



The Folk Club

of Reston-Herndon

...Preserving Folk Traditions



Vol 8, No 6; June/July, 1994

Poetry Uncorseted: Words That Play Out In The Open

*Poetry is like fish: if it's fresh, it's good;
if it's stale, it's bad; and if you're not certain,
try it out on the cat.*

Osbert Sitwell

Dean Blehert's poetry is fresh. Some pieces are written minutes before he stands to perform them. His titles signal the audience to expect the unusual: *Taco Bell's Canon*, *On My Stool*, and *My Name Is Dean And I'm A Bobbiholic*. At the microphone, Dean is both deliberate and relaxed. He is university-professor patient, reading from his notes and pausing to look up and acknowledge response. In over thirty years of writing and performing poetry, Dean has learned to gauge response. "I want the poem," he explains, "to create an effect."

Dean Blehert has become the Folk Club's Poet-At-Large in part because of his unconventional viewpoint, sometimes posed as a question: Why do we have two nostrils instead of one? Do our pets think of us in sensual terms? and, What if I'd never occupied a body before and I suddenly came upon a world like this one where everyone else did?

"It all starts with the way I see something," Dean says. "Then I want to communicate what I see. That decision to try and communicate spawns creativity. At that point, I ask myself, Where am I as a writer, and who am I supposed to talk to?"

In the Folk Club, Dean found a non-poetry audience actually attentive to his writing. He has performed his work in bars and entered poetry slams in DC. Dean says the key to success in those settings is your material.

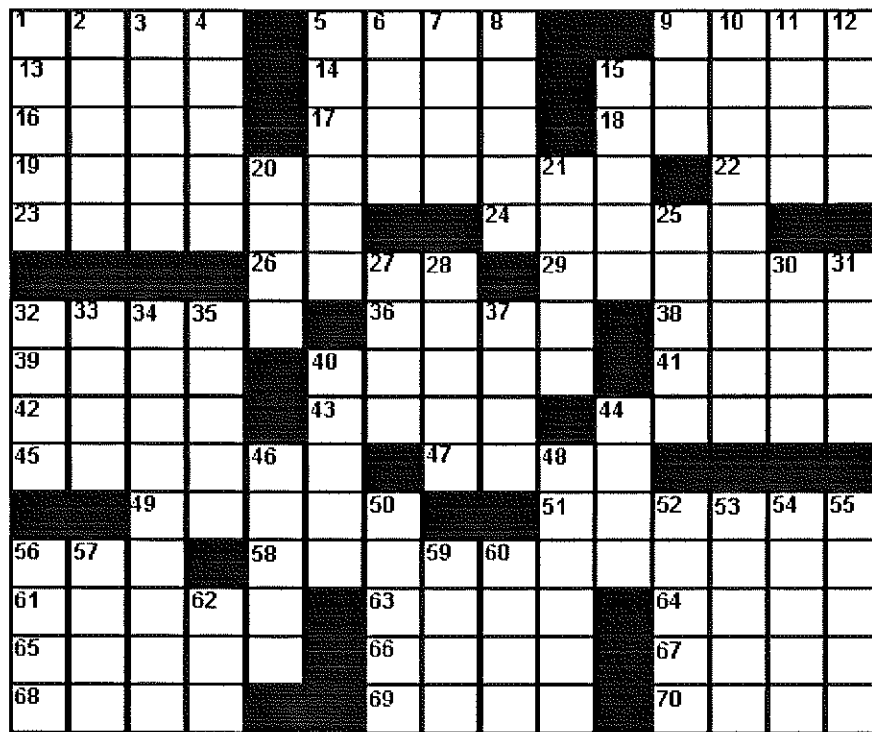
"It's important to do things that people will get. Humor can help with this and sometimes things are accidentally funny. I've also found that shorter pieces work better. People don't have the patience to hear a five page poem performed."

Ten years ago, Dean developed a poetry publication called *Denotations*. He still produces six issues a year for 400 subscribers. To other poets considering submitting material, Dean promises "I will consider poetry written in any form, both serious and humorous, of any length on any subject. I only require that it be written by Dean Blehert."

Each issue of *Denotations* starts with a letter to the reader. In issue 16, Dean uses this space to ask a question and provide advice to anyone who performs for an audience. "What makes me think I can write enough readable poems to keep this thing going all by myself? In fact, I can't. Fortunately, I'm not here all by myself. You're here to."

WILD, WILD HEART

by Ray Kaminsky



ACROSS

1. Flag lady
5. Desserts
9. Slavic emperor
13. Give ____ Caesar
14. Roof edge
15. Courtyard
16. Demeanor
17. Native African ruler
18. Smells
19. South TX song, 1985
22. Flock of pheasants
23. Toughen by fire
24. WFMA summer trip site
26. Old English gold coin
29. Musical lines
32. Travel charges
36. Back of the neck
38. Valley
39. ____ out!!
40. Sharpened.
41. Sch. subj.
42. Am stds inst acronym
43. Negate
44. Frozen precipitation
45. Shoe frontal reinforcement
47. Mucus
49. Wands of authority
51. Tugboat fees

56. Three combining form
58. Puzzle songster name
61. Greeting
63. Best
64. Bird bed
65. Chicago planetarium
66. Wound mark
67. Phillipine chief
68. Golf props
69. Fleshy rose fruits
70. Slumber old past participle

DOWN

1. Cuban dance
2. The Purple ____, folk bistro
3. Back of the boat
4. Messenger
5. Heavenly gate adjective
6. Metrical foot
7. Not good
8. Blood fluid
9. Boy
10. Song for interesting geology, 1985
11. Breezy
12. Rodeo ____, 1986 album
15. Postulate
20. Auditory organs

21. Relieved
25. Orange type
27. Soon
28. Disembarks
30. Big ice cube
31. Dispatched
32. Decree
33. ____ Domini
34. ____ Fair, 1979 song
35. Girl's name
37. Drudge
40. Province in east central China
44. Portico
46. ____ Day, tree gala
48. Aquatic weasel relatives
50. Ornamental garment slit
52. Yellowstone ____, 1988 Song
53. Anoint
54. beau ____
55. Legally impede
56. Definite article
57. To advise or counsel
59. Many mathematical points
60. Gumband noise
62. Bandleader Brown

The Mollies

The Folk Club
Proudly Presents ...
7:30 PM
July 26, 1994
at the Tortilla Factory
in Herndon, VA

Tickets \$6.00 (\$5.00 members)

They visited the Folk Club about a year ago on a pass-through and played the open mike. We liked them so much that we have invited them to come back for an evening to entertain you.



The Mollies call themselves an Irish-American-Latin folk and rock band. There aren't too many of that kind of band around, you can be sure.

Nancy McCallion and Catherine Zavala hail from the Tuscon Arizona area and have made a high mark in folk music in Tuscon, winning the "Best Acoustic/Folk Band" award for the area in 1993. Their visits to the Washington area have been marked with huge success and acclaim. They have been together for four years.

The Mollies have released an excellent CD, *"Tidings of Comfort and Joy"*, and it has been widely played nationally.

Come out to the Folk Club and be entertained by this energetic and talented Duo.

1	B	2	E	3	S	4	T		5	A	6	T	7	T	8	L	9	E		10	S	11	S	12	T	13	S					
14	O	G	L	E					15	T	E	H	E	E						16	T	H	A	T								
17	B	O	Y	S					18	D	R	E	A	R						19	E	A	S	E								
									20	T	21	R	U	N	K	S				22	S	A	N	T	A							
23	G	24	I	25	P				26	O	S	S	I						27	B	A	L	E	E	N							
28	U	N	L	29	I	N	K								30	N	31	U	L	L	S											
32	A	B	A	N	D										33	O	G	R	E						34	P	35	G	36	A		
37	R	E	Y	N	O					38	L	D	S	S	T					39	E	40	W	A	R	T						
41	D	D	S												42	I	O	T	A						43	L	O	C	O	S		
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47	C	48	H	49	E	E	S	E							50	N	51	A	R	E							52	S	E	A		
53	R	A	N	G	E										54	S	T	R	I	N												
56	A	N	T	E											57	C	E	R	E	S							58	A	T	60	61	M
62	M	O	E	T											63	H	A	I	T	I							64	L	O	L	A	
65	S	I	R	S											66	A	L	O	E	S								67	A	M	E	N

Answers to last month's puzzle.

TM Hanna Showcases In July

Q: *When did you first get interested in music?*

TM I've always been interested. I started teaching myself to play guitar in high school. I was writing songs and wanted to hear how they would sound with music.

Q: *How did you end up becoming a member of the Folk Club?*

TM I kept hearing announcements on the radio about people who were playing here. So I came over and then later I got up the courage to actually perform.

Q: *Who are your musical influences?*

TM I have a fairly diverse background. I used to listen to *The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band*, especially their early stuff, when it was more of a jug band. They did a lot of different styles with the same five people.

Q: *Do you still write songs?*

TM Oh yeah, I do a lot of writing with Eric Forthman. We get together about once a week. Because Eric can play just about anything, we can pretty much write in any style we want.

Q: *How does that work? Collaboration I mean.*

TM Well, writing with Eric is really good. He has a very strong sense of melody, a good feel for the music. The great thing about writing with someone else is you get immediate feedback on a tune. It helps to minimize your own excesses.

Q: *So how does a song start for you?*

TM Usually with a phrase, either one or two lines. That develops into the chorus or a verse. The rest of the tune can take 20 minutes or 20 years, it just depends on the song.

July 10 - August 27, 1994

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
July 10 7:00pm Hickory Grove Fort Hunt Concert - Mt Vernon	July 11	July 12 7:30pm Folk Club	July 13	July 14 8:00pm Frederick Folk Club - Deli Creations	July 15	July 16
July 17	July 18	July 19 7:30pm Folk Club	July 20 8:30pm Music Americana Showcase - Bad Habits, Arlington	July 21	July 22	July 23
July 24	July 25	July 26 Showcase Lottery Draw The Mollies (\$6/ 5) 7:30pm Folk Club	July 27	July 28 <small>7:30pm Hickory Grove - Herndon Summer Series 8:00pm Frederick Folk Club - Deli Creations</small>	July 29	July 30
July 31	Aug 1	Aug 2 Showcase Perform- ance 7:30pm Folk Club	Aug 3	Aug 4	Aug 5	Aug 6
Aug 7	Aug 8	Aug 9 7:30pm Folk Club	Aug 10	Aug 11 8:00pm Frederick Folk Club - Deli Creations	Aug 12	Aug 13
Aug 14 7:00pm Hickory Grove - Mason District Concert	Aug 15	Aug 16 7th Anniversary at Tortilla Factory 7:30pm Folk Club	Aug 17 8:30pm Music Americana Showcase - Bad Habits, Arlington	Aug 18	Aug 19	Aug 20
Aug 21	Aug 22	Aug 23 Pete Kennedy & Maura Boudreau (\$7/6) 7:30pm Folk Club	Aug 24	Aug 25 8:00pm Frederick Folk Club - Deli Creations	Aug 26	Aug 27

Coming Folk Club Events

- July 26** - **The Mollies**
\$6/5
- August 23** - **Pete Kennedy &
Maura Boudreau**
\$7/6
- Sept 20** - **Richard Shindell**
\$7/6
- October 25** - **Scott Ainslie**
\$8/7

ATTENTION! ATTENTION! ATTENTION!
Check your Label - Are you expiring?



"19940601 and 19940701" are expiring with this issue. Don't miss an issue - Don't miss the benefits of the Folk Club. Please send in your membership check (\$12.00) to keep your membership active!

Showcase Performances

On June 7, the featured performer was **Dean Blehert**. (He did a nice job too). On July 5th, the featured performer is **T. M. Hanna**.

On the first Tuesday of every month we feature a Folk Club member in a showcase two-set (25 minute) performance. To become one of these "showcase" specials all you have to do is 1) be a member of the Folk Club, 2) fill out a lottery slip by the last Tuesday of the month, 3) win the drawing and 4) practice, practice practice!

The Folk Club

President, Larry Mediate

Treasurer, David Hurd

Members of the Board:

Ray Kaminsky, Ellen Kaminsky

Lynn Jordan, Bill Davis

Richard Flinchbaugh, Liza Cobb

Jim Rosenkrans, T.M. Hanna

Brian Gilmartin, Nina Gilmartin

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Editor, Mike Murray

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The Folk Club

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c/o David A. Hurd

1405 Cottage Street SW

Vienna, VA 22180