

June 20 – Songwriter’s Theme Night

A night celebrating musicians who write original songs.

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June 13 Showcase – Jim Fowler

by Jim



Our featured performer for June is songwriter and multi-instrumentalist Jim Fowler. Raised in Fullerton, California, the birthplace of Fender guitars, Jim took up guitar around age 12 and followed with electric bass at age 15 (claim to fame: he once met Leo Fender). Soon Jim was writing songs and playing in his high school’s jazz ensemble.

As a guitar player, Jim was strongly influenced by the singer-songwriters of the 1970s, including Jim Croce, Neil Diamond, and John Denver. His playing was also shaped by fingerstylist Leo Kottke. Jim honed his songwriting skills as part of the so-called “Jesus Revolution,” frequenting Calvary Chapel concerts, and making friends

with local Maranatha! musicians. Jim’s songs “Shout It Out!” and “All That I Am” became part of the local Christian music landscape, being sung at large churches and youth camps.

In the summer of 1981, Jim toured the US as bass player with the Continental Orchestra. While on tour he submitted a song called “Everything I Need” to the first annual Christian Artists’ Seminar songwriting contest. The song won the contemporary category and was performed live by popular Christian singer Sandi Patti. The following year, the song was included in a musical called “Dreamer,” which was toured worldwide by 15 Continental Singers groups. In 1983, “Dreamer” won a GMA Dove award for Best Musical.

After a move to Nashville, and a failed attempt at full-time songwriting, Jim eventually relocated to the Washington DC area and launched a marketing career, from which he retired in 2022. He also met and married his wife of 30 years, Cindy. All the while, Jim has kept writing, with a catalog of around 400 songs. More recently, his song “Until I Met You” was a Gospel category finalist in the 2017 Mid-Atlantic Songwriting Contest. In 2022 Jim’s novelty ukulele song “Reindeer Knocking at My Front Door” was among 15 reader-submitted holiday videos featured by Ukulele Magazine. As well as guitar and bass, Jim has expanded his instrumental toolkit to include ukulele, mandolin, banjo, cuatro, and harmonica. (You can view many of Jim’s performances by searching social media for “shoutmusicjim.”)

Jim aspires to follow in the footsteps of songwriters/composers such as Kottke, Neil Young, Joni Mitchell, Tommy Emmanuel and others able to hold an audience’s attention for an entire solo show – a difficult challenge indeed. During his showcase Jim will perform a solo acoustic set that includes a surprise or two!



Songwriter's Theme Night June 20, 2023

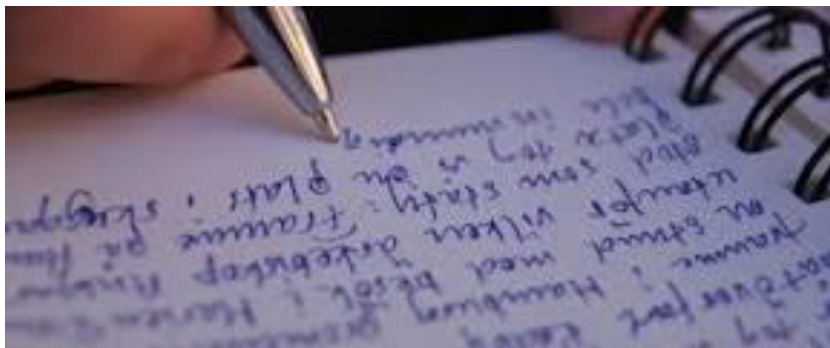


When composer Giuseppe Verdi was asked where he got the inspiration to write so many operas he replied, "I worked at it." In that vein, some musicians sometimes get a creative spark, and are driven to "work at it" until they have written something that satisfies. And often they want to share it with others and get feedback from other musicians and listeners.

We appreciate the creativity and craft that makes all of this happen, so this month we are having a Songwriter's Night and hoping that songwriters in the area will come forward to share their songs with the audience at The Folk Club. We envision a night when songwriters will perform a couple of their original songs. In the spirit of inclusion, non-songwriters can play songs written by Folk Club members. Any combination of originality would work: a song with original words and music, an old song with new verses created (a parody, for example), a song made by adding music to existing lyrics (a poem, maybe), or an instrumental.

However, this doesn't mean it's required for all songs to be originals, but it really would be nice if that is the case. Often we hear many (or all) cover songs on a typical night at The Folk Club, some of which we've heard umpteen times. So let's swing the pendulum in the other direction for once! Sure, it's fun to hear and sing along with songs we know, but shouldn't we also encourage creativity? This is a chance to show our support and appreciation to those brave souls who are able to bring something new and different into the world.

Note: Our Folk Club theme nights are always interesting, and there are always surprises. We do them in months when there is no concert scheduled, and everyone enjoys them. We will try our best to allow everyone to play. If performers play only one song in the allotted eight minutes that will be fine (as is always the case). If necessary we may extend the evening a bit to accommodate everyone who signs up to play.



CLUB INFO, ETC.

Runaway Home Concert – Rebooked for December 2023

We have late breaking news from our booking volunteer Steve Potter; Runaway Home, who had to cancel their May 16th concert, will be able to come and entertain us on December 12th. Mark Elliott is on the mend and Runaway Home, with his partner Gary Culley, is sure to put on a great show at the Amphora. All ticket holders for the May concert should plan to attend, but anyone who is unable to make it can contact us for a refund.

Our 38th Anniversary Celebration Was Epic!

Thanks to all of the Folk Club members who came on May 23rd to help us celebrate all of the music and friendships that we have enjoyed through the years. It was especially wonderful to see those who we haven't seen lately. There were 34 signed up (Ben Hamblin; Rose & the Rosettes & A Thorn; John C; Robert; Charles M; Nancy Truax; Skip; Al H; Cindy Mc; Rob Gould; Walt; Jim F; Jen Kat & Friends; Audrey Adair; Lavania; Jax; Bill D; Felicia; TM; Jim Thorne; Steve Cutts; Jim & Marilyn & Ron; Joan Kennedy; Lea Coryell; Jim Nagle; Ron Goad; RLSB (Tom B); Bev & Jack; Sherry & Rosie Lix; Rick L; Ken; John D; Dan T; Rich B) and everyone played, so it was a long but fulfilling night.

Open Mics on Zoom

Al Hobson hosts bi-weekly virtual Folk Club open mics on Zoom. This month the dates are Mon Jun 12, and Mon Jun 26. If you'd like to share some songs, or watch and listen in, send an email to Al Hobson at alhobson@verizon.net 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 (https://folkclubofrestonherndon.org/?page_id=918, 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).

MUSICAL NOTES



World Folk Music Association (WFMA)

- Sat Jun 10 at 7 pm, Irish traditional music duo [Lilt](#) at St Aidan's Episcopal Church, Mount Vernon, VA.; also streamed live on YouTube.

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

Focus Music

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

Institute of Musical Traditions

- Mark Schatz & Bryan McDowell & The Dirty Grass Players, Mon Jun 12 7:30 PM, [Saint Mark Presbyterian Church, 10701 Old Georgetown Rd, Rockville, MD](#) \$22/\$25

- Brendan Mulvihill, Wed Jun 28 7:30 PM, Saint Mark Presbyterian Church \$27/\$30

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

Folklore Society of Greater Washington (FSGW)

- Rev. Robert B. Jones, Thu Jun 15 at 7 PM, Library of Congress, Washington, DC \$20/\$22

- Brendan Mulvihill & Friends, Tue Jun 27 7:30 PM, The Lyceum at Alexandria History Museum, Alexandria, VA

- Go to fsgw.org for more information.

Arts Barn House Concert

- Shawna Caspi, Sat Jun 24, 7 PM at Al Hobson's Art Barn, Herndon, VA. Toronto-based singer-songwriter Shawna Caspi crafts poetic and meaningful songs, and supports her warm and clear voice with intricate fingerstyle guitar. Reserve seats at <https://artsbarnmusic.org/>.

MEMBER PERFORMANCES & INFO

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
- Sun July 3 at 2 PM, Naked Mountain winery, Markham, VA
www.steviewademusic.com

Sherry Stewart
www.facebook.com/SunnyatMidnightMusic

Steven Cutts ThePrimeCutts.com and Spotify, Apple Music, and Soundcloud

Audrey Adair AudreyJAdair.com

Shenandoah Run (including Bob Melissinos, John Wertz, Ben Hamblin, Jim Johnson)
www.shenandoahrun.com

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



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 2nd 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

Facebook: Search for "The Folk Club of Reston-Herndon"
(<https://www.facebook.com/rhfolkclub>)

General Info: 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 pressroom@bird-phluph.com 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 shana.spiegel@gmail.com or 703-899-5144.