



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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July 14 Online Theme Night – Songs from the American Folk Music Revival

Think Folk Music in the 1950's and 1960's, in Greenwich Village and Other Artist Enclaves

See page 2

Some Questions, But No Answers

The last time we had our open mic at the Amphora was March 10, the night of Jeff Smith's showcase. Since then we are only able to connect via our online open mics, which started on April 7th and continue every Tuesday night.

It would be wonderful if we could say that we're going to meet again at the Amphora (just like before) on such and such a date, but we can't. Right now there is only uncertainty, and it looks like it will be that way for quite a while. Even if we can meet before there is widespread vaccination, it would be with physical distancing and other restrictions.

Whether we can see each other in person again depends on multiple factors: decisions by Virginia Governor Northam and Fairfax County government leaders, as well as when the Amphora decides to open the banquet room where we meet. Perhaps the most important factor, though, is how safe we'll feel while being with people we don't live with for a night. While it's true that we greatly miss socializing with each other, I'm guessing that for most of us our safety and health, and that of our loved ones, will have priority.

Think about having an open mic with the following restrictions (taken from the VA governor's phase 2 and 3 guidelines):

- Six feet of physical distance between those who are not members of the same household
- Musicians and singers at least ten feet away from anyone, including each other
- A shorter duration, recommended for indoor gatherings with singing, with everyone leaving as quickly as possible to limit contact and exposure
- There is also a recommendation to "consider delaying gatherings where the target demographic is persons in high risk populations." In some ways that sounds like us, since there are quite a few of us who are older than 65.

I don't know about you, but I have a hard time envisioning how the room would be set up and have no idea how many people would be interested in attending. And I'm not sure if I'm up for attending at this point. But I wonder how you feel about it. How would you answer the following questions?

1. Can you imagine a Folk Club open mic with six feet (or ten feet) of physical separation between everyone?
2. What does it look like and how would you feel there?
3. Are you ready to attend and would you feel safe at a Folk Club open mic with these restrictions?
4. Is there something else you would do differently, such as stay for a shorter amount of time, or come only for the music, or only to see your Folk Club friends and have dinner, or something else?
5. If you don't think you would feel safe enough to attend, what would have to change to make you comfortable about attending again?

If you are so inclined, send your thoughts to me, Ben Hamblin, at FolkClubOfRestonHerndon@gmail.com. I'm interested to hear what you think.



A Folk Club Theme Night

Songs from the American Folk Music Revival

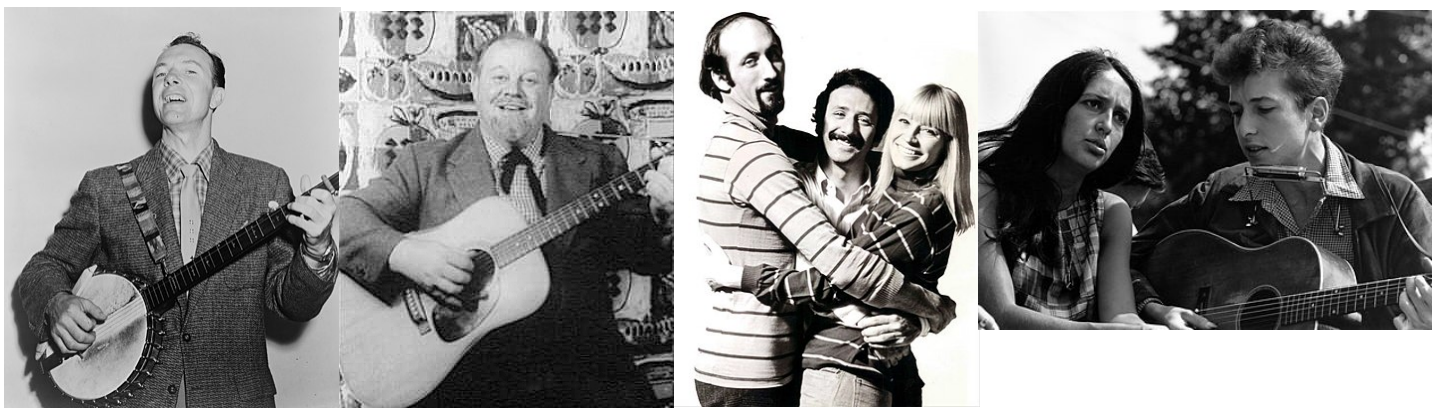
Tuesday, July 14, 2020, Online

For the last few years we have picked a couple of nights in July and August (when we don't schedule concerts) and defined a suggested musical theme for performers to follow. It seems to work. It gives performers incentive to research different kinds of music and come up with songs which follow the theme and interpret them in their own style.

We decided it would be fun to do it again this year for the virtual open mic. We have picked a theme for July 14 (second Tuesday) and the challenge is on:

All songs must be from the American folk music revival (early 1950's to late 1960's)

That is the period from roughly 1950 to 1969 where, as Ralph Lee Smith reminded us when we were in the Tortilla Factory, many folk singers and songwriters congregated in Greenwich Village in New York City, as well as other US artist colonies. Artists like The Weavers, Woody Guthrie, Pete Seeger, Josh White, Lee Hays, Lead Belly, Burl Ives, Odetta, Harry Belafonte, The Kingston Trio, The Brothers Four, Peter, Paul, and Mary, The Chad Mitchell Trio, The Limelighters, The New Christy Minstrels, Joan Baez, Bob Dylan, The Freedom Singers, Phil Ochs, Tom Paxton, Buffy Sainte-Marie, Dave Van Ronk, Judy Collins, Tom Rush, Fred Neil, Gordon Lightfoot, Billy Ed Wheeler, Arlo Guthrie, John Denver, Harry Chapin, John Hartford, The Clancy Brothers, The Smothers Brothers, and many others. There's a lot to choose from, so try to select a folk song (or two) from those decades that isn't heard often enough. If you choose a well-known song, be prepared if someone plays it before you get your chance.



While we're encouraging performers to present songs that fit the folk revival theme, it's not required. However, we appreciate those who are able to do that. Also, if more people sign up than we can fit in by 10 PM we will extend the evening to allow everyone to play one song (round robin format). If everyone has played and there is more time we will go back to the beginning of the list and those who want to play another song can do so.

FOLK CLUB INFORMATION

Server Donations

Many thanks to all of the Folk Club members and friends who made contributions to help Evelyn and Mustapha, our regular servers at the Amphora. They are most appreciative of our assistance in this difficult time.

New Membership Discount Offer

The normal Folk Club membership is \$15 a year, but we offered a discount of 5 years for \$55 until the end of May. We've decided to extend that until such time as we get back to weekly meetings in the Amphora. So current, renewing, and new members can renew or join for 5 years for \$55 (the Five for Fifty-Five plan) if they wish. Note that any current member can extend their membership by 5 years regardless of their current expiration date. Also, we will not give refunds. Those that take advantage of this offer will be making a commitment to the longevity of The Folk Club.

Virtual Open Mics Continue

Until we can meet at the Amphora we are holding a streaming open mic every Tuesday night from 7:30 to 10:00 PM. We send an email to all members every weekend, and ask for volunteers that would like to play one or more songs on Tuesday night. They get the Zoom invitation. Anyone who wants to see the show uses the YouTube link from the calendar on our website (RestonHerndonFolkClub.com).

MUSICAL NOTES



Note: Many organizations are hosting or promoting online concerts. Go to their website for more information.

Focus Music

- Go to www.focusmusic.org for more information.

World Folk Music Association (WFMA)

- Go to www.wfma.net/index.htm for more information.

Institute of Musical Traditions

- Go to www.imtfolk.org for more information.

The Folklore Society of Greater Washington (FSGW)

- Go to fsgw.org for more information.

"FOLKIES" 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 – Cat Stevens
7/23/1971 – Alison Krauss
7/30/1936 – George "Buddy" Guy

MUSICAL QUOTE

"If you play more than two chords, you're showing off."
- *Woody Guthrie*

MEMBER PERFORMANCES & INFO

T.M Hanna tmhanna.net

Bill Davis [bil-davis@comcast.net](mailto:bill-davis@comcast.net)

Chris Anderson - chris-anderson.info

- Check online calendar for upcoming performances. Also producing shows for the Harried Americans Band.

Ron Goad MisterGoad@aol.com

- Hosting concerts at Café Montmartre, Reston, VA
cafemontmartre.com

Harley String Band (Jim Clark, Jim Johnson and Steve Coffee) www.harleystringband.com

The Aloha Boys (with Glen Hirabayashi)
www.alohaboys.com

Jan Gillies www.jangilliesmusic.com

Hickory Grove (Bev & Jack Osburn)
www.hickoryg.com

Stevie Wade Potter, acoustic musician
www.steviewademusic.com

The Stewart Sisters (with Sherry Stewart, Valeria Stewart, Jim Nagle, Niels Jonker)
www.thestewartsisters.com

Steven Cutts
ThePrimeCutts.com - streaming and downloads

Jeff Smith humanwilderness.com

John DuRant
troubadourjohn.com/upcoming-performances/

Field Shaman, info and show listings at FieldShaman.com



of Reston & Herndon

Meets Tuesday nights, 7:15 p.m. at Amphora Diner Deluxe
1151 Elden Street, Herndon, VA

President: Ben Hamblin **Treasurer:** Dave Hurd
Board of Directors: Sue Beffel, Bill Davis, TM Hanna, Lynn Jordan, Sue Schier, Ron Goad, Bob Hampton, Bill Farrar, Jim Clark
Publicity: David Litwack, Sue Schier
Bookings: Steve Potter
Newsletter: Ben Hamblin, Dan Grove, Steve Potter
Website: Cheryl Hennessy
Facebook: Cheryl Hennessy, Ron Goad
Lifetime Members: Rose Haskell, Ray & Ellen Kaminsky, Dave Hurd

FOLK CLUB FORMAT (not applicable now)

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.

SHOWCASE PERFORMANCES (on hold)

On the 2nd Tuesday of the month (usually), we feature a “Showcase” of a Folk Club member in a 25-minute performance. 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, and other music-related items for the newsletter. Items will be published on the basis of music-related interest, timeliness, and available space. Send your input to newsletter editor Ben Hamblin at FolkClubOfRestonHerndon@gmail.com.

RESERVE YOUR CONCERT SEATS (not applicable now)

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, or dahurdsr@cs.com.

The Folk Club of Reston-Herndon
c/o Dave Hurd
110 Devils Backbone Overlook
Stephenson, VA 22656

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.

KEEP IN TOUCH

There are several ways you can keep in touch, or find out more about The Club: **Website:** www.restonherndonfolkclub.com
Facebook: Search for “The Folk Club of Reston Herndon”
General Info: Contact Sue Schier at (703) 435-2402

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE

- Banjos (and a guitar) for sale! I'm helping a friend sell her collection; 1) J. Reynolds JR500G 6-String Guitar Banjo/Banjitar - Mahogany Finish, \$200. 2) Yamaha guitar in cheap case, red interior, FG335 II, made in Taiwan, \$200. 3) 5-string Banjo, Blueridge, with new Roadrunner gig bag, \$300. 4) Gold Tone Dojo: Resonator Banjo, \$750. 5) Five-string Rover Banjo with Superior Case gig bag, \$200. Call or text Chelle at 301-366-5579. Thank you!

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 Second Strings, P.O. Box 234, Nederland, CO 80466.

LESSONS

- 5-string banjo. Scruggs and melodic. In Haymarket. Monday or Tuesday. \$25/hr. Age 8 and up. Contact Bruce Gair at wbgair@gmail.com. First lesson free as a sample. No obligation.
- Private guitar lessons available on-line, FaceTime or Zoom. Flexible learning techniques including reading, ear and applied music theory. Contact Eric Forthman: email: eric.forthman@gmail.com; phone: 571-329-9875.