

Quarter Notes

Newsletter of the Plank Road Folk Music Society Summer 1992



1992 Summer Folk Music Guide

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PLANK ROAD SUMMER CALENDAR

JUNE

15 PLANK ROAD BOARD MEETING. 8 pm at Two Way Street Coffee House, 1047 Curtiss, Downers Grove.

20 SING-A-ROUND. 2 pm at the Two Way Street. Coffee House. Everyone invited!

26, 27, 28 MANY PLANK ROAD FAVORITES will be appearing at the Downers Grove Heritage Festival's Two Way Street Stage on Saturday, June 27. See insert for details.

JULY

11 & 12 PLANK ROAD will be helping to sponsor the 4th Annual Warrenville Folk Festival at Cerny Park, in Warrenville, IL. See insert for details.

17, 18, 19 PLANK ROAD'S 2nd ANNUAL Campout and Songfest in Leland, IL. More Information inside.

18 SING-A-ROUND. 2 pm at the Two Way Street. Coffee House. 1047 Curtiss, Downers Grove. Everyone invited!

20 PLANK ROAD BOARD MEETING. 8 pm Two Way Street Coffee House.

AUGUST

15 SING-A-ROUND. 2 pm at the Two Way Street. Coffee House, 1047 Curtiss, Downers Grove. Everyone invited!

17 PLANK ROAD BOARD MEETING. 8 pm Two Way Street Coffee House.

23 MANY PLANK ROAD SINGERS will be performing at Wilderness Day, Pulaski Woods West, 95th St. & Wolf Rd., Palos, IL. Free! 708/597-5440.

Information 708/387-9312 or 708/964-0305



THE BLUEGRASS BUG

by Larry Robinson

Bluegrass music is another facet of the general term "folk music." The term "Bluegrass" originally meant the music of Bill Monroe, who is regarded as the father of bluegrass music, and a native of Kentucky (the Bluegrass State!). The music now has an international appeal.

Bluegrass music is relatively young; it had its official birth in 1946 with the Monroe band of Lester Flatt (guitar) and Earl Scruggs (banjo). The music is rooted in the traditions of Scotch-Irish tunes, English ballads and the Negro blues. Incidentally, the first recorded bluegrass music was done at the Columbia studios in Chicago.

The instrumental makeup of the traditional bluegrass band consists of a mandolin, banjo, guitar, fiddle and acoustic bass. An electric bass is permitted in some bands, and you might find a dobro in some bands, too. All of this is highlighted by very tight harmony vocals. The only reason for the acoustic nature of the instruments is that the founding musicians lived in areas where there was no electricity.

Bluegrass has been called, "folk music in overdrive," "hillbilly jazz" and the "purest form of American music." All of these terms are accurate to some degree, depending on which particular artists you are listening to. That, for me, is the appeal of the music. It offers something for everyone.

The Sandwich Bluegrass Music Weekend offers a good cross section of the various aspects of bluegrass music. The stage show is just part of the entertainment, the parking lot picking goes on all night, so bring your instruments.

The camping area at the fair grounds are a delight with all of the large, old oak trees--so plan on spending the weekend.

Be prepared to meet and pick with some of the nicest people you'll ever have the pleasure of knowing. You'll be looking forward to your next festival after you get bitten by "the bluegrass bug."

Larry Robinson is the host of WDCB's (90.9 fm) "Strictly Bluegrass" heard Wednesdays from 3-5 pm.

8th Annual SPBGMA Sanctioned
SANDWICH, IL
BLUEGRASS MUSIC
WEEKEND
JUNE 19, 20, 21, 1992

Located at the DeKalb County Fairgrounds at the NW Edge of Sandwich, IL. Lots of electric hookups and big shade trees. This is a beautiful fairgrounds with large covered grandstands. Good food concessionson the grounds.

LIVE!
BLUEGRASS MUSIC
FEATURING

THE COX'S
 Cotton Valley, LA (Fri., Sat.)

SILVER CREEK
 Ellijay, GA, (Fri., Sat., Sun.)

RUNNING FOX BLUEGRASS
 Joliet, IL (Sat.)

BREAKAWAY BLUEGRASS
 St. Louis, MO (Fri., Sat.)

THE EMMA SMITH BAND
 Portsmouth, OH (Sat., Sun)

RAY SCALF & THE CLAY COUNTY
 TRAVELLERS
 Ingalls, IN (Fri., Sat., Sun.)

BLUEGRASS EXPRESS
 Stockton, IL (Sat.)

THE McPUNK BROTHERS
 Iowa City, IA (Fri., Sat., Sun.)

ADMISSION:

Friday \$6.00

Saturday Day & Night \$8.00

Saturday After 5 pm only \$6.00

Sunday \$5.00

3 Day Pass \$14.00

Children Under 12 FREE

Don't forget to bring your lawn chairs. FAMILY FUN-camping, modern restrooms, camping w/elec. hookups \$4/day. Food concessions on grounds. No alcoholic beverages allowed. Showtimes: 8 pm Friday, 1pm & 7 pm Saturday, 10 am Sunday

For more information
 Chuck Stearman
 816/665-7172

PLANK ROAD'S 2nd ANNUAL CAMP OUT & SONG FEST PLANNED FOR JULY 17-19

The Plank Road Folk Music Society has set July 17-19 for the 2nd Annual Camp Out and Song Fest at Hi-Tide Campground in Leland, Illinois. Leland is located just an hour west of Downers Grove.

"Last summer's camp out and song fest was a complete success. There was plenty of for the kids to do, lots of informal music-making and it provided for a relaxing get-away weekend for those who attended." says Plank road President Paul Klonowski. "I'd like to extend an invitation to all members of the Plank Road Folk Music Society, their friends and their familys to join us for the weekend."

Activities will include two days of light camping, relaxing, good gab, swimming, hiking, fishing, horse shoes, croquet, volleyball and songs & tunes with good friends. The facilities at Hi-Tide include a group of tent camping sites (some have electric and water), nice ceramic tiled bathrooms with full showers (hot water optional), a pool and hot tub (seriously!) and a small swimming lake (w/life guard).

A general store for food, supplies, firewood & ice is located on the grounds (complete w/laundry facilities) and a fenced in playground is available for children. There is also good fishing in Little Indian Creek.

Hi-Tide Campground is just a one hour drive west of Downers Grove, IL. From the EAST travel 4 miles west of Somonauk on Rt. 34 to the junction of Rt. 34 and Rt. 23's north leg. When 23 passes south of 34, it becomes Hi-Tide Road. Take Hi-Tide Rd. South 1 mile to Campground.

From the NORTH take Rt. 23 South from I-88 (DeKalb Exit). When 23 passes south of 34, it become Hi-Tide Road. Take Hi-Tide Road south 1 mile to campground.

The cost is \$13.00 per day, per site (or \$26 for 2 days). A site can be occupied by 1 family OR 2 adults & 2 kids OR 3 adults. A limited number of sites have been reserved. To register for the 2nd Annual Plank Road Camp Out & Song Fest fill out the information on page 4 and send along with your check. for more detailed information contact Paul Klonowski at 815/728-0187.

PLANK ROAD TO ASSIST SUMMER FESTIVALS

The Plank Road Folk Music Society has an active summer planned, providing volunteer support, planning input and entertainment at three area music events.

The Plank Road information booth and Plank Road volunteers will be on hand for the Downers Grove Heritage Festival's Two Way Street Stage, in Fishel Park (right behind the 1st Congregational Church) on Saturday, June 27th from 10:30-6 pm.

The Two Way Street stage features musicians and performers who have been featured at the popular Two Way Street Coffeehouse throughout the year.

On July 11 & 12, Plank Road will be volunteering as an organization at the 4th Annual Warrenville Folk Festival. Volunteers have already participated in several planning meetings for the festival, and will also staff the two day event as stage & tech assistants, concession and album sales people, workshop leaders and stage management.

"For years we've helped out at the Two Way Street Stage at Downers Grove's Heritage Festival," says Plank Road President Paul Klonowski, "and we've discussed over and over whether Plank Road should sponsor it's own summer music event. We decided it would be more effective for our organization to act as a support to the great festivals already sponsored by the Two Way Street, and now the Warrenville Folk Society. We're very proud to be taking part."

Along with the Save the Prairie Society and the Palos Restoration Project, Plank Road will be celebrating the past, present and future of Cook County Forest Preserves and Natural areas at Pulaski Woods West (95th Street & Wolf Road) at the 1st ever Wilderness Day on Sunday, August 23 from 11 am - 6 pm.

"Plank Road has agreed to supply and schedule the entertainment for this very important event," says Klonowski. "We feel that folk music can compliment and help sustain these types of organizations and projects like Wilderness Day. We want to invite every Plank Road member to help celebrate our own natural resources right here in Cook County.

For more information about Wilderness Day phone 708/597-5440.

Board Notes

The current Plank Road Board of Directors: **Paul Klonowski**, president; **Cathy Jones**, secretary; **Charles Lewis**, treasurer; **Marianne Mohrhussen**, membership; **Jerry Burke**; **Dave Humphrey**; **Dave Reynold**; **Rick Rodriguez** and **Jeff Sands**.

...The Farmer's Market in Downers Grove is looking for musicians to play for free on Saturday mornings. If interested, contact **Dave Humphreys** at 708/969-9720....

...We're very happy to report the birth of **David Micael Sands** to parents **Jeff & Marilyn** on April 22. He weighed in at 6lb 10 oz...

...Other events you won't want to miss: **Dan Zahn & Friends** will celebrate the release of his new cassette "Home of the Brave" at a special concert at 7:30 pm on June 13 at the Maple Street Chapel. in Lombard. Admission is \$6. For information phone 708/830-7487...

...June 27 is the date of WDCB's Eclectic Picnic, 1 to 9 pm. phone the College of DuPage at 708/858-5196

...July 11 & 12 is the 5th Annual Gebhard Woods Dulcimer Festival at Gebhard Woods State Park in Morris, IL. For info phone 815/756-1830 or 708/456-6292...

...July 25 & 26 is the Rockford Folk Music Festival. Rockford Museum & Midway Village, 6799 Guilford Road, Rockford, IL. Tenth Anniversary Celebration! for information phone 1-800/521-0849 or 815/889-8174...

...August 8 is the Mont Clare Folk Festival at the Mont Clare Congregational Church, 6935 W. Medill, Chicago. Phone 312/889-8174...

...Mark your calendars for September 6 & 7 for the Annual Fox Valley Folk Festival at Island Park in Geneva. This is the grand-daddy of all midwest folk festivals...

...For complete festival and folk event listings dial 708/TGI-FOLK...

...Other News...Look for Plank Road favorite **Mark Dvorak** to release "Use It Up, Wear It Out" sometime this summer on the Depot label...

...The North American Folk Alliance has set it's annual conference for February 18-21, 1993 in Tucson AZ. for more information write Alliance Manager Art Menius at PO Box 5010, Chapel Hill, NC, 27514 or phone 919/542-3997...

...The Lead Belly Society is now publishing "The Lead Belly Letter," a most excellent newsletter celebrating one of America's greatest folksingers and song composers. Subscriptions are \$15 per year, and checks should be made out to The Lead Belly Society. Send subscription orders or gift subscription orders in c/o Sean Killeen, Editor, PO Box 6679, Ithica, NY 14851...See Ya next time!

JULY 25 & 26



Lou & Peter Berryman
Sparky & Rhonda Rucker
Dave Moore • Kristina Olsen
Blackburn & Masterson
Mark Dvorak • Beggar's Alley
Robert Shannon & the Dorkestra
Paul & Win Grace and Family
Oak Apple Morris Dancers
and many more!

Concerts • Workshops • Dancing
Free On-Site Camping

Midway Village • Rockford, Illinois

1-800-521-0849

This program is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency, and by the National Endowment for the Arts, and by a grant from the Rockford Area Arts Council which receives support from the cities of Rockford, Midway Park and Loren Park, the Illinois Arts Council, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

It has been a banner year for the PRFMS. Not only did we turn 10 years old, but we have grown in terms of our membership and in terms of the scope of our organization. We are now successfully serving more people through our concert presentations, newsletter, sing-a-rounds and other activities than ever before.

I want to especially thank the volunteers who made this 10th Anniversary season a grand success--the Lagerstroms, the Kendalls, Clarks, Trowbridges, Maurice Smeets, Gerge Warren, the Simpsons, the Fishers, Ann Farnham and the many others who have given of their time, talent and love. Thank you.

Now here's a question for you: We've been presenting our concerts at both the Sokol Hall and the Hollywood House in Brookfield. What do you feel are the advantages of each? Do you like one space better than the other. Some feel we should continue to present at both places. Do you agree? Let me know via mail (PO Box 283, Brookfield, IL 60513) or let your favorite Board Member know (or drop in on our monthly meeting!). We're already planning our '92-'93 concert season, and we need your input.

And speaking of next year's booking, we're talking with Sparky & Rhonda Rucker for an autumn concert, and we've been in contact with Michael Cooney for a spring show. Let us know who else you'd like to see at a Plank Road concert...we're always looking for new ideas.

I look forward to seeing you at the festivals this summer!

Paul K.

JOIN THE TRADITION TODAY!

If you'd like to become a member of the Plank Road Folk Music Society (receive The Quarter Notes 4 times/year by mail & discounts to concerts) or Join us on July 17-19 for the 2nd Annual Camp Out & Song Fest in Leland, IL (see page 2 for complete details), fill out the blank below:

name _____

address _____

town _____ state _____ zip _____

CAMP OUT & SONG FEST

MEMBERSHIP

- No. of Adults No. of Kids Individual (\$5 annual)
 No. of Sites No. of Nights Family (\$9 annual--includes couples)
 _____ _____ Contributing (\$25 or more--free t-shirt)
 _____ _____ Yes! I'm a new member!

Phone _____

	how many	price@	total
MEMBERSHIP AMOUNT ENCLOSED		\$5/\$9/\$25	
PLANK ROAD T-SHIRT S M L XL		\$10.00	
10TH ANNIVERSARY T-SHIRT S M L XL		\$10.00	
2nd ANNUAL CAMP OUT & SONG FEST per site per night		\$13.00	
	ADD \$1 PER T-SHIRT POSTAGE		
	TOTAL ENCLOSED		

Cut out order blank and send to :
 Plank Road Folk Music Society,
 PO Box 283
 Brookfield, IL 60513

Please make checks payable to the Plank Road Folk Music Society

Plank Road Folk Music Society
 P.O. Box 283
 Brookfield, IL 60513

Bulk rate
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Brookfield, IL
 Permit No. 30

Plank Road Folk Music Society
 MAILED FROM ZIP CODE
 60513