

– July 2021

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Popular Midsummer Bluegrass Music Festival returns

MANITOWISH WATERS – Set among the towering pine trees and lake-dotted landscape in Manitowish Waters comes some of the sweetest bluegrass music you will ever hear. The 32nd annual Midsummer Bluegrass Music Festival on Thursday-Sunday, July 29-August 1st will feature music by artists and bands from all over the nation. Hosted by the Cozy Cove Tavern & Restaurant, this year's outdoor event features several headline artists/bands: Seldom Scene, a Bluegrass supergroup that originates from Maryland, Irene Kelley & Her Band from Nashville, Kenny Stinson & Perfect Tym'n from Tennessee, Chicago-based Henhouse Prowlers, and Feed The Dog hailing from the Upper Midwest.

The Midsummer Bluegrass Show is Wisconsin's longest continuous running bluegrass festival and was honored to have Bill Monroe, Father of Bluegrass, play at the second annual some 30 years ago. From that time on, festival producer, Jerry Florian, has been driven to bring the Seldom Scene to the Manitowish Waters stage. After many years of futility of trying to book the Seldom Scene, Nashville booking agent, Keith Case, one day told the producer in a kind tone of voice, how do you think they got their name? All that has changed as the Seldom Scene is up to the task of visiting Manitowish Waters and gracing every song with breathtaking instrumental interplay and heavenly three part harmonies.

While there will be innovative tunes from a number of genres including jamgrass, folk, blues, Texas Swing, rock, roots, Americana, acoustic jazz, Cajun and Celtic, this Bluegrass cast represents the most approachable and accessible of all the genres of music. For example, at the scheduled Bluegrass Institute of the Northwoods Sponsored Meet and Greet sessions, patrons may ask specifics about the Seldom Scene's 50 year history. Guests will have the rare opportunity to hear and talk with this legendary Hall of Fame band that is on the must-do list for grasping an essential understanding of Bluegrass Music.

Irene Kelly is a dynamic and powerful singer residing in Nashville Tennessee but will spend some time the last Saturday weekend of July in Manitowish Waters. Her recent recording "Benny's TV Repair" has been getting much airplay on Sirius Radio and patrons will have an opportunity to buy an autographed copy from her. Music historian Robert K. Oermann sums up her great gifts this way: "As a vocalist, Irene Kelley glows with beauty and expressiveness. As a songwriter, she shines with a luster that few of her

peers can match. This is music to cleanse the soul. This is music to raise you up. This is music to touch your heart.”

The line-up for Thursday, Friday and Saturday includes Seldom Scene, Irene Kelly & Her Band, Kenny Stinson & Perfect Tym’n, Henhouse Prowlers, Feed The Dog and more. Sunday’s Gospel line-up allows for a farewell performance by Kenny Stinson & Perfect Tym’n (11 AM) as the artists premiere songs of their recently released Gospel Recordings.

Daily and weekend, family special and all access pass (includes walk-in camping on-site) are among your ticket options. RV or trailer camping is also available; all campsites are rustic, but a call ahead to reserve is encouraged because of a limited number of on-site spaces.

Cozy Cove is located on 5786 U.S. Highway 51. Bring a blanket or lawn chair for the musical performances. Make it a full week of fun by staying at one of the local lodging facilities. A serene natural Northwoods beauty frames the township of Manitowish Waters. Just across the street is a paved hike/bike path leading to the downtown and elsewhere. So, bring your bike and walking shoes for an excursion in between sets.

For more information, contact bluegrass festival founder and Cozy Cove owner Jerry Florian at 715-543-2166, info@MidSummerBluegrass.com Visit www.MidSummerBluegrass.com to see the full schedule and detailed ticket information.