



Dedicated to the preservation of folk, traditional and acoustic music.

Quarter Notes

www.plankroad.org ♪ Spring Issue, April 2012

Plank Road's Regular Events



Sing-Around

Two Way Street Coffee House
1st and 3rd Saturdays - 2:00-4:00PM

Bluegrass Jam

Two Way Street Coffee House
4th Saturday - 2:00-4:00PM

2ND Tuesday Song circle - BYOS!

Two Way Street Coffee House
2nd Tuesday - 7:00-9:00PM
A monthly opportunity for musicians to perform tunes for each other, within a song circle.

Plank Road All Volunteer String Band practice

First Church of Lombard
630-889-9121
No summer practice
Resumes September 15



Last Thursday Open Mike

Two Way Street Coffee House
7:00 - 9:30PM
Last Thursday of every month.
A monthly unplugged open mike for high school and college age students only.

Go to www.plankroad.org and/or www.twowaystreet.org for full details!

Upcoming Events

Old Time Barn Dance Party
Sat., April 28, 8PM
see back page for details

David Mallett Concert
Fri., May 4, 8PM
see pg. 7 for details

**Old Time Ensemble/
Rhythm Workshop & Concert
with Eric Lambert and Friends**
Sat., May 12, 1 - 9PM
see ad to the right for details →

**Music by The Yard (MBTY)
Members Event**
Sat., June 30, 3PM
More info: Carol Spanuello
carolspan1@hotmail.com
see www.plankroad.org

Oak Park Fiddle Camp
July 2 - 6, 9PM - 12NOON
see pg. 3 for details



President's Message

Hello, music lovers. I've been thinking about something recently that I want to share with you. I love song lyrics. I am in awe of songwriters who write them. I have been a music lover all my life, and have played and sang regularly for well over 50 years, but I have never been able to write a song. And I've tried.

So, I'm left with singing other people's words and I have hundreds of songs committed to memory, mainly because I love the lyrics.

I understand that the music is instrumental (pun intended) in the overall beauty of the song, but when I sing, I always emphasize the lyrics. All my favorite songs have clever, catchy, and usually, intelligent lyrics whether the song is fast or slow, humorous or serious, about love or life, I notice the words first.

How about you? Am I in the majority or minority? I'd like to hear your comments on this. Also, who writes the best lyrics? Or what song has them? I would love to hear from you about this and if you do respond, send along your favorite examples of great lyrics; not an entire song, but a verse or a line or a phrase. **We will publish some or all of these responses in the QuarterNotes by first name, or, anonymously if you indicate that as your preference.**

Of course, John Prine is a good place to start, such as in his imaginary conversation with Jesus "He spoke to me of morality, starvation, pain and sin." Some of my other favorites are the Eagles, Willie, Guy Clark, Chuck Berry and Kristofferson. How about in the Eagles Lyin' Eyes, the line "Late at night that big old house gets lonely; I guess every form of refuge has its' price." Hope I hear from you. My email is reohanlon@gmail.com.

Things are going well at Plank Road, as we get further along in 2012. Our second barn dance is on April 28, and we are sponsoring a rhythm workshop on May 12 that will benefit anyone who plays a guitar or any stringed instrument. Watch our web site for more information on this program, which includes a concert by Eric Lambert.

—Bob O'Hanlon

Old time Ensemble/Rhythm Workshop & Concert

by **ERIC LAMBERT** and **FRIENDS!**

Sat., May 12th
at The Two Way Street Coffee House
(1047 Curtiss St., Downers Grove)

Eric will show you how to incorporate a hard-driving rhythm and dynamic melody into your string band repertoire. You'll work with few 'old favorite' fiddle tunes and learn a new one too!



Save the Date!
5-12-12

.....
\$15.00 PRFMS members & \$30.00 non-members

1:00 - 5:00 PM: **WORKSHOP** (including short break)

5:00 - 6:30 PM: **POTLUCK DINNER**

.....
\$5.00 for workshop participants & \$10.00 general admission

7:00 - 9:00 PM: **CONCERT** FEATURING **ERIC LAMBERT and FRIENDS**

.....
For More Information on these and other upcoming events, check our web sites at www.plankroad.org & www.twowaystreet.org



RSVP please
kristen.shilt@hotmail.com
630-518-7602

In This Issue

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Bill Staines, A Veteran of the Road

by Vicki Ingle



Bill Staines at the Forest Park Nature Center

When we learned that Bill Staines was playing at the Peoria Heights, Forest Park Nature Center we decided to take a drive. Yeah, road trip! And a pleasant one it was, part of it through beautiful Midwest countryside. It was the right thing to do – the concert was everything you would want from folk music and more! Bill was in exceptionally fine voice and played a wide range of his material.

The setting was rustic, woody and comfortable; the hosts congenial; and the crowd very familiar with Bill's music, glad and grateful to have him back in their hometown. Bill said this is his 32nd year to play this town, a regular stop among the 175 – 200 gigs he performs annually. We watched him visit with a few families before and after the concert. He evidently has developed relationships with these people over the years.

“Folk music is rich in the human spirit and experience. I’ve always wanted to bring something of value to people through my songs.”

Bill graciously agreed to fit an interview for the QN into his pre-concert activities. We began our conversation with my observation that at least a few times a month, at different song circles I go to, one or more of his songs are performed. If you take that times the hundreds/thousands of song circles around the United States and Canada every week/month, you have a great many Bill Staines songs being performed. I was struck by this phenomenon and wondered how he felt about it. He told me:

“Writing a song is very much like having a child...I shouldn't say that...”

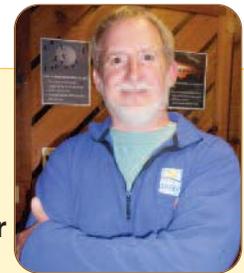
(I had to jump in and concur, but said that I thought writing a song was a bit easier, having done both myself. Though, granted, my songwriting is not close to the level of a Staines' tune. Still...)

He said, “You write a song and then it's a living thing...you have to nurture it for awhile. Then, it develops relationships that don't have anything to do with you, your child is growing up, you're proud of the child...It's out there doing what it's doing on it's own merit.”

While not yet planning the Third Million Miles album (to follow the First and the Second Million Miles albums), Bill is still racking up the miles at a pretty good clip: “Two days from now I'm in Jackson, Wyoming, the next day in Ogden, Utah, and two days later in California, for four days in a row.” Bill said that flying is not really an option, except for a festival, which can be booked mid-tour.

As we wrapped up our conversation, Bill said that he is “still writing songs,” though maybe not as frequently as in the past, and that the “years are still going by.” When people ask him if he's going to retire he told me his standard reply is, “Yes, about 10 p.m. tonight.”

If you haven't visited Bill's web site yet, it's worth the time: www.acousticmusic.com/staines. You learn about Bill's twenty-six albums, and, three music books (still available) as well as his 2003 memoir, *The Tour: A Life Between the Lines*. I was also glad to see that his son, Bowen, performs folk music and has a debut album titled, “Sorry for the Rain.” And, listed on the web site are things about Bill that he doesn't talk about – like the recognition he has received: Bill won the 1975 National Yodeling Championship in Kerrville, Texas; in 2007 the Boston Area Coffeehouse Association recognized Bill's contribution to New England folk music.



Mike Miller, Coordinator

Coming Up!

“Songs from the Woods,”
a monthly concert series at
the Forest Park Nature Center
in Peoria Heights, IL

See www.peoriaparks.org/forest-park-nature-center

and click on the concert series listed on the left.
(309) 686-3360

Concerts start at 7 PM. Tickets are \$7 for adults.

Saturday, May 12: Exorna is an authentic & energetic Celtic music trio from Ireland, England, & the US.
www.exorna.com

Saturday, June 9: Mike Cheesman is an accomplished musician and shares songs and stories from having grown up in the British Folk movement.

Saturday, July 14: Applegate and Company
A central Illinois music icon, Applegate and Company brings over 30 years of musical experience to the stage. The music they play covers the range from bluegrass, ragtime and folk classics.
www.applegateandcompany.com

Saturday, August 11: Roundstone Buskers
The “Not another meat and potatoes Irish band” has combined with the “Cheeky Irish Trio” that defined the band SullivanBurton. The combination has proved to be a fine convergence of music as well as a good deal of fun. www.roundstonebuskers.net/index.html

Val's halla Records - Oak Park, IL Special Event Live Acoustic Music Shows

Photo by David Kindler



Val Camilletti, owner and operator of Val's halla Records, defines her music store as "the modest hall of mortals in which the "soul" of music lovers seeking contentment is welcomed by experts and fulfilled." This may be an understatement. Val is a beloved icon, a fountain of wisdom and knowledge about, and, experience in the music we love. See the web site for press releases and other articles about Val and her store.

If you haven't been to Val's halla Records and you love music, you are in for a real treat! Meeting Val is a fun, broadening experience in itself, and, exploring this fabulous collection of new and used CDs, records, and tapes – well, there is nothing quite like it. Val's sidekick and store manager, Shayne, is a blessing to every music lover; he'll help you find the music you want...no, need...through his extensive personal knowledge about music and his firm grip on the store's vast inventory. And, they have special events, including live acoustic music shows! Read on.

In 2006, Val was forced to relocate her store from South Boulevard in Oak Park to Harrison Street, a move that put fear into the hearts of some of her most loyal customers. Would things "change?" The old store with its close quarters forced everyone together, in a friendly way, and everyone loved the music posters on the ceiling and the Elvis Shrine – a room of Elvis memorabilia, dedicated to the King. But things worked out; while the new store is roomier, everyone still mingles around the record bins and shelves of CDs, there are still posters and an Elvis Shrine too, though it is different...but we won't go into that here. It's better for you to see it there.

One definite upside to the new store is that it has a beautiful, bona fide stage made of wood, built-in, that came with the space. It is big enough for a four piece band, maybe even for five pieces, if no one plays an upright bass or tuba! And, in that case, I've seen those players stand on the floor in front of the stage. It works very well. Val has had some absolutely fabulous acts on her stage, unbelievable, diverse talent for the price of what you put in the tip jar; Sandlewood Sitar Ensemble, Bianca Merkley from Nashville, Gilmory Doyle-Andrews with Don Stiernberg, Jim Gill for a children's concert, Mark Brewer playing a concert harp with a jazz ensemble, Bakelite 78 playing old-time music and many, many others. Hope to see you there! —Vicki

Coming Up! Val's halla Records Special Event Live Acoustic Music Shows

239 W. Harrison Street, Oak Park, IL 60304 (708) 524 -1004

Saturday, April 21: Record Store Day, with Teddy Rankin-Parker, solo cellist, appearing at 12 Noon

Friday, May 18: The Harris Group, 7PM

SAVE THE DATE:

July 28 and 29 is Val's 40th Anniversary Celebration! It's HALLA-palooza!

Contact Val to get on the email list for music show announcements!

EMAIL: info@valshalla.com **WEB:** www.valshalla.com

Photo by David Kindler



Two in-demand Nashville fiddle players, Rachel Baiman and Christian Sedelmyer, joined forces and entertained with their five-string fiddles and voices, much to the delight of Val's customers! From Oak Park, Rachel grew up playing with the Oak Park Farmers' Market and has many musical credits, including two-time Illinois State Fiddle Champion. Christian toured full-time with the acoustic pop group "The Farewell Drifters" and recorded with artists such as Peter Rowan.

See below for more information about a fiddle camp that Rachael is hosting.



Coming Up!

Oak Park Fiddle Camp

A place for young people to create, explore, and enjoy traditional and contemporary fiddle music. The first camp took place in August 2010. You can access pictures and videos of camp as well as check for announcements and news about camp at www.fiddleoarkpark.tumblr.com

Fiddle camp 2012 will take place from 9AM-12PM, July 2-6 at the 19th Century Club of Oak Park.

For children ages 6-12. There will also be some all ages workshops during the week. For more information contact Rachel, rachelbaiman@aol.com

Grown-ups, don't despair! Email Rachel if you'd like to participate in the fun, in a separate group for adults.

Benefit Concert for Walk-In-Ministry

Wednesday, April 25th at FitzGerald's Berwyn - 7:00-9:00PM



Remember Ella Gill, the teenager with the beautiful voice who was behind the 2010 Sing Out! fund-raiser? We caught her show or rather, their show at Val's halla Records in Oak Park. Ella is now performing a combination of traditional folk music, jazz, instrumental melodies and original songs with friend Scott Daniel, an Illinois State fiddling champion and the current concertmaster of the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra.

See them perform at FitzGerald's on Wednesday, April 25 for a benefit concert for the Oak Park/River Forest Area Walk-In Ministry. www.walk-in-ministryopr.org

Grounds for Appeal

3242 S. Oak Park Ave. in Berwyn, across from MacNeal Hospital | (708) 749 – CAFE
facebook and EMAIL: groundsforappeal@hotmail.com

"Where coffee is a celebration and quality...a passion!" – Wendy Back, Owner and Proprietor

It's Saturday Afternoon!

A new Saturday afternoon folk music show is at Grounds for Appeal, one of the largest and loveliest coffee houses in the Near West suburbs. This is one of the few Saturday afternoon opportunities to hear live acoustic music. The shows are from 3:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. and folks can express their appreciation through contributions to the tip jar.

Grounds for Appeal owner and proprietor, Wendy Back, visited with me about her new Saturday afternoon concert series (which is doing well and growing), her interest in acoustic music and the coffee house itself.

"Andy Young played here last month - dulcimer player extraordinaire," she said, "OMG, it's like magic, the sounds he creates on that beautiful instrument. I'm blown away... You know, I love everyone who plays here. Everyone is different... Bruce Foster is a lot of fun...I think he's been to every open mic, plus his own appearances here."

But live acoustic music is hardly new to Grounds for Appeal; the shift from evening shows to afternoon shows was made, in part, to catch the crowd that might like some rest and entertainment after their Saturday chores. It appears to be working. Rich Ingle played the first acoustic music show held at Grounds for Appeal eleven years ago on the evening of November 19, 2000, and the following year, the first concert of Bob Dylan's music in honor of Dylan's 60th birthday. See the schedule for the two upcoming afternoon shows in celebration of Dylan's 71st birthday. Time flies!

I asked Wendy to talk about why she's made music a focus of the coffee house. She said she's always loved music, that "... it takes you back to a simpler time. I truly believe that. A lot of people that come here to hear music have the same kind of experiences, whether it be Old Town, college coffee houses or something where there was a gathering of people with a common interest - common goals, common focus, whatever... a common mindset. This takes me back there, even if it's just in my mind for a few hours."

Fifteen years ago, Grounds for Appeal morphed out of Prosch's Drug Store, which included a soda fountain and grill. The soda fountain was in exactly the same spot where Wendy now prepares fine coffee and other drinks such as espressos, lattes, hot chocolate, tea and Italian sodas. And she well knows where the soda fountain was located. As I child growing up in



Photo by Vicki Ingle

John Benischek and Dean Milano perform at Grounds for Appeal.

Stickney, Wendy said a big treat was to cross the magic line of 39th street, Ogden Avenue, "uptown" into Berwyn to get a chocolate soda at the drug store. The stools now located at the front counter originally provided seating at the soda fountain where, as children, Wendy and her girlfriend loved to sit and spin.

When you walk through the door, you do get the feeling you might have stepped back into another place in time. Wendy pointed out the single poster she had when she first opened the doors. Over the course of 15 years, memorabilia from more than one era, cover what was once bare walls. One wall is the "mob wall" and includes her prized possession, a picture of Al Capone's wedding that was a gift from a customer. Another area has pictures of Wendy with different sports celebrities, documenting the time she spent doing charity work with different not-for-profit agencies; some of these stars visited the coffee house. At the back of this large coffee house is a raised area with a double book shelf (from the pharmacy) full of interesting titles where customers can relax and read, meet with friends. In front of the raised area, around a coffee table, is a comfortable conversation area with a couch and overstuffed chairs. It's lovely, friendly and rings with the sounds of live acoustic music.

What more could a person possibly want from a coffee house??

—Vicki



Photo by Vicki Ingle

Coming Up!

Saturday, April 21:
3:00 - 5:30 PM (sign-up at 2:30PM)
Open Mic hosted by Steve Justman; the \$5 fee for musicians goes to Steve for coordinating the event and furnishing the nice PA system. Free to the public, tips gratefully accepted.

Saturday, April 28: "Come Gather 'Round People!"
3:00 - 5:30 PM
It's the first of two Bob Dylan 71st birthday celebrations to the classic sounds of multi-talented **Tom Benson and friends.**



MUSIC INSTRUCTION

Listen, Listen, Listen! Notes from a bass player

by Dean Milano

We've all heard the old real estate expression about location, location, location. Well, believe it or not, in a way, it also applies to musicians and particularly to bass players.

Listen, listen, listen. In fact, I go so far as to say, when you're playing or "jamming" with other musicians, it comes down to about 5% playing and 95% listening. Listening to what the other players are doing and keeping one "beat," i.e. step, ahead of them so you can anticipate their next move and compliment what they're doing.

****I can't tell you how many players I've had sit in with me over the years who spend the entire song in their own world, looking around the room and missing every signal that is being sent them by the other players.***

As a bass player, I feel it's my job to make the other players sound good. If there's a drummer, I work closely with him, listening to any rhythm changes he might toss into the mix and making sure my bass part echoes what he's doing. If there is no drummer, oftentimes the bass becomes the percussion section of the band and it's even more important to hold down the fort and keep the rhythm as solid as possible.

A lot of musicians complain about lead guitar players who think they can take over on the bass because it's such a simple instrument. It may seem simple, but that's a deception. It's all about putting the right notes in the right places and sometimes, less is more as the saying goes. A lead guitarist on bass tends to treat the bass the way he would a lead guitar. It's not about soloing and it's not about standing out from the group, it's about blending and again, making the whole group sound good.

And in the case of a duo where you're working with possibly a singer and his/her guitar, listen again to the melody and try to make your bass parts complement or even harmonize the melody. I tend to play a more melodic style of bass than some other players I've known and to be perfectly honest, I didn't realize I was doing that until several musicians I worked with mentioned it to me. I was just doing it naturally.

But it goes along with my love of melody, which is the essence of most well-written songs. If I'm asked to take a bass solo during a particular number, rather than play as fast as I can and cram as many notes into the measure as possible, I tend to try and play something melodic and even soulful. To my mind, a solo is like a story- it has a beginning, a development and an ending, as opposed to a lot of fast notes wandering all over the neck of the instrument. Make your solo tell a story, and that actually applies to any instrument. If you listen to some of the great soloists such as Charlie Parker, Ray Brown, George Harrison, Earl Scruggs, even Jimi Hendrix, you'll find their solos are well thought out and carefully executed.

It's also important to pay close attention to your volume as a bass player. It's very easy and even tempting to really crank it up and try to match the pounding, loud bass sound that has become so prevalent in today's pop music. That volume may work for heavy rock, rap or disco but it doesn't work for acoustic music. The most important element in most acoustic songs is the lyric and if the lyrics can't be heard because the other instruments are overpowering, the results are very unsatisfying. Crank it up if you get the nod for a solo, but otherwise pay close attention to balancing your sound to the

rest of the musicians instruments. I've had many a band tell me they were thankful I wasn't as loud as that last bass player they worked with. People do notice.

You can also have fun with the bass parts. I discovered in my early days of playing stand up bass in a bluegrass band that I didn't always have to play a polka style one and two thump thump bass line on every song. I found out that after establishing the song on the first verse, by the second verse, I could actually start playing a walking bass part that made things more interesting.

Let's take the song "Will The Circle Be Unbroken" in the key of G, for example. The first verse starts with "I was standing by the window..." Perfectly fine to use a two beat simple bass part rotating between a G note on the low E string and a D note on the A string. So you're essentially playing G D G D G D G D.

Now comes the second verse, which starts with "Well I said to that undertaker, undertaker please drive slow..."

Here's where the fun begins. Instead of all those G's and D's, start a walking line, something like G B D E G F E D and then onto C for the next chord change. Always make sure your lines complement or harmonize the vocal melody however. You wouldn't want to play something like G F G B \flat G F G B \flat as it would interfere with the melody.

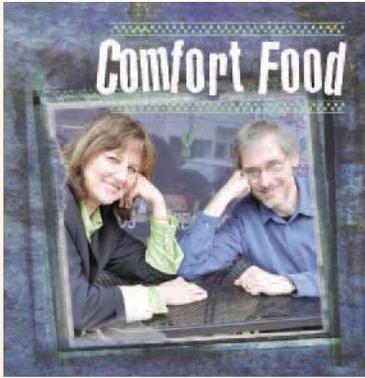
I also find it helpful to jump to the octave when the choruses come around. Instead of playing G and D on the lower strings, move that G note up to the D string for the choruses and then drop back down to G on the low E string when the verse rolls around again.

It's all part of what I call "layering" the song. You've probably noticed that many popular tunes start out with a simple melody and guitar or piano accompaniment for the first verse, but look what happens in the second verse- strings are added, a horn section, maybe a vocal harmony or a call and response vocal. The song is being "layered" at that point and a bass part can work much the same way. The trick is to keep it simple and not get carried away to the point where you're not working with the other players anymore. And that of course, goes back to the listening part.

If you listen, listen, listen you'll be surprised at what you hear and you may even be surprised at what you play.

****I should mention here that keeping one beat ahead does not mean literally playing ahead of the beat, lest my comment be misinterpreted. A note can be played on the beat, ahead of the beat or behind the beat. I prefer to play "on top of the beat". You don't want to rush the notes and jump ahead of the beat, but there is a subtlety involved in playing on top of the beat to put just a little edge on it. It was suggested to me years ago to play single notes along with a metronome in order to get a feel for what it was like to push the beat just enough to make it "move", but not to rush and play ahead of the beat. It really does work.***

Thank You to our Sustaining Artists



Upcoming Performances:

Sat., May 12 - 3PM - Grounds for Appeal, Berwyn

Sundays, May 6 and June 3 - Great American Bagel Westmont at 10AM; Western Springs at 11:30AM

SAVE THE DATE!

Fri., Oct. 5 - Two Way Street Coffee House
"Legal Smile, the Songs of John Prine"
Comfort Food teams up with the George Mattson Trio for this special show!



Rich and Vicki Ingle
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Performers and audiences in northeast Illinois have benefited from Maurice Smeets' skill and talent as a sound engineer from many venues and events. He is the house sound engineer for Acoustic Renaissance Concerts, and for many years also held that position with the Maple Street Chapel



Concert Series. He also provides sound for other special events like those at the Two Way Street Coffee House, the Downers Grove Heritage Festival Folk Stage, and the annual Gebhard Woods Dulcimer Festival.

Maurice Smeets has been the Main Stage sound engineer for the Woodstock Folk Festival for many years, and for good reason. The Festival is all about coming to hear the musicians and storytellers being featured, and Maurice excels at making sure they all sound their best.

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February Sky

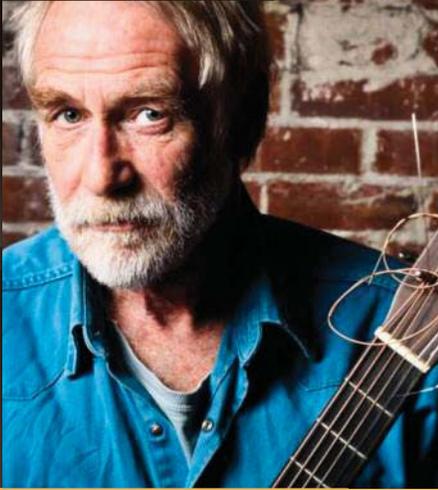
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These programs are partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency.

David Mallett
Friday, May 4, at 8 p.m.
Theatre at Meiley-Swallow Hall
31 S. Ellsworth St., Naperville

Tickets \$25
Call the Box Office at
630-637-SHOW (7469)
or visit us online at
northcentralcollege.edu/show
Box Office hours:
Tuesday - Friday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

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Benefits: Feature article and picture in one newsletter; 1/4 page reserved space in four newsletters for name(s), contact information and upcoming performances; individual membership(s) in PRFMS.

- **Comfort Food - Vicki and Rich Ingle**
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- **February Sky**
Phil Cooper and Susan Urban
www.februarysky.com or www.myspace.com/februaryskyfolk
- **Mark Dvorak**
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www.heatherstyka.com

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- Romaine Burbach
- Frank and Helen Clarke
- Gregg and Elizabeth Morton
- Paul Zimmerman

Maple Street Chapel
Lombard, at Main and Maple Streets

Folk Music Concerts
Spring Schedule

May 5 - 7:30 PM
Doug and Telisha Williams
www.dandtw.com

May 20 - 7:00 PM
Work O' the Weavers
www.workotheweavers.com



<http://folk.maplestreetchapel.org>
facebook @ Maple Street Chapel Folk Concerts

US Congress Approves FAA Regs for Instruments

In what is being hailed as a victory by traveling musicians in the US, the latest reauthorization of the Federal Aviation Administration has codified provisions that create a uniform national standard for musical instruments being treated as carry-on luggage.

This legislation establishes that any instrument which can be safely stowed either in an overhead bin or under an airline seat may be carried aboard for domestic airline travel. The American Federation of Musicians has been actively lobbying for this language for several years.

"This is great news for professional musicians throughout the U.S. and Canada who carry the tools of our trade – our instruments – aboard commercial aircraft," said AFM President Ray Hair.

February 13, 2012, Bluegrass Today.com



90.9 FM, WDCB, PUBLIC RADIO from College of DuPage

Online Streaming - www.WDCB.org
For a program guide, call 630-942-4200

Folk Festival with Lilli Kuzma, Tuesdays 7 to 9 PM

"Bluegrass Review" with Phil Nussbaum, Wednesdays 7 to 9 PM

"Bluegrass Breakdown" with Dave Higgs, Wednesdays 9 to 10 PM

Quarter Notes

Vicki Ingle | Editor
Jennifer Shilt | Graphic Design

We welcome ideas for articles or photos you'd like to share, please send them to vingle@comcast.net



Spring Old Time Barn dance Party



Saturday, April 28, at 8:00 PM

Doors open at 7:30PM - Musicians arrive at 7:00PM to warm-up
Two Way Street Coffee House, 1047 Curtiss St., Downers Grove, IL
(Across from the Public Library)

Enjoy a fun-filled evening of music and dancing for the entire family.

Dance the night away and/or

play with the Plank Road All Volunteer String Band.

Our Caller will walk and talk you through all the dances at our

'No Experience Necessary' dance.

Dances are informal, with no costumes needed. In fact, you don't even
need to bring a partner! Refreshments available.

\$5.00 admission for everyone 5 years of age and older



Folk Resources
Next Door
See www.plankroad.org
Click on Favorites



2012 PRFMS Officers

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carolspan1@hotmail.com

2012 Board Members

Bill Boylan, Dave Humphreys
Jennifer Shilt, Kristen Shilt

online at www.plankroad.org

Membership form and info is available

Thank you!

Downers Grove, Illinois 60515

P.O. Box 176

PRFMS

You can get an individual (\$10 year) or family
(\$20 year) membership by sending a check to:

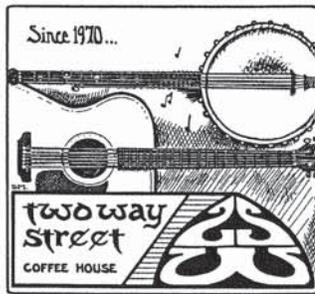


PRFMS Membership INFORMATION

P.O. Box 176, Downers Grove, IL 60515

PRFMS Contact:
Bob O' Hanlon
Email: reohanlon@gmail.com





TWO WAY STREET COFFEE HOUSE

1047 Curtiss Street • Downers Grove, Illinois 60515

www.twowaystreet.org • 630-969-9720

(Across from the Public Library)

Folk Music Every Week since 1970!

ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE

Friday	April 20	² DANNY FOX — Excellent young singer and guitarist best known for Bob Dylan tributes, he's also a prolific singer-songwriter (200 songs!) in the folk vein of Dylan, Donovan, The Beatles, Phil Ochs and The Decemberists.
Friday	April 27	¹ C. DANIEL BOLING — From Albuquerque, he's a folksinger/songwriter with a storyteller's eye for detail. "...creative, entertaining...clever, insightful lyrics...songs ranging from serious to totally hilarious!" (<i>Linda Bolton</i>)
Friday	May 4	¹ COSY SHERIDAN with TR RITCHIE — One of the era's finest, most thoughtful singer-songwriters. "...frank, feisty, sublimely & devilishly funny." (<i>Cornell Folksong Society</i>). 6 CDs. Plus excellent songwriter/bassist TR Ritchie!
Friday	May 11	BILL & KATE ISLES — Folk & alt-country performing songwriters from Minnesota, their gentle charm, luscious harmonies, quick wit and compelling lyrics are mesmerizing! "Consistently entertaining." (<i>Rich Warren, WFMT</i>)
Friday	May 18	² DAVID HAWKINS — CD release show for <i>Hello Mr. Death & Other Love Songs</i> . Singer/songwriter/guitarist with a variety of styles: haunting melodies, soulful vocals, strong poetic sense, and intermittent humor!
Friday	May 25	ANDINA & RICH — Satirical, urbane singer/songwriter Sandy Andina and friendly, yodeling cowboy Stephen Lee Rich join for a fun Americana show with humor and harmony! Dulcimer & guitar. Election comments are likely!
Friday	June 1	² WANDERING ENDORPHIN — Not bound by the usual sonic possibilities of the guitar, songwriter Jim Green creates enchanting finger-style arrangements to percussively driven instrumentals. Musically riveting and entertaining!
Friday	June 8	² SUE FINK with JORDI KLEINER — Snowed out by a January blizzard, we rescheduled them! "Funny and delightfully quirky...whimsical, yet serious & instantly connects with the listener." (<i>Lilli Kuzma, WDCB</i> .)
Friday	June 15	¹ THE ONCE — Award-winning young Canadian trio "with vocal harmonies thick enough to stand on!" Maritime songs featuring bouzouki, banjo, bodhrán & more, plus exquisite interpretations of Leonard Cohen, Tom Waits & others.
Friday	June 22	OPEN MIKE — All welcome! Great variety of acoustic artists! So popular we must limit number of acts. <i>1-2 songs, 10 minutes max.</i> Open 7:30 for signups — first come, first served. <i>Show starts 8:00.</i> Info: 630-968-5526.
Friday	June 29	DIANA CHITTESTER — Cleveland, OH singer-songwriter, "very aggressive, in your face style kinda' folk with a funky punk edge...." (<i>Examiner</i>). Has opened for Catie Curtis & Melissa Ferrick. Brand new CD: <i>In This Skin</i> .

¹Featured on *WFMT 98.7 "Folkstage"* with Rich Warren. ²Featured on *WDCB 90.9 "Folk Festival"* with Lilli Kuzma.



JUNE 23, 2012! FOLK FESTIVAL RETURNS!! SAVE THE DATE!

Downers Gove Rotary GroveFest is the successor to the long-running Heritage Festival. Smaller, but otherwise similar, and FUN! Street fair, food, rides, beer garden, craft fair, entertainment stage, car show... last full weekend in June, Thursday through Sunday. Our Folk Stage is returning too, still in Fishel Park, (just behind the Two Way Street) but in the new Veterans Memorial Pavilion (band shell). Join us for a slightly smaller, but very entertaining show Saturday from approximately 10 to 3pm. Co-sponsored with Rotary Club of Downers Grove and Plank Road Folk Music Society. Watch our websites for more info, performers and more! TwoWayStreet.org RotaryGroveFest.org PlankRoad.org

Saturday April 28 8:00 pm \$5	Old Time Barn Dance Party! — Reels, squares, line dancing, waltzes and more, plus music of our great live band. Fun for the whole family! All dances taught and called by our expert leaders. No experience, costume or partner needed. Plank Road Folk Music Society is co-sponsor.
2 nd Tuesdays 7-9pm May 8, Jun 12, Jul 10	2nd Tuesday Song Circle! — BYOS! (<i>Bring Your Own Songs!</i>) A monthly opportunity to informally & acoustically perform <i>your</i> songs for the circle! Plank Road Folk Music Society is co-sponsor.
Saturdays, 2-4pm May 5 & 19 Jun 2 & 16, Jul 7 & 21	Sing-Around! — Our popular song fests where beginners and experienced musicians can learn and/or share songs. Listeners and singers welcome too! Songbooks provided. Plank Road Folk Music Society co-sponsors. First and third Saturday afternoons of every month at 2:00 pm.
Saturdays, 2-4pm Apr 28, May 26, Jun 23	Bluegrass Jam! — Musicians of all experience levels gather to improve skills, learn/share tunes, & have fun! 4th Saturdays, 2:00-4:00pm. Plank Road Folk Music Society is co-sponsor.
Thursdays Apr 26 May 31, Jun 28, Jul 26 7:00-9:30 pm Free!	LAST THURSDAY! — Monthly open mike for high school & college age students. Last Thurs of every month. Music, poetry, any performance art — 10 min. max. Signups begin 7pm — first come, first served. Info at twowaystreet.org , on Facebook, or call 630-968-5526.

Live entertainment is featured every Friday night beginning at 8:15. Doors open by 7:30. \$7.00 donation requested. Beverages and snacks available. The *Two Way Street Coffee House* is a not-for-profit community project of the First Congregational United Church of Christ, Downers Grove. Member: Plank Road Folk Music Society, Fox Valley Folklore Society, Old Town School of Folk Music, Aural Tradition, Folk Alliance International. For current entertainment listings and updates, booking and other information, visit us on the web at www.twowaystreet.org and on Facebook.