

THE FOLK CLUB OF RESTON—HERNDON

Volume 21, Issue 4

*Preserving the traditions of
Folk Music, Folklore, and Gentle Folk Ways*

April 2005

April 12 Showcase – Sue Schier & Friends (The Truth Revealed!) *By Dan Grove*

So much has been written about Sue and her friends... from her early Zen Gospel Trio days in the Illinois Correctional Facility for Wayward Girls, to the straight and narrow path she walks today...

*But the truth is...she's never even had a parking ticket!
The story was weirdly exciting...here's the mundane truth...*

Sue was born in Lafayette, Indiana, the youngest of four children. She first picked up a violin at age eight, and gave it up at age twelve when a shiny guitar and a love of folk music lured her away (she didn't forget about the fiddle, though!). She took a guitar with her to Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana, where she earned her BS, spent a lot of time listening to Bob Dylan, Pete Seeger, John Denver, PP&M, the Eagles, Dan Fogelberg, Creedence Clearwater Revival, Arlo Guthrie, and other artists' recordings, majored in Art, and was active in the Friends of Folk Music club. After graduation in 1975, she married Jim, who was a Purdue student she'd met at a summer job in a movie theater after her sophomore year. After Jim graduated, they moved to Indianapolis, where Kevin was born in 1978, and to the Los Angeles area, where Laura was born in 1981. During those years, the guitar mostly took up space under a bed, and Sue was doing a lot of handweaving and fiber arts while raising babies. In 1987, the family moved to Herndon, and looms and spinning wheels gradually gave way to Martin guitars, autoharps, fiddles, and the Folk Club. She's enjoyed playing guitar and autoharp and singing with the Zen Gospel Trio, and she loves playing Irish fiddle. She's still got that old Hopf fiddle she played when she was a child, too!

While living in California, and with Laura finally in school, Sue took a year-long course that taught all aspects of floral design, and also taught skills useful to working in the floral industry. She worked at a variety of shops, and now owns **Best Wishes Floral Designs** in Fairfax, with her business partner, Janet Carter. They have a full service shop and will happily send that arrangement to Timbuktu if need be, or to your mother on this upcoming Mother's Day. Look for them online at www.bestwishesVA.com. They specialize in weddings and event work, but also enjoy the variety that the daily work provides. Call 'em at 703-204-2934!

One of Sue's favorite things to do is play and sing with other people, so she's asked a few people to join her in this performance. It will be a variety showcase featuring Miss Laura Schier, Sue, Kathleen Farrar, Fang, Al Bernier on guitar, and Ron Goad on percussion. The songs are old standards, traditional folk songs, contemporary folk, and contemporary country, with a lot of interesting harmonies. Oh, and something that sounds a lot like the Banana Boat Song... it's gonna be fun, kids!

James Keelaghan

Tickets \$10 (\$9 Members)

The Folk Club
Proudly Presents ...
7:30 PM
April 19, 2005
at the Tortilla Factory
648 Elden Street
Herndon, VA



James Keelaghan is renowned for mining the past for musical inspiration. His most celebrated songs tell the stories of extraordinary events from history through the eyes of ordinary people. In doing so, they turn epic tales into deeply moving pieces that strike a personal chord. Now, after 8 albums, 3 Juno nominations, a Juno award and a total of 17 years as one of Canada's best-known exports on the folk circuit, Keelaghan mines his own history with *Then Again*. He reworks 11 of his best-loved tunes, bringing them up to date with the versions he now shares with his audiences. *Jenny Bryce*, written in response to a conversation about conditions for women under the reign of Peter the Great was recorded by Garnet Rogers on his *Outside Tracks* album and was later published in the international magazine *Sing Out!*, helping establish Keelaghan's reputation early on as a world class songwriter.

His debut album *Timelines*, released in 1987, was a collection of historically themed ballads with settings ranging from the early days of the Canadian Pacific Railroad to the "On the Ottawa Trek" of 1935 to World War II. His follow-up recording, *Small Rebellions*, was released in 1990 and featured the audience favorite *Red River Rising*, set during Canada's Riel Rebellion of 1870. In 1993, Keelaghan made his debut on the Green Linnet label with *My Skies*, which went on to win

a Juno award (Canada's equivalent of a Grammy) for Best Roots Traditional album, and earned two award nominations from the Alberta Recording Industry. The song *Kiri's Piano*, based on the internment of Japanese Canadians during the Second World War, inspired Vancouver artist Clare Kujundzic to create a painting of the events it describes. *A Recent Future*, released in 1995, included some of Keelaghan's most acclaimed works yet. *Cold Missouri Waters* is the story of firefighter Wag Dodge, the leader and one of the only survivors of a team of fire fighters who perished in the 1949 Mann Gulch fire in Montana. The album was nominated for a second Juno award in 1997 and spent two months on the Gavin Americana chart in the U.S. Keelaghan's more recent albums have seen him grow beyond historical themes into political ones. He also branched out musically in 1997, recording and touring to support the highly successful *Compadres* project with Oscar Lopez, which fused Latin and Celtic music into a new style they dubbed "celtino." The *Compadres* album earned Keelaghan a third Juno nomination for "Best Roots Traditional Recording" and was voted "album of the year" by the readers of the Vancouver's *Rogue Folk* magazine. Meanwhile, James continues to win accolades for his songwriting; he just won first place in the folk category of the USA Songwriting competition for the second year in a row. He also earned praise for his tribute to a Canadian songwriting legend with his cover of the 'Canadian Railroad Trilogy' on the recent Gordon Lightfoot tribute album *Beautiful*.

<http://www.musi-cal.com/search?key=venue&value=Folk+Club+of+Reston-Herndon>

Bill Staines – May 24, \$10/\$9 - Bill Staines has performed his original and traditional folk songs for over 35 years, recording 22 albums and 2 song books.

Lou & Peter Berryman – June 28, \$10/\$9 – The epitome of zany, comedic folk duos - about as much fun as you can have in a room with the lights on!

Ed Miller – July 19, \$10/\$9 - One of the finest singers to come out of the Scottish folksong revival, and an academic folklorist of some note.

MUSICAL NOTES



Memorial Day Campout – Yes, it's that time of year again. Dave & Beth Hurd are hosting the Spring Folk Club Campout in May. Flyers will be out this month, so keep your eyes open and make plans to be there!

ATTENTION – Dues Increase Reminder

As previously noted, Folk Club membership dues are now \$15 per year.

Postcard from Ray & Gail in Arizona!

"Dear Friends, since moving to Tucson last November, we've stayed in touch with a few of you but don't want to risk missing anyone who may pass through. Although this is a spectacular time of year with the desert and wildflowers greener than ever, it's always nice here, and we've made good music friends-nothing like visitors for an excuse to party! Note; the FREE Tucson Folk Festival is the first weekend in May. Just email us (grail30@yahoo.com) or call (520-207-9279) if you plan to be here - or just to say hi. We miss all of you and the wonderful times at the Tortilla Factory.

Love - Ray St. Clair and Gail Gibbons"

Old Folkies Unite - You Have Nothing to Lose But Your Instruments!!!

Put those old guitars, banjos, mandolins and autoharps into the closet! Come out to the A Cappella Meetup on Saturday, April 9th at 3 p.m. It's organized (?) by your very own "A Cappella Pete." All like-minded fellow Acappellicans are invited to the Luna Bookstore and Coffee Shop (on 16th St., NW off Dupont Circle) to discuss forming a group of musical subversives. ("Ma, there's some people in the street singing A Cappella!")

I hope it won't be an ADAG (Another Damn A Cappella Group), but something different from your standard doo-wop group singing another version of "The Lion Sleeps Tonight". So-o-o, come on out and nosh with some A Cappella nitwits discuss singing musically-naked. Wags with names for the new group are welcome to submit them to pnelson48@cox.net. (I've already thought of the "OK Chorale".)

Also, please RSVP to <http://acappella.meetup.com/11> if you're planning to attend. Remember, you've nothing to lose.... and a musical world to gain!

Quotes From Children's Music Exams

- Refrain means don't do it. A refrain in music is the part you better not try to sing.

- A virtuoso is a musician with real high morals.

- Handel was half German, half Italian, and half English. He was rather large.

- When a singer sings, he stirs up the air and makes it hit any passing eardrums. But if he is good, he knows how to keep it from hurting.

- Music sung by two people at the same time is called a duel.

- I know what a sextet is but I had rather not say.

- Caruso was at first an Italian. Then someone heard his voice and said he would go a long way. And so he went to America.

- Another name for kettledrums is timpani. But I think I will just stick with the first name and learn it good.

- The double bass is also called the bass viol, string bass, and bass fiddle. It has so many names because it is so huge.

- When electric currents go through them, guitars start making sounds. So would anybody.

- Last month I found out how a clarinet works by taking it apart. I both found out and got in trouble.

- The most dangerous part about playing cymbals is near the nose.

- Just about any animal skin can be stretched over a frame to make a pleasant sound once the animal is removed.

ALL AROUND THE TOWN

You'll find Folk Club members in every joint in town!

Ray Kaminsky

<http://www.musi-cal.com/search?key=performers&value=Ray+Kaminsky>

Somos El Mar, www.schoolshows.com/somoselmar

Steve Key Music Showcases www.stevekey.com

Mondays: 7-10pm, The Frederick Coffee Company, 100 N. East St. @Church, Frederick MD 301.698.0039

Wednesdays: 7-10pm, Stella's, 1725 Duke St., Alexandria VA, 703-519-1946

Sundays: 7-10pm, Austin Grill, 919 Ellsworth Dr. @Georgia Ave., Silver Spring MD, 240-247-8969

MONTHLY MILESTONES

Born This Month:

4/1/1908 – Bob Nolan

4/4/1915 – McKinley Morganfield (a.k.a Muddy Waters)

4/7/1915 – Billie Holiday

4/9/1928 – Tom Lehrer

4/12/1933 – Herbert Khaury (a.k.a. Tiny Tim)

4/15/1933 – Roy Clark

4/15/1894 – Bessie Smith

4/18/1924 – Clarence "Gatemouth" Brown

4/22/1936 – Glen Campbell

4/25/1928 – Vassar Clements

4/25/1915 – Johnny Shines

4/26/1886 – Gertrude "Ma" Rainey

4/29/1931 – Lonnie Donnegan

4/30/1986 – Reverend Gary Davis

4/30/1933 – Willie Nelson

And In Passing:

4/8/1997 – Laura Nyro

4/9/1976 – Phil Ochs

4/14/1995 – Burl Ives

4/20/1992 – Johnny Shines

4/30/1983 – McKinley Morganfield (still a.k.a. Muddy Waters)

Quote for The Month

"He who sings scares away his woes."

~Cervantes

(..or in my case, anyone else who happens to be nearby! – Ed.)

THE FOLK CLUB OF RESTON-HERNDON

Meets Tuesday nights, 7:30pm at The Tortilla Factory
648 Eldon 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

Newsletter: Bob Hampton, Dan Grove, Ray Kaminsky, Dave Hurd

Newsgroup: Dianne Lafleur

Website: Tom Shabala

FOLK CLUB FORMAT

Most Tuesday nights the Folk Club is an open-mike format with a signup board. Each performer has 12 minutes, which includes setup time. On the 2nd 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: 1) be a Folk Club member who has not done a showcase in the last 6 months; 2) fill out a lottery slip and place it in the "drawing bucket"; 3) Win the drawing on the night of the current month's showcase; and 4) be prepared to be featured in the next newsletter!

NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION

Folk Club members are encouraged to submit performance calendars, classified ads, articles, reviews, artwork and other music-related items to Bob Hampton at bhampton@ossva.com. Information should be received 1 week prior to the end of the month for the next month's newsletter. Items will be published on the basis of music-related interest, timeliness, and available space.

GET YOUR TICKETS IN ADVANCE

Advance ticket purchases for Guest Artist concert performances can be made on Tuesdays at the Folk Club or by prepaid mail. Contact Dave Hurd, 110 Devil's Backbone Overlook, Stephenson, VA 22656, (540) 722-0146

TUNE-IN TO THE FOLK CLUB

If you enjoy the music and company, become a member! The cost is nominal, just \$15 per year. Along with the opportunity to participate in Showcase drawings, you get a \$1 discount on the ticket price of guest artist concerts (up to 2 tickets per show). Buy 2 tickets to every show and you've

saved a bundle! Join up on Folk Club Tuesdays, or call a board member for info.

NEWSGROUP

The Folk Club newsgroup is a great way of keeping in touch with what's happening around town and beyond. Find it at www.groups.yahoo.com by doing a search for **FolkClubofRestonHerndon**

WEBSITE

The Folk Club has its own website at:

www.RestonHerndonFolkClub.com

Hop online and keep up with the latest happenings!

INFO LINE

For general folk club information contact Sue Schier at (703) 435-2402



Classifieds



Cabin Studios Open For Business

Let Folk Club member Les Thompson help you with your next recording project. Record your CD in a relaxed but professional environment. Cabin Studios is located near Leesburg Virginia. Take a visual tour of the studio at WWW.Cabinstudios.com. Visit the web site for equipment and rates. We are experienced in all music genres, but we specialize in acoustic music. Studio phone number is: 1-703-777-7770. Just leave a message and number.

WANTED: Your old 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, Ellington, CT 06029.



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c/o Dave Hurd
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