



News

Nashville Old-Time String Band Association : NOTSBA

www.nashvilleoldtime.org

november 2011

Post Office Box 160038 Nashville, Tennessee 37216

Fall Cleanup at Buchanan Log House on November 19th

November 19th is designated as clean-up day for grounds and buildings at the Buchanan Log House and presents a volunteer opportunity for NOTSBA. Here is the request from Lu Whitworth:

“Hopefully, all leaves will have fallen by then and can be blown away; plus there is other outside work needed to get the grounds ready for winter.

The inside will need to be cleaned in preparation for our holiday open house.

Please do come to help, and invite your family and friends to come help, too. Thanks.”

Cleanup days usually start in the morning around 8-9:00, and end by early to mid-afternoon. We'll e-mail more information as we get it. We hope you can help out here, for our labor helps sustain BLH, which in turn provides us with a wonderful home.

~MLD



Rick Fretter led us in Civil War era songs during his Fifth-Thursday Specialty Workshop in September.

We sang, rousingly, came home with handouts of lyrics, and learned about the backgrounds of many of the songs he taught.

Our thanks to Rick for a lively and illuminating evening.

pics: MLD

Still Considering a Notsba Third-Thursday Jam Site

We had our October Third-Thursday jam at the Fiddle and Pick. Please come out to the jam there on November 17th.

We had the Third-Thursday jam in September at the 61st Avenue United Methodist Church. We plan to return there for the Third-Thursday jam in December on the 15th.

We're still considering spaces in the west part of Davidson County, so please get any ideas you might have to members of the jams committee. We want and need your input.

The Jams Committee members are Mary Alice Bernal, Laura Blankenship, Mary Lou Durham, Phil Sparks, Todd Wright, and Lilly Hsu, Notsba's President.

~MLD



NOTSBA performers at Travelers Rest's Trades Fair, a Civil War reenactment. Here you see Ray encouraging audience participation, sharing the mysteries of the bass. The festival, which is designed to educate school children, is held each fall, and included performances by NOTSBA on both September 27th and 28th. pics: MLD

Board of Directors

by Lilly Hsu

Many of you that attend *Breakin' Up Winter* or one of the NOTSBA jams may not know that NOTSBA is a nonprofit organization governed by a fifteen member board of directors. When NOTSBA was incorporated in 2005, its main activity was to sponsor *Breakin' Up Winter*. But over time, the organization has blossomed in other areas. The Jams Committee schedules the once a month Tune Workshops as well as Specialty Workshops that focus on different aspects of old-time music. In addition to standard performances for the public, NOTSBA has performed for several historic homes and venues as well as public service organizations such as the Red Cross, Metro Parks and Recreation, and the Public Library.

NOTSBA's activities could not be carried out without the individuals that sit on the Board. Collectively, the individuals are what make NOTSBA an effective organization.

Roger Stolen - He is serving a second term as treasurer. NOTSBA is fortunate that Roger stepped up to fill the role when the opportunity arose.

Laura Blankenship – She is serving her first term as board secretary. When the secretary's position became vacant this year, she stepped up to be an officer without hesitation. Many of you know Laura from her hosting the monthly jams at Mansker's Station in Goodlettsville.

Mary Alice Bernal is serving her second year as chairperson for the annual *Breakin' Up Winter* festival that occurs in March. Get ready for another fabulous line-up of performers and presenters ranging from Alice Gerrard to the Georgia Crackers. Mary Alice has also led numerous teaching jams for NOTSBA.

Pat Gill – Many of you know her as the registrar for *Breaking Up Winter*. Although she lives in North Carolina, Pat is a key player on the *Breakin' Up Winter* committee with her knowledge, organizational skills, and insight.

Woody Hall – Serving his first year on the board, Woody works in the music industry. Last March, he coordinated a recording session at Legends Studio for NOTSBA musicians to record a demo CD. The CD will be given to entities interested in having NOTSBA performances.

Andy Shivas- He is NOTSBA's resident grant writer and has procured grants from the Tennessee Arts Commission to fund performers for *Breakin' Up Winter* for several years.

Ron Whitlow serves as our membership coordinator as well as chairperson of the Performance Group Committee. Performances are a major component of NOTSBA's mission of promoting and preserving old-time music. Ron is also a former president of NOTSBA.

Ed Gregory - Most people know Ed as the NOTSBA webmaster of our fabulous site. However, few know that he is one of the incorporators of the organization. He and Don Kent spent countless hours preparing the paperwork for NOTSBA's incorporation as a 501(c)3 organization. Ed is also a former president of NOTSBA.

Don Kent- As stated above, he and Ed Gregory were primarily responsible for carrying out the requirements for NOTSBA to become a 501(c)3 organization. Don has also served as NOTSBA president and coordinator for securing performance opportunities for the organization. In previous years, he has worked to secure NOTSBA performances at Carnton Plantation, The Nashville Zoo, and The Hermitage.

Darlyne Kent- She has served as the organization's recording secretary since the board's inception as a nonprofit organization and has done a wonderful job in preparing the minutes for each board meeting. Darlyne and Don are critically important members of the *Breakin' Up Winter* committee.

Joe Lipman – Working for the State as an accountant, he served as board treasurer for two years. Currently, Joe is a member of the board's Budget Committee

Don Masters- A retired State of Tennessee Employee, Don has served on the board for several years. His contributions to the board are many, and Don is always willing to serve when called upon. Don is currently on the board's Budget Committee.

Todd Wright- An accomplished musician, he has assisted NOTSBA in bringing legendary old-time musicians to perform at *Breakin' Up Winter*.

Mary Lou Durham - In addition to serving as newsletter editor, she is the current vice president of the organization. Of all board members, she is the one who touches almost all of the committees (Jams Committee, Performance Group Committee, and *Breakin' Up Winter* Committee).

Editor's Note: Lilly Hsu is our current president of the board. She served for several years as the organization's treasurer. She diligently serves on each committee at this time, and has maintained a high level of very effective involvement and leadership with NOTSBA since she first came to play.

Resting Phase

While I enormously enjoy editing this newsletter, I have much on my plate and am seeking assistance with putting it out each month. If you have interest in helping or in taking it over, for even a finite amount of time, say six months to a year or longer, it would allow for my putting some energy into other areas of my life that are in need of attention.

Putting out *the News* is fun to do and a good way to learn many new skills you might want to develop. It is also a great way to contribute to your organization.

I have had the great good fortune to have wonderful contributors to the newsletter and I hope that will continue, whoever is editing. Also, if you have ideas for articles, images, or information you'd like to share, please contact me.

I do know that it is possible that no one will be able to step forward right now, and though, if that is the case, I will not stop editing *the News* at this time, it might well become even simpler and more condensed than it has been.

Please email me at mldurham1@juno.com if you would like to pursue your interest in this monthly. Many thanks!

Mary Lou Durham

☆ Scheduled Jams ☆

Important Note: Ongoing Changes in our Jam Schedules

- The Tune Workshops have lately moved around to different Thursdays.
- Tune Workshops are not scheduled for November and December.

The Tune Workshops are moving around to different Thursdays—to give more people an opportunity to attend. To avoid confusion, please pay close attention to this, the “Scheduled Jams” section of our newsletter. ~PS

November 3, 2011, First-Thursday Performance Group Practice

NOTSBA members are invited and encouraged to come practice for the group performances we do from time to time. We practice from 6:30 to 8:30 PM at the Buchanan Log House. We plan to start working on medleys this evening.

November 10, 2011, Second-Thursday Regular Jam

6:30-8:30 PM, at the **Buchanan Log House**, 2910 Elm Hill Pike. Everyone who plays old-time string band music is welcome, so come on out to play. NOTSBA jams are free.

November 17, 2011, Third-Thursday Jam, *another go at Fiddle and Pick*

We’ve been working on getting a place to hold the Third-Thursday jam. Tonight we have another chance to try out the Fiddle and Pick, known by many of us as a host of many jams. Please come out and then let us know what you think. There’s a Tip Jar for registering your appreciation for their contributions. Please be kind to this venue for its wonderful hospitality to us and to all acoustic musicians.

Directions:

Go west on I-40, and take Exit 196, "70S/Bellevue/Newsome Station." Turn right onto 70 South. After 1.8 miles, you will come to a "T" in the road. Take a left onto 70 West. Go about 4.5 miles to the first traffic light where Hannah Ford Drive crosses Hwy 70. The Fiddle and Pick is on the far right corner. It's an older building with a stone front. The address is 456 Hwy 70, Pegram, TN 37143.

November 24, 2011, Happy Thanksgiving! No jam tonight

November 27, 2011, Fourth-Sunday Jam

This month’s Sunday afternoon jam is from 2 PM until around 5:30 or 6 at the home of Eddy Hudson and Julie Mavity-Hudson. Julie and Eddy are longtime members and contributors to NOTSBA’s well-being, and we love spending time with them at Sunday jams.

Bring a dish to share, favorite tunes, your instruments, maybe a chair, and you’re set for an afternoon of fun.

Directions: From Nashville, take I-24 West to Exit 31, the New Hope Road Exit.

At the end of the ramp, turn left, and go straight through the 1st stop sign/flashing red light (a 4-way) which is Clarksville Pike (or maybe Road or Hwy).

Go to the next stop sign/flashing red light (a 2-way this time) at Old Clarksville, and turn left.

Go to the second street on the left, Park Lane, and turn left. We are the 3rd mailbox on the left, 1015 Park Lane, Joelton, 37080 for your GPS, phone is 615-746-3532, or Julie’s Cell is 615-364-8459.

Other Area Old-Time Jams

🌀 **The Fiddle and Pick has more than one open old-time jam each month** in Pegram. Their schedule is shifting right now, so check their Web-site for correct information. Gretchen and company welcome music lovers of all ages and skill levels. There’s a lot of music and community going on here. fiddleandpick.ning.com.

🌀 **The 5 Spot has a Wednesday Night Old-time Jam** each week. This homey tavern/music venue located in East Nashville has been hosting an OT jam long enough to be an institution now. Stay up late and bear down on those strings. It’s on Facebook.

The fine print:

We appreciate the significant grant funding from TAC that will help bring presenters to *Breakin’ Up Winter XVII*.



NOTSBA’s Purpose: ...preservation and promotion of old-time string band music by bringing together persons interested in old-time music...and by reaching out to the community through public performances, workshops, seminars, festivals, and other public outreach, informational, and educational activities.

The opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the editor or the *Nashville Old-Time String Band Association*. NOTSBA is a volunteer organization. While we strive for accuracy, we do not label as “official” any content found here. Have an idea for an article? **Please e-mail me at mldurham1@juno.com**