



Frustrated Maestros - Eastern Sharps & Flats



April 2023 Newsletter



A Maestro's View of Perry

By almost every measure, the 106th International Convention & RV Expo in Perry, Georgia was a huge success for the Frustrated Maestros. We use the term “almost” mainly because we had to deal with some pretty cold weather for both rehearsals and performances in our venue: *Town Center*, an open, unheated building. Temperatures in the 30’s brought back memories of High School and College marching band days to many of us, but with enough layers of clothing along with hats and gloves, we soldiered through it. The chilly mornings had some minor impact on the number of attendees willing to get out of their warm beds to get their “free donuts”, but those who did were entertained by some great music. The Ice Cream Social held on Friday afternoon was a different story. The house was packed—a captive audience for our noontime performance.

The Maestro turnout for the rally was wonderful. We had a full trumpet section (4), a full sax section (3), and a full trombone section (2). In addition we had a flute, a French horn, a tuba, and a rhythm section of drums, guitars, banjos and keyboard and of course, a great chorus. Several of our members were new members that have joined us in the last nine months. Our Director for the Rally was one of those. Sue Siegler and her husband Ari joined us last fall and this was their first time to play with the Maestros. Sue had come expecting to play her flute, but as a retired music teacher, she was quickly recruited to direct, leaving Paul Monat free to fill a much needed position on the tuba (and occasional cornet solo). Needless to say, Sue did a wonderful job. Her high energy and teacher mentality not only endeared her to the Maestros, but also made her a real crowd pleaser. Ari was a wonderful addition to the trumpet section. Other first time performers included Burt and Susan Bicksler (vocals & guitar), Don Black (sax), David and Marie Breeding (vocals, guitar & banjo), Susan Walter (banjo), and Kathy Fuller (keyboard). [Kathy is not a new member, but she graciously agreed to fill a much needed position on the keyboard.

The Frustrated Maestros were called upon to lead the singing of the National Anthems at the Opening Ceremony Wednesday evening. Rosemarie Ladue sang *O’ Canada*, accompanied by Nancy Derkowski on the flute.

Continue in next column

Walt Porter sang *The Star-Spangled Banner* accompanied by a saxophone trio of Nick Hefner, Cliff Freed, and Don Black. Both anthems were awesome!

Music for the Rally came from a combination of the Eastern Area Library (aka GEAR Books), the Marston Library (aka Yellow pages), Pop Classics, and a few other pieces brought by individuals for ensembles. We played crowd pleasers like *76 Trombones*, *Rock Around the Clock*, *Beer Barrel Polka*, *New York, New York*, *Military Escort*, *America the Beautiful*, *God Bless America* and many, many more. Soloists featured Sally Friedlander singing *Summer Time*, Paul Monat (Vocal & Cornet) in a Louis Armstrong version of *What a Wonderful World*, Steve Schultz featured on the drums with *South Rampart Street Parade* and *Wipe Out* and a duet of Ari Siegler and Paul Monat playing *Trumpeter’s Lullaby*. An ensemble led by Ben Woods performed a medley which included blue grass, patriotic and folk songs. The chorus was featured with them on *Blowin’ in the Wind*. And finally, the programs ended with Maestro favorites like *On the Road Again* and *God Be With You Till We Meet Again (Amen)*.

Another big plus for us at Perry was recruiting. With just shy of 2000 RV’s attending, there were a lot of people. The Chapter Fair drew a huge crowd, and the activity at the Maestro Table was fruitful. Likewise, our Block Party, with food and entertainment was also fruitful. In the last nine months (beginning with GEAR) we have added a total 14 Maestro performers (nine RV families) to the Eastern Sharps & Flats roles, with more membership applications expected to come in.

If you missed Lucky 13 in Perry, you missed a good one.

Pictured to the Right: Rosemarie Ladue, Marie Breeding, Jackie Thackery, Nancy Derkowski, Kathy Fuller, Sue Siegler, Bonnie Porter



FMCA'S 106TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION & RV EXPO MARCH 15-18, 2023 • PERRY, GEORGIA FMCA Your RVing Family



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**COME AND SUPPORT
THE NORTHEAST AREA**
August 3-5, 2023

**Come for Music Camp --
Stay for GEAR**

An Invite from the NE Area Executive Board:

Come join us for a fun-filled Rally in Herkimer, New York! There will be 4 nights of camping, 30-amp with water, three mornings of coffee and doughnuts/pastries, seminars, commercial vendors, one night of block parties, two nights of entertainment and one daytime entertainment, Chapter Fair, Ice Cream Social, Hot Dog Social, and Ladies Tea.

Herkimer, NY has plenty of local attractions. World famous for its 'Herkimer Diamonds', which are special quartz crystals that are unique to the area. Treasured by custom jewelry makers, they are naturally diamond-like with their geometric shapes and clarity.



Visit the General Herkimer Home, home of the Revolutionary War hero, General Nicholas Herchheimer (Herkimer). The Herkimer Home site is open mid-May through October, Wed.-Sat. from 10 AM to 5 PM and Sun. from 1-5 PM,

Memorial Day to Labor Day. On Sunday afternoons, staff in period costume demonstrate household and farm activities!

For the Frustrated Maestros, we will most likely be scheduled to arrive on Monday, August 1st. Cliff Freed is the President of the Yankee Doodle Dandies (YDDs) Chapter of the Maestros. Walt Porter (trombone etc.) will be the Director.

The YDDs have always supported Eastern Sharps & Flats events (Music Camp; & GEAR) and we would like to have a strong showing to support them in Herkimer. Mark the dates on your calendar. Registration is now open.

Contact information:

Cliff Freed Phone: 610 972-2888
President, YDDs concpumper@aol.com
John Traphagen Phone: 845 332-6001
National VP NE Area jtraphagen@fmca.com
Lou Snow Phone: 413 477-6939
Rally Master loulubirdnest@aol.com

Music Camp and the Great Eastern Area Rally (GEAR) will again be back-to-back in beautiful Lewisburg, WV.



More information will be in the next Newsletter when we get closer to the event, but for now, get these dates on your calendar and in your travel plans:

17th Annual Music Camp Dates

Early Arrival	Sun <u>Only</u>	Sept. 24
Normal Arrival	Mon	Sept. 25
Music Camp	Tue-Fri	Sept. 26-29
Departure*	Sat	Sept. 30
GEAR Arrival	Sun	Oct. 1

* Unless staying for GEAR

Please take note of the fact that there is only one day available for early arrival (Sunday). There is a large event going on at the WV State Fairgrounds and they have requested that we NOT arrive before Sunday, Sept. 24th.

We believe we will be able to park everyone in a 50-amp, full hook-up site near our practice facility, the West Virginia State University Building. Our plan is to remain in the same sites all the way through GEAR, which means Saturday will be a free day, since we will not have to relocate for GEAR.

The Music Camp Committee is meeting on a regular basis, so if you have ideas or suggestions for Music Camp, please contact any one of them.

MUSIC CAMP COMMITTEE 2022—2023

Nick Heffner	980 258-9885
Cliff Freed	610 972-2888
Philip Fuller	803 556-1813
Music Director: —ex officio	TBD
Secretary: Kathy Fuller—ex officio	803 467-2594
President: Bruce Taylor—ex officio	706 255-4081



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The Frustrated Maestros at Perry, courtesy of Kathy Fuller



Flowers for our Director, Sue Siegler presented by Walt Porter



Ari & Sue Siegler, Kevin Derkowski, Paul Monat, Nancy Derkowski, Bonnie & Walt Porter



Ari Siegler and Paul Monat wowing the audience with their rendition of Trumpeter's Lullaby



Blue grass combo: Dee Russell, Bonnie Porter, Burt Bicksler, Ben Woods and Walt Porter with chorus (foreground)



Jamming at Happy Hour

NOTE: For more of Kathy Fuller's photos see us on our Facebook page using the link below:
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100084150331800>



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International Conventions and Area Rallies

June 2023

Great Lakes Area Rally
June 7-11, 2023
Darke County Fairgrounds
Greenville, Ohio

Northwest Area Rally
June 7-11, 2023
Linn County Fair and Expo Center
Albany, Oregon

Midwest Area Rally
June 13-16, 2023
Northern Wisconsin Fairgrounds
Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin

July 2023

International Area Rally
July 6-11, 2023 and/or July 12-17, 2023
Calgary Stampede
Calgary, Alberta

August 2023

Northeast Area Rally
August 3-5, 2023
Herkimer Fairgrounds
Herkimer, NY

August 2023

**FMCA's 107th International
Convention & RV Expo**
August 23-26, 2023
CAM-PLEX Multi-Event Facilities
Gillette, WY

September 2023

South Central Area Rally
September 13-16
Heart of Oklahoma Expo Center
Shawnee, Oklahoma

October 2023

Eastern Area Rally (GEAR)
October 4-8, 2023
State Fairgrounds of West Virginia
Lewisburg, West Virginia

Rocky Mountain Area Rally
October 24-28, 2023
Pima County Fairgrounds
Tucson, Arizona

Go to: www.FMCA.com for Rally information and registration forms, or look for a Registration form in your *FAMILY MOTOR RVing* magazine.

Sharps & Flats Officers 2022-23

President	Bruce Taylor bet426@comcast.net
Vice President	Dale Averill daverill49@gmail.com
Secretary	Kathy Fuller kfuller@gmail.com
Treasurer	Gail Taylor gmw408@gmail.com
National Director	Bill Murton Bmurton33@gmail.com
Alt. National Director	Paul Monat paulmonat@wildcornet.com

Do you have a Frustrated Maestro name tag? If you would like to have one you can order it from Badges R-US. Their WEB site is www.badgesrus.net and their phone numbers are (760) 212-0682 or (877) 231-1682.

Their order form shows various layout options but not one like the one pictured here. Just tell them you want the layout provided by Bruce Taylor for the Eastern Sharps & Flats. Also, do not order an Eastern Sharps & Flats hang bar. The chapter will provide that to you.





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Music Camp 2023 Registration Form

Location

State Fairgrounds of West Virginia
891 Maplewood Ave.
Lewisburg, WV 24902

Dates

Music Camp	Tues., Sept 26th through Fri., Sept. 29th
Normal Arrival	Mon., Sept 25th
Optional Early Arrival	Sunday Sept 24th (ONLY)
Departure Date	Sat., Sept. 30th (if not staying for GEAR).
GEAR Arrival Date	Sun., Oct. 1st (must add Sat. night per the worksheet below)



Name _____	Co-Pilot _____
Address _____	Instrument/Voice (SATB) _____
_____	Co-Pilot Instrument/Voice _____
_____	Phone No. _____
Email _____	FMCA F# _____

Music Camp Registration Fee					\$ 200.00
includes 5 nights of camping with full hookups (30 amp)					
				Number of Nights	
Early Arrival	Sun. (24th)	adds	1	X	30 =
Staying for GEAR	Sat. (30th)	adds	1	X	30 =
Total Due					\$ _____

Make your check payable to *Eastern Sharps & Flats*
and mail with this form to:

Gail Taylor
194 Rainbow Dr. #9410
Livingston, Texas 77399



NOTE

Please have your Registration in by August 28, 2023.

If you have any questions please email, call or text
Bruce Taylor :
bet426@comcast.net
Phone # 706 255 4081