

Keepin' Tabs

The Newsletter of the Paint Creek Folklore Society

April 2022

Distributed via email to members and friends of PCFS.

A PDF file is attached to the message for those who wish to print it out.

Shirley Worth – Editor (pcfs.kt@gmail.com)

Next Meetings via Zoom

Saturday April 2, 2022

6-7 pm Native American Flute Circle led by Sharon H

(contact [sharon](#) for zoom link)

6-7 pm Songwriting Circle led by Dave B

7 pm Gathering - check in and chat

7:15-8:00 pm Presentation: Vikki Appleton on the UK folk scene

8:00 pm Announcements and Song Swap

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89827266698?pwd=U3NjYkRBRW1OMnZZbzB6aGx4cG50UT09>

Saturday, May 7, 2022

Live Gathering at River Woods Park in Auburn Hills

Schedule to be announced

<https://goo.gl/maps/j9edhJZuK623PKsg7>

###

Presidential Potpourri

Happy Springtime and New Beginnings, Paint Creekers!

We just had a very busy meeting of the Paint Creek Board where we set the course for the next couple of seasons! The sunshine of Spring will bring the re-emergence of fresh flowers and fresh Paint Creek events.

We hope you all will attend our last monthly Zoom Gathering on Saturday, April 2. The link, times, circles, song swap theme and presentation details are elsewhere in this newsletter.

Due to Easter weekend, when many members will be traveling or hosting family, we will not have an April Video Share. In the fall, the board will decide whether to restart Video Share evenings for the winter months.

On Saturday, May 7, we will gather in person again for the first of many monthly Gatherings at River Woods Park in Auburn Hills. We're looking forward to circles, a song swap and plenty of socializing under the River Woods pavilion along the Clinton River. If the weather is chilly, we may even have a fire in the fireplace! The \$10 guest fee will be charged to any non-members, with exceptions made for those attending for the first time ever. Details to follow in the May Keepin' Tabs.

Here's the tentative list of outdoor Gatherings so you can mark your calendars:

Saturday, May 7

Friday, June 3 (Saturdays in June were not available)

Saturday, July 2

Saturday, August 6

Saturday, September 10 (Thumbfest is Saturday, September 3)

Saturday, October 1

Saturday, October 29 (Special Halloween edition!)

We will return to University Presbyterian Church on Saturday, November 5 and Saturday December 3.

This will mark our first indoor gatherings since March 2020! Cross your fingers that we will be able to hold all these meetings as planned.

Last, but not least, the board is spending the month of April investigating if we have the manpower and will to host a Tin Whistle Concert for the first time since 2019. The tentative date is Saturday, November 12, 2022.

"Little darlin', it's been a long cold, lonely winter! Here comes the sun!"

Wishing you all a joyous Easter, Passover, Ramadan and Spring!

Theresa Erickson, Prez

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2021-2022 Song Swap Themes

April—Travel

June—How Did I Get Here?

August—TBA

May—Blue (Color, Feeling ...)

July—TBA

September—Other Names for Things

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April Presentation

Our April presenter is Vikki Appleton Fielden, an award-winning folk singer-songwriter. She writes and perform songs grounded in the folk tradition but taking an unusual, often humorous perspective on traditional classics.

Vikki moved from Michigan to Sheffield, UK in 1999 after many years of being deeply involved in the Detroit area's folk community. She embedded herself in Sheffield's renowned folk scene, leading and performing at singing sessions, folk festivals, pubs and folk clubs throughout the area and beyond. She is a long-time member and past President of Paint Creek.

Vikki adds, "There are some surprising and fascinating differences between the UK and American folk scenes. I'll talk about those, and also highlight some of England's less well known -- but absolutely wonderful -- singing, dancing and folklore traditions, and give a quick overview of some of the best-known English performers, along with a few rising stars. We'll finish off with a couple of rousing pub songs for everyone to join in with. Hope to see you there!"

Postponing Presentations

Beginning on May 7, and (tentatively) through October 29, the Paint Creek Board has decided to move to in- person outdoor gatherings at the River Woods Park in Auburn Hills. Presentations have been suspended for the duration of the outdoor gatherings, which will include Circles and Song Swap.

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Reviving Tin Whistle

The Board is looking into the possibility of producing a Tin Whistle Concert in November, after a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic. Many theaters, dances, coffee houses and the like are returning to live events, generally with vaccine and mask requirements, and we'd like to join the ranks! The Sanctuary would be available to us on Saturday, November 12.

To do this, of course, requires volunteers – most important, naturally, is the Tin Whistle Chairperson. If you are interested and willing to take on some of the work involved, please contact Theresa.

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Charitable donations

With the increase in the standard deduction, many of us are no longer able to itemize. Did you know that if you are taking required minimum distributions (RMDs) from a traditional Individual Retirement Account (IRA) you can donate to your favorite charity and reduce your taxable income? When you donate a portion of the RMD directly to a Qualified Charity, you can deduct these donations and you do not need to itemize – in addition to taking the standard deduction. Please consult your tax and/or investment advisor for details.

Paint Creek Folklore Society is a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, an affiliate of The Country Dance and Song Society of America (CDSS), and a supporter of folklore, folksong and folkdance societies, groups and individuals whose interest is in the preservation of and education in traditional music and dance. Donations to PCFS are tax-deductible in accordance with IRS regulations.

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Paint Creek Website

We've been working on the Paint Creek Website, as you know, and we (finally) have something worth sharing. The information is not fully up to date, but the basic structure is there. And it already shows up in search results, and we've had a few inquiries from the Contact form! Please check it out for yourself. If you have suggestions for additional information that should go in, or if you find any of the links broken, hard to find, or hard to use, please let Jeff know. Please don't comment on old information, we know that has to be fixed!

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Ridin' Drag

by Jack D. Ferguson

Vernal equinox has arrived – a time of atmospheric turmoil. The time when the sun crosses the equator to shine upon the northern hemisphere while winter, yet insistent, pushes through from the west to collide with warm damp air rushing up from the south.

Remnants of last night's sleet cling to the windward side of oak, maple and conifer. A glittering crust encases the plump buds of a pussy willow tangle. *Salix discolor* invites you to reach out and touch, but one must show restraint, for the soft, kitten-like catkins are a primary early season food for pollinators and should not be disturbed.

Still, it's wise to stop, watch and still yourself. Contemplate the trio of crows who direct their caws at a mating pair of red-tailed hawks perched high in a hardwood across the river. Now out of sight, the raptors and their accompanying corvid antagonists soar beyond the cold flow of the Clinton River.

Due east and straight ahead a cardinal warns off a newly-arrived echelon of redwing blackbirds. Stay away! This place is mine! cries the redbird, but he is immediately engulfed and forced to flee. Exuberant and full of trill, the blackbirds regale their arduous flight from Central America to sing a song that exclaims, Hallelujah, we are home!

I watch and consider as more blackbirds follow the initial flock into the dancing marshland reeds. If this spring is akin to those of my previous seventy, I am confident that our local cattail choir will provide another season of world-class performances. Tickets are free for the walking.

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Events and Links

If you know of events or links that may interest PCFS members, send them to pcfs.kt@gmail.com

Detroit Ukulele Club

April 13 & 27, 7-8:30 pm (ZOOM): The club uses **Meetup** for event information, links to music, the Zoom link, and RSVPs. All are welcome to join the Detroit Ukulele Club Meetup group and participate.

<https://meetu.ps/c/3sRJ9/5466s/a>. Questions? Contact Jack Erickson jackofallstrings@gmail.com

Feelin' Foolish?

April 1, 7:00-9:00 pm, Open Mic at the D.A.V. Big Red Barn, 47326 Dequindre, Shelby Charter Twp. Questions?

nan.drinkard@gmail.com, 248.881.6851

Tara and Inis-Ceol

March 29, 6:00 pm, Open Mic at Trinity House Theater - Livonia

April 2, 5:30-8:30 pm, Scottish Night at the AOH- Redford

April 5 & 19, 6:00-8:00 pm, Irish Tavern - Madison Hts

May 1, noon-?, St. Patrick's Senior Center Spring Celebration

MOO Music (Virtual)

Saturday weekly MOO Folk Jam (Wisconsin), 4-5 pm on Zoom. moomusic.org Contact Tony, info@moomusic.org. They will be holding the MOO Music Gathering live at Camp Edwards (vaccination and masks required) <https://www.moomusic.org/spring-2022-gathering>

Open Mic Night, Starkweather Arts Center, Romeo

Fourth Friday of each month. 7PM, \$4, \$3 Starkweather members. Open to all, come to perform, come to enjoy! 219 N. Main, Romeo, MI 48065 starkweatherarts.com

Michigan Storytelling

MI Story newsletter posted monthly, listing storytelling events around Michigan and virtual storytelling events around the world. michiganstorytelling.org

Ten Pound Fiddle Concerts

April 1, 7:00 pm, Sally Rogers and Claudia Schmidt

April 8, 7:30 pm, Susan Werner

April 22, 7:30 pm, Showman and Coole

April 29, 7:30 pm, Emma's Revolution: Pat Humphries and Sandy O

View the full schedule at tenpoundfiddle.org

ACTMAAD Calendar

The Ann Arbor Community for Traditional Music and Dance online opportunities: aactmad.org/calendar

The Ark

The Ark is now open for in-person events, requiring proof of full vaccination and masking. Shows include Graham Nash, Lucinda Williams, Cheryl Wheeler, Chris Smither, in addition to their Open Stage. See the full schedule at theark.org

CDSS: Online Events Calendar

This is a fantastic place to learn about traditional dance, music, song, and storytelling activities happening every week throughout North America...and beyond. Nearly all of the events that are listed are currently virtual.

cdss.org/community/events

Folk Alliance Livestream Concerts

Calendar of online concerts: folk.org/livestreams/, more on their main page.

Facebook Links

Huber Breese Music Online Concerts: Look for videos on their Facebook page, [facebook.com/watch/HuberBreeseMusic/](https://www.facebook.com/watch/HuberBreeseMusic/)

Jay Ungar and Molly Mason: The Quiet Room is a live online music series that has been running each Wednesday at 8pm EDT since March of 2020. <https://www.facebook.com/jayandmolly/live>

Meredith Axelrod & Craig Ventresco: Jazz, blues and ragtime. Live every night at 8 pm Pacific time, 11 pm EDT, and videos are posted on their Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/meredithaxelrod>

Michigan Folk music love: Photos, videos, anything of MI folk music interest. bit.ly/3r65V7G.

Country Dance and Song Society: facebook.com/cdss.org

Ten Pound Fiddle Concerts and Dances: facebook.com/TenPoundFiddle

The Ark: facebook.com/TheArkAnnArbor

AACTMAD: facebook.com/AACTMAD

Oakland County Traditional Dance Society (OCTDS): <https://www.facebook.com/OCTDS>

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Fine Print:

Keepin' Tabs (KT) is the monthly newsletter for, by, and about the Paint Creek Folklore Society. Paint Creek Folklore Society is a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, an affiliate of The Country Dance and Song Society of America (CDSS), and a supporter of folklore, folksong and folkdance societies, groups and individuals whose interest is in the preservation of and education in traditional music and dance.

To submit articles, gigs, or other information for publication, please contact Shirley Worth, Editor (pcfs.kt@gmail.com). Deadline for the next issue is the 15th – extended deadline possible on request.

We're sorry to say our Facebook pages are not currently functioning. Our website at paintcreekfolkloresociety.org is live, but we're still working on it.

To unsubscribe from this mailing list, reply to pcfs.kt@gmail.com with the word unsubscribe in the subject line.