



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

Quarter Notes

www.plankroad.org ♪ Fall, September 2013

Plank Road's Regular Events

Sing-Around

Two Way Street Coffee House

1st and 3rd Saturdays - 2:00-4:00 PM

Vocal/instrumental jam and sing-along with songbooks and leader.

Bluegrass Jam

Two Way Street Coffee House

4th Saturday - 2:00-4:00 PM

Like a sing-around but it's bluegrass, "mostly!"

2ND Tuesday Song Circle - BYOS!

Two Way Street Coffee House

2nd Tuesday - 7:00-9:00 PM

A monthly opportunity for musicians to perform tunes for each other, within a song circle.

Bring Your Own Song!

Plank Road String Band Practice

First Church of Lombard

630-620-0688

2nd Saturday - 2:00-4:00 PM

An old-time string band practice for intermediate/advanced players.

Last Thursday Open Mike

Two Way Street Coffee House

7:00-9:30 PM 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

Harvest Fest

Sat., Sept. 21 - 4:00 - 7:00 PM

Victorian Cottage, 23 W. Maple St., Lombard

Event features square dance demonstrations, string band music, face painting, cider pressing, food from local farms and more. www.lombardhistory.org/events.htm

Log Cabin Jam & Party

Sat., Sept. 28 - 4:30 - 10:00 PM

Four Seasons Park, Main & 16th St. in Lombard

See pg. 5

Old Time Barn Dance

Sat., Oct. 5, Feb. 8 and April 5 - 8:00 PM

Two Way Street Coffee House, Downers Grove

See back page

Danada Fall Festival

Sun., Oct. 13 - 11:30 AM - 5:00 PM

2013 FARM Gathering

Oct., 24-27 in St. Louis, MO

<http://farmfolk.org>

PRFMS Caroling, Sing-Around and Holiday Party

Sat., Dec. 21 - 2:00 - 6:00 PM

Two Way Street Coffee House, Downers Grove

Celebrate the holidays with a combined caroling, sing-around, and holiday open house party.

see www.plankroad.org for more details

President's Message

Plank Road and Two Way Street Coffee House (2WS), a great partnership for many years. I am often asked about our affiliation with 2WS and although it is easy to explain, it's not easy to describe such a close relationship. The official explanation is that we are two totally separate organizations, who present music to music lovers in different ways. We have different people who manage the organizations, but many Plank Road members also volunteer at 2WS. We promote and attend each other's events, and both benefit from our association with the other. Dave Humphreys, Director of 2WS, is a member of the Plank Road board.



Two Way Street Coffee House has been a fixture in Downers Grove and the western suburbs for 43 years, since 1970. Their signature activity is the Friday night concert, where excellent musicians perform in a small, intimate room, where the audience sits up close and can truly experience a closeness with the artist that is rarely achieved at a musical performance. Dave and the staff treat these performers with great reverence and respect, and they respond by coming back again and again.

The Plank Road events are based on participation. We present dozens of jams and sing-arounds where people of all talent levels are welcome to join in. We provide a place and time to meet, an experienced session leader, song books and strive to make everyone feel included and welcome. We play folk, bluegrass, and old-time music, with a smattering of country and soft rock thrown in. Anything acoustic is fair. We also host an occasional workshop and several barn dances, where people step to the music of the Plank Road String Band. Many of our sessions are held at the Two Way Street Coffee House, where they serve as hosts and co-sponsors. Plank Road Folk Music Society, by the way, has been in existence since 1985...28 years. So, I hope that clears up that "frequently asked question".

Autumn is upon us and is a great time of year for Plank Road, starting with the Fox Valley Folk Festival, where we participate for two full days. Then comes our "end of summer" party at the Lombard log cabin, which has been a big hit the last three years, and The Danada Festival, where Plank Road provides the performers for the music stage - it features some of the best musicians in the Chicago area. So, please join us at these events and our regular jam sessions. — Bob O'Hanlon

2013 Danada Equestrian Center Annual Fall Festival: Sun., October 13

Located in the Danada Forest Preserve on Naperville Road in Wheaton (between Butterfield Road and Warrenville Road), the Danada Fall Festival is a fun annual family event! Sit back and relax and enjoy the music as you eat lunch, purchased for a modest price on the grounds, in front of the folk stage!

Entertainment at the **free** folk stage is provided by PRFMS, through support from Danada.

11:30 AM to 5:00 PM, Hope to see you there!



- 11:30 - 12:00 Bruce Foster
- 12:10 - 1:05 The Plank Road String Band
- 1:15 - 1:45 Dean Milano
- 1:50 - 2:20 Natural Bob Holdsworth & Friends
- 2:25 - 2:55 Chris McIntosh & Alvin McGovern
- 3:00 - 3:30 George Mattson Trio
- 3:35 - 4:05 Art Harrison Bluegrass All-Stars
- 4:10 - 4:40 Lonesome Eagle
- 4:45 - 5:00 Plank Road String Band & Danada Festival musicians - "Grand Jam"

SUSTAINING ARTIST FEATURE: Comfort Food

The Songs of John Prine - tribute concert at Maple Street Chapel in honor of John's 67th birthday! Sat., Oct 19th, 7:30 PM!

The music duo Comfort Food and the George Mattson Trio team up once again to perform concerts in October honoring John Prine—one of the most gifted songwriters of our time! Long considered a “song-writer’s songwriter,” Prine is a rare talent who writes songs for which other songwriters would sell their souls. Evidence of this is the long list of songwriters who have recorded gems from his extensive catalog: Steve Goodman, Johnny Cash, Bonnie Raitt, the Everly Brothers, John Denver, Kris Kristofferson, Carly Simon, Joan Baez and many others.

A bonafide American treasure, Prine’s “Angel from Montgomery,” “Paradise,” and countless other songs have become folk and country standards. Vicki and Rich Ingle of Comfort Food will open the evening with favorites such as “Speed of the Sound of Loneliness” and continue on with some of John’s lesser-known songs, such as “The Hobo Song.” George, with the help of Tommy Re on fiddle (and humor) and Mike Hazdra on upright bass, will play many of John’s best-loved songs, including “Spanish Pipedream” and “Hello in There.”



And...complimentary birthday cake will be served at intermission!

The Prine show was a smash hit at the Two Way Street Coffee House last year! We’re aiming for another wonderful time this year with our folk music friends. We hope to see you at the big birthday party for John Prine at the **Maple Street Chapel, located on the SW corner of Main and Maple Streets in Lombard.** There is plenty of seating in the chapel and free parking across the street.

Other Prine Birthday Shows: October 4th in Rockford at JustGoods and November 16th in Dixon at Books on First (Comfort Food only). Additional shows will be posted through Plank Road Yahoo Groups!

Did you know? John Prine was a mailman in Maywood - he liked to tell people he quit his day job because he made more money working for the Earl of Old Town than losing people’s mail! John made his mark during the peak of the Chicago folk boom, along with such greats as Steve Goodman, Claudia Schmidt, and Bonnie Koloc. (www.johnprine.net)

Maple Street Chapel is an American gothic splendor dating back to 1870 and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. For the Chapel’s history and pictures of the beautiful natural wood interior, see <http://www.maplestreetchapel.org/History.HTM>. Over the past 143 years, the Chapel has served the Village of Lombard in many ways. For example, it housed the first library, its bell rang to call meetings together and for fire alarms, and it even was a place to watch silent movies!

PRFMS MEMBER NEWS

Mark Dvorak to Receive Lantern Bearer Award at October Conference



CHICAGO, IL - The Folk Alliance Region Midwest (FARM) Board of Directors has named folksinger Mark Dvorak as the 2013 Lantern Bearer Award recipient. The award will be presented at the annual conference on October 24 at the Sheraton Westport Plaza Hotel in St. Louis, Missouri.

“The Lantern Bearer recognition is given to an individual who has contributed locally and regionally to folk performance arts and the

folk and dance community for twenty-five years or more,” said Robert Hofbauer, President of the FARM Board of Directors. “Mark’s body of work as a performer, song writer, educator and community builder is most impressive, and we are so pleased he’ll be joining us for the conference, and pleased to honor his work in the community over the last twenty-five years.”

Dvorak has helped launch no less than five grass-roots arts organizations in the Chicago area, most notably The Plank Road Folk Music Society, now in its twenty-eighth year. He became a key

member of the faculty at the Old Town School of Folk Music when that venerable institution was revitalized in the 1980s.

“I feel lucky,” said the singer. “I came to the Old Town School of Folk Music and came into this work at a time when there wasn’t a lot going on. Everywhere I turned, I found people working together to learn music, and to provide the space for music to happen. It’s been an interesting ride so far and I’m looking forward to the next chapter.”

As a performer, Dvorak has given concerts in almost all the United States and made visits to Finland and Ireland. He has released sixteen albums to date, of traditional and original music. His songbook ranges across the American heartland, his performances are characteristically informative and inspirational.

He has won awards for children’s music, journalism and was honored in 2008 with the Woodstock Folk Festival Lifetime Achievement Award.

The Chicago Tribune has called him “masterful,” the Fox Valley Folk Festival describes him as, “a living archive of song and style.” Last year WFMT Midnight Special host Rich Warren named him, “Chicago’s official troubadour.”

For more information on Mark Dvorak, visit his website at www.markdvorak.com. For more information on the annual FARM conference log on to www.farmfolk.org.

Plank Road String Band

“And the times, they are a-changin’” Bob Dylan

What: Plank Road String Band Practice

Where: First Church of Lombard
220 S Main St, Lombard, IL 60148

When: 2-4 PM – Second Saturday of each month, September - April

Things to bring: Recommended - Instrument & tuner;
Optional - Hand-held recording device, music stand

Level: Intermediate/Advanced

Performances/Dances: Musicians must attend practices regularly and be familiar with the music that will be played.

Nothing is as certain as change, so they say, and perhaps that is especially true among creative souls. A metamorphosis has taken place over the past year or so, resulting in the emergence this fall of the Plank Road String Band (String Band) from the Plank Road All-Volunteer String Band, aka Barn Dance Band.

The recent change has been the evolution of the band into a group of (and for) musicians who play old-time music at an intermediate level and beyond. The String Band is focusing on improving performances by learning the current set list well, learning new tunes and arranging medleys, and, by listening better to each other.

“It’s a growth process,” said String Band co-leader, Jen Shilt. Jen and her daughter, Kristen, will share leadership of the String Band with Bob Smith; Jen and Kristen oversee the organizational/administrative aspects of the group and Bob calls the tunes. The String Band continues to hold monthly practices between September and April and will perform at Plank Road barn dances and other community events, such as Lombard Prairie Days, Danada Fall Festival and Downers Grove Rotary GroveFest.

Beginners

“I really think it’s important to pass this music on,” said Jen. “We are considering possible ways to help meet the needs of beginners, to help them reach an intermediate level of playing old-time music, so they can eventually join the String Band.” One way would be workshops and classes on String Band music, led by teachers such as Cathy Jones, Mark Dvorak, George Mattson and Mike Casey. Updates on this and other future plans will be available through the newsletter, website and through Jen at j.shilt@comcast.net or (630) 620-0688.

“I am happy to see the continued growth and development of the String Band and glad to see new people stepping in, taking the lead and continuing the tradition. I look forward to playing with the group from time to time and teaching some workshops for beginners too.”

— Cathy Jones

Newcomers

The String Band practice is and always has been open to newcomers. Those who are interested in playing with the band need to be able to play their instruments at an intermediate level and be able to follow along with the tunes. In order to familiarize



Old-time Music, the Journey to Plank Road

By Bob Smith

“Old-time music, in particular, is a genre of music that people played before the radio and automobile were around, most often in rural areas, whereby they entertained themselves and each other. It is a form of music

that was basically indigenous to each area, although different communities overlapped and learned each other’s tunes. The music was played for weddings, funerals, barn raisings, corn huskings and various other times to help people through the significant and mundane events in their lives. It’s a type of folk music particular to pioneers and farmers. So, that’s the music that The Plank Road String Band plays. Most of the music we learned, we learned at the Jones family home when barn dance practices were held at their house. We really owe our old-time music program to the Jones family.”

History of the String Band

The origin of the Plank Road All-Volunteer String Band began with Cathy Jones, Mark Dvorak, Marianne Mohrhussen and Marvin Lensik. Marianne wanted to learn how to call dances, so Mark and Cathy decided to have a volunteer band with whoever wanted to play, based on a band Cathy played with in college. It grew from primarily Plank Road members to incorporating many of the Jones Family Music School students. Music students were able to transition from private classes to monthly student jam sessions and then, if they were interested, to the monthly barn dance practices held at the Jones’ home. Additionally, “barn dance dynamics” classes and workshops (that included Plank Road members) were held by Cathy for students who wanted to get more involved in the specifics of performing old-time music as a band. Over the past few years, as the Jones Family Music School has been winding down, the band began meeting at the First Church of Lombard. However, due to these transitions, fewer new people were coming to the group. The remaining core group of musicians remain a passionate, committed group of musicians whose common goal is to perform traditional old-time music well and keep it alive through incorporating newcomers.

everyone with the material the band plays, chord sheets and sheet music will be provided at practice for the majority of the tunes to anyone who needs them. Thanks go out to Ron Leaneagh for getting the charts and sheet music together and to Carol Spanuello for posting them on the Plank Road website. Audio files and YouTube links will be posted as they become available. See www.plankroad.org and click on “Favorites” in the top menu. Go to “String Band Materials.”

Newcomers will soon realize that the barn dance practice is a fast-paced session where a lot of tunes and medleys are covered. Folks are encouraged to bring a hand-held recording device so they have the tunes to take home with them to practice with, along with chord charts and sheet music. At practices, more experienced musicians try to share with others what they have learned regarding the instrumental techniques specific to old-time music. One goal of the group is to memorize all of the tunes and not have to rely on printed material. This allows the players to follow the leader’s cues for beginning and ending the tunes and makes for a more spontaneous and lively performance. As Dave Humphreys once put it to the band, “I like to see your faces

MUSIC INSTRUCTION

A Potpourri of Musical Tidbits:

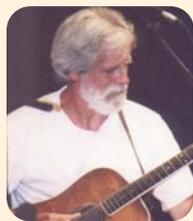
From Guitar to Banjo and Mandolin, From Fiddle to Fingerpicks!

Playing Outside of the Box, Jack Williams

<http://jackwilliamsmusic.com>

"...his artistry...is nothing short of amazing. Dazzling picking, expressive voice, unique and interesting songs. He is a showman in the best sense of the word and just wowed our audience. I think they would have followed him anywhere."

-Rich Warren, WFMT "Midnight Special", Chicago, IL



In teaching myself how to play the guitar, back in 1958, I quickly discovered that there are several no-no's about doing it right. These are always pointed out by the angry Guitar Police. One big one is the use of the left-

hand thumb to fret bass-notes. "Never show your thumb!", is how I've heard it, first, from the bull-horn of a classical guitarist in Miami, who gave me my one and only lesson. I still hear it now from people who're straight-jacketed by tradition. When I was a composition student in college, my professor was demonstrating "sonority" on the piano, playing as many notes in a single chord as possible. Desiring an 11th note in the chord, the otherwise staid, boring old Russian composer, plunged forward with his face, nailing the desired note with his ample nose. Even as I withheld laughter, I realized that there are no rules. If a sound or note you want is unavailable to your fingers - or to the tradition - use whatever is available to make it happen.

Although arthritis now deters me from using it, I've developed at least one chord-structure which can ONLY be played using the thumb.

And as for using the little finger of the right hand to support finger-picking, I've never been able to avoid it. I know I'll burn in Guitar Hell for this, but so be it.

Being self-taught, I only learned, a couple of years ago, the correct way to hold a pick (I still use one, from time to time): between the bent forefinger and the thumb. I was shocked. I had always used the thumb, forefinger, AND the middle finger to hold it. In '58, I picked it up that way and there it remained. In this case, I would definitely advise a guitarist to develop the correct way, not out of some antiquated tradition but because it's absolutely more flexible and effective. Speed and accuracy were hampered by my home-made method. Of course, this meant that I was never destined to be a fast flat-picker. Oh, damn. Oh, wait... I can't even hear that fast, so why would I

want to play anything so fast I couldn't enjoy the music? Of course, radical speed is mostly for "show"; that's why it's done (unless fast pickers are being paid by-the-note). This point illustrates how a guitarist's entire style may be influenced - even created - by the limitations of certain inefficiencies in their technical development. For my part, I'm very happy with where my limitations (use of left thumb, use of right pinkie, mis-handled pick) have led me. Take that, Guitar Police.

Getting a Grip - The Fiddle and the Bow, Donna Stjerna, Still on the Hill

www.stillonthehill.com

"These musicians have grafted the wild climbing vines of bluegrass, folk, classical and mountain music onto the hardest of Ozark rootstock. The result is a yet-to-be-named hybrid music that compels people to stop and listen, to pause in their hectic lives and pay attention to something they've never heard before. It's magic, and there's simply not enough magic in the world today."

-Julie Koehler, "Bluegrass Now"



I was never trained properly on the violin, which I prefer to call the fiddle, partly for this reason and partly because of the style of music I play. There is a way to hold the instrument that is more ergonomic and efficient. So here are my

bad habits...don't try them at home!

I choke the instrument with the heel of my left hand instead of angling it away so it doesn't touch. In doing this the fiddle would constantly bump or irritate the soft area on the inside of the wrist creating a gnarly cyst! I had to have it surgically removed, they cut the tendons and it took me a year before I could play again. I STILL choke the fiddle to some degree! OUCH. Also if you choke the fiddle it is much more difficult to move gracefully up the neck into other positions, which I never do. It is a huge limitation. My other bad habit, as long as I'm confessing... is that I hold my bow half way up the stick instead of on the frog. OH MY. I began playing at 12 in the kitchen with my Dad and I was a little, bitty thing. That bow was SO big and long, it seemed to balance better in the middle and that is where I still hang out. (Didn't the Buddha talk about the "middle way"?) The problem with that technique (if you can call it that) is I don't have access to the whole bow for fluid movement.

For my physical health, which impacts on being able to fiddle far into the future, I learned to hold my instrument closer to "properly," more of the time. However, as they say, you can't (always!) teach an old dog new tricks and I'm not likely to change how I hold the bow. That said, this is my way and my style and it suits me fine!

Amplifying the Best Instrument in the World (mandolin, of course), Don Stiernberg

www.donstiernberg.com

"A protege of Jethro Burns, Stiernberg has absorbed the master's musical knowledge and technical skill and combined it with other jazz and mandolin influences to forge a compelling musical presence - one that's his alone."

David McCarty, "Mandolin Magazine"

How to amplify a mandolin is an interesting subject, with lots of options to consider. It's actually more common for pickups to be put into the mandolin after it is built...nothing wrong with that. The choices include a bridge pickup where a bridge top with a transducer replaces the acoustic one, or "contact" style where a transducer is placed in or on the mandolin. What about wires? It depends on the pickup and who installs it. A preamp should also be used with virtually every mando pickup out there. Running directly from pickup to an amp or board can sound a bit thin. The pickups everyone talks about or uses nowadays: Baggs (I have one), K and K, and Fishman is OK too. I just like Baggs better-sounds warmer to me. Schertler is good too, if pricey. Some folks like mics that hang on the instrument too. DPA is state of the art though, once again, pricey. Baggs, Radius or K and K would be my recommendation, plus a good tech man for installation. The best instrument in the world deserves good amplification!



20 Years of Music Play, Jim Gill

www.jimgill.com

"An award-winning musician, author and child development specialist, his passion for using music and a platform for play has elevated him to the status of one of the most well-respected musician/teachers in the country."

Fred Koch, "Chicago Parent."

Continued on next page.



Jim Gill has released 6 CDs of award-winning music play (all produced by Steve Rashid). He has also written two children's books with musical themes (with all of the musical help provided by Steve Rashid).

I sometimes tell people that I began calling my songs "music play" when I realized that I was interested in more than just performing songs for children. I wanted some way of expressing that the songs are created as an invitation for children and the adults that care for them to play together.

That's true, but the full story is a bit more involved. I invented the term "music play" when my producer (and good friend) Steve Rashid tried to – in the nicest way – help me understand that my songs could really be improved with a bit ofwell....song writing.

Our discussion began with the title song of my first recording, **Jim Gill Sings The Sneezing Song and Other Contagious Tunes:**

Please don't feed me black-eyed peas.

You know what they will do.

For if you feed me black-eyed peas

I'll have to sneeze.

(and the children shout)

Ah.....Ah.....Ah.....Choo!

(The verses repeat with "macaroni and cheese" and "chocolate chip cookies.")

Steve sat at his piano and said, "The sneezing itself is not part of the melody. And the piece stops and starts and stops and starts. There is no consistent rhythm. Don't take this wrong, but it's not really a song." He then demonstrated some ways that we could "musicalize" the sneezes and employ other techniques to craft a more traditional song. He was right.....if a person is thinking "musically." But I knew that "The Sneezing Song" was, in its simplest form, a favorite in the play groups that I led each week for children and families. Children loved the anticipation before the big exclamatory sneezes. In fact, that was really the point. It was a game. A waiting game with some simple rhymes. And the simplicity allowed children of all abilities to be a part of the play. I told Steve that I could imagine that his ideas would make the piece a better song, but that I was afraid it would take something away from the game. And, for me, conveying the play was the point. I finally said, "That's the point with all of these songs. They are really music play."

Steve and I have developed a great partnership, beginning with that conversation 20 years ago. We have both developed a sense of when, in a recorded piece, the music is the primary means to get children singing and dancing along. Steve's expertise is required in those instances.

And we have come to recognize when the play is most important and it's best to keep it simple: Ah....Ah.....Ah.....Choo!

Are those real? Acrylic Fingernails vs Pics, Lauren Heintz

www.laurenheintz.com

"Distinctive and masterful guitar style; compelling, engaging, and profound song-writing; one of the most intriguing and unique vocal talents ever. There's nobody I am more excited to book again than Lauren Heintz."

Ron Holm, Musical Program Director and All Around Music Dweeb, JustGoods Friday Concert Series, Rockford.



More and more people seem to be opting for fake nails as a substitute for metal/plastic pics. Here is what Lauren has to say on the subject: "I went through all the different options, early on, like the metal finger-

pics, the plastic ones, they never suited my style...they come off. Plus, I like to do a hybrid of finger-picking and strumming...I can't do that with the attached finger pics.

I tried just cutting my nails down, just using my finger tips but I couldn't get the sound, the volume, like people like Jack (Williams) can with his bare finger tips. I tried growing my natural nails, fortifying them with vitamins and topical treatments...and I tried changes through my diet, eating gelatin...it helps, but they still break, all the time, I have brittle nails."

"So, I finally tried the acrylic nails, and they work, very well. As with anything, there are pros and cons. They can affect your natural nails... So far, I've been pretty lucky with that. I go to a salon every 3 or 4 weeks, though they say to go every 2 weeks; for sure, I go before a gig. They laugh because I only do one hand, but then I explain." Usually, they don't replace all the old nails, they just do a "fill". Sometimes they just put a tip on it, file it down, put an acrylic powder over it and it forms a hard nail over the tip. Lauren has the salon leave the acrylic nails longer than usual and then she files them down to what she needs - amazingly short, maybe less than 1/8 of an inch, barely over the pad of the finger. It doesn't have to be that long. The thumb nail is more like 1/4". Sometimes they take off all the old nails first. "I do the whole hand, just because it looks better, but I don't use my pinkie when finger-picking. It costs me about \$12 to \$15 per visit; I try to find one place that does it right and then I go back there. Sometimes you break a nail - what do you do if you break a nail 5 minutes before a show? One of my intentions is to get an emergency repair kit and learn how to use it."

So what technique works? "I'm aware of the string hitting my finger pad as well as the nail - so, it's not like it's 100% nail." You want to

feel the string with your finger pad to get the precision. "I keep the nails short as I can. Of course they grow every day and you have to file them all the time - you have to play with them for awhile to make sure there are no hooks on your nails. You don't want to catch them on the string... Try them out a couple of weeks or a month before you have to do a show so you can adapt to them, learn how to work with them."

There are kits you can buy on the internet. James Taylor uses fiberglass, which he demonstrates in a video on YouTube. There is also a book, "Pumping Nylon," by Scott Tennant that has a section about fingernails; he talks about emergency repair that includes super glue.

Log Cabin Jam & Party

**Saturday, September 28
from 4:30 till 10:00PM**

For members and people who would like to join that day.

Drop in anytime!



Bring your instrument(s), beverages (non-alcoholic), a dish, dessert or snack to share, folding chairs, bug spray and a flashlight. Plank Road will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, condiments and s'mores. Jamming inside and outside. Campfire in the evening (weather permitting).

Lombard Park District's Log Cabin is located in Four Seasons Park on Main St. and 16th St. in Lombard (between Roosevelt Road and 22nd street).

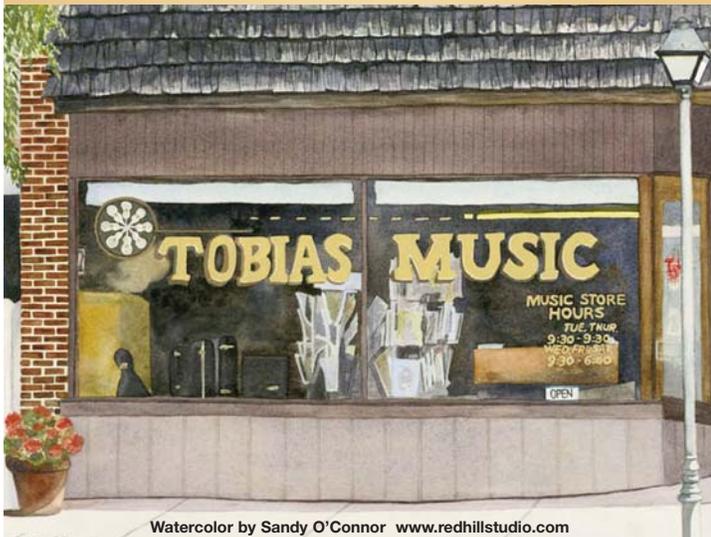
Please RSVP:
j.shilt@comcast.net
630-620-0688

Thank You to our Sustaining Artists

TOBIAS MUSIC

FINE GUITARS

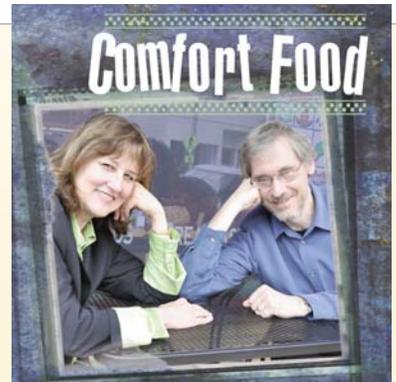
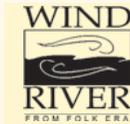
TAYLOR Guitars | MARTIN Guitars | SANTA CRUZ Guitars
The best selection, service and prices in the Chicago area.



Watercolor by Sandy O'Connor www.redhillstudio.com

www.tobiasmusic.com

5013 Fairview Ave., Downers Grove, IL (630)960-2455



Upcoming Performances:

Great American Bagel, Sundays, 10-6, 11-3, 12-1, 1-5
Westmont 10am, Western Springs 11:30am

Wicked Good Café, Fridays, 11-1, 12-6, 7pm
The 2013 Home of Comfort Food!

Naperville 7pm 790 Royal St. George Dr. Naperville, IL | (331) 457-5566
www.wickedgoodcafe.com

John Prine Birthday Shows with the George Mattson Trio
JustGoods, Rockford, 10-4 | Maple St. Chapel, Lombard, 10-19

Berwyn Library, 10-12, 2pm

Roots Salon, Chicago, 11-9 www.jamieoreilly.com/roots-salon

Comfort Food OPENS FOR Chicago Musician Extraordinaire, MICK SCOTT
Caribou Coffee, Downers Grove, 11-23 7pm



Rich and Vicki Ingle
(708) 795-0695
Rich@comfortfoodmusic.com
www.comfortfoodmusic.com

MARK DVORAK

*"Chicago's
official
troubadour"*

- WFMT 98.7 fm

"The real deal."

- OLD TOWN SCHOOL
of FOLK MUSIC

www.markdvorak.com

STAY IN TOUCH



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

Folk Festival is an eclectic mix of folk styles and artists, traditional to contemporary, that includes folk-related and folk-influenced music.

"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

A Special Thanks to our Membership Contributors!!

Sustaining Artists (\$200 - \$399)

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**
www.comfortfoodmusic.com | 708-795-0695
- **Mark Dvorak**
www.markdvorak.com
- **Tobias Music**
www.tobiasmusic.com | 630-960-2455

Supporting Artists (\$50 - \$199)

Benefits: Line listing in four issues with name of group, name(s) of member(s), contact information; individual membership(s) in PRFMS.

- **Heather Styka**
www.heatherstyka.com

Supporting Members (\$50 - \$199)

- John J. Allan
- Mary and Dan Anderson
- Romaine Burbach
- Frank and Helen Clarke
- Joe Jablonski
- Paul and Molly Klonowski
- Lilli Kuzma, WDCB, "Folk Festival"
- Andy Malkewicz
- Gregg and Elizabeth Morton
- Jen Shilt
- John Spokas
- Paul Zimmerman
Maple Street Chapel



Maple Street Chapel

Lombard, at Main and Maple Streets

Folk Music Concerts

Upcoming Folk Music Concerts

- | | | |
|-------|---------|--|
| 9-21 | 7:30 PM | Greg Klyma; Laura Joy will open |
| 10-19 | 7:30 PM | The Songs of John Prine; The George Mattson Trio, Comfort Food, Emceed by WDCB's Lilli Kuzma, complimentary birthday cake |
| 11-9 | 7:30 PM | Sons of the Never Wrong |
| 12-7 | 7:00 PM | Yule Sing-along with Jann Mochelle, Chris McIntosh & Alvin McGovern, Gregg Morton |
| 1-5 | 3:00 PM | The Special Consensus, Annual New Year Bluegrass Show www.folk.maplestreetchapel.org facebook @ Maple Street Chapel Folk Concerts |

Plank Road String Band - Continued from page 3

up and smiling when you perform." People who perform in the String Band need to attend the practices regularly and practice at home as well. "Since I can't read music, I learn these tunes by rote. The YouTube videos and MP3 files that I find help me with them at home," says Bob Smith.

Positive Spin-offs

A common spin-off of large music groups is the creation of small, private bands made up of people who meet each other through the larger group. Just as quartets naturally form from meeting other players through community orchestras, groups such as the Bluegrass Escape, Lonesome Eagle, the "Thursday Night Group" and Blind Squirrel have formed from former classes at the Jones Family Music School, the previous All-Volunteer String Band, and other Plank Road events such as the sing-arounds and bluegrass jams. We hope musicians continue to meet each other through Plank Road and experience the joy of making music together.

New Horizons

The String Band players are excited about the future of the group, including being able to bring a more confident, lively and natural sound to their audiences. We hope intermediate and advanced players interested in old-time music will find their way to a public practice of the String Band. Together, the String Band and Plank Road will suggest and facilitate steps that beginners can take to grow into playing with the String Band. ♪

Transitions:



I'll Fly Away...

Richie Havens

January 21, 1941 - April 22, 2013

Celebrated singer-songwriter Richie Havens passed away following a heart attack. He is best known for his intense, rhythmic guitar and 1969 performance at Woodstock.

Rick Neeley

January 15, 1949 - June 2, 2013

Beloved regional folk musician, Rick Neeley, passed away following a brief illness. Rick will be often remembered as the person who most accurately, expertly carried on the 12-string guitar style of his mentor, Bob Gibson. He is missed very much by his many friends in the music community.

Toshi-Aline Ohta Seeger

July 1, 1922 - July 9, 2013

Toshi Seeger, wife of Pete Seeger, passed away at her home at the age of 91, nine days from her 70th wedding anniversary. "She was a mother, an organizer, an activist and filmmaker...and an essential part of all of her husband's work." Mark D. Moss, "SingOut!" Magazine

Ronald Paul Sadler

December 16, 1933 - August 2, 2013

Ron Sadler, former owner of Sadler's Music Shop in Aurora, passed away following a short illness and will be sadly missed by many in the western suburbs.

Louisa Jo Killen

January 10, 1934 - August 9, 2013

Louisa Killen passed away from cancer after a long career as a singer of the "big" ballads as well as maritime songs, songs from her Irish ancestry and of Tyneside, in North East England. She played the Fox Valley Folk Festival several times and will be missed by her many friends.



Join in on some **big ol' fun!** at our

Fall Old Time Barn Dance

Saturday, October 5, at 8:00 PM

Doors open at 7:30 PM

Two Way Street Coffee House,
1047 Curtiss St., Downers Grove, IL
(Across from the Public Library)



**SAVE
THE
DATE!**

Enjoy a fun-filled evening of music and dancing for the entire family.
Dance the night away!

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

Find Us On
facebook

We are excited to announce that we have launched
a new Facebook page! Please visit us at:
<https://www.facebook.com/plankroad.prfms>

2013 PRFMS Officers

Bob O'Hanlon - President
reohanlon@gmail.com
(630) 325-7764

Carol Spanuello - Vice President
carolspan1@hotmail.com

Gary Steffenson - Treasurer
gksteff@gmail.com

Barbara Ellingsen - Secretary
woodwindwizard@gmail.com

2013 Board Members

Bill Boylan
Dave Humphreys
Bill Lemos
Jennifer Shilt
Kristen Shilt



www.plankroad.org

Membership form and info is available
online at

Supporting/Sustaining memberships available,
see page 7

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@hotmail.com
(630) 325-7764

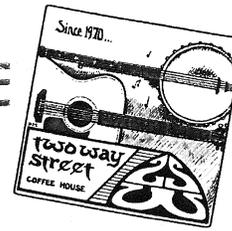


LIVE MUSIC Every Friday Since 1970!

TWO WAY STREET COFFEE HOUSE

1047 Curtiss Street • Downers Grove, Illinois 60515 (across from the Public Library)

www.twowaystreet.org • 630-969-9720



ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE

- Friday September 20 8:15pm \$7 ²**JON BROOKS** — Three-time nominee for Canadian Songwriter of the Year: “I want to write hopeful songs, inspiring songs... we should believe our present world can be improved, or healed.” NPR Mountain Stage & Kerrville winner!
- Friday September 27 8:15pm \$7 **PAUL KAYE** — Mainstay on Chicago's blues/ragtime scene, playing with Junior Wells, Harmonica Hinds, Buddy Guy, Andrew Bird. Featured on the late Honeyboy Edwards' last CD. But he's at his best alone, belting out his deep-rooted originals!
- Friday October 4 8:15pm \$7 **MICHAEL J. MILES** — One of America's most inventive clawhammer banjo players! Traditional, original & classical works, including songs from his many great CDs. Also great vocals, jazz and fingerstyle guitar, stories.
- Friday October 11 8:15pm \$7 **BILL & KATE ISLES** — Folk & alt-country performing songwriters from Minnesota, their gentle charm, luscious harmonies, quick wit and compelling lyrics are mesmerizing! “Consistently entertaining.” (*Rich Warren, WFMT*)
- Friday October 18 8:15pm \$7 **RICHARD PAUL THOMAS** — Texas-based songwriter with decades of love, life and laughter to share! Elements of folk, R&B, jazz, ballads & good old rock n' roll. A veteran of the classic Juicy John Pink venue in DeKalb!
- Friday October 25 8:15pm \$7 **STEVE JUSTMAN** — *Roots of Americana*: vintage folk & classic country plus bluegrass & country rock with guitar, banjo, & vocals. A troubadour and caretaker of songs, he performs at the best venues throughout Chicagoland!
- Friday November 1 8:15pm \$7 ²**POTNAM SMITH** — Like 19th century troubadours, yet a rootsy modern age storytelling multi-instrumentalist, he performs all across North America from his log cabin in Maine. A Falcon Ridge winner, & #2 on Folk DJ charts!
- Friday November 8 8:15pm \$7 **LONG JOURNEY HOME** — Classic bluegrass & old-time country duets: Keith Baumann on mandolin & Chris Walz on guitar. “Brother style” harmony & virtuoso picking; beautiful haunting ballads & hard driving breakdowns!
- Friday November 15 8:15pm \$7 **TRICIA ALEXANDER with ALPHA STEWART Jr** — Singer, song-writer, guitarist, performance poet, harmonica and kazoo player, she joyfully blends swing, blues, wisdom & comedy. Alpha Stewart adds magical percussion!
- Friday November 22 8:15pm \$7 **BOB BOVEE** — Nebraska native sings and yodels old-time cowboy, railroad and humorous songs, plays banjo and autoharp, and can drive a dance band with his guitar and harmonica! And all with his famously dry wit!
- Friday November 29 8:15pm \$7 **DAVE RUDOLF** — Serious and wacky, he's a NACA award-winning, Grammy-nominated, Gold Record singer-songwriter who's been broadcast on Dr Demento, NPR, WXRT, HBO and more. Crazy, musical, fun. 28 albums!
- Friday December 6 8:15pm \$7 **LAURA JOY** — Chicago singer-songwriter's buoyant voice & percussive finger-picking can quell angry bars full of ornery Irishmen. She's compared to Joni Mitchell & Alison Krauss, touring from Manhattan to the Sun Belt.
- Friday December 13 8:00pm \$7 **OPEN MIKE** — All welcome! Great variety of acoustic artists! So popular we may limit number of acts. **1-2 songs, 10 minutes max.** Open 7:30 for signups - first come, first served. **Show starts 8:00.** Info: 630-968-5526.
- Friday December 20 8:15pm \$7 **TWO WAY STREET CHRISTMAS SHOW** — Enrich your Christmas season with traditional & contemporary holiday music featuring Chris McIntosh, Alvin McGovern, Cathy & Tom Jones and guests. You'll want to sing along!
- Friday December 27 8:15pm \$7 **PETE NORMAN'S Post-Christmas Blues Fest!** — 29th annual show (!) sure to banish *your* post-Christmas blues! Great songwriter Pete and his guests present folk, blues, ragtime & fun songs. Guitar, Dobro, fiddle, banjo, more!

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

| | |
|--|---|
| Saturday October 5 8:00pm \$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 Tues, 7-9pm. Sep 10 Oct 8, Nov 12, Dec 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 Sep 7 & 21, Oct 5 & 19 Nov 2 & 16, Dec 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. Sep 28 Oct 26, Nov 23, Dec 28 | 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, 7:00-9:30PM Sep 26, Oct 31 Nov 26*, Dec 26 FREE! | LAST THURSDAY! — Monthly open mike for high school & college age students. Last Thurs every month. Music, poetry, any performance art - 10 min. max. Signups begin 7pm - first come, first served. Info www.twowaystreet.org and on Facebook, or 630-968-5526. *Tues due to Thanksgiving! |

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.

