



CELTIC-HIGHLAND GAMES  
OF THE QUAD CITIES

## Celtic Highland Games/Celtic Cultures Alliance

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Media Contacts: Ronna Boyd, 309-269-0370,  
[moonlily65@yahoo.com](mailto:moonlily65@yahoo.com), Home phone: 309-786-3813

Lisa Lockheart, 309-292-7741, [LisaL2@earthlink.net](mailto:LisaL2@earthlink.net)

***Editor: Photo of The Mayflies is attached.***

**Head for the Highlands: 11<sup>th</sup> annual Celtic Highland Games of the Quad Cities Festival is Saturday, August 22 in Davenport, Iowa**

**Evening Ceilidh party celebrates the Celtic roots of bluegrass with The Mayflies and New Grass Revue**

Come visit the sights and sounds of the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Celtic Highland Games of the Quad Cities on August 22 at the Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds in Davenport, Iowa. The festival allows guests to experience a little taste of Scotland and Ireland in their own backyard - without the expense of a plane ticket or passport. From the wail of the bagpipes to the sights of kilned athletes tossing the caber, the 11<sup>th</sup> annual Celtic Highland Games of the Quad Cities allows visitors to experience the cultures, traditions, sights and sounds of Bonnie Scotland, the Emerald Isle and other Celtic countries.

After the day's events wind down, make sure to stop by the Ceilidh at 6 p.m. and check out the traditional bluegrass sounds of New Grass Revue and the high-energy performance of The Mayflies. American bluegrass and original country music owes its start to the Scots/Irish who planted themselves in Appalachia. We'll take a look at the more traditional roots of American Bluegrass with New Grass Revue and then kick it up a notch with the high energy sounds of The Mayflies.



A Ceilidh is a traditional Celtic gathering with music and dance, and is pronounced "kay-lee." The headliner act, The Mayflies (at left), goes on at 8 p.m. The group has been pushing the outer limits of rock and bluegrass in the Midwest and Colorado since 2001. In concert, The Mayflies are known for their inexhaustible energy, whipping their fans into a blissful frenzy. The

instrumental interplay between the quartet is something to behold.

Guitarist/vocalist **Stacy Webster** has a voice that some have described as "the most expressive pure roots singer to come down the pike in many a moon." His guitar style is highly improvisational, drawing from influences as diverse as Jerry Garcia, Willie Nelson, Django Reinhardt, Angus Young and Leo Kottke. Bassist **Dave "Big Chief" Lumberg** plays like his heroes, John Entwistle and Paul McCartney...If they had grown up on the Mississippi river, as Dave did. **James Robinson** lays the groove without ever repeating himself, listening to every nuance from every player in the band. **Gabriel Baillageon** plays his mandolin with the kind of musicality that can only come from growing up picking tunes with your Dad. Most notable acts with whom The Mayflies have shared the stage; Banyan, Alejandro Escovedo, The Greencards, Robbie Fulks, Vince Herman, North Indiana Allstars, Hot Buttered Rum, Cornmeal, Honky Tonk Homeslice (Bill Nershi of String Cheese).

Opening for The Mayflies is the more traditional bluegrass sound of New Grass Revue, which in the "new grass" tradition brings amplification and improvisation to bluegrass. New Grass Revue have been playing together for 30 years, and consist of Quad City residents **Darryl Wilson** on guitar, **Dave Maxwell** on banjo and **Chuck Hanson** on bass.

The Ceilidh starts at 6pm, with New Grass Revue playing from 6pm - 8pm and The Mayflies playing from 8 pm to 11 pm, inside the Starlight Ballroom on the Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds, 2815 Locust Street, Davenport.

Celtic Highland Games festival events from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. include Highland athletics, dance contests, bagpipe music, animal events, heritage displays from Scottish clans and Celtic societies, vendors, workshops and more. In typical impromptu style, the Ceilidh may also include bagpipes and dancers from these events earlier in the day. Admission to the Ceilidh is included with gate admission to the festival - just show your wristband. If attending the Ceilidh only, the charge is just \$5. This is an all ages show.

Gate admission for a whole day and night of entertainment is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Children under 5 get in free. A family pass is available online for a limited time for even greater savings. And as always, those who have purchased the Games 2009 souvenir t-shirt get in free as long as they're wearing the shirt.

For more information, contact the event at [infocelt@celtichighlandgames.com](mailto:infocelt@celtichighlandgames.com), visit the website at [www.celtichighlandgames.org](http://www.celtichighlandgames.org) or call 309-794-0449.