



HAPPY NEW YEAR—MEETING IS JAN. 13, 2008

CNYBA NEWSLETTER



January 2008



WELCOME TO OUR NEW FORMAT

There is absolutely no way I can possibly produce the terrific letters that Helen Weldon has been creating all these years, but I will give this my best effort. As you may or may not know, the association members voted to produce a quarterly newsletter. Before we begin to do that, we (Shirley Stevens is assisting me in this process) want to let everyone know how the system will operate. Those who wish to receive the newsletter via email should be sure that Shirley has your up-to-date address. You can email her at ncnyshirl@aol.com The newsletter will also appear on our web site at <http://www.cnyba.com/> Those who wish to receive the newsletter via snail mail

need do nothing. Right now, the newsletter will continue to appear monthly, but once we have the quirks worked out, it will be a quarterly publication. We will, of course, always notify you, by email or on the web site, of any special events or news that comes up between publications. If you have any questions, please ask me at the next association breakfast and meeting.

Ann DeForge
CNYBA Secretary

Letter from the President

I know many of you have questions about the decision not to have a festival in 2008. I explained why at the Christmas party, but for

those of you who did not attend that event, let me explain. The number one reason was money. We have only about \$3000 in our treasury; this is not enough to put on a festival at Lafayette. Rather than not have a festival, the board members looked for another site that might be less expensive. We looked at the Cayuga County Fairgrounds in Weedsport. I met with the director of the The Cayuga County Fair Association (CCFA) and, after many discussions, we developed an agreement to hold the festival there on June 26 through 29th, prior to the racing season. The cost of holding the

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Lcs Hathaway (696-8994)-3
Peter Carr (635-5800)-2
John Warner (607-674-9219)-
temporary
Chuck Fultz (298-2016)-1
Robert Hayden (673-1313)-1

LIASON between Board and Membership: Edward Campbell (see TREASURER)

SALES TABLE
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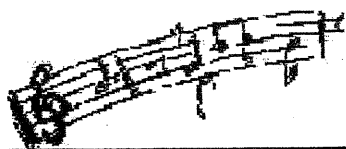
Letter continued: festival there was much less than at Lafayette. We would have no fee for portapotties, CCFA would pay half the tent cost, and bathrooms and showers would be available. In addition, there would be no trash or electrical fees and ven-

dors would be provided by CCFA. We asked for a letter of intent from CCFA so that we would clearly understand the conditions of the deal. Just prior to signing the letter, the Dirt Track Assoc., which owns the fairgrounds, spoke to the fair director and said it

required a \$1500 fee for use of the fairgrounds.

I contacted board members, and we voted not to have the festival because of insufficient funds. We hope to work to increase our treasury so that we can hold a festival in 2009.

— ButchDeForge



WHAT'S HAPPENING? OUT AND ABOUT

EVERY SECOND SUNDAY: CNYBA meeting and breakfast (\$5.00, children under 12—free) — Canton Woods Senior Center — Come meet and pick and eat!

EVERY SUNDAY 1 p.m. til? — **Jammin' at Kellish Hill Farm**, 3192 Pompey Center Rd. (1/2 mile north of Route 20), Manlius, NY. Good old fashioned bluegrass, gospel & country music. Can bring a dish to pass. Free for the young at heart! For information, call: Kathy at 315-682-1578.

EVERY 3rd SUNDAY: STBA meeting at the **Tuscorora Elem. School**, Addison, NY. Bring a dish to pass, your table setting, a friend, your musical instrument, and/or your listening ear. Picking begins at noon; meeting called to order at 1:00 — then lunch — then back to picking. Info: Ken Pearson, Pres., 269 Dweight Ave., Corning, NY 14830 (607-936-3103).

FOURTH SUNDAY—FINGERLAKES BLUEGRASS MONTHLY JAM, 2 p.m.—7 p.m., EXCEPT DEC. and MAY thru AUG. at the **ONTARIO COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL**, 65 S. Main St., Canandaigua, NY. Bluegrass Acoustic instruments only. \$2.00 donation at the door; children under 5, free. Snacks and non-alcoholic beverages available. Pot luck dinner — please bring a dish to pass. For further information, call: THE ARTS COUNCIL, 585-396-0087, JOHN at 585-924-3117, or BUTCH at 585-289-4845.

EVERY MONDAY- JAM from 7-10 p.m. at the **AMERICAN LEGION**, Rochester St., Hannibal, NY. For information, call Bob Simmons at 564-5412 or 591-3296 or Butch Spencer at 598-1159.

EVERY TUESDAY NIGHT from 7 to 10:30 p.m. **BLUEGRASS OPEN MIC NIGHT** with **STRING THEORY**—Bring down your banjo, mandolin, fiddle or acoustic guitar and sign up to pick with Rochester's own String Theory. Just come to **Johnny's Irish Pub**. If you have a question or need more information, go to www.stringtheorybluegrass.com or call Jim Barbero at 585-489-0120.

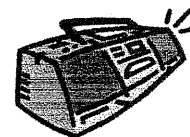
EVERY TUESDAY: The **Golden Link Folk Singing Society, Inc.** sing around 8 p.m. at 12 Corners Presbyterian Church, 1200 S. Winton Rd., 585-234-5004 or <http://www.goldenlink.org>

EVERY WEDNESDAY (thru the summer): 7-9 p.m. Jam Session at the **Hillview Baptist Church Hall**, O'Brien Rd., Baldwinsville, NY (off Rt. 48, near Soroco). All welcome — listeners and players. Phone: 455-2434 or 626-2594.

EVERY THURSDAY: 7:00 p.m.—**Musicians Forum at the Art Council**—108 W. Miller St., Newark, NY 14513. Bring an acoustic instrument for a round robin of shared music — new and old. Listeners and players welcome. Jacqueline Grey, Ex. Dir. Information: 315-331-4593.

EVERY FRIDAY: 7 p.m. **Jammin at the Legion Hall** in the village of Marcellus. Come join the fun! Info: Sam and Marion at 315-673-2329 or Jack Burns at 315-673-1844. \$2.00 donation for hall use. **EVERY 1st FRIDAY: COUNTRY JAM**—7 p.m.—? At the VFW POST, Main St., Camden, NY. All are welcome: bluegrass lovers, country, fiddlers, and listeners (ring buzzer for admission).

EVERY SATURDAY—Open Forum Acoustic Jam, 7—11 p.m. At the **Legion Hall** (next to the Fire Hall) in **Lyons, NY** — Free beverages, musicians welcome, and no cover charge for hall use. **EVERY 3rd SATURDAY:** 8 a.m. til. . . Stittville, NY—**The Mohawk Valley Bluegrass Association** and the **Stittville Vol. Fire Dept.**—Breakfast and jammin' begins at 8 a.m. Info: 315-339-2771 or 315-225-2906



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Grandma Brown's Parlor: with Nancy Brown, Saturday 12 midnight—3 am WVOA FM (103.9). Nancy's show is now also on wvoaradio.com the same time it is heard on the radio.

Larry Hoyt: "Common Threads," folk music, 2-5 pm; WAER FM (88.3) Syracuse every Sunday except when SU Athletic Contests pre-empt the show.

Brad Edmonson: WVBR (93.5 FM) Ithaca; **"The Salt Creek Show"** 6 - 10 every Sunday, playing a mixture of music. Saltcreek@wvbr.com

Bill Knowlton's Bluegrass Ramble: Sundays 9 pm-midnight WCNY-FM (91.3), WUNY (89.5), and WJNY (90.0) www.wcny.org and www.Udmacom@aol.com

Barbara Heller Burns: Thursdays 3 pm; **"String Fever"** WSLU-FM (89.5) Canton, (88.9) Watertown, (91.3) Thousand Islands, and (91.7) Tupper Lake.

Bruce Cutler: "Gospel Doings" is aired on WACK 1420 AM on Sunday at 6:30 am. For further information or to let Bruce know of happenings you would like mentioned, email jockey1170@verizon.net.



Ramblin' with Helen: Well, folks, by the time you read this, 2007 will be history, and 2008 will have arrived! I hope each of you had a wonderful Holiday Season spent with loved ones, and may 2008 prove to be a good year for each of you. I've had many favorable reports regarding the job **Mark Sostrin** did on the **Annual Christmas Party**, which included a copy of his CD for table favors for each of the 70 present, and his super job of lining up entertainment. **Ray Crouch** donated the **sound system**, which was used by the following entertainers: **Shirley Stevens** and friend **Karen**; **Neil Shortslef**, **Mark Sostrin** and **Butch De-Forge**; **Sheila Brown** and **Mike Tirella**; **Les Hathaway**, **Morris** and **Marty Lovell** and **Ray Crouch**; and **Connie Cutler** who sang a couple of gospel songs. (The person who sent this list said she sincerely hoped she didn't forget anyone, and if so, please let me know for our next visit.) The food was excellent and Christmas Songs were sung along with country and bluegrass selections. I was very sorry to have to miss it, but having been an Eastern Star member for 59 years and a Past Grand Officer of our district for 17, I felt my obligation was to attend our annual Past Grand's Party in Ithaca. Although I have been told I wear "many hats," folks, there is just one of me, so I couldn't be in two places at once.

Donna Light, one of our previous board members, had surgery in early Dec. and a card was sent to her. **Mary Carr** called on me on the 17th to say it was good to be home from the hospital, and she enjoyed the many cards she received. It was so good to hear your voice Mary, and keep on "doing"! Included with the Christmas card from **Soc** and **Jan Nellis** was a request to "wish each of the CNYBA friends a wonderful and Happy Holiday Season." He also wrote about the many wonderful tributes expressed for our dear departed **Andy Pawlenko**. **Thank you** to all of you who sent me Christmas cards, which included such kind words of thanks and appreciation for my years of being editor of our newsletter, and for my continuation of the **Ramblin'** and taking your member-

ships. As I have told you many times, I really enjoy doing both and look forward to hearing any news you have so I can make our visit interesting and informative each month.

When **Hope Shortslef** sent **Neil's** renewal, she spoke about the fact that their memories of **Andy** go way back to their high school years. Yes, **Hope**, that is most certainly "a few years"! It's always ways a pleasure to receive **Kathleen Mayhew's** renewal for herself and her daughter **Frances Campagnoni**, as she writes such an interesting letter. Even though they are unable to attend our meetings, they want to support our efforts and enjoy "keeping up" on folks through the **Ramblin'**.

I answered the phone on Monday, the 17th, and was serenaded by the song "Good Morning to You" by none other than our **Doodle-Do** fiddler, **Peter Hoysic**. He said he used to have that on his answering service for his business at Christmas time — what a nice treat for customers. I know it really made my day, **Peter**! He says he's doing so-so, and this old age is most certainly not "golden days" as they say. We had such a nice visit reminiscing about all the wonderful members we've lost over the years, and it most certainly is a big number. I also had a phone call from **Vernon Loucks** wishing me a Merry Christmas from him and **Olive**, whom I talked to for a few minutes also. **She is going to have surgery** on her ear either on **Jan. 7th or 8th**, so please make yourself a note and send her a card — 629 Lakeport Rd., Chittenango, NY 13037.

THANK YOU to: **Charlotte Nofsier**, **Neil Shortslef**, **Richard Albro**, and **Scott Langille** for each of your most generous donations towards expenses when you sent your renewals — over a total of \$50. **WELCOME** to **new members**: **Samuel Fox**, of Waymout, PA, who included \$1.00 donation when he joined; to **Boots N' Shorts Band** (**Mike Mawhinney**, from Syracuse) and to **Tom Burr**, who changed his membership to **band for Diamond Someday**. **Dan McLaughlin** included a book of stamps with his renewal; and, **Dan**, they will be used to send back dues cards and receipts to those who renew. Another yearly renewal that is such a joy to read is the one from our **only Charter Band left** — **The Salmon River Boys**. **Loren** says he plays the 5-string banjo and guitar, but not at the same time, and that the **Salmon River Boys** have been around so long, perhaps they should change their name to "The Salmon River Old Guys." **How nice it would be to have** a mini-jamboree and feature this

have





Ramblin' with Helen — page two

charter band. —32 years is a long time!

On 12/19 I had a phone call from Donna Walter, wanting to know how much snow we got here, am sure you know my answer — way too much! She said that Bob had several teeth pulled recently and had his plate put right in. On the way home, he started bleeding, and she had to stop at a fire station for help. They took him to the hospital where they finally got the bleeding stopped; then they went on home. Bob is still tired, but doing okay and trying to get used to his “new” dentures. Good luck, Bob!

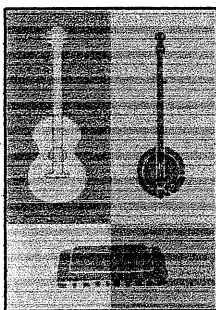
Dave Prine sent me the program from the “Jerusalem Ride Bluegrass Celebration 2007” held at the Monroe Family Home Place in Rosine, KY. He said he spent six glorious days there, and it was wonderful.

I had a phone call from **Peg Miller** since she needed Mark Sostrin’s phone number because **Jerry** came down with the flu and was in too much pain to go to the Christmas Party; I sent Jerry a card. Hope you are doing better, Jerry, and that you folks will be able to head south soon.

Chuck Foulz and **Bob Hayden** came to Cato on the 18th and loaded all of our “treasures” from Cato Lodge into Chuck’s van — now can be said, truly an end to 31 memorable years in Cato. Thursday evening, 12/20, while checking my emails, I had one from **Chuck Foulz** that included two pictures of his and the other fellows’ vans from an auto accident on the 17th. Fortunately, no one was seriously hurt, but Chuck says, “those air bags are not a tasty treat!” Speed on winter roads caused the other driver to overcorrect and come over into Chuck’s lane, hitting him head-on. The insurance adjuster is coming on the 21st (the day I’m typing our visit) to determine if his van can be fixed or declared totaled. As I emailed Chuck, he can be so thankful no one was hurt badly and cars can be fixed or replaced. I have passed everything on to our new editor, **Ann DeForge**, and we have exchanged a few emails; I’m looking forward to getting my Jan. newsletter in the mail! **Please note: if any of you renew after 12/21, it will be changed for the Feb. issue, as I am sending the renewals to Shirley on the 21st.** Well, folks, this takes care of all the notes and reminders I had for this visit.

Hope to see you at the Jan. meeting, and until our next visit — stay healthy and warm, and, again, **thanks to all for your many kind words.** The very best to one and all in 2008. — Helen

CNYBA • The National Bluegrass Association



Check us out online
www.cnyba.com

WANTED:

Upright and Electric **Bassist** with experience and education is looking to form an acoustic group with the Bluegrass/Progressive Acoustic Folk Genres. Have experience in Country, Rock, Blues and Bluegrass style of music, in addition to Classic Bass. Call 315-559-7638 or cptnbass1@yahoo.com

Looking for a **Mountain Dulcimer** teacher. Have just acquired one and am attempting, with some success, to teach myself, but would love to spend time with a knowledgeable player. Contact Steve Kankus, Marcellus, at— lknapka@twcny.rr.com

