



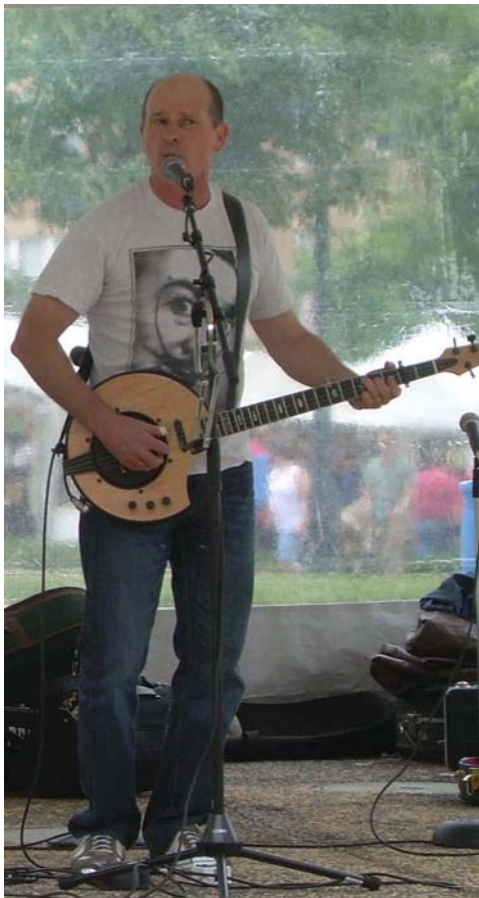
The Folk Club of Reston-Herndon

Preserving the traditions of Folk Music, Folk Lore, and Gentle Folk Ways
www.RestonHerndonFolkClub.com

Volume 25, Issue 7

July 2009

July 14 Showcase – Greg Vickers



Greg is a program director for a construction materials trade association. He lives in Reston, and has been a Folk Club regular since 2003. He hasn't done a showcase since 2005, and says he's really looking forward to the July 14th gig.

Greg and his wife, Gillian, just flew off to Colombia for two weeks where they went to see their daughter get married. Busy with wedding, travel, and day job plans, Greg says he hasn't decided what he'll play at his showcase. Nor does he know who he's going to invite to share the stage. He says he likes surprises, though, and he frequently decides what he's going to play at regular Folk Club open mikes only after he's arrived at the Tortilla Factory.

Greg started playing guitar and writing songs as a teenager in McLean in the 70's. He remembers his first band, *The Back of the Bus*, jamming for hours in his parents' basement. "We mercilessly punished contemporary rock songs and a few originals," Greg says. "My recollection of that band was that we really sucked. But we loved to play and sing so much that we still managed to create a fun, contagious sort of energy. Every time I take the stage, I try to recapture that same old spirit, without, y'know, all that suction."

Eventually, Greg took up harmonica and banjo, too. And he focused more and more attention on songwriting, although he still enjoys doing cover tunes. He specializes in writing twisted, bitter, humorous songs about things that drive him crazy and people he finds insufferable. Evidently, there is no shortage of muses in Greg's world. He has been recognized in local songwriting contests for songs with curious titles such as *I Think I'll Sue McDonalds*, *I'm Going to Heaven and You're Not*, *Jesus Woulda Drove a Big 'Ol SUV*, and *Too Much of a Good Thing*.

He enjoys debuting new songs at the Folk Club, and says it's the most appreciative audience for unleashing such experiments anywhere. "It's a thrill when I perform a familiar original song and the majority of the congregation starts to sing along. Plus, my Folk Club friends have always tolerated me, even if I'm up there doing the musical equivalent of kissing a frog."

Maybe he'll unveil a new one for us on the 14th. Rrrribb-it!

Medieval Maiden – Maddy Prior

Born August 14, 1947 in Blackpool, England, **Maddy Prior** is a renowned songwriter, and interpreter and curator of marvelous old folk songs. In this manner she is not unlike Joan Baez, though her focus is on



English folk music. When she moved to St. Albans in her teens she began making friends with the likes of **Donovan Leitch** and **Mac MacLeod**, and started becoming involved in the local music scene. When she formed a duo with MacLeod, Maddy embarked on what would become a lifelong (and still thriving) musical career. In between gigs she filled in as a roadie for visiting American musicians, including **Reverend Gary Davis**. The American visitors advised her to focus on English folk songs, and she decided to move away from the repertoire of American folk music that had become popular in the late 50's and early 60's.

In 1966, she formed a duo with **Tim Hart**, and they released two albums in the '60s, *Folk Songs of England, Volumes 1 and 2*. They enjoyed limited success until gaining greater exposure while performing several festivals with the well-known **Fairport Convention**. It was also then that they met

Fairport's bassist, **Ashley Hutchings**, who, together with **Gay** and **Terry Woods** were ready to start out on their own. This was the beginning of the now-famous **Steeleye Span** group, which would last for four decades (so far), surviving multiple personnel changes. What set Steeleye Span apart from other folk groups was their fusing of modern electric instruments with ancient music. But of equal importance were the strength of Maddy's contralto voice, and the authenticity of her vocal stylings with respect to the ancient songs. No doubt these were factors that brought them to the attention of **Jethro Tull** frontman **Ian Anderson**, who produced their sixth album, *Now We Are Six*. Though she played no musical instrument (other than the occasional tambourine), Maddy became famous for her spritely improvisational dances while on stage, and **Ralph McTell** included an homage to her on his 1974 *Easy* album in a song called *Maddy Dances*.

Even during the heyday of Steeleye Span, Maddy became involved in other projects. In 1976 she joined with **June Tabor** for two albums under the name **Silly Sisters**. In 1978 she released her first solo album, *Woman in the Wings*, which was produced by Ian Anderson, who also played flute on the album. Other solo efforts have teamed her with traditional musicians such as **Martin Carthy**, **Nic Jones**, **Danny Thompson** and **John Kirkpatrick**. She also has enjoyed a long collaboration with the **Carnival Band**. In 2000, Maddy was awarded an MBE for her contributions to Folk Music.

The new century has not seen Maddy idle. She collaborated with her daughter, **Rose Kemp**, and **Abbie Lathe** on *Maddy Prior's Girls*. She and Steeleye Span released an updated compilation CD, and have been performing reunion tours on a somewhat regular basis (look for the September 22nd show at The Birchmere in Alexandria, VA). She also hosts and runs an Arts Centre in Cumbria, England called Stones Barn, and campaigns on behalf of Cancer Research, UK.



Upcoming Performers

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

Side by Side – 25th Anniversary – September 15, \$10/\$9 – Close vocal harmonies and 12-string guitar mastery highlight the longtime collaboration of **Doris Justis** and **Sean McGhee**.

Gordon Bok – October 13, \$14/\$13 – Maine folk musician, singer-songwriter and a leader in collecting, preserving, creating, and sharing a wide variety of rich and intensely beautiful songs of both land and sea.

Garnet Rogers – November 10 (ticket price forthcoming), – Charismatic Canadian performer & singer songwriter.

MUSICAL NOTES

FloydFest – July 23rd -26th

FloydFest 8 (dubbed 'Revival') offers a superlative lineup of artists to fill the schedule of this 4-day musical smorgasbord. Music lovers will find something to please every musical appetite. Performers this year include **Blues Traveler, Peter Rowan, the Duhks, Donna the Buffalo**, and too many others to name. Floydfest is produced by Across-the-Way Productions (based in Floyd, VA). Check out all the details of the festival on the website at:

<http://atwproductions.com/index.php?pr=ffhome>

Avalon Fest '09 – August 7th through 9th

The 12th annual festival at this premier (clothing optional) resort features 3 days filled with music, songwriting workshops, a songwriting competition, and an Open Mike on Sunday morning.

Musical performers this year include **David Roth, Coyote Run, Buskin and Batteau, Randy Barrett**, and many others. Dances and sing-alongs are also held on Friday and Saturday nights.

A special bonus concert featuring **Hot Soup** will be given Thursday evening for early arrivers.

For complete information, visit the website at:

Avalon-resort.info

Need More Music?

If you can't get enough Old-Time and Bluegrass music, tune in to the **Blue Ridge Back Roads** radio show on Friday nights from 8-10pm. That's when **WBRF** radio broadcasts live from the old **Rex Theater** in Galax, Virginia. If you're in the broadcast area (which is fairly large, as they pump out 100,000 Watts) you can tune your radio to channel 98.1, or you can listen online at blueridgecountry98.com.

Trivia – Roy Rogers and Trigger

Did you know...?

- While watching the Errol Flynn 1938 version of Robin Hood, did Olivia de Havilland's horse, Golden Cloud, look familiar? Well, he should. That's Trigger before he came to Roy Rogers! It was one of Trigger's roles on his way to superstardom.

- It happened while they were driving up to a film location with Trigger's horse trailer attached to Roy's car. As they came around a bend, a car coming from the opposite direction forced Roy's car off the road, causing the trailer to overturn. Roy jumped from his car and ran back to the trailer, where he found Trigger lying motionless. Roy spoke calmly to Trigger, and by using a rope he was able to pull him from the trailer. At that point the horse opened his eyes and jumped to his feet. A relieved Roy smiled when he realized that Trigger must have thought this was just another movie stunt and that he was supposed to play dead.

ALL AROUND THE TOWN

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

Larry Mediate larry-mediate.com

T.M Hanna, birdphluph.com

Somos El Mar, schoolshows.com/somoselmar

Ric Sweeney (a.k.a. – 'Mr. Rain')

myspace.com/ricsweeneysilverlinings

Ron Goad – MisterGoad@aol.com

NEW! – Mondays, 7-10pm, hosting open mikes at **Jammin' Java** in Vienna, VA. jamminjava.com

- Mondays 7:30pm, SAW-BSA-BMI Variety Showcases at Brewer's Alley, Frederick, MD. (when not at Jammin' Java) myspace.com/roddeacey

- 2nd Thursday each month 7:00pm, SAW-BMI concerts at The Athenaeum, Old Town Alexandria. NVFAA.org

- 3rd Thursdays and 4th Wednesdays, 7:00-11pm, SAW-BMI Variety Showcase at Bangkok Blues, Falls Church, VA. bangkokblues.com

Scott Malyszka

Sat July 4, Feel The Wag at Lake Anne Plaza, 11:30 am to 1:30 pm

Sat July 11, Feel The Wag at Reston Festival 2009's park stage, 2:15 pm to 3:00 pm

cdbaby.com/cd/scottmalyszka / feelthewag.com

Demetrios Liadis myspace.com/demetriosjam

or call 571-247-8969

Tomy Wright

Contact Tomy at tomy@tomywright.com, (301)637-5707 tomywright.com

Doris Justis

dorisjustis.com - Folk, original, and contemporary music

MONTHLY MILESTONES

Born This Month:

7/3/1893 – "Mississippi" John Hurt

7/4/1826 – Stephen Foster

7/10/1907 – Fulton Allen (a.k.a. "Blind Boy" Fuller)

7/10/1947 – Arlo Guthrie

7/14/1912 – Woody Guthrie

7/18/1954 – Ricky Skaggs

7/21/1947 – Steven Demetri Georgiou (aka Cat Stevens)

7/23/1971 – Alison Krauss

7/30/1936 – George "Buddy" Guy

And In Passing:

7/6/1971 – Louis Armstrong

7/6/1998 – Leonard Slye (a.k.a. Roy Rogers)

7/16/1981 – Harry Chapin

7/17/1959 – Billie Holiday

7/19/2002 – Alan Lomax

7/27/1974 – Otis "Lightnin' Slim" Hicks

Quote for the Month

"Play the music, not the instrument."

~ Anon.

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, Ron Goad, Bob Hampton

Publicity: Sue Schier

Bookings: Chris Kramer-Harnage

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

Newsgroup: Dianne Lafleur

Website: Bob Hampton

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 newsletter editor 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

FOLK CLUB MEMBERSHIP

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

INFO LINE

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



Classifieds

FOR SALE: Fender Acoustasonic 30 Acoustic Amplifier - barely used \$225.00 Contact Demetrios 571-247-8969 or meetro@msn.com

SEEKING MUSICIANS: Cornet and harmonica player, experienced, seeks working performer, group, or band based in NoVA (Vienna). Jazz, rock, blues, folk, pop, country. david@savageheart.com

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, or give them to Ray Kaminsky at The Club



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