

The Northern Grass



Spring
Edition

Northern Kentucky Bluegrass Music Association

March
2012

Keeping Bluegrass Music Alive In The Northern Kentucky Area



From The Desk of Our President

Pamela Messer



Happy March, Everyone!

I just want to take a moment to check on everyone and make sure that you all made it safely through the terrible storms! Please be sure to let us know if there is anything we can do to help if you or family members experienced damage or injury. The storms were horrendous, and so many have lost so much. My prayers go out to those families and I hope that they are able to recover swiftly.

I have to say that we've really missed everyone at the last couple of shows. There has been bad weather to contend with and a winning basketball team to compete with, but we're hoping for a better turn out for our final show before festival season starts up. Karl Shifflett and Big Country will perform on Saturday, April 21st at 6 pm, and our own Tommy Brown and County Line Grass will be there too! It is sure to be night you don't want to miss! Ticket prices are \$15 non-members and \$13 members; children 12 and under are FREE! You can also purchase pre-sale tickets from Gene Thompson.

September NKBMA Mini-Festival

It seems as though things are moving forward for the September mini-festival. This won't be the last time that I put an All-Call for help. We need every pair of hands we can get to help pull this together. There are many areas that need volunteers, such as ticket sales, advertising, concession help, parking, greeting, stage help, booth organization, and so much more. If you or someone you know would be willing to lend a hand please contact one of your NKBMA Board Members or Advisors.

Appalachian Festival – Mother's Day Weekend (May 4-6)

We will also have a booth at the Appalachian Festival again this year. We were cancelled last year because of the flooding of the Ohio River, but this year seems to be going well, and hopefully Mother Nature will cooperate and let us proceed as planned. We have some members who are regulars at manning the booth, but we can always use more. It really is a lot of fun. We typically have 4 or more pickers in the booth and we hold a quiet jam to

demonstrate the music and entertain the passers-by. People stop to talk often and we even manage to get kids interested. It is an excellent opportunity to spend a day around the music and tradition that we love. If you'd like to volunteer please let us know as soon as possible. We have limited number of passes and will have to coordinate staffing times.

Advertising Opportunity

I also wanted to remind folks that you can advertise in our newsletter. Your advertising dollars help the association with printing costs for the flyers, newsletter, and many other areas. If you advertise your business you will be reaching all of our members as well as on the internet through our website. The newsletter is posted there at each printing. The cost is minimal compared to many other avenues and you'd be helping the NKBMA as well. You don't have to advertise just your business either! You can also take out a classified ad to sell something or even wish someone you love a happy birthday or anniversary. Please contact Steve McCain at gmccain@fuse.net to get your advertisement listed in our next issue, and be sure to check out our current advertisers. You never know when you might need their services!

Well – I'm going scoot along now and let you get back to reading the newsletter. I hope to see everyone soon. It's a pleasure to work for a great cause and such wonderful people. Come out soon!

Prayers! - Pamela





Willis Music and WoodSongs

With the support from the NKBMA

Presents

BLUEGRASS YA'LL

A 2012 Bluegrass Concert

April 21st Karl Shiflett & Big Country Show along with Tommy Brown & CLG

Doors Open 6:00 / Show Starts at 7:00

Cost - \$15.00 at door

NKBMA members \$13.00,

Children under 12 free

This show may sell out , pre-sale tickets available by calling
Gene Thompson at 859-630-2166



Willis Music—Located at 7567 Mall Road in Florence, Ky - 859-525-6050
Additional information call Gene Thompson at 859-630-2166

Commonwealth Surveying is a proud sponsor of the
Northern Kentucky Bluegrass Music Association.

Contact us for of all your surveying needs!

We travel statewide!



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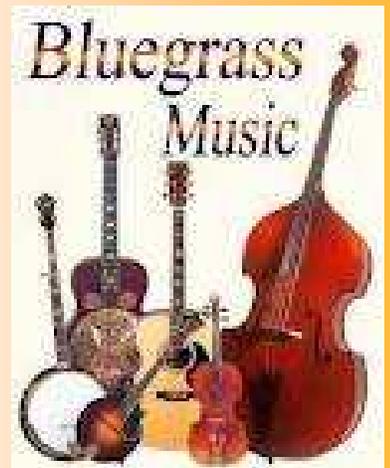
Burlington, Ky 41005

Tel: 859-689-SRVY (7789)

Fax: 859-689-0774

Cell: 859-743-2424

pls@CommonwealthSurveying.com
www.CommonwealthSurveying.com





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 Steve McCain at gmccain@fuse.net for more info.

	Single Add	Yearly
Card	\$5.00	\$15.00
1/4 Page	\$10.00	\$30.00
1/2 Page	\$15.00	\$60.00
Full Page	\$25.00	\$90.00

Prayers Are Needed



- Prayers are needed for the Spenny family as they lost Carl to cancer on March 4th, 2012. As Ron Simmons said about Carl “ They can do a lot with mortal remains, but they can’t wipe smile off of his memory”. Carl was thought by many to be the best base player in the area. Carl will be missed by all who knew him.
- Thoughts and prayers go out to those who lost loved ones and property in the recent severe storms that went through our area.

NKBMA.com
NKBMA.com

Click It To Get It!!

Get all the latest NKBMA news, calendar updates, local events and more. All this is right at your finger tips!

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 www.soundworkshop.net



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

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 Bluegrass Jam 1st Friday each month (thru April)
Hebron Masonic Lodge, contact Gene Thompson - 859-630-2166

Russell Turner Bluegrass Jam 2nd Friday each month
6th and Park Street Newport, Ky. Contact Russell Turner @ rturn02@zoomtown.com

Luther Hensley Bluegrass Jam 3rd Tuesday each month
Claryville Knights of Columbus, Alexandria, Ky.
Featured band each month
Contact Luther Hensley @ 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 @ Willis Music 859-525-6050

Richwood Opry Country and Bluegrass Music every Weekend
10915 Dixie Highway Walton, Ky. 859-474-0554
Check website for current schedules 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

NKBMA - Mini-Festival! All the fun of a Bluegrass festival in one day and under roof! Plans currently being made for **September 22** at the Calvin A Perry Center in Alexandria, Ky. Bands and times to be announced so mark your calendar!

NKBMA On The Move

Pictures Of Concert Events Through The Winter



Three NKBMA Bluegrass Fans
At the Saltlick Festival in Shepherdsville Ky.
Myrna Murphy - Jackie Bowling - Emma Willis



Longlegs kickin' it up at the Tommy Brown
Saltlick festival this past February



Bluegrass 101 performing at Willis Music for the WoodSongs
Coffee House Event on January 21, 2012



Gene Thompson interviewing Terry Waldrige of Bluegrass 101
during a break at the WoodSongs Coffee event in January



To the left you see the great minds of the
NKBMA board planning out the next fantastic
Bluegrass event at our last monthly meeting on
March 7th 2012.

If you are interested in sitting in to see what
we are doing or join in to work on committees,
you are always welcome.

The board of officers and advisors meet on the
first Wednesday of each month at 6:00pm at
Willis Music on Mall Rd. in Florence, Ky.

42nd Annual
Appalachian Festival
 Coney Island, Cincinnati, OH

May 11, 12 & 13, 2012

Living History Education
 Kids art & crafts
 Bluegrass dancing

Friday 9:00am - 9:00 pm
 Saturday 10:00am - 9:00 pm
 Sunday 10:00am - 6:00 pm

Help keep the tradition alive!
www.appalachianfestival.org

Calling All NKBMA Members!!
 NKBMA will have a booth at this
 years Appalachian Festival
 Volunteers Are Needed To Help With
 Booth Activities
 To Volunteer Call
 Ron Simmons @
 513-623-5373
 Between 8:00am and 5:00pm

**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



**NKBMA
 MINI-FESTIVAL**

September 22, 2012

Calvin A Perry

Community Center

Alexandria, Kentucky

Doors Open 11:00am

Music Starts 12:00pm

Ends 9:00 pm

Pre-Sale Tickets for \$10.00 thru 9/1/12

Price after 9/1/12

\$12.00 for NKBMA members

\$15.00 non-members

Bluegrass Music All Day

Bands To Be Announced In Next Newsletter

Arts and Crafts

Great Food

Fun For The Whole Family



8X10 Craft Booth Available

Cost - \$25.00

For Booking Information

Contact Jackie Bowling @

Phone : 859-359-5528 or

Email : Jmays41063@aol.com

The Bluegrass Concert and the Ice Storm

By Steve McCain

As mild as this winter has been, we have had a few days where old man winter decided to show his ugly head. January 21st was one of those days. It just so happened this was the same day the outstanding band Bluegrass 101 was playing a WoodSongs Coffee House event at Willis Music on Mall Road in Florence.

Early in the day I poked my head out the window to see if travel would even be possible. After watching the Weather Channel for hours, studying every possible wind pattern and precipitation possibilities, I eliminated any chance of freezing to death, getting snowbound on the side of the road, suffering snow blindness or being swept away by a stray avalanche. I finally decided it was time to venture out to the driveway to see if I could make it to my car.

The sidewalk was just treacherous! While there were no real ice issues, just the distance from the front door to the car was almost more than I could handle. Once I finally made it to the car, I thought the best line of defense against old man winter was a trip to the store to stock up on milk and bread. While we already had three gallons of milk and four loaves of bread, I couldn't overcome the feeling that I may get snowbound for at least a few days and completely run out of the two most important food groups known to man. It is a known fact that people eat more bread and milk during bad weather to bulk up. Basically we're all squirrels at heart.



Bluegrass 101 performing at Willis Music During their WoodSongs Coffee House event on January 21st 2012

With my starving to death issues out of the way I decided to man up and like my forefathers of ole pack up my 4 wheel drive Jeep Liberty for the long journey to Willis Music, okay it's actually only 15 minutes away but with the now known threat of snow flurries in the forecast, I didn't want to take any chances. So I packed up my blankets, extra clothes, road flares, bread and milk and started on my way.

When I finally got to Willis Music, I walked into the concert hall where the producer of the WoodSongs Coffee House stuck out his hand in welcome and said glad you are here and that I could take control of camera #1. With a puzzled look in my eyes, I said ok. I had never run that big of a camera in my life but I'm always up for an adventure and willing to help so I said what the heck. As we got closer to show time, I sort of hinted to the producer that I may need some direction before we start. Now he had that puzzled look in his eyes. He said, aren't you Joe? I said, No I'm Steve. Turns out the normal camera man and I could be long lost twins (I'll have to talk to mom about that). After a sigh of relief from both of us, he put another person on the camera and I went back to my one step Kodak. Turns out the normal camera man couldn't make it due to the bad weather. All I can say is, I hope he had enough milk and bread.

As the concert started I noticed there were a lot more empty seats than there were full ones. The weather must have had a bigger impact than I thought. So far I recognized Gene Thompson. The rest of the audience was made up of band family members and WoodSongs camera people. I wondered how the lack of people would affect the performance of the band.

The cool thing about Bluegrass bands, especially Bluegrass 101 is how they relate to the audience big or small. In their case, size didn't matter. The show went off without a hitch and everyone had a great time with the fantastic music and funny jokes they told. Gene Thompson was the host of this Coffee House event and ran the stage like the pro that he is.

At the end of the night, Willis Music, WoodSongs, Bluegrass101 and NKBMA pulled off another great show to add to the collection of concert events in the past. If you are interested in seeing earlier concerts, Willis Music has these DVD's for sale at their Florence location on Mall road. Please keep an eye out for upcoming WoodSongs concert events on the NKBMA website

www.nkbma.com. You won't be disappointed.

NKBMA Membership Bands

Our current member Bluegrass bands are some of the best in the area. Please consider hiring them for your special events! Bluegrass pickers need fed, too!

- Diamond Head Mountain – 859-635-3684
- The New Godspeed – 859-322-8416
- Crossroads – 859-689-7431
- Licking Valley Bluegrass – 859-356-9241
- Ma Crow & the Lady Slippers – 513-861-6785
- Missy Werner Band – 513-678-6426
- My Favorite Bluegrass Band – 513-553-6115
- Retread Bluegrass Band – 513-793-6477
- Tommy Brown & County Line Grass – 502-594-0962
- Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian Grass – 419-568-1220



NKBMA
PO Box 133
Hebron, Ky. 41048

