# The Folk Club of Reston & Herndon

Preserving the traditions of Folk Music, Folk Lore, and Gentle Folk Ways FolkClubOfRestonHerndon.org

# Volume 39, Issue 5



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# May 16 – Concert: Runaway Home

Mark Elliott, a long-ago member of the Club, returns with his musical brother Gary Culley. See page 2

# May 9 Showcase – Nancy Truax

by Nancy



I grew up in East Tennessee, living at various times in Chattanooga, Knoxville, and Maryville. I joined the Coast Guard at the age of 21, and enjoyed a long and varied career, stationed in places like Hawaii, Alaska, California, and DC. I spent the last ten years of my career in the JAG program. I ended my Coast Guard career as a criminal defense attorney, representing Coast Guard members whose court-martial convictions were up on appeal, and I continue to do that in retirement. So, I feel right at home at the Folk Club – the red light means stop, just like it does in the appellate court.

I first came to the Folk Club over ten years ago when I was invited by my neighbor Greg Vickers to join him on a few songs in his showcase. That was the first time I had ever sung into a microphone. There were a few open slots at the end that night. I wasn't planning on doing anything solo, but I borrowed a guitar and sang a few more songs. It was terrifying, but also the most rewarding experience, and I was hooked!

My biggest musical influences were not singers or songwriters, but my Dad and my sister. My Dad

never played any instrument but had the most beautiful voice. He'd ask me to learn songs for us to sing together. My sister Jean was five years older than me. Back in the days when music was not portable, when listening to music was a purposeful act, and when other girls her age were buying clothes and make-up, Jean spent all of her money on records. Jean loved all kinds of music, and I was along for that fabulous ride. I learned from my Dad to keep working on a song until you get it right. I learned from Jean that there is an endless variety of music out there, and it's all good. Many of my favorite songs today are songs from that early period of my life.

A couple of years ago I started taking voice lessons from Alina Kirchon-Goldman. There were a couple of songs that I really wanted to sing but didn't think I could, so I went looking for someone who could help me access more of my range. I thought I'd take a few lessons and see where it would lead, and I'm still at it -- Alina has been an invaluable resource!

We now live in Luray, Virginia, so I don't get to the Folk Club every week, but we've got a wonderful venue for the annual Fall Jamboree, and we hope to also host some one-day music jams.



# **Runaway Home**



https://www.runawayhomemusic.com/

Runaway Home is a Panoramic-Americana band founded by two intrepid dreamers and schemers who share a love for music and the places it takes us all. Their music begins close to the heart but is bound for distant vistas. Pulling from diverse musical backgrounds, Runaway Home blends their sound whiskey-smooth and harmonically strong, with a plaintive and rootsy edge.

Mark Elliott & Gary Culley have cultivated a sound that speaks from past experiences and life lessons, through the present, and into the great unknown. The differences in their musical backgrounds have strengthened the sound of Runaway Home into raw rhythm guitar with a hint of bluesy mandolin wrapped in the soothing strains of a mountain fiddle. The group has blended their vocals into carefully crafted and soulful harmonies that invite listeners to sit back and connect with the music.

<u>Mark Elliott</u> is known for his powerful rich tenor voice, and once trained as an opera-singer before embracing his troubadour roots and logging countless miles as a solo folk and bluegrass artist. The Oklahoma native was a protégé

# **TUESDAY, MAY 16<sup>TH</sup>, 2023** Show starts at **7:15 p.m**.

\$13 (\$12 MEMBERS) Requested Donation AMPHORA'S DINER DELUXE-HERNDON 1151 Elden St - Herndon, VA 20170

Purchase tickets in advance Tuesday evenings at the Folk Club's open mic at The Amphora Diner or by email at alhobson@verizon.net

Tickets may also be purchased at the door dependent on availability

www.restonherndonfolkclub.org The Folk Club of Reston-Herndon is a non-profit organization

of the legendary singer-songwriter, Tom Paxton. After recording his debut album "Common Ground" in 1987, he opened for Paxton.

<u>Gary Culley</u> is known for his songwriting, but especially for his exceptional guitar playing. Initially, Gary cut his teeth on guitar and songwriting as a student at the acclaimed *Berklee College of Music*. Born in Chicago, he moved to Nashville in 1991, finding success as a staff writer for *Sony-Edisto Music*, recorded his own CD, and became an integral part of the *Country Music Hall of Fame's Words & Music Program*.

Gary and Mark connected early on in Nashville and have been playing together so long that they are considered musical "twin sons from different mothers." That kinship led to a successful album called "Flight of Dreams" and a touring career playing clubs and festivals from coast to coast. The duo went on to win the coveted *Kerrville New Folk Award* along with many other awards.

Folk Club of Reston & Herndon memories video (2013): https://youtu.be/z8Bq0iFUcBs.

# MEMBER PERFORMANCES & INFO

# **CLUB INFO, ETC.**

# May 23rd - Our 38th Anniversary Celebration

Let's celebrate our longevity and all the sharing of music! As usual for party nights, we'll have round-robin open mic entertainment (one song per musical act), free dessert, door prizes, and it's free (no dollar donation). Bring wrapped-up CD's that you think other folkies might enjoy. The Folk Club will add CD's by our recent monthly concert artists.

# This Month: Return to Kilmarnock! – Folk Club Jamboree and Retirement Celebration – Memorial Day Weekend

Barb and Craig Keeler are going to host us again at Blue Bayou, their home on Chesapeake Bay this Memorial Day weekend. The dates are Friday-Monday, May 26-29, and the address is 72 Point Pleasant Road, Kilmarnock, VA 22482. If you think you are going, <u>please let them know</u> <u>now</u>. They'd like to know how many are attending, your arrival/departure plans, how many meals you'll have, and if you plan to camp out (804-435-1927, 703-203-8743, or bkeeler30@gmail.com, ). Also contact them if you have questions or need more information. Note: With family coming to celebrate Craig's retirement, they don't have any spare bedrooms available this time.

Come to the celebration and get together with folkies. These gatherings are worth the trip.

# Fifth Tuesday This Month

May 30th is the fifth Tuesday of the month, so we will be unplugged, without a sound system to amplify the performers. Some musicians feel freed from the technology. Sssh be quiet so everyone can hear the music!

## **Open Mics on Zoom**

Al Hobson hosts bi-weekly virtual Folk Club open mics on Zoom. This month the dates are Mon May 1, Mon May 15, and Mon May 29. If you'd like to share some songs, or watch and listen in, send an email to Al Hobson at <u>alhobson@verizon.net</u> by Sunday evening and let him know if you plan to perform or listen. He'll send you the Zoom link for the 7:30 PM show.

# **Open Mic Recordings**

For those who cannot be at the Amphora and would like to see the open mic later, a link is on our Event Calendar (<u>https://folkclubofrestonherndon.org/?page\_id=918</u>, select the link below the date, then the YouTube link). We record the open mic on Tuesday night, and upload and post it to YouTube the next day (which could take some time). Bill Davis - email: bil-davis@outlook.com

Chris Anderson ChrisAndersonSongs.com

Ron Goad - email: MisterGoad@aol.com

The Aloha Boys (including Glen Hirabayashi) www.alohaboys.com

Jan Gillies www.jangilliesmusic.com

Hickory Grove (Bev & Jack Osburn) www.hickoryg.com

Stevie Wade Potter, acoustic musician www.steviewademusic.com

## **Sherry Stewart**

www.facebook.com/SunnyatMidnightMusic

**Steven Cutts** <u>ThePrimeCutts.com</u> and Spotify, Apple Music, and Soundcloud

Audrey Adair Audrey JAdair.com

# Shenandoah Run (including Bob Melissinos, John Werntz, Ben Hamblin, Jim Johnson)

- Sat May 6 at 7:30 PM, Bull Run Unitarian Universalists Church, Manassas, VA

- Sat Jun 3 at 3 PM, Washington Folk Festival, Glen Echo Park, MD

www.shenandoahrun.com

**The Two Peas (**Ann Granger and Larry Rice) Harmony in Acoustic Music – 703-869-1419

# MUSICAL NOTES



# **Rick Landers & Heartland**

- Sat May 13 at 7 PM, Arts Barn, Herndon, VA - \$20 suggested donation

- Go to artsbarnmusic.org for more information.

# World Folk Music Association (WFMA)

- Go to www.wfma.net/index.htm for more information.

# **Focus Music**

- Jae Jin w Gabrielle Zwi - Sat May 27 at 7 PM, Community Lutheran Church, Sterling, VA, \$25 / \$30, in-person or virtual

- Go to www.focusmusic.org for more information.

#### **Institute of Musical Traditions**

- Dirk & Amelia Powell – Thu May 18 at 7:30 PM, <u>Saint</u> <u>Mark Presbyterian Church, 10701 Old Georgetown Rd,</u> <u>Rockville, MD</u> \$20+\$2/\$25

- Go to www.imtfolk.org for more information.

#### Folklore Society of Greater Washington (FSGW)

Thea Hopkins and Jessie Lloyd – Sun May 21 at 8 PM, online concert via Zoom – \$20 suggested donation
Go to fsgw.org for more information.



of Reston & Herndon Meets Tuesday nights, at 7:15 PM ET at Amphora Diner Deluxe, 1151 Elden Street, Herndon, VA President: Ben Hamblin Treasurer: Al Hobson Board of Directors: Bill Davis, TM Hanna, Ron Goad, Sue Schier, Bill Farrar, Cheryl Hennessy, Connee Chandler, Jim Clark, Nancy Truax, Steve Potter Publicity: Dan Telfer Bookings: Steve Potter Newsletter: Ben Hamblin, Dan Grove, Steve Potter Website: Al Hobson, Ben Hamblin Facebook: Ben Hamblin Lifetime Members: Rose Haskell, Ray & Ellen Kaminsky, Beth Drumheller

# FOLK CLUB FORMAT

Most Tuesday nights the Folk Club is an open-mike format with a signup board. Each performer has 8 minutes, which includes setup time.

## SHOWCASE PERFORMANCES

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month (usually), we feature a "Showcase" of a Folk Club member in a 24-minute performance. To do a Showcase you must: 1) be a paid-up Folk Club member who has not done a showcase in the last 12 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, and other music-related items for the newsletter. Items will be published on the basis of music-related interest, timeliness, and available space. Send your input to newsletter editor Ben Hamblin at FolkClubOfRestonHerndon@gmail.com.

#### **RESERVE YOUR CONCERT SEATS**

Donations can be made in advance for Guest Artist concert performances on Tuesdays at the Folk Club or by prepaid mail. Contact Al Hobson, 810 Elden St, Herndon, VA 20170, treasurer.folkclub@gmail.com.

The Folk Club of Reston & Herndon c/o Al Hobson 810 Elden St Herndon, VA 20170

#### FOLK CLUB MEMBERSHIP

If you enjoy the music and company, become a member! The process is the same if your membership has expired. Make out a check to "The Folk Club" in the amount of \$15 for one year or \$55 for 5 years. Please DO NOT make the check to Al Hobson. Send the check to: The Folk Club of Reston & Herndon; c/o Al Hobson; 810 Elden St; Herndon, VA 20170. Please provide your name, email address, phone # and type, and residential address. By the way, we are looking into a way to accept online payments in the future.

#### **KEEP IN TOUCH**

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

<u>Facebook</u>: Search for "The Folk Club of Reston-Herndon" (<u>https://www.facebook.com/rhfolkclub</u>) <u>General Info</u>: Contact Sue Schier at (703) 435-2402

# **CLASSIFIEDS**

#### MUSIC GEAR

- For Sale: Late 40's early 50's Gibson lap steel. Ukuleles, including Kamaka, Martin, Cordoba, and Kala. Contact TM at <u>pressroom@bird-phluph.com</u> for prices or pictures.

- For sale: A signed Keith Young lap dulcimer made in November of 1980, #557. It is in excellent condition but has not been played in many years. Cloth case included. Selling for \$444 OBO. Please contact Shana Spiegel at <a href="https://shana.spiegel@gmail.com">shana.spiegel@gmail.com</a> or 703-899-5144.