

CLUB ACOUSTIC Opens its Doors

On Saturday, March 31, 1990, the Industrial Strength Theater in Herndon, VA, will be the site of an opening night not to be missed. The CLUB ACOUSTIC will make its debut on the acoustic music scene featuring local artists Magpie and a talented new group called Hickory Grove. The CLUB ACOUSTIC will feature shows each month and is sponsored, in part, by the Council for the Arts of Herndon. The show will start at 8:00PM and tickets are \$8.00 at the door. The Industrial Strength Theater is in the Sunset Business Park at 269 Sunset Park Drive in Herndon, Va. For more information call 689-0444.

Ray and Ellen Kaminsky are the driving force behind the CLUB

ACOUSTIC. Very active in folk music in this area, they still felt that there was a need for more opportunities for acoustic music in the Herndon area. The CLUB ACOUSTIC is modeled after the "Boston coffee house" theme which features a well known artist or group as the main attraction and highlights local, emerging artists who may not yet be able to attract a sizable audience. Seating 120, the Industrial Strength Theater is large enough to attract impressive artists, yet small enough to provide intimacy. Organized as a non-profit business, the beneficiaries of the CLUB ACOUSTIC will be the audience (the music) and the performers (the proceeds.)

Thanks to Ray and Ellen for their consistent support of folk music in this area.

The Reston Folk Club

at the Tortilla Factory
648 Elden Street
Herndon, Va 22070
c/o David Hurd
1405 Cottage Street SW



The Reston Folk Club

... Preserving Folk Traditions



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The Listening Club

The Reston Folk Club has been the venue for folk music in the Herndon/Reston area for almost five years. The saga of the club's humble beginnings is now legendary and need not be repeated here. The opportunity to perform for an audience that is truly interested in acoustic music is a rarity these days. The opportunity to hear such a wide variety of music and musical styles, in such pleasant surroundings, is equally as rare. The amazing thing is this takes place each and every Tuesday night. Let's see, that's 14 performers a week for 52 weeks728 different performances each year!

It's a synergistic relationship, the audience listens and the players perform. It seems like a perfect setup, how could things be any better? This was a sneaky way of getting around to the point. Have you ever wondered why the phrase "we are a listening club" is repeated so many times each night by the MC? Almost all of our performers are amateurs, perhaps performing in public for the first time and usually a little nervous. Disruptions from the audience, loud talking,

chairs scraping on the floor, or whatever, are sometimes just enough to spoil a performance. Not only from the performers viewpoint, but from the rest of the audience's as well.

So please, come and perform, come and listen or come to perform and listen. And remember, "we are a listening club!" Enjoy!

Coming, to The Reston Folk Club

April 24, 1990
Mack Bailey
\$4.00

May 29, 1990
Doug & Willa Porter
\$5.00

\$1.00 Member Discount on Tickets!

Local Folk Debuts

by Bill Davis

Last October, Ray Kaminsky, Joan Kennedy and I had the opportunity to appear on the *Dateline Reston* show on Warner Communications Cable Channel 8 (in Reston). At least three people saw the show (I was one of them). It was a fun show to do and one of the camera folks told us we were entertaining, fun to watch and a lot more interesting to film than the Reston Association Board meetings. Now, I know that watching bread rise can be more entertaining than board meetings, but a compliment is a compliment I was like Pavlov's dog hearing bells when I heard, "We should do this kind of thing more often." "Next Tuesday we'll call it the *Local Folk Show*." Still drooling, I said "Sure, I'll do it." Like most jobs that don't pay anything, this one was easy to get, anyway I could call myself a television producer.

Being a television producer has certain advantages which might not be immediately apparent, the chief one being able to call yourself "a television producer." This beats the line about "I'm a pilot" which has become passe with the re-emergence of the leather aviator jacket on pilot impersonators everywhere, anyway, I **am** a pilot and "real pilots" can't afford those jackets.

So the *Local Folk Show* was born, a half hour of local musical entertainment featuring local artists from (I know - redundant) the local area -- or anywhere else they are to be found. The idea is to showcase the many talented folks around these parts and give them a chance to expose themselves on Public Television (that doesn't sound quite right oh, well).

I'm the producer and the producer's job is to 1) figure out who's going to be on the show, 2) figure out when it will be taped and 3) wear socks that match. Anyway, two out of three isn't bad.

So far we have had seven taping sessions producing 14 shows. Doing two at a time gives us extra labor to run cameras (when you ain't singing, you're filming.) Tom Bartlet or Mike Hamilton direct from the mobile control module parked out back of 397 Herndon Parkway (Studio entrance is on the side facing the W & OD trail.) The director's job is to 1) select the camera shots and mix and match sound, 2) type in the credits and 3) yell at the cameramen. Operating a camera is interesting and enjoyable stress, thanks to all who have panned and focused for the show.

The first *Local Folk Show* featured Joan Kennedy (of course, she coauthored the concept) and she also has helped host. The second show featured Mark Elliott who

has since moved up to Nashville - good luck Mark. Subsequent shows have featured Jim Sandy & Joe Kolankiewicz, Dick Moore, Joe K by himself, Sue Schoebel, Paul Hartke, Lea Cordell, Mike (Blueheart) Wilson & Renee & Joe, Larry Mediate, Ray Kaminsky, Mark Elliott again (just before he left for Nashville), Hickory Grove (Bev & Jack Osborn, Jamie Richardson and Chris Enghauser) and Ruth Goldberg & Ira Gitlin.

All of the performers have given outstanding performances. The folk cultural life of Reston has been greatly improved and "Yes, Virginia, there is something to watch on Reston Cable." At this time the show airs on Tuesday nights at 8:00 (when you are all at the Tortilla Factory) and again on Thursday at 10:00 (unless pre-empted by a basketball game) and at other unscheduled times when they need filler.

Would you like to be on the show? Would you like to expose yourself to the community? Great! If I haven't already asked you I probably will, but if I don't, don't be shy. What you need is about 25 minutes of solid material. Preferably original stuff or traditional songs or songs which are somehow unique. Special instruments or groups work well. Because of the limits of TV sound, the show is more about the performers and the performances than the music.

If you would like to see the show but don't get Reston Cable I have copies (VHS) of all of the shows, or call your local cable company and tell them of the wonderful show they could air in your area if they could find a spot in their schedule. If you would like to help in the production (camera, sets, find talent or be part of the audience) come on out and join the fun, I announce the tapings at the Folk Club (and anywhere I can get someone to listen).

How about a Reston Folk Club Video?

Where Are They?

Hickory Grove

March 31, Opening of the CLUB ACOUSTIC at the Industrial Strength Theater in Herndon

April 27, Opening night of the Harmony Cafe (run by Doris Justis) in Laurel MD, with Side by Side, Cornocopia and Hazlewood.