



The Folk Club of Reston-Herndon

Preserving the traditions of Folk Music, Folk Lore, and Gentle Folk Ways

Volume 22, Issue 3

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March 14 Showcase – Sue Schier

by Dan Grove

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 Fogleberg, 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, too. Ten years ago, she started taking lessons from Philippe Varlet, of Silver Spring. She's still got the 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, another somewhat esoteric skill that she's picked up and become quite proficient at.

One of Sue's favorite things to do is play and sing with other people, so she's asked a few to join her in this performance. It will be a variety showcase, some Irish fiddle with Jim Clark and Ted Murphree, and then songs featuring her daughter, Laura, and Kathleen Farrar.



Happy St. Patrick's Day



Bryan Bowers

Tickets \$10 (\$9 Members)

The Folk Club
Proudly Presents ...
7:15 PM – March 28, 2006
at the Tortilla Factory
648 Elden Street
Herndon, VA



Bryan Bowers is the acknowledged world virtuoso on the autoharp. Bower's creativity and talent have won him induction into the **Frets Magazine Gallery of Greats** after five years of winning the stringed instrument, open category of the magazine's readers' poll. This distinction put Bowers along side other luminaries, such as **Chet Atkins, David Grisman, Stephan Grappelli, Itzhak Perlman, Tony Rice, Bob Wasserman** and **Mark O'Connor** recognized for their personal accomplishments. In 1993, Bryan was inducted into the **Autoharp Hall of Fame** to stand only with **Maybelle Carter, Kilby Snow** and **Sara Carter**. Virtually self-taught as an autoharpist, Bryan created his own five-finger individual note playing technique that makes this instrument multi-dimensional. But what is most amazing is that Bowers can take this quaint instrument and his own sometimes strident voice, forge them with his charismatic personality and create a beautiful, contemporary sound

Bowers lovingly plays the classics. In personal appearances and on his album "Home, Home on the Road", he ripples through "Dixie", Grandfather's Clock" and a Stephen Foster medley. He also can't pass up a joke like the "Four Wet Pigs", "Aura" or "The Scotsman" that are lively additions on the stage. Bryan addresses the specter of age in "Old Lovers", which on his album "For You" was scintillatingly accompanied by our own northern Virginia legends The Seldom Scene. The Washington Times reported "...This man makes more music from an autoharp than you can imagine from a 12 string guitar and a harpsichord combined. He has more stage presence and charisma than any stage performer in recent memory." Folk Music lauded Bryan's works with "...Dealing strictly on a musical level, my favorite of the entire festival was autoharp virtuoso Bryan Bowers. Bowers has taken what is a very simple instrument to play and does things with it that cannot be physically done."



Upcoming Performers

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

Michael Smith – April 25, 2006, \$12/\$11 – A prolific writer whose songs have been sung by the likes of Steve Goodman, Jimmy Buffett and numerous other performers. Michael stands out as one of the few undisputed geniuses among singer-songwriters

Roy Book Binder – May 16, 2006, \$12/\$11 – Roy Book Binder is a blues singing, guitar picking, song writing raconteur, and has been for the past 30 years! Roy has been included in the "Big Book of Blues" as well as the "Blues Who's Who"!!

Chuck Brodsky – June 20, 2006 \$10/\$9 – Chuck Brodsky's songwriting pokes fun at political corruption, road rage, mischief, and about unsung heroes and forgotten but incredible people.

MUSICAL NOTES



WFMA Benefit CD

The WFMA has just released *Let's Get Together*, highlights of the 20th Annual WFMA Benefit Weekend, January 14 & 15, 2005, recorded live at the Birchmere. This CD contains nineteen songs by Oscar Brand, Buskin & Batteau, The Brothers Four, Hamilton Camp, Bill Danoff, Steve Gillette & Cindy Mangsen, Carolyn Hester & David Bloom, The Highwaymen, Christine Lavin, The Limelickers, Tommy Makem, David Mallett, The Chad Mitchell Trio, Modern Man, Tom Paxton and Schooner Fare. Go to <http://wfma.net> for more info, or to order online.

John Fahey's Last Acoustic Recording Issued:

Slackertone Records will release a tribute to John Fahey called *John Fahey & Friends* on March 14. The CD commemorates the guitarist, a Folk-Blues innovator of the 1960s who became a post-Punk hero in the 1990s. The album, including a never-before-released track from Fahey's last acoustic recording session, features a lineup of world famous musicians. With songs either written or inspired by Fahey, George Winston, John Renbourn, Stefan Grossman, Paul Geremia, Woody Mann, Mark Lemhouse, Tinh, Terry Robb, Mitch Greenhill, Peter Lang, John Doan, and Mayne Smith have laid down solid tracks, and they've donated their fees to the non-profit Village School Foundation.

Furthermore, Slackertone has decided to give away an original painting by John Fahey to celebrate this release. Details on this free sweepstakes contest are available online and in the CD booklet. Get the full story, listen to samples, and order the CD at: <http://www.slackertone.com>

A Truly Mighty Wind

Hot on the heels of the popular folk music mockumentary *A Mighty Wind* comes "Isn't It a Time!", a movie that documents the 2003 Carnegie Hall reunion concert by The Weavers to honor their mentor, the recently departed Harold Leventhal – the music impresario and social activist who kept The Weavers together even when they were blacklisted and banned from performing. Joining Pete Seeger and the other Weavers onstage were: Peter, Paul and Mary, Theodore Bikel, Leon Bibb, Arlo Guthrie, Sarah Lee Guthrie and Tao Rodriguez-Seeger.

The film sold out its world premiere in Toronto in a matter of hours, and opened in New York City on December 9, 2005. No word is available yet as to showings elsewhere, or when a DVD may be available.

ALL AROUND THE TOWN

That's right – they don't just play at The Folk Club!

Ray Kaminsky

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

Somos El Mar, www.schoolshows.com/somoselmar

Ron Goad

Last Sat. monthly, SAW Showcase Night at Red Rocks Cafe and Tequila Bar, 13850-F Braddock Road, Centreville, Va. 20121, (703) 266 7060

First Thur. Monthly, SAW presents Ron Goad's Upstairs at The Firehouse, 3988 University Dr., Fairfax, VA, 22030, (703) 383-1030

Steve Key Music Showcases www.stevekey.com

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

MONTHLY MILESTONES

Born This Month:

3/6?/18(93-99?) – Walter "Furry" Lewis

3/1/1927 – Harry Belafonte

3/2/1923 – Artel "Doc" Watson

3/6/1905 – Bob Wills

3/7/1944 – Townes VanZandt

3/8/1954 – Bob Brozman

3/10/1938 – Norman Blake

3/15/1912 – Sam "Lightnin'" Hopkins

3/16/1954 – Tim O'Brien

3/21/1893 – Armenter Chatmon (aka Bo Carter)

3/21/1902 – Eddie James "Son" House

3/23/1945 – David Grisman

3/27/1905 – Leroy Carr

3/30/1914 – John Lee "Sonny Boy" Williamson

And In Passing:

3/16/1975 – Aaron Thibeaux "T-Bone" Walker

3/22/1952 – "Uncle" Dave Macon

Quote for The Month

"I bought an audio cleaning tape – I'm a big fan of theirs."

~ Kevin Gildea

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: Armen Karimian

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 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. Just go to: <http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/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: 2002 Fender Stratacoustic w/case, black body, Rosewood fretboard, new strings & battery, \$325. Also: 1992 Sigma SE182CT cutaway dreadnought acoustic w/case. Sunburst top, mahogany back/sides, Martin electronics w/2-band chorus, \$450. Contact Greg Vickers at (703) 733-0145 or email vickershome@comcast.net

FOR SALE: Brand new 6x8 enclosed utility trailer that would be perfect for hauling a PA system. Previously used to haul one load of furniture. Call Sue Schier for details; 703-435-2402 home, or 571-225-0337 cell..

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