



# ◆ Quarter Notes ◆

Volume 18 Issue 1

Winter 1999-2000



*A Family Concert with*

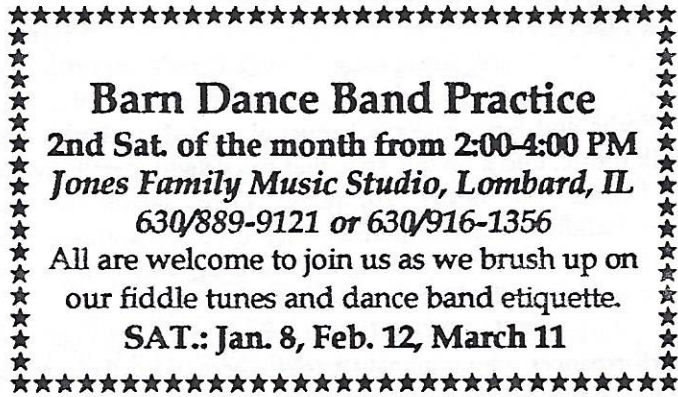
## **Lou & Peter Berryman**

Saturday, February 26 at 8:00 PM

Admission: \$12/\$10 PRFMS members

At the Two Way Street Coffee House  
1047 Curtiss St., Downers Grove

*Join us for this evening of fun, puns and merriment with these special friends of Plank Road! See the article inside for more information, or call 708/387-9312 or 630/889-9121 (evenings).*



## **Barn Dance Band Practice**

2nd Sat. of the month from 2:00-4:00 PM

Jones Family Music Studio, Lombard, IL

630/889-9121 or 630/916-1356

All are welcome to join us as we brush up on our fiddle tunes and dance band etiquette.

**SAT.: Jan. 8, Feb. 12, March 11**



## **Barn Dance Party with Live String Band Music!**

Sat., Jan. 8 at 8:00 PM

at the Two Way Street Coffee House

1047 Curtiss St., Downers Grove

Admission: \$4.00

Join us for an evening of music and dancing, fun for the entire family! The Plank Road All Volunteer String Band will provide music, and caller Marianne Mohrhussen will walk you through all the dances at our No Experience Necessary Barn Dance. For more info, call 708/387-9312.



## **PLANK ROAD**

## **ANNUAL MEETING**

Saturday, Jan. 22 at 7:00 PM

The Log Cabin at Four Seasons

Park on South Main St.,

Lombard (between  
Roosevelt Rd & 22nd St.)

All are encouraged to join us as we review the past year's events and prepare for the coming year, including election of new officers. Lots of music and visiting with friends old and new! Bring an instrument, voice, friend and a snack to share. Hot cider and coffee provided.

For more info, call 708/387-9312 or 630/889-9121 (evenings).



## **Sing-A-Rounds**

1st & 3rd Sat. of the month  
from 2:00-4:00 PM

Two Way Street Coffee House,  
1047 Curtiss St., Downers Grove.  
630/969-9720.

Everyone is welcome! Good opportunity to get together with other players. Song-books are provided.

**Sat: Jan. 1&15, Feb. 5&19, Mar. 4&18**

## The Berrymans come to Plank Road Sat., Feb. 26, at 8:00 PM

**Two Way Street Coffee House, 1047 Curtiss St., Downers Grove. Sat., Feb 26 at 8 PM.**  
**Admission: \$12/\$10 PRFMS members;**  
**Information: 708/387-9312 or 630/889-9121**  
**Coffee House, 1047 Curtiss St., Downers Grove.**

This February, we welcome Lou & Peter Berryman back to the Plank Road stage. Lou & Peter's sophisticated and wickedly funny original songwriting blends the best melodic and lyric aspects of musical comedy, cabaret, and folk music, into a unique style that has delighted nationwide audiences for nearly 20 years. Their whimsical and wonderfully accessible performance of these songs leaves audiences with cheeks aching from smiling, and with a fresh perspective on the human condition.

The 10# Fiddle in Lansing says, "Their songs and performances are unfailingly wacky, and just as dependably 100% right. No one writes songs like Lou and Peter, but everyone recognizes the truth and clear vision behind each one". The Folklore society of Greater Washington calls them "Folkdom's favorite funny folks..." and Grassroots Concerts says "Peter and Lou Berryman just have to be the funnybones of the Midwest". Lou and Peter have been friends since 1963 when they met in an art class and then began their musical partnership in the first of a long series of musical groups. They played lots of different kinds of music; folk, jug band and old-time music, with occasional forays into blues and even rock and roll, which have all been adapted to a growing repertoire of original songs. The musical duo as it exists today was formed about 1975. Since then they have performed in big and little venues across the continent, performing only their original songs. The music reflects the wide variety of interests and experiences of these two, as seen through the softening lens of humor.

With influences as diverse as Gilbert and Sullivan and Edith Piaf, but always with a twist of their own, Lou & Peter Berryman bring an inventive and intelligent humor to the rich melodic legacy of theatrical music. They have published two songbooks, and eleven recordings of original songs to rave reviews. Berryman songs are being sung around the world, by a legion of professional musicians as well as shower singers everywhere, but no one sings them as well as Lou and Peter themselves. Pete Seeger says, "Lou and Peter Berryman! Long may they wave. Their F-Word son "A Chat With Your Mother" is one of the great American folk songs of the 20th Century." Be sure to join us for this very special evening of fun, comedy and music!

## The Times They Are a Changing! Plank Road Folk Music Society and the Two Way Street Coffee House join in a new venture—a Coffee House especially for High School and College-aged students!

A rich heritage of folk music has emerged in the western suburbs over the last 30 or more years. Remember picking up an instrument, learning basic chords and becoming part of a growing community of people who wanted to speak out and make a difference in the world?

As the years roll on, we often lose some of that initial enthusiasm and momentum. At many of our events, it is rare to see many high school and college aged persons in attendance. This is a situation that merits our attention: how can we pass the torch to the next generation? How do we encourage the young people of today to embrace this rich folk heritage? We who were mentored by those who came before have a responsibility to reach out to those who are coming up (quickly!) behind us. The young people today have a desire to contribute to the community and are searching for a sense of belonging and acceptance. Music touches the heart of all of us.

To encourage young adults to take pride in traditions and help them understand the roots of the music they play, Two Way Street Coffee House and Plank Road Folk Music Society are co-sponsoring a new *open mike for high school and college aged students*. It is called **Last Thursday: It's Our Turn!** This unplugged open stage will take place on the last Thursday of the month from **7:00 PM to 9:30 PM** at the **Two Way Street Coffee House in Downers Grove** starting on **February 24th**, with the second open mike on **March 30**.

Tricia Rush, Dave Humphreys, Dave Reynolds and Steve Castle make up the committee coordinating this event. Two Way Street Coffee House Director Dave Humphreys puts it well: "I'm excited about **Last Thursday**. Not only does it give young adults a chance to share their creativity, but it opens the Two Way Street Coffee House and the Plank Road Folk Music Society to new audiences. It also improves the odds that folk music might survive beyond our generation. Everybody wins!"

We encourage you to help us spread the word about this event. We are wanting to get the information to the local high schools and colleges. If any of you are interested in becoming more involved, or getting posters to share or more information in general, call the Two Way Street Coffee House at 630/969-9720, or Tricia Rush at 630/668-3429, or Dave Reynolds at 630/964-0304.



## Plank Road's Winter Events Listing

### JANUARY

- ◆ 8 (Saturday) **BARN DANCE BAND PRACTICE.** Jones Family Music Studio, Lombard. 2:00 to 4:00 PM. All are welcome to join us as we brush up on our fiddle tunes and barn dance etiquette. For info: 630/889-9121.
- ◆ 8 (Saturday) **PLANK ROAD BARN DANCE PARTY.** Two Way Street Coffee House, 1047 Curtiss St., Downers Grove. 8:00 PM **Admission: \$4.00** Join us for this Plank Road No Experience Necessary Barn Dance, featuring caller Marianne Mohrhusen and the Plank Road All Volunteer String Band. All ages are welcome! Dances are taught as we go along. No costumes necessary. Join us for this evening of fun for all! For more information, call 708/387-9312 or 630/889-9121. Co-sponsored by the Plank Road Folk Music Society and the Two Way Street Coffee House.
- ◆ 15 (Saturday) **PLANK ROAD SING-A-ROUND.** Two Way Street Coffee House, 1047 Curtiss St., Downers Grove. 2:00 to 4:00 PM. Everyone is welcome! Songbooks provided. Beginners and experienced musicians are welcome to learn and/or share favorite songs. Listeners and singers are welcome too! For more info, call 630/969-9720. Co-sponsored by the Two Way Street Coffee House and the Plank Road Folk Music Society.
- ◆ 22 (Saturday) **PLANK ROAD ANNUAL MEETING.** Lombard Log Cabin at Four Seasons Park, located on South Main St. between Roosevelt Rd. and 22nd St., Lombard. Join us for our annual meeting, including information, updates, voting in new officers, lots of music, food and visiting! Bring your instrument(s) and/or voices and a snack to share. For more information, call 708/387-9312 or 630/889-9121 (evenings).
- ◆ 29 (Saturday) **SPECIAL CONSENSUS HOUSE CONCERT.** Jones Family Music School, Lombard. 8:00 PM Join us for this annual favorite with one of the best bluegrass bands around! Reservations required. Call 630/916-1356 to reserve your seat today. Co-sponsored by the Jones Family Music School and PRFMS.

### FEBRUARY

- ◆ 5 (Saturday) **PLANK ROAD SING-A-ROUND.** Two Way Street Coffee House, 1047 Curtiss St., Downers Grove. 2:00 to 4:00 PM. Due to popular demand, there are now two Sing-a-round sessions each month—the first and third Saturday of each month! Everyone is welcome! Like the third Saturday Sing-a-round, beginners and experienced musicians are welcome to learn and/or share favorite songs. Listeners and singers are welcome too! Songbooks provided. For more information, call 630/969-9720. Co-sponsored by the Two Way Street Coffee House and the Plank Road Folk Music Society.
- ◆ 9-13 (Wed. through Sun.) **FOLK ALLIANCE ANNUAL CONFERENCE in Cleveland, OH.** The 12th annual International Folk Alliance Conference will be held February 9-13, 2000 at the Cleveland (Ohio) Convention Center. An estimated 2000 folkies will converge for five days of business, education, music and fun. Folk Alliance members are performers, agents, media, record companies, merchandisers, presenters, and other organizations and individuals actively promoting and fostering traditional and contemporary folk music, dance, storytelling, and related performing arts in North America. The annual conference includes talent showcasing, discussion of current events/issues, "how-to" sessions, regional and peer group meetings, and a large exhibit hall. Plank Road board member Dave Humphreys is Treasurer of the Folk Alliance. For more information about this conference or other activities, contact him at 630-968-5526 or e-mail at dhump@interaccess.com.
- ◆ 12 (Saturday) **BARN DANCE BAND PRACTICE.** Jones Family Music Studio, Lombard. 2:00 to 4:00 PM. All are welcome to join us as we brush up on our fiddle tunes and barn dance etiquette. (Note: we usually meet the second Saturday of each month. Anyone can join at anytime!) For information & to confirm dates: 630/889-9121. Co-sponsored by the Jones Family Music School and the Plank Road Folk Music Society.
- ◆ 19 (Saturday) **PLANK ROAD SING-A-ROUND.** Two Way Street Coffee House, 1047 Curtiss St., Downers Grove. 2:00 to 4:00 PM. Everyone is welcome! Songbooks provided. For more info, call 630/969-9720. Co-

## Plank Road Winter Events, continued

sponsored by the Two Way Street Coffee House and the Plank Road Folk Music Society.

- ◆ **24 (Thursday) *LAST THURSDAY: IT'S OUR TURN*** Two Way Street Coffee House, 1077 Curtiss St, Downers Grove. Opening night of the new open mike for high school and college aged students, who are invited to unplug and perform in one of the best rooms in the Chicago area. Sound system and microphones will be set up and waiting for bands, solos or whatever to perform or try out some new music. For details, call 630/969-9720. If you want to help out and/or spread the word, call Dave Reynolds at 630/964-0305 or Tricia Rush at 630/668-3429. Co-sponsored by Two Way Street Coffee House and the Plank Road Folk Music Society.
- ◆ **26 (Saturday) *LOU & PETER BERRYMAN CONCERT***. Two Way Street Coffee House, 1047 Curtiss St., Downers Grove. 8:00 PM Admission: \$12/\$10 for Plank Road Members. Join us for this evening of great music with the special Berrymans' "quirky, wry, ironic humor." (Victoria [BC] Times). Be ready for an evening that will make your jaws ache from laughing, as we take a look at life from the Berryman perspective. The San Francisco Bay Chronicle says "Once in a while a song comes along that so successfully crystallizes familiar thoughts that you feel you could have written it yourself...A lot of people feel that way about [Lou & Peter's] 'Why Am I Painting the Living Room'." Fun for all ages! For more info, call 708/387-9312 or 630/889-9121. Co-sponsored by Two Way Street Coffee House and the Plank Road Folk Music Society.

### MARCH

- ◆ **4 (Saturday) *PLANK ROAD SING-A-ROUND***. Two Way Street Coffee House, 1047 Curtiss St., Downers Grove. 2:00 to 4:00 PM. Due to popular demand, there are now two Sing-a-round sessions each month—the first and third Saturday of each month! Everyone is welcome! Like the third Saturday Sing-a-round, beginners and experienced musicians are welcome to learn and/or share favorite songs. Listeners and singers are welcome too! Songbooks provided. For more information, call 630/969-9720. Co-sponsored by Two Way Street Coffee House and the Plank Road Folk Music Society.
- ◆ **11 (Saturday) *BARN DANCE BAND PRACTICE***. Jones Family Music Studio, Lombard. 2:00 to 4:00 PM. All are welcome to join us as we brush up on our fiddle tunes and barn dance etiquette. (Note: we usually meet the second Saturday of each month. Anyone can join at anytime!) For info & to confirm dates: 630/889-9121. Co-sponsored by Plank Road Folk Music Society and the Jones Family Music School.
- ◆ **18 (Saturday) *ALL AMERICAN RAILROAD SHOW***. Lions Township High School Field House, LaGrange. 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Admission: \$3.00. Co-sponsored by Lions Township Model Railroad Club & DuPage Division of National Model Railroad Association. Come see some elaborate model railroad layouts created by model railroad fans of all ages. Fun for the entire family! Call 630/325-0636 for more information.
- ◆ **18 (Saturday) *PLANK ROAD SING-A-ROUND***. Two Way Street Coffee House, 1047 Curtiss St., Downers Grove. 2:00 to 4:00 PM. Everyone is welcome! Songbooks provided. For more information, call 630/969-9720. Co-sponsored by Two Way Street Coffee House and the Plank Road Folk Music Society.
- ◆ **25 (Saturday) *PLANK ROAD BARN DANCE PARTY***. Two Way Street Coffee House, 1047 Curtiss St., Downers Grove. 8:00 PM Admission: \$4.00 Join us for this Plank Road No Experience Necessary Barn Dance, featuring caller Marianne Mohrhussen and the Plank Road All Volunteer String Band. All ages are welcome! Dances are taught as we go along. No costumes necessary. Join us for this evening of fun for all! For more information, call 708/387-9312 or 630/889-9121 (evenings). Co-sponsored by Two Way Street Coffee House and the Plank Road Folk Music Society.
- ◆ **30 (Thursday) *LAST THURSDAY: IT'S OUR TURN*** Two Way Street Coffee House, 1077 Curtiss St, Downers Grove. The new open mike for high school and college aged students, who are invited to unplug and perform in one of the best rooms in the Chicago area. Sound system and microphones will be set up and waiting for bands, solos or whatever to perform or try out some new music. For details, call 630/969-9720. If you want to help out and/or spread the word, call Dave Reynolds at 630/964-0305 or Tricia Rush at 630/668-3429. Co-sponsored by Two Way Street Coffee House and the Plank Road Folk Music Society.

## Plank Road Annual Meeting

Come and join us for the **Plank Road Annual Meeting** on **January 22, at 7:30 PM** at the **Log Cabin** in Lombard. The Log Cabin is located in Four Seasons park on south Main Street (Lombard) between Roosevelt Rd and 22nd Street. We will be reviewing this past year, looking at the year ahead, electing new officers and playing lots of music! Bring a snack to share, your instrument and/or voice and your ideas and join us for a warming evening around the fire with friends and music.

This has been a busy year. The monthly Sing-a-rounds and the Barn Dance Band Practices are going full force. We had a great Fall Barn Dance with a good turnout, and some great music! The Anniversary Concert and Sing-a-Long was a fun night for all! December was filled with lots of musical activities. We had a large group of carolers singing in downtown Downers Grove. The Plank Road Christmas Party was a great time of visiting with friends and singing Christmas songs. The Jones Family played to a full house for the Jones Family Christmas Show.

Due to popular demand, an additional Sing-a-round has been added on the 1st Saturday of the month. Information will be presented on this and on the new "Last Thursday" venture, as well as upcoming concerts and workshops (including a special May line-up with Frank Hamilton!). We appreciate your comments and suggestions!

Join us on January 22 to meet the Board Members, find out what is ahead for Plank Road, for a great time of visiting with friends, and lots and lots of music! See you there!!

## Plank Road's Winter Barn Dance

Our next Plank Road Barn Dance is on **Saturday, January 8 at 8:00 PM** at the **Two Way Street Coffee House** in Downers Grove. As with all our other dances, all are welcome. *Marianne Mohrhusen* will teach and call the dances, with music by the *Plank Road All-Volunteer String Band*.

Yes folks, a dance on the 8th of January! You won't want to miss this one! (The band has been warming up "The Eighth of January" along with many other tunes!) Naturally, the evening will include dances for all--circles, squares, polkas, waltzes and more! Marianne even has dances especially for the younger ones in the crowd!

Tables will be set up around the edge of the room to allow for visiting with friends enjoying music between dances. Our dances are informal, with no costumes needed, no dance experience necessary—in fact, you don't even have to bring a partner! All ages are welcome! If you are interested in sitting in with the band, come around 7:30 PM to tune up and warm up with a few tunes! Join us for a warming evening this mid-winter!

# PLANK ROAD MEMBERSHIP & ORDER FORM

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 TOWN \_\_\_\_\_  
 STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Cut out order blank and send to address below. Please make checks payable to the Plank Road Folk Music Society  
 PO Box 283, Brookfield, IL 60513

### MEMBERSHIPS

\_\_\_ Individual (\$5/Year)     \_\_\_ Family (\$9/Year)  
 \_\_\_ 2 years (\$10)             \_\_\_ 2 years (\$18)

	how many	price@	TOTAL
Membership amount enclosed			
Cassette: "Down the Old Plk Rd"		\$10	
Cassette: "Songs We've Shared"		\$10	
PRFMS T-Shirt S M L XL		\$12	
Add \$1.50 for T-shirt or Tape			
TOTAL ENCLOSED			

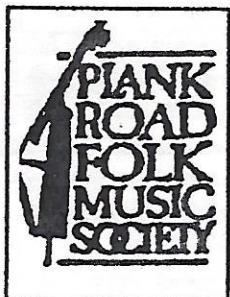
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BULLETIN  
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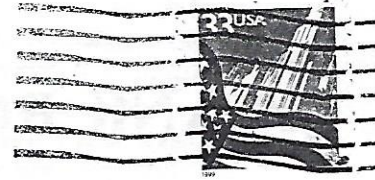
Don't forget to tune in to hear:  
**BOB JANIS**, host of  
**"FOLK FESTIVAL"**  
**Tuesdays, 7 to 9 PM**  
*And...*  
**LARRY ROBINSON**, host of  
**"STRICTLY BLUEGRASS"**  
**Wednesdays, 7 to 9 PM**  
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For a complete listing of Chicago area folk music events, check out the **COMMON TIMES!** This quarterly publication lists everything from coffeehouses to concerts to storytelling events to festivals, as well as including interesting articles, reviews, "news briefs" and more! Copies are available at most folk venues. For a one year subscription (4 issues), send \$7.00 (check or money order) and your name and address to: **Common Times, PO Box 56394, Chicago, IL 60656-0394.**



**PLANK ROAD FOLK MUSIC SOCIETY**  
**PO BOX 283**  
**BROOKFIELD IL 60513**



3/1/00  
**Two Way Street**  
**Coffee House**  
 1047 Curtiss  
 Downers Grove IL 60515

**inside...** **LOU & PETER BERRYMAN RETURN TO PLANK ROAD, SAT. FEBRUARY 26**  
**"LAST THURSDAY: IT'S OUR TURN"—A NEW OPEN MIKE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**  
**PLANK ROAD BARN DANCE, SATURDAY, JANUARY 8**  
**PLANK ROAD ANNUAL MEETING, SATURDAY, JANUARY 22**