

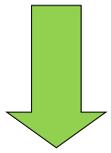
Winter
Edition

Northern Kentucky Bluegrass Music Association

November
2023

Keeping Bluegrass Music Alive in the Northern Kentucky Area

IN THIS
EDITION



'Tis the Season!

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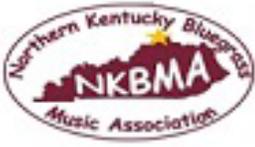
Howdy pickers and grinners. It has been a minute or two since our last newsletter but fear not, bluegrass is alive and well, flourishing still in the Northern Kentucky Bluegrass Music Association region. There is frost on the pumpkins in the early morning and it getting to be time to heat up the water in the hog scalding kettle. Corn is picked, firewood stacked, and playing music in front of the fireplace is the thing to do is the thing to do until the first robins of spring show up. Don't forget to humidify your instruments through the dry winter months as you notice the strings gradually going flat as the wood dries out and neck tension eases.

The jams are still going strong with something happening every Tuesday morning and Friday night somewhere. The first Friday of every month is the bluegrass jam at the Hebron Masonic Lodge, second Friday is Russell Turners jam and eats at the Newport Masonic Lodge, third Friday back the Hebron Lodge for a gospel jam, and the fourth Friday typically is at the Boone County Enrichment Center in Burlington with special exceptions for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Each Tuesday from 10:00 to 12:00 at the clubhouse in Plantation

Point in Union there is a fantastic jam as well. I have been known to play hooky from work to attend that one periodically.

Our Turkey Jam is the Friday immediately following Thanksgiving at the Hebron Mason Lodge. Bring leftovers if you can and we will have a big feast. Festivities begin around 6:00. For Christmas, we are going to again be in Hebron on the 4th Friday, the 22nd. The Bluegrass Association will provide a sandwich tray and drinks and if you have a side dish or dessert, that would round out our Christmas meal nicely. There will also be a silent auction which we have done as a fundraiser for the last couple of years. If you have anything at all laying around that you would like to bring to the silent auction that would be great. A burnt orange sweater that your Aunt Mabel knitted for you and itches like the devil, Cincinnati Bengals paraphernalia if you have decided to switch loyalties perhaps, an extra fiddle you have laying around, or even a CD or two. I love seeing the things that turn up at an event like this. Looking forward to seeing you all through the holidays.

Tom Bushelman Jr.—President
Northern Kentucky Bluegrass
Music Association



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Keeping Bluegrass Music Alive in NKY

At the masonic lodge at 6th and Park Street in Newport, Kentucky on the second Friday of each month you will find food and bluegrass music that always means a night of fun and friendship.

Russell and Dessie Turner have been members of the Northern Kentucky Bluegrass Music Association (NKBMA) since the first meeting about 18 years ago. You will always find Russell, Dessie and the band there in the basement of the masonic building getting ready for the night. At the door you will pay five dollars, a bargain, for a night of fun! When you come in you will see two long tables filled with food and desserts. They begin eating about 6:30 and the music starts around 7:00.

Russell started having music at the lodge about fifteen years ago. Soon after, he put together a band that started with four of his family members including Russell, Dessie, their son, Dwayne and Dessie's sister Ada Perkins. Other musicians were soon added to the group. He has had some changes in his band over the years, like all other bands, but he always kept a good band together and if someone called and needed a band for a church picnic, family reunion, or any get together they were ready. They played a lot of shows down through the years. When band members play a lot of shows together, they spend a lot of time together and almost become like a family. Russell lost a fine member of his band when Roy Connors passed away. He played mandolin and did part of the singing. Roy was a gentleman and a fun person to be around. He

loved to play music. He is missed not only by his family and the band but by many people who came to know him through music all over Northern Kentucky and the greater Cincinnati area. It is always sad to lose a band member but somehow Russell is always able to find good musicians.

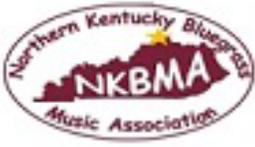
On these Friday nights, Russell always likes to see people walk in with an instrument, whether it be one or two people or a full band. That will mean Russell's group will get a break during the night and everyone that wants to play will get a chance to play. It is always a great night with food and bluegrass music!

Enjoy some photos of Russell and his band down through the years!

Two windmills are standing in a wind farm. One asks, "what's your favorite kind of music? The other responds, "I'm a big metal fan."

What is a dinosaurs least favorite reindeer? ... Comet.

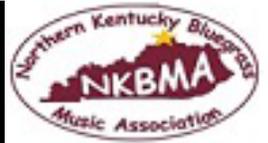
I've started investing in stocks: beef chicken, and vegetable. Someday I hope to be a bullionaire.



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Margie Drees

This past January, we lost a beautiful soul in that of Margie Drees. She was a classically trained piano player, but also played key board, organ, bass and fiddle. She was an accomplished song writer with several of her songs being recorded by Ma Crow's band of which she was a member. Margie also had the unique ability to find and sing the harmony to any song and singer. She made everyone with whom she performed sound better.

Margie graduated from the Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music and later from Chase Law School. She only closed her law office a few years ago after winning her first bout with cancer.

She had two sons, Ben and Dan and two grandsons. Ben and his sons lived in California while Dan lived in the local area.

Somewhere around 2009, I think, the writer was playing at a festival somewhere in Northern Kentucky with a band called "My Favorite Bluegrass Band". While there Margie and I bumped into each other and she mentioned that she had switched from the bass to the fiddle. I was looking for another musician to join a little group who met every week at my house. Margie agreed to join that day and remained a member of the "Big South Fork Bank", then known as the "Basement Band" until January 12, 2023.

Even after joining the Ma Crow Band in 2011, she remained a loyal member of our Big South Fork Band. She played her last show with us in October 2022 at the "Bourbon and Bluegrass Festival" in Union, KY under the watchful eye of her son, Ben.

Margie was very weak but she "troopered" through. Her last song at this last performance was "Timberline", a song she always requested of our Dave Hanson. We did not realize that it would be the last time any of us would ever see Margie on this earth.

As we continue on with the music Margie loved, we think of her, we talk about her and most of all, we miss her.

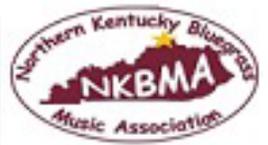
Barry Hartman



Winter Edition



December 2022



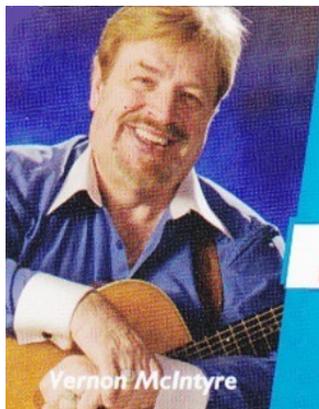
Looking for an evening of fun entertainment and good home-style cooking? Head south on I-75 to exit 159, Dry Ridge. The Bluegrass Mkt place has a gift shop, restaurant, and a dinner

theater too, with family fun and great food!

YOUR AD HERE

Something to promote or sell? Provide us the ad or we can design it for you

	Single AD	Yearly (4)
Card	\$5.00	\$15.00
¼ Page	\$10.00	\$30.00
½ Page	\$15.00	\$60.00
Full Page	\$25.00	\$90.00



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The Art Of The Pun

What's the difference between a well-dressed man on a bicycle and a poorly dressed man on a tricycle? ...A tire.

I haven't seen many advent calendars recently...I guess their days are numbered.

I lost my mood ring... I don't know how I feel about it.



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LOCAL JAMS

Here are a few that we have been made aware of. If you know of more, drop us a note at nkbma.com/contact-us.html

Hebron Jam at the Lodge 1st Friday of the month **starting March 4th** 6-10pm, \$3 donation, snacks, beverages, food available. Hart Dr, Hebron, KY. For info: Gene at 859-689-7431

Newport Lodge jams, 2nd Friday of the month, 6-10pm \$6 donation, potluck dinner. 5th and Park, Newport, KY For info contact Russel at russturner22@gmail.com

Hebron Gospel Jam at the Lodge 3rd Friday of the month **starting February 18th** 6-10pm, \$3 donation, snacks, beverages, food available. Hart Dr, Hebron, KY. For info: Gene at 859-689-7431

NKBMA Jam 4th Friday of the month generally at the Boone County Extension Office.

Camp Springs Tavern, every other Thursday, 6-10pm 7009 Stonehouse Rd, Melbourne, KY, favorite libations available. Details at campspringstavern.com

Molly Malone's Monday Night Jams, 7pm, 4th and Court St., Covington, KY. Artie Werner and the Missy Werner Band lead this popular jam. Food and beverages available.

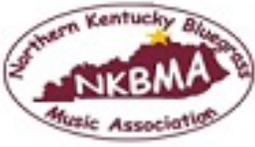
Augusta Pub Bluegrass Jams, 3rd Sunday of the month, 1:30-4:30pm, 120 Main St, Augusta, KY 41002 For information call (606)756-9910

"Old Time Jam", Bean & Barley Coffeehouse and Taproom in O'Bryonville, 2005 Madison Rd. Cincinnati, OH. Every Sunday. Bring your acoustic instrument and help celebrate traditional music from Appalachia.

Old Time Fiddler's Jam, 2nd Sunday of the month, 1-4:30pm, Whitewater Community Center, 6125 Dry Fork Rd, Cleves, OH. All acoustic only.

Old Time Music Co. Jam, every Tuesday 7-9pm. Famous Old Time Music Co, 1196 Ross Millville Rd, Hamilton OH. Call ahead of time to ensure the jam is still on.

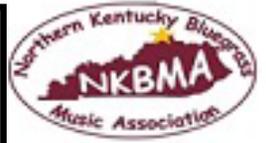
Member Band News: Do you have a band? We offer promotional support for our member bands. Join NKBMA as a band and members (up to 5) are members also. See Page 6 for details and visit our 'Member Band' page at <http://nkbma.com> for links to member band websites or pages on our site.



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Updated NKBMA website now Apple Compatible

Go to www.nkbma.com for all the latest news, special events, and jams plus our huge archive of old photo slideshows, member band news and past Northern Grass issues.

Plus our own Facebook Page 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

JOIN the TEAM for 2024. 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.**
- ** Weekly Jams supported around the area**
- ** Annual Summer Picnic, Turkey Jam and Christmas Dinner**
- ** Newsletters like this one emailed to members**
- ** Email notification/reminder network for events**

Your membership fees help pay for our liability insurance, our PO Box, our website and domain name, and the costs of publishing this Newsletter and more.

Send your name, mailing address, current email address and payment to:

**Northern Kentucky Bluegrass Music Association
P.O. Box 133
Hebron, Kentucky 41048**

**(current rates: \$15 Single, \$20 Couple, \$25 Band)
Join the team for 2022, become a Member or Volunteer.
Enrollment forms also available at www.nkbma.com
The FUTURE of the ORGANIZATION Depends Upon YOU**

NEW NKBMA APPAREL NOW AVAILABLE

Products looks great and are going fast! And we now have a variety of items in a variety of sizes and colors to make you the fashion talk of any group, jam or gathering.

Here is a listing of items available:

- T-SHIRTS, sizes Large to 3x, 3 colors \$15.00 ea
- POLO SHIRTS, sizes L to 3x, 2 colors \$25.00 ea
- CREW SWEATSHIRTS, Large to 3x \$20.00 ea
- Zipper Front HOODIES, Large to 3x \$30.00 ea

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NKBMA
PO Box 133
Hebron, KY 41048



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Festival News, fun stories

Member Band News

And more



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