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Welcome new BHFS Council Members!

Last year's annual meeting brought some "newcomers" to the BHFS Council, and they have been a great help to our small group.

Meet Tim Holz

Tim is a retired fundraiser who worked for many nonprofits over the years. In retirement he enjoys volunteering for BHFS. He loves music, but has no musical talent (his words). He does, however, have a never-ending stream of ideas on how things could be done better. He loves to cook, hunt, fish, travel, and garden. It's hard to connect with him in November and December since he's a professional traveling Santa, spreading magic in Alaska, West Virginia, Mississippi, and Texas. If you see him - just look for the red-suited jolly fella with a white beard and big stomach which jiggles when he laughs (like a bowl of jelly) - make sure to say, "Hi," but be prepared to hear a few stories!



Meet Tom Westergard

Tom was born in Oshkosh, grew up in Verona, and worked in State of Wisconsin power plants for 38 years, with the final 30 years at Winnebago Mental Health Institute. He and his wife Connie have shared darn near 48 years of wedded bliss, 50 if you count the courtin'. Two sons, a bunch of grandkids, and three dogs currently grace their lives. Even though they lived near Mt. Morris for several years, they only recently learned of BHFS when neighbors Jeff and Katie introduced them to "Pickin' at the Post." After that, they started attending BHFS Second Saturday Concerts and potlucks, and then Tom joined the Council.



Black Hawk Folk Society

October 2026-December 2026

blackhawkfolk.org

Oct 10

Claudia Russell & Bruce Kaplan

Nov 14

Tom Kastle

Dec 12

Holiday Potluck & Open Mic

Stay tuned to blackhawkfolk.org for more great concerts!

 www.facebook.com/BlackHawkFolk



Wrapping Up Another Great Year of Music

We hope you enjoyed Black Hawk Folk Society's (BHFS) 41st year of stellar performances. That's right, BHFS has been providing the finest live professional folk, bluegrass, and Americana music to central Wisconsin for 41 years! And for that, we simply want to say thank you! We couldn't do it without folks like you—our loyal patrons, supporters, volunteers, and friends who help keep live folk music thriving in our community.

Please join us for the final three Second Saturdays this year before we hibernate for a couple of months. We'll be back in March 2027, ready for another season of great music, good friends, and plenty of toe-tapping.

Festival Fun

Our annual Folk Music Festival this past July was another one for the books! We're grateful to our top-notch musicians, engaging MC, and excellent sound technician, who filled the day with phenomenal music! We'd also like to thank the talented artisans who shared their creativity, skill, and whimsy with festival-goers. We're also continually grateful for our partnership with the Mt. Morris Pioneers 4-H club, who supplied concessions, as well as all of the volunteers who donated their time and energy!

Thanks to everyone who helped make 2026 another great year of BHFS music and camaraderie. We're already looking forward to continuing the tradition!

Holiday Potluck & Open Mic Returns SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12

Festivities begin at Noon ~ Mountain View Community Center

Last year's programming shift included a December potluck and open mic at the Mountain View Community Center, and it went so well, we're dishing up another helping! Please join us again this year to share holiday cheer with good food and great music.

Members, friends, and local musicians are invited to share songs, poems, and stories in a relaxed, welcoming environment that captures the spirit of the season. Open mic sign-up when you arrive - first come, first pick (and grin). Get details on our website or Facebook page.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Second Saturday Concert Series
Mountain View Community Center
Concert @7:00 PM – Potluck @6:00 PM



Tickets only \$10/person
(18 and under FREE)



SATURDAY, OCT 10 - 7:00 PM
Claudia Russell & Bruce Kaplan
with special guest Eric Lewis

California singer/songwriter **Claudia Russell** and her trusty sidekick **Bruce Kaplan** traverse a wide Americana landscape, stopping at wondrous musical landmarks along the way, tipping their hat to string bands, blues divas, jazz cats, Village folkies, Bakersfield cowboys and Laurel Canyon troubadours. Driven by Claudia's expressive voice and distinctive guitar style, it all comes together beautifully. <https://claudiarussell.com/>

BHFS Annual Meeting
OCT 10 @ 6:30 PM

Join us before the concert to help elect Council members - everyone is welcome!



SATURDAY, NOV 14 - 7:00 PM
Tom Kastle

Tom Kastle has been a singer and folk musician for decades, traveling the world, collecting and performing maritime songs and stories, and captaining sailing ships on the Great Lakes. On stage, he has performed theatrical roles ranging from musicals to Shakespeare and is currently developing and touring two, one-man plays. We're so glad he's making a stop in Mt. Morris! <https://tomkastle.com/>

Help Support Live Music in Waushara County!

If you enjoy the monthly concerts and annual festival and want them to continue, please consider a tax-deductible donation to Black Hawk Folk Society. All funds go directly to operation costs. Please print clearly.

Become a Friend of Black Hawk Folk Society:

- ☐ Banjo level (\$25)
- ☐ Mandolin level (\$50)
- ☐ Fiddle level (\$100)
- ☐ Guitar level (\$200 or more)
- Season Co-sponsor (\$250)
- ☐ Newsletter donation (\$10)
- ☐ Sound Fund donation

Bring this completed form, along with your contribution to any of our events,

or mail to: **Black Hawk Folk Society**
PO Box 1093
Wautoma, WI 54982

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Name _____

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Email _____

☐ Please send my newsletter via email only.

(Please make checks payable to **Black Hawk Folk Society**.)

Thank you for your contribution!

Thanks to Our 2026-2027 Season Co-sponsors

Susan Allen & Bruce Dethlefsen
Jeff Anderson & Katie Lauritzen
Behlen Family (in memory of Jane Behlen)
Lyle and Beth Buettner
Connors/Barrett & Company LLC
Louise Coumbe & Janet Scalpone (Honorary)
Anne & Lou Dorwaldt (in memory of Al Stea)
Vicki Duhr & Felix Schultz (in memory of Mary Anne Nielsen)
Robert Frey (Frey Family Foundation)
Dave Gunderson
Paul and Betty Hagan
Richard A, Hansen & Family
Tim & Elizabeth Holz
David & Diane Hughes
Waino Juslen & Rene Ingwalson
Guy & Laurretta Kaplan
Barbara Peterson

Remaining 2026 Events

Mountain View Community Center (N3137 21st Lane, just off Highway 152, south of Mt. Morris)

Evening Concerts ~ October-November

- 2nd Saturday of the month at 7:00 PM
- Admission: \$10 for adults, FREE for ages 18 & under

Holiday Potluck & Open Mic ~ Saturday, Dec. 12, Noon-4 PM

Acoustic Jam Sessions

- Pickin' at the Post - Thursdays, 1:00-3:00 PM
Trading Post Bar & Grill, Hwy 152, Mt. Morris
- Strummin' at Starks & Luce - Sept 19, Oct 17, & Dec 19
from 10:00 AM-Noon, Starks & Luce Coffee Parlour and Bakehouse, 111 W. North Street, Plainfield

About Black Hawk Folk Society

Black Hawk Folk Society is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, and all contributions are tax deductible as allowed by law. For information, please contact the appropriate volunteer council member:

Bookings/Fundraising..... Tom Barrett, tomstraydog@aim.com
Hospitality..... Katie Lauritzen, katie.mezzaluna@gmail.com
Treasurer..... Paul Hagan, (920) 295-0385, prhaganjr@yahoo.com
Newsletter/Website..... Amy Kowalski, Secretary, blackhawkfolk@gmail.com
Publicity..... Vicki Duhr and Felix Schultz, maplewoodlooper@gmail.com
Sound Technician..... Guy Kaplan, gk500@uniontel.net and others
Council Member..... Betty Trowbridge, Chair, trowbridgeb@yahoo.com
Council Member..... Guy Kaplan, (715) 228-3662, gk500@uniontel.net
Council Member..... Jeff Anderson, Vice-Chair, jeff.mezzaluna@gmail.com
Council Member..... Gary Zarcone, zarc@maqs.net
Council Member..... Tim Holz, holzfamily84@yahoo.com
Council Member..... Tom Westergard, tjwestergard@gmail.com
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