



## Blue Water Folk Notes

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### BWFS Coffeehouse Open Mic Begins Oct. 11



Hootenanny ending at February 2014 Open Mic  
**It's Coffeehouse Open Mic season again.**  
 Mark your calendars for October 11! Come sign up to play, or come to listen!

The Coffeehouse Open Mic runs from 7pm to 10pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month from October to March each season.

We are very fortunate to be able to use the wonderful Trinity Episcopal Church hall at 5646 Main St., Lexington, Mi. for our Open Mics since 2001. Their support has been invaluable. Thank You Trinity!! A map can be found at: [www.trinitylexington.com/](http://www.trinitylexington.com/)

Sign-up begins at 6:15 pm and goes until all slots are filled. Solo performers are allowed 2 songs with a limit of 10 minutes while band performances are allowed 3 songs with a limit of 15 minutes.

The Coffeehouses have been a huge success with 60 to 130 persons in the respectful listening audience with between 8 to 17 performances each night.

The Emcee for the month will determine the order of performance. If there are more

performers than slots, the emcee may ask performers to cut the time of their act so we can accommodate as many performers as possible.

The emcee for October is Shirley Barnett with Carol Roberts emcee for November. Soundman in October is Tom Schlichting.

Refreshments are provided for a donation. Consider bringing a nonperishable food item to support Project Blessing!

A 50/50 raffle will be run by Ruth Habalewsky for the benefit of Thumbfest.

This is also a reminder that the Open Mic Coffeehouse is an all-volunteer run event. And it takes a LOT of folks to make this happen! Can you help out?

We are currently looking for a few strong guys to help set up/tear down chairs, move tables etc. Set up happens at 5:45pm. Tear down is immediately after the Coffeehouse. We also need two people to help out in the kitchen making coffee, serving and cleaning up afterwards.

If you can help out please let me know ASAP! Dawn Malek, Coffeehouse Director at 586.995-1974 or [dawnmalek@comcast.net](mailto:dawnmalek@comcast.net)

Come join us for the music!

### Save these dates:

#### Blue Water Folk Society Traditional Acoustic Coffeehouse Open Mic

2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. October to March  
 7 to 10 pm.....sign-up 6:15 pm  
 Trinity Episcopal Church  
 Lexington, Mi.

Oct. 11, Nov. 8, Dec. 13,  
 Jan. 10, Feb. 14 & March 14  
 Watch for details via email or  
<http://www.bluewaterfolksociety.org/>

#### BWFS/ Lexington Brewing Co. Open Mic Saturday, October 25 8-11pm Stella & the Hot Kielbasas

Lexington Brewing Company  
 and Wine House  
 Lexington, Mi. 48450  
 Check for more dates:  
[www.lexingtonbrewery.com](http://www.lexingtonbrewery.com)

#### Volunteer Appreciation Night

Saturday, November 8  
 5:30pm supper before Open Mic  
 Trinity Episcopal Church  
 Contact: mail to:  
[rhablewsky@comcast.net](mailto:rhablewsky@comcast.net)

#### Thumbfest 2015 Planning Meeting

Saturday, November 15  
 10:00 am to 12:00 pm  
 Habalewsky home at:  
 2848 Monticello, Pt. Huron, Mi.  
 810-300-2388 for info

[www.bluewaterfolksociety.org](http://www.bluewaterfolksociety.org)  
[www.thumbfest.org](http://www.thumbfest.org)  
[www.facebook.com/thumbfest](https://www.facebook.com/thumbfest)

### 'Guitar for Kids' Winner for Thumbfest 2014

Thanks to a donation of a guitar from Craig Carrick and the NorEast'r Music and Art Festival, Thumbfest has begun a 'Guitar for Kids' giveaway. It is hoped that we can expand on the program next year although plans have not been developed yet. The object of the program is to interest young persons in playing and performing music.

The applicants had to fill out a questionnaire which was then reviewed by a group of musicians to select the winning applicant. It was very hard to select a winner, with many fine applicants.

We would like to thank Al Lewandowski, Dean Barnett and David Youngman for taking time out to help review the applications. We had 24 applicants that ranged from 7 to 17 years old that expressed a wide variety of interest in music.

Our selected winner was Gwendolyn Cox, 15 years old of Port Huron, Michigan.

Gwendolyn stated during her application process, that she needed a better guitar and hoped to teach her younger sister how to play guitar on her older 'beat-up' guitar.

Gwendolyn expressed a strong interest in music and performing on her application.

Perhaps someday we will see her perform at our Coffeehouse Open Mic.



Gwendolyn Cox is the girl in purple with the hat.

Photo is by Amanda Marcotte.

More photos of Thumbfest will be on

[www.bluewaterfolksociety.org](http://www.bluewaterfolksociety.org)

Photos are also available in the Times Herald gallery.

[www.themesherald.com](http://www.themesherald.com)

**BWFS member performance  
dates to consider:****More details at:**[http://www.bluewaterfolksociety.org/  
bwfs-event-calendar.html](http://www.bluewaterfolksociety.org/bwfs-event-calendar.html)**Friday, October 10**

7:00pm

**Still Running** at Lexington Brewing

8:00pm

**Double Play** at Garfields**Saturday, October 11**

10:00am

**Emilie and Andrew** at the Harvest Music Festival

7:00pm

**BWFS Acoustic Open Mic Coffeehouse**

7:00pm

**Denny Dwyer with Butter Hair** Lexington Brewery & Winery

7:30pm

**Dead Monroes** at the Raven Cafe**Wednesdays, October 15, 22, 29**

5:00pm

**William Henry Russell** at Juan Miquels, Clinton Twp.**Thursdays, October 16, 23, 30**

6:00pm

**William Henry Russell** at Joe Bologna Trattoria, Sterling Hgts.**Fridays, October 17, 24 & 31**

8:00pm

**Double Play** at Garfields**Sunday, October 19**

10:30am

Ruby Hill at Unity

**Saturday, October 18**

7:00pm

**Denny Dwyer** at the Moose Lodge

8:00pm

**Whistle Stop Revue** at the Lexington Brewing Co.**Saturday, October 25**

7:30pm

**Still Running** at the Raven Café

8:00pm

**Stella and the Kielbasas Open Mic** at the Lexington Brewing Co.**Sunday, October 26**

2:00pm

**Dean Barnett** at Vantage Point**Saturday, November 1**

7:00pm

**Denny Dwyer** at the Lexington Brewing**Wednesdays, November 5, 12, 19 & 26**

5:00pm

**William Henry Russell** at Juan Miquels**Thursdays, November 6, 13, 20 & 27**

6:00pm

**William Henry Russell** at Joe Bologna Trattoria**Fridays, November 7, 14, 21, 28**8:00pm **Double Play** at Garfields**Saturday, November 8**

7:00pm

**Denny Dwyer** at the Moose Lodge

7:00pm

**BWFS Acoustic Open Mic Coffeehouse**

7:30pm

**Dead Monroes** at the Raven Cafe**Thumbfest 2014 Thoughts** by Mike Mercatante

It's been a few weeks since Thumbfest 2014 and I think we at the Bluewater Folk Society are all beginning to recover from that wonderful event. What a great day it was! Even the rain held off until after the festival was over.

Thousands of people from all over the state gathered in Lexington, Michigan on August 30 to listen to 54 different performers and participate in jams and workshops and the open mic. This may have been our most successful festival to date. A huge thank you to all the folks of the Bluewater Folk Society who helped organize this event, the volunteers outside our organization who contributed an hour or so of their time to lend a hand, and lastly, to the very generous donations from hundreds of Thumbfest fans who will help make another festival possible. It does take a village to put on a great festival and I'm thrilled to be part of this ever growing Thumbfest family.

Let me share with you some of my favorite Thumbfest 2014 moments:

Watching it all come together. The smiles on everyone's faces as I travelled through town. Performing to a great crowd at the Irish Rose Stage. Hosting the open mic and listening to some really good young performers and a surprise solo mini-set from one of the headliners. Watching all the other great performers and thanking the stars for such talent and our superb soundmen who made them sound so good. Talking musical shop with many of the performers. The musicians from different groups jamming with each other or lending a guest harmony. Spontaneous street jams. Children and older

folks dancing. The wonderful variety of dogs being walked through town. Driving a golf cart for the first time and listening to the laughter of the two women that I gave a courtesy lift to a faraway stage as we swerved and jerked our way there. Volunteers smiling and asking what else they could do. Watching a whole crowd help find a couple of wandering children after we announced it on stage and then seeing the relief on the mother's face when they were found. The kindness and patience of the Lexington policeman who notified me that some cars were illegally parked and then waited around telling me he really didn't want to ruin anyone's day. Spectators voluntarily picking up trash when asked so the park looked great at the end of the night. The Hootenanny at the end where once a year I get to jam with some great players. The feel of the warm rain on me at the end of the night and the relief that it held off until after the festival was over and everything was packed. The after festival jam and the absolutely delicious cold wine I had at the Lexington Brewing Company where I felt like I could finally let go of the day. And lastly, going to bed at 1:30 a.m. and with a wonderful sense of being part of a great community. Sleeping in the next morning.

Bring on Thumbfest 2015! I hope you'll join us. Contact: [mmercatant@aol.com](mailto:mmercatant@aol.com)

**Pictures of Thumbfest 2014**

By Amanda Marcotte

100s of Pictures are available for purchase at:

[http://www.amandolinphoto.com/Music/  
Thumbfest-2014](http://www.amandolinphoto.com/Music/Thumbfest-2014)

Some samples of the pictures are below



**MORE BWFS member performance dates:**

- Sunday, November 9**  
2:00pm  
Rocky Top at the Maritime Center  
3:00pm  
Phil Larson & Dale George
- Friday, November 14**  
7:00pm  
Still Running at Lexington Brewing
- Saturday, November 15**  
8:00pm  
Whistle Stop Revue at Lexington Brewing
- Sunday, November 16**  
10:30am  
Ruby Hill at Unity
- Saturday, November 29**  
7:30pm  
Still Running at the Raven  
8:00pm  
Stella and the Kielbasas Open Mic at the Lexington Brewing Co.
- Wednesdays, December 3, 10, 17**  
5:00pm  
William Henry Russell at Juan Miquels
- Thursdays, December 4, 11, 18**  
6:00pm  
William Henry Russell at Joe Bologna Trattoria
- Friday, December 12**  
7:00pm  
Still Running at Lexington Brewing
- Saturday, December 13**  
7:00pm  
BWFS Acoustic Open Mic Coffeehouse  
7:30pm  
Dead Monroes at the Raven Café
- Sunday, December 14**  
2:00pm  
Rocky Top at the Maritime Center
- Saturday, December 20**  
8:00pm  
Whistle Stop Revue at Lexington Brewing
- Sunday, December 21**  
10:30am  
Ruby Hill at Unity
- Saturday, December 27**  
7:30pm  
Still Running at the Raven  
8:00pm  
Stella and the Kielbasas Open Mic at the Lexington Brewing Co.

**MORE DETAILS AT:**

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

**Open Mic at Palmer Park / Port Huron Rec. Department**

1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month from October thru April from 7pm to 10pm Light Refreshments available. Join in or just sit and listen. [dtgeorge1@aol.com](mailto:dtgeorge1@aol.com)

**Sanilac County Museum Concerts**

are being booked by Tom Schlichting  
1<sup>st</sup> one: Matt Watroba on Sunday, Oct. 11  
[tomschlichting@hotmail.com](mailto:tomschlichting@hotmail.com) for info

Support our BWFS musicians by attending their performances!

*Let's Hear It For the Volunteers...Ruth Habalewsky*

Thumbfest was a fun event! I had a great time, and I hope that you did too! The BWFS wishes A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO EVERY VOLUNTEER!!! Thumbfest could not have happened without you!

The many volunteer hands made the work lighter.

**The following individuals volunteered at Thumbfest:**

Sue Amato	Brooke Geck	Phil Larson	Edna Poole
Vic Amato	Juliet Geck	Al Lewandowski	Jenna Reed
Pat Anderson	Theresa Geck	Randy Louks	Carol Roberts
Ron Anderson	Dale George	Dawn Malek	Tim Sample
Dean Barnett	Marty Habalewsky	Marty Malek	Tom Schlichting
Shirley Barnett	Ruth Habalewsky	Leigh Marciniak	Mark Smith
David Bennis	Pat Harrison	Paul Maxwell	Kit Sawdon
Mary Bruce	Betty Harvey	Nora McCanna	Claire Spencer
Matt Buffa	Anne Howard	Ginny McNabb	Iris Spencer
Pat Cutler	Brittany Howard	Ron McPhail	Mary Spencer
Bea Castillo	Jeane Houston	Mike Mercatante	Racher Steerzer
Ed Dombrowski	Jerry Huff	Catherine Merritt	Kathe Stevens
Sue Dombrowski	Carl Kammer	Emily Merritt	B.J. Swarts
Barbara Ernsberger	Mel Kichoff	Elizabeth Merritt	Frank Swarts
Dean Ernsberger	Dennis Kingsbury	Chris Noetzel	Karen Vandale
Jack Ferguson	Joe Kopf	Randy Orchard	Al VanderGraff
	Kent Krueger	Theresa Orchard	Jim Williams

*In appreciation for all Blue Water Folk Society volunteers, there will be a Volunteer Appreciation November 8<sup>th</sup> Coffeehouse Open Mic. All volunteers are invited to participate. The event will begin at 5:30 pm in the Trinity Episcopal Church Hall, Lexington Michigan.*

*Prior to the November Coffeehouse a light meal will be served.*

We look forward to your presence! Please RSVP by November 4<sup>th</sup> to [rhabalewsky@comcast.net](mailto:rhabalewsky@comcast.net) or call 810-300-2388.

**Let's Continue to Thank our Advertisers & Sponsors**

**Sponsors:** Village of Lexington D.D.A.; Town & Country Realty and the Lexington Brewing Co. and Wine House

**Advertisers:** Angel's Garden; Irish Rose Gift, Woolen & Travel Shoppe; The Town Shoppe; Foley's Market; The Celtic Ray Public House; Lexington Dairy Queen; Wimpy's Place; Chef Shell's Catering and Restaurant; Steis's Village Inn; Bunny's Frozen Custard; Premier Properties; Lynch's Irish Tavern; Captain's Quarters Inn; Martin J. Habalewsky, APR; Raven Café; Talmer Bank; Blue Gryphon Service, Inc.; The Windjammer Restaurant; Eastern Michigan Bank; Eastern Shore Brewing Supplies; Lexington Brewing Co. & Wine House.

**Main Stage Sponsor:** Noble

**Other venues:** Virginia McNabb, Realtor Stage; Celtic Ray Jam Site; Irish Rose Stage; Lakeside A & W Stage; Mel & Jeannine Kirchoff Stage; Lexington Brewing Co. & Wine House Stage; Oldford Marina Open Mic Stage; A-1 Mini Dumpster Workshop; Raven Cafe Workshop and Cadillac House Restaurant Stage.

**Many thanks to our venue site owners:** The Village of Lexington, Lakeside A&W, the Stencil family, Oldford Marina, Lion's Club, Lexington Brewing Co. & Wine House and the Harborview Plaza

**Interested in an Ad or Sponsorship for 2015?**

Show your interest **NOW!**

Send an email to:

[barnettsjmd@gmail.com](mailto:barnettsjmd@gmail.com)



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.bluewaterfolksociety.org](http://www.bluewaterfolksociety.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:  
Shirley Barnett  
1809 Caughill  
Columbus, Mi. 48063  
[barnettsjmd@gmail.com](mailto:barnettsjmd@gmail.com)  
586-727-5197

### Coffeehouse Director

Contact: Dawn Malek  
[dawnmalek@comcast.net](mailto:dawnmalek@comcast.net)  
586-995-1974

### Newsletter editor:

Shirley Barnett

*We welcome your suggestions,  
pictures and submissions.*

*Send your information to*  
[barnettsjmd@gmail.com](mailto:barnettsjmd@gmail.com)

### Did you know??

The **Blue Water Folk Society**  
is a 501c3 volunteer nonprofit

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

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

*Make all checks payable to  
Blue Water Folk Society*

**Be part of  
Thumbfest 2015**

## BWFS Current Board Members

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

Mike Mercatante ....President	<a href="mailto:mmercant@aol.com">mmercant@aol.com</a>	term expires 2015 election
Jerry Huff .....Treasurer	<a href="mailto:jlhuff221@yahoo.com">jlhuff221@yahoo.com</a>	term expires 2016 election
Ruth Habalewsky.. Secretary	<a href="mailto:rhablewsky@comcast.net">rhablewsky@comcast.net</a>	term expires 2016 election
Barbara Ernsberger..Trustee	<a href="mailto:barbaraernsberger@sbcglobal.net">barbaraernsberger@sbcglobal.net</a>	term expires 2017 election
Dale George ....Trustee	<a href="mailto:dtgeorge1@aol.com">dtgeorge1@aol.com</a>	term expires 2017 election

### Some interesting links of BWFS member venues with BWFS Performers

Lexington Brewing Co. and Wine House... <http://www.lexingtonbrewery.com/>  
Raven Café ... <http://www.ravencafehp.com/>  
For links to BWFS musicians... <http://www.bluewaterfolksociety.org/links.html>

### Some pictures from Thumbfest 2014...submitted and Times Herald



Stage set-up with the Lost Cuzzins, Floyd King, Elizabeth Merritt & Terry Nolan before the 1<sup>st</sup> performance at 11 am on Saturday



Frank & BJ Swarts helping with Friday set-up at the Information table



Mustard's Retreat...one of the favorites of the Thumbfest crowd



First act on the Irish Rose Stage..Floyd King with the Lost Cuzzins



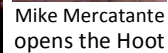
Times Herald Jeffrey Smith photo Jen Sygit, Stella member



Last act ... The Luddites at the end of the night...Amanda Marcotte picture



Brittany Howard facepainting



Mike Mercatante opens the Hoot



Brian Wood and the Troubadads on the Virginia McNabb Stage



Tear-down crew Sunday after Thumbfest



The Chef .. Floyd King aka Dennis Kingsbury

**Have  
you  
thought  
about  
joining  
us?**

**More Photos of Thumbfest can be found at our website:**  
<http://www.bluewaterfolksociety.org/thumbfest-2014/>  
Submit photos to: [barnettsjmd@gmail.com](mailto:barnettsjmd@gmail.com)