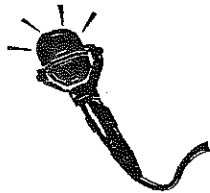


# The Folk Club of Reston - Herndon

Volume 19, Issue 2

February, 2003



*serving the traditions of  
folk music, folklore, and folk ways*



## Jane Sparks Tatum February 11 Showcase by Janet Sparks

### **Jane Sparks Tatum is my older sister. . .**

I have fond memories of Jane singing, whether it was in church or with the Travelles (a rock and roll band). I always look forward to our sing-along when we get together for Christmas. We are from a family of 7 children (no, we aren't Catholic). At one time, we dreamed of a Sparks girl (4 sisters in all) singing group but unfortunately - only Jane could sing. The rest of us just thought we could, although I'm still hoping to become a Dixie Chick someday.

Her CD has touched many people here in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. I am in medical sales and have given the CD to customers, friends and neighbors. I doubt if Jane is aware of the impact her CD has had on numerous people miles from Reston, VA. One of many examples - her CD is in the music library at Baylor University Medical Center's chapel and the chaplain has told me that her music has touched many people there who are grieving or praying for a family member.

Many of the recipients of Jane's CD have told

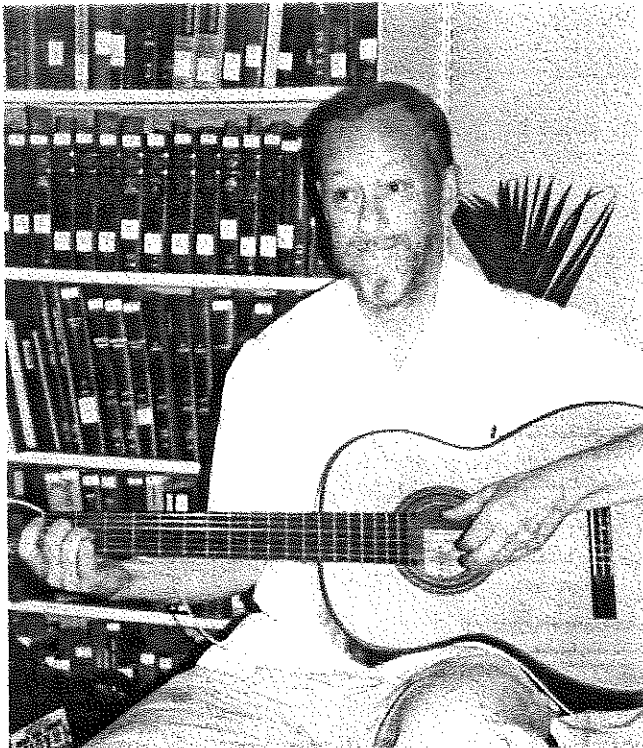
me that they received it at a particularly difficult time in their life and found her music very comforting, and many of the songs brought back wonderful memories. Jane writes in her CD that it is for those who can find comfort through these songs. Well, sister girl - you have definitely accomplished your goal. I am so proud of my big sister. I love her dearly and I hope she continues to make good music for many years to come.

*Janet Sparks- Irving, Texas (the middle child of the seven Sparks children, Janet is Jane's very smart, but very blond, sister, which only partially explains the Dixie Chick aspirations).*

Jane is a 2002 nominee for the Washington Area Music Association's "Wammie" in the Gospel / Inspirational vocalist category - the awards are Sunday, February 9, at the State Theatre in Falls Church, and the Folk Club has several nominees in various categories. Jane's first CD release entitled "How Sweet the Sound: Songs of Hope and Faith" will be available at the showcase, which will be part gospel and maybe inspirational.

# Joe Hickerson & Ralph Lee Smith

Tickets \$10 (\$9 Members)



In the past 45 years, Joe Hickerson has performed over a thousand times throughout the U.S.A. and in Canada, Finland and the Ukraine. His repertoire includes a vast array of folksongs and allied forms in the English language, many with choruses. Pete Seeger has called him "a great song leader." Joe calls himself a "vintage pre-plugged paleo-acoustic folk singer." In 1960, he wrote the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> verses of "*Where Have All The Flowers Gone.*" He has recordings on the Folk-Legacy and Folkways labels, ranging from 1957 to 2002. His concerts are guaranteed to "Drive Dull Care Away."

Joe also has a career as a folklorist, ethnomusicologist, archivist, and librarian; for 35 years (1963-1998) he was the Librarian and Director of Folk Song/Culture at the Library of Congress. He lectures and writes on a variety of folk music topics, and is available for song and copyright researches.

"I don't think I've ever met a man more widely and genuinely respected among folksingers.... As a performing interpreter of the music Joe has always been a widely recognized instrument of grace.

--Bob Franke

"To Joe - A hero to me."

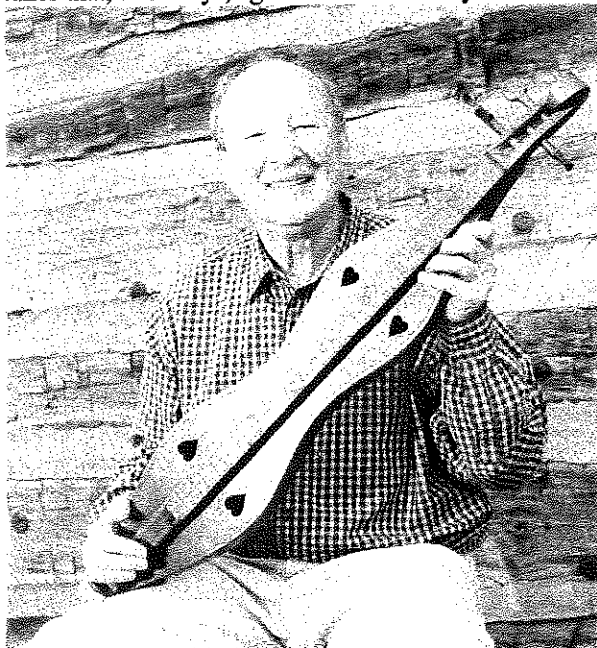
--Tom Paxton

The Folk Club Proudly  
Presents - 7:30 PM - Tuesday,  
February 25, 2003  
at the Tortilla Factory  
648 Elden Street  
Herndon, VA

Ralph Lee Smith plays traditional Appalachian music in simple styles, on dulcimer and harmonica. He became introduced to Appalachian music when he lived in Greenwich Village in the 1950s and 1960s and participated in the folk revival. A year or two before 1960, several dulcimers from western North Carolina arrived in a Village shop called the Folklore Center. Ralph bought one for \$30, and in the 1960s played dulcimer extensively in impromptu Village folk music gatherings. "Those old songs and tunes got stuck all over my heart," he says, "and they stayed there!"

Ralph soon became interested in the dulcimer's history. Beginning in the 1970s, he made many Appalachian field trips, meeting old-time dulcimer makers and players in Virginia, North Carolina and Kentucky. He also acquired a number of antique and traditional dulcimers, which he now uses in demonstrations and displays.

Ralph has given performance/demonstrations on the dulcimer at the White House, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, and colleges, folk festivals, civic groups and historic sites. He teaches dulcimer traditions and tunes at the annual Appalachian Dulcimer Workshop at Western Carolina University. His books include *Appalachian Dulcimer Traditions* and *Songs and Tunes of the Wilderness Road*. His CD, *Old Time Dulcimer and Harmonica Tunes*, includes many of the tunes that, as he says, "got stuck all over my heart."



## FOLK CLUB MEMBERS START TRADITIONAL MUSIC SOCIETY

By Ralph Lee Smith

Last Spring, a small group of Reston-Herndon Folk Club members began to meet at the Lake Anne Coffeehouse, from 4 to 6 p.m. every other Saturday Afternoon, to swap songs and tunes. Alfredo, the owner of the Coffeehouse, has been immensely hospitable to our little group, and we have been having a most enjoyable time. We want to invite others who may be interested, to join us.

When it comes to such things as giving lovers of folk music a welcoming forum for gaining performing experience and confidence before an audience and a microphone, nothing beats the Folk Club. We have a different purpose. We circumscribe our interests and activities by the following guidelines: no singer-songwriter material, and no bluegrass. Our interest is traditional folk music, approximately prior to 1940. We do not perform for each other, but, rather, exchange songs, song words, and folk song information.

We are busy and happy. Marcy Cochran has borrowed Ralph's old cigar box fiddle, and we have been experimenting in using it in a string band grouping. In her hands, the remarkable old instrument has come back to life and sounds like a Stradavarius! Sally Carroll has been bringing her bones, and we have been learning how to fit them into old-time tunes. Ralph has been giving Kay Schubert and Kathy Clark some help with their dulcimers, along with words and dulcimer tablature for some tunes. At this writing, Kay and Kathy are mounting a sustained assault on Johnson Boys, and it is clear that they will soon master it.

When we began the Traditional Music Society, we decided to meet on the first and third Saturdays of each month. It turned out that the schedule was difficult to maintain because various members found other Saturdays better in any given month. We have decided to simply meet on all Saturday afternoons when people can make it, preceded by an email round-robin to see who can come. If you will email your interest to Ralph at rls2@erols.com, he will put you on the round-robin email list, and you will hear from him. Join us! We are sure you'll like it, and we would like to have you! And if you have never sampled Alfredo's coffee, sandwiches and desserts, you have been missing something!

### A SAD NOTE of PASSING..

We have heard that Ben's Whole Hog Bar-B-Que has closed its doors. Ben ran into some zoning problems and has sold his restaurant. We shall all miss the live music and superb barbeque that we all have come to rely on. I have gone into mourning for the North Carolina style pulled pork ... and the loss of such a fine venue. This is the joint that let me fulfill a life long dream, to be a backup singer (Tom Shabala and Shabalettes!). Here is a note about Ben from Ron Goad:

Get together with living legend Ben Morris (formerly of Ben's Whole Hog BBQ) on Sunday Feb. 2 (Groundhog Day). Ben plans to be in the audience at Fat Tuesday's, located in University Shopping Center across from GMU on Braddock road and Rt.123. The restaurant is in the back of the shopping center, on the lower level. The specialty is Cajun cooking, and much of the menu has an authentic N'awlins culinary proclivity. I have been a customer there for years,

and they still allow me admittance. Jimmy Cole and his band, the Fat's Blues Band, will entertain each Sunday night (at least for the next two months) from 8 pm until midnight. According to Jimmy, "Ben is planning to be there every Sunday to hang out." Please spread the word (forward?) so that we may include as many of Ben's people as possible. Let's have a reunion party and give our support to Jimmy, who put together so many dang great shows for Ben.

### "Celebrating Spring With The Web Grant Trio"

**March 23rd, Sunday, 3:00 to 5:00 p. m.**

**For several years I have enjoyed Tuesdays at the Folk Club. In addition to Folk Music, I enjoy live jazz. I am hosting a live jazz concert by The Web Grant Trio at my home in Vienna. The musicians are world-class---piano, bass and drums. Their style ranges from the big band era to just moving out with the music.**

**House Concert - Hosted by Malinda Joyce Sutcliffe  
Light Refreshments After Concert**

**Space Is Limited - RSVP and For Directions  
contact: Malinda at 703-759-2918**

**Contribution of \$20.00 Suggested To Benefit The Musicians**

**E-mail: malindajoy@mindspring.com**

### UPCOMING PERFORMERS

Feb 25, 2003, 7:30pm \$10/\$9 Joe Hickerson & Ralph Lee Smith - Legendary folk historian & performer, Joe Hickerson and the world authority on mountain dulcimer Ralph Lee Smith combine for evening of traditional music.

Mar 25, 2003, 7:30pm \$10/\$9 Bryan Bowers - The Yoda of dulcimer and a consummate storyteller.

Apr 22, 2003, 7:30pm \$10/\$9 Bill Staines - An icon of the American Folk scene, one of the great song-writers and story-tellers.

May 20, 2003, 7:30pm - Bernice Lewis. A great New England singer song writer. Tue Jun 24, 2003

June 24, 2003, 7:30pm \$10/\$9 Anni Clark - Award winning song writer receiving rave reviews.

Jul 22, 2003, 7:30pm \$10/\$9 Liz Materson / Sean Blackburn - Western swing and comedic masters Liz Masterson & Sean Blackburn.

Sep 23, 2003, 7:30pm \$10/\$9 Alistair Mook - Story songs that rival John Prine and Harry Chapin.

## OUR VERY OWN - IN CONCERT

Folk Club of Reston-Herndon members are performing all around town!

Ray Kaminsky and Jack Fretwell

2/7 Fri. 7:30pm Borders Books, Falls Church, 703-998-0404

3/1 Sat. 8 pm Celebration Coffeehouse, Falls Church 703-277-3331

3/13 Thu. 6:30 pm Starbucks, McLean, 703-241-9480

5/18 Sun. 3 pm Tarara Vineyards, Leesburg, 703-771-7100

7/19 Sat. 12 pm Herndon Blues Fest 703-689-9535

### Somos el Mar in February

2/1 Sat. Brandon Oaks, Roanoke 5 pm

2/3 Mon. Lewinsville Sr. Ctr, Mclean VA, 1 pm

2/7 Fri. Cameron Glen, Reston, VA 2:30pm

2/8 Sat, Cap. Health Care, Dover, DE 2 pm

2/12 Wed. Mont. Village, Gaithersburg, MD 3 p.m

2/13 Thurs. Arden Court, Potomac, MD 2 pm

2/14 Fri. Asbury Methodist Village, Gaithersburg, MD 2:30 pm

2/14 Fri., Leesburg Sunrise, Leesburg, VA 7 pm

2/15 Sat, Bartholomew House, Bethesda, MD 2 pm

2/16 Sun., Revitz House, Rockville, MD 1:30 pm

2/19 Wed, Atria Manressa, Annapolis, MD 2:30 pm

2/23 Sun., Genesis Elder Care, Milford, DE 3 pm

Check out our web site:

[www.schoolshows.com/somoselmar](http://www.schoolshows.com/somoselmar)

T.M. Hanna

2/8 Marks Pub with Peter Brown 8 pm

2/12 St. Elmo's Pub, w/ Doris Justice, Alex., 8 pm

2/13 Starbuck's in McLean, w/ the Justice League, 6:30 pm

2/15 House concert for the Washington Ethical Society

2/22 American Legion Post 85, w/ Pete Brown and the Mad Cows, Arlington,

## THE FOLK CLUB OF RESTON-HERNDON

Meets Tuesday nights, 7:30 p.m. at The Tortilla Factory

648 Elden Street, Herndon, VA

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

Bookings: Ray Kaminsky 703-689-0444

Newsletter: Dianne Lafleur 703-560-9239

### FOLK CLUB FORMAT

Most Tuesday nights, the Folk Club is an open mike format with a sign-up board. Each performer has 12 minutes, which included set-up time.

On the second Tuesday of the month, we feature a "Showcase" of a Folk Club member in a 25-minute performance.

### SHOWCASE PERFORMANCES

To be in the Showcase, you must:

Be a Folk Club member who has not done a showcase in the last 6 months.

Fill out a lottery slip and place it in the "drawing bucket".

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 Dianne Lafleur at [dlaflaur2@yahoo.com](mailto:dlaflaur2@yahoo.com).

Information should be received one week before the last day of the month in which you want it

### Something New on the Web!

Folk Club has an Internet newsgroup! It allows us to freely exchange information of general interest to all. Take a couple of moments to find it and give it a try. The calendar feature is great. Put your gigs there & let others know about upcoming events. You will have to go through the process of getting a Yahoo address and password, but Yahoo won't sell your address to the spam businesses.

To find the Newsgroup: Go to Yahoo and click on the little

word "Groups" at the bottom page. Mid-page is the "Join a Group" section. Click on Music-->Genres-->Folk and Traditional-->Folk and Traditional Groups. Do a search for: FolkClubofRestonHerndon. Or you can go directly to: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FolkClubofRestonHerndon/>

Get an email identity and have fun. If you have any problems, email me at [dlaflaur2@yahoo.com](mailto:dlaflaur2@yahoo.com), or give me a call at 703-560-9239. Dianne Lafleur

Folk Club of Reston-Herndon

c/o Dave Hurd

110 Devil's Backbone Overlook

Stephenson, VA 22656

Expires 3/1/03

Mr David Hurd

110 Devil's Backbone Overlook

Stephenson, VA 22656-1900