



May 2022

Minnesota *Bluegrass*

Bluff Country Gathering

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Mission Statement:
To preserve and promote bluegrass and
old-time stringband music
in and around the State of Minnesota.

www.minnesotabluegrass.org

MBOTMA Hot Line: 601-651-3694

(to subscribe and for other information)

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(term expires in...)

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Board Meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month. Contact info@minnesotabluegrass.org or call for location.

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Submit content: editor@minnesotabluegrass.org

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From the President

Did you know that MBOTMA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization? That is to say, we are an organization that is tax exempt by the IRS in accordance with its Code. We are organized and operated exclusively for educational and charitable purposes within the framework of our mission: To preserve and promote bluegrass and old-time string band music in and around the state of Minnesota. We are also a membership organization! Meaning, you can partner with us in support of our mission. We have varying levels of financial commitment available, and all of that information is available on our website, www.minnesotabluegrass.org. All contributions are tax deductible and put to use to preserve and promote bluegrass and old-time stringband music in and around Minnesota.

Our mission is carried out through two primary means the publication of Minnesota Bluegrass magazine and through music festivals. Minnesota Bluegrass is published 11 times per year and offers a variety of feature stories, a comprehensive calendar of events, regular columns, and more. The magazine offers us one way to stay connected with the broader community and preserve its history. We recently completed the process of digitally archiving issues of the magazine from 1975 through 2013, and those are available to all by visiting www.minnesotabluegrass.org/mnbg-magazine. Shout out to our Executive Director, Darcy Schatz, for her vision and work carrying out this task and operationalizing our mission every day. Also a big thank you to our Editor Doug Lohman for his incredible work.

Our in-person gatherings offer a wonderful variety of ways for us to engage in the mission of MBOTMA. We currently host a Fall and Winter festival at the Crowne Plaza Minneapolis West, The Kickoff Jam is a weekend of camping and jamming in June, we host duet and band contests at the Minnesota State Fair, and of course, the August Festival, which offers many hours of stage performances, workshops, and jamming. We're excited to welcome Appalachian Roadshow, Hog-eyed Man, Seth Mulder & Midnight Run, Della Mae, and so many more to our August Festival stage this summer. Shout out to our Events Manager, Dave Norell, for his dedication, expertise, and professionalism.

I say all of this to highlight the importance of robust com-

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Become a Member

The Minnesota Bluegrass & Old-Time Music Association is open to everyone. Our members include people who love to listen to music and people who love to make music. As a member, you'll be invited to participate in bluegrass and old-time music events and celebrations. You'll receive discounted prices on admission to events and merchandise, and you'll receive a subscription to *Minnesota Bluegrass* magazine.

Becoming a member of MBOTMA is easy and affordable. Your membership will not only nurture your own interests, but will help to ensure that the bluegrass and old-time music tradition is sustained and grows in Minnesota.

Individual \$35	Includes <i>Minnesota Bluegrass</i> , events discounts for one person, and a free classified ad.
Family \$50	Includes <i>Minnesota Bluegrass</i> , events discounts and a free classified ad.
Band \$75	Includes <i>Minnesota Bluegrass</i> , advance booking information for MBOTMA events, a free classified ad, and listings in the MBOTMA member band directory in print and on our website.
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Go to minnesotabluegrass.org

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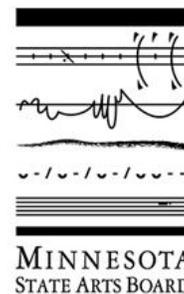
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Funding for Minnesota Bluegrass is provided in part by a grant



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Minnesota Bluegrass Calendar of Events

Concerts and events presented or supported by
the Minnesota Bluegrass & Old-Time Music Association



The following events are presented or supported in part by the Minnesota Bluegrass & Old-Time Music Association and made possible in part by the voters of Minnesota through a Minnesota State Arts Board Operating Support grant, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

Complete Info/Tickets at: www.minnesotabluegrass.org

Your MBOTMA Board of Directors is working hard, constantly monitoring the events around Covid-19. They will make appropriate decisions about canceling events, given the situation at the time, and will notify membership via the website and email, when those decisions are made.

June 3-5, 2022 - Friday-Sunday

Kickoff Jam

El Rancho Mañana, Richmond, MN

Supported by The MN Bluegrass & Old-Time Music Assn

August 11-14, 2022 - Thursday-Sunday

Minnesota Bluegrass

August Festival

Presented by The MN Bluegrass & Old-Time Music Assn

June 11, 2022 - Saturday

MBOTMA at Bent Paddle Brewery Duluth, MN

Presented by The MN Bluegrass & Old-Time Music Assn

Tom O'Neill Award Nominations are Open

Annual nominations are now open for the Tom O'Neill Award. This award is presented to someone who has made an Enduring Contribution to the Mission of MBOTMA.

Please write two or three paragraphs about why your nominee should be selected as the recipient of the award and email to info@minnesotabluegrass.org. The Board will review the nominations in a blind review, and the award will be presented at an upcoming festival.

From the President - continued from page 3

munity engagement. MBOTMA does have a small team of highly dedicated and professional staff, but we require many volunteer hands to plan and execute our programming. We have a village of volunteers who work on festival committees, organize and run our merchandise operations, and so much more. In addition to that, it is important for us to stay connected from the top down on the governance of this organization. I will readily admit that this doesn't come naturally. As I have said many times, pulling your head out of the trench to recognize those around you is one of the greatest challenges of volunteer work. I have witnessed it and have recently recognized it in myself.

As we are all aware, the Board communicated a change of venue for our 2022 August Festival. I have no hesitation in stating that the communication of that change, and the transparency leading up to it, fell far short of what is appropriate. We failed to pull our head out of the trench, and you called us on it. After much discussion amongst the Board of Directors, and taking into consideration what we have heard from the community, we returned to negotiating with El Rancho Mañana and have secured a contract with the campground for our August Festival.

I also ask that you keep a special eye on volunteer opportunities in regards to our August Festival as the dates approach, August 11 - 14, 2022. All the information will be available, including how you can volunteer, on our website, www.minnesotabluegrass.org.

I want to close with an invitation. We want you to join us and we want you to be an active member of our community. Get connected with a festival committee, become a Key Volunteer, sign up for volunteer slots at our events, join our monthly board meetings, and stay up to date by reading our monthly meeting minutes. We are always exploring new ways to stay connected and realize our mission, and we will continue to do so. Thank you for your support of MBOTMA. Together we will preserve and promote bluegrass and old-time stringband music for generations to come.

Nic Hentges
President, Board of Directors

Kickoff Jam

JUNE 3-5, 2022

El Rancho Mañana Campground, Richmond, MN

A CAMPING AND JAMMING WEEKEND

Mark Your Calendars

**Tickets and camping will be
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Minnesota *Bluegrass* August Festival

Five Time IBMA Event Of The Year Nominee!

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Seth Mulder & Midnight Run

Po' Ramblin Boys

Little Roy and Lizzy

More bands TBA

**August 11-14
2022**

**El Rancho Mañana
Campground,
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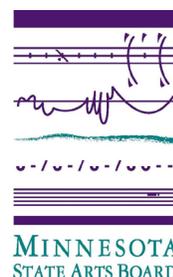
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Get to Know the MBOTMA Board

Board Member at Large: Jim Franczyk

How long have you been on the board and what's your position?

I just joined the Board in January of 2022. Looking forward to working with everyone!

How has being a board member impacted you?

I am quite impressed with the dedication of all the board members. I expect to learn a lot from them.

What MBOTMA volunteer role(s) have you held in the past?

I helped the crew in the MBOTMA administration tent at the August Festival at El Rancho Mañana about 4 years ago.

How long have you been part of MBOTMA and what brought you to the organization?

I have been a member of MBOTMA since the early 1980s. I came to Minnesota from the UW in Madison with folk music, bluegrass, blues and country in my soul. It's all still there.

What excites you about MBOTMA right now?

It's great to see how MBOTMA has grown over the years. Organizationally, it knows well what its mission is and how to accomplish its goals. It has successfully organized many festivals and music events over the years and promises to do more in the future. MBOTMA is serving the community of musicians and music fans very well!

What is your occupation and what type of work do you do?

I retired from the Minnesota Department of Human Services in the fall of 2010 after 35+ years. I am a social worker. During those years, I was a human services planner, a research director, an evaluator and a program manager. I worked in health care eligibility quality assurance, programs serving persons with disabilities, and other programs too.

What are some of your hobbies and interests?

I have been playing music with friends since high school. My instruments of choice today are the mandolin, the guitar, and the fiddle. Other interests

include trout fishing, kayaking, boating, camping, hiking, cross country skiing, turkey and grouse hunting and road trips (e.g., parks, trout streams, music festivals, etc.). When at home, I like to bake bread.

Do you have a favorite festival or activity at a festival?

Yes. The Showcase Tent and the Workshops. I've learned a lot from the folks on the stage, and from the workshops too.

What's a fun fact about you?

I was once a Philosophy major in college. When my Dad (a blue-collar worker) asked me what kind of job I intended to get after I graduated, I had no answer for him. So I changed my major. But to this day, I am a philosophical person.

What would you tell a new MBOTMA member/volunteer?

Have fun!!! Play if you have an instrument! Jam! Listen to the words and



the rhythm of the songs. And find out as much as you can about the origin and history of the music.



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Grass Clippings

2022 CDSS Lifetime Contribution Award Recipient Ed Stern

Ed Stern, a key figure in the Tapestry Folkdance Center community since its inception, has been selected by the internationally renowned Country Dance and Song Society (CDSS) for its 2022 Lifetime Contribution Award. Ed is the first person from Minnesota and only the 4th person from the Midwest to be so honored in the last 20 years.

Ed admits that he became addicted to dance while in college and is driven to ensure that dance continues to brighten the lives of future generations. His passionate involvement with international folk dance stretches back to the 1960s when he lived in Chicago.

Ed, who has a PhD in biochemistry, moved to the Twin Cities in 1971 and since then has taught many different folk-dance forms including Contra, English Country, Balkan, Irish, Scandinavian, Scottish, Country, and Ballroom dance.

In 1978 Ed founded the Saltari Folk Dance Emporium, which directly led to the creation of Tapestry Folkdance Center in 1983, a nonprofit that hosts over twenty world dance forms each week. Ed is also the founder of the Minnesota Traditional Morris dance group. Ed Stern continues to share his passion for dance by mentoring new dance callers, and by joyfully participating in dances weekly at Tapestry Folkdance Center, and at such events as the annual Minnesota Renaissance Festival and the Midwest Morris Ale.

Ted Hodapp, chair of the committee planning a June 11, 2022 event to honor Ed Stern, wrote the following. "... without Ed's founding of Saltari Folk Dance Emporium, Tapestry would not exist. There is no other single individual who I can point to that has shaped folk dancing in the Twin Cities as much as Ed. I recall quite clearly the closing of Saltari, and a bunch of us wondering how we could keep this amazing space alive. Tapestry, as I think

any of the founding Board members of Tapestry can tell you, was born out of an understanding of what it meant to have a dedicated space to go to dance. There are very few places in the US (and the Midwest) where this exists. The one other that I can think of is in Ann Arbor, and that was modeled after Tapestry.

So, Ed is important to Tapestry as the person who had the vision and drive to start a dedicated space for folk dancing. Tapestry (Folkdance Center) exists because of this. Can I imagine any other person playing a more important role? Probably not, and certainly not in the history of Tapestry to date."

Tapestry Folkdance Center was founded in 1983 as a 501(c)3 by a small group of folk dancers who were hosting weekly community dances throughout the Twin Cities. In 1999, the organization, backed by this lively force of individuals, bought a building in South Minneapolis.

Well over 700 (pre-Covid) people of all ages and abilities come through our doors each week to experience dances and music from around the world, and to benefit from physical movement and

expression. From Seniors to Family dances, Spanish speaking to western Europe, and Appalachia to Motown, Tapestry is an active community of over thirty dance forms. No partner or experience is needed to dance at our family-friendly, handicap-accessible studios.

For a comprehensive history visit www.tapestryfolkdance.org/our-story.

Tapestry's Mission:

For nearly four decades Tapestry Folkdance Center has been fulfilling its mission of creating opportunities for participating in the joys of dance and music from all around the world.

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The Bluff Country Gathering with a little history

By Bob Bovee

One day in 1998 Gail Heil said to me, “We need to start a fiddle camp; there aren’t any here in the upper Midwest.” As far as we knew, at least, that was true, but I told her that was a job for someone else, that I wanted to remain a fulltime performer, not a presenter. She replied, “No, we need to do this.” Knowing how much she wanted to do it, I agreed, thinking it wouldn’t last long. May 1999 was the first annual Bluff Country Gathering, which is now ready for what should be the 24th annual, but due to the pandemic, is really only the 22nd. She was right, of course.

That first year we limited enrollment to sixty, thinking we’d be lucky to fill up, and had a teaching/performing staff of only four, all fiddlers: Dwight Lamb, Dan Gellert,

Chirps Smith, and Gail. The camp met its registration limit rapidly and in 2000 we increased to 75 students and added banjo workshops. In 2001 the registration limit

capacity registration.

In subsequent years, workshops were added in guitar, and then, depending each year on who the staff were and their skills, sometimes mandolin, harmonica, square dance calling, bass, clog dancing, ballad singing, folklore sessions, and so on. The biggest complaint about workshops over the years is that there are so many interesting and exciting ones that it’s difficult to choose, and many wonderful workshops must be missed due to the precedence of one deemed even more essential.

The Gathering has always strived to present the best old-time musicians available, providing a variety of styles, approaches, and workshop topics. Five National Heritage Fellowship winners have been featured, this being



went to 100 with a larger staff. Remaining at that level, as many as our facilities could handle, we have nearly always had



Geoff Seitz



Dave Landreth



Andy Gribble



Brian DeMarcus



Elizabeth LaPrelle



Dan Gellert

the highest honor in the traditional arts given in the United States. A list of all the exceptional players booked for the Gathering over the 22-year run would fill too much space for me to mention them all here!

Gail conceived the Bluff Country Gathering and served as its director until her death in 2013. I took care of much of the necessary work during those years, and after her passing, I became the Artistic Director and turned the Bluff Country Gathering into a non-profit organization with a Board of Directors. And we have proceeded, trying our best to carry forward Gail's vision of an event celebrating our traditional music and dance heritage.

The 2022 Gathering will be held May 19-22 in Lanesboro, MN, as always. Staff and participants come together on Thursday at the Sons of Norway Hall for a potluck dinner followed by a staff concert just for those registered. Each staff member plays a couple tunes and gives the crowd an idea of what's in store for them in the workshops, which take place all day on Friday and Saturday. On Friday night is the big concert featuring all the master musicians, and on Saturday night there is a Barn Dance, both events taking place at the Lanesboro Community Center. The dance will be called by Brian DeMarcus. The concert and Barn Dance are open to

the public for a nominal fee.

Brian DeMarcus was an original member of the Green Grass Cloggers, the premier clogging troupe touring in the 1970s and 80s. Now living in Alaska, Brian is a fine banjo player and outstanding caller. Also coming from out west, though not so far north, are Seattle's WB (Bruce) Reid and Bonnie Zahnow, an eclectic old-time duo playing fiddles, guitars, banjos

and singing delightful harmony numbers.

The St. Louis, MO area is the home of Geoff Seitz, Dave Landreth and Andy Gribble. Geoff is a violin maker and an impressive fiddler, winner of the Appalachian String Band Festival fiddle contest. He's been playing fiddle close to fifty years in such bands as the IL-MO Boys, The Scrubs, Sins of the Pioneers, and Dugout Canoe, the latter with both Dave



WB (Bruce) Reid and Bonnie Zahnow



Liz Amos



Henry Barnes



Fred Keller

Landreth and Andy Gribble. Banjoist extraordinary Landreth has been teaching banjo for more than 35 years and played in the Allen Street String Band and New Bad Habits. Holding down the guitar slot with his distinctive playing is Andy Gribble, veteran of numerous bands including the New Mules. Andy has also built some beautiful gourd banjos.

Though Liz Amos now lives in Pennsylvania, she spent several years living in the Missouri Ozarks, learning from the late venerated fiddler Bob Holt. Liz is known as a powerful dance fiddler, one who believes in playing to make the dancers step it out.

From farther east come three outstanding musicians, Elizabeth LaPrelle from Virginia, Henry Barnes from east Tennessee, and perennial favorite Dan Gellert, now residing in Aiken, South Carolina. Elizabeth grew up learning folksongs from her family and then sought out other older singers to learn Appalachian ballads and song from. Both she and Dan Gellert appeared in the 2019 film "The Mountain Minor," the story tracing a musical Kentucky family from the Great Depression forward through several generations. Gellert, here in Lanesboro for his fourth Bluff Country Gathering, is a masterful fiddler, banjo player and singer, whom Ry Cooder has called "the best I ever played with."

Henry Barnes, originally from Ohio,

is a dynamic young fiddler, the winner of the 2018 Appalachian String Band Contest fiddle and band competitions. His playing reflects his mentors, like Roger Cooper and Dan Gellert, as well as older players including Doc Roberts, J.P. Fraley and many others, whose recordings he has learned from.

The numerous workshops taking place over the two days cover many of the areas of expertise of these musicians, such as regional fiddle styles, bowing techniques, Missouri-style guitar backup, playing for round dances, square dance styles, Appalachian ballad singing, and

so much more. Joining the staff to teach mandolin is Minnesota's own Fred Keller of the Whistlepigs and Skally Line bands.

The workshops are available only to fully registered participants, but the Friday night Concert and the Saturday night Barn Dance are open to the public. Both start at 8pm with tickets available only at the door. Anyone planning to attend needs to show proof of vaccination against Covid.

For more information, go to www.boveehel.com and click on "Bluff Country Gathering."



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Workshops: Friday/Saturday 10AM-5PM

Under The Pavilion: Wed 3:30 – 9:00 Country Music and Dance (free to public). Thur: 1:00PM – 4:00 PM, Old Time Dance



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plus grants from the Five Wings Arts Council and Sourcewell"



Minnesota Bluegrass Youth Alumni Spotlight:

Elli Rowe

by Molly Parker Hoof

As a member of MBOTMA over the last several years (15?), I have had the honor of watching Minnesota Bluegrass gifted youth grow, learn and work in music and life. Most have become extraordinary in their fields. I believe this is because of their parents and the supportive family attitude of the music and Minnesota bluegrass community that I am a member of. Today I spotlight one of them.

On March 20th 2022, we saw Ellie Rowe, who grew up attending Grass Seeds Academy, ascend to the American Idol stage. Elli's parents Brian and Kari, talented in their own right, performed with their band Cooper Creek at many bluegrass festivals. Her mother Kari Bloom Rowe said that Elli started participating in the Minnesota Bluegrass scene when Elli was around 3. When Elli was 6, she began on fiddle and then switched to guitar after a few years. Elli found an early passion for singing.

Elli has had the opportunity two different times to sing as a tweener act on the big stage at the summer MBOTMA festival after winning the talent competition on the family stage.

Elli's mother Kari said the first time she did a tweener (and I'm not sure of the year but around 2007-2009) singing "Blue Kentucky Girl" as a solo, and the second time in 2013 performing "The Hand Song" with Maddie Halvorson as the "Denim Darlings." She also played with the "Long Shots" on the youth camp stage at the August Festivals of Minnesota Bluegrass. She had a lot of bluegrass influences when she was young, especially Rhonda Vincent, Alison Krauss, Molly Tuttle, and Kenny and Amanda Smith.

One highlight was when Kenny and Amanda heard her in 2015, performing during a songwriter round at the SPBG-MA festival in Nashville, a song she had written at the age of 13 called "Reaching Out." They decided to record it and include it on their album "Unbound." They took it all the way to #1 on Sirius XM. She



hasn't had formal lessons on guitar, but has had the chance to learn from some of the top bluegrass guitar players at various festivals she has attended. She has had the amazing opportunity to sit down and get some tips from Rick Faris, Kenny Smith, and Clay Hess, among others.

In 2018, Elli was lucky enough to participate in a guitar and songwriting excursion to South Africa with the talented Tim Stafford of Blue Highway. The Rowe family moved from Minnesota to Nashville in 2014 when Elli was 12. After moving she began taking mandolin lessons from Danny Roberts of the Grascals plus

fiddle lessons from Becky Buller and Gail Johnson. She began college at Belmont University in 2020, studying commercial music. In the fall of 2021, Belmont offered an opportunity to audition for American Idol, where she got to perform for the celebrity judges, Lionel Richie, Katy Perry, and Luke Bryan. In March 2022, Elli advanced to the top 24 of American Idol. By the time this article is published, who knows?

I know the Minnesota bluegrass community couldn't be prouder of one of our own.





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Thursday, May 5	7:30 pm	The West Theater, 319 N Central Avenue	Duluth, MN	218-606-1211
Friday, May 6	7:30 pm	The State Theatre, 38 E Sheridan Street	Ely, MN	218-235-6300
Saturday, May 7	7:30 pm	The Historic Chief Theatre, 314 Beltrami Avenue	Bemidji, MN	218-444-5606
Saturday, May 14	7:30 pm	The State Theatre, 96 E. 4th Street	Zumbrota, MN	507-732-5210
Thursday, June 16	7 pm	Arts in the Parks, Normandale Lake Bandshell, 5901 W 84th Street	Bloomington, MN	
Sunday, June 26	9:20 am	Camp Wapo Boat-in Worship Service Lake Wapogasset Lutheran Bible Camp, 738 Hickory Point Lane	Amery, WI	715-268-8434
Tuesday, June 28	7 pm	Centennial Park Amphitheater, 6301 Shingle Creek Parkway	Brooklyn Center, MN	
Wednesday, June 29	7 pm	Harmony in the Parks, Lions Park Bandshell	Lindstrom, MN	651-257-0620
Thursday, June 30	7 pm	Concert in the Park, Memorial Park	Long Prairie, MN	320-266-5640

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Bluegrass Saturday Morning

By Phil Nusbaum

Progress

Lately, many of us have been dipping our toes in the water of life after Covid. These moves are oh-so tentative, of course. Just as we get more involved in activities such as going out for a meal and attending public events, we start hearing about new Covid variants. Cautiousness rules. Here's hoping it is two steps forward and one step back, and not two back and one forward.

Other recent progress has to do with Jazz88, KBEM-FM, the station that has served as the radio home for bluegrass music in the Twin Cities for about a generation. In the foreseeable future, the station is going to move to a temporary space as new facilities are built for us. The station expects to absorb some of the expense. At this writing, 4+ days of the 9-day spring on-air fund drive have been completed. I think that things are progressing nicely. Funds raised by on-air fund raising play a large role in paying the bills at Jazz88.

I had a job at a radio station when that station got new facilities. At that time, I went from a desk in an office with three other people to a desk in my own, unshared office that opened into the record library. I anticipate that the new Jazz88 facility will include many little improvements, making it a more comfortable workplace, with upgrades to radio technology, as well.

As you might expect, music releases declined during the dark days of the pandemic. However, slowly but surely, we're seeing a greater flow of new CDs. They come right into my mailbox at Jazz88. If listeners know of groups whose recordings should be considered for playing on Bluegrass Saturday Morning, the best address is:

Phil Nusbaum
KBEM-FM
1555 James Avenue North
Minneapolis, MN 55105

Fund Raising on Bluegrass Saturday Morning

The spring fund drive is being done live in the studios! Earlier in the pandemic, on-air people were each broadcasting from home studios. So this is progress.

However, we are not ready to have volunteers come to the radio facility to answer phones. When listeners call the station to make pledges, the calls are routed to the homes of staff members. I missed the contact with the volunteers, almost always knowledgeable Jazz88 listeners. I look forward to contact with Jazz88 listeners as they provide good feedback on our total operation.

I'd really love it if we could reinstitute our Farmers Market broadcasts. Those have been great ways to encounter listeners, and also learn about the waves of interest in gardening and cuisine. If that happens, it'll be another indication of progress.

Weekly Playlists, Listen Online

To stream KBEM programming, at www.jazz88.fm, click on "listen live." Bluegrass Saturday Morning playlists are located at www.jazz88.fm. At the top of the home page on the right-hand side, select "playlists." Then click on the desired date.



Coming Up

Venue abbreviations

318: The 318 Café, 318 Water Street, Excelsior, 952-401-7902, www.three-eighteen.com

331C: 331 Club, 331 13th Ave NE, Mpls, 612-331-1746, www.331.mn

AST: Aster Cafe, 125 SE Main St, Mpls, 612-379-3138, www.astercafe.com

BSC: Black Sheep Coffee Cafe, 705 Southview Blvd, South St Paul, 651-554-0155, www.blacksheepcoffee.com

BTC: Lake Superior Big Top Chautauqua, Bayfield, WI, 888-244-8368, www.bigtop.org

BoDD: BoDiddley's Pub and Deli, 129 25th Ave S, St. Cloud, 320-252-9475

CED: Cedar Cultural Center, 415 Cedar Ave S, Mpls, 612-338-2674, www.thecedar.org

CJ: Celtic Junction, 836 Prior Ave, St Paul, 651-330-4685, www.thecelticjunction.com

CrH: Creek House Concerts, www.creekhouseconcerts.com, 651-633-5353. MUST call and reserve for these events.

DAK: The Dakota, 1010 Nicollet Mall, Mpls, 612-332-1010, www.dakotacooks.com

EAG: Eagles Club, 2507 E 25th St, Mpls, 612-729-4469, www.Mplseagles34.org

FITZ: Fitzgerald Theater, 10 E Exchange St, St Paul, 651-290-1200, www.thefitzgeraldtheater.com

GINK: Ginkgo Coffeehouse, 721 N Snelling Ave, St Paul, 651-645-2647, www.ginkgocoffee.com

GKb: Grand Kabaret, 210 N Minnesota St, New Ulm, 507-359-9222, www.thegrandnewulm.com

HOB: The Loft at Hobgoblin Music, 920 State Hwy 19, Red Wing, 877-866-3936, www.stoneyend.com

H&L: The Hook & Ladder Theater, 3010 Minnehaha Ave, Mpls, 612-345-7166, www.thehookmpls.com

ICEH: The Ice House, 2528 Nicollet Ave S, Mpls, 612-276-6523

L&L: Leo & Leona's, W1436 State Road 33, Bangor, WI, 608-452-3637

MER: Merlins Rest, 3601 E Lake St, Mpls, 612-216-2419

OAK: Oak Center General Store, 67011 Hwy 63, Lake City, 507-753-2080, www.oakcentergeneralstore.com

SHL: Sheldon Theatre, 443 W 3rd St, Red Wing, 800-899-5759, www.sheldontheatre.org

TAP: Tapestry Folkdance Center, 3748 Minnehaha Ave S, Mpls, 612-722-2914, www.tapestryfolkdance.org

WmH: The Warming House, 4001 Bryant Ave S, lower level, Mpls, 612-845-2255, thewarminghouse.net

To post gigs and events to this calendar, [Go to this link:](https://forms.gle/HPEXGchHuEPChi1s6) <https://forms.gle/HPEXGchHuEPChi1s6>

SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS

Poems from the Prairie

A Concert to Benefit the Families of Alan Jesperson & Peter Ostroushko, with Becky Thompson, Jon Garon, Mark Kreitzer, Cal Hand, and many more

April 30 - Saturday

Parkway Theater, 4814 Chicago Ave S, Minneapolis, MN
612-822-8080, 7pm

John Gorka

May 7 - Saturday
Parkway Theater
4814 Chicago Ave S,
Minneapolis, MN
612-822-8080

8pm

Bluff Country Gathering

May 19-22 - Thursday-Sunday

Lanesboro, MN
<http://www.boveeheil.com/bluff-country-gathering.htm>

4/25 - Monday

- Roe Family Singers, 331C, 8pm
- Bill & Kate Isles, Livestream, www.facebook.com/billandkateisles, 7pm

4/27 - Wednesday

- Lenz & Frenz, 331C, 9:30pm

4/28 - Thursday

- Robbie Fulks Bluegrass Band, DAK, 7pm

4/29 - Friday

- Bill Cagley, Dunn Bros, 1160 Cty Rd E, Arden Hills, 9:30am

- Midwest Music Fest, midwestmusicfest.org, Winona
- Pat Frederick & Rebel Fiddle, 318, 8pm
- Legacy, Charlie's Irish Pub, 101 Water St, Stillwater, 7pm
- The Jugsluggers, Trap Rock Brewery, St Croix Falls, WI, 5pm

4/30 - Saturday

- Poems from the Prairie; A Concert to Benefit the Families of Alan Jesperson & Peter Ostroushko, with Becky

Thompson, Jon Garon, Mark Kreitzer, Cal Hand, and many more, Parkway Theater, 4814 Chicago Ave S, Mpls, 612-822-8080, 7pm

- Midwest Music Fest, midwestmusicfest.org, Winona, Various
- Kupinski Guitar Duo, Sundin Hall, Hamline University, 1531 Hewitt Ave, St Paul, mnguitar.org, 7:30pm
- Legacy, Charlie's Irish Pub, 101 Water St, Stillwater, 7pm

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Andy Gribble, Fred Keller, WB Reid & Bonnie Zahnow, Bluff Country Barn Dance, Community Center, Lanesboro, 8pm

5/23 - Monday

- Roe Family Singers, 331C, 8pm
- Gloryland Band, Founders Ridge Senior Living, 6600 Auto Club Rd, Bloomington, 3:00pm

5/24 - Tuesday

- Roe Family Singers, Midway Saloon, 1567 University Ave W, St Paul, 6pm

5/25 - Wednesday

- Lenz & Frenz, 331C, 9:30pm

5/27 - Friday

- Michael Shynes, 318, 8pm

5/28 - Saturday

- 2 Girls & A Boyd w/ Richard Kriehn, 318, 8pm

5/29 - Sunday

- Roe Family Singers, Hell's Kitchen, 80 S 9th St, Mpls, 10am

5/30 - Monday

- Roe Family Singers, 331C, 8pm

6/4 - Saturday

- Barley Jacks, Juniors, 414 S Main St, River Falls, WI, 7pm

- Tret Fure, Roots Cellar Music Series, University Baptist Church, 1219 University Ave SE, Mpls, www.ubcmn.org/roots-cellar-music, 7pm
- Alternate Route, BSC, 10am

5/1 - Sunday

- Cary Morin, Granite City Folk Society, First Presbyterian Church, 340 5th Ave S, St Cloud, granitecityfolk.org, 7pm
- Honky-Tonk Jump, Crooners, 6161 Hwy 65 NE, Fridley, 763-760-0062, 4pm

5/2 - Monday

- Roe Family Singers, 331C, 8pm

5/4 - Wednesday

- Buffalo Galaxy, 331C, 7pm

5/5 - Thursday

- Roe Family Singers, Hardwood Creek Library, Forest Lake, 9:30am
- Monroe Crossing, The West Theater, 319 N Central Ave, Duluth, 7:30pm

5/6 - Friday

- Bob Bovee & Pop Wagner, Gays Mills Folk Festival, Gays Mills, WI, 7pm
- The Jugluggers, North Folk Winery, Harris, MN, 5:30pm
- Elgin Foster, Sam Breckenridge & Greg Herriges, 318, 8pm
- Monroe Crossing, The State Theater, 238 E Sheridan St, Ely, 7:30pm

5/7 - Saturday

- Bill & Kate Isles, Sir Benedict's Tavern, Duluth, 6pm
- John Gorke, Parkway Theater, 4814 Chicago Ave S, Mpls, 612-822-8080, 8pm
- The Inland Seas, MER, 8pm
- Ann Reed, 318, 8pm
- Asleep at the Wheel, Hopkins Center For The Arts, 1111 Main St, Hopkins, 8pm
- Monroe Crossing, The Historic Chief Theater, 314 Beltrami Ave, Bemidji, 7:30pm

5/9 - Monday

- Roe Family Singers, 331C, 8pm
- Darrell Scott, DAK, 7pm

5/10 - Tuesday

- The Fish Heads, BlackBox Zeitgeist Theater, 222 E Superior St, Duluth, 218-336-1412, TBA

5/11 - Wednesday

- Wayne Grimsrud, 318, 8pm
- Roe Family Singers, Senior Community Center, Bloomington, 2pm

5/12 - Thursday

- G B Leighton, 318, 8pm
- Gloryland Band, Riley Crossing

Senior Living, 620 Aldrich Ave S, Chanhassen, 3:00pm

5/13 - Friday

- Billy Johnson, 318, 8pm

5/14 - Saturday

- JohnSmith w/ Dan Sabranek, Larry Dalton & Rich McDonald, Leo & Leona's, Newburg Corners, WI, 7:30pm
- Monroe Crossing, The State Theater, 96 E 4th St, Zumbrota, 7:30pm

5/15 - Sunday

- Okee Dokee Bros, O'Shaughnessy Auditorium, 2004 Randolph Ave, St Paul, 11am

5/16 - Monday

- Roe Family Singers, 331C, 8pm

5/19 - Thursday

- Side Pony & Sarah Morris, 318, 8pm

5/20 - Friday

- Becky Schlegel, 318, 8pm
- Elizabeth LaPrelle, Dan Gellert, WB Reid & Bonnie Zahnow, Brian DeMarcus, Geoff Seitz, Liz Amos, Dave Landreth, Andy Gribble, Henry Barnes, Fred Keller, Bluff Country Gathering Concert, Community Center, Lanesboro, 8pm
- The Fish Heads, Sir Benedicts Tavern, 805 E Superior St, Duluth, 218-728-1192, 6pm

5/21 - Saturday

- Michael Monroe, 318, 8pm
- Roe Family Singers, Victoria Library, 1670 Stieger Lake Ln, Victoria, 10:30am
- Brian DeMarcus, Henry Barnes, Liz Amos, Dan Gellert, Geoff Seitz, Elizabeth LaPrelle, Dave Landreth,

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The Platte Valley Boys, Minnesota Bluegrass August Festival, circa 2005- Photo by Doug Lohman