

# The Northern Grass



Winter  
Edition

Northern Kentucky Bluegrass Music Association

January 2011

Keeping Bluegrass Music Alive In The Northern Kentucky Area

## From Our New President

Pamela Messer

Happy New Year, everyone!!!

Some of our members have already booked amazing bluegrass talent this year, and in support of these shows and events we do everything we can to get the word out to help make them a success!\*\*\*

Gene Thompson has booked Tommy Brown and County Line Grass (My Favorite Bluegrass Band will open), Lost and Found, the Dixie Riders, Katie Penn and New Town, and will also perform with his band, Crossroads (Hayloft will open), at Willis Music. These concerts have been booked by Gene into the Willis Music/Woodsongs Coffee House series that was begun last year by Willis Music with so much success. These bands perform for the door proceeds and copies of the Willis video and recording of the event. NKBMA members get a \$2 discount on tickets at the door.

Another of our local venues - just down the way - at the Olde Star Theatre in Williamstown will feature Nuthin' Fancy and Doyle Lawson. Please call 859-992-5775 or email [oldestarinfo@aol.com](mailto:oldestarinfo@aol.com) for ticket and concert information. You can also visit them [on-line](#).

In February, Tommy Brown and County Line Grass will host their 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Salt Lick Bluegrass Festival in Shepherdsville.

This is an indoor festival just 20 minutes south of Louisville. It's a great way to break up those winter megrims and set the stage for the festival season! Visit them at [www.saltlickbluegrassfestival.com](http://www.saltlickbluegrassfestival.com) for more information.

In May, the NKBMA will sponsor a booth at the Appalachian Festival located at Old Coney Island in Cincinnati. With our music rooted in the history and tradition of the Appalachian Mountains we couldn't ask for a better place to reaffirm or introduce our association to new and old members alike. We always need volunteers to man the booth at this event, and its always a fun day for everyone!

Please be sure to check out Vernon and Kitty McIntyre's website at <http://fotmc.com/>. Vernon and Kitty have something going on just about every week. Their events are also listed on the NKBMA web page calendar.

That's everything that I can think of so far! Let's be sure that we show up in force to support these performances and help make them a success! Check our calendar at [www.nkbma.com](http://www.nkbma.com) for complete event details. Members may have their bluegrass events advertised on our calendar. Please feel free to call me at 859-991-5197 or email at [pmesser@nkbma.com](mailto:pmesser@nkbma.com) to get your event posted.

Prayers to everyone!  
Pamela Messer - President



NKBMA



**January 22nd, 2011 (Saturday) - Tommy Brown and County Line Grass** - Everyone loves Tommy and his family at the NKBMA and abroad. Tommy offers that classic Bluegrass sound combined with wonderful sense of humor that keeps everyone's toes tappin' and smiles on their face. Come Join Willis Music and Gene Thompson for a wonderful evening of fun and music with Tommy Brown and County Line Grass!.

Location: Willis Music Superstore, Florence  
Opening Band : My Favorite Bluegrass Band  
Time 6:00pm to 10:00pm  
Admission: Door = \$10.00  
NKBMA member admission is only \$8.00

**February 12th, 2011 (Saturday) - Crossroads** - Say Bluegrass music in Northern Kentucky and one name will always come up and that's Gene Thompson and Crossroads. Gene and his group have been entertaining folks in the tri-state for many years and their music only seems to get better each time you hear them. Come out for a evening of fun and music with Gene Thompson and Crossroads. Gene's shows are always rated FF for Family Fun!

Location: Willis Music Superstore, Florence  
Opening Band : Hayloft  
Time 6:00pm to 10:00pm  
Admission: Door = \$10.00  
NKBMA member admission is only \$8.00

**March 26th, 2011 (Saturday) - Dixie Riders** - We all know the Dixie Riders, a group out of Ohio that are always a wonderful part of any show they perform at. These guys play Bluegrass music the way it should be and has been for many years. If you love the Bluegrass sound, these guys will take you to school. Come out and join Willis Music and Gene Thompson as they present the Dixie Riders!

Location: Willis Music Superstore, Florence  
Opening Band : TBD  
Time 6:00pm to 10:00pm  
Admission: Door = \$10.00  
NKBMA member admission is only \$8.00

**\*\*\*Performers and Promoters please note: In 2010 the NKBMA voted unanimously that financial SPONSORSHIP would be put to vote as needed for each individual event presented to the board. At no time does the NKBMA assume any portion of financial obligation to performers or promoters who are SUPPORTED by NKBMA or it's members. Questions regarding this policy can be sent by completing our on line form at [www.nkbma.com](http://www.nkbma.com)**



# A Christmas Party To Remember

By Steve McCain

This past December, the NKBMA outdid themselves on a Christmas party that will not soon be forgotten. Now I have been to a lot of Christmas parties over my years but not many have offered three of my favorite things in the world, Family, Food and Bluegrass music all in the same place! When you bring these three things together, you can't go wrong.

I was utterly amazed at the turnout we had this year. We have always had a good turnout for our 4th Friday jam sessions but put out a call for a Bluegrass fan to bring some food and watch out! While the NKBMA provided the meat, cheese and bread for sandwiches, the rest of the organization outdid themselves with the covered dishes and deserts. You can see from the pictures that we almost could not fit all on the tables. Just a note, I think Joann Herald is trying to corner the market on her now famous buckeye candy. The chocolate and peanut butter market had to see a spike in sales for what Joann brought alone! I haven't seen that many buckeye's in one place since Don Morgan's Brown County festival.

Another thing we were not short of is Bluegrass music. Band after band came up and gave their personal Christmas present to everyone in the audience. Some were not bands but just friends putting together some great music.

So now we have discussed food and Bluegrass music and that leaves family. While we are all not related by blood we are connected by the love of Bluegrass music. I was blessed twice as my parents were there as well as my Bluegrass family

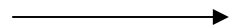
I can't think of a better way to celebrate the birth of our Lord than being with your family and listening to the music that He blessed us with. All combined it made for a very special night that I will always remember.

A special thanks goes out to all the members who helped in the planning, setup, serving, cleanup, playing music and especially Willis Music that provided the store location to hold our event.

I pray that we all have a safe, fun and full of Bluegrass music year ahead of us.



Additional  
Pictures on  
Page 4





# A Christmas Party To Remember

CONTINUED



NKBMA Members and  
Others  
Needing Our  
Thoughts and  
Prayers



Gary Pickett, 2010 NKBMA Vice President has been spending some time in and out of the hospital. Please keep Gary and his wife Judy in your prayers.

Taylor Farley - Please keep Taylor Farley and his family in your prayers as he recovers from sickness

Those killed or injured in the Tucson Arizona massacre and their families

Members of the United States Armed Forces fighting for our freedom and keeping us safe.

The leaders of the United States to make the right decisions.

Members of our Police, Fire and Rescue squads keeping us safe everyday.

## A Poem By Ron "Longfellow" Simmons

### Just Lucky.....I Guess

If you pick a banjo in Bangkok  
Does anyone really care?  
If you strum a mandolin in Mandalay  
Will the people treat you fair?

If you slap your dobro in Dublin  
Do the citizens want to dance?  
When the fiddle is bowed in Brazil  
Will the gauchos give you a glance?

When you pick a guitar in Alaska  
What do you think they'll askya  
Upon beating your bass in a dumpster  
Do you think they will try to compactya

Point is....if you put all if these instruments together  
Can you have a good time in any weather?  
You bet you can and your lucky

Cause chances are you are from **Kentucky!**

**By Ron Simmons**  
No relation to Walt Witman



Located across from the Florence Mall and next to H.H.Gregg on Mall Road, our Florence Superstore has it all. Store manager Rick Fuchs brings years of service and experience to meet your every need. Our Florence location also features a 24 track digital recording studio and performance center in addition to the Kate Young Music Makers studios and lesson center.

7567 Mall Road  
Florence, Ky. 41042  
859-525-6050

## FOR SALE

### POP UP CAMPER



1989 Scamper

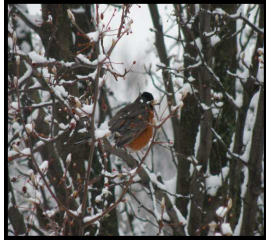
One Owner, Low Usage, Very Good Condition  
Stored Inside Since Purchased

Sleeps 8, Stove, Sink, Refrig., Bench couch seat and table

Does not have air conditioner but can be added.

Asking \$1,500 - Call 859-341- 8942 for Info. Or  
email [gmccain@fuse.net](mailto:gmccain@fuse.net)





## Seasonal Recipes

# Apple Coffee Cake

### INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2/3 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 5 1/2 Tbsp unsalted butter, room temperature
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1/2 cup whole milk
- 1 medium Cortland or other baking apple, peeled and sliced

### PREPARATION

- 1 Set the oven to 375°F. Grease a 9-inch square baking dish with or pie pan a 4-cup capacity.
- 2 Sift the flour, baking powder, and salt.
- 3 In a bowl, combine 1/3 a cup of the sugar with the cinnamon, set aside.
- 4 In the bowl of an electric mixer, cream the butter with the remaining 1/3 cup sugar. Beat in the egg until blended. Add the flour mixture in three additions, alternating with the milk, beating until just combined.
- 5 Spread half the batter in the baking dish. Lay the apple slices on the batter so they just cover the batter (you may have to overlap some slices). Sprinkle the apples with half of the cinnamon-sugar mixture. Spread the rest of the batter over the apples. Sprinkle the remaining cinnamon-sugar on top.
- 6 Bake the cake for 25 minutes or until it is golden brown and apples start to bubble at the edges.

Serves 6.



A CD Review  
By Steve McCain

**TAKEN**  
Rhonda Vincent

One of my favorite Bluegrass Artist today is Rhonda Vincent. I believe I have most of the cd's she has produced over the years and never disappointed. While being so talented herself, she is never afraid to highlight other members of her band and the talent they have as well. In her latest cd, "Taken" she brings us 12 new songs starting off with The Court Of Love which is a up tempo cheaten' on me Bluegrass song that starts the cd off right. Message her is if you cheat on Rhonda you will be hittin' the road. The second song is the title track called Taken special guest Richard Marx. A nice slow song with her mellow voice harmonizing about her love and how she is taken with him. The third song she teams up with Dolly Parton on a song called In the Garden By The Fountain. They harmonize very well together but they should as Rhonda used to sing in Dolly's band. The forth song, Song Of A Whippoorwill has Hunter Barry playing the fiddle making it sound like a whippoorwill and sounding very good. The fifth song finally brings the banjo back in with her new banjo player Aaron Mcdaris with a little faster tempo but not hard driving. The sixth song has a special guest Sally Barry and Tensil Sandker harmonizing very well. Number seven called Ragin' Live For You Tonight finally brings in a fast tempo song that she does so well and using all the instruments in her arsenal. Number eight Sweet Summertime sings of past memories, a very nice song. Number nine, Tonight My Baby's Coming Home is a good banjo song and reminds me of a Jerry Reed fun song. Number 10 A Little At A Time slows down again with another love song. Eleven brings in a good gospel song and Twelve end on another slow song called You must have a Dream that uses children Isaac Moore and Hanna Harper. All in all another great cd. I wish it had more fast paced songs that she does so well but all of these all so good too. You won't be disappointed with the purchase of this cd.



# Bluegrass Corner

January 18th, 2011 - Diamond Head Mountain play Claryville Knights of Columbus in Alexandria Kentucky 6:30 to 10:00 Admission is \$5.00, bring a covered dish if you like. We eat at 6:30. Contact Luther Hensley for more information at 859-635-9450.

January 22nd, 2011 - Tommy Brown and County Line Grass at Willis Music Superstore, Florence Ky. Mall Rd. 6:00pm to 10:00pm - Admission \$10.00 and \$8.00 for NKBMA members

January 28th, 2011 - Open Jam Session at Willis Music Superstore in Florence Kentucky on Mall Rd. - 6:30 to 9:30ish - Jam session always 4th Friday each Month. Donations accepted to support NKBMA.

February 4th 2011 - Gene Thompson Jam Session, Masonic Hall in Hebron Ky

February 7th, 2011 - NKBMA Board Meeting, all welcome - Location at Willis Music, Florence—Mall Rd. Starts 6:30 to 8:30

February 12th, 2011 - Crossroads - Willis Music Florence Mall Rd. starts 6:00 to 10:00 cost \$10.00 at door, \$8.00 for NKBMA members

February 25th, 2011- Open Jam Session at Willis Music Superstore in Florence Kentucky on Mall Rd. - 6:30 to 9:30ish - Jam session always 4th Friday each Month. Donations accepted to support NKBMA.

March 4th, 2011 - Lost and Found plays Willis Music in Florence on Mall Rd.—6:00 to 10:00 - Cost is \$10.00 at door, \$8.00 for NKBMA members

March 7th, 2011 - NKBMA Board Meeting, all welcome - Location at Willis Music, Florence—Mall Rd. Starts 6:30 to 8:30



*Jammers at our Christmas party in December*

# NKBMA On The Move

The Olde Star Theatre with host, our Gary Strong, had a super night of music. Gary's own group opened up for Nothin Fancy and he got through some of his new music for his next CD (Coming Soon), much to his surprise and delight. We'll be hearing more about that effort later. Nothin Fancy, who performed without their normal bass player did the usual fantastic job of entertaining the audience. It was a tough evening for them as their bass player's mother passed away that evening prior to their performance. They are like a family as they spend so much time together and one of the last songs was dedicated to her by Mike Andes. I attended the evening with my wife Linda and her cousin Debbie and husband Chuck. 2 years ago in Wilmington, at Joe Mullins' indoor bluegrass concert, Chuck attended with me and he saw Doyle Lawson and Nothin Fancy back to back. Needless to say he became a fan that evening and it wasn't hard to talk him into attending the Nothin Fancy concert on January 14<sup>th</sup>. One more thing of note is the revelation that Gary is not only a good clogger, but has all the skills of a ballroom dancer as he Nothin Fancy's banjo player demonstrated skills that we have not seen before except on "Dancing With The Stars". I will not go as far as saying he was "light" on his feet, but the building did seem to "vibrate" during his "expressive" effort. If you weren't there.....you missed a very good time!

Ron Simmons

## Time To Re-New !

Hard to believe it's been a year already. If you haven't already, please send in your annual membership dues to the NKBMA To remain a member in good standing

Northern Kentucky Bluegrass Association  
PO Box 133  
Hebron Kentucky 41048

Join the NKBMA Team and make a difference in Bluegrass Music in the Northern Kentucky Area This Year!



Tommy Brown and the County Line Grass along with Bullitt County Judge Executive Melanie Roberts present the

# 2ND ANNUAL SALT LICK BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL

Shepherdsville, KY

Feb. 18 - 19, 2011



**Tommy Brown and the County Line Grass (F/S)**

**Kings Highway (F/S)**

**Driving Rain (F)**



**Cherryholmes (F)**

4 time Grammy nominated  
2005 IBMA Entertainers of the Year



**Larry Sparks and the Lonesome Ramblers(S)**

2004 & 2005 IBMA Male Vocalist of the Year

**Crossroads (S)**

**Blue River (S)**

2008 SPBGMA International Band Champions

**Higher Vision (S)**

**Location**

*Paroquet Springs*

**CONFERENCE CENTRE**

395 Paroquet Springs Dr • Shepherdsville, KY 40165-6007  
[www.paroquetsprings.org](http://www.paroquetsprings.org)

Only minutes to Louisville International Airport.  
Easy access off Interstate 65, Exit 117, go west onto Hwy 44 & turn left at the light onto Paroquet Springs Drive.

Hotel adjacent to the Conference Center available from  
Country Inn and Suites by Carlson  
800-596-2375 or 502-543-8400  
[www.countryinns.com/shepherdsvilleky](http://www.countryinns.com/shepherdsvilleky)  
(Ask for the Bluegrass Festival rate)

Rough camping available on conference center site.

- Friday, doors open at 4:30 PM, show starts at 6 PM
- Saturday, doors opens at 10:45 AM, show starts at 11 AM
- Smoke & Alcohol Free facility, Handicap accessible
- Concessions available
- Open Performance Stage area available for showcasing – requires festival ticket & sign-up
- Clogging, Fiddle, Banjo, Mandolin, and Guitar workshops

**Admission:**

Friday \$10.00 • Saturday \$15.00  
2 day ticket \$20.00

Children 12 and under free all weekend

Teens 13 - 17 \$5.00 per day. No reserve seating.

For advanced tickets, send check or money order to:

Laura Brown  
c/o Salt Lick Bluegrass Festival  
140 Calumet Circle  
Mt. Washington, KY 40047-7535

502-594-0962 • [saltlickbluegrassfestival@yahoo.com](mailto:saltlickbluegrassfestival@yahoo.com)

**AFTER THE SHOW, JOIN IN THE ALL NIGHT BLUEGRASS JAM AT THE COUNTRY INN & SUITES!**

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

Master of Ceremonies: Sam Jackson  
Sound and lighting by:  
Vincent Sound and Lighting Company



\*No county government funds were used for this festival.

Sponsored by:



Shepherdsville-Bullitt County  
Tourist & Convention Commission

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Join us February 17-18, 2012 for the 3rd Annual Salt Lick Bluegrass Festival!



# Your 2011 NKBMA Board Of Officers and Advisors

Madam President - Pamela Messer  
 Vice President - Luther Hensley  
 Treasure - Ron Simmons  
 Secretary - Jackie Bowling

Gene Thompson Advisor  
 Jack and Emma Willis Advisor  
 Gary and Judy Pickett Advisor  
 Tom Bushelman Advisor  
 Steve McCain Advisor  
 Jo Ann Herald Advisor

Web Master Pamela Messer  
 Newsletter Editor Steve McCain



In the officer elections held at our Jam Session /Christmas party in December, your officers to the left were voted into office by majority vote for the period of 2011.

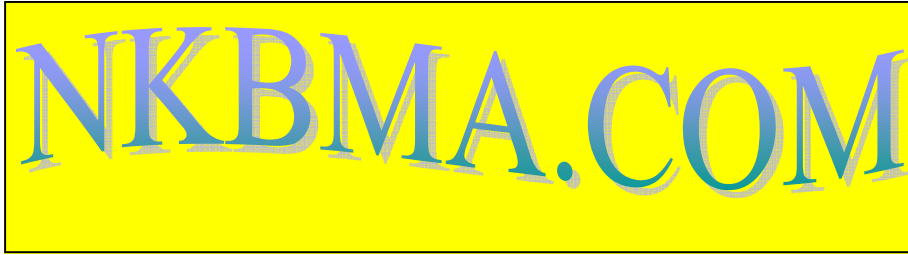
Please do all possible to support these people in their elected positions and make this the most successful year ever

Got a Computer?  
 Check out the  
 NKBMA  
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 Bluegrass news  
 in our area at  
[www.nkbma.com](http://www.nkbma.com)

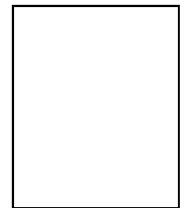


## NKBMA Member Bands Give them a Call When You Need The Best Bluegrass Sound In The Tri-State Area

Cash Only and the Badaires - Mike Tucker	- 859-802-7586
Crossroads - Gene Thompson	- 859-689-7431
Custom Made Bluegrass -	- 859-312-6615
Diamond Head Mountain - Ralph Martin	- 859-635-3684
Kentucky 31 - Bruce Clark	- 859-523-9968
Licking Valley Bluegrass - Russell Turner	-859-356-9241
My Favorite Bluegrass Band - Ron Simmons	- 513-553-6115
Retread Bluegrass Band - Dave Seagram	- 513-793-6477
Tommy Brown and County Line Grass - Tommy Brown	- 502-538-9399
Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian Grass - Vernon / Kitty	- 419-568-1220



NKBMA  
PO Box 133  
Hebron, Ky. 41048



## NKBMA Board Members

Pamela Messer, President

Luther Hensley, Vice President

Ron Simmons, Treasurer

Jackie Bowling, Secretary

Jack and Emma Willis Advisor

Gary and Judy Pickett, Advisor

Jo Ann Herald, Advisor

Tom Bushelman, Advisor

Steve McCain, Advisor,