



# The Folk Club of Reston/Herndon

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

www.RestonHerndonFolkClub.com

Volume 31, Issue 4

April 2015

## THIS MONTH'S CONCERT – SAW's 31st Mid-Atlantic Song Contest Winners' Showcase

Featuring Kipyn Martin, Sarah Keyser, and Anna Dagmar - See page 2

### April 7 Showcase - Ben Hamblin

by Dan Grove

It was always about height for **Ben Hamblin**. Growing up, he was the tallest kid in the class, and everyone – including the teachers – had to look up to him. Basketball coaches would hover, trying to recruit him as the team's center, but Ben was always looking up as well, and had his gaze fixed higher than any of them. What followed is the stuff of legend – a long series of ever higher achievements. You will always find Ben at the top of whatever class or organization he's part of – it's no accident that he's the President of the Folk Club - but his modesty has hidden many other accomplishments. If you go to his house, there's a small room that people rarely see containing memorabilia of Ben's constant quest for altitude. Like photos of Ben as a child flying a kite so high it's barely visible, or crossing above the Rockies in a hot air balloon. Then there are the ones on top of Kilimanjaro, the Matterhorn, and El Capitan, or the grainy one on Mount Everest. It's classified, so there's no photo, but Ben was also one of the U-2 pilots that scraped the edges of space at 70,000 feet. And of course he lived in the Space Station for six months doing research for NASA, but that's classified, too. But that's all over the top, so to speak.



This epic quest for physical height and altitude is in the past, however. Ben has finally settled down with his wife **Gail**, and no longer needs to reach for the sky. Well, with one exception – Ben's tenor voice still soars above all others, at the Folk Club and everywhere else. He's found another way to reach dizzying heights, but this time while keeping his feet firmly planted on the ground. He'll sing a song in a key too high for most other men, and then on the second chorus launch a high harmony above even that. The theme of Ben's life is unchanged, but it's finding new expression in this chapter, and who knows what will come next?

Ben says that for his showcase these genres will be included: songwriter folk, gospel folk, classical, gypsy jazz, surf rock, country, soft rock, and a bit of blues. And he's going to put together songs that have absolutely nothing to do with each other (but we're not sure why). And fittingly, given Ben's history of reaching ever higher, he'll be doing all new songs, ones he's never done before. He'll have others on stage to add to the stew, including Dan Grove, Dave Law, Ron Goad, Kim Melton, and TM Hanna. It promises to be an uplifting event!



Proudly presents



**ANNA DAGMAR**

## **MID-ATLANTIC SONG CONTEST**

### **WINNERS SHOWCASE**

**ANNA DAGMAR**

**AND**

**KIPYN MARTIN**

**OPENING ACT: SARAH KEYSER**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2015**

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

**\$11 (\$10 MEMBERS) Requested Donation**

**AMPHORA DINER DELUXE – HERNDON**

1151 Elden St. - Herndon, VA 20170

Information: 703-435-2402

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

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



**KIPYN MARTIN**

Together with the Songwriters' Association of Washington, The Folk Club of Reston/Herndon proudly presents in concert some of the winners of the 31<sup>st</sup> Mid-Atlantic Song Contest (MASC): **Anna Dagmar** (Gold Winner in the Open category), **Kipyn Martin** (Gold Winner in the Folk category as well as 3rd Place Overall Winner) and **Sarah Keyser** (Young Artist Participant and Silver Winner in the Vocal Jazz/Blues category). **Anna Dagmar** is a New York City-based pianist, vocalist and composer as well as an active member of Folk Alliance as a singer-songwriter. In 2012, she was chosen as a finalist in two national folk music festivals – Kerrville and Rocky Mountain. Her music has aired on more than 100 radio stations. **Kipyn Martin** is an emerging Americana singer/songwriter in the Mid-Atlantic region and no stranger to the Folk Club. In addition to her Gold win in the 2014 MASC, she was also a gold winner in the 2013 MASC and the recipient of the Director's Choice Award that same year. Washington-Lee High School student **Sarah Keyser** (2014 MASC Silver Winner) will open for Anna and Kipyn. Her performance will replace the usual four song opening format for this concert only.

**UPCOMING CONCERTS INCLUDE:**

**Susan Greenbaum – 5/19/2015; Brother Sun – 6/23/2015**

## **MUSICAL NOTES**



### **Save the Date: The Folk Club Memorial Day Weekend Camp-Out**

May 22-25, for the Second Annual Memorial Day Weekend Camp-Out and Sing-Along in Kilmarnock, VA. There will be an insert with more info next month, or contact Barb and Craig Keeler at [bkeeler30@gmail.com](mailto:bkeeler30@gmail.com).

### **Blues Workshop**

Holly Towne and Niels Jonker are pleased to host a workshop given by the legendary blues performer Andy Cohen and his longtime friend, Eleanor Ellis, principal in the Archie Edwards Blues Barbershop, on Monday, April 20th from 7 pm to 10 pm at their home in Reston, VA.

Andy says, "For the workshop, I'm going to teach The Layered Complexity of American Guitar Playing, a formidable title for teaching five exemplary songs in the key of C." From thumb lead to boom-chang, through alternating thumb and reverse-beat alternating thumb, Andy will make your fingers and heads sore with his instruction in Country Blues and other Old Time Forms.

Eleanor Ellis says, "When you use a capo to arrange a song in your best singing key, you might also open up the way to an interesting guitar accompaniment. It will also familiarize you with chording up the neck, and for working out guitar duets, there's nothing like it to get automatic harmonies."

According to Jan Gillies, Andy's long-time friend and student, he will work you hard. Dan Grove has attended four of Andy's workshops and keeps coming back for more. And Andy and Eleanor will be delighted to jam afterwards.

This is limited to 25 participants to assure that folks have enough space, and the suggested donation is \$25. Please contact [hhtowne@gmail.com](mailto:hhtowne@gmail.com) to register for the workshop.

### **BORN THIS MONTH:**

4/4/1915 - Muddy Waters (McKinley Morganfield)  
4/7/1915 – Billie Holiday  
4/9/1928 – Tom Lehrer  
4/15/1933 – Roy Clark  
4/15/1894 – Bessie Smith  
4/18/1924 – Clarence “Gatemouth” Brown  
4/22/1936 – Glen Campbell  
4/25/1928 – Vassar Clements  
4/30/1896 – Reverend Gary Davis  
4/30/1933 – Willie Nelson

### **Quote for the Month**

*“It don’t mean a thing if it ain’t got that swing.”*  
– Bubber Miley, Irving Mills, and Duke Ellington

## **MEMBER PERFORMANCES & INFO**

### **Doris Justis**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday each month, WFMA “Showcase at El Golfo”, 8739 Flower Ave., Silver Spring, MD

[elgolforestaurant.com](http://elgolforestaurant.com)

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

### **T.M Hanna**

[tmhanna.net](http://tmhanna.net)

### **Bill Davis (w/Somos El Mar)**

[schoolshows.com/somoselmar](http://schoolshows.com/somoselmar)

### **Chris Anderson**

- Monthly, 2nd Saturday, Harried Americans Happy Hour, 5:30 to 7:00 pm, Epicure Cafe, Fairfax, VA.

<http://harriedamericans.com>

- Performance schedule and downloads at <http://chris-anderson.info>.

### **Ron Goad**

[MisterGoad@aol.com](mailto:MisterGoad@aol.com)

- Mondays 7:15 pm, F.A.M.E. Variety Showcases at Brewer’s Alley, Frederick, MD. [FrederickAcoustic.org](http://FrederickAcoustic.org)

- 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays 7:30-? (open mic at 10 pm), SAW Variety Showcases at Epicure Café, Fairfax, VA [Epicurecafe.org](http://Epicurecafe.org)

### **Harley String Band (Jim Clark, Jim Johnson and Steve Coffee) [www.harleystringband.com](http://www.harleystringband.com)**

- CD release concert: Saturday, April 4 from 5:30 to 7:30 at the Epicure Cafe. HSB is releasing its third CD, "Earthly Pursuits". No cover charge.

### **Mary Shapiro [maryshapiromusic.com](http://maryshapiromusic.com)**

### **The Aloha Boys (Glen Hirabayashi and Isaac Ho'opi'i)**

[alohaboys.com](http://alohaboys.com)

### **Crys Matthews**

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

### **Jan Gillies**

- 3rd Friday, 8 to 10 pm, Jan & Neil & I host an open mic at Lost River Grill/TK Lounge in Lost City, WV.

### **George Dacre**

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

Paradise Springs Winery, Clifton, VA

Sunday May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2-6pm

Friday Aug 14<sup>th</sup>, 5-9pm

Saturday Oct 31st, 2-6pm



*of Reston & Herndon*

Meets Tuesday nights, 7:15pm at Amphora Diner Deluxe  
1151 Elden Street, Herndon, VA

**President:** Ben Hamblin      **Treasurer:** Dave Hurd  
**Board of Directors:** Sue Beffel, Bill Davis, TM Hanna, Lynn Jordan, Sue Schier, Ron Goad, Bob Hampton, Laura Kelmelis, Bill Farrar, Jim Clark  
**Publicity:** Amy Lowenstein, Sue Schier  
**Bookings:** Jim Clark  
**Newsletter:** Ben Hamblin, Dan Grove, Jim Clark, Dave Hurd  
**Website:** Cheryl Hennessy  
**Facebook:** Cheryl Hennessy  
**Lifetime Members:** Rose Haskell, Ray & Ellen Kaminsky

#### **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 Ben Hamblin at [newsletter@restonherndonfolkclub.com](mailto:newsletter@restonherndonfolkclub.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.

The Folk Club of Reston-Herndon  
c/o Dave Hurd  
110 Devils Backbone Overlook  
Stephenson, VA 22656



#### **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.

#### **KEEP IN TOUCH**

There are several ways you can keep in touch, or find out more about The Club:

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

**Facebook:** Search for "Folk Club of Reston Herndon"

**General Info:** Contact Sue Schier at (703) 435-2402

## Classifieds

**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