



Editor Steven McCain

Brown County Bluegrass Festival Pictured Above

Fall  
Edition

## Northern Kentucky Bluegrass Music Association

Keeping Bluegrass Music Alive In The Northern Kentucky Area

November

2012

# From The Desk Of Our President

Hello Everyone and Happy Fall!

Can you believe that another year has come and gone??? Just as our government has to change – so too does our board. I have had a great time in my post as President for the last two years, but I don't want to hog all the fun and I'm passing the torch to another this year. In all honesty – we (Tom & I) have recently purchased a farm and we have a lot of work to do – including the complete renovation of the house! It is taking up a lot of our time and I'm ashamed to say that we only made it to IBMA this year. We even missed Dean in Hyden and our Sally Gap Anniversary. I would like to thank every member, volunteer, and especially my Board and Advisors. Without each of you we would not have had so much success.

We have implemented a new internet website that averages more than 100 hits per day. We have given away two scholarships to very talented gentlemen at KSBTM in Hyden, KY, and helped some of our younger members with tuition for bluegrass workshops and camps. We have successfully partnered with Willis Music and provided entertainment for their Woodsongs Coffeehouse events (Thanks, Gene!). We even tried our hand at a small indoor festival, and I am confident that the new Board and Advisors will have another successful event at the Single Day Festival at Turfway in April. We also now help host an annual jam session that is held at the Boone County Library. None of this would have been possible without your dedication and support of every one of you.

I hope that I haven't missed anyone, and please forgive and old senile woman if I have.

So here's the scoop on the elections:

1. Elections for NKBMA Board members for 2013 will be held at the annual Turkey Jam (Friday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>).
2. Board nominees who have accepted nomination will be presented to members in attendance.
3. Members at large can submit nominations via email to [pmes-ser@nkbma.com](mailto:pmes-ser@nkbma.com) or by calling 869-991-5197 before 4pm on Friday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>.
4. Any member nominated for election must be able to be reached to confirm acceptance.
5. Members can also nominate from the floor at the time of election.
6. Any active member may be nominated, but must accept the nomination in order to be placed on the ballot.

Election will then be held by show of hands of all members present.

I want to send out prayers to Gary Picket who has been struggling with a heart condition and is in rehab now as well as to the folks in the northeast who were affected by Sandy. It is times like this that I am so thankful for my faith, my health and my friends. Lord, please bless them all.

I hope you have enjoyed my terms these past years as much as I have. I won't be completely gone, but just taking on a smaller role. Thank you again to everyone!



Pam Messer



Upcoming WoodSongs concerts at Willis Music

- November 17th 2012 - Common Ground
- December 8th 2012 - Mountain Melody
- January 12th 2013 - New Cooncreek Girls
- February 16th 2013 - Mountain Drive



The First Annual NKBMA Mini-Fest  
Were You There?



The Missy Werner Band



Head Chef Jackie Bowling and helper elf Luther Hensley

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Your advertising will not only be sent out in 6 newsletters a year, the newsletter is also posted on the NKBMA website for all to view. Please contact

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Get all the latest NKBMA news, calendar updates, local events and more. All this is



**Old-Time Radio Hour**

<http://www.woodsongs.com/>

*NKBMA Annual  
Christmas Party*

The holidays are for family and friends. After Christmas, come spend the evening at Willis Music for more great food, Bluegrass music and celebrating the birth of Jesus with our friends at the NKBMA



- 4th Friday in December
- Willis Music, Mall Rd.
- 6:00pm to 9:00pm
- Bring Covered Dish
- Bring a Friend
- Bring your instrument or just your ears

## Bluegrass Events Sponsored or Supported By the Northern Kentucky Bluegrass Music Association

- NKBMA Monthly Board Meeting 1st Wed of each month  
Willis Music on Mall Rd. Starts at 6:00
- Gene Thompson, Hebron Jam 1st Friday of each month  
Hebron Masonic Lodge Nov. thru April  
Contact Gene Thompson at 859-
- Russell Turner Bluegrass Jam 2nd Friday each month  
6th and Park Street Newport, Ky. Year Round 6 to 10  
Contact Russell Turner at [rturn02@zoomtown.com](mailto:rturn02@zoomtown.com) **With Pot Luck**  
\$5.00 donation for Newport scholarship fund
- Luther Hensley Bluegrass Jam 3rd Tuesday each month  
Claryville Knights of Columbus, Alexandria, Ky.  
Featured band each month  
Contact Luther Hensley at 859-635-9450 or Jim Deaton 859-760-4483
- NKBMA Monthly Bluegrass Jam 4th Friday each month  
Willis Music - Mall Road Florence, Ky  
Contact Rick Fuchs at Willis Music 859-525-6050
- Richwood Opry Country and Bluegrass Music Every Weekend  
10915 Dixie HighwayWalton. Ky. 859-474-0554  
Check website for current schedules [www.richwoodopry.com](http://www.richwoodopry.com)
- The Famous Old Time Music Company- Everything you need in Bluegrass!  
20322 SR 33 Wapakoneta, OH - 419-568-1220 or 513-607-1874  
Check out their website at [www.fotmc.com](http://www.fotmc.com)

# 1st Annual NKBMA Mini-Festival

This past September the Northern Kentucky Bluegrass Music Association put on the 1st and hopefully not the last mini-festival located at the Calvin A. Perry Activity Center in Alexandria Ky. This Bluegrass concert on steroids was made up of a lot of great local Bluegrass talent. These Bluegrass bands who are all members of the Northern Kentucky Bluegrass Association spent the day entertaining the came out to support the NKBMA. Bands playing consisted of My Favorite Bluegrass Band, Licking Valley Bluegrass, Missy Werner, and Larry Reese and New Clover. All the bands played extended sets and always left the stage with the crowd wanting more.

What is a festival without food and crafts? Well, the NKBMA didn't disappoint there either. The concert area was framed with tables selling crafts made by local crafters. I saw bead jewelry, wooden bowls and pens, household items such as a bonnet that would unfold into an apron when you weren't wearing it on your head. Where else can you get something like that other than a Bluegrass festival? The people were not only making homemade crafts, our President Pam Messer and Tom Bushelman set up a table selling honey that came off of their farm. I bought a jar myself and I'm here to say they have some talented bees on their farm. Really good on a hot biscuit. (the honey not the bees)

Well, we have taken care of your ears, your eyes. What is left but your nose and taste buds. The NKBMA offered a number of festival goodies such as chips, soft drinks hot dogs and chili dogs. The only kind of dog that wasn't offered was a barking dog. We have to thank Jackie Bowling who was the kitchen boss and kept everything warm, no waiting and all the helpers on their toes.

We as members of the NKBMA have to thank all the members of the board for the hard work and planning involved in putting an event on like this. Planning started early in the year as bands, crafters, sponsors, advertising and food preparation were put together. If you see one of the board members at one of the jams, they are probably looking a little less stressed now that the event is over and certainly viewed as a success. We hope to make this just one more event that the NKBMA uses to help spread this wonderful music we call Bluegrass. Please come out and support any chance you can!



## Nominations for NKBMA 2013 Board Of Officers

NKBMA members, as our president discussed in her message to the association, it is that time of year again to nominate our board of officers for the Northern Kentucky Bluegrass Music Association. We have been an association since the year 2005. The seven years we have been in existence, we have had a lot of people come and go as members. There has however been a handful of folks that have been involved in running this association since the beginning. No one is complaining because serving the association is done out of love for the music and the friends we have made.

As we saw when Pam Messer joined the association, new blood brings excitement and allows us to grow and improve. It's important that members step up and take some responsibility for keeping Bluegrass music alive as well as our association together. If we cannot fill the positions for the board of officers, the association is in danger of dissolving.

On November 23rd, if you have a talent or interest in being a part of this small band of angles, you have your chance on this November 23rd.

At our annual Turkey Jam at Willis Music on Mall road for a short period of the jam session a business meeting will be opened to allow nominations to be made for the positions of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Our current officers have made the following recommendations for the 2013 Officers:

Myrna Murphy—President

Ron Simmons—Vice President

Secretary - Open

Treasure - Gene Thompson

If you have an interest in a position like this or know someone that would, this is the year to come forward. I have served as Vice President, President, Web Master, and News Editor for our paper. I have enjoyed each position and always had help with any issues that would come up.

Members at large can submit nominations via email to [pmesser@nkbma.com](mailto:pmesser@nkbma.com) or by calling 869-991-5197 before 4pm on Friday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>.

If you feel moved to join, please do so. See you at the jam.



# Prayers That Are Needed

- Please keep Gary Pickett in your prayers as he has truly been under the weather. Please keep his wife Judy in your prayers as well. Gary and Judy have supported the NKBMA year after year and a major reason why the NKBMA is as successful as it has been.
- Please keep the folks in our armed forces always in our prayers. This goes for the brave men and women that are still serving over seas as well as the wounded soldiers that have returned, the ones that have not and their families.
- Please keep the folks up and down the east coast that endured hurricane Sandy in your prayers. With some people still without electricity and not expected to have it until after Thanksgiving, they truly need our prayers and support.
- Finally, please keep our country in your prayers. As we move into the future, it is important that we work together and understand that at the end of the day, we are one country and must find a way to come together to be successful. I pray our leaders find a way to do this.

## Highlights from our first event together with the Boone County Library

On Sunday, October 14TH at the Boone county Library, the NKBMA joined forces to bring Bluegrass music to our community. The price was right at just under free. People that joined that day had the chance to listen or bring their instruments and join in the fun. This is just one more partnership that fits right in with the NKBMA mission. The library can offer material showing the history of Bluegrass and mountain music and the NKBMA can help bring the history to life with the help of our talented local musicians. Keep an eye out for more events to be planned in the future!



NKBMA Worker Bees Jack Willis, Emma Willis and Judy Pickett working the NKBMA Mini Festival this past September

**BLUEGRASS STYLE  
MUSIC LESSONS**

Fiddle  
Mandolin

Guitar  
Banjo

1740 Adams Rd, Cincinnati, OH  
Northern Kentucky University, Cold Springs, KY  
Immanuel Church, Lakeside Park, KY  
**513-607-1874 fotmc@iglou.com**

**theSoundWorkshop**  
**RECORDING STUDIO**

Located within Willis Music on Mall Rd. in Florence.  
Contact Rick Hopkins for all your music recording needs at phone #  
**513-607-9855** or visit their website at

# A Reason For Thanks

By Steve McCain

As we come upon this Thanksgiving of 2012, I have to ask myself what this holiday is really all about. I smile as memories of my school days coming back with Turkey's made from the shape of my hand and scenes of pilgrims sharing a meal with the native Indians and trips to Grandma & Grandpas.

As time has passed the childhood thought of what Thanksgiving is has grown as I have. Making hand turkeys was replaced with my family getting together for a special day together, watching the football game with my dad and my son, anticipation of the wonderful meals that were being prepared in the kitchen by my mom, wife and her mom handing traditional recipes down to my daughter and her cousin. These are memories that I'm sure a lot of us share and treasure as this holiday rolls around.

While these memories will stay with me forever, we have to remember to keep God front and center. The vision of the pilgrims having that delightful meal with the Indians, has been replaced with a vision of a people who sacrificed literally everything for a belief in religious freedom. This was not a pleasure cruise to a land of hand turkeys, it was a life and death decision that may separate a father from the rest of his family, cold, sickness, famine and death. Faced with these life altering challenges, these people persevered and became the foundation upon which our country was built.

Sacrifice was not reserved for our forefathers alone. This past year our country has faced tribulations that would bring anyone to their knees. If it is not mentally deranged criminals reeking havoc on unsuspecting citizens, it's mother nature showing us that we are not all that.

Recently, hurricane Sandy was just another example of a strife we can face as a people. The destruction and loss of life was more than anyone should have to face. High winds, flooding, fire and looting would take its toll on the best of us.

People from all around the country and world are donating their money, cloths, personal items and their time to help these folks get back on their feet.

As the people on the east coast get a foot hold on life, they like the folks of New Orleans and any number of other areas in our country that have faced turbulent times will persevere, rebuild and come out on top again.

As you enjoy your Thanksgiving holiday this year with your family, remember the folks of hurricane Sandy that need your prayers and help. You can donate thru the Red Cross to help get them back on their feet.

God Bless you, your family and the folks on the east coast.

Steve

## The Annual NKBMA Turkey Jam

### Turkey's Beware!

Once you have unstuffed the turkey and stuffed yourself it's time to play Bluegrass Music!

On November 23rd the day after Thanksgiving, bring your leftovers and your instruments to enjoy and evening of music, food and fun

The place is Willis Music  
on Mall road

The time 6:30 to 9:00

See you there!



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.

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a month !!

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