



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

# Quarter Notes

www.plankroad.org ♪ Winter Issue, January 2014

## Plank Road's Regular Events



### Sing-Around

Two Way Street Coffee House

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays - 2:00-4:00PM

Vocal/instrumental jam and sing-along with songbooks and leader.

### Bluegrass Jam

Two Way Street Coffee House

4<sup>th</sup> Saturday - 2:00-4:00PM

Like a sing-around but it's bluegrass, "mostly!"

### 2ND Tuesday Song Circle - BYOS!

Two Way Street Coffee House

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday - 7:00-9:00PM

A monthly opportunity for musicians to perform tunes for each other, within a song circle.

Bring Your Own Song!

### Plank Road String Band Practice

First Church of Lombard

630-620-0688

2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday - 2:00-4:00PM

An old-time string band practice for intermediate/advanced players.

### Last Thursday Open Mike

Two Way Street Coffee House

7:00-9:30PM Last Thursday of every month.

A monthly unplugged open mike for high school and college age students only.

Go to [www.plankroad.org](http://www.plankroad.org) and/or [www.twowaystreet.org](http://www.twowaystreet.org)



## Upcoming Events

### PRFMS Annual Membership Meeting and Jam

February 1st, 2014

Doors open at 7:15 PM

Music starts at 7:30 PM

See bottom right for details.

### Old Time Barn Dance and Downers Grove Annual Ice Sculpture Festival/ Pancake Breakfast

Sat., February 8

See top of back page for details.

Chad Elliott with Bonita Crowe, Emily White opens —

### Maple Street Chapel

Lombard at Main and Maple Streets

Sat., Feb. 15, 7:30 PM

facebook@ Maple Street Chapel Folk Concerts

See pg. 7 for details.

### 26th Annual International Folk Alliance Conference Kansas City, MO

February 19-23

[www.folkalliance.org](http://www.folkalliance.org)



## President's Message

Does the guitar player still get the girls? That question was asked to me a couple of times recently, as Mimi and I celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary. We saw a lot of old friends and reminisced at length about our college days. We met at Bradley University, where she was a popular cheerleader and I was just a guy who wanted to get to know her. At that time, the ratio of males to females on our campus was about 6 men to every woman, so the girls had a lot to choose from. How would I ever meet her and impress her?

Well, in addition to my love of sports, I played the guitar and sang as a hobby, and found that the girls liked it. So, when we did meet, we talked about the usual things, and I found she was a knowledgeable sports fan (rare for a girl in those days), and she liked my music. The rest is history. By the way, she is still a sports fan and likes my music. So, I wonder if today's girls still like guitar players? I'll bet they do.

Plank Road had a busy winter and we are looking forward to another great year. We will continue with all our regular get togethers and sessions, our presence at several local music festivals, at least one workshop aimed at Plank Road members and a couple of parties. We will host four barn dances this year, the first one is coming soon, on February 8.

Our Plank Road board is intact from 2013; a terrific group of hard working people, who keep things moving forward, with an eye on what the members want from us.

Please join me in welcoming Bill Lemos to the Board of Directors! Bill has played guitar since high school, loves The Kingston Trio, and now has some time to help Plank Road since retiring from his career as an advertising copywriter. We are very happy to have Bill on board. (See *Quarter Notes*, Spring, 2013, p.2)

The fall issue of the *Quarter Notes* talked about the possibility of Plank Road offering a workshop for beginning and early intermediate players interested in string band music. The board has been tossing around some ideas and hope that by the next issue of *Quarter Notes*, a solid plan will be in place to offer a workshop to string players at all levels.

Have a nice year and I hope to see you soon. —Bob O'Hanlon



## PRFMS Annual Membership Meeting & Jam Saturday, February 1, 2014

7:15 PM - Doors open

7:30 PM - Music & Jam Session with George Mattson as our Jam leader

Lombard Park District's Log Cabin is located in Four Seasons Park on Main Street in Lombard between Roosevelt Road and 22nd St.

<http://www.lombardparks.org/parks-facilities-2/maps-amenities>

Everyone is gearing up for the PRFMS Annual Membership Meeting and Jam session at the log cabin in Lombard on Saturday, February 1st. It'll be a fun evening so don't miss it!

- Bring a dish, dessert or snack to share and your instruments for a night of music and munchies.
- You can help by not arriving too early so the board has time to get the cabin ready, the fire roaring, and conduct our board meeting.
- This is the time to renew your annual PRFMS membership so don't forget to bring your membership renewal form and payment (either cash or check - not credit cards) with you.

The Annual Membership Meeting is primarily an event for members to celebrate another great year at PRFMS. If you do bring a guest, we hope they will consider joining our organization while they are at the meeting.

Please google: usda, potluck safety. Read the brochure if you plan on bringing a dish to the potluck! Help keep us all safe and healthy.

## MUSIC INSTRUCTION

### A Potpourri of Musical Tidbits: Continued... From Guitar to Banjo and Mandolin, From Fiddle to Fingerpicks!

#### Strummin' Along, George Mattson

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

*"When George is performing, the audience knows that he is enjoying himself immensely; his energy and personality shine through.*

*The range of material is surprising and delightful, each song delivered well through George's mastery of rhythm guitar."*

-Bob O'Hanlon, President, Plank Road Folk Music Society



I think of myself more of a rhythm guitarist than a flatpicker, but I usually do use a flatpick. I prefer a heavy Clayton pick of 1.00 mm or heavier or one of those purple Dunlops. I think I probably hold the pick tighter if I'm coerced into taking a lead instead of playing rhythm. But as I think about it, I also hold the pick tighter and choke up on it (using less pick on the strings with very little of it showing beyond the fingers) if I need to play a swing rhythm.

#### Finding Your Voice (Now where did I put it this time?), Heather Styka

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



*"One of the more original of the many contemporary singer-songwriters touring the US."*  
Tom May, "River City Folk"

It might seem like this goes without saying, but for me, it was a revelation: you need

to give your singing voice time to settle in to itself. Years. Everyone has a different definition of what a "good" voice sounds like- I have friends who are positively bored by some of the most beautiful, highly trained voices you will ever hear. And I know other folks who are disdainful of some of the more unique sounding voices. In this era, many vocalists try to take on a certain breathy quality. Ten years ago singers were emulating Jewel. And thirty years before that, the loveliness of a Judy Collins-esque vibrato was in vogue.

When I first started singing my own songs- which was a far different use of my vocal instrument than, say, singing "Ave Maria" in church or musical theatre tunes on stage- I went through years of wishing my voice were a little tougher, more rough around the edges. It secretly drove me nuts when well-meaning listeners described my singing as "pretty."

Alas, I was not born with Leonard Cohen's or Greg Brown's vocal chords. It took me a good decade before I even began to feel settled in to my voice, and I'm always learning. Vocal training is helpful, of course. But part of that growth as a singer simply comes from singing often, singing publicly, and perhaps most of all, listening to recordings of your singing. It might be a little uncomfortable to hear yourself recorded, because it can be challenging to hear moments that sounded forced or off-key, when they felt fine while singing. It's not always easy to sing and listen to yourself sing at the same time. But these days voice recorders are so accessible, whether on your phone, computer, or a cheap tape recorder, and it doesn't have to be a high quality recording to be able to listen back for problems with your approach or pitch.

You don't need to focus only on the problems, either. Listening to a recording of your voice, you might find that there are moments you really enjoy. Moments where you emulate a certain singer you appreciate- moments that work well, and moments where it doesn't. Allow yourself to play with your voice, but also try and be aware of when you're putting on affectations and disguising it, whether you are inadvertently attempting to sound like Judy Collins or Greg Brown or Jewel. I get frustrated when people tell me they "can't sing," or they "wish" they could sing. Of course everyone can sing. Sure, not all voices are created equal, but if you don't allow yourself to sing, there is literally no chance that you will get better at it. What's the worst that could happen if you do allow yourself to sing, and sing often? You may not end up like Pavarotti, but you'll still have fun doing it. Be patient with your voice. It's the one instrument we were all given at birth. Give yourself the courage to sing, and give it time, and you might surprise yourself with the progress you make.

#### If You are Ready to Start Writing Songs, Dean Milano

[www.reverbnation.com](http://www.reverbnation.com)  
[www.toys-n-cars.com](http://www.toys-n-cars.com)

*"Milano's songs are streetwise and smart, a welcome addition to anyone's collection of troubadours."*

Mike O'Cull, "Illinois Entertainer Magazine"



I just finished teaching a six week long songwriting class to senior citizens and I thought I'd share some of the suggestions I gave

them. And these apply to songwriters of any age.

Write from your personal experiences. If you're at the point in your life where you are ready to write songs, by this time you've probably had lots of experiences and plenty to write about. And the subject matter doesn't have to be exciting. If it's heartfelt and sincere, people will appreciate it. I've written songs about my own life and the stories are nothing earth shattering, but people can tell it's genuine and that's what makes it appealing.

Stay away from standard love songs. There are enough out there already, but if you feel you want to write a love song, try to find an interesting approach that makes it a little different. Or give the story a twist at the end that takes it in a direction the listener was not prepared for. People like to write songs to their spouse, their parents, their grandparents. Again, take a unique approach if you can. Most listeners aren't going to be interested in simply hearing you say how much you loved your mom. They probably already assume you do, or did. Focus on something about the person that is unique to them. Again, give the listener something they're not expecting to hear.

The key to good songwriting is in coming up with an interesting story that is real as opposed to a contrived concept that you hope will be exciting. And people can tell "real" from fake, believe it or not.

#### Chord Tones & Folk Melodies, Mark Dvorak

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

*"A master musician, storyteller & songwriter."*  
WKMS

Folk melodies are often very memorable. One reason is they are composed of mostly chord tones. Strum a G chord on your guitar, and the tones you are hearing are the chord tones for G major:  
G - B - D - G - B - G.

If we look at the G major scale - G - A - B - C - D - E - F# - G - we see there are eight tones. Many choir singers know these tones as Do - Re - Mi - Fa - Sol - La - Ti - Do. Musicians often refer to them as scale degrees and number them instead, 1 through 8.

On a piece of paper, write the number 1 - 8, and underneath each number write out the G



## WDCB's Holiday Hoot!



WDCB Folk Festival show's annual "Holiday Hoot" event, held December 8 at College of DuPage, was the biggest and best yet, and made yet more special with Mark Dvorak as a featured performer, along with a roster of other great talent, including Trillium, Andrew Calhoun, Comfort Food, the George Mattson Trio, Jim Green, SongSisters (Sue Fink, Amy Dixon-Kolar, and Patti Shaffner), Dean Milano, Greg Trafidlo, Robinlee Garber, Cath Kasmer, Bienemann's, Gow's, Andy Andrick, Kristin Cotts, Patti Ecker, David Hawkins, Andrea Bustin with Rachel Wathen and Amy Plante.

The "Hoot" has grown from its original station party status, and this was the second year it was offered as a ticketed public event open to all. "The Hoot's focus is, of course, excellent live music," said Folk Festival host and Hoot producer, Lilli Kuzma, "but the atmosphere is pure fun and holiday magic! The refreshments are free with admission, and there are raffle drawings for great prizes, displays, a quirky 'mini-murder mystery in Dickens Village' to try your hand at solving—and great people mingling and enjoying the music. It's a casual, indoor folk festival with a holiday twist." Contact Lilli at [lkupbeat@aol.com](mailto:lkupbeat@aol.com) for information about the 2014 Holiday Hoot.

## Member News

Congratulations to **Mark Dvorak**, recipient of the 2013 Folk Alliance Region Midwest (FARM) Lantern Bearer Award! The award is given to an individual who has contributed locally and regionally to folk performance arts and the folk and dance community for twenty-five years or more.



Singer-songwriter Amy Dixon-Kolar, publicist Loretta Sawyer with Loretta Sawyer Acoustic Arts and WDCB's Folk Festival host, Lilli Kuzma were with Mark at the Folk Alliance conference in St. Louis this past October when he received the award. This is what they had to say:

*"I can't think of a person who more completely epitomizes the phrase 'Lantern Bearer'. From his shows, to the classes he teaches at Old Town School of Folk Music and elsewhere, to the twice-monthly community sings he holds at the Grafton, Mark is continually striving to share the music, to get it into the hands of those around him, and to celebrate communities lifting up their collective voices in song. And he did just that at FARM."*

*"His speech and performance were a highlight of the conference."*

—Amy Dixon-Kolar

*"As Lantern Bearer, Mark respects the traditions of the past and carries them forward in his own voice as a singer-songwriter. Think about the symbolism of the light that a lantern bearer provides, what that means. Mark has the vision to absorb what is around him, an eye that sees beyond a given situation. He takes his observations and experiences forward through his songs and essays. There's such an intelligence there - it's interesting, real, you learn something."*

—Loretta Sawyer

*"I was so thrilled for Mark, such a prestigious accolade for this outstanding artist. He had the whole Folk Alliance audience enthralled with his songs, and got everyone singing on a rousing, 'This Little Light of Mine.'"*

—Lilli Kuzma

## PRFMS 2013 Event Highlights

Traditionally, at the beginning of each year, Plank Road members open their music family's photo album to look back at how we spent our time together. Let's re-visit our wonderful times together through pictures taken in 2013 at some of our folk music events.



**Left:** Annual Meeting & Log Cabin Jam

**Top:** Carol, John and Barb at the Holiday Party

**Bottom Left:** John and Chuck at the "Sweet's" Civil War Encampment in Lombard, IL.

**Bottom Right:** Old time barn dance fun!



Continued from page 3

## PRFMS 2013 Event Highlights



**Top Row 1:** (Left to Right)  
 Pam and Joe at Log Cabin Jam,  
 Ann and Ralph at Music By The Yard,  
 Fred at a Bluegrass Jam,  
 George and ice sculpture at Pancake Breakfast  
**Row 2:** PRFMS Holiday Party songfest,  
 Plank Road String Band  
 at the Downers Grove Rotary GroveFest



### Music Instruction - Continued from page 2

major scale. Draw a circle around the 1, the 3 and the 5. Those are your chord tones, G, B and D.

What's left are the 2nd, the 4th, the 6th and the 7th. The 8th is the octave, so let's leave it alone. These remaining tones are often referred to as 'color' tones. Sort of like the relatives outside your immediate family.

The 2nd tone and the 6th add sparkle and shape to a melody. The 4th and the 7th are much stronger and will often add some new dimension to a basic theme.

Good melodies use a combination of chord tones and color tones, and occasionally a tone outside the scale. Those are the aliens. Blues melodies commonly use these.

So, in the key of G, are chord tones are G(1), B(3) and D(5). Our color tones are A(2), E(6) and F#(7). The first phase of the hymn "Amazing Grace" uses all of these tones. It begins with three chord tones in a row, D, G, B, then down to the A, back through the root, down to the E. Ever wonder why this song is so universally recognized? Chord tones and color tones.

#### The Educated Thumb

Folks who like the sound of finger style guitar know that the thumb of their picking hand is the most important digit. The thumb makes the bass notes and sets the rhythmic character of each piece into motion.

For songs in 4/4 time, our assignment then is to figure out which bass notes our thumb is supposed to play to a given chord progression.

Here's what. On the first beat of each chord,

your thumb plays the root tone of that chord. For chord names that begin with A, B and C, the root tone is on the fifth string. Chord names that begin with E, F and G, the root tone is on the sixth string.

So our thumb pattern begins with using our picking thumb to sound the root tone on either the fifth string or sixth string on the first beat. For the second beat, our thumb sounds the fourth string, every time. For the third beat, sound the root again, and for the fourth beat, sound the fourth string again.

See if you can use your picking thumb to create a bouncing bass line to the chord progression of "Freight Train."

C C G G

G G C C

E E F F

C G C C

#### Reinforcement for Learning "Proper" Finger-style Guitar, Rich Ingle [www.comfortfoodmusic.com](http://www.comfortfoodmusic.com)

*"In the grand tradition of Chicago singer-songwriters, Rich Ingle is the real deal."*  
 Rick Kogan, Chicago Tribune

When I first started playing guitar in the mid 60's I found myself drawn to finger-style guitarists such as Paul Simon, Donovan and Arlo Guthrie. Later my tastes expanded to Patrick Sky, the stylings of the Piedmont



Blues players and Mississippi John Hurt. Unfortunately at this time, the Old Town School was inaccessible to me and would have been the best place to learn the guitar style I loved most. So, instead, I was self-taught, learning how to play incorrectly by vainly trying to copy what I heard on records. I found I was able to imitate John Lennon and a couple others with a little success but still never got the sound I was looking for.

Many years later I finally got a chance to study guitar under the excellent guidance of the likes of Mark Dvorak and Eric Lugosh. Their instruction was priceless, but I learned that I was still not disciplined enough to practice it alone with the intensity needed to get what I was looking for. I needed something I could repeatedly refer back to for visual help and reinforcement. I finally found what I was looking for from an instructional video by Happy Traum. It was nothing I hadn't already been exposed to, but he took it nice and slow and enabled you to progress at your own pace. After repeatedly referring to his instruction I found that before too long I was actually playing things I had previously only dreamt of playing. Even now, every once in a while when I'm playing a John Prine tune, for example, I catch myself thinking "I can't believe I'm actually playing this!" Between Happy Traum and Chris Smithers' instructional videos, I now find myself closer to become the guitarist I wanted to be when I was fourteen.

For all kinds of instruction videos, see:  
<http://www.homespuntaapes.com>

## Plank Road String Band Tunes

Audio files and chord sheets on [www.plankroad.org](http://www.plankroad.org)

The fall issue of the Quarter Notes ("Plank Road String Band," p. 3) mentioned that thought was being given to possible ways to help meet the needs of beginning/early intermediate string players interested in old-time music, and, who also might be interested in someday joining the String Band. Perhaps one of the best ways to help beginning/early intermediate players is ready access to the music, to the tunes played by the String Band. As it turns out, the following audio files recently added to the Plank Road website, of the String Band's October performance at the Danada Fall Festival, will be helpful to everyone, at every level of performance and appreciation. (Plans for a workshop are also underway - see *the President's Message*, p. 1.)

A big thanks to Bob Holdsworth for recording the Plank Road String Band's performance at the 2013 Danada Fall Festival, to Jim Zethmayr, Carol Spanuello for creating mp3's and posting the tunes on the Plank Road website and to Ron Leaneagh for creating a chord sheet library for rhythm players. We appreciate all their hard work!

### Tunes just added:

- |                                  |                               |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Big Scioto                       | Miller's Reel                 |
| Booth Shot Lincoln               | Nail that Catfish to the Tree |
| Cherokee Shuffle                 | Needlecase                    |
| Colored Aristocracy              | No Corn on Tygart             |
| Dinah                            | Old Yeller Dog                |
| Fishin' Limber                   | Rally Round the Flag Boys     |
| Fly Around My Pretty Little Miss | Seneca Square Dance           |
| Frosty Morning                   | Shenandoah Falls              |
| Girl I Left Behind Me            | Spotted Pony                  |
| Green River Waltz                | Stranger on a Mule,           |
| Hobb Dye                         | West Folk Girls               |
| Kitchen Girl                     |                               |

### Medleys just added:

- Big Scioto, Bigfoot
- Dinah, Colored Aristocracy, Girl I Left Behind Me
- Frosty Morning, Kitchen Girl
- Katy Bar the Door, Little Betty Brown
- Old Yeller Dog, Shenandoah, Fishin' Limber
- Rally Round the Flag Boys, Seneca Square Dance, Nail that Catfish to the Tree
- Stranger on a Mule, No Corn on Tygart, Miller's Reel
- West Folk Girls, Needlecase, Fly Around My Pretty Little Miss

### To Download

See [www.plankroad.org](http://www.plankroad.org) and click on "Favorites" in top menu. Go to "String Band Materials."

Audio files and chord sheets will continue to be posted as they become available.

## Haiku from Singer-Songwriter Anne Hills

be like the grasses  
tossing their feathered heads high  
fearing no winter

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

## Books, CDs and Movies

### "Inside Llewyn Davis"

A film currently playing that follows a week in the life of a young folk singer in 1961, Greenwich Village, may be for you. If you are a folkie and you like the Coen Brothers, chances are you will like this film! "Inside Llewyn Davis" was nominated for two Academy Awards, and, won several awards in 2013, including Best Original Screenplay (National Board of Review), Best Music Score (L.A. Film Critics Association) and Best Cinematography (New York Film Critics circle). The film was loosely based on *The Mayor of MacDougal Street*, by Dave Van Ronk, which has been reissued and is an interesting companion to the movie.



### "Alan Jackson - The Bluegrass Album"

Says Dave Heaton (PopMatters), of Alan Jackson's latest release, "Jackson is backed by banjo, mandolin, fiddle, bass - it's in the instrumentation that the 'bluegrass' lies, partly, but also in how they play and the general tone of the album, which allows ample space for the musicians to play." If you like country music and you like bluegrass too, you might want to check this out!

### "The River and the Thread," by Roseanne Cash

Just released on January 14, Roseanne Cash's new project is justifiably receiving a lot of attention. "I went back to where I was born, and these songs started arriving in me," says Rosanne Cash. "All these things happened that made me feel a deeper connection to the South than I ever had. We started finding these great stories, and the melodies that went with those experiences." Rosanne's voice and songwriting are as strong as ever - this is a wonderful album!

### "Phil Ochs: There but for Fortune"

This 2010 documentary is a must-see film with lots of live footage of Phil and his contemporaries, talking and performing. A real treasure. Available through Netflix.



**Top Row 1:** (Left) Denise, Jim and Greg - Lonesome Eagle, (Right) Heather with Art Harrison Bluegrass All-Stars at Danada Fall Festival in Wheaton, IL

**Row 2:** Plank Road at Fox Valley Folk Music & Storytelling Festival in Geneva, IL

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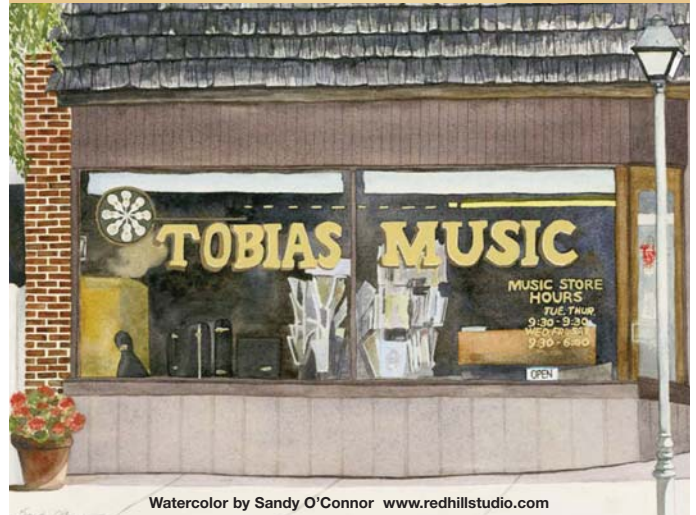
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**Amy Dixon-Kolar**



**Dancing Through The Storm**

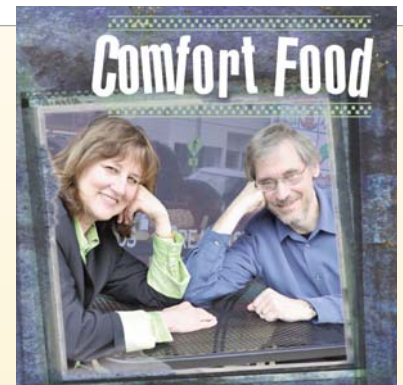
*Released January, 2014*

**"...a mesmerizing album that is a true stand-out and enthusiastically recommended!"**

-Lilli Kuzma - host  
WDCB's Folk Festival



For performance schedule and more information:  
**www.amydixonkolar.com**



**Upcoming Performances:**

Great American Bagel, Sundays, 2-2, 3-2, 4-6, 5-4  
Westmont 10am, Western Springs 11:30am

Amy Dixon-Kolar, Robinlee Garber and Comfort Food  
Fundraiser for Downers Grove Family Shelter Service during Women's History Month - songs for, by & about women!  
Caribou Coffee, Downers Grove, 3-22 7pm

SAVE THE DATE: May 10 at Maple Street Chapel in Lombard!  
Vicki's "When I'm 64" Birthday Bash!  
with Mark Dvorak, The George Mattson Trio, Dean Milano & John Benischek, and Comfort Food, plus surprise guests! Emceed by WDCB's Lilli Kuzma! Complimentary cake and a nice gift FOR everyone!



Rich and Vicki Ingle  
(708) 795-0695  
Rich@comfortfoodmusic.com  
www.comfortfoodmusic.com

## 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.

- **Comfort Food - Vicki and Rich Ingle**  
www.comfortfoodmusic.com | 708-795-0695
- **Amy Dixon-Kolar**  
www.amydixonkolar.com
- **Mark Dvorak**  
www.markdvorak.com
- **Carlo Grimelli**  
www.carloacousticman.com
- **Tobias Music**  
www.tobiasmusic.com | 630-960-2455

### 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.

- **Heather Styka**  
www.heatherstyka.com

### Supporting Members (\$50 - \$199)

- John J. Allan
- Mary and Dan Anderson
- Romaine Burbach
- Frank and Helen Clarke
- Joe Jablonski
- Paul and Molly Klonowski
- Lilli Kuzma, WDCB, "Folk Festival"
- Dorothy Lee
- Andy Malkewicz
- Gregg and Elizabeth Morton
- Jen Shilt
- John Spokas



www.folk.maplestreetchapel.org  
facebook @ Maple Street Chapel Folk Concerts

## Maple Street Chapel Lombard, at Main and Maple Streets

### Folk Music Concerts Winter/Spring Schedule

- 2-15 7:30 PM Chad Elliott with Bonita Crowe, Emily White opens
- 3-8 7:30 PM James Gordon
- 4-26 7:30 PM Patchouli
- 5-10 7:30 PM Mark Dvorak, The George Mattson Trio, Dean Milano & John Benischek, Comfort Food; Vicki's "When I'm 64" Birthday Bash, You are Invited! WDCB's Lilli Kuzma emcees. Cake & YOUR present included.
- 10-18 30th Anniversary Concert! Save the Date! Kate MacLeod, Harpeth Rising, Lee Murdock, Mark Dvorak and more! TBA



### 90.9 FM, WDCB, PUBLIC RADIO from College of DuPage

Online Streaming - www.WDCB.org

For a program guide, call 630-942-4200

**"Folk Festival" with Lilli Kuzma,**  
Tuesdays 7 to 9 PM

Folk Festival is an eclectic mix of folk styles and artists, traditional to contemporary, that includes folk-related and folk-influenced music.

**"Bluegrass Review" with Phil Nussbaum**  
Wednesdays 7 to 9 PM

**"Bluegrass Breakdown" with Dave Higgs**  
Wednesdays 9 to 10 PM

Santa Claus left a Tivoli Audio, Model One Table Radio in my stocking this year. Now, even though we are waaay east of the College of DuPage, I can pick up 90.9 FM, WDCB's Folk Festival with Lilli Kuzma, clear as a bell (and the sound is acoustically beautiful!) with no extra antennas or anything! So, if you want an alternative to streaming, check out [www.tivoliaudio.com](http://www.tivoliaudio.com) and be prepared to be pleasantly surprised.

True Story: Lilli Kuzma wraps an old metal Slinky around her radio to improve reception! -Vicki

### Transitions:

## I'll Fly Away...



### Phil Everly

January 19, 1939 – January 3, 2014

Phil Everly, of the duo Everly Brothers, passed away at a hospital in Burbank, California from complications of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. The duo had a profound effect on performers in many musical genres, including the folk duo Simon and Garfunkel; the Everly Brothers sang back-up vocals on the title track of Simon's Graceland album and joined them on the 2003/2004 Old Friends Reunion tour. [http://www.nytimes.com/2014/01/05/arts/music/phil-everly-half-of-pioneer-rock-duo-dies-at-74.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2014/01/05/arts/music/phil-everly-half-of-pioneer-rock-duo-dies-at-74.html?_r=0)

## Quarter Notes

Vicki Ingle | Editor

Jennifer Shilt | Graphic Design

We welcome ideas for articles or photos you'd like to share, please send them to [vingle@comcast.net](mailto:vingle@comcast.net)



# WINTER OLD TIME BARN DANCE

## and Downers Grove Annual Ice Sculpture Festival

**Saturday, February 8, at 8:00 PM** Doors open at 7:30 PM

Two Way Street Coffee House, 1047 Curtiss St., Downers Grove, IL  
(Across from the Public Library)

Enjoy a fun-filled evening of music and dancing for the entire family.

Dance the night away! Our Caller will walk and talk you through all the dances at our 'No Experience Necessary' dance.

Dances are informal, with no costumes needed.

In fact, you don't even need to bring a partner!

Refreshments available.

\$5.00 admission for everyone 5 years of age and older



## Folk Music Resources

See [www.plankroad.org](http://www.plankroad.org)  
Click on Favorites



Find Us On  
**facebook** 

To see more PRFMS event photos visit our Facebook page!

**Plank Road Prfms**

<https://www.facebook.com/plankroad.prfms>



## Annual Pancake Breakfast

**Saturday, February 8, 2013 at 8:00am to 11:00am**

First Congregational Church (FCC) in Downers Grove | 1047 Curtiss St., Downers Grove, IL  
by the FCC Brothers Men's Group

The Plank Road String Band will play from 9:00AM to 10:30AM.

After the Pancake Breakfast and before the dance, be sure to check out the amazing ice carvings and fun events at the **Downers Grove Ice Sculpture Festival**.

For more information visit <http://www.downtowndg.org>



## 2014 PRFMS Officers



**Bob O'Hanlon - President**  
reohanlon@gmail.com  
(630) 325-7764

**Carol Spanuella - Vice President**  
carolspan1@hotmail.com

**Gary Steffenson - Treasurer**  
gksteff@gmail.com

**Barbara Ellingsen - Secretary**  
woodwindwizard@gmail.com

### 2013 Board Members

Bill Boylan  
Dave Humphreys  
Bill Lemos  
Jennifer Shilt  
Kristen Shilt



### PRFMS Contact:

Bob O' Hanlon  
Email: reohanlon@gmail.com  
(630) 325-7764

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## IMPORTANT PRFMS Membership INFORMATION

### PRFMS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME!

All memberships renew annually at this time.

*We hope you continue to be a part of the Plank Road Folk Music Society and keep up with group events through the newsletter.*

*We wish you a joyful 2014 to the sound of acoustic music.*

If you have not yet renewed your membership, we have included a form for your convenience. Please update the form and send your individual (\$10/yr), family (\$20/yr), or supporting (\$50-\$199/yr) membership fee to:

PRFMS  
P.O. Box 176,  
Downers Grove, Illinois 60515

Membership info is available online at

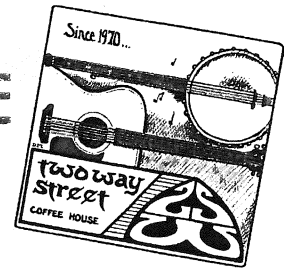
[www.plankroad.org](http://www.plankroad.org)



**LIVE MUSIC Every Friday Since 1970!**

# TWO WAY STREET COFFEE HOUSE

1047 Curtiss Street • Downers Grove, Illinois 60515 (across from the Public Library)  
[www.twowaystreet.org](http://www.twowaystreet.org) • 630-969-9720



## ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE

- |        |             |   |
|--------|-------------|---|
| Friday | January 31  | <b>TRILLIUM</b> — Energetic Celtic, bluegrass, folk, ragtime, swing & Dixieland! Mim Eichmann (hammer dulcimer/vocals), Ed Hall (guitar/banjo/vocals), Doug Lofstrom (bass/vocals) & Paul Russell (fiddle/mandolin). Three CDs!                                   |
| Friday | February 7  | <b>SO LONG SOLO</b> — Making music separately from Japan to Uganda to Kansas, they met, and generated energy and imagination! Young duo performs with cello, guitar, flute, ukulele, glockenspiel, pianica, and percussion!                                       |
| Friday | February 14 | <b>BRUCE HOLMES</b> — Evanston award-winning singer/songwriter/guitarist writes well-crafted songs from tales of lost love to stories about real people to humorous sea shanties. "Original in spirit & song!" ( <i>Lilli Kuzma, WDCB</i> ). Two great CDs!       |
| Friday | February 21 | <b>OPEN MIKE</b> — All welcome! Great variety of acoustic artists! So popular we may limit number of acts. <b>2 - 3 songs, 10 -15 minutes</b> . Open 7:30 for signups - first come, first served. <b>Show starts 8:00</b> . Info: 630-968-5526.                   |
| Friday | February 28 | <sup>2</sup> <b>CHARLIE MOSBROOK</b> — Voted <i>Cleveland Scene's</i> "Best singer songwriter," he's known for his rich, dynamic baritone voice, understated guitar technique, and inspired lyrics, with a mix of sincerity, humor, and passion. 10 CDs!          |
| Friday | March 7     | <b>MICHAEL JOHNATHON</b> — A transplanted New Yorker now in rural Kentucky. Traditional & original songs, those of Woody Guthrie, Si Kahn & more with guitar, banjo. Hosts weekly syndicated radio/TV show <i>WoodSongs</i> .                                     |
| Friday | March 14    | <sup>1</sup> <b>JOHN VEZNER</b> — Grammy award-winning songwriter is a tunesmith of rare sensitivity and dry wit! His songs are recorded by Janis Ian, Kathy Mattea, Faith Hill, John Mellencamp, Nancy Griffith & others. With guitar, piano.                    |
| Friday | March 21    | <sup>1</sup> <b>NATALIE GELMAN</b> — California heart, NYC soul... writing songs for everyone in between. Anger, sadness, pride evoking Carole King & Sheryl Crow; vocal power and great songwriting! "Simply terrific - 4/4 stars!" ( <i>New York Post</i> )     |
| Friday | March 28    | <b>BIRDY</b> — "Band more than lives up to its <i>fringe folk</i> tagline, thanks to...earthy, slightly quirky originals, alongside inventive arrangements of the tried and true 'Wayfaring Stranger' and 'You Are My Sunshine.'" ( <i>Illinois Entertainer</i> ) |
| Friday | April 4     | <b>NATHAN BELL</b> — Literate songwriting, guitar-based alt-country and Americana. "... drinkers and fighters, lovers and flings; carefully drawn tales are united by a strong sense of character, story and emotion." ( <i>Rolling Stone</i> )                   |
| Friday | April 11    | <b>CURTIS &amp; LORETTA</b> — They're known all across the country for exquisite harmonies, incisive songwriting, and skill on numerous instruments including Celtic harp, mandocello, guitar, mandolin, banjo and ukulele.                                       |

<sup>1</sup>Featured on *WFMT 98.7 "Folkstage"* with Rich Warren. <sup>2</sup>Featured on *WDCB 90.9 "Folk Festival"* with Lilli Kuzma.

Saturdays February 8, April 5 8:00pm \$5	<b>Old Time Barn Dance Party</b> — Reels, squares, line dancing, waltzes and more, plus music of our great live band. Fun for the whole family! All dances taught and called by our expert leaders. No experience, costume or partner needed. Plank Road Folk Music Society is co-sponsor.
2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues, 7-9pm Feb 11, Mar 11, Apr 8	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday Song Circle</b> — BYOS ( <i>Bring Your Own Songs</i> ). A monthly opportunity to informally & acoustically perform <i>your</i> songs for the circle. Plank Road Folk Music Society is co-sponsor.
Saturdays, 2-4pm Feb 1 & 15 Mar 1 & 15, Apr 5 & 19	<b>Sing-Around</b> — Our popular song fests 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, 2-4pm Feb 22, Mar 22, Apr 26	<b>Bluegrass Jam</b> — Musicians of all experience levels gather to improve skills, learn/share tunes, & have fun! 4th Saturdays, 2:00-4:00pm. Plank Road Folk Music Society is co-sponsor.
Thursdays Jan 30 Feb 27, Mar 27, Apr 24 7:00-9:30pm <b>FREE!</b>	<b>LAST THURSDAY!</b> — Monthly 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 <a href="http://twowaystreet.org">twowaystreet.org</a> , on Facebook, or call 630-968-5526.

Live entertainment is featured every Friday night beginning at 8:15. Doors open by 7:30. \$7.00 donation requested. Beverages and snacks available. The *Two Way Street Coffee House* 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, Folk Alliance International. For current entertainment listings and updates, booking and other information, visit us on the web at [www.twowaystreet.org](http://www.twowaystreet.org) and on Facebook.

