



# Blue Water Folk Notes

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### A Note from the President

Happy Spring/Summer! It is election time again; 2 BWFS Board seats are available due to term limits. This is your opportunity to be part of the BWFS Board, and to promote traditional acoustic music in the blue water area.

After serving six years on the board as trustee, secretary and finally as president, I thank all of the BWFS members for their support and input. It has been my pleasure to serve as your president and to represent the BWFS. I encourage you to become involved in the BWFS, and to consider running for an open BWFS Board position. Ruth Habalewsky  
BWFS President

### Nominations Being Accepted for Two Seats on BWFS Board

*Here's your chance to help ensure that the music continues! It takes great people like YOU to help us continue the music! Please think of someone who you think would be a good candidate for one of these positions and nominate them...even yourself!*

Nominations for two available board positions are being accepted until **Friday, June 3, 2016 at 5:00 pm.**

To be eligible to run for the board you must be a member in good standing six months prior to the Annual Meeting.

The **Annual Meeting & Election is scheduled for Saturday, June 18 at 11:00 am at Trinity Episcopal Church, 5656 Main St., Lexington, Mi. 48450.**

All are welcome to attend the meeting but only current members are allowed to vote.

Nominations can be accepted at the meeting but they will not be included on printed ballot.

Ballots will be emailed to current BWFS members or by if they do not have email.

Send your nomination to Barbara, BWFS Board Secretary at 810-404-7302 or at [secbwfs@gmail.com](mailto:secbwfs@gmail.com) or any Board member. The BWFS board looks forward to your future participation!

### Blue Water Folk Society Member?

#### It is time to renew your dues!

Our 2016-2017 BWFS Membership Drive, began in April, asking current members to renew for another year. We also ask others to join us as members in promoting and sponsoring traditional and acoustic music events in Michigan's Thumb area. Our goal for this year is 200 BWFS members.

Please think about renewing or joining us right away. Our dues are a very reasonable \$10 per person per membership year which is July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Membership Director, Leigh Marciniak, at [membership@bluewaterfolk.org](mailto:membership@bluewaterfolk.org)

Just as a reminder, here are some additional benefits of BWFS membership:

- Receive discounts on BWFS merchandise and events
- Publish performance dates in BWFS Newsletter
- Eligible to run for BWFS Board position with six months of current membership
- Vote at General Meeting and Election held in June

### Thumbfest Volunteers Needed!

*Love the music...the fellowship ...making new friends!???*

**VOLUNTEER AT THUMBFEST 2016!!!!**

*Opportunities abound in many areas!*



#### Areas Available

- Emcee
- Donation Collection
- Set Up
- Tear Down
- Information Table Area
- CD Table Area
- And so much More!!

Be part of the action *and* enjoy the music!!

This all could not happen if it were not for you, our invaluable volunteers!!!!

Contact Barbara for details!

[thumbfestvolunteer@bluewaterfolk.org](mailto:thumbfestvolunteer@bluewaterfolk.org) or [secbwfs@gmail.com](mailto:secbwfs@gmail.com)

810-404-7302

BLUE WATER FOLK SOCIETY P.O. BOX 83, LEXINGTON, MI. 48450

[WWW.BLUEWATERFOLK.ORG](http://WWW.BLUEWATERFOLK.ORG)

### Hot Dates to Save

#### Saturday, June 18, 11:00 am

BWFS Annual Meeting & Election at Trinity Episcopal Church, Lexington, Mi.  
*More info on page 1*

#### Saturday, July 24 2-5 pm

Blue Water Folk Society & Thumbfest Fundraiser in Lexington. \$15 donation  
*More info on page 2*

#### Saturday, September 3 11am to 10pm

Thumbfest 2016  
Downtown Lexington  
*More info on page 2 & 3*  
*Find more info at:*

[www.bluewaterfolk.org](http://www.bluewaterfolk.org) or [www.facebook.com/Thumbfest](http://www.facebook.com/Thumbfest)

### Opportunities to Perform

**Sanilac County Consortium of Arts Acoustic Song Circle** in Port Sanilac, Mi. at Bark Shanty Center 6:30-9:30pm on the first Friday of the month  
810-622-9716

**Open Mic at Live from the Living Room** May 20 at 8:00pm at Unity Church of Lake Orion, 3070 S. Baldwin Rd. \$5  
[marmik21@yahoo.com](mailto:marmik21@yahoo.com)

**Jam and Song Circle at 'Singin' in the Sixties Festival** July 23 from 12-6:00 pm at Sanilac County Historical Village and Museum, Port Sanilac  
[tomschlichting@hotmail.com](mailto:tomschlichting@hotmail.com)

**Open Mic at Starkweather Arts Center** May 27 & June 24 \$4 7:30pm 231 N. Main St.. Romeo  
[www.starkweatherarts.com/](http://www.starkweatherarts.com/)

**If you know of any Open Mics or Jams that our musicians may want to visit, send them to [newsletter@bluewaterfolk.org](mailto:newsletter@bluewaterfolk.org) for publication.**  
**Keep the music flowing!**

## BWFS member performance

### dates to consider:

More details can be found at:

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

#### Saturday, May 14

1:00pm

Art Detroit Now 2nd Saturday Gallery Crawl, Detroit

2:00pm

Whistle Stop Revue at Thumbcoast Brewing Anniversary, Port Huron

7:00pm

Thumb Dance Club Sandusky Maple Valley School

7:00pm

Brothers in Arms at the Moose, Port Huron

#### Sunday, May 15

10:30am

Ruby Hill at Unity of Blue Water, Port Huron

12:00pm

Keith Menzies Sunday Sessions, Raven Café, Port Huron

3:00pm

Tritone Paradox at Sanilac County Historic Museum Church, Port Sanilac

#### Saturday, May 21

7:30pm

William Henry Russell at the Raven Café, Port Huron

#### Thursday, May 26

6:30pm

William Henry Russell, Chesterfield Twp. Library, New Baltimore

#### Saturday, May 28

7:00pm

Thumb Dance Club Sandusky Maple Valley School

7:30pm

Still Running at the Raven Café, Port Huron

#### Sunday, May 29

10:30am

Lost Cuzzins at Unity of Blue Water, Port Huron

#### Thursday, June 2

7:30pm

Julianne Ankley, Raven Café, Port Huron

**Support our BWFS Musicians by attending a performance!**

#### \*\*Special Note...

BWFS member Vic Amato has written *Incoming*, a book of short stories. It is available at the Port Huron Barnes & Noble and on line in paperback and digital at Barnes & Noble and Amazon.

*Incoming* has received several positive national reviews.

## Some Thumbfest 2016 News

### Become a part of Guitars for Kids

Many thanks to the Sanilac Consortium for the Arts who are our tent sponsor for 2016.

YOU can become involved by becoming one of the musician judges of the applications, spending some time interviewing the applicants at Thumbfest, giving a quick lesson after the presentation of the guitars, passing out flyers to schools or music stores or simply by donating some cash to the project. A printable flyer can be found at [www.bluewaterfolk.org](http://www.bluewaterfolk.org)

This year we will be giving away up to five guitars & one ukulele to deserving applicants that are between the age of 8 to 17 years old. Contact Shirley [guitarforkids@bluewaterfolk.org](mailto:guitarforkids@bluewaterfolk.org) or 586-727-5197 for more information.



**Guitars for Kids Giveaway**  
at Thumbfest 2016  
Saturday, September 3 in Lexington, Mi.

The Blue Water Folk Society will be giving away up to five Yamaha guitar packages at the Thumbfest 2016 to youths from 8 to 17 years old on Saturday, September 3 in the Village of Lexington, Michigan as part of the "Guitars for Kids" program.

Youths 8 to 17 yrs. old must fill out an application during Thumbfest 2016.

Applications will be available at the Guitars for Kids booth from 11am to one hour before presentation.

Youths will need to be present at the presentation to receive their guitar.

\*\*There will be a musician available to help the successful applicants unpack their kit, explain all the parts of the kit and tune your guitar.

Guitars for Kids originated with Craig Carrick of the NorEast'r Music Festival and began at Thumbfest with a donation of a guitar from the NorEast'r to Thumbfest.

**Let's encourage our youth to learn to play a guitar!**

Sponsors:  
Guitars for Kids Tent Sponsor  
Sanilac Consortium for the Arts

Other Sponsors:  
Albert Julius  
Dennis & Leigh Marciniak  
Randy & Teresa Orchard  
Dean & Shirley Barnett

To donate: checks can be made out to Blue Water Folk Society. (note Guitars for Kids)

### There is still room for you as a patron or an advertiser.

Business and organizational support is so very important to assure that the 2016 Thumbfest is a special success as we celebrate our 15th Anniversary. Contact Leigh at [thumbfestsales@bluewaterfolk.org](mailto:thumbfestsales@bluewaterfolk.org) to join our current advertisers & patrons: Virginia McNabb, Town & Country Realty LLC, Village of Lexington DDA, Southern Thumb Music Studio, Lexington Valero, Lexington Brewing Company and Wine House, Pomeroy Funeral Home, and Lexington Dental Care. If you are interested in taking an ad or becoming a patron you can contact Leigh at [thumbfestsales@bluewaterfolk.org](mailto:thumbfestsales@bluewaterfolk.org)

More information and on-line ads are at: <http://www.bluewaterfolksociety.org/thumbfest-an-acoustic-music/thumbfest-2016/>

### Stage/Venue Sponsors Announced!

We have all the spots filled for the Stage/Venue Sponsors. Leigh Marciniak, Thumbfest Sales Director announces the Thumbfest 2016 Stage/Venue Sponsors...they are:

\*Main Harbor Stage, Lexington Business Association \*Lions Hall Parking Lot, Virginia McNabb/Town & Country Realty LLC \* Sweetwater Complex, Foley's Market \* Children's Site, Raven Café \* Simons Stage, The Imprint House \* A&W Stage, Lakeside A&W\* Lexington Brewing Co. Stage, Lexington Brewing Co. and Wine House\* Lion's Hall, Camp Cavell\*Huron Workshop 1, The Town Shoppe\*Huron Workshop 2, Butterhair\*Marina Open Mic, Chef Shell's.

**Thank you to all of our sponsor's!**

#### For Vending:

[thumbfestvendor@bluewaterfolk.org](mailto:thumbfestvendor@bluewaterfolk.org)

#### Main Thumbfest Contact: Dawn Malek at

[thumbfestdirector@bluewaterfolk.org](mailto:thumbfestdirector@bluewaterfolk.org)

#### Watch for the most recent updates and information on Thumbfest 2016 at:

[www.bluewaterfolksociety.org/thumbfest-an-acoustic-music/thumbfest-2016/](http://www.bluewaterfolksociety.org/thumbfest-an-acoustic-music/thumbfest-2016/)

Check out our Event Calendar on our website: [www.bluewaterfolk.org](http://www.bluewaterfolk.org)

### July 24th Fundraiser

to support Thumbfest 2016 featuring William Henry Russell, Still Running, Emma Guzman & Dominic McCarthy \$15 suggested donation.

Contact: Dawn at [thumbfestdirector@bluewaterfolk.org](mailto:thumbfestdirector@bluewaterfolk.org)

BLUE WATER FOLK SOCIETY  
FUNDRAISER CONCERT  
TO BENEFIT THUMB FEST 2016  
SUNDAY, JULY 24  
MCCARTHY'S LAKE HOUSE  
6121 LAKESHORE ROAD  
LEXINGTON, MI 48450  
2PM-5PM  
\$15 DONATION

William Henry Russell - 2009 Gamble Rogers Finger Picking Champion  
Still Running - roots rock, country and folk sampling both familiar and unusual  
Emma Guzman - Akademia Music Award winner for best folk singer-song-writer album  
Dominic McCarthy - fresh new talent from Austin, Texas

Outside concert on the bluff overlooking beautiful Lake Huron. Light refreshments. Bring lawn chairs and cooler of adult beverages if desired. Contact Dawn for tickets - 586.995.1974 or [thumbfestdirector@bluewaterfolk.org](mailto:thumbfestdirector@bluewaterfolk.org)

Rain venue - Trinity Episcopal Church  
5646 Main St. Lexington, Michigan 48450

**MORE BWFS member performance dates:**

**Note: Performances listed are those that the BWFS member performers submitted to:**  
[newsletter@bluewaterfolk.org](mailto:newsletter@bluewaterfolk.org)

**Friday, June 3**

6:30pm

Sanilac Consortium for the Arts Acoustic Song Circle at Bark Shanty

**Saturday, June 4**

1:00pm

Circle of Friends at the Sanilac County Humane Society Fundraiser Lexington Mini Golf

**Friday, June 10**

7:00pm

Julianne Ankley at the Lexington Village Theatre

**Saturday, June 11 & June 25**

7:00pm

Thumb Dance Club Sandusky Maple Valley School

**Friday, June 17**

9:00pm

Brothers in Arms at Murphy Inn, St. Clair

**Saturday, June 18**

7:30pm

William Henry Russell, Raven Cafe Pt. Huron

**Sunday, June 19**

10:30am

Ruby Hill at Unity of Blue Water Port Huron

12:00pm

Keith Menzies Sunday Sessions, Raven Cafe, Port Huron

**Friday, June 24**

7:00pm

Butterhair, Golden Rodent, Port Huron

**Saturday, June 25**

1:00pm

Ourselves at the Porch Fest in Port Austin

1:00pm

Circle of Friends, Porch Fest in Port Austin

7:30pm

Still Running, Raven Cafe, Port Huron

**Friday, July 1**

6:30pm

Sanilac Consortium for the Arts Acoustic Song Circle at Bark Shanty

**Thursday, July 7**

7:30pm

Julianne Ankley at the Raven Cafe in Port Huron

**Friday, July 8**

11:30am

Dean Barnett at Sandfest, Fort Gratiot Lighthouse Park, Port Huron

**Enjoy the Music!**



**BWFS Acoustic Coffeehouse Open Mic News**

The last of the Coffeehouse Open Mics of the season on March 12 had an audience of close to 100 people and full slate of performers providing a variety of music. Various ages and styles provide something new each month.

We are very fortunate to be able to use the wonderful Trinity Episcopal Church hall for our Open Mics since 2001. Their support has been invaluable. Thank You Trinity!!

Tom Schlichting was the emcee in March. The performers at the last Open Mic of this season were Emma Guzman, Blaire & Hosana, Pete Hartung, Blood Harmony Girls, Willis & Temple, Dean Barnett & Tom Schlichting, Bobby Budd, Mike Mercatante, Ourselves, Pete Hartung, Ed Dombroski, Mike Balysh, John Putt, and John Johnston. Dawn Malek, Coffeehouse Director, has done a masterful job keeping things going.

Kitchen duties were taken by Dawn & Marty Malek & Halsuia Witkowski. Set-up and sound were handled by Mike Mercatante, Randy Orchard & Tom Schlichting.

Table & room set-up and tear-down included Randy & Teresa Orchard, Michelle VandenBoom and many more that help us tear-down.

The generous donations we receive for the refreshments, both in cash and baked goods helps to keep the refreshment table full and the coffee on. Many thanks to those who brought goodies for the refreshment table.

In addition to the cash donations, you have provided many pounds of non-perishable food to Project Blessing. Thank you for all you generosity.

Special thanks to the attentive listening audience that makes our Open Mics special.

**Next Season begins October 2016** More Info: [www.bluewaterfolks.org](http://www.bluewaterfolks.org)

**Hot NEWS for VOLUNTEERS!!**

**READ BELOW...WHAT BETTER PAIRING THAN MUSIC WITH ALL THE GREAT BENEFITS VOLUNTEERING HAS FOR YOU!**

**Barbara Ernsberger sent this study to us. Study reveals volunteering makes positive impact on people's health** A study released on June 19, 2013 by UnitedHealth Group (NYSE:UNH) and the Optum Institute finds that volunteering is linked to better physical, mental and emotional health. "These findings show that the benefits of volunteering help strengthen communities and have real, measurable health benefits for the people who volunteer". Doing Good is Good for You: 2013 Health and Volunteering Study reveals that 76 percent of U.S. adults who volunteer report that volunteering has made them feel physically healthier, and 78 percent report that volunteering lowers their levels of stress, leading to feeling better than adults who do not volunteer. .... The study reveals four key benefits of volunteering that make a positive impact on people's health:

- Health: volunteers say that they feel better - physically, mentally and emotionally;
  - Stress: volunteering helps people manage and lower their stress levels;
  - Purpose: volunteers feel a deeper connection to communities and to others;
  - Engagement: volunteers are more informed health care consumers
- more on our website:**  
[www.bluewaterfolksociety.org/contacts/hot-news-for-volunteers2pg.pdf](http://www.bluewaterfolksociety.org/contacts/hot-news-for-volunteers2pg.pdf)

**A list of current Thumbfest Vendors can be found at:**

<http://www.bluewaterfolksociety.org/2016/vendors.pdf>

**A few spots are left.** Contact Barb at: [thumbfestvendor@bluewaterfolk.org](mailto:thumbfestvendor@bluewaterfolk.org)

**April Thumbfest Benefit a Success!**

Dawn Malek led the April 9<sup>th</sup> Thumbfest Benefit which was a big success with an audience of about 90 persons that raised over \$1200 for Thumbfest 2016.

Mike Mercatante was the emcee, Ruth & Marty Habalewsky worked the front table, Halsuia Witkowski, Marty Malek worked the kitchen with Randy & Teresa Orchard, John Broadwell, Tom Schlichting and others helping with the set-up. Randy Louks was the sound person.

The audience really enjoyed the fine guitar work of *Dan Hazlett*, the ever popular *Mary Foley* and the exciting *The Whistle Stop Revue*.



Dan Hazlett



Mary Foley



Whistle Stop Revue



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.bluewaterfolk.org](http://www.bluewaterfolk.org)  
[www.thumbfest.org](http://www.thumbfest.org)

**Facebook:**

[www.facebook.com/thumbfest](http://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](mailto:membership@bluewaterfolk.org)

248-766-6898

**Coffeehouse Director**

Contact: Dawn Malek

[coffeehouse@bluewaterfolk.org](mailto:coffeehouse@bluewaterfolk.org)

586-995-1974

**Newsletter editor:**

Shirley Barnett

*We welcome your suggestions,  
pictures and submissions.*

**Send your information to**

[newsletter@bluewaterfolk.org](mailto: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](http://www.bluewaterfolksociety.org)

**by sending the information to:  
[newsletter@bluewaterfolk.org](mailto:newsletter@bluewaterfolk.org)**

**Special thanks to**

**Trinity Episcopal Church for  
their support 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 Habalewsky ....President	<a href="mailto:president@bluewaterfolk.org">president@bluewaterfolk.org</a>	term expires 2016 election
Jerry Huff .....Treasurer	<a href="mailto:treasurer@bluewaterfolk.org">treasurer@bluewaterfolk.org</a>	term expires 2016 election
Barbara Ernsberger...Secretary	<a href="mailto:secretary@bluewaterfolk.org">secretary@bluewaterfolk.org</a>	term expires 2017 election
Marty Malek ..Trustee	<a href="mailto:marty@bluewaterfolk.org">marty@bluewaterfolk.org</a>	term expires 2018 election
Dale George ....Trustee	<a href="mailto:dale@bluewaterfolk.org">dale@bluewaterfolk.org</a>	term expires 2017 election
Shirley Barnett .....Trustee	<a href="mailto:shirley@bluewaterfolk.org">shirley@bluewaterfolk.org</a>	term expires 2018 election
Tom Schlichting .....Trustee	<a href="mailto:tom@bluewaterfolk.org">tom@bluewaterfolk.org</a>	term expires 2018 election
<b>Entire Board email: <a href="mailto:board@bluewaterfolk.org">board@bluewaterfolk.org</a></b>		<b>Main Contact Phone Number: 810-300-2388</b>



John Jackson      Tom Schlichting & Dean Barnett      Willis Girls      Mike Mercatante



Pete Hartung      Bobby Budd      Blaire & Hosana      Mike Balysh      Ed Dombrowski



Willis & Temple      Ourselves      Emma Guzman      John Putt      Detroit John

### Thumbfest 2016 & Guitars for Kids Contacts:

**Main Contact:** Dawn Malek - Thumbfest Director [thumbfestdirector@bluewaterfolk.org](mailto:thumbfestdirector@bluewaterfolk.org)  
 Mike Mercatante - Artistic Director [thumbfestbooking@bluewaterfolk.org](mailto:thumbfestbooking@bluewaterfolk.org)  
 Jenna Reed - Publicity Director with Bea Castillo [thumbfestpublicity@bluewaterfolk.org](mailto:thumbfestpublicity@bluewaterfolk.org)  
 Leigh Marciniak - Sales Director [thumbfestsales@bluewaterfolk.org](mailto:thumbfestsales@bluewaterfolk.org)  
 Mike McCarthy & Carol Roberts - Fund Development Directors [thumbfestfund@bluewaterfolk.org](mailto:thumbfestfund@bluewaterfolk.org)  
 Barbara Ernsberger - Volunteer Director [thumbfestvolunteer@bluewaterfolk.org](mailto:thumbfestvolunteer@bluewaterfolk.org)  
 Barbara Ernsberger & Dawn Malek - Vendor Directors [thumbfestvendor@bluewaterfolk.org](mailto:thumbfestvendor@bluewaterfolk.org)  
 Marty Malek - Site Director with Ginny McNabb [thumbfestsite@bluewaterfolk.org](mailto:thumbfestsite@bluewaterfolk.org)  
 Halusia Witkowski - Children's Area Director [thumbfestchildren@bluewaterfolk.org](mailto:thumbfestchildren@bluewaterfolk.org)  
 Shirley Barnett - Guitars for Kids Director [guitarforkids@bluewaterfolk.org](mailto:guitarforkids@bluewaterfolk.org)

**Donations are always welcome!** You can donate by sending a check to the

Blue Water Folk Society; P.O. Box 83; Lexington, Mi. 48450. Please make the check to the Blue Water Folk Society but note on the check purpose of the donation. A donation form can be found at: <http://www.bluewaterfolksociety.org/contacts/donations.pdf>