

CENTRAL NEW YORK BLUEGRASS ASSOCIATION

February 2015

It has been six months since you have received a newsletter - - and this is not really a newsletter - - it is more of a "catch-up" letter!

We have been without a newsletter editor for the past six months. We have some great officers and a wonderful board of directors but we have no way of passing on the information to the membership. Nothing would be appreciated more at this time than for someone to step up and take on this very important task. Shirley Stevens has been doing a great job of keeping the website up to date and also sends out periodic updates by email (send your email address to her at stevenscny@aol.com if you'd like to receive these). In addition, we have been posting news to the facebook page but we do realize that everyone does not get their news on computers - - and we have so much we need to tell you!

Call any officer or member of the board if you are interested in helping with the newsletter.

Mark your Calendar:

On **March 22, Molly and the Badly BENT Bluegrass Boys** will be entertaining us at a showcase at the **Marcellus American Legion**. We were privileged to see this group recently at Bill Knowlton's Anniversary show and this is a do-not-miss band! We will start the day with **jamming at 11:00 am** followed by a **pot-luck dinner at 1:30 pm**. Molly and the Badly BENT Bluegrass Boys will take the **stage at 3:00 pm**.

Hailing from Cortland, NY, Molly and the Badly BENT Bluegrass Boys are a high-energy, traditional bluegrass band with a modern flavor consisting of quality harmonies and solos. The band's sound resembles it's influences, including the Del McCoury Band, Hot Rize, Della Mae, and Flatt & Scruggs, with a hint of Bill Monroe. The band is made up of Ted (bass, vocals) and Molly Andrejko (lead vocals), Aaron Berthelette (banjo), Nathan Francisco (mandolin, fiddle, vocals), and Eric Hatch (guitar). The band is currently recording their debut album "Grass Fed" and have played on great stages and events such as Homer Center for the Arts, Cortland Summer Stage, The Main Street Music Series, Bluegrass on the Green and Seedstock.

Tickets will be available at the door \$10.00 non-members or \$8.00 CNYBA members

CNYBA JAMMING

Dust off those instrument cases and come on over to the Lamson Road Community Church, 2259 Lamson Rd., Phoenix NY. We jam from 10 am - 3pm on the **Second Saturday of each month**. For those not familiar with the area, take 690 to the end and keep driving on Rt.48 until you get to the traffic light at the intersection of Lamson Rd. Turn Right and the Church will be immediately on the left.

All levels of skill are encouraged to attend and/or participate. Or...just come and listen to the music and meet others who share your love of bluegrass music. Coffee and snacks available.

1000 Islands Bluegrass Preservation Society

Winter Get A Way 2015 March 27-28 2015

Bonnie Castle, Alexandria Bay, NY

Friday Night - LOUIE SETZER and the APPALACHIAN MTN. BOYS

Saturday Night - DELANEY BROTHERS

show admission is \$15.00 /night

Plenty of rooms left - all rooms \$70

Call 1-800-955-4511 to make reservations

For more information call Dick Bartlett at 315-658-2679

Open Jams all day and night both days

Congratulations, CASUAL PLAID

Our own group of teen-agers from Marcellus High School has won this year's High School Battle of the Bands.

Casual Plaid, with musicians Mike Clark, Aaron Fern, Sean King and Erica Ylitalo, performs progressive bluegrass. In addition to a \$200 cash prize, they'll get 8 hours of studio recording time, not to mention bragging rights.

This group has performed for the CNYBA and Sean has been playing banjo with Diamond Someday for several years.

CNBA Officers and Board Members

President:	Kay VonSneidern	kbetts@twcny.rr.com	315-303-4684 (h)	315-882-1652 (c)
Vice President:	Neil Smith	nsmith@mackenziehughes.com		
Treasurer:	Eric Barth	epbarth@gmail.com	315-569-3589	
Secretary:	Aleksandra Smith	aleks.smith@hotmail.com	315-373-6215	
	Alvar "Mike" von Sneidern	kbetts@twcny.rr.com	315-303-4684 (h)	315-882-1653(c)
	Bill Light	lightw1@verizon.net	315-438-8979	
	Bill Knowlton	udmacon1@hotmail.com	315-457-6100	
	Bob Hayden	rhayden357@windstream.net	315-673-1313 (h)	315-251-4113 (c)
	Kathy Kinney		315-572-2247	
	Mark Kuney	mrkkuney21@gmail.com	704-616-6535	
Membership and Website:	Shirley Stevens	stevenscny@aol.com	315-451-2801	
		PO Box 536, Liverpool, NY 13088		

SPBGMA

Society for the Preservation of Bluegrass Music of America award show was recently held in Nashville, TN. Here is the 2015 list of winners:

- **BLUEGRASS PROMOTER OF THE YEAR** Bertie Sullivan
- **BLUEGRASS RADIO STATION OF THE YEAR** Sirius XM 061 – Nashville, TN
- **BLUEGRASS DJ OF THE YEAR** Kyle Cantrell – Sirius XM 061 – Nashville, TN
- **BLUEGRASS SONGWRITER OF THE YEAR** Tom T. Hall & Dixie Hall
- **BLUEGRASS ALBUM OF THE YEAR** *Pull Your Savior In* – Larry Stephenson Band
- **BASSFIDDLE PERFORMER OF THE YEAR** Butch Cooksey
- **DOBRO PERFORMER OF THE YEAR** Tim Graves
- **GUITAR PERFORMER OF THE YEAR** Tim Stafford
- **MANDOLIN PERFORMER OF THE YEAR** Danny Roberts
- **BANJO PERFORMER OF THE YEAR** Ben Green
- **FIDDLE PERFORMER OF THE YEAR** Hunter Berry
- **FEMALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR (Contemporary)** Rhonda Vincent
- **FEMALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR (Traditional)** Lorraine Jordan
- **MALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR (Contemporary)** Russell Moore
- **MALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR (Traditional)** Marty Raybon
- **GOSPEL GROUP OF THE YEAR (Contemporary)** The Gibson Brothers
- **GOSPEL GROUP OF THE YEAR (Traditional)** The Farm Hands
- **BLUEGRASS BAND OF THE YEAR (Overall)** Rhonda Vincent & The Rage
- **VOCAL GROUP OF THE YEAR** The Gibson Brothers
- **INSTRUMENTAL GROUP OF THE YEAR** The Grascals
- **ENTERTAINING GROUP OF THE YEAR** The Farm Hands
- **ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR** Rhonda Vincent
- **SONG OF THE YEAR** "That's Kentucky" – by Lorraine Jordan & Carolina Road

Don't forget to send your email address, if you have one, to Shirley Stevens stevenscny@aol.com . You don't want to miss out on any of the updates that are sent out from time to time. Also catch us up on what is happening in your life.

Check out our website at www.cnyba.com – Shirley Stevens is our webmaster and keeps it up to date - - so send her your news. Also, if you are on facebook, go to the Central New York Bluegrass Association page and 'like' it. You will then receive all facebook updates automatically – including the last minute events.

Membership Notes from Shirley Stevens

Please note that Shirley Stevens is now the Membership Chair. She replaces Helen Weldon who graciously served for many years. We are so grateful to Helen for all that she did for the CNYBA. Send any new or renewal membership information/checks to Shirley Stevens at PO Box 536, Liverpool NY 13088, or email: stevenscny@aol.com.

Also, we want to keep our membership informed about joys or concerns involving any of our members or families. We consider ourselves not just an association, but a family! If you are aware of anything that we should share, or have any questions/corrections, please contact Shirley at the address above.

New Members

Ames Family, Constantia, NY
Craig Betts, Baldwinsville, NY
Mike and Linda Bonczek, North Syracuse, NY
John and Cathy Cadley, Fayetteville, NY
Vicky Delaney, Cortland, NY
William J. Fortuner, Ilion, NY
Steven Harland, Canandaigua, NY
Jacob Scherer, Verona, NY
Andrew L. Wheelock, Syracuse, NY

Coming Events

February 28, 2015 – Saturday

7 to 10 pm

Cost: ?

Molly and the Badly Bent Bluegrass Boys at the Trax Pub and Grill at Greek Peak, 2000 New York 392, Cortland, NY 13045 Phone: (800) 955-2754

March 8, 2015 – Sunday – 7 pm

Mountain Top Express at the Victory Bible Church, 255 Hungry Lane, Central Square. Refreshments will be served. Members include: Sheila Brown (lead guitar), Charlie (Dobro) and Rod (mandolin) Ingersoll, Mac Claflin (fiddle) and Karen Campolieto (bass).

March 20, 2015 - Friday

8 pm; \$15

Cricket Tell the Weather at May Memorial, 3800 East Genesee St, Syracuse NY. Brought to us by the Folkus Project, this Brooklyn based, "Freshgrass" group includes former Syracusians, Andrea Asprelli and Jason Borisoff. Go to www.folkus.org for more information.

March 22, 2015 - Sunday

Molly and the Badly BENT Bluegrass Boys at the Marcellus American Legion, 13 E Main St, Marcellus, NY.

Noon Jamming; 1:30 pm Pot Luck; 3 pm Concert

\$10 (\$8 members)

We were privileged to see this group recently at Bill Knowlton's Anniversary show and this is a do-not-miss band. Molly and the Badly BENT Bluegrass. Jamming starts at 11:00 am, Pot Luck Dinner at 1:30 pm and the band will take the stage at 3 pm. Come any time!

March 27, 2015 - Friday

7:30 pm; \$20

Amy Gallatin Band at the Nelson Odeon, 4035 Nelson Rd Cazenovia, NY. Enjoy their toe-tapping blend of heartfelt vocals, soaring harmonies and red-hot picking, traditional yet modern and distinct. Opening will be John and Cathy Cadley, one of the area's most entertaining and popular duos. Following in the tradition of great male-female duets like Ian & Sylvia and Emmylou Harris and Gram Parsons, they show how the simplicity of two voices and two acoustic instruments can produce powerful music. For tickets: www.brownpapertickets.com/event/976112

March 28, 2015 - Saturday

6:30 pm

Mountain Top Express at the Pulaski Wesleyan Church, 4591 US Route 11 in Pulaski. Members include: Sheila Brown (lead guitar), Charlie (Dobro) and Rod (mandolin) Ingersoll, Mac Claflin (fiddle) and Karen Campolieto (bass).

April 11, 2015 - Saturday

12 to 5 pm; \$10

Busy Bird Spring Fundraiser at the VFW Post 1371, 207 Main St, Owego, NY. All proceeds help us keep the Busy Bird Bluegrass Festival in July affordable to all. This year we have moved to the VFW to allow for more space for picking, a cash bar and of course..... Great Entertainment! Joining this year are Mathews Family Tradition, Slewfoot, Melanie and the Boys, Plexiglass as well as Chad Darou and Stealing Time. We will be serving up some great food at Busy Bird prices. There will be merchandise, raffles as well as reduced priced advance festival tickets available. Bring your instruments and join in on some picking! Call 607-642-8925 for more details.

Deaths in Our Family

Since we haven't had a newsletter since August, 2014, there are quite a few deaths that we need to announce.

Vincent Merriman passed away on August 24, 2014. Vince was a long time member of CNYBA and attended many events. His daughter, Sherey Rosney, sent a generous donation to the association in Vince's memory. In her note she said, "My Dad so loved the Bluegrass club and we are so happy he was able to enjoy it." If you remember Vince, you could send a note to Sherey Rosney at 3833 Gully Rd., Skaneateles, NY 13152.

Art Benning, passed away on September 24, 2014. We are saddened to tell you that our dear Bluegrass friend, Art Benning, passed away on September 24, 2014 at 11 am. He died peacefully at home with his beloved wife, Lois, at his side. Our hearts and prayers go out to Lois and their family. Condolences may be sent to Lois Benning at 10488 Watson Rd., Clyde, NY 14433 or email: lobenews@gmail.com

Betty Knauss passed away on December 3, 2014. We are sad as we tell you that the lady with the sweetest smile ever, Betty Knauss, passed away. Our hearts and prayers go out to her husband, Juergen, and all their family. We will miss her. Condolences may be sent to Juergen Knauss at 5407 Bennetts Corners Rd, Elbridge, NY 13060.

Ward "Bud" Shortslef passed away on December 11, 2014 at the age of 92. A former member of CNYBA and supporter for many years, Bud was 92. He loved Bluegrass and played guitar with Granny Sweet for 25 years. He also played with Andy Pawlenko and the Shortslef family. Helen Weldon former CNYBA membership chair, recalls, "I always got a nice letter from him when he sent in his renewal which was always, up until two years ago. I also am sure that he played with Neil (his brother) and others at many nursing homes, benefits, etc., until he was unable to do so. I will always remember him as a true gentleman in every way. Although he was a quiet person, he loved to visit, and was always ready to jam anytime or place!"

Dorothy Malouin passed away on January, 1, 2015. She was 83. Dot and her husband, Albert, were long time members of CNYBA and loyal supporters of all our events. They also attended Bill Knowlton's Bluegrass Ramble Barn Dances and picnics for many years. Condolences may be sent to her daughter, Doreen Ciccone, at 131 Berrington Rd, Leominster, MA 01453.

John A. Crouch, February 17, 1935 - January 22, 2015. Many will remember John Crouch, long time member of CNYBA, and brother of Ray Crouch. John was a great supporter of Bluegrass and was often seen at CNYBA events. Our prayers go out to his family. Fly away home, John. Cards can be sent to Ray Crouch, 3105 County Route 45, Fulton, NY 13069.

George Hall, long time CNYBA member and a regular at jams and festivals, has passed away. There will be a memorial planned for this summer here in New York and his ashes will be buried next to his wife's grave. George was having a struggle with his heart so it wasn't unexpected, but family and friends are still very sad. Our prayers are with them all. Update: George Hall's Memorial Service will be on Sunday, June 28, 2 to 4 pm, at Fair Haven. We would love to have his bluegrass friends join us for barbeque and to jam and reminisce. Please save the date and make plans to attend. Editor's note: We will pass along more detail as it becomes available.



Other Membership Notes

Our friend **Betsy Keough Allan**, of Hannibal, was transported on January 12, 2015, to St. Joseph's Hospital in Syracuse. She was diagnosed with a massive coronary and was on a ventilator in ICU in very critical condition. Her husband Frank requested that all her friends say prayers for her. We learned that on January 31, she went home. We have no other updates so if anyone knows what her current situation is, please let us know.

Classified ad from Sharon Fultz

For sale: 1971 Airstream (Ambassador) camper. Excellent condition. Has refrigerator, microwave, newly restored seats, awning, etc.. Must see to appreciate. Reason for selling is that Chuck (Sharon's husband) had a stroke and they won't be using it anymore. Asking \$25,000. Phone 315-298-2016.



CENTRAL NEW YORK BLUEGRASS ASSOCIATION

Please print this page and mail to CNYBA at the address shown below.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____ PHONE _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

Check here if you are willing to receive the newsletter via email. It saves the Association money and is appreciated.

Choose your membership:

Individual Active (\$10)____	<input type="checkbox"/>	Band (\$20)____
Individual Senior--62 and older (\$9)____	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gift Certificate**
Family (\$15)____	<input type="checkbox"/>	

**TO _____ FROM _____

ADDRESS _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____ PHONE _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

Make checks payable to **CNYBA** and mail to:

Shirley Stevens
PO Box 536
Liverpool, NY 13088

Members receive a newsletter. All members can vote on all business matters.

