

# The Folk Club

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December, 1998

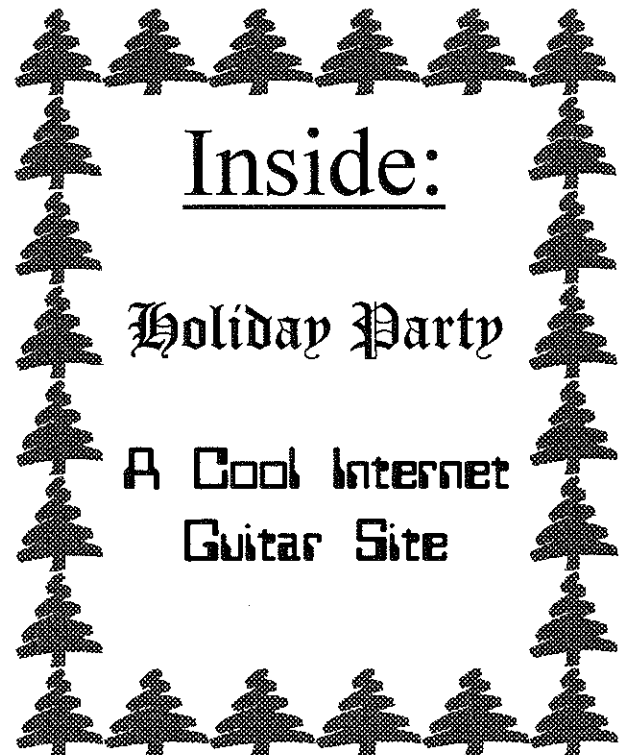
## December 10 Showcase - Scott McKnight

Scott McKnight began playing guitar in high school, added banjo in college, and then mandolin after graduation, doing traditional music from England, sea chanteys, and particularly old-time music. He's performed at house concerts and at a Folklore Society of Greater Washington MiniFest showcase two years ago, and last year led a MiniFest banjo workshop. For a while he was in an *a capella* chantey group called St. Elmo's Quire (ask him about the name!) that performed at the Southern Maryland Celtic Festival several times. He has one recording out, titled *All is Well*, which is a Mormon hymn included on the album.

Originally from a small town in northwestern Pennsylvania, Scott went to Allegheny College and then the University of Chicago, studying comparative religion. He came to this area, and was an eligibility worker for the DC Welfare Department for seventeen years. He now works with his wife in the sign language interpreting field – she's an interpreter, and he helps run the business. Scott has also been active in the local theater community, appearing in five plays at the Germantown Stage. He's currently in rehearsal as the father in Checkov's *Marriage Proposal*, to be performed in a one-act play competition in January in Cheverly, Maryland.

One of the first songs Scott ever learned is Pretty Saro, which he found on a Pete Seeger album many years ago. He may do it in his showcase, and may also include songs from the Carter Family, Gordon Bok, the Dixon Brothers, and Dillard Chandler as well. Martin Carthy and the Watsons are strong influences from England, and Mississippi John Hurt is a source of Scott's guitar style.

Scott says he's excited to be doing a showcase, and we're looking forward to a great program from a versatile performer. Don't miss it!



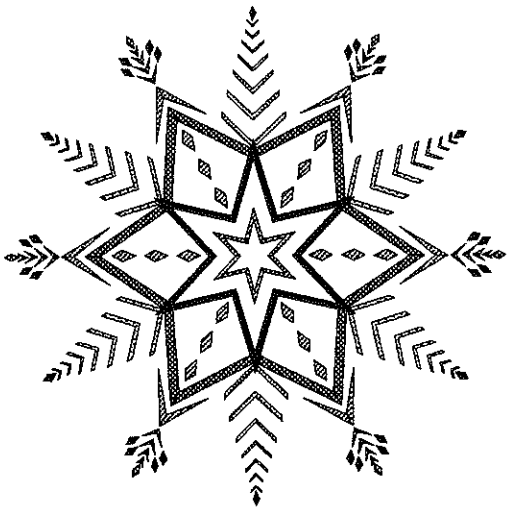
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Guitar Site

# Holiday Party

December 22



The Folk Club's annual Holiday Party has a special format. First of all, it's free (the \$1 donation is waived), there's cake at the intermission, and prizes are given away.

The sign-up board is different, too. In an effort to hear from everyone, each performer does only one song, and the variety from as many as 30 acts is wonderful. This is a great time for people who don't normally perform to give it a try – lead the rest of us in your favorite song or carol, or call a friend in advance and do it as a duet. If there's still time left at the end, we go back to the top of the sign-up board and start again.

Bring your voices, your instruments, and your mistletoe, dress in festive garb, and expect what passes for normal on a regular night at the Folk Club, except more!

# Internet Guitar Site and Newsletter

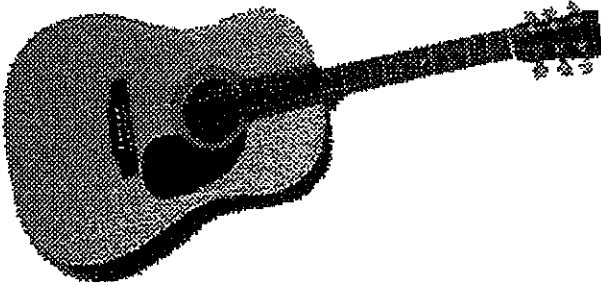
Thanks to Lou Ruffino, who sent in info about a cool guitar site on the internet that has an optional weekly newsletter, too. The site, maintained by a Australian guitarist, is at: (<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~guitar/welcome.htm>). The newsletter archives are at: (<http://www.vicnet.net.au/~guitar/newsletter.htm#archive>).

An excerpt from the most recent newsletter follows.

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## NAILED

by Kirk Lorange



I have always played with my fingers -- flat picks confound me, finger picks feel clumsy. I like direct contact with the strings, with just a tiny bit of finger nail to bring out the highs. The problem has always been keeping them from wearing away or breaking. So a few months ago I bit the bullet: I walked into the beauty salon of my local shopping center and presented my three picking fingers to a bleach-blond named Susan and told her I wanted them done. She didn't want to, but she did them anyway and I walked out ten minutes later with nails strong enough to adjust the truss rod in my Strat.

Susan suggested I buy the kit off her (just to keep me from coming back, I'm sure) and so I did. A primer, a liquid which I think is acetone and a white powder. The primer goes on first, then you dip a little brush first into the liquid then into the powder which turns gluggy on the brush. You dab that onto the nail let it dry and presto - nails like steel. You can then file them and shape them as you please.

Life has been grand since I discovered acrylic nails. I can dig in all night and not even scratch them. If you rely on your nails like I do to get your sound, go for it.

If you're still looking for a way of navigating the fretboard that has nothing to do with scales or notation or TAB, come visit my site (<http://www.lorange.cjb.net>), read about the 'trick'. There's a drop-D tuning slide guitar lesson there too.

# Folk Club Guest Artists,

## Showcases, and Special Events

prices are for nonmembers/members - it pays to join!  
all times are 7:30 PM

Dec. 8      Scott McKnight Showcase      n/a  
Dec. 22     Holiday Party!                              free

Stay tuned for '99 events!

## Folk Club Format

On most nights, the Folk Club is an open mike format with a sign-up board. Each performer gets 12 minutes (or 3 songs, whichever comes first). A \$1 donation is requested.

## Showcase Performances

On the second Tuesday of each month, we feature a Folk Club member in a two set (25-minute) "Showcase" performance. To be in a showcase all you have to do is:

- be a Folk Club member (who hasn't done a showcase in 6 months)
- fill out a lottery slip any time in the month before the drawing
- win the drawing (held on the night of the previous month's showcase); and

## Newsletter Submissions

Club members' performances will be listed in the club calendar, and members' music-related notices (instruction, equipment for sale, etc.) will be listed free of charge.

Articles, reviews, artwork, and other items related to music are welcome, although publication can't be guaranteed.

The editor, T.M. Hanna, is temporarily offline. You can contact the stunt editor, Dan Grove, at (703) 742-7993 or <dangrove@erols.com> with submissions or for more information.

## The Folk Club

Tuesday nights, 7:30 PM  
at The Tortilla Factory  
648 Elden St., Herndon, VA  
(703) 471-1156

President:                      Larry Mediate  
Treasurer:                    Richard Flinchbaugh

Board of Directors:  
Ray & Ellen Kaminsky, Lynn Jordan,  
Bill Davis, Jim Rosenkrans, T.M. Hanna,  
Sue Beffel, Dan Grove, Dave Hurd

Publicity & Information:  
Lynn Jordan                    (703) 437-7766

Bookings:  
Ray Kaminsky                (703) 689-0444

## MEMBERSHIP - ADDRESS CHANGES - RENEWAL

Check your mail label - your membership expiration date (in Year-Month-Day format, YYYYMMDD) is there. To renew, or to join for the first time, please send your check for \$12, payable to The Folk Club, to membership

## The Folk Club of Reston-Herndon

c/o Dave Hurd

1405 Cottage Street SW

Vienna, VA 22180



Expires 12 19990701  
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