

Early Rock 'n' Roll Night – July 19th

A celebration of the early years of rock 'n' roll, doo wop, rockabilly, etc.
See page 2.

July 12 Showcase – The Stewart Sisters

by Sherry Stewart



It is the cool of Sunday morning after an almost full moon at Mountville Folk Festival the night before, and the deadline for the showcase article for the front page of the Folk Club newsletter is looming before me. We got to play at Mountville this year for the first time. Located in the rolling hills of rural northern Virginia, it's a place that I sometimes forget exists when I'm in the thick of suburban life in Falls Church, a stone's throw from the epicenter of _____ (democracy, government, culture, shopping, traffic, BS, or whatever, you fill in the blank, we all have our favorite descriptors!).

Anyway, it was such a, well, I hate to say "honor" because it seems like such an over-used word, so let's just say it was

huge buzz to be there, with so many others to play for us, play with us, listen to us, encourage us, feed us and accompany us in our quest for the common meter. Old friends, new friends, and friends yet to be made; old songs, new songs, and songs yet to be sung. A place to relax and enjoy, be awed and inspired.

It happens at Mountville, but every Tuesday night it also happens at Folk Club, where we always do our best and sometimes things don't go *quite* as planned, and sometimes it's magic and sometimes it's voodoo, but the audience can be counted on to find the good which gives us the courage to sing another song another day. It's one of the very special things I have loved about this musical journey!

OK, so this is a Stewart Sisters showcase, so in case you don't know us, this is our most recent floofed-up bio: **With a style best described as homegrown harmony from Americana roots, sisters-in-law Sherry (mandolin, flute and vocals) and Valeria Stewart (guitar, vocals) have been playing and singing together since 2009. The band includes Jim Nagle (dobro, guitar) and Annie Jones (bass, vocals). Artisan vocal harmonies with subtle notes of bluegrass, folk, and blues, with a dash of swing, all mixed together in a big kettle and cooked over a slow fire until it settles into a long and winding groove. They are currently recording their debut CD at Cabin Studio with sound engineer and Grammy award winner Les Thompson.**

Thanks to you all for being part of our musical journey and I hope you enjoy our showcase!

THE FOLK CLUB

of Reston & Herndon

Early Rock 'n' Roll Night

July 19, 2016

by Dave the Treasurer (mostly) and Ben the President



Join your friends on July 19th for a musical celebration of the decade that saw the birth and growth of Rock 'n' Roll in America (1954-1963).

The Folk Club is having its first theme night to recognize and appreciate one of the genres that's influenced so many of us musically, and one that we enjoy revisiting from time to time. For one night in July we encourage you to come and perform, listen to, and sing out music from the world of *American Bandstand*, performers such as Elvis Presley, Buddy Holly, The Everly Brothers, Fats Domino, Ricky Nelson, Chuck Berry, Little Richard, Bill Haley & The Comets, The Big Bopper, and many more, DJs Alan Freed and Wolfman Jack, up until the start of the British Invasion (in February 1964 the Beatles had their first #1 hit in the USA).

Head for the attic and dig out your poodle skirts and crinoline, white bucks, saddle shoes, penny loafers, and even "Blue Suede" Shoes, if you've got 'em. Dig out the Wildroot Cream Oil and Brylcreem, bring back the "Duck Tail", find the "peg pants", the James Dean T-Shirt, all of your Burma Shave slogans seen along the roadside, etc. Does anyone still have their "White Sport Coat" or their "Pink Carnation?" [If you know what all of that means, you're officially "over the hill"!]

Get creative musically, costume-wise or just come to sing, listen, and enjoy. Let's count how many songs use the "50's progression" (I-vi-IV-V chords – *Why Do Fools Fall in Love*, anyone?). Any videographers out there who want to make a record of the event, feel free to do your thing. Who knows, maybe we can get some YouTube hits.

Note: If there are more than ten performers on this night, we may extend the evening a bit or change the length of each slot, to allow every musician to play.

The Folk Club does not have concerts in July and August, and a few members came up with the idea of substituting theme nights this summer. It's an opportunity to try something a little different and have fun with it. So on this night in July, when there would normally be a concert, we're encouraging performers to present songs that fit the theme. Of course, that doesn't mean it's required, but those who help make the scene will be cool cats.



MUSICAL NOTES



Rain Follows the Plow: A Dust Opera

Rain Follows the Plow is a unique, collaborative musical project based on an album-length song cycle about the Dust Bowl, written by Oklahoma native Steve Coffee. It showcases the Americana movement at its best, celebrating authentic folk traditions with freshness and creativity. Throughout 2016, Rain Follows the Plow is being staged as a "folk opera."

In July there are five performances for the 2016 Capital Fringe Festival at the Sprenger-Atlas Performing Arts Center, 1333 H Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002 - Fri 7/8, Sun 7/10, Sat 7/16, Thu 7/21, and Sat 7/23. More info and tickets at <https://www.capitalfringe.org/events/923-rain-follows-the-plow>.

On August 12th Rain Follows the Plow will be performed at Grist Mill Park in Alexandria; more information to follow.

Environmental Songwriting Contest

The international Environmental Songwriting Contest, sponsored by the Connecticut Songwriters Association, is now accepting entries. The contest is open to all. There are prizes totaling more than \$5,000 and promotional opportunities. They are seeking original songs that address important environmental issues of our time, particularly songs that inform and educate. The submission deadline is July 31. All that matters is the song. Production/style/performance is not a factor. Submit online or by mail. Full details at <http://www.ctsongs.com/EnviroSongContest-Main.htm>

"FOLKIES" BORN THIS MONTH:

7/3/1893 – Mississippi John Hurt
7/4/1826 – Stephen Foster
7/10/1907 – Fulton Allen (a.k.a. Blind Boy Fuller)
7/10/1947 – Arlo Guthrie
7/14/1912 – Woody Guthrie
7/18/1954 – Ricky Skaggs
7/21/1947 – Cat Stevens
7/23/1971 – Alison Krauss
7/30/1936 – George "Buddy" Guy

MONTHLY MUSICAL QUOTE

"There's several ways of saying what's on your mind. And in states and counties where it ain't too healthy to talk too loud, speak your mind, or even vote like you want to, folks have found other ways of getting the word around. One of the mainest ways is by singing."

- Woody Guthrie

MEMBER PERFORMANCES & INFO

T.M Hanna tmhanna.net

Bill Davis (w/Somos El Mar)
schoolshows.com/somoselmar

Chris Anderson <http://chris-anderson.info>

- Monthly, 2nd Saturday, Harried Americans Happy Hour, 5:30 to 7:00 p.m., Epicure Cafe, Fairfax, VA. <http://harriedamericans.com>. The show includes comedy, poetry, and music, geared to adults - and is free, with a suggested donation of \$10.

Ron Goad MisterGoad@aol.com

- 2nd, 4th & 5th Wednesdays 7:30 to ? p.m. (open mic at 10 p.m.), SAW Variety Showcases at Epicure Café, Fairfax, VA Epicurecafe.org

- Monthly, 2nd Monday at Brewer's Alley, Frederick, MD. Contact Ron Goad for more information.

Harley String Band (Jim Clark, Jim Johnson and Steve Coffee) www.harleystringband.com

The Aloha Boys (Glen Hirabayashi and Isaac Ho'opi'i)
alohaboys.com

Jan Gillies

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

George Dacre

www.acousticayre.com

Ben Hamblin

- Friday, July 15 at 7:30 PM – Fretwell & Hamblin at Café Montmartre restaurant, 1625 Washington Plaza, Lake Anne, Reston, VA 20190, with Jack Fretwell, harmonica and vocals, Mike Hansen, guitar and vocals, Niels Jonker, bass and vocals, and Trevell Ellis, drums.



Meets Tuesday nights, 7:15 p.m. 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: David Litwack, Sue Schier
Bookings: Steve Potter (concert flyers by Jim Clark)
Newsletter: Ben Hamblin, Dan Grove, Jim Clark, Dave Hurd
Website: Cheryl Hennessy
Facebook: Cheryl Hennessy
Lifetime Members: Rose Haskell, Ray & Ellen Kaminsky, Dave Hurd

FOLK CLUB FORMAT

Most Tuesday nights the Folk Club is an open-mike format with a sign-up board. Each performer has 12 minutes, which includes setup time.

SHOWCASE PERFORMANCES

On the 2nd Tuesday of the month (usually), we feature a "Showcase" of a Folk Club member in a 25-minute performance. 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. 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, or dahurdsr@cs.com.

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

Facebook: Search for "Folk Club of Reston Herndon"

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

Classifieds

LESSONS

- Private guitar lessons in Alexandria. Flexible learning techniques including reading, ear and applied music theory. Contact Eric Forthman: ecfmm@verizon.net; 703-400-7264.

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 Second Strings, P.O. Box 234, Nederland, CO 80466.

FOR SALE

- Martin D-41 acoustic guitar, purchased new two years ago from Guitar Center. In excellent condition, sounds beautiful, and plays like butter. A strap button and a K&K Pure Mini pickup system have been added. Lists for around \$4,500 new. Asking \$3,500 for this two year old. Contact Jim Johnson: jimjohnson@verizon.net or call 703-913-7408.