer! Yes, I am talking about Thumbfest 2012. This is the Bluewater Folk Society's eleventh Thumbfest and it continues to attract more and more people every year. I guess people liked what they've heard, told their friends, and come back for more. That's the best kind of endorsement.

Thumbfest 2012 will be held again in the beautiful Lake Huron port village of Lexington, Michigan on Saturday, September 1, from 10 a.m. until 10 p.m..

The cost is ...FREE! That's right. Nothing. Nada. Zilch. Just bring yourself and loved ones (or even those not so loved ones, the town's big enough for you all) and spend a wonderful day walking about Lexington and listening to music on the many stages that are located throughout the town.

You play, you say? Bring your instrument or voice and sit in on the many jams that will be taking place at the jam site. Or you can get some tips on how to improve your chops (musical, not pork) at the many workshops that will be offered by Thumbfest performers. There will be continuous music from 10-10 and if the kids get a little restless, there will be a family area with kid-friendly activities and then there is always the beach if you really want to take a break and chill. Why not come early and do it all?

This year there will be lots of familiar faces from previous years such as Mustard's Retreat, Finvarra's Wren, Floyd King and the Bushwackers, Jim Bizer/Jan Krist, Le Compagnie and many others.

There will also be plenty of new faces to mix things up. New acts to Thumbfest this year that I'm really excited about:

- Ann Arbor based Dragon Wagon, an intense Celtic/global music band that is very high energy.

- Coming from the Traverse City area is Sister Wilene playing old style Country/swing with a modern flair. Be sure to get their cd. Great vocals and songs.

- Multi-award winners Stella! and Jo Serrapere and the Willie Dunns. Great

female vocals, harmonies and songwriting.

- All the way from Western Canada comes singer/songwriter Scott Cook. He will win you over with his smooth as molasses vocal delivery and great songs. Great on-stage presence as well.

- Bon Temps Roule – fans of Nicky Boy Street band from the last two Thumbfests will love this New Orleans rockin' offshoot of that band. A five piece band led by trumpeter James O'Donnell who will have you dancing in the streets. Get your gris gris on. And don't think that we've neglected on Thumb area talent. Thumbfest continues to support local talent with area favorites including Lost Cuzzins, Ourselves, Still Running, Heritage String Band, Denny Dwyer, Jimmy Deheno, William Henry Russell, and many, many others. Stay tuned for more updates and the complete performer list and schedule of events.

As Artistic Director, my job is to book the acts. This is my third year occupying this role and it is a joyful panic every year putting this festival together. However, my role is just one cog in the wheel that is Thumbfest. Many, many dedicated volunteers contribute to this festival and have done so for many years. We are all volunteers and we do this because we love putting on a show. If you would like to be a part of Thumbfest please contact any board member and we'll see how we can make things work for you. Don't worry, we are not the Borg. You won't be absorbed. You may find that volunteering for something as cool and fun as Thumbfest may get into your blood. We'll leave that discovery to you. There's a reason most of us have been around for ten years.

I hope you all have a great summer and we'll see you on **Saturday, September 1 from 10 am-10 pm in Lexington.**

Contact: board@bluewaterfolk.com

Donations always Welcome!

MORE BWFS member performance dates:**Butterhair**> **Saturday July 7 7-8 pm**

Thumbfest Benefit at the Harbor
Port Sanilac, Michigan
ted@theimprinthouse.com

Still Running> **Friday June 15, July 6**

during Farmers Market 3 to 6 p.m.
Port Sanilac, Mi

> **Sunday, June 24, TBA**

St. Clair Art Fair St. Clair, Mi

> **Saturday June 30 & August 25**

7:30 – 10:30 pm

Raven Café, Pt. Huron, Mi.

> **Saturday July 7th 6 – 7 pm**

Thumbfest Benefit at the harbor in
Port Sanilac, Mi.

> **Saturday July 14, TBA**

Thumbfest Benefit
Pine Grove Park, Port Huron, Mi.

> **Saturday, July 14 8:30pm -12:30 am**

LaCroix's Riverside Pub, St.Clair, Mi.

Floyd King & the Bushwackers> **Saturday June 23 7-10 pm**

Yule Love it Lavender Farm
Leonard, Michigan \$15
Reservations 248-628-7814
marmik21@yahoo.com

Bobby Budd> **Saturday July 14 1 – 1:30 pm**

Thumbfest Benefit Pine Grove Park
Port Huron, Michigan
ted@theimprinthouse.com

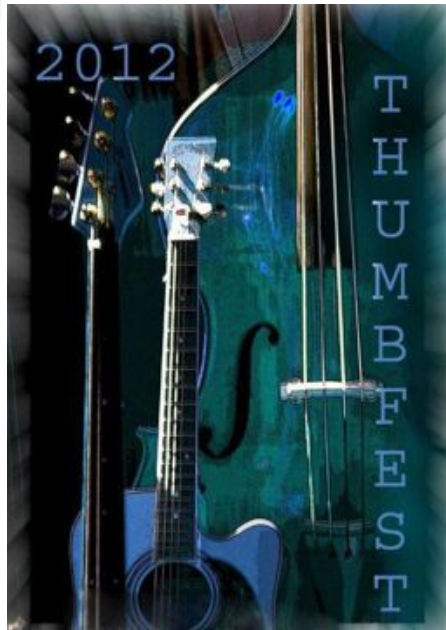
Send you performance dates to:

shirley@bluewaterfolk.org

*Support our BWFS musicians
by attending their
performances !*

BWFS Member Activities & Opportunies to Perform

>> **Ted Smith & Jeff Baron** are involved with the Blue Water Musicians Network **Old Tyme Jams** that are open to all players. They are sometimes held at Vantage Point in Port Huron under the tent outside during the summer. Contact: Ted Smith for more information
ted@theimprinthouse.com
www.bluewatermusiciansnetwork.com

Thumbfest 2012 Design Winner Announced

George McInnis is the winner of the Thumbfest 2012 T-Shirt Design contest.

This is nothing new for George, as he was the designer of the 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007 shirt designs before we held a contest. Other designers were Karen Schlichting in 2004, Shirley Barnett in 2008, Jenna Reed in 2009, Mary Foley in 2010 and Josh Walerych in 2011.

Join in the discussion on the shirt color at www.facebook.com/thumbfest

Watch for announcements about the sale of the shirt. Pre-ordering your shirt guarantees you getting your size.

Thumbfest 2012 Benefits

We are only about 35% of the way to raising \$20,000 that we need for Thumbfest 2012. We have a couple of grand Thumbfest 2012 benefits planned for you to enjoy.

The first is on **Saturday, July 7 beginning at 6 pm at the beautiful Harbor in Port Sanilac.** There will be a raffle, some food, plus four great acts to enjoy before the finale of fireworks over the Harbor. The night begins at 6 pm with Still Running, followed by Butterhair at 7 pm, Judy Insley with Almost Perfect at 8 pm and finishes with the Lost Cuzzins at 9 pm until the fireworks begin. Bring you chair and a jacket as the night air can get a welcome coolness on Lake Huron. Contact tomschlichting@hotmail.com

Next we will have a Thumbfest benefit **on Saturday, July 14 (Boat week) from 10 am until 6 pm in Pine Grove Park, on the beautiful St. Clair River in Port Huron.** The schedule is: 10 am William Henry Russell; 11 am Ourselves; 12 noon Jimmy Deheno; 1 pm Bobby Budd; 1:45 John Dobot; 2:45 Still Running ; 3:45 Ruby Hill and

the Lost Cuzzins at 5:00 pm. Come see the sailboats and stay for the music. Contact Jenna at 2jnsgrover@comcast.net for more information.

The April George Stewart Thumbfest Benefit was a success raising over \$1800 with 100 people in attendance. The performers were selected because of their musical connection to George. The emcee was Dean Barnett, Dawn Malek ran the kitchen. The night opened with a song by Still Running, followed a very special appearance by Mike Mullen, George's singing partner dating back to the 70 and 80's. Mike brought his Celtic Harp and dulicmer to entertain us. Following was the Ourselves with guest Maggie Ewalt; Circle of Friends who were George's latest musical group and then the wonderful Mustard's Retreat took the stage. *Ours is a Simple Faith* was sung which was a special song to George.

Many thanks to all the board members, volunteers & audience that made this possible. George would have been very pleased.



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

Promoting Traditional and
Acoustic Music in the Thumb
of Michigan

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E-mail board@bluewaterfolk.org

Newsletter editor:
Shirley Barnett

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

Send your information to
shirley@bluewaterfolk.org

****Membership \$10/year**
Send Check to: Shirley Barnett
1809 Caughill
Columbus, Mi. 48063
Make check to:
Blue Water Folk Society
Note dues on check
barnettsjmd@gmail.com
586-727-5197

**Thumbfest contact &
to volunteer...**

board@bluewaterfolk.org

Performer submission:
mmercatant@aol.com

On the web & Facebook:

www.bluewaterfolksociety.org

www.facebook.com/thumbfest

www.bluewaterfolk.org

Ads in Program:

Due by July 20

in .jpg or .pdf file

Full Page: \$500

1/2 Page: \$250

1/4 Page \$150

1/8 Page \$80

1/16 Page \$40

shirley@bluewaterfolk.org

Your Current Board Members

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

- Carl KammerPresident carl@bluewaterfolk.org term expires 2014 election
- Tom Schlichting....Treasurer tom@bluewaterfolk.org term expires 2013 election
- Jenna ReedSecretary 2jnsgrover@comcast.net term expires 2014 election
- Mike Mercatante...Trustee mmercatant@aol.com term expires 2015 election
- Ruth Habalewsky....Trustee rhablewsky@comcast.net term expires 2013 election



Mike Mullen



Circle of Friends



Mustard's Retreat



Mike Mullen, Circle of Friends & Mustards Retreat



Hootenanny (George's Coffee Can lights)



Ourselves & Maggie Ewalt



All the musicians at the Hootenanny



Shirley & Ruth



Carl Kammer

The Habalewskys



Mike & Jenna and the VERY important audience



The Important Clean-up Crew

The Blue Water Folk
Society wants to
Thank You for YOUR
Support !!



Emcee Dean Barnett

Buy a Program ad for your Band NOTE: Next issue...deadline for submissions....August 10th