



The Folk Club of Reston-Herndon

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

www.RestonHerndonFolkClub.com

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November 2011

THIS MONTH'S CONCERT – VERLON THOMPSON

Songwriter, troubadour, world traveling performer, Guy Clark sideman - See page 2 for details

November 8 Showcase – The Larry & Ron Show

By Ron, with a PS from Larry, edited by Dan Grove

"Hats off to Larry" was a 1961 top-ten hit for Del Shannon, and now we salute Larry Mediate with a Folk Club tip-of-the hat. I suggested that he enter the showcase lottery (nobody else had entered at the time), and he won the drawing as The Larry & Ron Show.

Former Folk Club president Larry lives in Herndon with his fabulous wife Bev and their little dog Jake. Being the "talent scout" and music impresario-promoter that I am, years ago I became interested in Larry's unforgettable originals, running the gamut from the ridiculous, satirical "Rat Race," poking fun at bureaucratic lawyers, and the sublime "Juan Aguilar," a solemn ballad based upon a news account of an innocent young victim of a tragic terrorist attack in Spain.

Larry, born and raised in Pennsylvania, has worn many hats. Some examples are these: He's run his own music store, worked in telecommunications, and works now at a Lowe's in a conscious effort to help customers with their home projects. He's got talent in martial arts too, so don't mess with him, but fortunately, he's a peace-loving man (ask him about his famous "angry" brother). In fact, Larry is known as THE Zen Consultant.

I became determined to *goad* my friend Larry into expanding his musical repertoire from his previous set list that included what I thought was too many slow songs and "whiny" Neil Young songs. I like for a show to include a variety of rhythms and moods. Since I encourage solo acts to collaborate and teach friends to accompany them, I thought Larry should do that, and it occurred to me he'd make a good bandleader. I was right! Since I've enjoyed being in many bands since 1964, I offered Larry some pointers; Larry took my challenge and went to unpredicted extremes! Instead of forming a simple small combo and making it easy for himself, he's invited a slew of musicians to become Zen Consultants for specific shows.

The Zen Consultants band has included many people, and this time **TM Hanna** and **Jean Bayou**, the president of The Songwriters' Association of Washington (SAW.org), and will join the fun. Larry and I currently serve on the SAW board.

Many of you know that I am indebted to autoharpist Todd Crowley for first bringing me to the Folk Club around 1995. Todd and I taught English and Creative Writing courses together at Centreville High School, and he lured me here to sing the part of The Cowardly Lion for "If I Only Had a Brain" from *The Wizard of Oz*. Soon after I came to the Folk Club, I met Dan Grove, who introduced me to many good people and to SAW. Before affiliating with the Folk Club, I did mainly tuxedo gigs with my band Nightmusic. Thanks to Todd, Dan, Larry, and so many others, I've been fortunate to be surrounded by the beautiful, sometimes wacky Folk Club family.

P.S. Larry says to come early! The first 25 attendees will receive free advice from Zen Consultants Larry and Ron! (But they reserve the option to pick the subject their advice addresses... maybe don't let your Mama dress you too funny that night, or get your feng shui in a bunch... ;-)



Preserving Folk Traditions since 1985

proudly presents



VERLON THOMPSON

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Requested Donation
\$14 (\$13 MEMBERS)

Show starts at **7:15 p.m.**

**Back Room of
The Tortilla Factory**
*648 Elden Street
Herndon, VA*

The Folk Club of Reston-Herndon is a non-profit organization

Songwriters seem to flourish on the fertile Oklahoma plains. Woody Guthrie, Roger Miller, Leon Russell, J.J. Cale and Jimmy Webb. Add Verlon Thompson to that list.

Thirty years as a professional songwriter and traveling troubadour serve as credentials. As a solo performer, and as the trusted sidekick of Texas Americana songwriting icon Guy Clark, Verlon has viewed the world from stages everywhere from Barcelona to Binger (his hometown in Oklahoma).

Along the way Verlon Thompson compositions have been recorded by Jimmy Buffett and Alan Jackson, Anne Murray, The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, Kenny Rogers, Randy Travis, Del McCoury, Sam Bush, Trisha Yearwood and many more.

Equally important in his songwriting and live performances, Verlon's guitar work cannot go unnoticed. His guitar can be heard on recordings by **Restless Heart**, **Pam Tillis**, and many more, including, and especially Guy Clark.

Verlon has co-produced **Guy Clark's** Grammy nominated cd "Cold Dog Soup" as well as "The Dark", "Workbench Songs" and "Somedays the Song Writes You".

As the in-house musician for **Genuine Human Productions** (genuinehuman.com) Thompson scores themes and background music for documentaries and special film projects.

Verlon Thompson is currently on the road promoting his newest album "Works". Or in the studio. Or writing in his bunkhouse on the river in Tennessee...

....but never far from the fertile plains of Oklahoma.

"It's high time everyone heard more of that humble troubadour Verlon Thompson. He is a fantastic guitar picker and songwriter whose only career shortcoming is that he performs in Guy Clark's enormous shadow".

- Lonely Goat Magazine

More information and discography on-line at: verlonthompson.com

Seating: Contact Dave Hurd Tuesdays at The Folk Club or by e-mailing - DAHurdSr@cs.com

UPCOMING CONCERTS include [Dana & Susan Robinson](#) - 12/6/11 AND [Bill Staines](#) - 1/17/12

New Publicity Person Needed for the Folk Club!!

The Folk Club is in need of a new Publicity person to handle concert announcements and other media notifications. The job is done mostly by email, and the new person will need to print out one photo per concert month for the frame in the front entry of The Tortilla Factory. Concert announcements/info get emailed out two to three weeks before a concert. The duties typically take less than an hour per month. Anyone who would like to volunteer can talk to Sue Schier at The Club for more info, or email jamesue@aol.com

New SAW Concert Series Starts in November

The Songwriters' Association of Washington will be hosting concerts in McLean, VA from 7-10pm on the 3rd Saturday of each month. There is no admission charge, and refreshments are provided. Concert evening also include a show-up, sign-up open mike. The concerts will be held at:

New Life Christian Church
1988 Kirby Road
McLean, VA
NewLife4Me.com

Upcoming concerts include:

Nov 19: Chatham Street (Christal & Peter Prout),
BumpKin Pie (Suzanne Ives & Michael Dunkley)

Dec 17: Eric Reiss

Jan 21: David LaFleur (and TBA)

Feb 18: Dulcie Taylor CD Release & Dulcie's Spotlight Showcases

March 17: (TBA)

April 21: Carey Creed and Lynn Hollyfield

Children's Answers in Music Education

These are stories and test questions accumulated by music teachers in the state of Missouri, circa 1989. (Source: Missouri School Music Newsletter.)

- I can't reach the brakes on this piano!
- My favorite instrument is the bassoon. It is so hard to play people seldom play it. That is why I like the bassoon best.
- I would like for you to teach me to play the cello. Would tomorrow or Friday be best?
- A contra-bassoon is like a bassoon, only more so.
- The most dangerous part about playing cymbals is near the nose.
- Anyone who can read all the instrument notes at the same time gets to be the conductor.
- For some reason, they always put a treble clef in front of every line of flute music. You just watch.
- Probably the most marvelous fugue was the one between the Hatfields and the McCoys.
- Morris dancing is a country survival from times when people were happy.
- I know what a sextet is but I had rather not say.

ALL AROUND THE TOWN

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

Larry Mediate larry-mediate.com

Ric Sweeney (a.k.a. - 'Mr. Rain')
myspace.com/ricsweeneysilverlinings

T.M Hanna, birdphluph.com

Bill Davis (w/Somos El Mar)
schoolshows.com/somoselmar

Doris Justis
dorisjustis.com - Folk, original, and contemporary music

Chris Anderson
<http://chris-anderson.info/>

Ron Goad - MisterGoad@aol.com
- Mondays 7:30pm, F.A.M.E. Variety Showcases at Brewer's Alley, Frederick, MD. FrederickAcoustic.org
- 2nd & 4th Wednesdays 8-10:30pm, SAW Variety Showcases at Epicure Café, Fairfax, VA Epicurecafe.org
- 2nd Thursday each month 7:00pm, SAW-BMI concerts at The Athenaeum, Old Town Alexandria. NVFAA.org

Scott Malyszka
cdbaby.com/cd/scottmalyszka
feelthewag.com

Bo Carneal
myspace.com/bocarneal

MONTHLY MILESTONES

Born This Month:

11/5/1911 - Leonard Slye (a.k.a. Roy Rogers)
11/5/1941 - Art Garfunkel
11/7/1937 - Mary Travers
11/7/1943 - Joni Mitchell
11/12/1945 - Neil Young
11/17/1938 - Gordon Lightfoot
11/23/1947 - Jack Hardy
11/27/1917 - Merle Travis

And In Passing:

11/2/1966 - Mississippi John Hurt
11/3/2002 - Lonnie Donegan
11/7/1960 - Alvin Pleasant (A.P.) Carter
11/29/2001 - George Harrison
11/30/1996 - Herbert Khaury (a.k.a. "Tiny Tim")

Noteworthy Events:

11/21/1960 - George Harrison is deported from Germany for being too young to perform with the Beatles.

11/25/1961 - Don and Phil Everly start their service in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves, 8th Battalion Artillery. While serving, they release their last two Top-Ten single hits, "Crying in the Rain" and "That's Old Fashion (That's the Way Love Should Be)".

Quote for the Month

"It's extraordinary how potent cheap music is!"
~ Noel Coward



of Reston & Herndon

Meets Tuesday nights, 7:15pm at The Tortilla Factory
648 Elden Street, Herndon, VA

President: Ben Hamblin

Treasurer: Dave Hurd

Board of Directors: Sue Beffel, Bill Davis, TM Hanna, Lynn Jordan, Ray & Ellen Kaminsky, Chris Kramer-Harnage, Sue Schier, Ron Goad, Bob Hampton, Laura Kelmelis

Publicity: Felicia Strickland, Sue Schier

Bookings: Chris Kramer-Harnage

Newsletter: Bob Hampton, Dan Grove, Chris Kramer-Harnage, 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.

RESERVE YOUR CONCERT SEATS IN ADVANCE

Donations can be made in advance for Guest Artist concert performances 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 recommended donation for guest artist concerts (up to 2 donations per show). 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: Marshall Valvestate tube Amp AVT-50H with twin 15 speaker cab. \$300. Zoom PS-04 Palmtop Studio Digital Recorder with power supply, Manual and Mic \$80. Electric 6 string Guitar pickup with pods and input jack \$40. 540-349-2938

FOR SALE: Archtop Guitar Kalamazoo by Gibson 1930 model FK-360 low action \$1000. Crate G40XL Guitar Amp \$80. 540-349-2938

FOR SALE: Subwoofer, Definitive Technology model ProSub 600, w/Active Crossover and Power Amplifier. \$300. Call Lynn at 703-437-7766

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