

# Quarter Notes

Newsletter of the Plank Road Folk Music Society Autumn 1992



## Plank Road Opens 11th Season!

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#### Plank Road Board of Directors

**Paul Klonowski**, president

**Cathy Jones**, secretary

**Charles Lewis**, treasurer

**Marianne Mohrhusen**, membership

**Jerry Burke**

**Dave Humphreys**

**Dave Reynolds**

**Rick Rodriguez**

**Jeff Sands**

Information 815/728-0187

### SEPTEMBER

**19** SING-A-ROUND. 2 pm at the Two Way Street. Coffee House, 1047 Curtiss. 708/969-9720. Everyone invited!

**21** PLANK ROAD BOARD MEETING. 8 pm at Two Way Street Coffee House, 1047 Curtiss, Downers Grove. All members & guests welcome!

### OCTOBER

**3** CHILDREN'S CONCERT with SPARKY & RHONDA RUCKER. 2 pm. Two Way Street Coffee House, 1047 Curtiss Downers Grove. Kids \$4, Adults \$2. 708/969-9720 or 964-0305.

**3** AN EVENING with SPARKY & RHONDA RUCKER.. 8 pm. Sokol Hall, 3907 Prairie, Brookfield. \$7/\$5 members. 708/387-9312 or 964-0305.

**10** OUTDOOR SONG CIRCLE at Naperville Heritage Settlement. 12 :30 pm. 708/790-4659. Everyone invited!

**17** SING-A-ROUND. 2 pm at the Two Way Street. Coffee House, 1047 Curtiss. 708/969-9720. Everyone invited!

**19** PLANK ROAD BOARD MEETING. 8 pm at Two Way Street Coffee House. All members & guests welcome!

**24** FALL BARN DANCE Co-sponsored by Plank Road & the Warrenville Folk Society. 7:30 At the Warrenville Community Center, 3 S. 245 Warren Avenue, Warrenville. 708/717-8495 or 387-9312.

### NOVEMBER

**14** SING-A-ROUND. 2 pm at the Two Way Street Coffee House, 1047 Curtiss. 708/969-9720. Everyone invited!

**14** AN EVENING with MARK DVORAK & Friends. Celebrating Plank Road's 11th Anniversary, and the release of "Use It Up, Wear It Out." 8 pm. Sokol Hall, 3907 Prairie, Brookfield. \$7/\$5 members. 708/387-9312 or 964-0305.

**16** PLANK ROAD BOARD MEETING. 8 pm at Two Way Street Coffee House. All members & guests welcome!

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

## Sparky & Rhonda Rucker at Sokol Hall on October 3rd

The Plank Road Folk Music Society proudly opens it's 11th concert season by presenting an evening with **Sparky and Rhonda Rucker** on Saturday, October 3, 8 pm at Sokol Hall, 3907 Prairie, Brookfield.

After 25 years of international touring, eight record releases, and mainstage credits at every major folk festival in the United States and Canada, Sparky Rucker is now recognized as a leading performer and commentator on African-American folk culture. Sparky is appreciated for his deft abilities as a singer, historian, folklorist, storyteller, and down-home humorist. Rhonda Rucker is an incredible musician with special gifts for playing African-American mouth harp styles and creating wonderful vocal harmonies.

"Their music is a blend of blues, country, folk and gospel. the stories are ones your great-grandparents may have passed down through the generations." says the Mississippi Valley Blues Society of Davenport, Iowa.

The Charleston, S.C. Evening Post has said, "Sparky Rucker is a phenomenal stage presence who not only is capable of bridging black-white cultural ties, but also is adept at bringing the whole of the folk-music spectrum to bear on...the rich historical and artistic treasure of the country and blues vocal archive."

General admission tickets are \$7 or \$5 for Plank Road members. For more information please call 708/964-0305 or 708/387-9312.

## Ruckers to perform children's concert Oct. 3

**Sparky and Rhonda Rucker** will give a special children's and family concert at 2 pm on Saturday, October 3 at he Two Way Street Coffee House, 1047 Curtiss, Downers Grove.

Sparky Rucker was once a teacher in Chattanooga near his hometown of Knoxville, Tennessee, and he has been performing for twenty five years. He has made eight recordings, including one for children. His educational performances have included teacher workshops at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington D.C., and the Tennessee Association on Young Children convention. His wife Rhonda Rucker, accompanies him with harmonica and back-up vocals, and is featured on Sparky's last two recordings.

The Rucker's historical and educational performances have won them rave reviews throughout the United States.

For more information, please call 708/964-0305.

# JOIN

**THE PLANK  
ROAD FOLK  
MUSIC SOCIETY  
TODAY!**

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## Song Circle at Naperville Heritage Settlement On October 10

On Saturday, October 10 the Plank Road Folk Music Society will host a Song Circle at the Naperville Heritage Settlement from 12:30 to 3:30 pm. The event is scheduled as part of the settlement's first annual "Nation Fest" fund raiser.

Says program organizer and Plank Road board member **Jerry Burke**, "We're looking for a wide variety of instrumentalists and singers to stop by or a portion of, or the entire afternoon. It's a great opportunity for us to all make some music together in the beautiful setting of the Naperville Heritage Settlement, and help out a good cause."

"We're calling all Plank Road members and their guests to join us."

Individuals and groups interested in participating in the PRFMS Song Circle should contact at 708/790-4659.

## Michael Cooney coming to Plank Road in March '93

The nation's most consummate and versatile interpreter of traditional music, **Michael Cooney**, will be presented in concert by the Plank Road Folk Music Society in March of 1993.

Cooney has performed in countless halls, clubs, coffeehouse and made many radio and t.v. appearances since he began travelling and singing in 1964.

"We haven't yet decided on the best location to present the concert," says Plank Road president Paul Klonowski, "But we're certainly excited to have the opportunity to present one of folk music's true experts. It's a high point for us."

"Details will be available soon."

**Call Folk Phone for a tape recorded complete listing of Chicago area acoustic music.**

**708/TGI-FOLK**



**TWO WAY STREET  
COFFEE HOUSE**  
1047 CURTISS STREET 708-969-9720  
DOWNERS GROVE, ILLINOIS 60515  
(Across from the Public Library)

## ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE

- Friday September 11 **SUSAN URBAN** -- Susan is an excellent Chicago singer-songwriter who sings about social issues, human interest, and more. Six and twelve-string guitar, and some a cappella songs.
- Friday September 18 **\*\* OPEN MIKE \*\*** Anyone is welcome to perform, and we always have a great variety of acoustic performers. So popular that we often must limit number of acts. Open 7:45 for signups -- first come, first served! Info? Call Dave, (708) 968-5526.
- Friday September 25 **CHRISTOPHER GRUNDY** -- Heard at our recent Opeff Mike, he returns with entertaining and thought-provoking original songs (with guitar and piano) which he's performed from Maine to Montana.
- Friday October 2 **DAVID CRAWFORD** -- Along with some talented friends, he presents mostly original songs with a fresh artistic style. Folk, jazz, gospel, blues influences with piano, harmonica & more.
- Friday October 9 **MICHAEL MILES** -- A master of the clawhammer banjo, he presents traditional and non-traditional American, Irish and French songs and more. He's also an excellent guitarist and singer!
- Friday October 16 **ERIC LUGOSCH** -- A winner of the National Fingerstyle Guitar Championship, Eric now teaches guitar at the Old Town School. Also a bold and innovative composer for TV, theater and NPR.
- Friday October 23 **GEORGE MATTSON** -- George teaches guitar at the Old Town School. He presents folk, country and oldies, and songs by some lesser-known songwriters. Lots of off-beat humor too!
- Friday October 30 **STEVE & MARY ASKINS** -- They present jazz, old standards, swing & folk songs and great guitar solos, including selections from their great new CD, "Some Old Love Song."
- Friday November 6 **DIANE DIACHISHIN** -- She has studied with Jean Redpath in Scotland, and sings traditional and contemporary American and British songs and more, with six and twelve string guitar.
- Friday November 13 **LARRY PENN** -- An outstanding songwriter, he sings of truckers, railroaders, hoboes and more with warmth, wit & class. His songs are recorded by Pete Seeger, Claudia Schmidt & others.
- Friday November 20 **THE GUMM BROTHERS** -- Dave Lull and Mike Podgorny present Irish, traditional folk, originals and more. Some fun, some serious, some "just 'cause we like 'em!" Guitars, banjo, whistles.
- Friday November 27 **MARIANNE MOHRHUSEN** -- Warm, beautiful, exciting and fun are all words which describe the traditional and contemporary songs sung by this popular performer. With guitar and autoharp.
- Friday December 4 **\*\* OPEN MIKE \*\*** (see September 18 listing, above)
- Friday December 11 **JAMES McCANDLESS & JULIANNE MACARUS** -- Two great performers return with guitars and fiddle. Their songs range from topical and gritty to romantic and poignant. Engaging!
- Friday December 18 **THE JONES FAMILY CHRISTMAS SHOW** -- Enrich your Christmas season with a wonderful evening featuring Anne, Tom, Cathy, Linda & their guest musicians. You'll want to sing along too!
- Fridays Dec 25 & Jan 1 Closed for the Holidays

- Saturday Sept 19 **MURIEL ANDERSON -- IN CONCERT!** A recording release concert for "ARIOSO from Paris," her latest CD. The album was mostly recorded in Paris by this acclaimed finger-style guitarist who has often appeared as a guest with Chet Atkins. 8:00 PM in our "big room". \$8 adults (\$6 advance), \$4 under 12. Information and tickets, phone 708-530-2183.
- Saturday October 3 **CHILDREN'S CONCERT** featuring SPARKY AND RHONDA RUCKER -- 2:00 PM a special concert for kids (of all ages!) presenting these two wonderfully entertaining performers. \$4 Kids, \$2 Adults.
- Monday December 14 **CHRISTMAS CAROLING!** -- Join us at 7:00 to go caroling, then return for refreshments and fellowship. Bring a flashlight!
- Saturdays Sept 19  
Oct 17  
Nov 21  
Dec 19 **MONTHLY SING-AROUNDS** -- Our popular song circles where beginners and experienced musicians can learn and/or share songs. Listeners and singers welcome too! 2:00 PM. \$1.00.

Watch From The Two Way Street Coffee House on DGTV,  
Downers Grove Cable Television Channel 29, Mondays at 7:50 PM.

The Two Way Street Coffee House is a not-for-profit community project of the First Congregational Church of Downers Grove, and is open to the public every Monday and Friday night at 8:00. Live entertainment is featured each Friday beginning at 8:45. \$2.00 donation requested Fridays. Refreshments available. Members: Plank Road Folk Music Society, Fox Valley Folklore Society, Old Town School of Folk Music, Aural Tradition, and North American Folk Alliance.

Call FolkPhone at TGI-FOLK (708-844-3655) for complete Chicago-area folk music listings.

Depot Recordings proudly announces...

## "Use It Up, Wear It Out"

the NEW album by

# MARK DVORAK

featuring 13 more GREAT songs!

Use It Up, Wear It Out • My Daddy Rides That Ship In The Sky  
Dare to Dream • Sweet Stephen • Two Little Boys  
Ruben, You Can Play Your Banjo • I'll Be Here in the Morning  
Things That Used to Be • Goin' Down to Cairo • Worried Blues  
Dink's Song • Lord, I've Got Some Singing To Do • I'll Be Seeing You

Title	each	qty	total
"Use It Up, Wear It Out" (cassette)	\$10		
(CD)	\$15		
"When Steam Was King" (cass./booklet) <i>Songs from the West Bound Rails</i> with <i>Larry Penn, Mark Dvorak, Marianne Mohrhusen</i>	\$10		
"No Lonesome Tune" (cassette)	\$10		

plus one buck per order for postage	\$1
total amount enclosed (checks payable to Mark Dvorak)	

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P.O. Box 181, Brookfield, IL 60513

## Keeping Up With the Jones'

by Ann Jones

There's going to be lots of activity and music around the Jones Family Music Studio this autumn. We hope you drop by to take a class or lesson, or stop by for a visit.

### Harmony Singing By Ear

Beginning on Saturday, September 19 at 11 am, Tom, Cathy and Ann Jones will coach a class in 2,3 and 4 part singing; traditional style. No experience necessary, but it helps if you can carry a tune. We're now accepting registration, tuition is \$40 for an 8 week class.

### Private/Group Instruction

Of course, the Jones continue their family tradition of offering some of the best music classes around. We'll gladly instruct all levels of students from complete beginners on up on the following instruments: guitar, banjo, mandolin, fiddle, hammered and mountain dulcimer and auto harp. Please give us a call.

### New Format for Students

One lesson each month will be a student jam session with all instruments and all other students taking lessons that night. Jams will be held the first Monday, Wednesday and Thursday of each month. We've found these to be popular among students, and a great way to begin learning how to play with other musicians in a classroom setting.

Basic tuition of \$45 includes 4 private or 6 group lessons and any jam sessions offered during your enrollment.

### New Location for Classes

We're now offering 2 levels of guitar and banjo classes at Wheaton-Warrenville High School, south campus. It's a 9 week session and meets on Tuesday evenings beginning September 22.

Register through District 200 Adult Education at 708/682-2091. Rental instruments are available through the Jones'. See you soon!

## Mark Dvorak & Friends to celebrate PRFMS anniversary, album release at Sokol Hall on November 14

The Plank Road Folk Music Society will celebrate it's 11th anniversary with a very special evening featuring folksinger and Plank Road co-founder **Mark Dvorak** on Saturday, November 14, 8 pm at Sokol Hall, 3907 Prairie Avenue, Brookfield.

Dvorak helped found "the Old Quarter" coffeehouse which produced music events in various formats locally until 1987. He was then named to the first board of directors of the Plank Road Folk Music Society in 1986, an organization which picked up where "the Old Quarter" left off.

Since that time, his singing and recording career has brought him across the continental United States and has produced two albums. His 1988 Depot release, "No Lonesome Tune" was received favorably, and remains popular among Chicago area listeners and students of folk music.

Dvorak will perform selections from his newest album, "Use It Up, Wear It Out," which was released on Depot earlier this month.

"It's a 'patchwork quilt' of songs--some of which have been with me for awhile, and some which are new--which have come from both friends and heroes of mine," says Dvorak. "It's turned out to be a very personal album."

Joining Dvorak for the evening will be a host of special guests, all of whom contributed in some way to the album. Plank Road favorite **Marianne Mohrhusen** is scheduled to join Dvorak on stage and Milwaukee songwriter and poet laureate **Larry Penn** will make an appearance. Acoustic bluesman and national steel guitarist **Ted Parrish**, who fronts his own band, the Bucktown Barbeque Boys, will make a special solo appearance as will Irish flutist and vocalist **Catherine Hall**.

Singer/guitarist **George Mattson**, a brilliant performer and song interpreter who co-produced "Use It Up, Wear It Out" with Dvorak will open the show.

Tickets are \$7/\$5 for Plank Road members and will be available at the door. For more information, please call 708/964-0305.

## Board Notes

On September 19 at 7:30 pm, the Two Way Street Coffee House presents **Muriel Anderson** in concert celebrating the release of her new album "Arioso from Paris." 708/530-2183...

"When Steam Was King" a new cassette w/booklet by **Larry Penn, Marianne Mohrhusen & Mark Dvorak** featuring songs from the "West bound Rails" is available from Cookie Man Music. Call the Different Strummer Music Store at 312/525-6165....

A folk and bluegrass concert featuring **Dona & Dan Benkert, Running Fox Bluegrass, Dos Boys** (& others) will be held on Saturday, October 3 at 8 pm to benefit the Countryside & Elburn Community Center. Tickets are \$4 advance \$5 at the door. 708/365-5683...

Aural Tradition presents Australian balladeer **Martyn Wyndam-Read** on Saturday, October 17, 8 pm at MCC, 6935 W. Medill, Chicago, 312/728-7409...

Join us every Thursday night at Cafe Trieste, 111 W. Jackson, Naperville for a GREAT evening of live acoustic music & delicious food and beverage. 708/355-8242.

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Hello again & Happy Autumn!

We've had a great summer here at the Plank Road Folk Music Society, and we're looking forward to bringing a superb calendar of events this autumn. There'll be plenty to celebrate (11th Anniversary on Nov. 14), lots of great music to listen to and many opportunities for you to join in too!

This autumn, I'd like you to consider becoming a Plank Road volunteer. We need folks to help with our concert staff (various positions) and with our 4 times per year mailing. You'll be working with some great people, and concert volunteers (of course) enjoy free admission to the show.

Also, if you haven't become a member of the Plank Road Folk Music Society, I want to urge you to do so now. You'll be making it possible for us to continue to bring you the best in folk music concert presentations and other great programming. It's also the very best way to stay informed. We'll send you The Quarter Notes 4 times a year via 1st class mail, and you'll enjoy discounts to concerts and other events.

If you currently are a member, why not urge a friend to also become a member. When it's time to renew, please consider upgrading your membership. We'll send you a free Plank Road or 10th Anniversary T-shirt, and you'll enjoy the satisfaction of helping to keep folk music thriving here in the western suburbs.

See you soon,

*Paul Klimowski*

## 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 send for a Plank Road or 10th Anniversary T-shirt, fill out the blank below.

name \_\_\_\_\_

address \_\_\_\_\_

town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip \_\_\_\_\_

### MEMBERSHIP

- Individual (\$5 annual)
- Family (\$9 annual--includes couples)
- Contributing (\$25 or more--free t-shirt)
- Yes! I'm a new member!

	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	
ADD \$1 PER T-SHIRT POSTAGE			
TOTAL ENCLOSED			

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Please make checks payable to the Plank Road Folk Music Society

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