



A Different Strummer

CFMS Summer Events – in no short supply

by D. Boston

So you thought that summer would be a time to sit back and relax -- well, you're right! But there will also be a number of CFMS events (and more than last year) to include in the mix, so don't forget to mark your calendar!

Three summer potluck picnic/music jams

They are **scheduled** for the afternoons of **Sunday, June 26** (also the annual General Meeting and elections of Board & Trustees at **1:30 p.m.**) hosted by Dave Fultz at the Buckeye Boat Club in Galena; **Sunday, July 31** hosted by Beth & Stan Bradley & Cissy Behrens in

Canal Winchester and **Sunday, August 28** (location yet to be determined). All of the summer potlucks/jams are super great occasions to relax, jam or just listen, enjoy some REALLY good food and visit with like minded folks. The *potluck/jams are open to members and non-members alike.*

Franklin County Fair

CFMS members and friends are invited back to perform at the **Franklin Co. Fair on Sunday, July 17 from 2 - 4:30 p.m.** at the gazebo in the Historic Village

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Election in June: CFMS Officers & Trustees for Fiscal Year 2016-2017

by D. Boston

In accordance with its by-laws, every June The Columbus Folk Music Society holds an annual general meeting in which we elect the officers and trustees for the upcoming CFMS fiscal year.

This year's **general meeting** will be held on **Sunday, June 26th, right before the first summer picnic & jam.** The picnic/jam space is provided by CFMS member, Dave Fultz, and will be at **The Buckeye Boat Club, 6510 Walnut Valley Drive, Galena, OH 43021** (with a beautiful view of the reservoir). See

"Save the Date" on page 5 for more details. **Elections/meeting will begin at 1:30 p.m., followed by the picnic and jam.** All members are welcome and may vote if their dues are current. Others are welcome to join the jam and picnic. You can arrive as early as 1 p.m. We hold the picnic as a potluck, so please bring a dish to share as well as your own plate and utensils. Pop & bottled water are available for 50 cents. Alcoholic beverages are permitted within the building and the immediate outside area (not by the lake). The space is reserved until 8 p.m. You can even fish (if you have a license). **Come**

share some food, music and a whole lot of fun!

Slate of proposed nominees is as follows:

President - Mike Hale; *Vice President* - Hugh Farthing; *Secretary* - Diane Boston; *Treasurer* - Charlie Flowers; *Trustees*: Linda Bolles, Beth Bradley, Stan Bradley, Dan Clarke, Bill Cohen, Greg Denby, Jackie LaMuth, Jim Luckhaupt, Linda McDonald, Tom Nagel, Cathy Sheets, Carl Yaffey.



The space at Buckeye Boat Club will hold the June 26 picnic & jam.

20th Annual Central Ohio Folk Festival – Another Huge Success

by Bill Cohen



“An absolutely delightful day. Thanks for the nicest day out I’ve had all this year.”

That written comment from one festival-goer seemed to symbolize the reaction of many to this year’s folk festival on May 7 and 8.

Temperatures in the 60’s and 70’s with mostly sunny skies smiled down on the Battelle Darby Metro Park, prompting a record-setting crowd of nearly 4,900 to attend, according to park officials.

Dozens of families came to the park to hike or picnic and were surprised and pleased to discover the festival. That’s one reason the

and adults streamed to the circle and quickly picked up home-made drums and sticks to join in the rhythms.

For the second year, a younger performers tent featured children playing Suzuki violin and 20-something musicians playing everything from bluegrass to Irish tunes. Some performers there were so popular, they drew overflow crowds that rivaled some audiences at



special children’s area was filled for hours with kids picking up fiddles, guitars, and drums at the instrument petting zoo, making drums at the arts and crafts tent, and watching performers tell children’s stories and singing kids songs.



the much bigger stage at the Kirby Main Tent.

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So many cars came to the festival site that park officials had to allow vehicles to park all along the entrance road and even in a median strip of grass for the first time ever. Yet, despite the big crowds of people, the feel of the festival remained what it’s always been: cozy, warm, informal, and intimate.



Children and their parents were also drawn to a drum circle Saturday afternoon. Hearing the mesmerizing drum beats from far away, the kids



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Still, the main stage was the highlight for many festival-goers, due to the performers who did hourly spotlight concerts there. Among the wide variety of musical folk styles there were Cajun, Americana, bluegrass, dulcimer, singer-songwriter, and 1960's folk. For the second year, storytellers too had their own set there.



Also for the second year, folk dancing was in the spotlight at a special tent with a special portable dance floor. While some groups performed for the crowd, others taught some steps to the audience and invited them to join in.

While performing is a big part of the festival, teaching and learning about folk music is another mainstay. That's why dozens of people paid a

\$10 daily fee to attend nearly 50 workshops. Some taught people how to play guitar, mandolin, fiddle,



autoharp, and other instruments. Other workshops offered tips on buying folk instruments, recording folk music at home, and song writing.

At the traditional Friday night potluck for mostly festival performers, planners, and insiders, an entertaining "worst song in the world" contest was staged. For the first time, a repeat "worst song" competition was held Saturday afternoon in combination with the awarding of Bob Kirby musical scholarships to youth who've shown musical talent, spirit, and promise.



An appreciative audience of more than 100 were wowed on Saturday night, as the Michigan duo *Mustard's Retreat* sang many thoughtful and inspiring original songs. The



Mustard's team of Michael Hough and David Tamulevich were the opening act. Then, dulcimer virtuoso Bing Futch made the crowd "ooh and ah" by playing beautiful songs on an instrument with two fretboards, sometimes at lightning speed. His positive spirit and joyous smile were infectious.

As the crowd filed out of the main tent Saturday night, they were greeted by a festival tradition: the warm glow of dozens of luminaria, lighting paths to the parking lots. Matching that physical warm glow was the warm glow of cooperation, gratitude, and friendship that marked another successful Central Ohio Folk Festival.



(Photos for this article and following page are courtesy of Linda McDonald, Steve Stambaugh (S&L Photography), Randi & Bill Cohen, and George Bennett.)



Faces of the 2016 festival



SAVE THE DATE. . .

☀ The **Saturday Music Jam** at the **Worthington Farmers' Market 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.** – every Saturday outside on the Southeast quad of Worthington Square. All are welcome to play. Consider bringing a chair.

☀ **Saturday Music Jam** at **Global Gallery 9 - 11 a.m.**, (during Clintonville Farmer's Market). 3535 N. High Street in Clintonville. All welcome; please bring a chair. Contact for jam is: Dan Clarke: dan41n@att.net.

☀ **Wednesdays June 8th & June 22nd: Jam at Laurels of Worthington for Memory Care Unit.** 1030 N. High Street, Worthington. Contact Dan Clarke for exact times or to be put on his mailing list: dan41n@att.net.

☀ **Friday, June 24 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Columbus Commons Family Entertainment performance.** Contact Dan Clarke at: dan41n@att.net. Limited number of seats.

☀ **Sunday, June 26: Annual**

Meeting & Elections followed by CFMS picnic / jam. 1:30pm. Hosted by Dave Fultz at **The Buckeye Boat Club**, 6510 Walnut Valley Drive, Galena, OH 43021. Arrive as early as 1 p.m. All members may vote if dues are current. Picnic & jam open to members & non-members alike. Bring a dish to share, plate & utensils. Pop & water available for 50 cents. BYOB allowed (just not by lake). Please note on the map, Walnut Valley Dr. is off of Red Bank Road, at a roughly 90 degree curve. Directions [here](#).

FOLLOWING OUR OWN. . .

Friday, June 3: Whinestopper – 8 - 11 p.m. – *Tara Hall*, 274 E. Innis Ave., Columbus. No cover, *good people, free parking and great music and atmosphere!*

Saturday, June 4: Blues Swing 9-Midnight – *Rambling House*,

310 E. Hudson, Columbus. \$5 cover. Homemade soda and great craft beer.

Saturday, June 11: Blues Swing 7 p.m. – *Java Central Coffeehouse*, 20 S. State St, Westerville. No cover.

Friday, June 24: Grassahol 7-9 p.m. – [Byrnes' Pub](#), 1248 West 3rd Ave., Columbus. Special note: This will be the last performance with Scott and Chas.



Want to find out more about the Columbus Folk Music Society and/or it's events?

Visit:

www.columbusfolkmusicsociety.org

OR you can join as a member. Benefits include: camaraderie with fellow folk music lovers in town, discounts on certain admissions, this monthly newsletter and the comfort of knowing that all events are family friendly! A membership form is provided on the last page of this newsletter.

Special Note to CFMS members who are musicians: If you are a member of the CFMS and perform in a band, please provide us with a link to your events listing and we will be happy to include your upcoming shows (on a monthly basis) in our newsletter. E-mail: editor@columbusfolkmusicsociety.org and give us the link to your events!

Let's Hear It For The Volunteers!

by Randi Cohen

People say volunteering is good for the soul. It seems to be in this case because we had more than 50 joyful people who volunteered to do something at this year's folk festival. And there was a lot to do.



We had volunteers hourly at every music and dance tent and arts & crafts and "musical petting zoo" tent and even at the instrument lock up. We had volunteers running registration, doing the sound, electric, tent setup and teardown, helping in the festival store and even "floating" to help as needed throughout the 2 days.

Behind the scenes, there were

CFMS Summer - from page 1

area. Contact Linda McDonald at: Milocurtis444@yahoo.com to get passes and for carpooling information.

Ohio State Fair

We are invited to jam outside the Pioneer Cabin at the **Ohio State Fair on Saturday afternoon, August 6** for a four hour slot. Please e-mail Diane at: dboston2@columbus.rr.com if you would like to join in and for passes and carpooling information.

Saturday Morning Jams

Don't forget the **Saturday morning outdoor jam on the Worthington Square Green** every Saturday from **9:30 - 11:30 a.m.**

committees working year-round to write grants, sell advertising, get publicity out, find musicians, solicit store vendors and even be the "general contractor" to, in the end, pull it all together seamlessly.

THANK YOU to all the volunteers – and a special thank you to Art and Sharon Mittenbergs for stepping up **SIX YEARS IN A ROW** to coordinate the entire project. They are now stepping down as chairpersons and say they are looking forward to volunteering without being in charge!



These two guys (amongst others) were always ready and willing to do anything asked of them, including tuning guitars!

There is also another jam outside **Global Gallery Saturday mornings from 9-11 a.m.** (during the Clintonville Farmer's Market). Contact Dan at: dan41n@att.net for current dates and times for Global Gallery jam or to get on his mailing list to be advised of them.

Laurels of Worthington Jam for Memory Care Unit

There is a **jam every two weeks at the the Laurels of Worthington**, 1030 N. Hight Street, Worthington. They are generally on Wednesdays. Contact Dan Clarke at: dan41n@att.net for dates and times or to get on his mailing list to be advised of them.

Columbus Commons Family Entertainment Performance



As our friends *Mustard's Retreat* so musically put it, "Let's hear it for the volunteers!" And if you are now itching to volunteer next year, contact Randi Cohen at Randi@RandiCohen.com.

Some folks from Columbus Folk Music Society have been invited to perform as part of the **family program entertainment at the Columbus Commons** this summer. They will be busing kids in and expect 1,500 children at each event. The dates are: **Fri., June 24 (11:30am-12:30pm); Fri., July 22 (11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.)** – both geared towards middle school ages on down, and **Fri., August 19 (11:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m.)** – geared towards pre-schooler age. Sound set up provided; room for 10 musicians at each event. Dan Clarke dan41n@att.net is CFMS contact for the event if you are interested in lending your expertise to the performance.

2016 Kirby Scholarship Winners

I remember the first time that I heard Old-Time fiddle music. At the time, I had been learning to play the violin for about a year, but I didn't have a particular devotion in which to point my training. As I searched the internet for styles of fiddle, I came across a recording of Bruce Molsky playing *Candy Girl*. It was unlike anything I had ever heard; the syncopated bow, perfectly placed drone notes, and simple, yet incredibly complex melody left me mesmerized. When I heard it I knew nothing about it, so much so that I didn't even know the name of the tune. Despite this, I now new exactly what I wanted to do on my instrument.

Hardly has a day passed since I delved into Old-Time music that I haven't hummed, sang, listened to, or fiddled a folk song. Ever since I "discovered" Old-Time fiddle music, I've pursued that same sound that stuck with me since I first heard it. I studied books to learn mechanics such as shuffles and ornamentation. After I exhausted everything I could learn from written media I moved to recordings. I listened to recordings of fiddle music and came across artists such as Uncle Bunt Stephens, Tommy Jarrell, Brittany Haas, and Uncle Dave Macon. I felt the raw emotion of a guitar picking *Sail Away Ladies*, and stomped my feet upon hearing *Cumberland Gap*. Each new discovery only amazed me more, and fueled my drive to dig in deeper. Still looking to better myself further, I moved out to social playing. I attended the Columbus Folk Music Society festival,

and began attending a local jam at Rambling House. It was at this time that I first discovered the oral tradition of folk music, and I began to fully understand what this type of music is.

To me, folk tunes are the purest, most heart-felt form of music. There are no chords, and there are no tricks: only a portion of fellow man gathering together to make music. Folk music is a piece of what makes us human, as it appears wherever humans have made civilization. I am humbled and honored to contribute to such a tremendous list of achievements, to which many musicians much more talented than I have and still to do contribute. . . *Meet*

Daschel Fortner

who penned the above. 17 year-old Dasch has a real passion for old time fiddle music. On some Sunday evenings he can be heard playing at the Rambling House and his instructor, Henry Barnes, has been encouraging him to attend the prestigious Appalachian String Band Music Festival in Clifftop, W.Va.



Seth Peacock

who performed an original song at this year's Central Ohio Folk Festival.



This amazing 15 year-old singer songwriter will be in the 10th grade at Columbus Alternative

High School this Fall. Seth is in a band called Echolocation, along with his brother and a good friend. The band practices in Seth's basement and has played quite a few events, such as the Gallery Hop, IC Festival, ComFest, Columbus Commons, etc. Seth has already written, recorded, and produced two EPs independently and has been involved with two others. . . . In his words, "my life feels most meaningful when I am involved in music. . . . Music is arguably the most important thing to me and is definitely what I want to focus on as I proceed through high school, college, and the rest of my life."

Lyric Pitts

is 9 years old and attends Clinton Elementary school. Lyric has been playing a rented violin and plans to use her scholarship award to purchase her own instrument. Music is a big part of her life as she practices every day!



THE COLUMBUS FOLK MUSIC SOCIETY OFFICERS & TRUSTEES

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Next Issue in July

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www.columbusfolkmusicsociety.org

BECOME A MEMBER OF THE COLUMBUS FOLK MUSIC SOCIETY

Date: _____ I'm new to this I'm back for more

Name(s): _____

Address: _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Phone (Day): _____ (Eve.): _____ (Cell): _____

E-mail address(es) (if a household membership): _____

Membership renewals are due annually by September 30th. For new members, please check one of the membership levels listed below & pro-rate the amount of your check as indicated. If joining during the month of:

Feb-April: Your membership level amount x .5

May-July: Your membership level amount x .25

Aug-Oct: Your membership level amount as listed

Nov-Jan: Your membership level amount x .75

Individual \$20

Sponsor \$100

Gold (Life Member) \$500

Household \$25

Patron \$200

Yes! Please contact me regarding volunteer opportunities within the organization.

Good Friend \$50

Silver \$250

Please Note: Membership amounts are tax-deductible.

Please send completed form and payment to:
The Columbus Folk Music Society
P.O. Box 20735, Columbus, OH 43220

In an effort to be both fiscally and environmentally responsible, we will send a full-color, interactive newsletter via e-mail unless you request a hard copy be mailed to you.

I enjoy the annual Central Ohio Folk Festival (early May): Lots 5 4 3 2 1 Not (please circle one)