

# Gary Knowles' - Getaway Sampler

*A selection of events loaded with Real Wisconsin Fun!*

## JULY 2016

by Gary Knowles ©

Gary Knowles is a freelance travel writer who is the author of the "Gary's Getaways" feature for the *Journal & Topics Newspapers* serving 16 Chicago suburbs, and the author of *The Great Wisconsin Touring Book- 30 Spectacular Auto Tours*. He is the President of the Midwest Travel Writers Association, the oldest professional travel journalist organization in the world.

**FOLLOW GARY'S TIPS ON TWITTER:** @TravelWisconsin or Instagram @OpenAir93

**BEFORE YOU GO:** Avoid disappointment. Always check for schedule changes before heading to events. For more events- good sources: [www.Wisconline.com](http://www.Wisconline.com), [www.TravelWisconsin.com](http://www.TravelWisconsin.com) or <http://hwy23events.wordpress.com>

XX

## BEYOND WISCONSIN – A Few Select Neighbor's Events

**SEPT 30-Oct 2 SMART TO ORDER NOW –**

**Rock On! Ten Years of Roots & Blues & BBQ! – Columbia, MO**

We got word that the Tickets for the Roots & Blues & BBQ Festival in Columbia, MO are on sale now. This is the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fest and organizers have announced a virtual "who's who" line-up of award-winning bands and musicians, among them: Jason Isbell, The Avett Brothers, Grace Potter, Shovels and Rope, The Mavericks, The Blind Boys of Alabama, Blues Traveler and 25 more to come. The fest will be held Sept. 30-Oct 2 at Stephen's Lake Park in Columbia, MO, and in addition to music, it features fine regional foods and a huge arts and crafts market. [www.rootsnbluesnbbq.com](http://www.rootsnbluesnbbq.com) PH: 573-442-5862

## WISCONSIN – On-Going but Catch it While it's Here!

**THROUGH - Sept 5 Kind of a Drag! Drag Racing Exhibit at H-D Museum - Milwaukee**

Go under the hood with mind-blowing mad scientists of speed to see just how much blood, sweat and elbow grease hot rodders pour into their machines – two wheels or four – in their race against time. "Drag Racing: America's Fast Time" is housed in The Garage, at the Harley Davidson Museum. It explores drag racing's roots from back roads and airport runways to the raceways of today, where Top Fuel machines hit speeds over 320 mph in a quarter-mile. The exhibit runs June 17-Sept 5, 2016. Included are storied gassers and hot-rodders like Stone, Woods, and Cook's Swindler B; Don Garlits's Swamp Rat 13; and Chet Herbert's Harley-Davidson, The Beast. More than 450 motorcycles and artifacts, dating back to Serial Number One, the oldest known Harley-Davidson® motorcycle are included. Visit Harley-Davidson Museum and find memorabilia at [The Shop](#) and dine at **MOTOR®** (no Museum admission is required) 400 W Canal St., Milwaukee, WI 53201 PH: 1-414-287-2789

**NEW-ONGOING They Can Run but they Can't Hide! *Where the Deer and the Antelope Play!***

**See Wisconsin Wildlife from your PC or phone**

For generations of Wisconsin travelers one of the most memorable experiences has been spotting deer in a field, watching a raccoon amble through a campsite or seeing a black bear dash into the forest. Now a new, innovative program, Snapshot Wisconsin, coordinated by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources in cooperation with NASA and The University of Wisconsin, combines modern camera technology with wildlife viewing. Landowners across the state will place about 6000 motion-sensing digital cameras along wildlife trails, collect images and post them on a website for public viewing. "Snapshot" is just getting underway and is being rolled-out a few counties at a time over a five years. Checkout critters from your PC, laptop or smart phone at [www.snapshotwisconsin.org](http://www.snapshotwisconsin.org). Dr. Jennifer Stenglein, Research Scientist, in charge of the project says there are already a lots of deer, turkey, wolves and bobcats in the photos – but she doesn't anticipate seeing "Bigfoot" anytime soon!

**NOW to Dec.31, 2016 The Rhinestone Cowboy Home – Sheboygan**

Aiming to style himself as a singing "rhinestone cowboy" modeled after Glen Campbell's song, Loy Bowlin of McComb, Mississippi, became the maker of a remarkable art environment. He embellished his small home with glitter, cut paper, magazine pictures, ornaments, and spangles, and people came from miles around to visit the "Holy Jewel Home," and the Rhinestone Cowboy who lived there. Today, the art environment and his fancy suits, hats, and furniture, stands as the only comprehensively relocated environment in the JMK Arts Center's Permanent Collection. In 2016, the Arts Center will provide unprecedented access to our visitors as staff, preservation professionals, and historians put the house back together again in our galleries. Mon, Wed, Fri 10am-5pm; Tues, Thurs 10am-8pm; Sat, Sun 10am-4pm John Michael Kohler Arts Center, 608 New York Ave, Sheboygan, WI 53081 PH:920-458-6144 <http://www.jmkac.org/>

**NOW – 2016 "The Nose has it!" at special WWII Warbird Art Exhibit – Oshkosh**

With the smoke barely cleared at Pearl Harbor, brave, young US servicemen took to the air to take the war to the enemy. Many of the aircraft carried artist painted images and messages on their noses. Now one of the finest collections of authentic, preserved, WWII "nose art" is on display for the first time outside their Commemorative Air Force home museum in Dallas, Texas. The collection honors the people and aircraft of World War II. The artifacts have been designated by the National Trust for Historical Preservation as an official project of Save America's Treasures, which seeks to preserve historic structures, art and published works throughout the nation. It will be on display at EAA throughout 2016. "This collection is simply incredible; there's no other way to put it," said Bob Campbell, director of the EAA AirVenture Museum. "It tells a unique story of the common soldier and airman during World War II, how this artwork was created, what it meant to these young men mostly between 18 and 25 years old, and the individual tales of these aircraft that returned along with those that didn't." As was the custom during World War II, some of the nose art depicts slogans or places, but many of them included drawings of young women in poses from chaste to extremely provocative. The EAA AirVenture Museum is located just off Interstate 41 at the Highway 44 exit in Oshkosh. It is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call the EAA AirVenture Museum at (920) 426-6108 or visit [www.eaa.org/museum](http://www.eaa.org/museum).

## **WISCONSIN – 4<sup>th</sup> and FIREWORKS!**

DOZENS of communities will celebrate Independence Day with parades, fests and fireworks. For an amazing list of options go to [wwwtravelWisconsin.com](http://wwwtravelWisconsin.com) and choose one (or two) that suit your style. They're all good and you really cannot go wrong!  
[wwwtravelWisconsin.com](http://wwwtravelWisconsin.com)

## **FOUR FAVORITE SMALL TOWN INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS**

### **4 (SW Driftless Region) Mineral Point**

Mineral Point Fourth of July – 2 & 5 Mile Run (8 am) Parade (11 am) BBQ, Games, Music, Fireworks  
608-987-3201 <http://mineralpoint.com/>

### **1-3 (MidState) Elkhart Lake Firemans 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration**

A family event with music, children's games, food and fun. Fri evening music 8pm and fireworks 9:30pm. Sat evening music 8pm-midnight. Sun parade 11:30am followed by live music 1-4pm. PH  
920-876-3788

<https://www.elkhartlake.com/events/tourism/independence-day-celebration-2016-07-01/>

**2 (Door County) Fish Creek** Put on your best red, white and blue outfit July 2 to celebrate American freedoms on the picturesque waterfront of Fish Creek in Door County. Clark Park is the stage for the Summer Festival and Fireworks Extravaganza. It's good old-fashioned fun with a sweet corn roast and beer on tap starting at 4 p.m., music by Big Mouth and the Power Tool Horns at 6 p.m., a lighted boat parade at 8:45 p.m. and a huge fireworks tribute at 10 p.m. Fish Creek, WI 54212 PH: 920-421-0867 <http://visitfishcreek.com/>

### **4 (Way up north) La Pointe on Madeline Island**

If Hollywood's most imaginative producers were to stage an American Independence Day Parade, there's no way they could outdo the spontaneous, creative, and heartfelt July 4 exhibition of Madeline Island. From marching warriors, decorated fishing boats, dueling pirate ships, sea serpents, and the Smelt Queen, to bun-wearing Dachshunds, and the everyone-welcome-island band, the parade (10 a.m. – catch an early ferry!) is one-of-a-kind amazing. At about Noon the whole community goes to the village green to hear music, patriotic speeches and watch the (re-cycled) trophy awards. Wander until dusk, (10PM) when fireworks light up the harbor. To see two great displays, look across the bay to Bayfield, to ooh and ahhh to both. [www.madelineisland.com](http://www.madelineisland.com), PH: 888-475-3386

## **WISCONSIN – *Feast On!***

### **1 – Aug 5 Sept 2 - Take a Twilight Tour at Taliesin – Spring Green**

Step into one of the world's most important architectural works of art, Frank Lloyd Wright's Taliesin estate, July 1, August 5 or September 2, 5-7 p.m., for an intimate, two-hour twilight encounter. Enjoy hors d'oeuvres and sip remarkable wines from Botham Vineyards, grown nearby in the heart of Wisconsin's Driftless Region (must be 21.) Taliesin is most stunning in

the early evening and your guide will lead you from the orchard through the picturesque gardens and courtyards, into Wright's home, the longest on-going project of his career. Stand on "the Birdwalk," explore Taliesin's famed living room, garden room, loggia, bedroom, and studio. Take photos, hear stories of Taliesin. An experienced docent will point out special features and answer questions. End the evening with a light dessert on Wright's bedroom terrace. Reserve your spot today. Taliesin - Frank Lloyd Wright Visitor Center, 5607 County Highway C, Spring Green, WI 53588 PH:608-588-7090 [www.taliesinpreservation.org/](http://www.taliesinpreservation.org/)

### **10- Lobster Bake – Green Lake**

Fresh seafood and live music along the shores of Green Lake. Lobster Bake includes a live Maine Lobster of your choice (served boiled), fresh boiled clams, grilled shrimp, grilled sirloin steak, the soup and salad buffet (menu subject to change). Reservations required. 6-8PM Please visit website for more information or phone to reserve your spot. Heidel House Resort & Spa, 643 Illinois Avenue, Green Lake, WI 54941 Information: 920-294-3344 [www.heidelhouse.com](http://www.heidelhouse.com)

### **22-24 Festa Italiana – Milwaukee**

Free carnival rides for all to enjoy. Take a romantic gondola ride, play a game of bocce ball, watch the Copa Festa Italiana Futsal tournament, partake in Italian Idol. Traditional Sunday Mass at 11am. Classic Italian fare and wine tastings, Kids Pizza Making Contest and annual Cannoli Eating Contest. Nightly fireworks. Henry Maier Festival Park, 200 N Harbor Dr, Milwaukee, WI 53202, PH:414-223-2808 <http://festaitaliana.com/>

## **WISCONSIN – *What the Heck? What's Going on Out There?!***

### **1-4 Riverfest – La Crosse**

This annual festival features top-name entertainment for all ages and continuous events! Enjoy fireworks on the 4th at dusk, a food fair, beverage tent, crafts, live music and dance. Fun for the entire family! La Crosse Riverside Park **608-782-6000** <http://riverfestlacrosse.com/>

### **7-9 Cruise to The Iola Car Show – Iola**

Car nuts dream of vast fields of cars stretching from horizon to horizon: classic cars, the beauties of the 50s and 60s, finned behemoths, curvaceous coupes and even some station wagons. But this is no dream – this is the Iola Old Car Show. It's July 7-9, now in year Forty-Four. Iola has 2500 show cars, 4200 swap spaces, and 1000 "Car Corral" spaces spread over 300 acres. This edition features 'Trucks and Dodge Chargers'. It's \$10 with free parking and bus shuttles. New this year are Iola Car Show Concerts, an Eagles Tribute band on Friday and surfin' beach music on Saturday night. TV stars and celebrities like History Channel's Counting Cars, the Ring Brothers, and guests of Jay Leno's Garage and American

Hot Rod stars are expected. Iola Old Car Show Grounds, 130 Jenson Dr., Iola, WI 54945 PH: 715-445-4000 [www.iolaoldcarshow.com](http://www.iolaoldcarshow.com)

### **7-9 Wild Ones Weekend – Milwaukee**

Come enjoy a Wild Ones Weekend at the Museum starting with Bike Night and ending with a real 1940's Motorcycle Rally. The 14th Annual Knucklehead Company Reunion hosts an Antique Motorcycle Ride In Show and the AMCA Badger Heritage Chapter hosts authentic Motorcycle Field Games (slow race and plank ride). All this and more celebrating our motorcycle heritage with vintage style. Antique Motorcycle Ride In Show Classes: Stock Knucklehead, Custom Knucklehead, Sidevalve, Panhead, Shovelhead, Other Pre 1970 American Made. \$20 entry per bike with proceeds going toward Make-A-Wish Foundation. Harley-Davidson Museum, 400 Canal St Milwaukee, WI 53201 PH: 877-436-8738 [http://www.harley-davidson.com/content/h-d/en\\_US/home/museum.html](http://www.harley-davidson.com/content/h-d/en_US/home/museum.html)

### **9-10 Art Fair on & Off the Square – Madison**

Art Fair on the Square features works of art in mixed media, ceramics, drawings, graphics, prints, fiber, leather, furniture, glass, jewelry, metal, paintings, photographs, sculpture, 3D mixed media, and wood.

<http://www.mmoca.org/events/special-events/art-fair-square/art-fair-square>

Art Fair Off the Square The two day event is a showcase for about 140 Wisconsin exhibitors and includes food and unexpected, spontaneous happenings. The show features ceramics, art glass, painting, fiber, sculpture, jewelry, graphics, paper-making, photography, wood, and more.

<http://www.artcraftwis.org/afos.html>

### **10 – The Cars Time Forgot – Lake Geneva**

Classic and collector cars from all eras. Food, music and sales. Weekend activities include car rally, bbq dinner, meet and greet, and special rates. Car show Sunday Lake Lawn Resort 2400 E. Geneva Street, Delavan, WI 53115 PH: [262-728-5095](tel:262-728-5095)

### **14-17 Cheers in Top Gear! Vintage Racecars -Road America, Elkhart Lake**

There are plenty of good reasons to plan a trip to Elkhart Lake and Road America July 14-17. Start with The WeatherTech International Challenge with Brian Redman - one of the finest vintage racing events in America. Presented by HAWK, it attracts some of the most exotic race cars on the track. Add the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of historic, thundering CAN-AM racecars, a real "don't miss it" event. The double frosting on this car-lover cake arrives Friday and Saturday nights for the Nationwide Insurance Concours d' Elegance in downtown Elkhart Lake. Say, "Wow and see you there!" Road America, Elkhart Lake, WI PH: 800-365-7223

[www.RoadAmerica.Com](http://www.RoadAmerica.Com)

### **16-17 Bayfield Art Festival**

Nearly 80 artists from throughout the Midwest will gather for Bayfield's annual Festival of Arts and Gallery Tour. This juried arts & crafts show is held on the scenic shores of Lake Superior in downtown Bayfield. Visitors will find a unique selection of pottery, painting, jewelry, sculpture,

glass works, wood carvings, photography and more. Take special notice of the blue "Best in Show" ribbons which are awarded to five artists while browsing. Bayfield artists will welcome visitors to their studios and galleries throughout the weekend, with open houses, demonstrations, and special sales as part of a gallery tour held in conjunction with the festival in the park. All events are free and open to the public. [www.bayfield.org](http://www.bayfield.org)  
<https://www.elkhartlake.com/events/tourism/independence-day-celebration-2016-07-01/>

### **22-24 Heavy Bombers Weekend - Janesville**

Come to this 3-day gathering of World War II-era aircraft, featuring B-29 FIFI, B-17 Aluminum Overcast, B-25 Yellow Rose, P-51 Mustang, C-45 Expeditor, T-6 Texans, and many more! Tour the aircraft and other exhibits on the ground or take a ride in your favorite aircraft. There will be food vendors, merchandise vendors, WWII reenactors, 1940's era music, and much more for the whole family to enjoy. Join the fun and see these historic aircraft gathered in one location. Touch, hear, fly, smell, and experience the era of our greatest generation! Air-rides are extra and can be pre-booked through the website or purchased at the event. Southern Wisconsin Regional Airport, 1716 W Airport Rd, Janesville, WI 53546  
Information:608-757-3171<https://heavybombersweekend.splashthat.com/>

### **23-24 Baraboo's Big Top Celebration & Parade**

If you're looking for a cornucopia of colossal fun, then head to Baraboo, Wisconsin for the 4th Annual Baraboo's Big Top Parade & Circus Celebration. The two-day celebration will commemorate the community's stupendous circus heritage as the historic home of the world-famous Ringling Bros. Circus. The weekend will be brimming with concerts, children's activities, a classic car show, an antique and artisan fair and more. The "center ring of entertainment" is the Big Top Parade, which will step off at 2p.m. on Saturday, featuring over 75 traditional circus parade units and circus-theme entries created by community groups and businesses  
PH:608-356-8333 <http://bigtopparade.com/>

### **25-31 EAA AirVenture - Oshkosh**

The world's largest gathering for recreational pilots and aviation enthusiasts. Features more than 10,000 airplanes and 750,000 people. 500 forums/seminars, 700 product exhibitors. Concessions. Air shows daily. The Canadian Forces Snowbirds, one of the most popular military aerial demonstration teams in the world, announced EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2016 as part of its schedule, the first time the team will be back at Oshkosh in more than 30 years. World's Largest Flying Water Bomber Coming to EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2016; The 100th anniversary of The Boeing Company, the world's largest commercial and military aircraft company, will bring a unique collection of airplanes and presentations to EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2016 on July 25-31;  
EAA AirVenture Museum, 3000 Poberezny Rd, Oshkosh, WI 54902  
PH: 920-426-4818 <http://www.eaa.org/en/airventure>

## **WISCONSIN – Music!**

### **June 29-JULY 10 SUMMERFEST! – Milwaukee**

For 11 days every summer, Henry Maier Festival Park is the place to be for all music fans. This year, the Big Gig will take over the lakefront June 29-July 3, CLOSED JULY 4, then keep rocking July 5-10. With over 800 acts playing on 11 stages, you'll find alternative, rock, country, R&B, pop, reggae headliners and more, from national headliners to indie artists. The 23,000-seat Marcus Amphitheater hosts some of the biggest tours in music. As if more music than any one person can listen to wasn't enough, that's not all Summerfest has to offer. A variety of the area's restaurants are on-site offering tasty treats to keep you fueled up and ready to rock, and you can shop for everything from music-themed jewelry to puppets at unique vendors at four shopping marketplaces. The Northwestern Mutual Children's Theater & PlayZone will keep kids enraptured all day, with performances by magicians, jugglers, dance groups, puppets and more. Spend the day people-watching at the lakefront, shopping or enjoying local and emerging artists on the grounds stages – the headliners start at 8 and 10PM.

Summerfest is a Milwaukee tradition– it's a festival experience like no other! Henry Maier Festival Park, 200 N Harbor Dr., Milwaukee, WI 53202 PH:414-273-2680 <http://summerfest.com>

### **2 – 29 Get Under the Big Top! Hear Opry, Bo-Deans, Emmy Lou in Bayfield !**

One of the sweetest summer music venues in the Midwest lives under a huge blue tent on Mount Ashwaby overlooking Lake Superior at Bayfield. Big Top Chautauqua is a summer musical treasure presenting exceptional performances by regional and big name performers. It's The BoDeans, July 2; Riding the Wind- an Apostle Islands musical July 3 & 29; Big Top Opry #2 is an "Outlaws Version" July 10 & 22; Keeper of the Light honors lighthouse keepers, July 14-16; Emmy Lou Harris arrives July 17; Lyle Lovett and His Large Band amaze on July 21; and A Pete Seeger Tribute is July 24. On Ski Hill Rd., Bayfield, WI 54814 PH:715-373-5552 [www.bigtop.org](http://www.bigtop.org)

### **1-3 National Women's Music Festival**

The National Women's Music Festival is a four-day musical and cultural extravaganza that incorporates all facets of women's lives. It's a jam-packed long weekend where choices for things to do range from workshops, concerts, comedy, theatre presentations, and a marketplace at the Marriott Madison West, 1313 John Q Hammons Dr., Middleton, WI 53562 Information: 317-395-3809 <http://www.wiaonline.org/>

### **7-10 Hodag Country Music Fest - Rhinelander**

It's the party of the summer – the 39th Annual Hodag Country Festival! Each year this amazing 4-day country music festival brings some of the biggest names in country music to the Northwoods. Mickey Gilley on July 7; Nitty Gritty Dirt Band – July 8; Jake Owen-July 9; Neil McCoy-July 10 For full line-ups, ticket information, camping info, and festival contacts, please visit the Hodag Country Festival website. Hodag Festival Grounds, 4270 River Rd, Rhinelander, WI 54501 PH:715-369-1300 [www.hodag.com](http://www.hodag.com)

### **9 Driftless Music Festival – Viroqua**

Held in Eckhart Part next to Vernon Courthouse in Viroqua. This is a family-friendly event. Bring your own blanket or chair. We pride ourselves on having an eclectic mix of professional musicians

performing under the trees. Grammy nominee: *The Revelers* are headliners also *Christie Knapp Quartet* Admission is free, and a wide variety of food vendors will be available throughout the day.  
Eckhart Park, 500 W Decker, Viroqua, WI 54665 PH:608-637-6110  
<http://driftlessmusicfestival.com/>

### **9 JAZZ (and Wine) FEST – St.Criox Falls**

Join us for a Jazz and wine event. Enjoy the hot, smooth sounds of Minnesota vocalists *Patty Peterson and Jennifer Grimm* Bring your own lawn chair or blanket and enjoy jazz music, great wine, beer and food - Dancing Dragonfly Winery, 2013 120th Avenue, St Croix Falls, WI 54024, PH: 715-483-9463 <http://www.dancingdragonflywinery.com/>

### **14-16 Rock Fest – Cadott**

This three-day event, just north of Cadott, brings the best of rock music to the Chippewa Valley! Enjoy great food and music while camping in one of the 8,000 campsites, all within walking distance of the concert area. Groups include, among others: Thurs: *Hollywood Vampire, Marilyn Manson* Fri: *Alice in Chains, Breaking Benjamin* Sat- *Slipknot, Five Finger Death Punch* Chippewa Valley Music Festival Grounds, 24446 County Highway S, Cadott, WI 54727 PH:715-289-4401 <http://rock-fest.com/>

### **14-16 Northwoods Stampede Music Fest – Phillips**

A three-day music festival featuring rising music stars and recording artists. Party like a hillbilly rock star at the Friday pre-party featuring local and regional band entertainment. Bands include: *Brett Kissel, Old Southern Moonshine Revival, Kristen Kelly, Jacob Stiefel, Casey Muessigmann, Radio Romance* When the music stops, the partying doesn't; "after parties" are being held both nights at local establishments. Visit the website for the weekend's lineup and ticket information. Camping is available adjacent to the festival grounds. Northwoods Stampede Music Festival Grounds/Camping, N9510 E Solberg Lake Road, Phillips, WI 54555 PH:715-339-3566 <http://www.northwoodstampede.com/>

### **14-16 ROCK USA – Oshkosh**

Rock USA is 'Solid Rock. No Limits.' and will present an incredibly broad mix of world-class rock stars. Don't try to lay a description on our talent mix because it won't work. We intend to break a few rules and we intend to get downright aggressive about it. Count on it... we will take it to the edge. If it's kickass festival stuff... it belongs at Rock USA! GROUPS: *Disturbed, Alice in Chains, Sick Puppies, Slipknot, Wilson, Islander, Otherwise, Skillet, Chevelle, Asking Alexandria*  
Ford Festival Park, 2535 W Ripple Rd, Oshkosh, WI 54904  
PH:800-326-4949 <http://www.rockusaoshkosh.com/>

### **14-17 La Fete de Marquette Madison**

Four days of fabulous world-class music, unparalleled local cuisine, cute boutiques, cold craft beer, wine for all tastes, an expanded Family Fête, and much more! Groups: *George Porter Jr.*



and *Runnin' Partners*, *Kid Koala*, *Johnny Chimes*, *Ginkgoa*, *Cajun Strangers*, *Sweet Crude*, *The Revelers*, <http://www.wil-mar.org/lafete/2016-schedule/>

### **16 – Acoustic Fest – Manitowoc**

Spend the day in the park listening to great music. 5PM: *Unwound*

6:00 *Spare Time Well Spent* - 7:00 *Lindsey Barr* - 8:00 *Jason Wilber*

Washington Park, 1100 Block of Marshall Street, Manitowoc, WI 54220 PH:920-684-5242

[http://www.acousticfest.com/Acoustic\\_Fest/Welcome.html](http://www.acousticfest.com/Acoustic_Fest/Welcome.html)

### **21-23 Burning Cow Music Fest II – Sturgeon Bay**

Burning Cow Music Festival II will rise from the ashes and ignite Sturgeon Bay with another colossal 3 day lineup of southern rock, blues, alt-country, and jam bands. Groups include: *Biter*, *Bad Boy*, *Anthony Gomes*, *SweetKiss Mama*, *Sons of Kong*, *Righteous Hillbillies*, *Coffis Brothers*, *20 Watt Tombstone*, *Day Rollers*, *Kick*, *Elastic Waste Banned*. Located on the Door Devil grounds, rustic camping, hot showers, savory breakfasts, and award-winning BBQ will be available along with inspiring craft brews and refreshing domestic beers. The festival will climax Saturday night when the tremendous wooden cow will be set ablaze. Door Devils Grounds, 4758 Mathey Rd, Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235 PH: 920-327-1081 <http://www.burningcowfestival.com/>

### **21-23 Country Jam – Eau Claire**

Three solid days of country music's top entertainers. Acts/Groups include: *Florida-Georgia Line*, *Thomas Rhett*, *Jason Aldean*, *Jake Owen*, *Colt Ford*, *Eli Young Band*, *Clare Dunn*, *Sasha McVeigh* Stop by for a day or spend all weekend enjoying the shows, tons of vendors, great food and a fantastic venue. Camping available on site

Country Jam Grounds, 3633 Crescent Ave Eau Claire, WI 54703 PH: 715-839-7500

<http://www.countryjamwi.com/>

### **21-24 Country Thunder Music Fest – Twin Lakes**

Country superstar *Eric Church* is the headliner of this lineup. ADD: *Terri Clark*, *Florida-Georgia Line*, *Jake Owen*, *Courtney Cole*, *Chris Young*, *Thomas Rhett*, *A Thousand Horses*, *Dallas Smith*, *Parmalee*, and *Haley Georgia*. Country Thunder Music Festival is the premier music and lifestyles event of the summer. PH: **866-802-6418** Country Thunder East, 2305 Lance Dr., Twin Lakes, WI 53181

<http://www.countrythunder.com/festivals/country-thunder-wisconsin/lineup>

### **21-24 Pulaski Polka Days – Pulaski**

One of the largest annual Polish and polka fests in the Midwest. Art & craft show Sat & Sun, Polka Mass and Lutheran Worship Service on Sun, parade Sun at noon. Campsites, fireworks, firemen's water fights, food & fun. GROUPS: Doctor Kielbasa; Molly & Ted Squeezebox, Chad Przybylcki, Concertina Rich, The Knewz – more!

Pulaski Polka Grounds, Pulaski, WI 54162 PH: **920-822-3869**

<http://pulaskipolkadays.com/>

### **MUSIC: LOOKING AHEAD TO AUGUST**

4-7 **Mile of Music Fest – Appleton** - The Mile of Music Festival will serve up original singer-songwriters, combos and multi-piece bands showcasing Americana music at both its most colorful and its very best – from roots and indie rock to country, gospel, soul, r&b, jazz and folk.

**920-750-5029**

<http://www.mileofmusic.com/>

5-6 Sugar Maple Traditional Music Festival, in Madison, **runs Aug. 5-6**

**Info:** <http://sugarmaplefest.org/2016-schedule/>

12-13 **Eaux Claires**, in Eau Claire, runs Aug. 12-13 Info: <http://eauxclaires.com/>

12-14 **Summer Set**, in Somerset, runs Aug. 12-14 Info: <http://www.summersetfestival.com/>

XX

**FREE TRAVEL GUIDES:**

**WISCONSIN DEPT. OF TOURISM- Free: 800-432-8747 (TRIP)** <http://www.travelwisconsin.com>

FREE GUIDES: “Activity Guide” Campground Directory, Lodging Directory, Highway Map, Golf, Birding, Attractions

OTHERS IN WISCONSIN: (all free)

Calumet County Guide – 920-849-1442 [www.travelcalumet.com](http://www.travelcalumet.com)

Chippewa County Travel Guide – 866-723-0331 [www.ChippewaCounty.com](http://www.ChippewaCounty.com)

Door County Visitors Guide – 800-527-3529 <http://www.doorcounty.com/web/contact.asp>

Fox Cities Area Guide – 800-223-6667 [www.foxcities.org](http://www.foxcities.org)

Grant County Travel Guide – 608-348-8888 [www.Platteville.com](http://www.Platteville.com)

Green Bay Visitor’s Guide – 888-867-3342 [www.GreenBay.com](http://www.GreenBay.com)

Green County Travel Guide – 888-222-9111 [www.GreenCounty.com](http://www.GreenCounty.com)

Kenosha Area Visitors Guide – 800-654-7309 [www.KenoshaCVB.com](http://www.KenoshaCVB.com)

Kewaunee County Guide – 800-290-4299 [www.VisitKewauneeCounty.com](http://www.VisitKewauneeCounty.com)

Madison Area Visitor Guide – 800-373-6376 <http://www.visitmadison.com>

Mineral Point Travel Guide – 888-764-6894 [www.MineralPoint.com](http://www.MineralPoint.com)

Minocqua Area Destination Guide – 800-44-NORTH [www.minocqua.org](http://www.minocqua.org)

Racine – Real Racine Guide - 800-272-2463 [www.realracine.com](http://www.realracine.com)

Sauk Prairie Visitors Packet – 800- 683-2453 <http://www.saukprairie.com/visitorspacket.html>

St. Croix Valley & Polk County Guides (ask Sue for both) 800-222-7655 [www.VisitSCF.com](http://www.VisitSCF.com)

Superior & Douglas Country Travel Guide - 800-942-5313 [www.VisitSuperior.com](http://www.VisitSuperior.com)

**OTHERS – NEIGHBORING STATES, REGIONAL, ETC**

*Chicago Office of Tourism: Free Guide & App - <http://www.choosechicago.com>*

*Illinois Travel – <http://www.enjoyillinois.com/brochures/>*

*Iowa Tourism – <http://www.traveliowa.com/> 888.472.6035 or 515.725.3084*

*Lake Michigan Circle Tour and Lighthouse Map – 1-800-442-2084 or at [www.WMTA.org](http://www.WMTA.org)*

*Lanesboro, Minnesota Visitor Guide 800-657-4972*

*Michigan – <http://www.michigan.org/>*

*Minnesota Tourism Travel Counselors at [explore@state.mn.us](mailto:explore@state.mn.us), or 1-888-TOURISM (1-888-868-7476).*

*Minnesota – Mississippi Valley Bluff Country (on-line) <http://www.ExploreMississippiBluffs.com>*

*Mississippi Valley Partners (WI-MN) [www.mississippi-river.org](http://www.mississippi-river.org) 1-888-999-2619*

*Red Wing, Minnesota [www.redwing.org](http://www.redwing.org) 1-651-385-5934 800-498-3444*

*Wabasha-Kellogg, Minnesota – [www.wabashamn.org](http://www.wabashamn.org) 1-800-565-4158*

*West Michigan Travel Guide - 616-245-2217 [www.wmta.org/publications-24/](http://www.wmta.org/publications-24/)*

*Winona, Minnesota Visitor Guide – (800) 657-4972 [www.VisitWinona.com](http://www.VisitWinona.com)*

**BEFORE YOU GO:** Avoid disappointment. Always check for schedule changes before heading to events. For more events- good sources: [www.Wisconline.com](http://www.Wisconline.com), [www.TravelWisconsin.com](http://www.TravelWisconsin.com) **XXXXX**