



Dedicated to the preservation of folk, traditional and acoustic music.

Quarter Notes

www.plankroad.org | Summer 2008

Plank Road's Regular Events



SING-AROUND

Two Way Street Coffee House
1st and 3rd Saturdays - 2:00-4:00 PM

BLUEGRASS JAM

Two Way Street Coffee House
4th Saturday - 2:00-4:00 PM
No Bluegrass Jam on 6/28/08

Plank Road All Volunteer String Band Practice

Jones Family Music School
630-916-1356
2nd Saturday - Resumes September 13
No Summer Rehearsals

LAST THURSDAY: "It's Our Turn!"

Two Way Street Coffee House
7:00 - 9:30 PM
Last Thursday of every month. A monthly unplugged open mic for high school and college age students only.

Go to www.plankroad.org and/or www.twowaystreet.org for full details!

Sponsored by PRFMS, Two Way Street and Downers Grove

Heritage Festival, Folk Music Stage Saturday, June 28

"Performers and bands from the Two Way Street Coffee House present roots music from yesterday, today and tomorrow under the trees of Fishel Park."

The 25th annual Heritage Festival, Folk Music Stage is set for Saturday June 28, from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. in Fishel Park - just behind the Two Way Street Coffee House in Downers Grove. Here's the lineup:

10:00 am & 1:20 pm	DEAN MILANO – Folk, country, bluegrass with special guests
10:20 am & 1:40 pm	HEATHER STYKA – Young insightful songwriter with deep roots
10:40 am & 2:00 pm	SMALL POTATOES – Great musicians: smart, funny, wistful, hip
11:00 am & 2:20 pm	PETE MORTON – One of England's finest singer-songwriters
11:20 am & 2:40 pm	JONES FAMILY – Songs old & new from our first family of folk
11:40 am & 3:00 pm	LONG JOURNEY HOME – Stunning instrumentals & beautiful harmonies
12:00 am & 3:20 pm	TRILLIUM – Exciting Celtic, ragtime, bluegrass & Dixieland
12:20 pm & 3:40 pm	NORTHSIDE SOUTHPAWS – Unique left-handed guitar/mandolin duo
12:40 pm & 4:00 pm	MICHAEL J. MILES – Master of the banjo, he's redefining its limits
1:00 pm & 4:20 pm	PATCHOULI – Fast forward folk: powerful guitars & vocals

Upcoming Events



June 28, 2008
Downers Grove Heritage Festival, Folk Music Stage

<http://visitor.downers.us/fest>

July 12, 2008
Music By The Yard (MBTY) - 3:00 PM
See page 8 for details

July 20, 2008
Woodstock Folk Festival
www.woodstockfolkmusic.com

July 25–27, 2008
PRFMS Campout & Jam Session
See page 6 for details

August 31 & September 1, 2008
Fox Valley Folk Music & Storytelling Festival
www.foxvalleyfolk.com.com

September 7, 2008 - 11:00AM - 4:00 PM
Wolf Road Nature Arts and Heritage Faire
www.savetheprairiesociety.org

September 21, 2008
Lombard Prairie Days
www.lombardparks.com

November 15, 2008
Old Time Barn Dance Party - 8:00 PM

This event is free, and is a part of the four-day Downers Grove Heritage Festival running Thursday through Sunday, June 26-29. In addition to the folk stage, six other stages will feature entertainment including blues, country, classical, Latin, cajun, rock and jazz, plus a beer garden, street fair, car show, craft fair, amusement rides, more than 60 food booths, pony rides, fireworks, and more!

Musical groups include **Vertical Horizon, Hi Infidelity, Rico, Class Act Big Band, War, Plunket, Salt Creek Sinfonietta, Marshall Vente, Tobias Music Showcase, Ides of March**, and many others.

More info on the web at <http://visitor.downers.us/fest> | www.twowaystreet.org



Top Left - Craig Werth, Dave Humphreys, Dave Reynolds and David Francey at the May 4th Francey concert, sponsored by the Maple Street Chapel and PRFMS



Top Right - David Francey, Bottom Right - Craig Werth

President's Message, June 2008



As summer finally appears to be arriving, the thing most on my mind is how lucky we are to live in an area where we have so many live music events and outdoor summer festivals to enjoy. I just returned from Kerrville Folk Festival in Texas and it has only whet my appetite for being outside, enjoying good friends and conversation, and playing and listening to music. I hope all of you will be attending various music events throughout the summer. To inform our membership and the folk community about upcoming events, join the PRFMS email chat group

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/plankroad> and post information.

In keeping with summer traditions, the first PRFMS Music by the Yard is scheduled for July 12th. We need a few more members to offer their home and backyard for us to get together to sing some songs and share some food. Please see the announcement in this issue for details on the July MBTY and information on how to host one at your home. And speaking of traditions, after a several year hiatus we will be reviving the historic PRFMS campout on July 25 - 27 at Chain-O-Lakes State Park. So pull out those tents and air mattresses, load up the coolers, pack those instruments, and join us; more details on registering are included in this issue. Or if you can't come for the entire weekend, it is close enough to drive up for a day or evening so don't miss it! Thanks to Will Gentleman for his efforts in researching and organizing this event.

In spite of the lure of the summer, there are PRFMS business items worth mentioning. First, thanks to all of you who have renewed your membership for the 2008 calendar year; a large portion of your dues supports the *Quarter Notes* publications. If you haven't renewed yet, renewal forms are on the website. Second, we have reinstated PRFMS as a state not-for profit organization, and also obtained our 501(C)3 non-profit status under the umbrella of the North American Folk Alliance, effective March 1, 2008. This gives us additional opportunities for growing our organization through grant applications and other avenues, and starting March 1, membership fees and contributions are tax deductible. Thanks to Vicki Ingle for all her efforts to get this accomplished. Finally, while these steps have PRFMS well-positioned organizationally, for a successful future we really need more membership involvement as general members on the PRFMS board, who can take on special projects and provide new leadership and perspective. Please consider whether you are able to contribute more to our organization as a board member and possibly as a future officer. Contact me or any of our board members - we would love to have you attend some board meetings and try on a larger role for the future.

More information on PRFMS happenings and summer events are included in this issue of the newsletter. We hope to see you at a music event in the near future. Enjoy the summer!

Cheryl Joyal

PRFMS Needs You...

Without additional membership involvement, we will have to limit the internal and external events that PRFMS has been involved in... can you help?

- **URGENT NEED** for a new board member to serve as Volunteer Coordinator for Events
- **NEED** for new board member to serve as Event Coordinator (send email announcements)
- **NEED** for additional board member to take on special projects
- **ONE TIME NEED** for volunteer with sound experience to pick up, set up and run sound system for Danada Festival on October 12th

Contact Cheryl Joyal or talk to any board member if you are interested.

FARM Folk Alliance Region Midwest

October 10-12, 2008

An annual gathering of folk enthusiasts that provides a networking and reunion opportunity for performers, media, presenters and service providers alike - to talk, hear and perform music and to learn together.



see www.farmfolk.org

Join FARM at its 2008 Gathering Friday, October 10th thru Sunday, October 12th (Columbus Day weekend) at Techny Towers Conference Center in Northbrook, IL, a suburb of Chicago accessible by highways that either bypass or run through Chicago, and a short cab or bus ride from Amtrak, commuter rail, and O'Hare Airport. Our new location, features and fee schedules were such a hit last year that we expect an even bigger crowd this year, so be sure to book early. (Nobody who registers will be turned away from the Gathering events, but we have a finite number of rooms available on-site—when they're gone, they're gone!)

To increase participation by both younger performers who cannot afford to pay full board, and urban presenters, media, and venue operators, we are continuing our a la carte pricing structure for lodging, meals and commuter-only, including a nominal fee for those who merely attend to observe the showcases and open mike. ALTERNATE LODGING AND DINING options are located nearby (far closer than in years past— though Techny's food and lodging drew raves last year).

JURIED SHOWCASES: There will be 12 juried showcases at FARM again this year. Showcase artists will be announced around June 15th. PLUS, since we know that Midwestern folkies want jamming & Performance Lane (our one-song, "everyone gets a slot who wants one" performance opportunity) to continue, they will!

PANELS/WORKSHOPS on topics of importance to Midwestern folkies will be an important part of the 2008 Gathering. If you are interested in presenting and/or suggesting a panel, please e-mail Annie Capps at acapps@maynardmusic.com.

Sincerely, your 2008 FARM Board: Sandy Andina, President; Christine Gaylor, Secretary; Roger Little, Treasurer; Joan Hellmann, Registrar; Annie Capps, Member-At-Large

For **Folk Music Resources Next Door**, a listing of folk music societies and other folk music resources in the western suburbs, go to www.plankroad.org, click on **Favorites**, and again on **Folk Music Resources**.



MUSIC INSTRUCTION

Some Thoughts on Doubling

by Don Stiernberg

I was excited and honored when Vicki asked me to address the Plank Road folks! My next thought was that this would be primarily a guitar playing demographic, and here I am a mandolin player. Not to worry, I'm a guitar "owner" too, and like most of us have been intrigued by all the various string instruments. So I'd like to share a few ideas about what you might be up against should you try the coolest instrument in any band, the mandolin. And I've got a couple nice tunes for you here in TAB that should help with flatpicking in general, even on guitar. So here we go!

A lot of my students play guitar and when they start with chord shapes on the mandolin, they'll say things like "oh, that one's like such and such on the guitar, except..." Hey, do yourself a favor—keep all your doubling instruments SEPARATE in your mind. The comparisons just add a mental step, ultimately slowing you down. Also the techniques shared by the instruments, like good picking, will take care of themselves. You won't lose what you've cultivated on one instrument. You might, however, expand upon it.

Let's talk about good picking a bit. Most of us have to work a bit to get to playing steady, flowing eighth notes like you might hear on an old time fiddle tune. Think Doc Watson, or Sam Bush, or (yipes!) Chris Thile. How do they keep those notes coming throughout an entire tune? Set? Night?? It is an athletic activity, and we need to be careful not to hurt ourselves acquiring the skills. In fact lots of my students come with problems like "I can play, but after 45 minutes at the jam, I'm done!"

Well, friends, it's all about relaxation. Your movement should be at the wrist in the picking hand, and that wrist and forearm should be relaxed. Doc and Sam, by the way, are exceptional, electing to use the elbow as the fulcrum. This yields a mighty sound, but it hurts! Try a closed pick grip—that keeps things relaxed in your pick hand, and don't squeeze the pick too hard. In fact, if you drop it now and then, that's good, it shows things are "loose" and ready to go.

We all aspire to pick down-up-down-up. That keeps the accents in the right places. A downstroke is an accent and belongs on the strong notes in a bar, like the downbeat. Some of us, like yours truly, get a bit turned around sometimes, especially when in pursuit of a spontaneously improvised idea. But the great ones are always in control of those accents and that's why we can dance to or set our watches to what they play.

Now, what to practice? Scales, arpeggios, licks? No, I always advocate tunes or melodies, because they inspire you to put more time in. I think that's why fiddle tunes play such a huge role in traditional and acoustic music. That's also why I've included Jethro's version of *Cattle in the Corn* here as an etude. You can play the melody or the harmony. You can play it with a friend or a recording device. This tune is known more frequently as *Cattle in the Cane* or *Cattle in the Canebreak* but ol' 'Fro called it *Cattle in the Corn*, (perhaps never getting away from those glory days as a Kellogg's pitchman..?) It IS the same tune that Sam and Dawg and all them play on that great encyclopedia of bluegrass mandolin, *Bluegrass Extravaganza* on Acoustic Disc. Our own Robbie Fulks of Chicago picks the bejeebs out of this one too.



Don Stiernberg

He lived and worked here in the Chicago area for most of his life, even performing for Plank Road on at least one occasion. I was there.

The main contrast in their styles was in how they voiced rhythm chords and how the eighth notes felt. Monroe used "chop" chords to emulate drum sounds. Burns rarely played rhythm, thinking of the mandolin as a melody instrument predominantly. But when he did, his chord voicings were colorful and jazzy, or in his words "like a good piano player..". All of this is an oversimplification of course, but hopefully will save you some time as you get farther into the mandolin world. When you hear latter-day mandolin titans such as David Grisman, Sam Bush, Chris Thile, Barry Mitterhoff, et al, you're actually hearing a combination of the Monroe and Burns styles, a sort of combined vocabulary if you will. The arrangement of *I Can't Give You Anything But Love* is Jethro's and gives you a sense of his "chord melody" (melody stated in more than one note at a time) style, and also the sort of thing he taught his students (like yours truly) back in the days of Steve Goodman, The Earl of Old Town, Main Music in Skokie, and the like. \$10 and perhaps a Coors Lite could get you a bunch of beautiful standards and the occasional fiddle tune, which he called "hoedowns"...

As you amass chord vocabulary on the mandolin, bear in mind that the instrument is symmetrical due to being tuned in fifths. As you learn a chord shape, make a visualization of it, then notice you can move it anywhere on the neck—no capo needed! Between that and the fact that there are only four types of chords in all of music (major, minor, augmented, and diminished) you should be up and going on many of your favorite tunes without the aid of a massive chord book. And if any of this seems interesting or challenging, you can always drop me a line at my site. Happy Pickin' and Welcome to the Eight String World. Don't throw yer gee-tars away right away, but get ready for big fun on the coolest instrument in the world...

Sincerely,
Don Stiernberg
www.donstiernberg.com



To access the two songs that accompany this article, go to www.plankroad.org, click on **Favorites, Some Thoughts on Doubling** (under **Articles**), and then click again on the appropriate tab at the top of the article.

The Jones Family PRFMS' "First Family" of Folk

by Vicki Ingle

Almost everyone active in folk music in the western suburbs has, at some point during the past 20 years, walked the curved path to the front door of 36 East Hickory Street in Lombard, the home of the Jones family and The Jones Family Music School. Originally the home of Tom Jones' parents, Anne and Tom took over the family homestead and developed a music school where literally thousands of students were mentored. The 1915 Tudor-style house has been a musical home and refuge to many folk musicians in the western suburbs.

As I navigated the stone walkway from the car to the Jones' house to interview Anne and Tom, I couldn't help but note that the number of times I would walk this path were probably numbered. Since the first time I went to the Two Way Street Coffee House to hear Michael Smith in 1996, 12 years ago, I heard about the Jones family. It seemed to me that their thousands of students were everywhere and liked to name drop. But why? It was a privilege to spend an evening with Anne and Tom, to talk to them and try to understand how these local legends of folk music came to be.

Going back to the beginning, I asked Anne and Tom about their parents, whether they were raised in musical households. Anne said her mother never played an instrument but loved to sing, and she talked about singing with her sister on the front porch. "After all," she said, "there was no television and we had to find other things to do." (Anne still sings front porch-songs, including "Goodnight Irene," which was one of her grandfather's favorite tunes.) Anne's parents made her sing with her sister when they all rode together in the car. I commented that her parents must have loved the sound of their voices together. She replied, "They didn't like the sound of us squabbling...!"

Tom's father sang and his mother played the piano and appreciated "serious music." His parents made sure the family had a nice collection of records and Tom ended up liking Spike Jones as much as classical music - and just about everything else in-between. Tom, like Anne, had piano lessons as a child but went on to play the clarinet in junior high school and sing in high school and church choirs. As a teenager, Tom was a hi-fi addict and hung out with a group of like-minded kids who did things like build their own amplifiers and buy records together, mail order from New York, to get a group discount. Tom still remembers one of those

“ Music student: Mrs. Jones, what kind of music do you teach?

Anne: We teach old-timey music.

Student: Oh, I love old-timey music. I listen to the Beatles every day.

Anne: Well, older than that.”

records with great fondness, "New York 19" (Folkways), regarding it as one of the things that pointed him to folk music. ("New York 19," named for the sounds recorded on the streets of postal zone 19, included "Wimoweh" performed by Pete Seeger with some African American children.)

Time passed. It was the late 1950s and the beginning of a folk music revival, a great time to be an acoustic guitar player. "Folk



Cathy, Tom and Anne Jones

music was in the air, literally in the air," said Anne. Great opportunities to "tune in" included WFMT radio with "The Midnight Special" and the University of Chicago (U of C) folk festivals.

Anne was in her 20s when she met Tom, who was playing guitar by then, at college and found her true love and musical calling. Anne and Tom married in December of 1960 and they attended the first U of C folk festival as a celebration of starting their life together. "We went to every one of them for a long time," Tom said, "it became a tradition."

In the early days, Anne and Tom spent most of their time at the Old Town School of Folk Music, taking lessons and hearing people perform there. Tom took banjo lessons from Dave Prine and heard stories about his brother, John, who wrote songs. (Later, but long before the Jones' house concerts began, Dave Prine and Tyler Wilson, who helped start Hog Eye Music, did a concert in the basement of the Jones' home.)

Then, one day something happened that changed the course of their lives. Anne was sitting on the front porch practicing folk songs on the guitar as she watched her children play in the yard, when two girls from the neighborhood walked by and asked Anne if she gave music lessons. Anne told them she wasn't really a teacher. But the girls countered this by saying that the music sounded good to them and asked her to just show them what she knew. Thus, the music school started at the price of \$1 per lesson. To this day, Anne remains humble and says they are just "regular people who sing and play."

Their music business grew the same way it started, by folks asking them how to play the songs they knew and by word of mouth. The Jones family never advertised their business, with the exception of a single, very small classified ad in the Glen Ellyn News. In the beginning, they only taught kids under the age of 12 and hosted hootenannies in their backyard on Saturday nights. When folk music peaked, the house was packed with students. Tom left his job with the postal service to devote himself to their music business. (See www.jonesfamilymusic.com for more information about The Jones Family Music School, founded in 1966.)

Musical Influences (alpha order):

George and Gerry Armstrong, Clarence Tom Ashley, Joan Baez, Horton Barker, Flemming Brown, Richard Dyer-Bennet, Alison Krauss, Odetta, Malvina Reynolds, Pete Seeger, the Stoneman family (was seen on WFLD television, channel 32), Win Stræke, Ray Tate, Rhonda Vincent (Sally Mountain Show), Doc Watson.

Unfortunately, for quite some time now, folk music has not had the same type of popularity it had in the 1960s, when everybody wanted to learn how to play the acoustic guitar. Over the years, Tom supplemented the family's income from music in different ways, most recently as a school bus driver, a job he is retired from now. As far as his original decision to leave the security of a government job, he admits it was a big relief to quit the postal service. He missed the benefits, like health insurance, but it opened up a whole lot of other things he could do.

Tom and Anne talked about how the music biz personally enriched their lives. What's important to Anne is "...the friends you make, finding like-minded people...that's the best thing." Tom talked about how gratifying it is when people come back and tell you the

Tom told a story about the musical Stoneman family. When Pa Stoneman (1893 -1968) was asked how they got most of their 23 children to play an instrument, he replied: "Easy. I took fine instruments, tuned them up, laid them on the bed and said, 'Don't touch!'"

difference music has made in their lives. And, it's been nice for both of them to be able to teach parents and their children (not necessarily in that order) and to watch some of their students grow up.

I wondered what it was like for the four Jones children growing up in a musical household. Were they force-fed folk music? What became of them? Are they musical?

At one end of the spectrum there is Tom, who now lives in St. Louis. He quit playing when he went to graduate school, though he still appreciates music. While at home, he played a gutbucket bass that his dad constructed; an innovative rigid-neck bass that was copied from one at the Old Town School.

Nathan, now living with his wife in Wisconsin, likes to play and sing songs for his baby. As a teen he loved rock music and turned the music up so loud the "house would shake." When asked to turn it down, he told them, "...I can't stand your music either!" When Nathan wanted an electric guitar, Tom thought he solved the problem by telling him he'd help him build one if he really wanted it...well, that's what happened and Tom says that his son got a lot out of the experience, including good friendships and a job at a local guitar store as an instrument repairman.

Bill, who lives in Boston, plays with his musical wife and offspring through an organization called the Family Folk Chorale. Bill seemed to resist music until as a senior in high school he asked for a guitar and took to his bedroom; in a short time he could play all the songs in the Jones' family songbook. When his parents asked how this could happen, Bill replied, "All this time the music has been coming at me through the floor boards, how could I not know them?"

At the other end of the spectrum is their daughter Cathy, who actively participates at the music school (even while pursuing an MBA degree). As a child, Cathy had to work hard to convince her parents she really wanted to do folk music and had to be beckoned from her room where she was always practicing fiddle, mandolin, guitar or banjo. Cathy has been teaching music since high school and, as an adult, still teaches and plays fiddle and mandolin with the barn dance band, a trio at church and with the family band, where she also arranges all the harmony vocals. In addition, she has done some arranging and performing of music in connection with theatre. As far as the future goes, Cathy is not thinking too much beyond getting her degree and keeping her current musical activities going. She did mention that someday she might like to be in a bluegrass band again.

While Cathy and Tom still teach, that could change somewhat (though not necessarily) if and when the Jones family moves from their home on East Hickory street - a change that is being contemplated. And at least for now, following a bout with cancer, Anne is retired and not taking students. She feels she has made her contribution as a teacher and is interested in spending her time quilting, knitting, playing with her grandchildren and singing and playing music for fun.

Maybe understanding the legendary Jones family can be summed up in one word - devotion. They are devoted to music, to sharing what they know with whoever asks. Their students are happy to return the favor with their own personal devotion. I asked if there was anything they wanted to say to the folk music community through this article: "Tell 'em we love 'em." I'm sure the feeling is mutual.

See www.plankroad.org, click on **Favorites**, "Keeping up with the Joneses," to read the 1985 article by Paul Klonowski about the Jones family.



Plank Road Campout with Jam Sessions - July 25-27

The Plank Road Campout is back! Make plans to join us July 25-27 for a relaxing weekend of friends, music and camping in the beautiful setting of Chain O'Lakes State Park in Spring Grove, IL.

You will need to make your own reservations at the website below or by phone **847-587-5512**. Camping is \$25/night and reservations require a \$5 fee plus the first night fee. **We recommend picking a site in the Honey Suckle Hollow camping area.** If we can stay within numbers 23 to 45, we will have a good common area for the Friday and Saturday evenings jamming around the campfire and other group events that might happen to come together. (By the way, please note that we must provide our own firewood.) For the map of the camping area, go to:

<http://dnr.state.il.us/lands/landmgt/parks/R2/Graphics/colcampmap1.jpg>

Information on Chain O'Lakes State Park (and for making reservations) is available at:

<http://dnr.state.il.us/lands/landmgt/parks/R2/CHAINO.HTM#camping>

In addition to music, there are opportunities for boating, fishing, hiking, horseback riding and more, so be sure to check out the website for details on these activities and any fees involved. Don't have a tent or camping equipment? Tents and cabins are available for rent. Check for details on the Chain O'Lakes website link above. Not a camper? Come out for the day on Saturday. The park is open from 6AM to 9PM. If you have any questions regarding the Plank Road aspects of this weekend, **contact Will Gentleman at wjgentleman@aol.com**

Thank You to our Sustaining Artists

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www.februarysky.com or
www.myspace.com/februaryskyfolk

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- Tom May, River City Folk

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- Dave Humphreys, TWS

<http://heatherstyka.com>
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email: heather@styka.com

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Thank You to our Sustaining Artists

The members of Thursday's Child thank Plank Road Folk Music Society for its commitment and dedication to the music tradition.



www.thursdayschildonline.com



NOTES

"Steve Goodman: Facing the Music" won a silver medal in the biography category of the 2008 Independent Book Publisher (IPPY) Awards. It was wonderful news for author Clay Eals to receive on the book's first anniversary!

ON THE RADIO

WDCB, Public Radio from College of DuPage

For a program guide, call (630) 942-4200

Tune in to *Folk Festival* with Lilli Kuzma, Tuesdays 7 to 9 pm and *Strictly Bluegrass* with Larry Robinson, Wednesdays 7 to 9 pm



Group photo with Jack Williams (second from left) after the PRFMS-sponsored Workshop, "The Songwriter's Guitar," held on April 20th at the Two Way Street Coffee House.

A Special Thanks to our Membership Contributors!!

Sustaining Artists (\$200 - \$399)

Benefits: Feature article and picture in one newsletter; 1/4 page reserved space in four newsletters for name(s), contact information and upcoming performances; individual membership(s) in PRFMS.

- **Bruce Holmes**
www.bruceholmes.com
- **Comfort Food**
Rich and Vicki Ingle
www.RichIngle.com
- **Heather Styka**
www.heatherstyka.com
- **February Sky**
Phil Cooper and Susan Urban
www.februarysky.com
- **Thursday's Child**
Bob and Mary Kay Lopardo,
and Jim and Mary Grosso
www.thursdayschildonline.com

Supporting Artists (\$50 - \$199)

Benefits: Line listing in four issues with name of group, name(s) of member(s), contact information; individual membership(s) in PRFMS.

- **Natural Bob and Micky Holdsworth**
www.naturalbob.com
- **Rickety Music**
Rick Neeley, Chris McNamara,
McNamara & Neeley and,
"The Songs of Bob Gibson",
www.ricketymusic.com
- **The George Mattson Trio**
Mike Hazdra, George Mattson,
Judy Mayorga
gmattson@intergate.com

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John J. Allan, Romaine Burelbach,
Lauretta (Dolly) Connors, Cheryl Joyal, Lilli Kuzma,
Troy and Susen LeValley, Andrew Malkewicz,
Gregg Morton

2008 Plank Road Folk Music Society Officers

Cheryl Joyal - President, *Quarter Notes* | cheryl.joyal@bp.com

Vicki Ingle - Vice President, *Quarter Notes* Editor | vingle@comcast.net

Cathy Jones - Treasurer, *Quarter Notes* | cathy@jonesfamilymusic.com

Bob O'Hanlon - Secretary

2008 Plank Road Folk Music Society Board Members

Jeanne Halama, Dave Humphreys, Chris Kuhn, Dave Reynolds,

Jennifer Shilt, Charley Smart, Carol Sommer

"Where words fail, music speaks."

— Hans Christian Anderson

Roll out those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer...

...and head over to Carol and Fred Spanuello's home on Saturday, July 12th for the first PRFMS Music By The Yard (MBTY) of the summer!



Music By the Yard is one of our most popular summer events and Carol and Fred are hosting the first one:

- Music and socializing will start at 3pm. Bring your instruments of course; no pressure to play, but we'd love to have you join in. If you prefer to listen, you can always request your favorite tune or song from the group.
- We'll fire up the grill about 5:00PM. Please bring your own food to grill and your own beverages of choice for yourself (and others if you want to share). Also bring a potluck to share - a salad, side-dish, dessert, snacks, or what-have-you.
- Bring lawn chairs for yourself, and a bathing suit and towel if you want to take a dip in Carol & Fred's swimming pool.
- RSVP requested for planning purposes (but feel free to join us at the last minute if your plans allow). To get directions to Carol and Fred's home in Willowbrook, IL., email carolspan1@hotmail.com, or phone 630-920-1557.
- This is a rain or shine event. We look forward to seeing you!



And the next MTBY will be???

You say you'd like a large group of enthusiastic musicians playing acoustic music in your yard for a few hours some lovely summer evening? If you want to host a Music By The Yard event, email Cheryl Joyal at clmjoyal@aol.com with any questions and/or the date you would like to host.

Transitions:

I'll Fly Away...

After a long bout with congestive heart failure, labor folksinger/songwriter **Bruce "U. Utah" Phillips** died in his sleep Friday evening, May 23, 2008. He was 73.

Utah Phillips on Steve Goodman

Phillips often crossed paths with Steve Goodman. For the Goodman bio, author Clay Eals was fortunate to be able to interview Phillips on March 2, 2000, in his hometown of Nevada City, California. Phillips' comments are incorporated in several places in the book, but on the occasion of his passing, it seems appropriate to honor him by sharing an extended expression of his wit and insight. To read an edited transcript of the Phillips interview, visit Clay's home page, www.clayeals.com, and click on the link, or input the direct link: clayeals.com/pdfs/2000_03_02_Phillips_int.pdf.

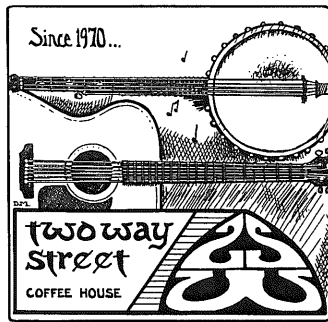
Bluesman Bo Diddley died of heart failure at age 79 on Monday, June 2, at his home in Archer, Florida. His signature songs, such as "Who Do You Love" and "Bo Diddley" melded rhythm and blues and rock 'n' roll through a distinctive thumping beat, heard across many genres of music.

See what's happening! Visit www.plankroad.org

- In This Issue...**
- Downers Grove Heritage Festival, June 28
 - Campout and Jam, July 25 - 27
 - The Jones Family, Feature Article
 - Music Instruction by Don Sternberg
 - Summer Music Festivals and Music by the Yard (MBTY)
 - FARM Gathering, October 10 - 12

PRFMS Contact:
Cheryl Joyal | 630-357-6905
Email: clmjoyal@aol.com or
info@plankroad.org
P.O. Box 386, Downers Grove, IL 60515





TWO WAY STREET COFFEE HOUSE

1047 Curtiss Street • Downers Grove, Illinois 60515

www.twowaystreet.org • 630-969-9720

(Across from the Public Library)

Folk Music Every Week since 1970!

ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE

- Friday June 20 **OPEN MIKE** — Anyone is welcome to perform, and we always have a great variety of acoustic performers! So popular we must limit the number of acts. **1-2 songs, 10 minutes max.** Doors open at 7:30 for signups – first come, first served. **Show starts 8:00.** For more information, phone 630-968-5526.
- Friday June 27 **HERITAGE FESTIVAL** — (see below — coffee house closed)
- Friday July 4 **CLOSED** — (Independence Day. Enjoy the Parades and Fireworks!)
- Friday July 11 ***CLAUDIA RUSSELL and the Folk Unlimited Orchestra** — Award-winning California singer/songwriter. Eclectic folk with traces of all her musical loves: blues, western swing, rock and country. Kerrville finalist! Guitar, mandolin, bass.
- Friday July 18 **COMPASS** — Jerry Thiel, Dave Borton, Tom Bradfish & Chuck VanderVennet present a veritable folk festival with traditionals & originals, ballads, swing, Celtic, country, and more! Guitar, bass, bouzouki, whistles, percussion, more!
- Friday July 25 **DAN ZAHN & KATE MORETTI** — Dan's lead guitar, mandolin and smooth voice plus Kate's rhythm guitar and sultry lead vocals bring swing, bluegrass, folk, western swing, originals and the great music of the 30's and 40's.
- Friday August 1 **FEBRUARY SKY** — Traditional Celtic singer/guitarist Phil Cooper joins singer/songwriter Susan Urban presenting old & new songs with intricate instrumentals. Guitar, cittern, banjo, dulcimer, percussion & vocal harmonies.
- Friday August 8 **CAT CATALANI** — Popular singer/songwriter/guitarist whose songs are witty, imaginative – sometimes intense – and fun! A published poet and former college teacher. "Catchy – charming – original imagery." (Rich Warren)
- Friday August 15 **KITTY DONOHUE** — Award-winning Michigan songwriter successfully merges her Irish and American roots in music that is rich, luminous, earthy and compelling. Guitar, cittern & piano. Brand new CD: *Northern Border*.
- Friday August 22 **PATTY STEVENSON & CRAIG SIEMSEN** — Two fine Milwaukee songwriters in an terrific duo show. Both acclaimed musicians: Craig is a powerful guitarist, Patty plays piano, guitar and harp. Great lyrics, voices.
- Friday August 29 **OPEN MIKE** — Anyone is welcome to perform, and we always have a great variety of acoustic performers! So popular we must limit the number of acts. **1-2 songs, 10 minutes max.** Doors open at 7:30 for signups – first come, first served. **Show starts 8:00.** For more information, phone 630-968-5526.
- Friday September 5 **FOUR SHILLINGS SHORT** — California duo blends Celtic & American folk music with Indian raga, blues and jazz to create an exciting sound! Vocals, hammered dulcimer, tinwhistle, mandolin, sitar, doumbek & more!
- Friday September 12 **LONG JOURNEY HOME** — Classic "brother style" country duo featuring Keith Baumann on mandolin & Chris Walz on guitar. Close vocal harmony and great picking; beautiful haunting ballads and hard driving breakdowns!
- Friday September 19 ***SALLY SPRING with Ted Lyons** — An inimitable voice and evocative, powerful songwriting; folk, blues, country, old time and pop, often with a crunching, rhythmic guitar. "She's a treasure," says Gene Parsons (Byrds)
- Friday September 26 **ERIC & BETH CARLSON** — They return with their rich blend of vocal harmonies and a dash of bluegrass, including songs from their excellent CD, *Fine Spun Threads*. With 6- and 12-string guitar, banjo and bodhran.

**Will be featured the next night on WFMT 98.7 "Folkstage" with Rich Warren.*

Saturdays July 5 & 19 August 2 & 16 September 6 & 20	Sing-Arounds — Our popular song circles where beginners and experienced musicians can learn and/or share songs. Listeners and singers welcome too! Songbooks provided. Plank Road Folk Music Society co-sponsors. First and third Saturday afternoons of every month at 2:00 pm.
Saturdays July 26 August 23, Sept 27	Bluegrass Jam! — Musicians of all experience levels gather to improve skills, learn/share tunes, and have fun! 4th Saturdays, 2:00-4:00pm. Plank Road Folk Music Society is co-sponsor.
Thursdays July 31 August 28, Sept 25 7:00-9:30 pm Free!	LAST THURSDAY: It's OUR Turn! — Monthly unplugged open mike for high school & college age students. Last Thurs. of every month. Music, poetry, any performance art – 10 min. max. Signups begin 7pm – first come, first served. Info at twowaystreet.org or 630-968-5526.
Live entertainment is featured every Friday night beginning at 8:15. Doors open 7:30. \$5.00 donation requested. Beverages and snacks available. The <i>Two Way Street Coffee House</i> is a not-for-profit community project of the First Congregational United Church of Christ, Downers Grove. Member: Plank Road Folk Music Society, Fox Valley Folklore Society, Old Town School of Folk Music, Aural Tradition, and North American Folk Alliance. Please call us at 630-969-9720 for current entertainment listings and updates, or visit us on the web at www.twowaystreet.org	

