

THAMES VALLEY BLUEGRASS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

January 2006



Executive Committee

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<i>Vice-president</i>	<i>Wayne Uncer</i>	<i>519-469-3392</i>
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<i>Library/Education Chairman</i>	<i>Sy Glover</i>	<i>519-285-2829</i>
<i>Membership Chairman</i>	<i>Gary Koenig</i>	<i>519-461-1293</i>
<i>Program Chairman</i>	<i>Pam Armstrong</i>	<i>519-765-1445</i>

We continue to have excellent turnouts to our Thursday evening pickin' sessions and our membership list continues to grow slowly but surely.

We will try to produce a Newsletter every month provided we have enough content to make it worthwhile. Any suggestions or contributions are more than welcome. Please contact Wes Lowe at wlowe@sympatico.ca or at (519) 539-8967 with suggestions and/or contributions.

Christmas Party

The Christmas party on December 22nd was a success with good food, wine and music. Thanks to Garry for bringing in the wine and to all those who provided the goodies we consumed after the pizza. Everyone seemed to be having a good time. Even the old fat guy in the red suit pronounced himself well pleased with event.

Coming Events:

January Pickin' Session

Arrangements have been completed for the TVBA first annual "January Pickin' Session" on Sunday January 15, 2006 from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM at the Thamesford Recreation Centre Hall. The program is open to any bands and/or musicians playing Bluegrass Music. The TVBA, as part of our ongoing workshops, has arranged to form two house bands from within our ranks. The club bands will play five songs each as part of our introduction to the stage workshop.

Bluegrass groups Crosswind out of Burlington, Foxtail and Going Concern out of London and Lonesome Wind from Port Stanley have signed up to play at this event.

Admission is free to all musicians and only \$5.00 to all others. All proceeds will be donated to a local charity. Tickets will be on sale at the door. Come on out and be prepared to have a great time.

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The Executive Committee will handle set up and clean up. Anyone who volunteers to help will be welcomed with open arms.

For more information call Wayne or Jane at 1-519-469-3392

Williams & Clark Expedition Concert – March 19, 2006

All the arrangements have been completed for the Williams & Clark concert at The Thamesford Hall on March 19, 2006 from 2:00 to 5:00 pm.

Tony deBoer is providing the sound. Doug deBoer and his group Hard Ryde are opening for Williams & Clark. Tickets are now on sale at \$20.00. You can purchase tickets from any member of the Executive Committee. Let everybody you know hear about this show. It promises to be excellent. The group has a fresh but traditional sound I'm sure will appeal to everyone.

We will continue to remind you of this concert and provide you with updates and details of other concerts and events that we are planning in future newsletters.

Financial

We are still in excellent shape financially with over \$5,000 in our account and most expenses covered.

Learning Library

Members are making good use of the Learning Library materials donated by members as well as materials purchased from The Stringman.

You must be a member to access this material at the low cost of \$5.00 per 2 week period. Members have been making use of the library regularly since it was established earlier this fall. Sy Glover is the man to see for your learning needs.

Please return borrowed materials within the 2 week period allowed to give others a chance to access this rich resource that the club has set up for you.

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Workshops

We are still working on the format and duration for our learning workshops as well as some form of official recognition for participants. Any suggestions from members as to workshops desired will be more than welcome. Please forward your thoughts to Pam Armstrong, Program Chairman.

There was a Mandolin Workshop conducted by James Cummins on Thursday evening, January 5th. It was very instructive. Your Secretary attended and learned some really neat things. Now if I can just get my fingers to obey.

By the time you get this, the Dobro Workshop scheduled for Thursday, January 12th to be conducted by Gord De Vries may have already happened. We will try to get a little more lead time on the announcement of these workshops as we gain a bit more Newsletter experience.

Memberships

Memberships are still Family \$30.00 and Single \$20.00. Memberships were due on October 31st. If you haven't already paid, please see Gary Koenig, Membership Chairman he will be happy to issue you your Membership Card.

Factoid

You may have noticed (or not) that the January Jam has now become the January Pickin' Session. This is because, to purists, Country, Jazz, Blues, Rock & Roll and other musicians jam. Bluegrass musicians pick. Hence the change in nomenclature.

Other News

There was an excellent article about Wayne and Jane and the club (Complete with photo) printed in the Woodstock Sentinel Review last Friday. We're trying to get it into the London Free Press as well. You Londoners should call the Free Press and let them know you would like to see more of this kind of coverage.

Check out our website at **TVBA.ca** sponsored by **The Stringman** and developed and maintained by Gord DeVries.

The Thames Valley Bluegrass Association Executive