

# FROZEN FINGERS MUSIC ASSOCIATION OF MINOT

November 2022 Newsletter

<http://www.frozenfingers.org/>

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## President's Notes:



Autumn is back and so are our monthly meetings. It was good to see members at our last meeting in Surrey. I have been working on a lineup for our next festival

on April 14 and 15, 2023 at the Sleep Inn. I have several bands interested in performing and Bruce Whittemore has confirmed he will do our sound for the festival. Thank you, Bruce!



We do have a little snag with our newsletter. Brenda has been having it printed in Bottineau at the Spectrum, but they will be closing shortly. We will be making arrangements to have our printing done at a different location. Hoping we can continue with our newsletter.

Our next meeting will be at Surrey on November 26. However our December meeting has been moved to December 16 to avoid conflicts with the Christmas holiday. Looking forward to seeing everyone on November 26.



## Treasurer's Report

October 18, 2022

### Expenses

IMC Sponsorship .....	\$100.00
Salute to Seniors Sponsorship.....	\$100.00
American Leg Post #26.....	\$250.00
State Farm Insurance.....	\$350.00
Hometown Radio Ad .....	\$540.00
Brenda Johnson-Newsletter .....	\$29.85
iHeart Radio Ad .....	\$300.00
Sleep Inn Rent.....	\$860.00
Kocher Financial-Tax .....	\$100.00
Capital One .....	\$304.23
Capital One .....	\$506.85
IMC Scholarship-Schmechel .....	<u>\$315.00</u>
Total Expenses .....	\$3,755.93

### Income

Amer Foundation Donation .....	\$3,000.00
Donation IMC .....	\$25.00
Carl & Shell Kannianen .....	\$75.00
Borud Memorials .....	<u>\$370.00</u>
Total Income .....	\$3,470.00

Checking Account.....	\$9,776.97
Savings Account .....	\$8,573.56

**Total Assets 10/18/22..... \$18,350.53**



## **Board Minutes 10/22/2022**

Board Members Present: Brenda Johnson, Carl Kannianen, Shell Kannianen, Dave Mettler, Larry Nelson, Derald Schlecht and Lois Zahn.

Regrets: Karen Rath Martin

President Lois Zahn called the meeting to order.

### **Secretary Report**

Brenda read the secretary's report for April 23, 2022. Dave Mettler motioned to approve the minutes and Larry Nelson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Shell reviewed the treasurer's report for October 18, 2022. Income totaled \$3,470.00 and was in the form of donations. Expenses totaled \$3,755.93 and was in the form of donations \$450; State Farm Insurance \$350; advertising \$840; newsletter \$29.85; Sleep Inn rent \$860.00; tax prep \$100.00; scholarship \$315; and credit card \$811.08. Checking account balance is \$9,776.97 and savings account is \$8,573.56. Total assets are \$18,350.53. Brenda made a motion to approve the treasurer's report and Larry seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **Old Business**

Music scholarships to the International Music Camp (IMC) were discussed. Dave Mettler made a motion to annually set aside up to \$5,000 for music scholarships. These scholarships shall be one half of the camp fees and shall be available to students who applied before April 1 of each year. Applications will be approved by board members based on the date of their application. Derald Schlecht seconded the motion and the motion carried.

### **New Business**

Printing of the newsletter was discussed. Brenda stated that the Spectrum in Bottineau would be closing and the closest printer was in Minot. The newsletter and meeting

minutes are currently being mailed and are also posted on our website. Many members prefer mailed newsletters and would not access it online. Herb Schwede will check with Kenmare News for a quote for printing, folding, postage and labels. Brenda will check with Lowe's Printing in Minot for printing estimates. Members will be notified of any changes through the newsletter, email and website.

Lois has begun planning for the 2023 festival. Our next festival will be held on April 14 and 15, 2023 at the Sleep Inn. It will be a 2-day event similar to last year. The Jubilee will be Friday, April 14 from 5 pm to 10 pm and will consist of FF members. Saturday, April 15 will consist of 6 performances by entertainers. Lois has contacted several bands and is waiting for confirmation.

Derald Schlecht motioned to raise our payment to entertainers from \$400 to \$500 for the 2023 festival. Shell Kannianen seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Single performers were discussed, but it was agreed that a band is needed.

Lois stated there would be a "thank you" evening on Friday, December 16 at the Surrey Senior Center. This is our "thank you" to the Surrey Seniors for letting us use their center for our monthly meetings. Lois Zahn and Larry Nelson will be providing music.

Our next meeting will be held on Saturday, November 26, 2022 at the Surrey Senior Center at noon followed by a jam at 1:00 p.m.

Derald made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Brenda Johnson, Secretary



# COUNTRY MEMORIES



**Hank Williams**  
1923-1953

**Hiram "Hank" Williams** (September 17, 1923 – January 1, 1953) was an American singer, songwriter, and musician. Widely considered country music's first superstar, Hiram "Hank" Williams was born September 17, 1923, in Mount Olive, Alabama. Cut from rural stock, Williams, the third child of Lon and Lillie Williams, grew up in a household that never had much money. His father worked as a logger before entering the Veterans Administration hospital when young Hank was just six. Father and son rarely saw each other over the next decade, with Williams' mother, who ran rooming houses, moving the family to Greenville and later Montgomery, Alabama.

His childhood was also shaped by his spinal condition, spina bifida, which set him apart from other kids his age and fostered a sense of separation from the world around him.

The world he seemed to identify most with was the musical sounds that poured out of the radio and emanated from church choirs. A quick study, Williams learned how to play folk, country and, thanks to an African-American street musician named Rufus Payne, the blues.

By the time he'd moved with his mother to Montgomery in 1937, Williams' music career was already in motion. Picking up the guitar for the first time at the age of eight, Williams was just 13 when he made his radio debut. A year later he was entering talent shows and had his own band, Hank Williams and his Drifting Cowboys.

In full support of Williams' musical aspirations was his mother, Lillie. She drove her son and his band to shows throughout southern Alabama. By the early 1940s, he'd caught the attention of music executives in Nashville.

But coupled with Williams' obvious talents as a singer and songwriter was an increasing dependence on alcohol, which he'd started abusing in order to relieve his sometimes excruciating back pain. As a result, he was not considered a reliable performer.

Williams' personal life took a major turn in 1943 when he met Audrey Mae Sheppard, who was the mother of a young daughter and had only recently left a messy marriage. Under Williams' guidance, Sheppard started playing bass and began performing in his band. Williams and Sheppard married in 1944. They had a son together, Hank Williams Jr., on May 26, 1949.

Sheppard, it seems, was extremely eager to make a mark in show business and, despite her obviously limited talent, pushed her husband to let her sing. In addition, her relationship with Williams' mom proved complicated. The two were often rivals for Williams' time and attention.

In 1946, Williams traveled to Nashville to meet with music publisher Fred Rose and the Acuff-Rose Publications company. What began with Williams writing material for singer Molly O'Day eventually gave way to a record contract with the recently created MGM label.

A year after first meeting with Rose, Williams had his first hit, "Move It On Over." In April 1948, he scored a second Billboard success with "Honky Tonkin."

But along with this early success came increased erratic behavior from Williams, who often showed up at live performances drunk. For a time, his relationship with Fred Rose deteriorated, but the two were able to mend fences, paving the way for Williams to become a regular on the "Louisiana Hayride," a regular Saturday night performance hosted by a radio station in Shreveport.

The performances greatly increased Williams' name recognition, but he still lacked a number one hit. That all changed in 1949 with the release of "Lovesick Blues," a throwaway rendition of an old show tune he'd pushed to tape at the end of a recording session. The song resonated with music fans, as well as executives at the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville, who invited Williams to perform.

In ways that must have seemed unimaginable to this poor country boy, Williams' life quickly changed. His stardom put money in his pocket and gave him the kind of creative freedom artists long for. Over the next several years he churned out a number of other big hits, including "Cold, Cold Heart," "Your Cheatin' Heart," "Hey Good Lookin'," "Lost Highway," and "I'll Never Get Out of This World Alive." He also wrote a number of religious songs under the pseudonym Luke the Drifter.

As the titles of some of Williams' songs suggest, heartbreak and turmoil were never that far from his life. As his success

deepened, so did Williams' dependence on alcohol and morphine. The Opry eventually fired him, and in 1952, he and Sheppard divorced.

His physical appearance diminished, too. His hair began falling out, and he put on 30 extra pounds. In late 1951, he suffered a minor heart attack while visiting his sister in Florida.

A little more than a year later, on December 30, 1952, Williams, newly married to a younger woman named Billie Jean, left his mother's home in Montgomery for Charlestown, West Virginia. Liquored up and abusing morphine, he collapsed in a hotel room in Knoxville, Tennessee. A doctor was called to examine him. Despite his physical failings, Williams was cleared for more travel.

On New Year's Day 1953, he took his seat in the back of his 1952 powder blue Cadillac. As his driver, college student Charles Carr, barreled toward a concert venue in Canton, Ohio, Williams' health took a turn for the worse. Finally, after not hearing from the singer for two solid hours, the driver pulled the car over in Oak Hill, West Virginia, at 5:30 in the morning. Williams was pronounced dead a short while later.

His passing did not bring about the end to his stardom, however. It could be argued, in fact, that his early death only enhanced his legend. If Williams had lived, it's not entirely certain that the Nashville music community, so eager to shed its hillbilly roots, would have continued to embrace Williams' music. In the years since his death, Williams' impact has only grown, with artists as varied as Perry Como, Dinah Washington, Norah Jones and Bob Dylan all covering his work.

#### References:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hank\\_Williams](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hank_Williams)

<https://www.biography.com/musician/hank-williams>

Please mail your membership dues to Treasurer Shell Kannianen  
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