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sponsored. Having been able to spend time with him and see him enjoying himself at the Red Apple Farm is one of my most cherished memories.

So I ask those of you so inclined to think about sponsoring the Fest this year. You would go down in the annals of Bones Fest History by creating an event which not only benefits the organization, but enriches the community in which it is sponsored. And besides, you are creating your own personal memories you will have the rest of your life, Think about it. *Steve Brown*

## Steve Brown's Regional Bones Fest

The Regional Bones Fest went well. It was held on October 27th at the newly completed Red Apple Farm Events Hall which was warmed by a fire in the beautiful new fireplace. Grey skies and occasional rain did not keep our spirits down.

We had about 30 people total, with 17 bones players including Ernie Duffy, Shorty, Skye, Rob Rudin, Phil Brake, Ron Trainor, John Hodgekin, Richard Clifford, Brian Butler, bob King, Al Lemieux, Jeremy Brown, Constance Cook, Daniell, Bill Rose, Jane and Thomas Rose.

We spent the morning jamming and getting acquainted. A beginners workshop was held in the morning with about 5 attendee's. A workshop on how to play to jigs was held in the afternoon with about 8 eight attendees.

Mid way through the afternoon workshop, a loud braying sound interrupted the workshop leader to the delight of the attendees. Many were to speculate if it had to do with the content of the workshop. Both workshops were led by Steve Brown.

The afternoon consisted of individual performances both for the group and general public. the afternoon was concluded with a group jam.

Music was provided by the Reiner Family Band, long supporters of the bones. the general public audience consisted of about 20 people made up of friends and relatives of the partici-

pants, and Red Apple Farm attendees.

All in all it went pretty well and I may not hold another for the next three years. See photographs of the event on Page 8. *Steve Brown*



Bill Rose, owner of Red Apple Farm and rhythm bones player

## Website of the Quarter

<http://pierce.state.nh.us/nharts/artsandartists/tradroster/tradartistinfo.asp?ArtistID=151>. This website is the [New Hampshire Traditional Arts & Folklife Listing](#) which lists Elwin 'Shorty' Boulet as a Franco-American "Bones" Player

## Bones Calendar

Check out the Calendar on the [rhythmbones.com](http://rhythmbones.com) website.

**Bones Fest XI.** August 17-19, 2007. Details in this newsletter.

**NTCMA AND Bones Contest.** August 25-31, 2008.

## Recording of the Quarter

**Nacchere Toscane: Tuscan Castanets.** Everyone knows the Spanish or Neapolitan castanets, but few people these days know of the existence of "nacchere" or "gnacchere" (castanets) in the typical Tuscan shape, two single wood bars (*crotala* in Latin) which have been used in this part of Italy since the time of the Etruscans. Once used throughout Tuscany both as a children's toy and a rhythm instrument for popular music (especially dance music), nowadays their use is limited to very few areas including Maremma. The memory of this ancient percussion instrument is however still alive and thanks to the nacchere players who are still active, the tradition of their use and the techniques for making them have been passed on to a new generation.

Thus, Tuscan nacchere will continue to play for the long run and the sound of their wood blocks will continue to catch people's attention whenever it is needed to counteract the dull global culture that is inflicted on us on a daily basis.

This CD, the first for this instrument, is a collection of sound recordings from the 1970's to present days. *Paolo Casini*

[Editor note. A portion of the liner note from this CD are included in this issue courtesy of Paolo Casini. They begin on Page 1.

This CD is full of fun folk dance like music. I play my rhythm bones along with it, There is bones playing on almost every track. Lots of accordian etc.....

Order this CD from [www.pegasus-records.biz/CD\\_007.htm](http://www.pegasus-records.biz/CD_007.htm). You can listens to audio samples there.

At present it is not possible to buy the CD with credit card from the site [www.pegasusrecords.biz](http://www.pegasusrecords.biz). The best way should be an International Money Order (IMO) like Moneygram. The price your for our Society members is 20 Euros each shipping costs included. Or keep checking the website as they will soon add credit card and PayPal options. ]