



# The Reston Folk Club

## Presents . . .



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### "The Times, They Are A Changin'"

With Apologies to Dylan, the title of this article describes what is happening. The Reston Folk Club is four years old now - we celebrated our fourth birthday at a party on May 9, 1989. It has been a great four years and we have grown as an organization in that time. Recently, a group of the volunteers who help make the Folk Club work got together to discuss issues, directions, roles, responsibilities and purpose. The most significant outcome of that meeting was general agreement that there are substantive and differing ideas about how things should work and that there has not been a clear, stated, process by which ideas for the Folk Club could be introduced and considered.

The origins of the Folk Club are widely known among the members (by the way - all who attend are "members") but it was felt that it might be difficult for some people to get their ideas surfaced to the right people so the ideas could be considered. Many have known that the Folk Club is guided by the values and principles set forth by Rose Haskell (as she learned them from her folk club experiences in the British Isles) and that getting things done was accomplished by consensus of the people who were involved. This has been an excellent method for a small group with a well-defined purpose. As we have grown, the activities of (and in the name of) the Folk Club have expanded and, to some, the purpose has also expanded. In the area of Folk Club activities and purpose, the committee agreed to the necessity of getting a bit more organized.

Another, more pragmatic, reason for more organization is the need to apply for approval as a "nonprofit" organization for tax and grant purposes. To accomplish that, certain standards of organization must be followed.

Therefore, it was decided that the members of the Folk Club will be given an opportunity to select a "steering committee" (or Board of Directors) consisting of seven of our

membership. This committee will be responsible for the overall management of the Folk Club. Among the first tasks of this committee will be the development of Bylaws for the Reston Folk Club. The slate of nominees put forth for the steering committee (ed. amended to reflect the slate at press time) is:

Bill Davis	Tim Davis
Rose Haskell	David Hurd
Bill Johnson	Lynn Jordan
Ellen Kaminsky	Larry Mediate
Dick Moore	Jack Osburn
Dave Sterling	

There are more nominees than positions. On the evenings of May 16 and 23 further nominations will be solicited from those present. On May 30, an election will be held to determine the makeup of the steering committee. Persons who cannot be present may cast sealed and signed ballots in advance. Vote for seven persons and send the ballot to the address on the newsletter to arrive by May 30. We hope to conduct the business portion of the Folk Club beginning at 7 or 7:15 so as to not affect the music time.

Each week, after nominations are solicited, the names of those currently in nomination will be read so that all members of the Folk Club may seek these people out during break or at other times to discuss ideas and positions. When a vote is taken, each person voting will then have a clear idea of whether a candidate will represent their views or not.

Briefly stated, the purpose of the Reston Folk Club is to offer a forum in which persons interested in hearing, fostering, preserving, performing, educating and sharing their interest in folk music (traditional and contemporary) have an equal opportunity to express and carry out those interests. In the spirit of community, the Folk Club shares its talents and interests with the public 1) through the open forum on meeting nights, 2) through making available artists/professionals representing national and international folk music traditions who will inspire and expand the horizons of the membership and 3) through participation in community sponsored events.

### COMING EVENTS!

The next few months will bring a wonderful selection of performers (in addition to the outstanding Reston Folk Club regulars) for your listening pleasure.

Beginning on May 16 the featured artist will be Jane Gillman. Song-writer and flat pick guitar specialist, she projects a warm, expressive combination of blues, cajun, folk and rock. A must see!

Monday, June 26 (Note the Special Monday date) will bring back Tom Paxton to the Folk Club. His performance in June last year was an experience not soon forgotten. Seats will be scarce for this one so plan early and get your tickets on June 20 when they will first be available.

July 18 will see the return to the Folk Club of "The Boarding Party", a group who last performed for us when we were located at the Red Caboose in Reston. Songs of the sea and the inland waterways are the forte of this highly talented and entertaining group.

In August we plan to take a break unless a 'golden opportunity' should arise which just can't be passed up. Starting in September we will be having features every 5-6 weeks. Watch for another newsletter or a card mailing to let you know.

### OPEN MIKE

Tuesday Nights at the Tortilla Factory, 648 Elden Street in Herndon, Va. Join us for dinner and social at 6:30PM. The Open Mike runs from 7:30 to 10PM. \$1.00 Donation requested. Singers, musicians, listeners and friends welcome. Two song limit. Hope to see you there!!!

## Volunteers – Why It Works

A special "THANK YOU" is in order for the very "SPECIAL" volunteers who work to make the Reston Folk Club possible for all of us. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of these people, we can enjoy music and opportunity every week and participate in social and Folk Club events at other times.

Beginning with those most visible, our weekly 'Emcees', those stalwarts who keep the program flowing and are responsible for the activities each evening, many thanks to Bill Davis, Ellen Kaminsky, Larry Mediate and Dave Hurd.

The sound engineer is critical to how WE sound and Ray Kaminsky, Larry Mediate, Tim Davis and Bill Davis have been doing their best to make us all be our best.

Behind the scenes is where some equally important work is done in making the Folk Club function. These people put in some long hours to see that things are done in the best possible way and without them there would be voids in what we have learned to enjoy. In no particular order of importance we would like to recognize some of the people and the things they have done to make our Folk Club experience more pleasant.

Lynn Jordan has prepared and mailed publicity of Folk Club special performers and events to the local media. She is actively working with other music organizations and performers to keep the Reston Folk Club in the limelight of Washington area musical activities. Lynn has also helped to coordinate social events like the camping weekends and

outings to performances at Wolftrap and the Birchmere.

Dave Hurd prepares and mails this newsletter, designs and prints the flyers and tickets for special guests, serves as treasurer and keeps the mailing list.

Ellen Kaminsky has coordinated community concerts featuring Folk Club members, has coordinated the T-shirt sales, organized social events like the ski trips and hosted special performers in her home. Ellen and Ray Kaminsky are usually early arrivals and setup the sound system each week. Ray has kept the sound system in fine working order and seen to the purchase of the sound monitor and other needed equipment.

Dave Sterling is always ready to help with whatever needs to be done. He puts away the sound equipment at the close of the evening and he has been more than willing to sell tickets on the evenings of our special guest performances. These two chores always need additional helpers and it is nice to see many of you helping to put away the sound system each week. Thanks, Jim Sebesta, Jim Sandy, Paul Hartke and all the rest who have helped each week.

Tim Davis has devoted much time and effort beginning with donating his own sound equipment for those many months until the Folk Club had enough money to buy its own and then he provided his expertise in selecting our equipment. He was kind enough to donate his time and energy to producing the Reston Folk Club tape through his company, West Texas East Productions, Inc. He has also worked extensively with individuals who have professional aspirations and has produced (or is producing) albums and tapes for them.

Beverly Osburn and Marty Ottobre conceived, designed and produced the jacket for the Folk Club tape. Paul Hartke has made his property available for the Spring camping social outing. Donna Huchel has hosted some super "post-Folk Club" sessions and works within the Reston-Herndon community to promote and involve the Folk Club.

Others have contributed and without them we would be a lesser organization. If there is anyone we have missed, apologies to you, please let me know for future reference, memories and recordkeeping could be better. (ed. We know you are saying - "Rose", but since she was featured in newsletter #2 last fall and she wrote this article . . .)

Thanks Team,  
Rose

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## Since The Last Newsletter . . .

Over the Fall and Winter we have had some really good times. Special guests have been The Smith Sisters, Scott Ainslie, Martin Carthy, Saffire, Jeff Warner and Jeff Davis, Magpie, Sally Rogers, and Steve Giffette and Cindy Mangsen.

The Folk Club participated in the Fairfax County Park Authority sponsored "Colvin Run Christmas" and will be providing offerings for the Herndon Fine Arts Festival on May 21.

We have had our fourth birthday party and are embarking on a new venture in organization (see article elsewhere). In all it has been a great time and we welcome all of you to come again (not all at once - the mailing list is over 350 and the room holds 70) and enjoy the folk club. Summer is coming and the college student members will be returning to share their talents with us. Have a good summer - See you at the Folk Club!

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"The Reston Folk Club Presents . . .", newsletter is published periodically for the benefit of those who would keep the traditions of folk music and other art forms alive and growing! To become a member one merely needs to have an interest and to join us at the Tortilla Factory, or send your name and address to the address listed below for inclusion in the active mailing list. Material for the newsletter may be sent to that address also.

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