



# The Folk Club of Reston-Herndon

*Preserving the traditions of Folk Music, Folk Lore, and Gentle Folk Ways*

[www.RestonHerndonFolkClub.com](http://www.RestonHerndonFolkClub.com)

Volume 26, Issue 3

March 2010

**SPECIAL NOTE:** The Jane Tatum/Ben Hamblin Showcase was rescheduled for **March 9<sup>th</sup>** due to inclement weather. See last month's newsletter for details on the show.

## HEAR YE!

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
9 A.M. EST, March 2, 2010

### RESTON-HERNDON FOLK CLUB ANNOUNCES UPCOMING 25<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY

Herndon, VA – After 25 years as the premier listening venue for folk and acoustic music in the Washington, DC area, the **Folk Club of Reston-Herndon** is gearing up for a special celebration at their annual birthday party, to be held May 25<sup>th</sup> at the **Tortilla Factory**, where the Club has gathered each Tuesday for the past (nearly) 23 years. Though some things have changed since **Rose Haskell** first established The Club in May of 1985, the spirit of our founders is still alive in the camaraderie and appreciation of music that we share.

There have been some notable changes in the past year, which deserve a special mention:

- **Chris Kramer-Harnage** (a.k.a. – ‘Fang’) assumed the responsibility of booking our monthly concerts, taking over from **Ray Kaminsky** (who held the position for so long that no one seems to remember when he started.) With Chris’s expertise and enterprising facility, the concert schedule was promptly filled up for the ensuing year-and-a-half!
- **Ray Kaminsky** stepped down as President of The Folk Club. He and his wife, **Ellen Kaminsky** are preparing to leave the vicinity and go on extended “walkabout” (or “driveabout”) in search of America (and possibly further.) Both Ray and Ellen will remain members of the Folk Club Board of Directors. We wish them all the best in their quest, and hope to stay in touch.
- **Ben Hamblin** was elected President of The Folk Club in a special meeting of the Board of Directors (its first in almost living memory.) We all wish to extend our thanks to Ben for offering his service in this position, and feel confident that he will help to maintain and enhance our experience at The Club.
- **Laura Schier** was elected to the Board of Directors. As the youngest member of the board, Laura has a keen eye on bringing new, younger audiences into the fold, and helping to promote the appreciation of The Club Experience with a new generation.

Look for additional information on the May 25<sup>th</sup> celebration in future announcements and we hope to see as many of our Folkies there as possible!

# The Folk Club

of Reston-Herndon

*Preserving Folk Traditions*

proudly presents

## SAMUEL JAMES

Tuesday, March 23, 2010

*Requested Donation*

**\$12 (\$11 MEMBERS)**

Show starts at **7:15 p.m.**

**Back Room at  
The Tortilla Factory  
648 Elden Street  
Herndon, VA**

*The Folk Club of Reston-Herndon is a non-profit organization*

**SAMUEL JAMES** is a performer of stunningly singular talent. A master of fingerstyle, slide, banjo, harmonica, and piano, this phenom is not yet out of his twenties. With musical influences ranging from Skip James and Sonny Terry to Gus Cannon and Charley Patton, such understanding of pre-war blues is rarely embodied in the music of one person.

But Samuel James is not a revivalist. His songwriting is absolutely unparalleled in contemporary blues. His writing is descended from the long forgotten art of the songster. While musically one could compare him to Patton or Cannon, his writing goes in another direction entirely. His songs are often written as linear stories, novels in musical format. O. Henry meets Mose Allison.

James' musical lineage stretches back to immediate post-slavery. His grandfather (b. 1890) played guitar in contemporary blues styles of the era. James' father was a professional pianist, and trombone player. Samuel learned to tap dance at five, learned piano at eight and toured the Northeastern circuit professionally by 12. Samuel lost his mother the same year and spent his teens in foster homes. At 17 he reunited and rekindled a relationship with his father.



Samuel James fully discovered his musicianship after a young woman broke his heart. He booked a flight to Ireland figuring the gray and rainy climate would match his mindset. Short of funds to make it home, he learned harmonica from local street musicians. Collecting enough change to make it back to Maine, he gave up a nascent painting career and dove head first into the guitar. Today, still in his 20s, James has been nominated the **2010 Blues Music Award - Acoustic Artist of the Year** and releases his third CD entitled *For Rosa, Maeve, and Noreen* which also received a nomination for **Acoustic Album of the Year**.

*"Samuel James was born about 50 years too late. With his slide guitar, scratchy vocals and vintage songwriting, he sounds like Robert Johnson's little brother."*

- Lewis Kelly, Vue Weekly, Edmonton

**More information and discography on-line at:** <http://www.myspace.com/sugarsmallhouse>

**Seating:** Contact Dave Hurd Tuesdays at The Folk Club or by e-mailing - [DAHurdSr@cs.com](mailto:DAHurdSr@cs.com)

**UPCOMING CONCERTS include:** [Del Rey](#) -4/27/10 [Bowen Staines](#) -5/18/10 [Mary Flower](#) -6/22/10



## MUSICAL NOTES

### Gordon Lightfoot Surprised by News of His Death

(from [BackPorchNews.net](http://BackPorchNews.net))

It's not often someone gets to hear their own death announced over the radio. It seems someone started a rumor of the death of Canadian folk singer Gordon Lightfoot and too many people believed the news and passed it on. Lightfoot was quick to inform the world that he was alive and doing just fine, thank you very much. We're glad to hear it.

### Folkways Releases Classic Appalachian Blues

(from [BackPorchNews.net](http://BackPorchNews.net))

Smithsonian Folkways now offers the fourth blues album in their Classic series. The album includes music by Etta Baker, Lesley Riddle, John Jackson, Doc Watson and numerous other musicians. Check out [folkways.si.edu](http://folkways.si.edu) for a free download of one of the songs.

### Bluegrass Underground on PBS

(from [Folkwax.com](http://Folkwax.com))

The acclaimed *Bluegrass Underground* radio-concert series is starting production on a televised performance series for national distribution on public television. Set in the Volcano Room, 330 feet below the surface in Cumberland Caverns near McMinnville, TN, The series has been airing weekly since 2008 on country music's flagship station, 650 WSM-AM. Check out all the details on [Bluegrassunderground.com](http://Bluegrassunderground.com)

### DC Bluegrass Festival March 27, 2010

(from [DCBU.org](http://DCBU.org) website)

The first DC Bluegrass Festival will be held Saturday March 27, 2010 at Langley High School 6520 Georgetown Pike in McLean, VA. Current lineup of performers includes: **Mountain Heart**, **Michael Cleveland & Flamekeeper** (2009 IBMA Instrumental Performers of the Year), Legendary bluegrass performer **Bill Emerson & Sweet Dixie**, New acoustic bluegrass marvels **Frank Solivan & Dirty Kitchen**, Patuxent Music recording artists **The Patuxent Partners**, Folk and bluegrass virtuoso **Walt Michael & Co.**, and More! This family-friendly event will include instrument workshops, craft vendors and plenty of jamming! Check [dcbluegrassfest.org](http://dcbluegrassfest.org) often to stay up on festival developments!

### ALL AROUND THE TOWN

*That's right – they don't just play at The Folk Club!*

**Larry Mediate** [larry-mediate.com](http://larry-mediate.com)

**T.M Hanna**, [birdphluph.com](http://birdphluph.com)

**Ric Sweeney (a.k.a. – 'Mr. Rain')**  
[myspace.com/ricsweeneysilverlinings](http://myspace.com/ricsweeneysilverlinings)

**Bill Davis (w/Somos El Mar)**  
[schoolshows.com/somoselmar](http://schoolshows.com/somoselmar)

**Ron Goad** – [MisterGoad@aol.com](mailto:MisterGoad@aol.com)  
- Non-concert Mondays, 7-10pm at **Jammin' Java** (see [JamminJava.com](http://JamminJava.com) for schedule), hosting showcases

- Mondays 7:30pm, SAW-BSA-BMI Variety Showcases at Brewer's Alley, Frederick, MD. (when not at Jammin' Java) [myspace.com/roddeacey](http://myspace.com/roddeacey)

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday each month 7:00pm, SAW-BMI concerts at The Athenaeum, Old Town Alexandria.  
[NVFAA.org](http://NVFAA.org)

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays, 7:00-11pm, SAW-BMI Variety Showcase at Bangkok Blues, Falls Church, VA. [bangkokblues.com](http://bangkokblues.com)

### Tomy Wright

Contact Tomy at [tomy@tomywright.com](mailto:tomy@tomywright.com), 301-637-5707  
[tomywright.com](http://tomywright.com)

### Scott Malyszka

[cdbaby.com/cd/scottmalyszka](http://cdbaby.com/cd/scottmalyszka)  
[feelthewag.com](http://feelthewag.com)

### Doris Justis

[dorisjustis.com](http://dorisjustis.com) - Folk, original, and contemporary music

### Bo Carneal

[myspace.com/bocarneal](http://myspace.com/bocarneal)

## MONTHLY MILESTONES

### Born This Month:

3/6?/18(93-99?) – Walter "Furry" Lewis  
3/1/1927 – Harry Belafonte  
3/2/1923 – Artel "Doc" Watson  
3/6/1905 – Bob Wills  
3/7/1944 – Townes VanZandt  
3/8/1954 – Bob Brozman  
3/10/1938 – Norman Blake  
3/15/1912 – Sam "Lightnin'" Hopkins  
3/16/1954 – Tim O'Brien  
3/20/1937 – Jerry Reed  
3/21/1893 – Armenter Chatmon (aka Bo Carter)  
3/21/1902 – Eddie James "Son" House  
3/23/1945 – David Grisman  
3/27/1905 – Leroy Carr  
3/30/1913 – Frankie Laine  
3/30/1914 – John Lee "Sonny Boy" Williamson

### And In Passing:

3/16/1975 – Aaron Thibeaux "T-Bone" Walker  
3/22/1952 – "Uncle" Dave Macon  
3/25/2006 – Alvis Edgar Owens, Jr. ("Buck" Owens)

### Noteworthy Events:

3/11/69 – Lester Flatt & Earl Scruggs split up after 25 years as the preeminent bluegrass duo.  
3/14/55 – Arthur Godfrey turns down the chance to sign Elvis Presley, signing Pat Boone instead.  
3/15/96 – Bill Monroe makes his final appearance on the Grand Ole Opry.  
3/23/26 – Maybelle Addington marries Ezra Carter. The rest is history.

### Quote for the Month

*"Pop music is aspirin and the blues are vitamins."*  
~ Peter Tork

## THE FOLK CLUB OF RESTON-HERNDON

Meets Tuesday nights, 7:15pm at The Tortilla Factory  
648 Eldon Street, Herndon, VA

**President:** Ben Hamblin

**Treasurer:** Dave Hurd

**Board of Directors:** Sue Beffel, Bill Davis, TM Hanna, Lynn Jordan, Ray Kaminsky, Ellen Kaminsky, Chris Kramer-

Harnage, Sue Schier, Ron Goad, Bob Hampton, Laura Schier

**Publicity:** Felicia Strickland, Sue Schier

**Bookings:** Chris Kramer-Harnage

**Newsletter:** Bob Hampton, Dan Grove, Chris Kramer-Harnage, Dave Hurd

**Newsgroup:** Dianne Lafleur

**Website:** Bob Hampton

### FOLK CLUB FORMAT

Most Tuesday nights the Folk Club is an open-mike format with a signup board. Each performer has 12 minutes, which includes setup time. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month, we feature a "Showcase" of a Folk Club member in a 25-minute performance.

### SHOWCASE PERFORMANCES

To be in the Showcase you must: 1) be a Folk Club member who has not done a showcase in the last 6 months; 2) fill out a lottery slip and place it in the "drawing bucket"; 3) Win the drawing on the night of the current month's showcase; and 4) be prepared to be featured in the next newsletter!

### NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION

Folk Club members are encouraged to submit performance calendars, classified ads, articles, reviews, artwork and other music-related items to newsletter editor Bob Hampton at [bhampton@ossva.com](mailto:bhampton@ossva.com). Information should be received 1 week prior to the end of the month for the next month's newsletter. Items will be published on the basis of music-related interest, timeliness, and available space.

### RESERVE YOUR CONCERT SEATS IN ADVANCE

Donations can be made in advance for Guest Artist concert performances on Tuesdays at the Folk Club or by prepaid mail. Contact Dave Hurd, 110 Devil's Backbone Overlook, Stephenson, VA 22656, (540) 722-0146

### FOLK CLUB MEMBERSHIP

If you enjoy the music and company, become a member! The cost is nominal, just \$15 per year. Along with the opportunity to participate in Showcase drawings, you get a \$1 discount on the recommended donation for guest artist

concerts (up to 2 donations per show). Join up on Folk Club Tuesdays, or call a board member for info.

### NEWSGROUP

The Folk Club newsgroup is a great way of keeping in touch with what's happening around town and beyond. Just go to: <http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/FolkClubofRestonHerndon/>

### WEBSITE

The Folk Club has its own website at:

[www.RestonHerndonFolkClub.com](http://www.RestonHerndonFolkClub.com)

### INFO LINE

For general folk club information contact Sue Schier at (703) 435-2402



## Classifieds



**FOR SALE:** Amp Crate Taxi dual power guitar/bass amp \$50. Esteban large body guitar, blue \$50. Telecaster copy new cond, with hard case, amp and tuner. Blonde with gold hardware \$250. Archtop Guitar Kalamazoo by Gibson 1930 model FK-360 restored \$1000. Square neck slide guitar Oahu Cleveland OH. Pre-war solid wood \$100. 1960 Del Vecchio Brazilian rosewood classical guitar needs work \$80.. Roger Johnson 540-349-2938

**FOR SALE:** Fender Acoustasonic 30 Acoustic Amplifier - barely used \$225.00 Contact Demetrios 571-247-8969 or [meetro@msn.com](mailto:meetro@msn.com)

**SEEKING MUSICIANS:** Cornet and harmonica player, experienced, seeks working performer, group, or band based in NoVA (Vienna). Jazz, rock, blues, folk, pop, country. [david@savageheart.com](mailto:david@savageheart.com)

**WANTED:** Your old guitar strings! The Second Strings Project has distributed over 10,000 sets to the world's most depressed regions. Send complete sets only to Kevin Deame, 28 Ladd, Ellington, CT 06029



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c/o Dave Hurd  
110 Devils Backbone Overlook  
Stephenson, VA 22656