





Twice the Fun with Twice the Music in Two Tents!

Come Party with Us...

Friday, August 9

"Blue Jacket" Honors Ceremony at 7:45

Walt Groller Marv Herzog The Sorgenbrechers Eddie Blazonczyk & The Versatones Scrubby and The Dyna-Tones Mark Janson and The Brass Express

Saturday, August 10

10 Hours of Polka/Variety Music - in Both Tents!

Walt Groller Marv Herzog Frank Stanger Joe Stanky and The Cadets Frankie Liszka and The Brass Connection Eddie Blazonczyk and The Versatones Scrubhy and The Dyna-Tones Mitch Biskup and the Brass Reunion

Sunday, August 11

Catholic Mass at Noon

Marv Herzog Frank Stanger Joe Stanky and The Cadets Gerry Kaminski's Merry Makers Stas Bulanda and the Average Polka Band Eddie Blazonczyk and The Versatones Mitch Biskup and the Brass Reunion

Monday, August 12

Free Dance Lessons every weekday; 2:30 - 4:30

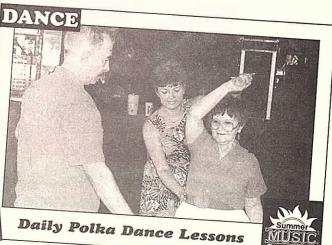
Joe Toriskie and The Casuals Bob Turcola Verne and Steve Meisner Stas Bulanda and the Average Polka Band Polka Family Mark Janson and The Brass Express

Tuesday, August 13

Music & Dancing every weekday; 3pm - Midnite

Del Sinchak Verne and Steve Meisner Bob Turcola The Michigan Connection Polka Family Mark Janson and The Brass Express







Wednesday, August 14

Polkas in the North area; Hubcaps in the other!

Verne and Steve Meisner
Del Sinchak
Joe Toriskie and The Casuals

The Hubcaps Show & Dance

Thursday, August 15

Big Band Night... plus The Hubcaps

Jan Garber Orchestra Bobby Layne Orchestra

The Hubcaps Show & Dance

Friday, August 16

Graduation Day for Dance Students... more Hubcaps

The Polish Kid & Internationale Rhythm & Sound Marv Herzog & The Bavarian Band Mark Janson & The Brass Express

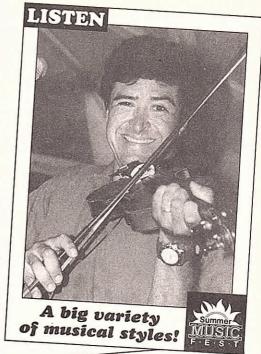
The Hubcaps Show & Dance

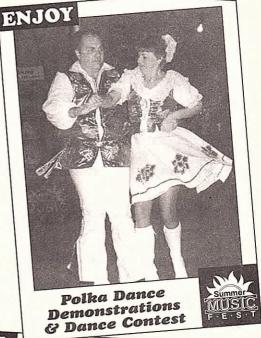
Saturday, August 17

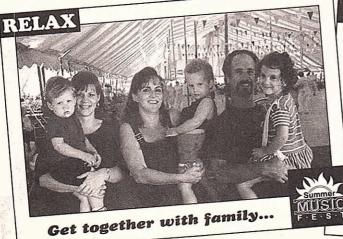
National Polka Contest... Grand Finale... Hubcaps!

The Polish Kid & Internationale Rhythm & Sound Marv Herzog & The Bavarian Band Mark Janson & The Brass Express

The Hubcaps Show & Dance









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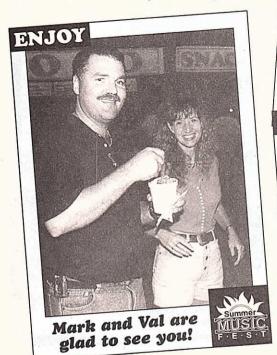
Music Fest bring out the party in you. Good friends, great music, delicious food, refreshing drinks, and bright and spacious tents all add up to nine days of great fun!

The Summer Music Fest takes place in Heritage Park along the banks of the Cass River just over the covered bridge from downtown Frankenmuth, MI., 10,000 square feet of wooden dance floors, over 4,000 chairs and tables, a large variety of food and drinks, all

under 80,000 square feet of tents to keep everyone in the shade or out of the rain awaits the festival goer. Parking is adjacent to the festival. Brand new restroom facilities take care of personal needs very comfortably.

The Summer Music Fest plays host to various styles of music for listening or dancing, all taking place in two different tented areas. Twenty polka bands of Polish, German, and Slovenian descent entertain eight of the nine days. The Jan Garber Orchestra and the Bobby Layne Orchestra, two big name Big Bands, entertain exclusively for Big Band Night. Rock 'n roll music presented by the fabulous Hubcaps enters the picture four of the nine days.

Festival organizers Marv and Teresa Herzog and Mark Janson, all from Frankenmuth, have been sponsoring the festival since 1988. Every year, the festival attracts people from almost every state and several countries. The Summer Music Fest is a premier festival, located in a premier city - Frankenmuth. So plan on visiting this Bavarian city from August 9 - 17, and see how the Summer Music Fest can bring out the 'Party' in you.





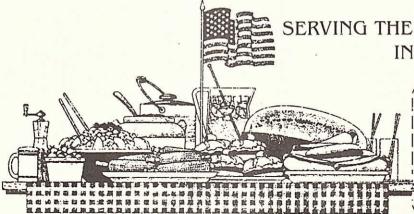
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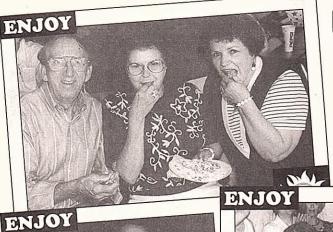
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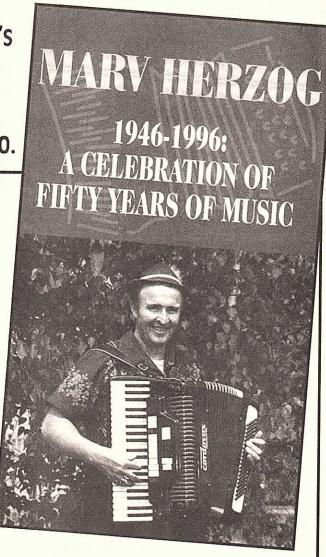
If you missed Marv Herzog's Celebration of **50 Years of Music,** you can see it now on video.

This two hour video is a compilation of the two evenings featuring Mike Larges, former drummer with the Herzog band, as Master of Ceremonies.

- Why do Marv and the band wear lederhosen?
- How does Marv learn new songs?
- Great stories about the band

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For a copy of the Video, just mail a check to: Marv Herzog, 5736 Maple Rd., Frankenmuth, MI 48734

For a Catalog of all the Marv Herzog Band Recordings, a Public Dance Schedule, or a Schedule of Tours, write to the above address or Call 517-652-8189 • Fax 517-652-3468

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his year marks 50 years in music for Mary Herzog, one of the co-host bands of the Summer Music Fest. Last summer Marv underwent quadruple bypass surgery following a mild heart attack in July. His recovery was remarkable because he was bound and determined to be on stage the following month for last year's festival.

Mary Herzog's musical accomplishments have earned him the same widespread Bavarian fame and distinction as that of his hometown of Frankenmuth. In recognition of his 50-Year celebration, the Frankenmuth Historical Society honored Marv in January with a two-day affair and banquet. The Historical Society Museum now displays Mary's first accordion as a lasting tribute to the good will his name and music has brought to Frankenmuth.

Everywhere he goes Marv promotes polka music, his hometown of Frankenmuth, and the Summer Music Fest. Marv has been inducted into the Michigan Polka Hall of Fame and the International Polka Hall of Fame.



Bavarian Style N POLKA . VARIETY

Mary thanks God to be blessed with renewed health and a second chance that many people do not receive.

May you, too, enjoy good health this summer, because without it. nothing else matters!

Every member of the band shares the spotlight on vocals, while the band's instrumentation includes Marv (cordovox); Tom Darling (lead guitar); Bruce Hesterman (rhythm guitar); Scott Seymour (drums); and Marv's son-in-law Dave Slivinski (accordion). Mary's wife Teresa is also a featured vocalist with the band.

The band will perform both weekends of the Summer Music Fest, Friday through Sunday, August 9th - 11th, and Friday and Saturday, August 16th and 17th.



Hesterman

Darling



Dave Slivinski

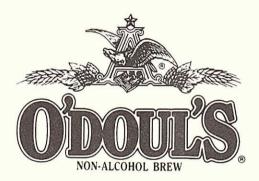


Scott Seymour



n 1996, the Summer Music Fest will honor the Marv Herzog Booster Fan Club known as The Blue Jackets, as they celebrate 25 years. There are currently over 2,600 members nationally as well as a few in Germany. Honors night takes place on the first day of the festival, August 9th. Special plaques will be given to the original twelve members as well as the current leaders of the club. Certificates will be given to all the Blue Jackets who attend.

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PROUD SPONSOR OF THE 1995 SUMMER MUSIC FEST

ark Janson and The Brass Express, one of the co-host bands of the Summer Music Fest, continues to carry a high-profile Polish-style image throughout the profound German culture of Frankenmuth. Their tenacity and performances prove that all styles of polka music can mix comfortably together – which has been the premise of the Summer Music Fest since its inception. Just as the festival also mixes in rock'n'roll and popular music, so does the usual playlist of the Brass Express – quality rock, country, pop, and some German style too.

As synonymous is Mark's name to the Summer Music Fest, so have the original members of the band shared special notoriety with The Brass Express. Two such musicians recently retired from the band — Al Stuart and Ron Oczepek. They will surely be missed by the friends and fans of the band.

Gus Guzevich of the Polka Family Band explains band personnel changes best: "Although traumatic, each personnel change seems to bring different strengths to the band, promoting growth and development." New members who hope to grow with The Brass Express are: Chris Hedrich (trumpet); and Jim Krzezewski (bass, vocals). Other

members include: Mark (drums); Joel Zwerk (accordion, vocals); Darrell Weltin (concertina); and C.J. Lackowski (trumpet, vocals).

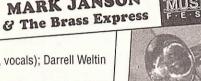
See and hear what's new with Mark Janson & the Brass Express when they perform at the Summer Music Fest on Friday, August 9th,

Monday and Tuesday, August 12th and 13th, and the last weekend. August 16th and 17th.

1996



Polish
Style
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The Sorgenbrechers

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Festival in Gaylor
Europe several tir
unique style of m
followers.
The Sorgenbr
Bavarian yodelin
folksongs and m

Variety is the spice of life even for the polka bands and fans who convene at the Summer Music Fest.

Tommy Schober and The Sound of Sorgenbrecher Band have been playing to enthusiastic crowds since their band formed in late 1972.

The band consists of: Tom Schober (sax); Ron Dodich (accordion); Rob Hohentanner (bass); and Gene Bilewicz (drums).

Their performances include Oktoberfests, festivals, weddings, parties, conventions and cruises, and were once featured on the televi-

sion program Good Morning America from the Alpine Festival in Gaylord, MI. Their travels have taken the band to Europe several times, Hawaii and the Carribean Islands. Their unique style of music has rewarded them many admirers and followers.

The Sorgenbrechers specialize in German music and Bavarian yodeling with a wide assortment of polkas, waltzes, folksongs and much more. Once you hear these four talented musicians play you will find that the band has been aptly named – the translation for the name Sorgenbrecher in English is "Breakers of Sorrow".

Break your sorrows away with The Sorgenbrechers on Friday, August 9th at the Summer Music Fest.

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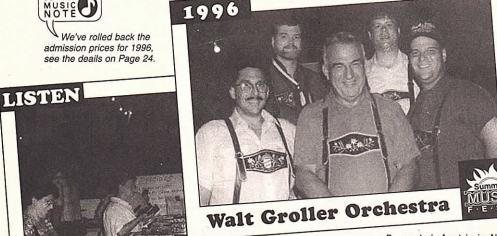
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Austrian Style N

alt Groller wrapped up his whirlwind celebration of "50 Years of Music" during a stately ceremony in

Burgenlad, Austria in November of last year. There, at the Parliament of Eisenstadt, he was given the rare Gold Medal of Honor for his contributions to Burgenland, the home of his forefathers. His status as "Polka Ambassador to the World" is supported by Austria's leaders who claim Walt has done more to promote the country and its proud heritage than any government official or public relations firm can only dream of accomplishing.

Walt's motto of "Bringing People Together Through Music" shines during every performance - from the quaint dances in his hometown of Allentown, PA to the grand festivals that recruit Groller throughout the United States. Members of the Walt Groller Orchestra are: Walt (accordion, vocals); his son Joe (drums); Norm Stull (all woodwind instruments); Joe Mixon (bass); and Tony Fasching (guitar).

Get together with Walt and his orchestra when they perform during the first weekend at the Summer Music Fest, Friday and Saturday, August 9th and 10th.



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Slovenian Style N POLKA . VARIETY



Over hill, over dale... in August, all roads lead to Frankenmuth.

Stanger and Stanky will both travel those "Pennsylvania Hills", through the Ohio Valley, and on to Frankenmuth for the 1996 Summer Music Fest.

or the second consecutive year, the Summer Music Fest welcomes the Slovenian Polka sound of the Frank Stanger Recording Orchestra back to Frankenmuth.

Besides Frank on piano and semi-chromatic accordion, the group regularly features Pat Hutch (accordion and organ); Ted Lysiak (saxophone and clarinet); Tony Trong (upright bass); Paul Yeager (drums); Mike Mertich (banjo and guitar); and Marilyn Gobely (piano and trumpet).

Due in part to their unparalleled performances, the orchestra continues to make numerous live appearances in Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, New York and Michigan.

If you are a lover of Cleveland Style Polkas, make a date to experience the sound of the Frank Stanger Orchestra on Saturday and Sunday, August 10 and 11.



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- Polka Family Band
- The Brass Connection
- Ray Jay & The Carousels
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SUMMER MUSIC NOTE

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Couuntry
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MUSIC
POLKA · VARIETY



oe Stanky and His Cadets, a dynamic five-piece band based in

Nanticoke, PA, is really going places – including Frankenmuth for their first appearance at the Summer Music Fest. This year alone, the troupe will play over 200 one-nighters, covering 18 states with their vigorous schedules and commitments. From Pennsylvania to Florida, to Texas, Virginia and Nashville, Tennessee, fans and friends enjoy the polka/country flavor Joe Stanky adds to his music.

Bandleader Joe Stanky plays the violin and guitar and is the lead vocalist. Joe also writes many original tunes, including the group's biggest hit — "The Dancing Mouse Polka". Joe credits a young girl named Dixie for the lyrics to that tune, which she came up with while attending a polka dance. Other band members include: Mike "Mag" Magdan (drums); Bob Smurlo (piano, keyboards and bass); Ken Boback (accordion and concertina); and Steve Evanina (trumpet, guitar and vocals).

See Joe Stanky and His Cadets light up the stage with their unique and high energy music at the Summer Music Fest on Saturday and Sunday, August 10th and 11th.

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ENJOY



Plump pork chops and chicken are barbecued on the festival grounds and available in The Lion's Haus

ddie Blazonczyk and the Versatones are perennial favorites of the Summer Music Fest. In fact, ever since 1963 when Eddie started the Versatones his band has been the favorite and the standard by which most Polish style polka bands have aspired to.

The legacy of the band withstood some uncertain times this past winter because of Eddie's heart surgery. While Eddie stayed home recuperating, the band played on without him – even a successful tour through California. Polka fans who attended those dances without Eddie still got the standard dose of high caliber polkas by The Versatones.

The men who carried on Eddie's good name and sound – then and now – include: Eddie Blazonczyk Jr. (concertina); Eric Noltkamper (accordion); Ed Wolinski (trumpet); Eddie Siwiec (trumpet and clarinet); and Jeff Yash (drums).

Healthy and "better than ever", Eddie Blazonczyk will be back on stage at the Summer Music on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, August 9th thru 11th.

SUMMER MUSIC NOTE

Year after year, Eddie and the band use their Summer Music Fest booklet for information to local services and retailers during their stay... we hope you do the same!

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Our annual national polka dancing contest has been moved...

...moved to the 2nd Saturday of the festival -August 17th. Details of the 1996 National Polka Dance Championship™ are on Page 42.

he DynaTones, from Buffalo, New York, are returning with the kind of zaniness only Scrubby can deliver. Since their last appearance at the

Summer Music Fest in 1989, polka-icon Dave 'Scrubby' Seweryniak has achieved even higher status since his induction into the esteemed International Polka Hall of Fame in 1994.

The Dynatones signature sound revolves around the zealous vocals and concertina playing of Scrubby, who is appropriately supported by the quality musicianship of band members: Mark Trzepacz (trumpet); Michael Burka (trumpets, vocals); Robin Pegg (drums); Jim Johnson (bass, piano); and Michael Nowakowski (accordion).

The Summer Music Fest welcomes Scrubby and The DynaTones back to Frankenmuth on Friday and Saturday,

August 9th and 10th.



Polish Style 1

Congratulations to 'Polka News' editor Carl Rohwetter (right) who is a 1996 inductee of the IPA Polka Hall of Fame

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Polish Style MUSIC POLKA · VARIETY

Three Cheers for these Three New Music Fest Bands...



Overall, 9 bands are making their first-time appearance!



Frankie Liszka and TBC is a born-again polka band, reformed from The Brass Connection, a youthful and popular 80s-era polka band. It was during those times that Frankie established himself as a prominent musician and songwriter who wrote most of their many hit songs. Through those early years The Brass Connection collected numerous band, song and album awards from the IPA and USPA.

The Brass Connection inevitably broke up and in 1991 Frankie Liszka, with the blessings of the former TBC members, started up again. Since then, the new TBC has picked up where The Brass Connection left off – winning awards for USPA Favorite Recording for their 1993 release "Blue Magic" and 1994's "Down Through The Years".

Besides Frank on trumpet, lead vocals and bass, other band members include: Steve Binkiewicz (trumpet and clarinet); Chris Yanetsky (bass and trumpet); Dave Walter (accordion); Pete Dardzinski (concertina); and Matt Lewandowski (drums).

Frankie Liszka promises "I'll be there..." at the Summer Music Fest with TBC on Friday and Saturday, August 9th and 10th.



nother new sound gracing the Summer Music Fest line-up is that of Stas Bulanda and the Average Polka Band. Besides being one of Chicago's favorite hometown bands, their popularity extends through Cleveland and all along the East Coast. Now, Summer Music Fest fans can experience that fan-friendly entertainment that Stas Bulanda is known for.

The band always rustles up the dancers and gathers a crowd at the stage with their trademark rendition of "Let's Have A Party Polka," marking the start of some non-stop fun. Another favorite tune is their "Polish Traditions Waltz" which is the only waltz ever awarded "Favorite Song" by the United States Polka Assoc. That same year, 1992, they also won "USPA Favorite Recording" for "Stormin' Polkas".

With Stas Bulanda on trumpet and lead vocals, The Average Polka Band includes: John Furmaniak (accordion); Ron Flisnik (drums); Tom Lizik (trumpet); Bob Pienta (clarinet/sax); and Wally Maduzia (concertina).

Stas Bulanda proclaims "Let's have a party..." at the Summer Music Fest along with his Average Polka Band on Sunday and Monday, August 11th and 12th.



Fax: (517) 652-3247 231 Hubinger St., Frankenmuth Ph: (517) 652-3246

Welcome to the 1996 Summer Music Fest



Polish Style Style Polka · Variety

ichigan's best kept secret will be exposed to the polka public when Gerry Kaminski's Merry Makers make their Summer Music Fest debut. As good as they

are, these musicians are not the road warriors that most festival bands consist of, choosing to perform closer to home in Grand Rapids, Michigan, to accommodate

their families and jobs.

Gerry Kaminski took over leadership of the band when his dad, accordionist Ray Kaminski, passed away in 1981. Since then, Gerry has patiently assembled a top-notch group of musicians who are committed to collectively play their best.

The main instrumentation of the Merry Makers consists of: Gerry (trumpet); Stan Klocko (trumpet); Dan Bizon (accordion); John Zelasko (accordion, concertina); Steve Lesiewicz (bass, fiddle); Peter Chacho (drums). Both John and Peter are familiar to polka fans from their various stints in other bands before they settled in Grand Rapids.

Gerry Kaminski's Merry Makers are hitting the road to Frankenmuth and newfound polka fans at the Summer Music Fest on Sunday, August 11th.



Actually, the appropriate and most popular cheer for this style of polka music is "Push...Push...Push!"

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MUSIC FANS – Welcome before, during, and after the Festival!



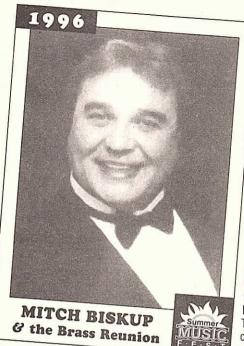
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Polish Style Music Music Polka · Variety

itch Biskup's polka career began in 1968, the result of an offhand comment of his landlady's grandson. "I heard that a group of area musicians are starting a new band and are looking for a bass player – why don't you try out?" Mitch, having recently finished a stint

playing string bass for a folk group and having no background in polka music, hesitated at first, but thought, why not? Armed with a rented electric bass and a borrowed tape recorder, he joined five other eager musicians for their first practice at the PACC in Ludlow, Mass. Little did he realize that he would soon become one of the most popular polka personalities in the industry.



Mitch spent endless hours listening to the taped practices trying to pick up the finer points of the electric bass to become proficient enough to appear on stage with the Golden Brass at their debut a few months later. It was not until a year later that Mitch was permitted to sing with the band — Two Bucks Polka — and from then he steadily increased his repertoire of songs and eventually took over the duties as master of ceremonies, a role that he is perhaps best known for.

Mitch rose to stardom with the New Brass (the former Golden Brass) which was an instant success in the polka field with its unique combination of two trumpets, two accordions, bass and drums, and its one-hour marathon sets. The band soon became one of the top five polka bands in the nation and in 1971 won the triple crown from the IPA Hall of Fame for Best Instrumental Group; Best LP, "Let the Sunshine In," and Best Single Record, "Let the Sunshine In."

Throughout his years with the New Brass, Mitch composed, arranged and sang many hit songs which kept the band at the top of the charts during their entire career and provided volumes of

recording material for other polka bands.

Mitch will be joined on stage with some other former band members who made 'The Brass' a household word in the polka industry. The Brass Reunion takes place at the Summer Music Fest on Saturday and Sunday, August 10th and 11th.

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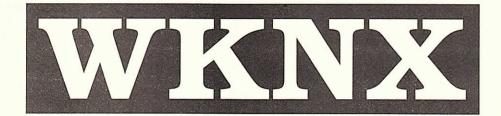
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THE POLKA NEWS P.O. Box 57 St. Charles, MI 48655



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seven-member group of committed musicians, the Polka Family Band is currently one of the most exciting and innovative bands on the modern polka scene today: Nominated for the very prestigious Grammy

Award for three consecutive recordings; Performances at Carnegie Hall in 1992 and 1994; Winners of the International Association's coveted 'Best Album' and 'Song of the Year' awards in 1990 and 1991; Veterans of multiple PBS TV appearances.

Credentials aside, the very real substance of the group lies in its ability to reach the collective heart of each audience for whom it performs. Fans, promoters and other commentators have persistently highlighted the stage presence and personality of the band. The majority of the group's repertoire consists primarily of original works written and arranged by Hank Guzevich, the group's musical director and stage focal point. He has created a proliferation of new ideas that have found favor with a typically conservative polka public. This combination of new music, highly-talented musicians and stage personalities make the Polka Family Band a unique entity in the field today, Finally, the group is entertaining in addition to its music. A visual scan of the stage at a given moment reflects a panorama of rhythmic action, body movement, hoedown fiddle, twirling trumpet and smiling faces!

Those smiling faces of the Polka Family Band include: (Dad) Frank Guzevich (accordion); (Mom) Nellie Guzevich (tambourine); Fred Guzevich (fiddle, vocals); Hank Guzevich (trumpet, vocals); John Fomenko (accordion); Frank Kolodzieski (clarinet, sax); and Greg Sajkowicz (drums). See and hear the high-performance entertainment of Polka Family on Monday and Tuesday, August 12th and 13th.



Rick Vinecki (right)

joins his in-laws on stage

Polish
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MUSIC
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The Polka Family Band



The Summer Music Fest honored Polka Family last year for their many accomplishments in the polka industry.

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SUMMER MUSIC NOTE

> Wednesday thru Saturday nights –

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The Hub Caps

For the 9th consecutive year Summer Music Fest fans will be treated to the best in '50s & '60s style Rock'n'Roll Music. The Hubcaps travel down memory lane – back to the years when rock'n'roll first came on the scene – as they visually, vocally and musically imitate the original stars.

Long-time fans never tire of hearing some of The Hubcaps' hits over and over again, and are always anxious to see the new routines that the group always surprises audiences with. Among The Hubcaps' new fans are The President and

Mrs. Clinton and the entire White House Press Corps. Last summer they were honored to play on the South Lawn of the White House for the entire White House Press Corps Picnic! In addition to this honor, in June of 1995, The Hubcaps performed their popular "do wop" version of the National Anthem at Camden Yards, Baltimore, for the start of an Orioles vs. Yankees game.

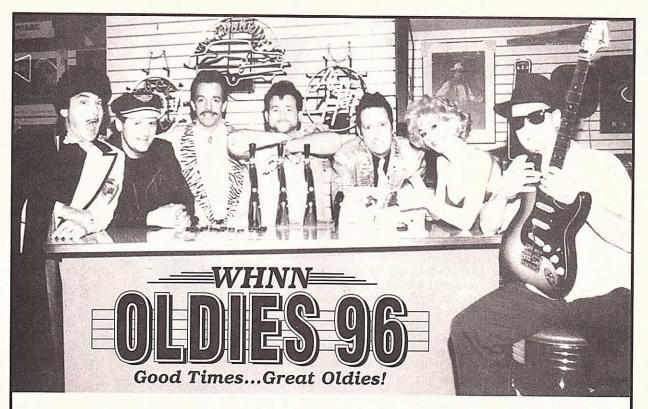
The seven member group consists of: Denny Cook (lead vocalist, bass, keyboards); Doug Lewis (vocals, guitar, bass); Jimi Simon (vocals, keyboards, sax); Barry Holober (vocals, drums, percussion); Rocky Simon (vocals, percussion, sax); Barbie Riehl (vocals, flute, sax); and Coe Anderson (vocals, guitar, sax).

The Hubcaps begin each night with a show at 7:30pm. The hour-long performance includes skits and tunes which re-enact the original artists. The show is different every night and is followed by more music and dancing until 11:30pm.

See this exciting group Wednesday through Saturday, August 14th - 17th, at the Summer Music Fest.



The Hubcaps visually, vocally and musically...



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Cleveland Style N



Bob Turcola and the band had fun getting in the party mood with these fun 'Bavarian' outfits -

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his year marks the 30th Anniversary of the Bob Turcola

Orchestra, and they will be celebrat-

ing in part when they make a return visit to the Summer Music Fest.

Through the years they have recorded six LP albums, two singles and one video. Their album titled "Slovak People Let Us Sing", recorded at Peppermint Recording in Youngstown, Ohio, has the distinction of becoming a best seller in Czechoslovakia, selling in the hundreds of thousands. Although mainly a Slovenian style band, the Bob Turcola Orchestra is noted for a wide variety of music.

This past year the band was recognized by the Ohio House of Representatives for their many years of charitable work. In the past 8 years Bob Turcola Orchestra Benefit Dances have raised \$62,000 for Top's Children Hospital located in Youngstown, Ohio.

Bob Turcola and his band perform at the Summer Music Fest on Monday and Tuesday, August 12th and 13th.





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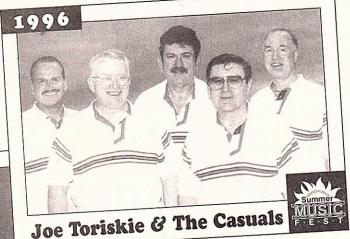
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oe Toriskie and The Casuals who come from the Cleveland, Ohio area, are making their first appearance at the Summer Music Fest.

Last year they were nominated for Album of the Year, Band of the Year, and their sax man for Sideman of the Year by the Cleveland Style Hall of Fame, but The Casuals are equally at home playing Slovenian, Polish, German or Czech polkas and waltzes and they have a large variety of country, rock'n'roll, and ballads.

Joe Toriskie is the leader and plays accordion, Carl Wendt also plays the accordion and at one time led his own 7-piece Polish style band. Tom Grahek plays sax and hails from Pennsylvania, where he formerly played with The Invictas. Ray Zalokar plays bass and is the band's lead singer, who originally played with a rock band. Jim Slatinsky plays drums, learning his trade with the Joe Beno Band. Together they are The Casuals – a band that enjoys playing all styles of music.

The Summer Music Fest welcomes the Casuals to Frankenmuth for their debut performances Monday August 12th and Wednesday, August 14th.



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Slovenian Style N MUSIC POLKA: VARIETY

he popularity of polka music will never die out, if the Meisner family has anything to do with it. Father, Verne and son, Steve, play out about five days a

week. During the week they may play together, weekends they split up with their separate bands. It all depends on what the occasion calls for – like when they return again to the Summer Music Fest for three days this year!

Verne has devoted his entire life to music, performing with a unique spark that is always identifiable as Verne's own sound, not only of polkas, but also of his vast repertoire of beautiful, melodic waltzes. Through the years Verne has garnered numerous awards, including his induction into both the International Polka Hall of Fame and the National Cleveland Style Polka Hall of Fame.

His son Steve has followed in dad's footsteps with his own band, and just like Dad, enjoys enormous popularity. Steve is the featured vocalist and he also plays the piano accordion and button box accordion.

Joining father and son on stage are: Bill Hageemann (alto, tenor sax); Carl Hartmann (guitar, banjo); and Carl's son Rick Hartmann (drums).

Verne and Steve Meisner team up again at the Summer Music Fest Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, August 12th thru 14th.



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Cleveland Style N



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ailing from Youngstown, Ohio, this energetic group has won the hearts of thousands of polka fans wherever they perform. And when it comes to making albums, this band is second to none - with three successful releases on the award winning Peppermint Label. Their first album, "Rediscover", was nominated in 1992 by the Cleveland Style Polka Hall Of Fame for Recording Of The Year. For their second album, in 1994, The Del Sinchak Band greeted you with the "Hello" heard 'round the world'. "Hello" would also go on to be nominated for Recording Of The Year by the Hall Of Fame. Additionally, the group would garnish two Band Of The Year nominations by the Cleveland Polka Hall Of Fame for the years 1994 and 1995. Now their new CD release, "Polka or Else", is receiving great reviews by DJ's across the country.

All the members of the Del Sinchak Band belong to the prestigious Penn-Ohio Polka Pals organization. Leader and accordionist Del Sinchak is founding president of the Penn Ohio Polka Pals and has maintained that position for twenty years. Del was also the originator of WAM Records and produced many great polka recordings on that label. Through the years, Del has assembled a fine and fun group of musicians: Bob Smrecansky

(drums); Paul Jacobson (guitar); Dale Wilt (bass); Joe Colapietro (sax); and Danny Klanica (accordion and keyboards).

Polka Or Else! It's an offer you can't refuse once you've heard the Del Sinchak Band when the band makes their first appearance at the Summer Music Fest on Tuesday and Wednesday, August 13 and 14. You won't want to miss them.





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Their latest recording "A Paragraph of Polkas" was nominated for several awards by various Polka associations, including "Song of the Year" for the popular "Punctuation Polka". Recently they were voted "Favorite Band of the Year" by The Great Lakes Polka Association.

Paul Romanowski, the leader and the band's drummer and lead vocalist is joined on stage with some very talented musicians. Doug Andrejewsk, an original member of the group, plays trumpet along with new member Kevin Adams. Gerald Prill, on accordion, keyboards and vocals, and Mike Fudalla, on concertina, are celebrating their 5th year with the band. With new member Dave "Nigel" Kurdziel on bass guitar, The

Michigan Connection is sure to produce a sound that will be enjoyed by all. They plan to release a new recording very soon.

The Michigan Connection punctuates the Summer Music Fest line-up with their appearance on Tuesday, August 13th.





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Big Band S MUSIC BALLROOM DANCING

Big Band Night Thursday, August 15th

LISTEN



Orchestra Leader

Bobby Layne Orchestra

Bobby Layne is celebrating 43 years in the Big Band Business in 1996!

Keeping the traditional music of the 30's 40's and 50's alive with "String of Pearls", "In the Mood", "Stardust" and many other great big band favorites, he has captured the hearts of the dancers with his excellent tempos and the listening audience with his many melodic arrangements.

Bobby Layne and his Orchestra have had the pleasure of working with many notables in the entertainment business: Bob Hope, Anita Bryant, Art Mooney, Gordon McRae, the Four Aces, Bob Newhart, Dagmar, Rusty Draper, The Ink Spots. Joe Feeney, Dave Boyer, the

Lawrence Welk cast and numerous tours with Myron Floren. Highlights include: National Ballroom Operators Award for Outstanding Ballroom Performance. "The Best of Lincoln" award from KFOR Radio and the band selected to play for the Governor's Inaugural Ball, four years running.

In the 60's Bobby's band started out as a 7-piece and enlarged to an 11-piece in the 70's. In 1974 Miss Trudy Du May joined the Bobby Layne Orchestra to add her dynamic vocal style.

Bobby served four years in the 43rd Army Band where he played trumpet. Not until the 60's, due to a shortage of saxophone players, did Bobby purchase his first alto saxophone and clarinet. He then played lead saxophone in his own band. He still picks up his trumpet and joins the brass section on some tunes.

Bobby Layne attended school in Waverly, Nebraska. As a freshman he joined the high school band where he played 1st chair trumpet. When Bobby was a senior he started his own seven-piece band, doing his own booking and building his library of dance tunes along the way.

Thursday, August 15th is Big Band Night with the Bobby Layne Orchestra!

TRUDY DU MAY Bobby Layne Orchestra Vocalist

For the past 20 years Trudy Du May has been performing with the Bobby Layne Orchestra. Traveling full time as the featured vocalist, she is on the road 165 days a year.

She has recorded six albums with the Bobby Layne Orchestra. Recognized by Jules Herman for her outstanding singing ability, Jules Herman said, "Trudy Du May may possibly be the best big band singer on the road today". Most recently Miss Du May has been recognized as a Big Band featured vocalist in the nationally publicized book by Lee Barron called "Odyssey of the Midnight Flyer" and in "Annabelle You Did What" by Don Darrnell.

After hearing Miss Trudy Du May sing on a broadcast on KFOR Radio, disc jockey Scott Young said, "the quality and sincerity she adds to a song is great! She makes the romance of the Big Band era live again!"

While attending the University of Nebraska in 1967 she won the prestigious "Jazz Symphonia Vocalist of the Year" award and was featured in many appearances with the U of N Jazz Band. Active in musical productions around Lincoln and Omaha, Trudy worked four years with four piece groups before she joined the Bobby Layne Orchestra.

In 1974 Miss Du May joined The Bobby Layne Orchestra traveling full time as the featured vocalist. Working solo, duet and trio Miss Du May has a talent for "Bringing out the best in a song, in the big band style".



hardwood dance floors.



Jan Garber Orchestra Leader

Jan Garber

under the Direction of Howard Schneider



he Sweet Bands were extremely popular during the Big Band Era, and they were just what the name implies - bands which played soft music, perfect for dancing cheek to cheek, or listening to on the car radio during a moonlite drive. Sweet bands included swing and novelty numbers in their repertoire also, but they were popular chiefly for their irresistible, gently romantic dance tunes. Jan Garber, the Idol of the Airlanes, was one of the first sweet bands to achieve widespread popularity, spanning sixty-nine years. This year the Jan Garber Orchestra is back, under the leadership of Howard Schneider.

Howard, a native Wisconsite, has not only experienced great success with his own Big Band throughout the past seven years, but he has also traveled extensively throughout the United States and Canada during his illustrious musical career, performing for several well-known celebrities. Aside from being a very accomplished trumpeter/pianist/arranger and vocalist, Howard has earned a degree in music from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh in 1970. It is for these very reasons that Mrs. Jan (Dorothy) Garber has carefully selected Howard to follow in the footsteps of her late husband and lead this legendary orchestra.

Howard has done extensive research on the man whose legendary style he is continuing today. The Garber group under Schneider's direction is strictly adhering to the standard 12 piece instrumentation launched by Jan shortly after World War Il and they will continue to perform in the style that made his band so very famous. It is with great pride that he will carry on the "Jan Garber" tradition that dubbed Jan the "Idol of the Airlanes."

Thursday, August 15th is Big Band Night with the Jan Garber Orchestra!

tradition of being photographed on the waterfront. an Garber was boosted into national prominence during radio broadcasts from the Trianon Ballroom. The announcer dubbed Jan "The Idol of the Airlanes", a tag line which caught on and identified his orchestra. Jan began his bandleading career many years before the "big band era," and was still active long after most of his fellow leaders had given up because of declining business. When he retired in the early '70s, very few people could equal his record of successful continuity in a highly competitive business.

Jan Garber and his band followed the popular '30s



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his band, Internationale, from Trenton, Michigan, have been a mainstay in the polka field, known for their perfect dance tempo and many hit songs which

are crossover tunes that please all types of polka audiences. Don's superior talents are admired among both fans and musicians alike. Members are: Don (accordion, buttonbox, vocals); his wife Lorraine (drums); Don Skuta (sax, clarinet, vocals); and Tom Kopeck (accordion, trumpet, vocals). Internationale performs during the final two days of the Summer Music Fest on Friday and Saturday,

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hythm & Sound is another band making their first appearance at the 1996 Summer Music Fest.

This East Coast group is led by Frank Borzymowski, formerly of the original Boys from Baltimore. Rhythm & Sound have hit it big with their debut recording "Feel the Rhythm, Hear the Sound," and have received rave reviews at major festivals on the East Coast. Other members of the band include: Stan Raiczyk, Joe O'Such, Kevin Kurdziel, Chris Bogdon and Brian Chenkus.

This exciting group will be cranking out their style of polka music on Friday and Saturday, August 16th and 17th, and they invite everyone to feel the rhythm, hear the sound and celebrate their first Summer Music Fest

appearance.







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Dance to the Music







National Polka Dance Championship™

The Summer Music Fest will again be hosting the National Polka Dance Championship. Butch and Mary Kotowski will continue to conduct this exciting event which usually attracts talented polka dancers from many states, and is always a highlight of the Summer Music Fest.

This year's contest will be held on Saturday, August 17, at 6:15 pm. Certificates will be presented to all participants and trophies will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in Division I (Age 17-older), Division II (Age 35-50), and Division III (Age 51 older). A special Junior Division will available for children (Age 16 or under). Juniors will not be in a dance competition, and all who perform will receive a trophy for their efforts.

Butch and Mary hand-pick the judges from different areas of the country to obtain a diversified judging of polka dance styles, including representatives from the United States Polka Association and the International Polka Association. Mark Janson and the Brass Express will provide the music for the dance competition.



1995 National Polka Dance Championship
CONTESTANTS



Left to Right: Laurie Wisniewski, Natasha Oginsky, Joseph Oginsky, Kristin Czerniak, Mary Lou Brock, Tracy Czerniak All children received Trophies and are from the state of Michigan.



National Polka Dance Championship COMMITTEE

Left to Right: Butch Kotowski, Lisa Slivinski, Rick Eisenman, Alma and Geno Bowens, Ann Buzinski, Joyce and Rudy Tokkesdal, Suzie Boyle, Lorraine and Bill Miller Note: Bill Boyle missing from photo utch and Mary Kotowski from Annapolis, Maryland, began teaching Polka dancing in 1976, and since have graduated thousands of people from their classes at polka festivals, country clubs and resorts, and dance halls across America and the Bahamas. Much acclaim has come their way for their special style of teaching and dancing.

In March 1996, their exciting polka dance exhibition was featured on POLKAmerica, aired nationally throughout the U.S.A on Public Broadcast Stations; and later in June, they performed at Bobby Vinton's Blue Velvet Theater in Branson, Missouri. Be sure to purchase their video "Teaching America How To Polka" at the Summer Music Fest. It is designed for beginners through advance dancers. It's an 84 minute classic!

They have been the Summer Music Fest Dance Instructors since 1988, and will be providing free dance

classes Monday, August 12 through Friday, August 16 starting at 2:30 pm. In addition to Polka, they will be providing lessons in a variety of other Polka "Fun" dances, including the new and exciting "Dancer Delight" polka figure dance, Rock n' Roll and Country line dances, and others. Everyone is welcome to join the fun and experience the exciting world of dancing entertainment.





DANCE



Division I Winners pictured with Mary and Butch left to right: 2nd Place: Stanley DeGroff and Claudette Davis; MI/OH

1st Place: Tim Duba and Julie Ripplinger; MI 3rd Place: Tom Andrew and Marilyn Feicht; OH



Division II Winners

Division II Winners pictured with Butch and Mary left to right:

2nd Place: Denise Wisniewski and Don Matijega; MI 1st Place: Mary Monticello and Rod Garges; MA 3rd Place: Bernie and Sonny Czerniak; MI



Division III Winners pictured with Butch and Mary left to right:

3rd Place: Judy Butcher and Bob Campbell; MI

1st Place: Betty and Jim Kaiser; WI 3rd Place: Nancy and Bill Klein; OH

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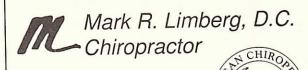
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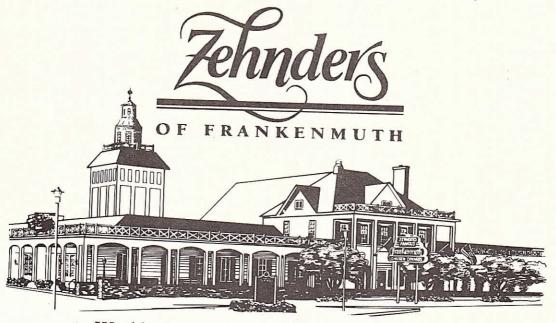
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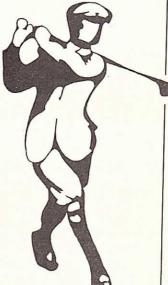
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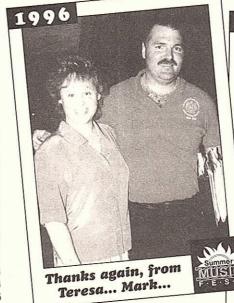
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