

# Central New York Bluegrass Association



## HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL!!

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Kathy Kinney - (277-1988) 3  
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NEWSLETTER  
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## Christmas Party

We hope you will all be joining us at Wacky Wyatt's, 85 E. Genesee Street, Baldwinsville, NY, for our Christmas party on December 14, 2008 from 12:00 PM - 6:00 PM. Dinner will be served at 2:00 PM.

The menu consists of BBQ Chicken, Pulled Pork BBQ, Salt Potatoes, Baked Beans, and Chef Salad. The cost will be \$16.00 per person, with the gratuity included in this price. If we can swing a lower price, rebates will be made at the door. We are trying to keep the price as low as possible.

Please send requests for reservations, along with a check made out to "CNYBA" to Mark Sostrin, 207 E. Genesee Street, Fayetteville, NY 13066. Please include the number of people and their first and last names. Please get your reservations in early, no later than December 5th, so that we can provide a head count.

Entertainment will be provided by our own CNYBA membership and friends. Please let Kathy Kinney ([kkinney53@yahoo.com](mailto:kkinney53@yahoo.com) or 315-277-1988) know if you want to entertain for this event (solos and groups). We will try to accommodate everyone. Jamming will begin at 12:00 PM. You may email or call Mark Sostrin ([msostrin@twcny.rr.com](mailto:msostrin@twcny.rr.com) 315-637-6811) if you have any questions. It's bound to be a Very Merry Time.



## From the Prez.....

I'm happy to report we now have a Myspace Music account for CNYBA. For those who are unfamiliar with Myspace, it is a social networking internet site. It allows two-way communication between CNYBA and those who have 'friended' us. We can send out email and bulletins to our friends, and they can subscribe to our blog. We can also store music and pictures for them to download. It's a work in progress right now, but if you'd like to check it out, you can find it at "<http://www.myspace.com/cnybluegrassassoc>" <http://www.myspace.com/cnybluegrassassoc>

Plans are progressing for a joint meeting with the Mohawk Valley Bluegrass Association. We'll also extend an invitation to other bluegrass organizations. I hope we can discuss ways for our organizations to work together to promote bluegrass and old-time country events.

Don't forget the festival committee meeting on Friday, December 19th at the Marcellus Legion. Chairman Mark Sostrin wants to meet at 7:30. That will give plenty of time for a meeting and some jamming afterwards.

Merry Christmas to everyone. I hope your holidays are filled with family, friends, and music. -- Dennis



## What's Happening? Out and About.....

**EVERY SECOND SUNDAY: CNYBA meeting** - Park Rose Estates, Liverpool -- Come meet and pick!

**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. See page 7 about our festival!!

**EVERY 3rd SUNDAY: STBA meeting** at the **Tuscarora 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 -- FINGER LAKES BLUEGRASS MONTHLY JAM**, 2 pm - 7 pm, EXCEPT DEC. and MAY thru AUG. at the **ONTARIO 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 pm 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 pm **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 questions or need more information, go to [www.stringtheorybluegrass.com](http://www.stringtheorybluegrass.com) or call **Jim Barbero** at 585-489-0120. **EVERY TUESDAY: The Golden Link Folk Singing Society, Inc.** sing around 8 pm at 12 Corners Presbyterian Church, 1200 S. Winton Rd., 585-234-5004 or <http://www.goldenlink.org>

**EVERY WEDNESDAY (thru the summer):** 7-9 pm 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 pm - Musicians Forum** at the **Art Council** - 108 W. Miller St., Newark, NY. 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 pm- 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. See our doings on page 7! **EVERY 1st FRIDAY: COUNTRY JAM** - 7pm - ? 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 pm - 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 am til. . . Stittville, NY - The Mohawk Valley Bluegrass Association** and the **Stittville Vol. Fire Dept.** -- Breakfast and jammin' begins at 8 am. Info: 315-339-2771 or 315-225-2906.

### AM-FM-AM-FM



**Brother Don's Internet Radio Show** 10am & **NEW-** ery day at <http://www.wdyn.net> - Independent Bluegrass and Old Time Artists. Send your CD, cassette tape, or LP To: **Brother Don**, 2440 Welch Road, Geneva, NY 14456-9303, [bristbro@gmail.com](mailto:bristbro@gmail.com) OR **Brother Don**, **WDYN** Independent Radio, 2844 Dewey Avenue, Rochester, NY 14616 USA 1-800-816-4262

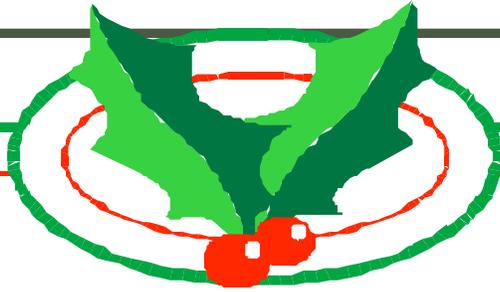
**Larry Hoyt: "Common Threads"** folk music, 2-5 pm; **WAER FM (88.3)** Syracuse - every Sunday except when SU athletic contests pre-empt the show.

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

**Bill Knowlton's Bluegrass Ramble:** Sundays 9 - midnight **WCNY-FM (91.3)**, **WUNY (89.5)** and **WJNY (90.0)** [www.wcny.org](http://www.wcny.org) and [Udmacon@aol.com](mailto:Udmacon@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's "Gospel Doings" (Christian Country & Bluegrass)** is heard on: **WACK-AM** Radio 1420, Newark NY, Sundays 6:30 a.m.; also on: [www.omnimedia.org](http://www.omnimedia.org), Portland OR, Mondays midnight to 1 a.m. (Eastern time) **"Country Roots" (Secular Country & Bluegrass)** is heard on: **WETD-FM** Radio 90.7; Alfred NY, Sundays 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.; also on: [www.omnimedia.org](http://www.omnimedia.org), Portland, Oregon, Fridays 11 p.m. to midnight (Eastern time). Contact Bruce at [jockey1170@verizon.net](mailto:jockey1170@verizon.net)



**RAMBLIN' with Helen:** Well, folks, as I start my visit with you, we have an "early winter morning" with sun shining thru heavy "snow showers", only adding to the way too much already here! I'm telling you this, so you folks who have no snow can at least think about it. I had a phone call from **Maryan VanDusen** after they arrived home on 10/21 telling me of their wonderful 5-week trip and vacation which encompassed visiting John's brother, her sister and attending the best ever Bluegrass Festival in Georgia. It was also nice to see both of them at our November Showcase at Wacky Wyatts, that featured Lake Effect Bluegrass and Bill White and White Pine from Canada. A big thank you to **Pete Carr**, for providing me with a ride, and I really enjoyed sitting and visiting with long-time member **Shirley Miller and her grandson**, and visiting with many of the other members present.

At our Nov. meeting, our editor gave me the returned copy of our newsletter sent to long-time members **Stuart and Jean McWhorter** as undeliverable. After I got home that evening, I called their number, and their daughter informed me that **Stuart had passed away** earlier in the month, and her mother was in Florida for the winter. Expressions of sympathy on behalf of CNYBA was sent to her, and I also sent a note of sympathy to **Louise Chave**, who told me with her renewal, that her husband **Chellis had passed away** in March. I assured her had I known, she would have heard from us at that time.

I had a call from **Louise Hartman**, asking if I knew of any CNYBA up-coming activities that she could list in their newsletter, so told her about the up-coming November Showcase. During our conversation, we spoke about in years past how our two clubs had gotten together at Stewart Park in Ithaca for a combined picnic in June. I'm sure many of you remember those, and she is going to contact our president in regards to possibly trying to resume these again.

I had an email on 11/19 from **Joy Crouch** telling that her chemo is done for this time around, and she started radiation on the 18th - daily for the next 7 weeks and then pills for 5 years. She wanted to thank one and all for your concern and to still keep her in your prayers. **Bill Knowlton** emailed regarding a benefit that is being planned for **Sat., Dec. 13th** at the Weston Playhouse, Weston, VT, for Linda Ralph, who has pancreatic cancer, and is the **mother of Harry Black, a member of the Cabin Fever Band** (see pages five and seven).

**THANKS** to the following members who sent an extra monetary gift, stamps, and/or SASE with their renewals: **Norm Hassman, Roscoe & Jacqueline Kelley, Neil Shortslef, Joe Greco, Jack & Mary Anne Burns, Deanne Carpenter & Thomas Murray**. Every donation helps to further our efforts and is greatly appreciated. Along with her renewal, **Jessie Fish** sent me 2 packets of note-paper and envelopes, which will be put to good use, I assure you, Jessie. She also spoke about being so glad our newsletter is again monthly, and congratulates our new president on being quite energetic and organized! Keep up the good work Dennis! Thanks, also Jessie, for your kind words regarding the Ramblin'. **We lost a long-time member, Joyce Rafferty** on Nov. 13th. Joyce was a sister to **Dusty Bevins**, whom I know many of you remember as he, his family and their band were members of CNYBA for years.



There have been many articles in the Post Standard the past couple of weeks regarding **John Rossback & Chestnut Grove's final appearance** in central New York, which was Friday evening, 11/21 ( a very snowy evening) in Syracuse. John is moving to Elkins, W. VA, where his wife is already working. On behalf of CNYBA, we wish both John and his wife the very best and know it is our loss and Elkins' gain.

Thanks to **Pete Carr**, I was able to attend our Nov. meeting and see first-hand our new home, Parkrose Estates. Folks, it really is a friendly, homey atmosphere with lots of room for jammin', and holding our meetings – please make an effort to plan to attend future meetings. I hope many of you will attend our annual **Christmas Party held at Wacky Wyatts, on Sun., Dec. 14th**. I know that **Mark Sostrin** has great plans for it, and am sure it will be a fun-filled time with good food and music.

I am so sorry that I can't make it, as this year, the 2nd Annual Party I've always been able to attend in the evening, is a brunch from 11 to 2, and my daughter has charge of it. Thanks to **Shirley Stevens**, I was able to attend the benefit held for our **dear member Joy Crouch**, and it was a huge success. Thru talking with her, the stress of wondering how some medical bills would be paid became a thing of the past due to everyone's generosity.

**WELCOME** to the following **new members** – **Bristol Mt. Bluegrass, Linda and John Jackson, Louise Chave, Connie & Sam Rudd and Steve Aiken**. I also want to thank **Mike Mawhinney of the Boots & Shorts Band**, for the CD included with their band's renewal. I recommend it to one and all.

On 11/18, I received an email from **Bill Knowlton** informing us that on Sat., 11/15, **Tom Yanis of Sweet Cider** suffered a stroke and is in ICU at Ellis Hospital in Schenectady. On 11/21 received an update that he is unable to speak and has paralysis on his right side. Bill is going to keep future updates on <http://www.sweetcidermusic.net/welcome.htm>. – please keep Tom in your prayers.

As you all know, our **Vice-President, Bill Light**, had open heart surgery on Nov. 3rd. I sent him a couple of cards and have been keeping in contact with him thru email cards and so am happy to report he is doing very well. The day after his surgery, he was up walking and was able to go home on Nov. 8th. He had a hospital bed brought in so he wouldn't have to go up and down stairs, and he can't help lift himself up for awhile yet. On the 26th, he sees his cardiologist and hopes to get permission to play his guitar. He feels he is up to it now, but his **"nurse and watch-dog Donna"** gives him no leeway on the rules! Bill is so thankful that the doctors found his condition when they did, as with the snow we have, he would have been out shoveling which could have resulted in a fatal heart attack – pretty scary – and he urges all to see their doctor regularly and also to talk openly to them. He has given up his "light" smoking habit, as his doctor told him smoking was definitely a factor in his heart condition. In closing, he said: **"I have a lot more songs to play, a lot more good times ahead with my bluegrass friends. This Thanksgiving is all the more meaningful for me as I reflect and count my blessings which are many."** How true, Bill, and all wish you and Donna the very best always. **(cont. on page 5)**

There is still time to order a CD for a Christmas present from Andy Pawlenko's daughter Deanne -- only \$12 each, mailed to you (see the ad on the right side of this page).

I had a phone call from **Chuck Fultz** on 11/22 requesting a phone number, and he said he has been suffering terribly with a severe sinus infection, but is doing better. Sure hope so Chuck, as I know first-hand how painful they can be.

I need to ask you all to keep **my brother George in your thoughts and prayers**, as he suffered a massive stroke on Wed., Nov. 19th and is in ICU at Crouse Hospital in Syracuse. The bleeding in the brain has lessened, but swelling continues, with paralysis on the right side. They tell the family it is now a "wait and see" situation. George is my only sibling here in the east, and is the same age my Mother was when she had her massive brain hemorrhage thirty some years ago. His wife Mary is recovering from breast surgery, and still has to go for chemo every three weeks until next summer.

**Thanks for your caring and prayers.**

In closing, it has come to the time where I must cut back on mailing so many Christmas Cards, so I'm taking this opportunity to wish each of you a **"VERY HAPPY, BLESSED HOLIDAY SEASON and a NEW YEAR of the best of everything"** as my Christmas Greeting to you in 2008. It is not necessary for you to send me a card, as I know how you feel towards me and my efforts for CNYBA. As I have for the past several years, I will send a card to our shut-ins, sick, etc. members, as know how much mail means to us all. We who have email can also send greetings via that method, and I am sure I will be doing some of that this year also.

Do take care - I do care, and **PLEASE let me know of anyone who needs a card, send me any news, joys, etc. and will "visit" you again in 2009!** -

*Helen*



## Andy Pawlenko CD Available

### Out Behind the Barn

A CD of 14 favorite songs sung by Andy Pawlenko.

Little Brown Shack out Back, The little shirt my Mother made for me, Old Slew Foot and more.

Order online at [www.ClipClocks.com](http://www.ClipClocks.com)

All proceeds from this CD will go to The Charlie and Mary Haney Cancer Giving Fund to help people in Oswego County NY fighting Cancer who are without insurance.

CD compiled and burned by Andy's Daughter Deanna Hubbard

**\$12 each**



## Benefit for Linda Ralph

Linda Ralph has recently been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. Linda and her husband, Butch, run the Danby Four Corners Store, and you've probably seen them set up as a vendor at festivals, selling Martin guitars and other fine instruments. Linda and Butch's son, Harry, is in the Cabin Fever Band. The Ralph Family have given so much to others, and we feel it's time to return the favor. (See the flyer on page seven.)

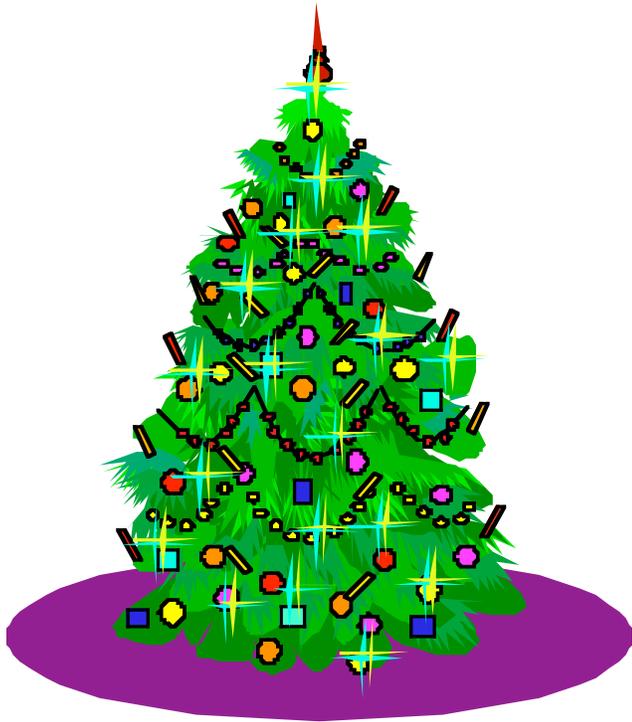
The benefit will be held at The Weston Playhouse, Weston, Vermont, on Saturday, December 13th. The show will start at noon and feature the Gibson Brothers, Cabin Fever Band, Acoustic Blue and the Seth Sawyer Band. The fee will be \$15 per person and \$5 for children 12 and under. If you'd like to have tickets reserved, mail payment with a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Fernan Parker, 363 Piper Hill Road, Weston, VT 05161.

We are also accepting donations at the above address or online with a credit card at <http://www.bluegrassguide.com/lindaralph.htm>

## Christmas Musician Needed

Pastor Noel Allen, of the Scotch Presbyterian Church in Chipman, is in need of a fiddler or other musician to play Christmas music on Christmas Eve. The theme for their service is a North Country Christmas. The church is in St. Lawrence County, about 4 miles outside of Madrid. The phone number is 315-383-7966 and the email address is [nyallen@twcny.rr.com](mailto:nyallen@twcny.rr.com)

If you can help out, please give the pastor a call or drop him an email. No doubt he'd appreciate more than one musician



**Don't forget to check us out online  
at [www.cnyba.com](http://www.cnyba.com)**

## The Sunny Side of Appalachia: Bluegrass from the Grassroots

This is a new book on bluegrass released by West Virginia writer B.L. Dotson-Lewis. She says that her "books are filled with oral histories, narratives, black and white photos. Great for the classroom. Original dialect, verbatim, uncut." This is the third book in this group for the Appalachian Mountain Project.

Original and authentic describes the work of B.L. Dotson-Lewis. Born in the coalfields of Southwest Virginia and raised in the coalfields of West Virginia, this author strikes out on her own to give the mountain people a voice. This book explores the exciting world of bluegrass music from the grassroots. The early years of the struggling musician comes alive.

Ride along with Bobby Osborne and Jesse McReynolds to the one-room schools and the honky tonks or stand on top of the concession stands at drive-in theaters where they first played. Near starvation, neither heartache nor uncooperative record companies stop these musicians from telling the stories of the mountain people in the high lonesome sound of bluegrass music.

The book is available on [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com), for \$15.95.

Betty Dotson-Lewis  
228 Madelia Place  
Mooresville, NC 28115  
704-929-3118 (cell)

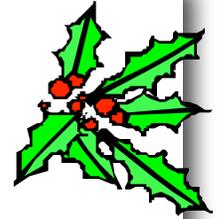


# LINDA RALPH BENEFIT

Recently diagnosed with Pancreatic Cancer.

AT

THE WESTON PLAYHOUSE  
WESTON, VERMONT



**BLUEGRASS  
MUSIC**



**RAFFLES  
REFRESHMENTS  
AVAILABLE**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2008**

**12:00—?**

FEATURING

**GIBSON BROTHERS ~ CABIN FEVER BAND  
ACOUSTIC BLUE ~ SETH SAWYER BAND**

#### DONATIONS

In case you can't attend donations can be mailed to:

Linda Ralph, c/o Fernan Parker  
363 Piper Hill Rd., Weston, VT 05161  
FMI: 802-824-6674/802-463-1310

#### GENERAL ADMISSION

Adults	\$15.00
Children 12 & Under	\$ 5.00

Online Donations are being accepted at the following address:

[www.bluegrassguide.com/LindaRalph.htm](http://www.bluegrassguide.com/LindaRalph.htm)



## JOIN THE CENTRAL NEW YORK BLUEGRASS ASSOCIATION

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NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Choose your membership: Active - \$10. \_\_\_\_\_, Senior (62+) - \$9. \_\_\_\_\_

Family - \$15. \_\_\_\_\_, Band - \$20. \_\_\_\_\_

Gift Certificate\*\*

\*\* To \_\_\_\_\_ From \_\_\_\_\_

What instrument(s) do you play?

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What band(s) are you with?

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Areas/activities you can assist us with: (check all that apply)

Publicity \_\_\_\_\_ Mentoring \_\_\_\_\_ Performing \_\_\_\_\_

Your occupation \_\_\_\_\_ Fund-raising \_\_\_\_\_

Other skills \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to CNYBA and mail to Helen Weldon, 2446 Hillview Dr., #17, Cato, NY 13033; 315-626-2603, e-mail: [helwel80@yahoo.com](mailto:helwel80@yahoo.com).

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Central New York Bluegrass Association

P.O. Box 491

Baldwinsville, NY 13027



*Check your  
membership re-  
newal date!!*

**PLEASE KEEP YOUR MEMBERSHIP CURRENT -- RENEW EARLY!!!!**