

THE FOLK CLUB OF RESTON—HERNDON

Volume 21, Issue 9

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

September 2005

September 13 Showcase – Michelle Murray

By Dan Grove

Michelle Murray has been playing the guitar and composing songs for over twenty years. Originally from New Jersey, she came to the University of Maryland for a journalism degree. Back home again, she performed at many venues in the NY/NJ Metropolitan area, helped found and hosted the Hilltop Coffeehouse in Englewood, and had a folk radio show, "Open Stage," on WFDU-FM in Teaneck. Her show featured interviews with performers like Dave Van Ronk, Rod McDonald, Rory Block, and David Massengill.

A job as a radio traffic reporter lured Michelle back to our area. After reporting for WTOP and WMAL, she moved on to jobs producing and editing for other groups and publications, and currently works on web content for University of Maryland Medicine. She lives across the river with her husband and two cats, but occasionally manages the trek out our way.

In the DC area, Michelle has played the Austin Grill, Kensington Coffeehouse, Jammin' Java, College Perk, Mayorga Coffee Factory, Riverdale Bookshop, Berwyn Café, Mountain Stage New Song Festival, Fete De La Musique, and Artomatic Arts Festival, and has been a guest on Damien Einstein's show on WRNR-FM. As a member of the Keshet Chorale, she sang at the Kennedy Center's Millenium Stage, and her song *Married Women* is a current Editor's Pick on the Washington Post MP3 website (<http://mp3.washingtonpost.com/picks>).

You can hear Michelle regularly at the New Deal Café Songwriter's Round on the third Wednesday of each month, and she hosts an open mike for the Songwriter's Association of Washington (SAW) on the first and third Fridays at Caribou Coffee in Olney, MD. She's a board member and webmaster for SAW, as well.

Michelle and Anne Sucher, who perform together as "Water's Edge," have a new CD called *Make a Choice*, and Michelle has a 4-song solo sampler, *This Life*. She's also in a trio, "Only Restin," with Les Hatley and Greg Vickers.

For her showcase, Michelle will be joined by **Greg Vickers**, **Ron Goad**, **Les Hatley**, and **Dan Grove**, with a possible stealth cameo from **TM Hanna**. She'll be doing original songs that combine folk and country, with a touch of the blues and a contagious twinkle in her eye. Don't miss it!

Vassar Clements 1928-2005



On August 16, 2005 Vassar Clements passed away at his daughter's home near Nashville, Tennessee after a battle with lung cancer.

Having started playing with Bill Monroe at the tender age of 14, he went on to become one of the best and most well-known fiddle players in American history. Equally at home in the bluegrass, country, pop, jazz, and swing genres, he was a uniquely versatile player, and a musician's musician. He was known to some as the "Miles Davis of bluegrass", and popularized a style called "Hillbilly Jazz". In a career that spanned over six decades, he played with artists as varied as Faron Young, Dicky Betts, Jerry Garcia, The Grateful Dead, The Allman Brothers, Linda Ronstadt, David Grisman, Paul McCartney, and Miles Davis's ex-band members Dave Holland, John Abercrombie and Jimmy Cobb.

Vassar Clements was a Promethean figure on The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band's 1972 album "Will The Circle Be Unbroken". John McEuen of The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band said, "He was the nicest guy. He treated everybody like you were either family or friend. He was the greatest fiddle player in the world, but you never knew it if you talked to him. He influenced the next 30 years of fiddle playing with the ("Circle") album."

Vassar is survived by his daughter, Midge and her husband. His wife, Millie passed away in 1998.



Upcoming Performers

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

Eric Andersen – October 11, \$16/\$15 – Folk artist of the 1st order, whose 30+ year career has spawned 21 albums of original material, covered by the likes of Judy Collins, Peter Paul & Mary, Linda Ronstadt, and The Grateful Dead. This one will sell out!

Andy M. Stewart – November 1, \$16/\$15 – The legendary Scottish folk artist, and former lead singer of Silly Wizard. He is among the finest singers in the Scots/Irish traditional genre.

MUSICAL NOTES



Blues In the 'Burg – September 10

The 5th annual Blues Festival in downtown Fredericksburg will be running from 12 noon until 10pm, featuring great artists such as: J. Geils & Gerry Beaudoin, Catfish Hodge, Tom Principato, EG Kight, and many others. Ticket price includes a chance in the raffle for a new Taylor 314ES guitar! Call (866) 785-6472 for tickets and info or visit the website:

<http://www.bluesintheburg.org>

Takoma Park Folk Festival – September 11

Now in their 28th year, this annual festival features great food, crafts, and music of all types on 8 stages. The festival runs from 11am to 6:30pm, and is free for all. There are some nationally known names among the performers this year, including Oscar Brand and Joe Dickerson. Call 301-589-0202 for more info, or visit the website at <http://www.tpff.org>

Bluemont Fair – September 17 & 18

Come join the fun at the 36th annual celebration of this country fair. Great entertainment (including several Folk Club members). Food, crafts, and fun for the whole family. Visit the website for further details:

<http://www.bluemontfair.com>

ALL AROUND THE TOWN

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

Dulcie Taylor

9/9 8:00 PM, opening for Eliza Gilkyson, Club Passim, 47 Palmer St., Cambridge, MA, 617- 492-7679

Tickets: \$15, www.clubpassim.org

9/11, 1 - 1:45 PM, Takoma Park Folk Festival, Grove Stage, 7611 Piney Branch Road, Free to all, The Festival runs from 11 AM to 6:30 PM - www.tpff.org

9/16, 9 - 11:30 PM, Starland Cafe, 5125 MacArthur Blvd., NW, Washington, DC, 202-244-9396,

www.starlandcafe.com

9/24, 11 AM - 1:30 PM, The Great Grape Wine Festival, Tarara Winery, 13648 Tarara Lane, Leesburg, VA, 703-771-7100, Adults \$12, Designated Drivers and under 21 - \$8, under 6 free, www.tarara.com The festival runs 11 AM - 5 PM.

Michelle Murray

9/17, 8 pm, w/Greg Vickers, Market Street Coffee , 19 W Market St, Leesburg, VA 20176 (571) 258-0700

9/25, 5:15 pm, Baltimore Book Festival-Creative Café, Mount Vernon Place, 600 block North Charles Street Baltimore, MD

Ray Kaminsky

9/17, 10:00am w/ Fast Eddie Galvin on the E.E. Lake Store Porch, Bluemont Fair , Bluemont, VA Performances at 10am, 11am, 1pm, 2pm.

Info: <http://www.bluemontfair.com/>

9/24, 6:30pm, Finewine.com, 20 Grand Corner Ave, Gaithersburg, MD (301) 987-5933

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

Somos El Mar, www.schoolshows.com/somoselmar

Ron Goad

Last Sat. monthly, Ron hosts SAW Showcase Night, Songwriters' Association of Washington, www.saw.org Red Rocks Cafe and Tequila Bar, 13850-F Braddock Road, Centreville, Va. 20121, (703) 266 7060

9/24: featuring Jeni Hankins, Billy Kemp, Terry Turner, new discovery Christopher Doyle, Jim Clark & Jim Johnsonplus others

Steve Key Music Showcases www.stevekey.com

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

Sundays: 7:30-10pm, Westside Cafe, Frederick, MD

MONTHLY MILESTONES

Born This Month:

9/?/1893 – “Blind” Lemon Jefferson

9/5/1930 – Shel Silverstein

9/5/1946 – Loudon Wainwright III

9/8/1897 – Jimmie Rodgers

9/10/1945 – Jose Feliciano

9/11/1945 – Leo Kottke

9/13/1911 – Bill Monroe

9/17/1923 – Hank Williams

9/19/1941 – “Mama” Cass Elliot

9/21/1934 – Leonard Cohen

9/27/1928 – “Uncle” Josh Graves

And In Passing:

9/9/1996 – Bill Monroe

9/12/2003 – Johnny Cash

9/20/1973 – Jim Croce

9/26/1937 – Bessie Smith

Quote for The Month

"I don't like country music, but I don't mean to denigrate those who do. And for the people who like country music, denigrate means 'put down' "

~ Bob Newhart

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 Porter, 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



FOR SALE: Piano, Kimball console, excellent condition, walnut cabinet, tuned to concert pitch, \$1800. Call Lynn at 703-437-7766

FOR SALE: Whirlwind IMP2 Direct Boxes. These boxes accept a high-Z, 1/4" phone input, and output low-Z XLR. They also have a ground lift switch, and allow for a 1/4" pass-through. All units are used but in good condition. \$20 each. Call Marjorie Myers at 703-450-2393.

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
110 Devils Backbone Overlook
Stephenson, VA 22656