

# The Folk Club

of Reston  
Herndon

Volume 17, Issue 12



Preserving Folk Traditions



December 2001

## December 11 Showcase – Jane Sparks Tatum

by Dan Grove

Jane Tatum's lovely voice was first heard in public when she sang at the First Baptist Church in her hometown of Olive Hill, Kentucky. She was in second grade. By sixth grade, she had joined the adult choir, and has been singing choral music ever since, in Latin, German, French, and Italian as well as English. She loves and sings blues and jazz, but the church is where she got her start, and has been a constant musical thread in her life. Jane moved to the area in 1990 when her husband became minister at the Fair-Park Baptist Church, on Quaker Lane in Alexandria. She sings there, of course, but has focused her music at the Folk Club, too, for the last four years. In the chorus, her alto voice is almost never the solo, but at the Folk Club, happily, it is.

In Olive Hill, Jane's Dad listened to the Grand Old Opry and Lester Flatt & Earl Scruggs, and as a kid she hated it. It wasn't until she was in high school that Jane went to her first bluegrass festival, and got hooked. She saw guys hobble up on stage with canes, sit down laboriously, and then pick up a fiddle or a banjo - and effortlessly fly. Hooked! Add bluegrass to her list of influences, along with folk, country, and the Southern spiritual tradition.

Jane was the second of seven children in the Sparks family - John, Jane, Jack, Janet, Jean, Julia, and James. As the oldest girl, she was big sister to, and helped raise, most of them. The one that she looked up to, her mentor, tutor, and protector - her big brother John - lost a battle with cancer in 1998, and Jane sought to create a memorial to him and the rest of her family. The result is a serenely beautiful recording, *How Sweet the Sound: Songs of Hope & Faith*, a collection of spiritual songs that she's been singing for over 30 years, plus one song she learned specifically for this project - the Servant Song, from

the 1844 Sacred Harp songbook. The CD features Folk Club friends **Mike Ball** on guitar and banjo; **Les Thompson**, recording engineer and co-producer; **Jim Houck** on bass; and **Ron Goad** on percussion. Also featured are Loudoun County musicians **Danny Knicely** on guitar, and **Dave Van Deventer** on fiddle and tin whistle. Jane's goal was to create a comforting tribute, and the result is a dignified, uplifting, and highly satisfying collection of songs, with musicianship and production that wonderfully frame Jane's voice. Beautiful!

For her showcase, Jane will feature songs from *How Sweet the Sound* along with other selections. She'll be accompanied by Mike Ball and perhaps a mystery guest or two. Don't miss a special night at the Folk Club.

### 27 Volunteers Staff Herndon Folk Festival

By Lynn Jordan

A cadre of 27 brave folk club members and friends defied the reports thunderstorms on Sunday, October 14, to help pull off the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Herndon Folk Festival. And these volunteers covered 37+ different assignments. Even backup volunteer **Mike Brazie** was kept busy all day.

MCs **Jane Tatum** (Main Stage) and **Chris "Fang" Harnage** (Showcase Stage) set the tone and kept the action moving. Eleven volunteers sold CDs (**Linda Nevitte, Ligia Inra, Pete Nelson, Mike Brazie, Sue Beffel, Len Jaffe, Kathleen Abbott, Tom Brahms, Jolene Bianchi, Lynn Romano, and Marty Jenkins**).

Under **Todd Crowley's** careful eye, five volunteers helped run the instrument petting zoo (**Sue Schier, Diane LaFleur, Ben Hamblin, Ginna Brahms, and**

(VOLUNTEERS: Continued on page 3)



**The 2001**

**HOLIDAY  
PARTY**

**December 18<sup>th</sup>**

**7:30—10:00 p.m.**

**We'll have our usual open mic format, but we'll forgo the admission charge. Come prepared to hear some great music. Maybe we'll hear some holiday tunes we can sing along with, and we can wish our friends a happy season. Join us.**

**Free Admission  
Door Prizes  
Holiday Cake**

## In Concert

Local performances by members of The Folk Club of Reston-Herndon:

**Acoustic Jam:** 3rd Sunday of the month from 1 - 4 p.m. at Frying Pan Park Country Store in Herndon. Call Yvonne Johnson at 703-437-9101 for details.

**Where? House Concerts:** doors open at 7, music begins at 7:30. Call Kim Kaplan (301-588-5314) or email her (jkkaplan@erols.com) for reservations and directions.

**Ray Kaminsky:** ([www.earbuzz.com/raykiminsky](http://www.earbuzz.com/raykiminsky))  
12/14 St. Elmo's Coffee Pub, Alexandria, 8pm

**Pete Brown and the Mad Cows—featuring TM**

**Hanna & Mike Wilkinson**

12/14 Ledo Pizza, Tysons, 9pm-12am

12/24 Zig's, Alexandria, 8pm

12/28 Luna Park Grille, 9pm-1am

### CD Release Concert

Folk Club Member

**Ralph Lee Smith**

Presents

### Old Time Dulcimer and Harmonica Tunes

Concert Scheduled for January 15, 2002

Watch for the big announcement in the next issue of this newsletter.

(VOLUNTEERS: *Continued from page 1*)

**Diane LaFleur, Ben Hamblin, Ginna Brahm, and Jean Crowley.** **Ralph Lee Smith** dazzled passersby with his annual one-man dulcimer workshop.

Eight strong volunteers helped set up and tear down the stages after the show, schlepped instruments, and met and directed the performers (**Ken "Harney" Harnage, Bill Farrer, Jolene Bianchi, Sue Schier, John McConnell, Pete Nelson, Betty Boucher, and Marty Jenkins**). **Harney** also took on several jobs and filled in wherever he saw a need.

Finally, three stalwart volunteers got talked into running the crafts and play venues for the kids (**Mike Brazie, Maddy O'Neill, and Betty Boucher**).

**Sue Schier, Bill Davis, Les Zidel and I** served on the organizing committee with staff from the Town of Herndon's recreation department. We suggested ideas for performers and publicity and performed other functions as needed, including drafting, organizing and managing the volunteers. **Sue** also prepared bios of the Main Stage performers for **Jane Tatum**.

The storm clouds that were menacing us all day finally opening up while I was driving home.

## Other Venues & Artists of Interest

### 16th Annual Holiday Family Concert

Cathy Fink & Marcy Marxer

With guests MATAPAT

Saturday, December 8th

NOAA Auditorium, Silver Spring

Advance Tickets available at

the House of Musical Traditions in Takoma Park  
301.587.4434

### The Birchmere

A sampling of Upcoming Shows

[www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com)

- 12/8 Walter Beasley  
12/14 Susan Bogguss "A Swinging Little Christmas"  
12/26 DaVinci's Notebook  
12/29 Hank Williams Tribute, featuring Robin & Linda Williams, Cathy Fink & Marcy Marxer, Bill Kirchen, Ricky Simpkins, Dave Giegerich & Mark Schatz  
12/31 Seldom Scene & Auldridge, Bennett, Gaudreau  
A Bluegrass New Year's Eve

## 2001 Guest Artists & Special Events

**M**ost tickets for Guest Artists are \$10 Non-member, \$9 Members. It pays to be a Folk Club member!

- 1/29/02 — Randy Barrett & Dulcie Taylor  
2/26/02 — Akire Bubar & Garth Ross  
3/26/02 — The Kennedys  
4/23/02 — Peter Keane  
5/21/02 — Jerry Bresee & Michelle Swan  
6/18/02 — Kate MacLeod  
7/23/02 — Chuck Pyle  
8/20/02 — Sarah Lee Guthrie & Johnnie Irion

## GET YOUR TICKETS!!

Advance purchase of tickets to concerts by Guest Artists (*see page 2 every month except December*) can be made at the Folk Club or by prepaid mail. Contact:

Dave Hurd  
110 Devil's Backbone Overlook  
Stephenson, VA 22656  
540-722-0146

## The Folk Club of Reston-Herndon

Tuesday nights, 7:30 p.m.

The Tortilla Factory  
648 Elden Street  
Herndon, VA  
703-471-1156

**President:** Ray Kaminsky

**Treasurer:** Dave Hurd

**Board of Directors:** Sue Beffel, Bill Davis, TM Hanna,  
Lynn Jordan, Ellen Kaminsky, Chris Kramer-Harnage,  
Sue Schier.

**Publicity:** Sue Schier

**Info Line:** 703-435-2402

**Bookings:** Ray Kaminsky, 703-689-0444

**Membership** is \$12 per year.

## Classifieds

*Classified ads and performance listings will be published if received the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of the month before publication from members whose dues are current.*

**Email your ad to [irene@caboyer.com](mailto:irene@caboyer.com).**

**For Sale:** Sound System—Peavy 6-channel Mixer, Monitor Amp, Speakers, and Monitor.

Contact TM at [birdphluph@pressroom.com](mailto:birdphluph@pressroom.com).

**WANTED: Recycle your guitar strings.** The Second Strings Project has distributed over 10,000 sets to the world's most depressed regions. Send complete sets only to Kevin Deame, 28 Ladd Road, Ellington, CT 06029.

## Folk Club Format

On most Tuesday evenings, the Folk Club is an open mike format with a sign-up board. Each performer has 12 minutes, including setup time. This allows three songs if you set up FAST and the songs are of moderate length.

## 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 you must:

- be a Folk Club member who has not done a showcase in 6 months
- fill out a lottery slip any time in the month before the drawing
- win the drawing on the night of the current month's showcase
- prepare to be featured in the next newsletter!

## Newsletter Publication

Folk Club members are encouraged to submit performance calendars, classified advertisements, articles, reviews, artwork and other music related items to Irene Boyer at [irene@caboyer.com](mailto:irene@caboyer.com). All items must be emailed in MSWord, WordPerfect, or ASCII text format. Information must be received one week before the first day of the month in which you want it published. Items will be printed on the basis of music related interest, timeliness and space available with club information being the first priority.

## The Folk Club of Reston-Herndon

c/o Dave Hurd  
110 Devil's Backbone Overlook  
Stephenson, VA 22656



**Expires 7/1/02**

Ms Sue Beffel  
1511 Farsta Court  
Reston, VA 20190

