



Blue Water Folk Notes

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Who performed at Thumbfest 2016?

Performers in **BLUE** are **Blue Water Folk Society Members & underlined have links to websites or Facebook.**

Red Sea Pedstrians, Jo Serrapere and the Willie Dunns,, Dragon Wagon, Stella!, The Luddites, Nicky Boy Street Band, Raisin Pickers, Creole du Nord, Lorelei, Maggie McCabe and Gerard Smith, Julianne Ankley and Michelle Chenard, Whistle Stop Revue, Finvarra's Wren, Matt Watroba, Mustard's Retreat, Annie and Rod Capps, Al Young and the Straight 8s, Jan Krist and Jim Bizer, Floyd King and the Bushwackers, Carl Henry, Taller Than They Appear, Billy Brandt & Dave Falk, Ruby Hill, Judy Insley & Dave Falk, Luti Erbeznik, Yellow Room Gang, Lost Cuzzins, Ourselves, Circle of Friends, Floyd BuckRooster King, Denny Dwyer, Campfire Campadres, Still Running, Blood Harmony, Tritone Paradox, Waynewood Boys, Mary Foley, Maggie Ferguson, William Henry Russell, Black River Bluegrass Boys, John Broadwell, Mike Salowitz and David Blaine, Emma Guzman, Lonesome Whistle, Martin Kohn, Pine River Legacy Band, Banjo Jim and Ricky, Emilie and Andrew, Phil and Marsha Larson, School of Strings, Heritage String Band, Butterhair, Bobby Budd, Mike and Ande McCarthy, Bea Castillo & Friends (Camp Sing-a-longs), Bea Castillo (Folk Dancing), Ed Dombrowski, Dan Hazlett, Andy Mather, Tom McGovern, Tom Ciul, AnnMarie Krause, Balloonatic, Laura Kenning

Find more info at:
www.bluewaterfolk.org

A Note from the President

Greetings BWFS Members!

I have just a few things to pass along that you should take note of! The first is that the Board of Directors has worked hard on revamping the bylaws to bring them up to date and make them more readable to everyone. In October you will be receiving a copy of the new bylaws via Survey Monkey and will be asked to vote on them. Your vote counts...so please don't forget to vote!

Second item is that volunteers are needed to help out at each coffeehouse. We need folks to help set up, break down, make coffee, set out the refreshments, general kitchen help and man the "greeting" table. Shop at Amazon??? Most of us do this day so take advantage of a painless way to donate to BWFS by using Amazon Smile when you shop and select Blue Water Folk Society as your donation preference. Go to Amazon and search for Amazon Smile. Its easy peasy from there....and there is NO cost to you!!!!

Our Volunteer Appreciation Dinner will take place at the November Coffeehouse! We will begin at about 5:30 pm. Please join us as we extend our thanks to YOU for helping out to make Blue Water Folk Society work! It would be great if we knew approximately how many folks will be joining us. If you could send me an email at secbwfs@gmail.com by Monday, November 7th it would be great. See you there!!!

One final note. If you have any suggestions or concerns about anything BWFS please feel free to contact me via email at secbwfs@gmail.com.

Looking forward to another great year of our Coffeehouse and Open Mic!

Happy Humming!

Barbara Ernsberger

BWFS Board Chairperson

BWFS Acoustic Coffeehouse Open Mic Begins October 8

It's Coffeehouse season again! Join us for a great evening of live music on the second Saturday of each month, October – March, from 7-10pm at Trinity Episcopal Church 5646 Main St, Lexington, Mi. 48450. The first night of the Blue Water Folk Society Acoustic Coffeehouse Open Mic is Saturday, October 8, 2016.

Admission is FREE!

Donations are welcome.

Refreshments provided.

50/50 raffle to benefit Blue Water Folk Society.

Bring a non-perishable food item for Project Blessing.

Performers - Sign up begins at 6:15pm (but no earlier) so please arrive early to avoid being left off the schedule.

Audience members - Please arrive early. It's possible we could fill all available seats and not have room for those arriving too late.

All - Remember that we will always happily accept your contributions to our refreshment table!

We are always looking for volunteers to help with set up/tear down and to work in the kitchen. Contact Dawn Malek, Coffeehouse Director at coffeehouse@bluewaterfolk.org

More information is at:

<http://www.bluewaterfolksociety.org/>

How do we use your donations?

You may not be aware that the Blue Water Folk Society, a 501c3 non-profit pays for everything for the Thumbfest out of the money we raise. Our goal is \$20,000 per Thumbfest.

We pay for the performers, sound, rental of stages, hall, tents, tables, chairs, porta-johns, golf carts, and the shuttle, program, signs, posters, set-up items, ice, water, advertising, Guitar for Kids program, shirts, buttons, etc.

We do all of this so we can bring you a quality, no admission, all-day, family friendly live acoustic music festival to the thumb of Michigan. *Without your help, there would be NO Thumbfest.*

You can always donate by sending a check made out to the **Blue Water Folk Society** to: **BWFS, P.O. Box 83, Lexington, Mi. 48450** The donations are used to support all of our projects including Thumbfest, our Acoustic Coffeehouse Open Mic, Guitars for Kids and various other expenses.

BWFS member performance dates to consider:

More details can be found at:
<http://www.bluewaterfolksociety.org/bwfs-event-calendar.html>

Saturday, October 8
 7:00pm Thumb Dance Club Maple Valley School, Sandusky

7:00pm BWFS Acoustic Coffeehouse Open Mic at Trinity Episcopal Church
 7:00pm Tritone Paradox at Governor's Quarters in Bay City, Mi.

Wednesday, October 12, 19, 26
 5:00pm William Henry Russell at Juan Miquel's Clinton Twp.

Thursday, October 13
 10:00am Julianne Ankley at Mackinac Island Songwriter Workshop

Friday, October 14
 10:00am Julianne Ankley at Mackinac Island Songwriter Workshop
 7:00pm ButterHair at the Gold Rodent, Port Huron

8:00pm Dean Barnett at Live, from the Living Room, Lake Orion
 9:00pm William Henry Russell at Dessert Oasis, Rochester

Saturday, October 15
 10:00am Julianne Ankley at Mackinac Island Songwriter Workshop
 12:00pm Dynasty the Band at Past Tense Cider Mill, Lapeer
 7:30pm William Henry Russell, Raven Cafe, Port Huron

Sunday, October 16
 10:00am Julianne Ankley at Mackinac Island Songwriter Workshop
 12:00pm Keith Menzies Sunday Sessions at the Raven Cafe

Saturday, October 22
 7:00pm Thumb Dance Club Maple Valley School., Sandusky

Sunday, October 23
 8:45am & 10:15am William Henry Russell, First Congregational Church, New Baltimore

12:00pm Dynasty the Band at Past Tense Cider Mill, Lapeer
 4:00pm Dan Hazlett at River's Edge Brewing Co. Milford

Wednesday, November 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
 5:00pm William Henry Russell at Juan Miquel's Clinton Twp.

Fri., November 4 & Sat., November 5
 10am - 5pm Thumb Fiber Festival at Historical Museum & Village Port Sanilac

Monday, November 7
 7:00pm Tritone Paradox at Starkweather Arts Center Romeo, Mi.

Thursday, November 10
 7:30pm Julianne Ankley Raven Cafe, Pt. Huron

Guitars for Kids Winners at Thumbfest 2016



Tuning time and information from parents



Bill Russell, Emma Guzman, Gordon MacDonald & Luti Erbeznik judging applications..Lucy standing guard.

The Blue Water Folk Society Guitars for Kids Giveaway at Thumbfest 2016 had a total of 64 applications for the six guitars and one ukulele. Applications were accepted from youth that were 8 years to 17 years old.

Each application was judged by up to 12 musicians of varying backgrounds depending on when the youth turned their application into the judges. It was very hard to pick just 7 winners from the applications. The ukulele was a very popular instrument this year.

The following youth received a Yamaha Guitar Package:

- Katherine Bissett 16 yrs. from Sandusky, Michigan
- Adam Meskouri 12 yrs. from Bloomfield, Michigan
- Hannah MacDonald 14 yrs. from Yale, Michigan
- Lisa Misuraca 16 yrs. from New Hudson, Michigan
- Sarah Hartwell 12 yrs. from Grand Blanc, Michigan

The winner of the 3/4 size Yamaha Guitar Package was:

- Xhiko 10 yrs. from Dearborn, Michigan

The winner of the Ukulele Package was:

- Lucas Daunt 12 yrs. from Davison, Michigan

In addition to the instrument package, the winners will receive a certificate for up to three music lessons at their local music store.

The musicians that helped to interview, judge the applications and/or help with the tuning and unpacking were: Mike Salowitz, Ricky Novak, Banjo Jim, Bobby Pennock, Dean Barnett, William Henry Russell, Gordon MacDonald, Emma Guzman, Luti Erbeznik, B.J. Swarts, Marty Kohn, Dan Hazlett and Judy Insley. Each of the volunteer musicians gave as much time as they could between their other obligations. Mike Salowitz spent almost the entire day at the booth.

The guitars and ukulele were supplied with the support of the Blue Water Folk Society and donors Albert Julius, Dennis & Leigh Marciniak, Randy & Teresa Orchard, Dean & Shirley Barnett, Alan & Penny Phillips, Marie Davis, Bill and Adele Russell, the Black River Blue Grass Boys in memory of Tim Brown and the NorEast'r Art & Music Festival via Craig Carrick. The Guitars for Kids Tent Sponsor was the Sanilac Consortium for the Arts. Special thanks to volunteers B.J. Swarts, Frank Swarts, Catherine Merritt, Theresa Geck, Elizabeth Merritt, Randy Orchard, Teresa Orchard who were such a big help to this volunteer. Submitted by Shirley Barnett, Guitars for Kids Director for 2016

The Guitar for Kids program began with Craig Carrick of the NorEast'r Music and Art Festival in Mio, Michigan. Contact: barnettsjmd@gmail.com



Winner Xhio with Dennis Marciniak a guitar donor



Banjo Jim interviewing an applicant



Bill Russell & Ricky Novak interviewing several applicants



Dean Barnett helping to tune & unpack a guitar

Become a part of Guitars for Kids in 2017! Watch for announcements!

MORE BWFS member performance dates:

Note: Performances listed are those that the BWFS member performer submitted to:
barnettsjmd@gmail.com

Friday, November 11

9:00pm William Henry Russell at Dessert Oasis, Rochester

Saturday, November 12

4:00pm William Henry Russell at St. John Lutheran School, Port Hope

6:30pm Ankley & Chenard at Lone Oak Vineyard Estate, Grass Lake

7:00pm Thumb Dance Club Maple Valley School, Sandusky

7:00pm BWFS Acoustic Coffeehouse**Open Mic at Trinity Episcopal Church****Sunday, November 13**

3:00pm Ourselves at the Gales of November Concert at Historical Museum and Village, Port Sanilac

Wednesday, November 16

8:00pm Dan Hazlett in a Benefit Concert at Trinity House Theater

Friday, November 18

7:30pm Julianne Ankley at Harsens Island Brewery, Marysville, Mi.

Saturday, November 19

7:00pm Dan Hazlett opening at MAMAS Coffeehouse, Bloomfield Hills

7:30pm William Henry Russell, Raven Cafe, Port Huron

Sunday, November 20

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

Saturday, November 26

7:00pm Thumb Dance Club Maple Valley School, Sandusky

9:00pm Dynasty the Band at the Lexington Pub and Theater

Monday, November 28

7:00pm Julianne Ankley at Women's Advent Tea, Marysville

Thursday, December 1

7:30pm Julianne Ankley at the Raven Cafe

Friday, December 2

7:00pm Dan Hazlett at the Jackson Coffee Co. in Jackson, Mi.

7:00pm Richmond Community Choir, Richmond, Mi.

Saturday, December 3

7:00pm William Henry Russell at Starkweather, Romeo

8:30pm Dan Hazlett at the Crazy Wisdom Tea Room, Ann Arbor, Mi.

Sunday, December 4

2:00pm Richmond Community Choir, Richmond, Mi.

6:00pm Dan Hazlett hosts the Trinity House Empty Chair Show, Livonia, Mi.

Monday, December 5

7:00pm William Henry Russell, MacDonald Public Library, New Baltimore

Thumbfest Thanks!

Well, another Thumbfest has been put to bed and what a great festival it was! As festival director I'd like to send out a big thank you and sincere appreciation to:

- Everyone who attended the festival and who generously contributed money at Thumbfest and throughout the year, with which NONE of this would be possible
- The 50+ volunteers who organized and sacrificed their time for something this cool, including and especially the Thumbfest Committee members who worked tirelessly for 9+ months; Mike Mercatante, Jenna Reed, Barbara Ernsberger, Leigh Marciniak, Marty Malek, Halusia Witkowski, Bea Castillo, Carol Roberts and Mike McCarthy.
- The Blue Water Folk Society Board of Directors for their support and guidance.
- All the great musicians/workshop presenters that shared their talent and knowledge
- The awesome sound people
- The entire Village of Lexington for embracing us every year, including the Lexington Police Dept.
- Our sponsors and advertisers for their support

The Times-Herald, Voice Newspaper, Sanilac County News, the Jeffersonian, WPHM and Paul Miller, WGRT and Cathie Martin, Channel 6 and Focus with Paul Dingemann, Spotlight with Terry Harrington on ebw.TV, and any other media outlet that ran a story about us. Your support is invaluable.

The vendors who add such a wonderful energy and color to our festival Steis's Village Inn for their generous donation of pizza to feed our volunteers

The gods of good weather that shined their awesome light on our festival!

Amanda Marcotte, who once again spent the entire day until midnight photographing the festival.

April Fox for the cool graphic design of the program, t-shirt, and other Thumbfest material Everyone who helped make the activities in the Children's Area the best yet

Guitar for Kids for helping promote music to our next generation

Sanilac County Community Foundation for their generous grant to support the Children's Area, as well as other areas throughout the festival.

However you contributed, I thank you for your participation. We absolutely could not put this festival on without you!

This is also a good time for me to remind you all that Thumbfest is a FREE event only because of our dedicated ALL-volunteer workforce, donations from the community, and numerous fundraisers held throughout the year.

If you haven't yet had the opportunity to make a donation to support the festival, it's not too late. Please visit our website and click "Donate Now".

<http://www.bluewaterfolksociety.org/>

Best, Dawn Malek, Thumbfest Festival Director

Over 20 Blue Water Folk Society (BWFS) Members joined or renewed their memberships at Thumbfest. We now have 132 BWFS Members. We periodically want and need your feedback as members, with the next important opportunity being the acceptance of the recent rewrite of the BWFS By-laws. Look for further information that will be sent to you in an email or mailing. I guarantee that this voting will be much easier than the voting you'll be doing in the National election.
 Leigh Marciniak, Membership

Other Open Mics/Jams/Opportunities

Sanilac Consortium for the Arts Acoustic Song Circle at Bark Shanty, Port Sanilac on 1st Friday of the month. 810-622-9716 for information

Lake Bonisteel Music Association Activities contact Jeff Baron

jbaronjbaron@yahoo.com

Free Guitar Lessons at Trinity Episcopal Church on Tuesdays, 4:30-5:30pm Classes began Sept. 13 and end Nov. 1. Contact:

Gordon MacDonald; 810-327-6937

gjmacdonald@comcast.net

Come Join Us!!

We need your yearly support by joining the Blue Water Folk Society.

Individual membership is just \$10 and runs through June 30, 2017. You can renew or join the BWFS at our next Open Mic

Coffeehouse, or send a check to:

Blue Water Folk Society Attn:Membership

P.O. Box 83, Lexington, MI 48450.

Please include your phone number, email and mailing addresses.

Please make all checks payable to:

Blue Water Folk Society

OR you can now join online at:

<http://www.bluewaterfolksociety.org/donate->



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
www.thumbfest.org

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/thumbfest

**Join us for only
\$10/year Membership**
For more information:

[http://www.bluewaterfolksociety.org/membership-
info.html](http://www.bluewaterfolksociety.org/membership-info.html)
membership@bluewaterfolk.org

Coffeehouse Director
Contact: Dawn Malek
dawnmalek@comcast.net
586-995-1974

Newsletter editor:
Shirley Barnett

*We welcome your suggestions,
pictures and submissions.*

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

Did you know that the Blue Water Folk Society is a 501c3 non-profit established to present and promote acoustic traditional music in the thumb of Michigan?

Special thanks to the Village of Lexington, Lexington Business Association & Village of Lexington DDA for their support of Thumbfest 2016!

BWFS Current Board Members

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

Barbara Ernsberger	President	president@bluewaterfolk.org	term expires 2017 election
Leigh Marciniak	Secretary	secretary@bluewaterfolk.org	term expires 2019 election
Tom Schlichting	Treasurer	treasurer@bluewaterfolk.org	term expires 2018 election
Marty Malek	Trustee	marty@bluewaterfolk.org	term expires 2018 election
Shirley Barnett	Trustee	shirley@bluewaterfolk.org	term expires 2018 election
Al Lewandowski	Trustee	al@bluewaterfolk.org	term expires 2019 election
John Broadwell	Trustee	john@bluewaterfolk.org	term expires 2017 election

Main email: board@bluewaterfolk.org



The Lost Cuzzins

Dragon Wagon



Circle of Friends



The Whistle Stop Review



The Red Sea Pedestrians



William Henry Russell

Photo page by: Mark Repp
Photos by Mark Repp and Brooke Geck.
More Thumbfest photos will be in the next edition.
If you have pictures you wish to share with us you can submit them to:
newsletter@bluewaterfolk.org



Stella I

Taller Than They Appear



All seven "Guitar for Kids" winners receiving their instruments

Morning audience - Courtyard Stage