

Winter  
Edition

## Northern Kentucky Bluegrass Music Association

February  
2019

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*Keeping Bluegrass Music Alive in the Northern Kentucky Area*

### *Martin Guitar Raffle Winner Has Been Located*

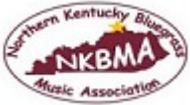
Hello, Everyone! Welcome to another new and exciting year for the Northern Kentucky Bluegrass Music Association! I certainly hope everyone had a wonderful holiday! The weather has been surprisingly mild this year and now we only have a few more weeks until it's OVER!

The purpose of this article is to announce the results of our Martin Guitar Raffle. **Dan Schnitzler's** name was drawn as the winner of the guitar on a Facebook live feed at our annual Christmas Party December 14, 2018. We tried every way we could to reach him, but for several weeks we heard nothing. I kept the remaining ticket stubs in the raffle barrel in the event we would need to hold another drawing. During our ticket sale campaign, I also kept a running list of each purchaser's name, phone and ticket number- as well as who sold the ticket. This effort certainly paid off! I was able to look at the list and find Dan's son's phone

number and called him. I explained to his son, Kraig, that his father had won the guitar raffle and we were trying to reach him. Within a few minutes Mr. Schnitzler called me and we arranged for him to receive the guitar at our January 25<sup>th</sup> Willis jam session.

Fast forward to January 25<sup>th</sup>. It was getting late and we were worried that Dan wouldn't make it to the jam session when he finally arrived with his family. We captured the presentation of the guitar on FaceBook Live and he played a quick tune for us.

Dan purchased his ticket at the AJ Jolly Sun Valley Bluegrass Festival that was held in Campbell County in July. When I asked him what prompted him to purchase a ticket he stated, "because you were only selling 250 tickets and the odds would be better." Well - he certainly was correct about that and we hope he'll come out and pick with us now and then. Congratulations, Dan!(Continued next page)



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(Con't from page 1) Raffle tickets for the guitar were sold from late June 2018 through the night of the drawing.



The tickets sold for \$10 each and we sold 210 tickets. After deducting the cost of the guitar and taxes (Uncle Sam always demands his share of the winnings!) We came out ahead more than \$500.

The NKBMA is fully funded through donations, membership and jam fees, sponsor ads and raffles. The raffle dollars will help us keep the website, this newsletter, scholarship fund and special events going so that we can fulfill our mission to preserve and promote bluegrass and traditional music in our area.

Thank you to everyone who purchased a ticket and for your support of the NKBMA through your membership and participation.

If you are not a member or have not renewed your membership - please consider renewal and joining the team! (See page 11) We hope to see you soon at one of our many bluegrass events!

*Pam Bushelman*

*NKBMA President-2019*

*Pam presents the new Martin Guitar to Dan Schnitzler at our Willis jam Jan 25<sup>th</sup>*



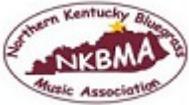
*Dan plays a tune on his new Martin Guitar!*



I also want to mention Rick Fuchs of Willis Music. As you may or may not be aware, Rick is one of our most essential supporters of the NKBMA. He provides his venue, free of charge, for our board meetings, our WoodSongs Coffee House concerts, jam night, special events and offers purchase discounts to NKBMA members. I'd like to say a special thank you to Rick for everything he does for our association and the promotion of bluegrass and traditional music in our community. *Pam Bushelman*



Mother's Day Weekend - coming soon to Coney Island. Arts, crafts, dances, educational programs about Appalachian life. Member Bands and Artie Werner's Jam. For details go to: [www.appalachianfestival.org](http://www.appalachianfestival.org)



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## OPEN LETTER OF THANKS -

As a follow-up to my article in the last edition of the Northern Grass, here's something I penned a little while back about the effort required to broadcast a one, two, or even three hour show, and for the majority of DJ's, without compensation.

Dear Bluegrass DJ,

As both a listener and a musician, today I would like to take a moment to say thanks to you and every DJ who plays our beloved music.

Thank you for all you do to promote Bluegrass Music

Thank you for taking the time to learn how to use the equipment or software required to broadcast your show, often wondering if it will function properly each time you get ready to hit the airwaves.

Your show is always on the air each day or week at your appointed time, whether I'm there or not. Thank you.

Thank you for spending your time in advance, much like an educator, to prepare a playlist and research who played on the song and when, providing a history lesson of the music.

Thank you for the time spent planning and assembling the show around current events, latest releases, interviews or seasonal themes.

Thank you for the personal time spent converting show files to the various formats stations require and distributing them for airplay.

Thank you for sometimes spending your own money to purchase a computer, microphone software or a recording you don't have or can't get.

Thank you for enduring the difficult task of requesting donations from listeners during fund raising periods.

Thank you for making yourself available via a chat room when/where possible.

Sometimes your station may think that Bluegrass music doesn't generate enough listeners but do your best to convince them that we care. Thanks for that.

Thanks for providing a fresh mixture of both new songs from today's current music, as well as the older songs to remind us where the music started.

Thank you for playing my music. There are many artists, and you do your best to spread everyone's music around.

Thank you very much for reading my e-mails or taking my calls promoting my band and for responding whenever possible.

Thanks for taking the time on your show to feature our latest release or allow us an interview to promote our music and activities.

Thank you for providing a playlist of your show to us, and reporting to the many charts. Another time-consuming task.

I'm sure that I've missed a few things, as I am not myself a DJ. It is a vital thing that you do, along with bands, fans, organizers, and everyone else involved in promoting Bluegrass Music

When is National Bluegrass DJ Month, anyway?

Sincerely,

Artie Werner

*Missy Werner Band; Comet Allstars Band*



### For Sale:

#### Lebeda Standard Dobro

Solid Mahogany Body

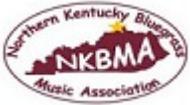
Soundpost spyder system

Including case, like new

Retail price: \$1750

Special price: \$900

See Gene Thompson at one of our jams or events for more details or contact him at 859-689-7431 or email at: [ThompsonG@twc.com](mailto:ThompsonG@twc.com)



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## Real Bluegrass

I woke up this morning and looked out at my weather rock in the yard. It was brightly lit and had a thin coat of frosty snow on it which told me it was clear, sunny, and cold. I recommend everyone have a good well-calibrated weather rock. They are always reliable and correct. If you need one, stop by my house and we'll pick out a good one down on the creek bank for you. I bundled up in many layers of clothes bearing a Carhartt tag, put the fur of a dead rabbit on my head and headed out to take care of the creatures. The horses still had 500 lbs of hay to nibble on but their water was under an inch of ice. They could have busted through it with their dinner-plate sized feet but I felt like I was doing a good deed for them by chopping away the ice. I then opened up the kiddies swimming pool ice for the ducks because the pond is just too far from the house for them to feel safe. My three hundred pounds of dogs that came from the upper slopes of the Pyrenees Mountains are comfortably stretched out in the snow, really in their element, the female of the bunch in her second week of pregnancy. The cats are, well.....they are cats.

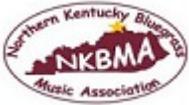
I headed out to work, diesel smoke gently blowing behind the truck and got caught at the train tracks for a minute of quiet reflection with the clickety clack of the cars going by. On the other side of the tracks, I passed a neighbor and we stopped our trucks. He showed me his missing rear door handle which he pulled right the heck off this morning trying to get it open past the ice. We caught up on all the latest news through open windows, in the shade of a new barn being framed up, blocking the whole dang road and finally parted ways as a car was coming up. I passed the feed store where you can get anything from bee boxes to cow mix to old saddles and everything in between. But most importantly, you get the news. That is where you go to find out what happened down the road

where there were tracks...looked like upside down...and the proprietor would tell you what really happened. There is no fake news in the feed store. There's also an old guitar and a mandolin on the wall in case anybody is feeling musical as they sit around the pellet stove warming up.

Tonight I am heading to an assisted living home with some friends to do some caterwauling, bluegrass style for some people that generally seem to enjoy it. True, partial deafness might help the audience but I have always enjoyed playing at places like these.

Back when I was a young impressionable lad, I was beaten and forged like a horseshoe on an anvil by a Marine Drill Instructor and literally re-taught how to walk (albeit exactly like everyone else under his instruction). This Marine inherited his grandpa's fiddle and learned how to saw that thing with more musical grace than the A LETTT, ROIT, LETTT, ROIT cadence that I first heard him bark out. After 15 years or so of our military careers and life, we ran into one another and started picking together. His living room is often the gathering place for getting together for what I would have to call a "bluegrass service". Often friends, sometimes strangers, come together under the common cause of music right there in his home. Food and





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drink, good times, bad jokes, and lots of music.

About the same time in my youth when I was learning what, “drop and give me twenty” meant, a young redheaded horse-crazy girl was stopping by the family farm to play with the horses. She is still horse-crazy and her Dad plays music with



us, even going so far as to join the N K B M A board and produce this newsletter. My Dad and I built him his first bass. A “Doghouse” bass including pine shake s h i n g l e s , adjustable foot p e g , m o d e l ‘ K A Y - 9 ’ nameplate and dog in the sound hole. A 60<sup>th</sup> birthday s u r p r i s e currently on display in his music studio.

I can’t begin to tell you how much fun it is to play music. It has very little to do with moving your fingers to the right frets and picking the right notes though it is awesome when everybody gets it all together and you are really MAKING MUSIC. The real beauty of bluegrass is the all-inclusiveness, the making and keeping friends, the life paths you never thought would end up this way, and the nostalgic way of life that is somehow still going on. I am writing this

article on January 25, 2019, but all of this could have easily happened a hundred years ago or more with almost no changes. Bluegrass music, playing bluegrass music is a way of life and a drug that is way better than anything you could get on a street corner. I’m hooked.

*-Tom Bushelman, Jr.*

## Bluegrass Jams - Rick Crawford

So do you like bluegrass and maybe play a bluegrass instrument? Have you ever thought about playing in a bluegrass band? Well, if you ever did want to play in a band but for whatever reason you’re not able to do so, there is an alternative.....bluegrass jams.

A bluegrass jam is a place where people of all backgrounds who play and sing bluegrass music can come together and perform their favorite songs together. Jams are usually made up of musicians of all skill levels from the beginner to the professional. A lot of professional musicians got their start at jams. The beginners have the opportunity to learn to play the music they love from the people who have been around for awhile and are proficient in performing it. I have seen jams with as few as three people to jams with up to a hundred people.

These jams are all over the Tri-State area so there is probably one close to you. Many are sponsored by the NKBMA. Some are supported by local pubs and restaurants. Willis Music is a big supporter of bluegrass music and the location of a NKBMA jam every 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month, the location of our Turkey jam in November and our Christmas party jam in December.

For a list of some of the jams in the area, turn to page 9 of this newsletter. Also visit the [www.NKBMA.com](http://www.NKBMA.com) website and Northern Kentucky Bluegrass Music Association FaceBook pages for changes in jam listings.



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**Annual Business Meeting** - We held our Annual General Membership Meeting during our Christmas Party/Jam on December 14, 2019. Usually conducted in November each year, the attendance in November was too low to conduct the meeting properly.

The agenda for our annual meeting, according to our By-Laws which are posted on the [www.nkbma.com](http://www.nkbma.com) website, must include the election of board members for the following year. Current President, Pam Bushelman, called the meeting to order and requested a show of hands for members present in the audience. It was determined that a quorum was present and the meeting proceeded.

Board nominees were announced to the members and a call for additional nominations from the floor was made. No additional nominations came from the floor, so the vote proceeded.

A voice vote was requested and the nominations were unanimously accepted by those attending the meeting. The new board members for 2019 are:

- President - Pam Bushelman
- Vice President - Rick Crawford
- Secretary - Jerry Schrepfer
- Treasurer - Myrna Murphy
- Senior Advisor - Tom Bushelman
- Senior Advisor - Gene Thompson
- Member at Large - Ron Simmons

New membership rates were announced effective January 1, 2019 as follows:

Single = \$15; Couple/Family = \$20; Bands = \$25; new Business/Corporate rate = \$30.

The Martin guitar raffle was discussed with summary of its purpose and last call for ticket sales. The drawing was held with the winning ticket belonging to Dan Schnitzler. See pages 1 and 2 for photos and details on the raffle.




valleywidehometeam.com  
kathywolfe@kw.com



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## NKBMA Member Bands

We are proud to have the following local bands as active members of our organization. Contact them if you need someone to provide quality music for your event:



### Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian Grass

Lively Bluegrass Music with lightning fast instrumentals, close harmonies, and entertaining novelty songs. Vernon and Kitty McIntyre always

provide an evening of enjoyable music supported by the Appalachian Grass Band. Their contact information is [fotmc@iglou.com](mailto:fotmc@iglou.com). Check their event schedule at [www.fotmc.com](http://www.fotmc.com).

### Forest Hills Bluegrass Band



High energy and traditional bluegrass with a mix of John Hartford, Tony Rice, Gordon Lightfoot, The Eagles, and The Byrds. A wide variety for maximum audience appeal. Contact them via [www.FaceBook.com/FHBB2019](http://www.FaceBook.com/FHBB2019) or phone: Brian (513)-706-4339; email: [brian.b@fuse.net](mailto:brian.b@fuse.net) or text/phone: Jerry (859)393-1175; or email: [schrepferjerry38@gmail.com](mailto:schrepferjerry38@gmail.com)

### Missy Werner Band

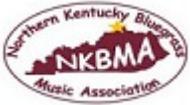


The Missy Werner Band performs traditional, contemporary, and gospel bluegrass with heart and soul. Husband, Artie on bass provides the solid foundation for this talented group of musicians. *The Bluegrass Situation* claims 'Missy Werner is a bright light of Northern Kentucky whose music is kind on the ears and the soul' To contact them or learn more go to <https://missywerner.com> or visit their page at [www.facebook.com/missywernerband](https://www.facebook.com/missywernerband).

### Hartstrings Bluegrass Band



Barry Hartman and the band have been performing, since 2001, a mix of very old, traditional and new bluegrass and original music. Attend our local jams to meet them or contact Barry by phone: (859)384-2876; or email: [bhartmanw@zoomtown.com](mailto:bhartmanw@zoomtown.com)



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## Bands Performing at Willis Music

7567 Mall Rd, Florence, KY 41042

All performances 7 to 9pm

*Live music at it's finest in a warm, friendly setting*

**Saturday, February 16, 2019**

### Award winning **STEVE BONAFEL** And One Iota

IBMA Songwriter of the Year Steve Bonafel takes the Willis stage to entertain with his original music and traditional Americana songs along with his exciting group of musicians including our own Trina Emig. You don't want to miss this!

\$10 donation at the door

Seating limited so get there early



**Saturday, March 16, 2019**

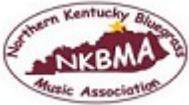
### **JEFF PARKER** And Friends

Wow! Mr. Kentucky Mandolin himself. LIVE on our Willis Music stage. You know him from Dailey and Vincent fame. He brings veteran musicians with him to entertain us

\$15 donation at the door

Seating limited so get there early





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## JAMS

### Gene Thompson Jam

1st Friday of each month

Back at the Lodge

Hart Dr., Hebron, KY Contact:

Gene Thompson (859)689-7431

\$2 donation at the door

Food and beverages available

### Camp Springs Bluegrass Jam

1st Sunday of each month 3:30-6:30pm

Camp Springs Tavern

7009 Stonehouse Rd, Melbourne, KY

bring your instrument and a friend or come out to listen. Details at:

[campspringstavern.com](http://campspringstavern.com)

### NKBMA Gospel Jam

3rd Friday of each month

Back at the Lodge

Hart Dr., Hebron, KY Contact:

Gene Thompson (859)689-7431

\$2 donation at the door

Food and beverages available



Resuming in March  
Beautiful Augusta, KY

### NKBMA Monthly

#### Bluegrass Jam

4th Friday of each month

Main Stage Open Mic Fun!

Backroom Jammin'

Willis Music on Mall Rd,

Florence, KY Come and play or listen.

**New Hours 5pm to 8pm**

\$2 donation at the door

Contact Rick Fuchs (859)525-6050



Jam with Artie Werner and crew  
Wednesdays 7pm to 10pm

**Grab your instrument, come out and jam or mentor someone learning Bluegrass!**

*Time for a little humor. Everyone needs a little laugh these days. No politics, I promise:*

*I find it ironic the colors red, white and blue stand for freedom until they are flashing behind you!*

*A recent study found that women who carry a little extra weight generally live longer than the men who mention it!*

*You know that tingly little feeling you get when you like someone? That's your common sense leaving your body*



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**MONDAY NIGHT BLUEGRASS JAM**  
STARTS AT 8 PM

**MOLLY MALONE'S**



**Irish Pub & Restaurant**  
**Covington, Kentucky**  
www.mollymalonesirishpub.com

JOIN IN OR LISTEN TO SOME OF THE AREA'S FINEST IN  
FRONT OF OUR FIRST FLOOR FIREPLACE. FULL MENU  
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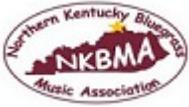


**Tom Bushelman**  
KY PLS #3722  
4844 Burlington Pike  
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Fax: 859-689-0774  
Cell: 859-743-2424  
Email: [pls@commonwealthsurveying.com](mailto:pls@commonwealthsurveying.com)



**Located across from the Florence Mall and  
Next to SHOOT Point Blank on Mall  
Road, our Florence Superstore has it all**  
**Our staff bring years of service and  
experience to meet your every Musical  
need. 10% discount on accessory items to  
NKBMA members**

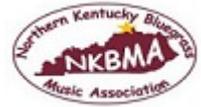
**Our Florence location features a 24 track  
Digital recording studio and performance  
Center (seats 200) in addition to the  
Kate Young Music Makers studios  
and lesson center**  
**7567 Mall Road, Florence, KY 41042**  
**859-525-6050**



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**Visit our NKBMA website at [www.nkbma.com](http://www.nkbma.com)**

for all the latest news, special events, concert schedules, jams and photos albums.

## Plus our own Facebook Page



Find us on  
**Facebook**

[www.facebook.com/nkbma](http://www.facebook.com/nkbma)

*Visit the page whether you have a Facebook account or not and see photos from past events and the latest event schedules*

***Want to be part of our Event Reminder Network? Send your current email address to [Jerry@NKBMA.com](mailto:Jerry@NKBMA.com)***

**JOIN the TEAM for 2019. Please send your annual membership dues to the NKBMA , remain a member in good standing and help keep Bluegrass music alive in the area. Membership benefits:**

- \*\* Bands are listed on our website with links to their websites.**
- \*\* Members are also VIP customers at Willis and receive 10% on all accessory purchases and other discounts on equipment.**
- \*\* Musical Scholarships to acoustic Instrument students**
- \*\* Weekly Jams supported around the area**
- \*\* Annual picnic and Turkey Jam and Christmas Dinner**
- \*\* Quarterly Newsletters like this one mailed to members**
- \*\* Email notification/reminder network for events**

**Send payment (\$15 Single, \$20 Couple/Family, \$25 Band),**

**Your address and your current email address to:**

**Northern Kentucky Bluegrass Music Association**

**P.O. Box 133**

**Hebron, Kentucky 41048**

**Join the team for 2019, become a Board Member or Volunteer  
Enrollment forms also available at**

**[www.nkbma.com](http://www.nkbma.com)**



**The FUTURE of the  
ORGANIZATION Depends  
Upon YOU**



Address Label

NKBMA  
PO Box 133  
Hebron, KY 41048



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**Board Nominations and  
Election, Christmas Party  
and Martin Guitar Raffle,  
WoodSongs Events  
Jams and More**



**Pick up an instrument  
And Mentor Someone!**