



Blue Water Folk Notes



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Hot News to Use

Save these dates:

Thumbfest Fundraisers

Saturday, August 6th

7:30-9:30 pm..Circle of Friends in Lexington Harbor

Saturday, August 13th

Music at the Harbor in Port Sanilac, 7:00 to 10 pm

featuring the sounds of the 60's with *Still Running, Circle of Friends, Lost Cuzzins, Dynasty & Milarchs*

Contact: *Tom Schlichting*

Do you want to host a Thumbfest Fundraiser?

Contact *Tom Schlichting* at tomschlichting@hotmail.com

A Big Thank You !!

Many thanks to *Casey Turner* and the online magazine www.thumbmagazine.com for the great story on the *Blue Water Folk Society* coffeehouse open mic. *Dawn Malek*, a coffeehouse director, arranged the story with the magazine. It is a fine magazine filled with Thumb information and stories. Check it out! Casey is always looking for story ideas.

Check out this story:

<http://www.thumbmagazine.com/stories/58-thumbng-around/292-blue-water-folk-coffeehouse.html>

April Thumbfest 2011 Benefit a Success

The April 9th *Thumbfest 2011 Benefit* was deemed a rousing success, by *Tom Schlichting*, *Thumbfest 2011 Director*, raising \$1430.40 which included a generous donation of the proceeds from the CD sales from *Floyd King and the Bushwackers* and *Jim Bizer*.

It was a great concert, arranged by *Dean Barnett* that featured *Floyd King and the Bushwackers*; *L.L. Blues*, *Banjoey* and *Bobby Budd*.

We had a packed house, with a very enthusiastic audience. What is even more impressive, the musicians had as much fun as the audience. *Larry Everhart*, a member of *LL Blues*, and a great harmonica player, said he will try to come to some of our open mics in the Fall. *Maggie Ferguson*, a member of *Floyd King & the Bushwackers* said " So much fun! Those *Blue Water Folk* folks know how to put on a show!"

Sandy McCutcheon, an audience member said of the concert "I've never had so much fun at a concert!! The audience was sooo into it. Thanks to all for magnificent performances!"

Pallav and Pooja Pareek of Troy, Mi. happened to be in Lexington and discovered our Benefit. They enjoyed the music, and sent some pictures they took of the evening. Many thanks to all the volunteers that helped in the set-up and clean up after the concert!



Maggie Ferguson Jim Bizer Dennis Kingsbury
Floyd King & the Bushwackers (photo by Mike Mercatante)



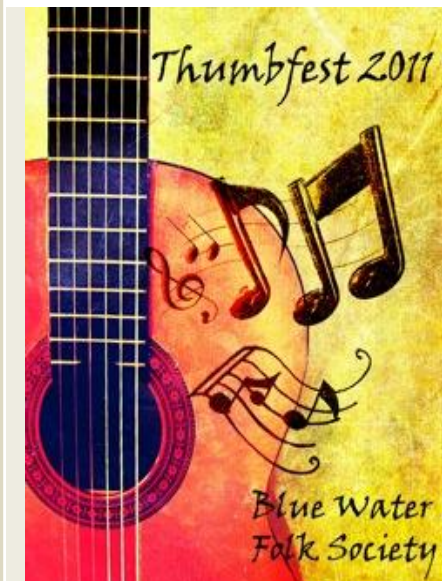
LL Blues (Larry Everhart & Larry Stevens)
(photo by Pallav Pareek)



Banjoey Bobby Budd Dean Barnett
Photos by Pallav Pareek photo by m.mercatante



Tom Schlichting was kept busy at the *Thumbfest Benefit* collecting donations. You can still donate by sending a check made out to the **Blue Water Folk Society** at **P.O. 83, Lexington, Michigan 48450**. Please mark donation on the check.



Winning Design by Josh Walerych

T-shirt Contest Winner Announced

Jenna Reed, publicity director of *Thumbfest*, announced *Josh Walerych*, a senior at *Port Huron High School* as the winner of the 1st *Thumbfest* T-shirt contest at the April 9th Benefit for *Thumbfest 2011*. We had eight very fine designs submitted for the contest.

Josh's wonderful design will be used in the *Thumbfest 2011* posters and publicity and the *Thumbfest 2011* T-shirts which will be available for *presale* sometime this summer and at the *Thumbfest 2011 Music Festival*. Contact *Jenna Reed* at 2jnsgrover@comcast.net

The *Thumbfest* is scheduled for Saturday, September 3 in downtown Lexington.

You can support *Thumbfest* by ordering a T-shirt and encouraging others to buy them. All profit from the sales go to support *Thumbfest*.

Previous designers of the *Thumbfest* t-shirts include *George Stewart*, *George McInnis*, *Karen Schlichting*, *Shirley Barnett* and *Mary Foley*

More Event Dates**BWFS member performance dates to consider:****Ourselves....** Free

- > **Saturday June 25 7- 9:00 pm**
Music at the Harbor Port Sanilac
tomshchlichting@hotmail.com

Floyd King & the Bushwackers. Free

- > **Saturday July 9 7 - 9:00 pm**
Music at the Harbor Port Sanilac
marmik21@yahoo.com

Denny Dwyer Free

- > **Last Saturday of month 8-12am**
Tally Ho Inn in Lakeport
d.dwyer@comcast.net

Dean Barnett

- > **Saturday May 14**
Lilac Festival; Emmett, Mi.
- > **Sunday, May 15 7:00 pm**
Prince of Glory Spring Coffeehouse
Madison Heights, Mi. \$10
- > **Sunday, June 19 7:30 – 10:30 pm**
Raven Café in Port Huron free
bionomic2@yahoo.com

Lost Cuzzins

- > **Saturday May 28 10 am to 12 pm**
Greater Rochester Heritage Festival
Rochester, Mi. Free
- > **Friday & Saturday, July 29 & 30 8:00 to 10 pm.** St. Clair County Fair
Gooddells, Mi.
jrwms@advnet.net

Circle of Friends

- > **Saturday August 6 7:00 – 9:00 pm**
Music in the Park Lexington, Mi.

Dan Shepherdmusic@comcast.net

- > **May 21st** Wildwood Friendly Tavern
Macomb, Mi.
- > **June 3rd** Raven Café
Port Huron, Mi.
danshepherdmusic@comcast.net

Still Running

- > **Saturday May 28th 8:30 -10:30 pm**
Crazy Wisdom Tea Room Ann Arbor
- > **Friday June 3rd 8-10:30 pm**
Plymouth Coffee Bean, Plymouth
- > **Saturday, June 18th 7:00 – 10 pm**
Raven Café Port Huron
2jnsgrover@comcast.net

Campfire Compadres

- > **Sunday, May 29th 3:00 pm**
Greater Rochester Heritage Festival
Rochester, Mi.
- > **Saturday, June 4th**
Hobo Fest in Port Sanilac
thunderisle@yahoo.com

King of the Road Hobo Day

- > **Saturday, June 4 1 to 5 pm**
Sanilac County Historical Village
Pt. Sanilac featuring **Ourselves, Bobby Budd, John Broadwell, Campfire Compadres**..includes food
Tickets \$25 adult \$10 child
More info at 810-622-9946

Thumbfest Update:

Great News!! We are most grateful to have received two grants to help us in meeting our financial needs for Thumbfest. We have received a *Community Foundation Grant* of \$2500 from the *Blue Water Arts Committee* and a *MCACA State Minigrant* from the *Huron EDC* of \$2320. Thumbfest is funded by your donations, grants, sponsors, ads and fundraisers so that we can continue to offer a quality FREE, family friendly acoustic music event that is open to all! With the donations we have already received, including those from our April fundraiser, we are at the 45% mark of reaching our goal.

Mike Mercatante, Artistic Director, is busy booking some of the performers for Thumbfest 2011. Booked so far are, *Mustard's Retreat, Floyd King & the Bushwackers, Red Sea Pedestrians, Nicky Boy Street Band, Creole du Nord, Claudia Schmidt,*

General Meeting & Election**Tuesday, June 21st 6:30 p.m.**

Marysville Library

1175 Delaware Ave. Marysville, Mi.

Here is your chance to run for a board position and help shape the activities of the Blue Water Folk Society.

To run for the board, you should be a paid member of the Blue Water Folk Society. Each board position has a 3 year term. There will be **two board positions** up for election as Carl Kammer and Shirley Barnett's terms will expire.

If you want to run for a board position or nominate someone for a board position please contact: shirley@bluewaterfolk.org

There is **no** residency requirement for membership or the board. In fact, the current BWFS Board has not had a Lexington resident on the board since George Stewart left the board several years ago. Carl Kammer lives in Troy, Shirley Barnett in Columbus, Mi., Tom Schlichting in Pt. Sanilac, Mike Mercatante in Smith's Creek, and Ruth Habalewsky in Ft. Gratiot.

A ballot will be distributed to paid members 10 days before the election, although nominations from the floor can be received. All are welcome to attend but only paid members are allowed to vote. See info on membership

Jim Bizer & Jan Krist, Le Compagnie, Finvarra's Wren, Smokin' Fez Monkeys, Eastward Bound, Kitty Donohoe, LL Blues, Billy Brandt and Sarana Ver Lin, Kofi Ameyaw and many more to come.

Mike Mercatante says of Thumbfest that he is "honoring the traditions of the past with new directions for the future". You can contact Mike at mmercatant@aol.com

Tom Schlichting, Thumbfest 2011 director, will be scheduling a Thumbfest meeting soon. He is still looking for volunteers and team leaders for a variety of positions for before, during and after the Thumbfest. Selling ads, finding sponsors, including stage sponsors, site work, set-up & tear-down are some of the positions still open. *There is always room for YOU.* Tom is the person to contact with any offers of hosting a Thumbfest fundraiser, offers to volunteer, or any general information. Besides looking for volunteers for Thumbfest 2011, Tom is also looking for persons to help with the Fundraisers and flyer distribution.

Thumbfest 2011 is our 10th Thumbfest so we hope to make it special. Thumbfest 2011 is being held on Saturday, September 3rd from 10 am to 10 pm, with around 12 different venues including stages, jam sites, song circles, workshops, crafts and a children's area. If you have never attended one, you are in for a musical treat. Each year seems to be getting better with more musical variety for you to enjoy. Contact Tom at tom@bluewaterfolk.org

Time to Renew Membership

It is **time to renew** your membership dues, which **expire on May 15, 2011**, 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. The Blue Water Folk Society is open to ALL !

*****YOU can **join us or renew** your dues by mailing your dues and information including your **contact information**

(address, phone number, email) to:

Shirley Barnett;**1809 Caughill; Columbus, Mi. 48063**shirley@bluewaterfolk.org

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.



Coffee House Open Mic Notes and Pictures (February & March)

The [Blue Water Folk Society](http://www.thumbmagazine.com) Traditional Acoustic Coffeehouse Open Mics are done for the summer, but with the success they had this past season, we expect that our 2011-2012 series will be even better when it begins again in October. Our February Open Mic was one of the smallest attended with about 65 persons but was still unique with new and returning acts. The February Coffeehouse was recorded for a video magazine, www.thumbmagazine.com by Casey Turner. Banjoey served as the emcee, Dean Barnett did the set-up, Mike Mercatante ran the sound and Ginny McNabb and Shirley Barnett ran the kitchen with donations from Jeannine Kirchoff, Gary Krueger and Ruth Habalewsky. When you go to the www.thumbmagazine.com link, you will get a good taste of the caliber of our talented musicians which included; George Stewart, Mary Foley, John Broadwell, Bobby Budd, Skip Tomlin, a new performer, Dean Barnett, Susan Sterner another new performer, Jerry McNabb, Still Running, Denny Dwyer, Glennbrooke Cichoracki, Dale George, Ted Smith, George Young, Sue Wilson, Andie & Mike McCarthy, also new to our stage. The addition of the new performers made for a very enjoyable evening .

Perhaps it was the additional publicity we received from the *Thumb Magazine* video article but our last coffeehouse of the season was our largest one of the year, in both attendance and number of performers. We had around 130 attendance and 23 performances. Denny Dwyer, serving as our guest emcee managed the abundance of performers by extending (with agreement) the ending time to 11:00 p.m. instead of the usual 10 p.m. Several new performers were at this Open Mic, keeping the music fresh, including performers from Croswell, Memphis, Pt. Huron, Pontiac, Macomb, Pt. Sanilac, Ann Arbor, Grosse Point, Ferndale and Alberta, Canada. Denny Dwyer opened the night, followed by John Broadwell, with his squeeze box and a Hank Williams tune; *Campfire Compadres*, with cowboy songs & stories; *Maggie Ferguson*, with her beautiful voice doing Crow and Blackfoot; *Suzanne Srodawa* doing a beautiful flute solo; *Banjoey* getting us singing with some old time favorites; *Ourselves* with some lively Irish tunes; *Bobby Budd* doing Bob Dylan and stories; *Sue Wilson* with her wonderful originals; *Steve Weaver*, new to our stage, doing a Neil Young number; *Faith Hartley* and her son doing Harper Valley PTA; *Kurt Gersch*, new to our stage with his Beat Box and an original song; the group *Butter Hair* doing Cabdriver & others; *Scott Cook*, of Alberta, touring our area, wowing us with several of his originals; *Charlie Winter* doing All of Me; *The Dalettes* included the Boxer in their set; *Al Young*, another new musician to our stage included Who Woulda Think It by Greg Brown in his set and *Still Running* closed the night with Richard Thomas.

February & March photos by Bruce Filbeck



Coffeehouse Open Mics begin again in October 2011. More photos on page 4.



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 2011 election
- Tom Schlichting....Treasurer tom@bluewaterfolk.org term expires 2013 election
- Shirley BarnettSecretary shirley@bluewaterfolk.org term expires 2011 election
- Mike Mercatante...Trustee mmercatant@aol.com term expires 2012 election
- Ruth Habalewsky....Trustee rhalewsky@comcast.net term expires 2013 election

Blue Water Folk Society
P.O. Box 83
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Promoting Traditional and Acoustic Music in the Thumb of Michigan

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On the web & Facebook:

www.bluewaterfolk.org

www.thumbfest.org

*****We welcome your suggestions, pictures and submissions for our event calendar and for publication!

Send your information to shirley@bluewaterfolk.org

Music at the Harbor:

Port Sanilac 7 to 10 PM

- *Sat June 25: Ourselves
 - *Sat July 3: The Lash
 - *Sat July 9: Floyd King and the Bushwhackers
 - *Sat July 16: Bob Marshall
 - *Sat July 23: The Bill Denbrock Big Band
 - *Fri July 29 (Bark Shanty Festival): The Hooligans
 - *Sat July 30 (Bark Shanty Festival): Golden Harvest
 - *Sat August 8: Civil War Days Grand Ball featuring Golden Griffon Stringent
 - *Sat August 14: Blue Water Folk Society Benefit
 - *Sat August 20 (Antique Boat Show): Mustard's Retreat
 - *Sat August 27: Lost Cuzzins
 - *Sat September 3: Detroit Rhythm & Blues Society
- Contact: Susan Gill at smdebus@comcast.net

BWFS Member Activities

- > **Tom McGovern** will be performing with **Air Margaritaville** during the summer and with the Richmond Community Choir contact: tmca@mcgovernpc.com
- > **Shirley Barnett** performs with the Richmond Community Choir Spring Concert Friday, May 13th 7pm & Sunday, May 15th 2 pm contact: barnettsjmd@gmail.com
- > **Dave Rutkofske** is planning a Music Festival on August 4th at Woodsedge Herb Farm contact: woodsedge@advnet.net
- > **Maggie Ferguson** is organizing the Greater Rochester Heritage Festival on May 28 & 29 contact: marmik21@yahoo.com

Open Mics

Blue Water Folk Society Coffeehouse Open Mics are done for the summer but here are some other open mics hosted by members of **BWFS:**

- >**Open Mic at the Water Tower Bar & Grill** 1st Saturday of the monthsign up begins at 6 pm, Open Mic at 7 pm - ? Lexington Heights on M-25
 Contact: George at gyoung@greatlakes.net or watertowerbarandgrill@yahoo.com
- >**Great Lakes Maritime Center Arts&Craft Old Time Jam** Sundays 11 am to 3 pm July 10 –Sept. 11
 Contact: ted@themprinthouse.com
- >**Wood's Edge Old Time Jam** Last Friday of the month from 7:00-9:30 pm at 6171 Hewitt, Jeddo, Mi.
 Contact Dave at: woodsedge@advnet.net
- >**New Jam** Sunday, May 15, 2-4 p.m. at Trinity Episcopal Church, 5446 Main, Lexington
 Contact: Gloria at muffin425@hotmail.com

Music in the Park at Lexington Harbor...concerts start at 7:30 p.m.

- Friday June 17 SC4 Jazz Band - Community College Jazz musicians
 - Friday June 24 the George Brothers – Blistering guitar to the rock and roll beat.
 - Friday July 1 The Music Doctors – Rock and Country
 - Friday July 8 Steve King and the Dittilies – Rock and Roll
 - Friday July 15 Alliance – Dance band playing a variety of music
 - Friday July 22 Rhythm Society Orchestra – 15 piece dance band vintage swing music
 - Friday July 29 Abba Mania – Popular music
 - Friday Aug 5 Paisley Foggy – Folk Rock harmony
 - ****SATURDAY Aug 6 A Circle of Friends – Traditional Folk (Thumbfest Benefit)
 - Friday Aug 12 Steel Wheels – High energy band from the Tri City Area
 - Friday Aug 19 Dave Bennett – Clarinetist playing 50's favorites
- www.lexarts.com

***** **NOTE:** Next issue...deadline for submissions....July 25

