HARVEST GATHERING MUSICIANS November 29, 2009

By Michael Erlewine (Michael@Erlewine.net)

Taken at Bernard Farm in Lake City, Michigan

Harvest Gathering artists come from all over, not just from Michigan. Bands travel from as far away as the West Coast to share music and friendship with one another. Here are a few of the many performers who regularly play sets at the Harvest Gathering.

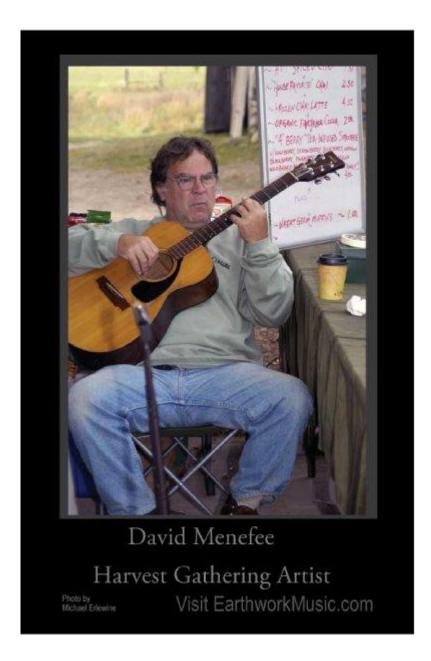


Bruce Ling is an accomplished fiddle player (and lots of instruments) and teaches in the West Michigan area. His group "Hawks & Owls" is known all over the state. Ling just loves to play and instruct others. He has a number of DVD instructional videos on learning roots instruments.

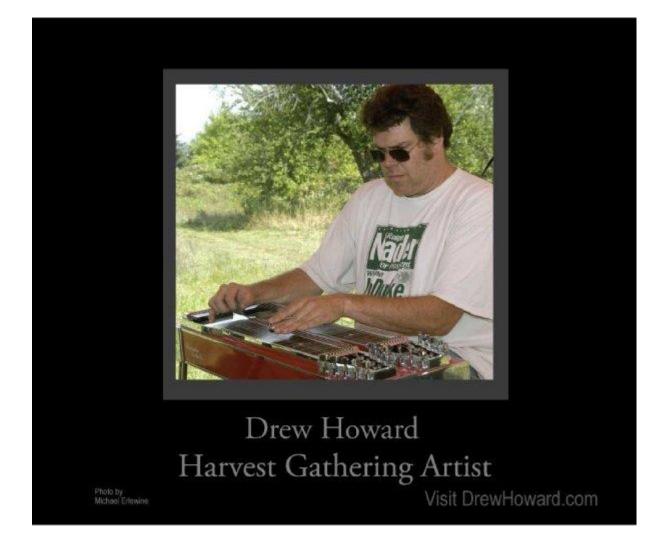
2010: The 10th Annual Harvest Gathering



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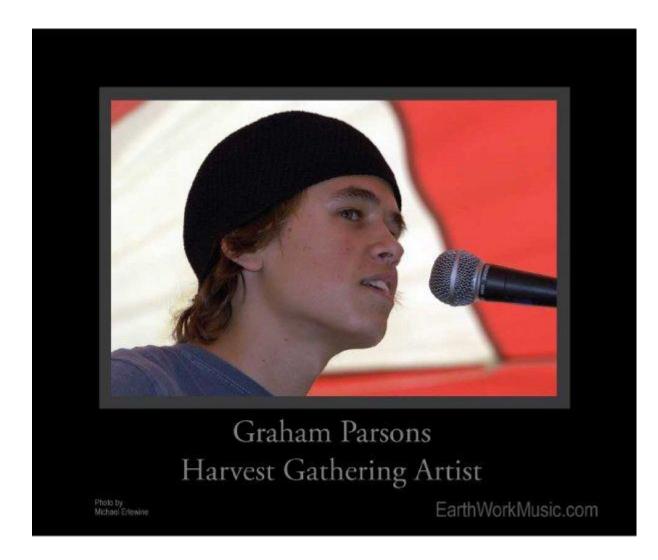
Singer/Performer David Menefee has been a part of the Michigan music scene for as long as I can remember and I can remember a long way back. With several albums to his credit, Menefee is and part of the Michigan singer/songwriting scene.



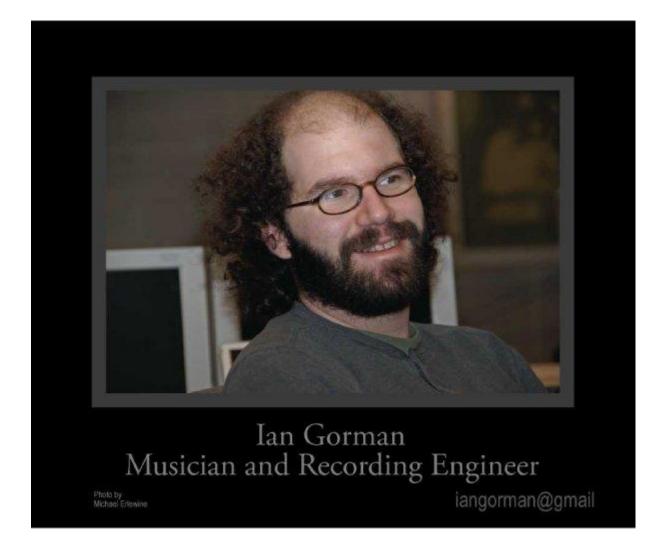
Drew Howard plays many instruments and very well at that. Although best-known for his lap and pedal steel playing, Howard can shred a guitar rock-style with the best of them because he comes from back there and played all that stuff. All the players want him on their albums.



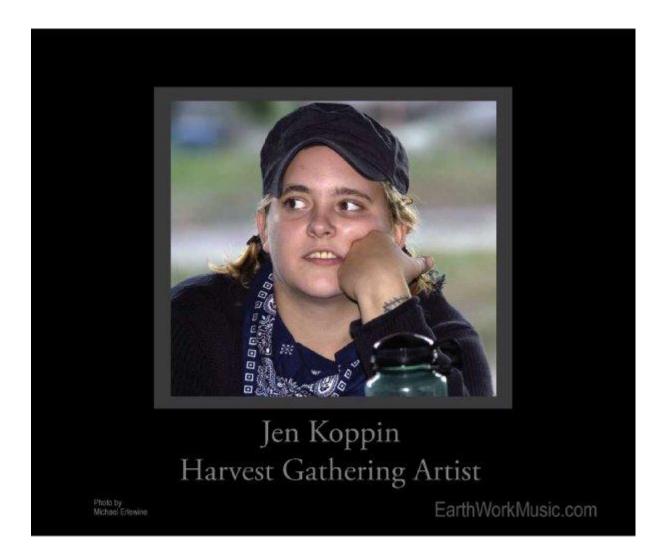
Folk/jazz singer/songwriter Dick Siegel has had an enormous influence on the younger musicians like Seth Bernard. Siegel is a veritable one-man music experience, an absolutely delightful and dynamic performer. For example, a few years ago Siegel broke his arm and could not play his guitar. He showed up for his Harvest Gathering set and did the entire thing a cappella, just with his voice. He played all of the guitar solos with his voice and it was mesmerizing.



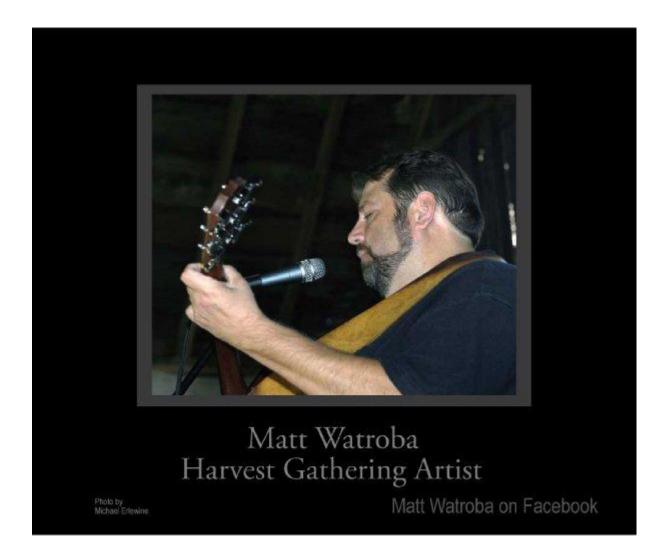
Graham Parsons is one of the younger artists who is making waves, but have not yet had a chance to really hear him.



Musician Ian Gorman plays bass in his band the "Red Sea Pedestrians," but overall Gorman is the most sought-after sound engineer I know of, responsible for dozens of great albums. He has recorded most of my daughter May's albums, for example.



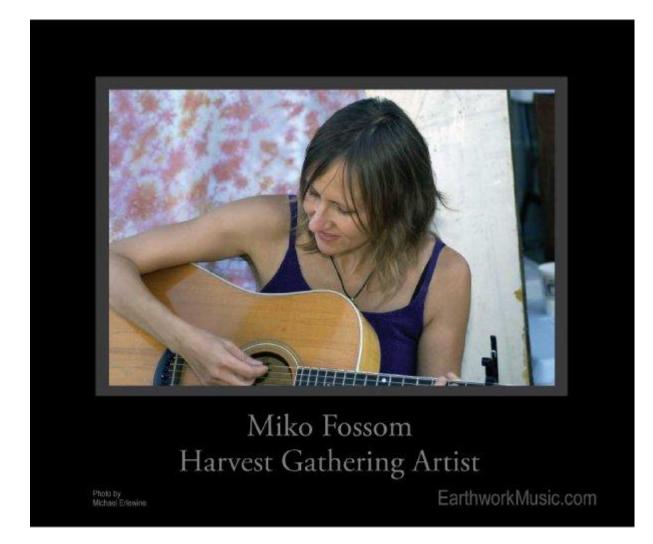
Jen Koppin is a fine singer-songwriter from the Ann Arbor area and has been at the last few Harvest Gatherings as a performer.



Matt Watroba is famous throughout the Michigan music scene both as a musician and an MC. He hails from the Ann Arbor area.



Michael Anne Erlewine (another daughter of mine) plays throughout Michigan and is about to produce her first album. Her clear voice is riveting and Michael Anne has an enthusiastic following at a number of venues.



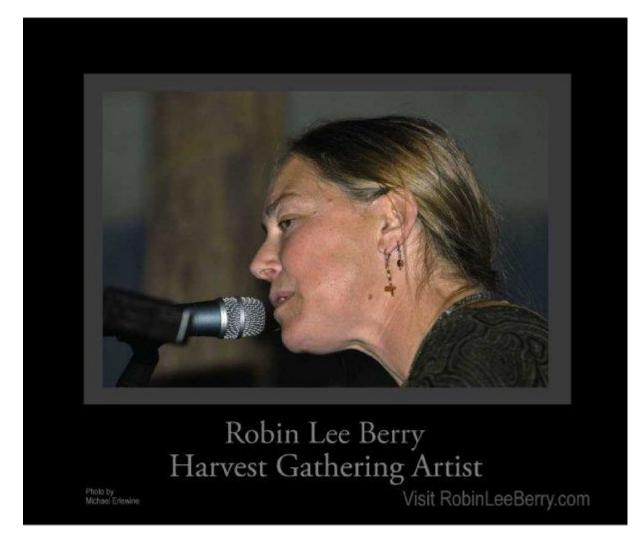
Miko Fossom, is a singer/songwriter who also ran a great café in the Lansing area, but has recently moved to Ann Arbor. Fossom is much-loved fixture at the Harvest Gathering.



Grammy-award winner Peter "Madcat" Ruth is internationally known and has a slew of albums available. Madcat performs solo and with Shari Kane as a duo. He also appears on dozens of albums where he adds a wonderful touch. Madcat is an integral part of the Harvest Gathering experience.



Rebecca Lynn is a guitarist and part of the group "Hawks & Owls" with partner Bruce Ling.



Robin Lee Berry is, in my opinion, the best of her generation of Michigan singer/songwriters. Berry is an accomplished rhythm guitar player and her voice commands complete attention whenever she performs. Her songs are meaningful and filled with substance, a treat to hear each year.



Susan Fawcett plays many instruments, but is mostly seen with a fiddle, and she is part of more groups as a sideman than anyone I know, except maybe Madcat Ruth.