

Keepin' Tabs

The Newsletter of the Paint Creek Folklore Society
February 2024

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)

Saturday, February 3, 2024

Fellowship Hall, University Presbyterian Church

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/EKzGbBSqrkePUfUa9>

2 pm: Meet & Greet

2:30 pm: Presentation

Brazil and Beyond - Rich Kowalewski and friends

3:30 pm: Break

4:00 pm: Song Swap

Theme - *Share Your Romantic Side*

5:30 pm: Circles & Jams

Instrumental Jam led by Glen & Judi M

Vocal Jam led by Jack E, Theme: British Invasion section of *Rise Again*

Native American Flute Circle led by Sharon H

###

The President's Post

Dear Members and Friends,

I'm not referring to the Lions victory when I tell you my Sunday, Jan. 21st afternoon was action packed. For a pre-game show, we board members participated in a spirited, productive meeting.

The subjects ranged from QR Codes and Starry Night for a Ramble to our new *Keepin' Tabs* Editor and Honorary Lifetime Membership Recipient, announced in this issue of *Keepin' Tabs*.

Everyone should be thinking about fresh officers as spring approaches. Speaking of spring, the Board is leaning toward holding the June and September Gatherings

outside. Please let us know your feelings one way or the other, and remember the Fourth of July Picnic is planned for outdoors, weather permitting.

February's theme is romance, and we anticipate another grand gathering.

See you soon,

Jack

###

Future Gatherings

Jeff D, Vice President

February 3rd: *Brazil and Beyond* – Rich Kowalewski and friends return for a fun and informative program featuring the sweet and melodic sounds of the Brazilian Cavaquinho (Ukulele), Brazilian 7 string guitar accompaniment styles, and the exotic rhythms of world percussion. And they will be performing some classic Brazilian Choros from their CD *Tico-Tico!*

March 2nd - "*The Patriots.*" Ken Giorlando, returns with two associates to portray members of the Founding Fathers/Mothers - Ben Franklin, Paul Revere, and Sybil Ludington. Believe it or not, we are coming upon the 250th anniversary of the Revolutionary War! Back in 2019 Ken brought us "*Life on a Colonial Farm.*"

New in March: A Discussion Circle at 5:30 pm will be moderated by Kevin T on the topic "Tips for Participants of Song Swaps, Open Mics and Jams"

April 6th – "*Les Raber's Fiddle Styles, the music of a Michigan Treasure.*" Brad Battey, Paul Goelz, Jim McKinney, Glen Morningstar, and Judy Raber talk about and demonstrate fiddle tunes and styles of renowned Michigan fiddler, Les Raber

Our regular Gathering program: 2 pm, Meet & Greet; 2:30 pm, Presentation; 4 pm, Song Swap; 5:30 pm, Circles & Jams.

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More About Keweenaw Copper Country

Here are the books Stephanie Arwady mentioned at the end of her January presentation, for anyone who is interested in learning more:

- Larry Lankton, *Beyond the Boundaries: Life and Landscape at the Lake Superior Copper Mines*, 1840-1875
- David J. Krause, *The Making of a Mining District: Keweenaw Native Copper, 1500-1870*
- Mary Doria Russell, *The Women of the Copper Country* (fiction)
- Alison K. Hoagland, *Mine Towns: Buildings for Workers in Michigan's Copper Country*

###

Snack Time!

Chefs de Cuisine for February are Paul and Ursula Jacques - be sure to thank them for their delicious efforts! If you are interested in volunteering for a future Gathering, please contact either Kathy Thornton or Sharon Hall to coordinate plans.

###

Join the Dance Revelry and Music Fun at

Starry Night for a Ramble Benefit Contra and Square Dance

February 10, 2024

Warm-up lesson, 7:00 pm

Dancing, 7:30-10:30 pm

First United Methodist Church

6363 Livernois Road, Troy, Michigan 48098

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/GvhS4JPvKayfCyHT8>

(between Square Lake Road and South Boulevard)

Join the traditional dancing fun and point your friends and neighbors in our direction too! It's not far from PCFS 'headquarters.' Partners are available from the crowd that gathers there. All dances are taught with walk-throughs. Live music by the Paint Creek Country Dance Orchestra will be fantastic! Drinks and snacks provided. Silent Auction too. A flyer with all the details is attached for you to copy and post at work and at school, yahoo!

Glen Morningstar from Paint Creek and Tom Allen from the Oakland County Traditional Dance Society (OCTDS) will do the calling honors. Judi Morningstar is leading the famous Paint Creek Country Dance Orchestra again this year (and playing keyboard) along with a cavalcade of Paint Creek members and alumni... truly an orchestra!

Mary Lou Battley, Sami Osler and Cindy Simmons on dulcimers
Paul Goelz on dulcimer/cello
Tim Erickson on fiddle
Joan Johnson and Doug Osler on guitars
Jack Erickson on mandolin/tenor banjo
Rosemary Kornacki on bass

Of special note, THIS IS A BENEFIT DANCE, where gate and Silent Auction proceeds go to OCTDS and PCFS for their many great monthly music and dance programs. Silent Auction items will be provided by YOU! Bring your music and dance related items, CD's, clothing, sheet music, LP's, books, jewelry, nick knacks, potted plants etc. Provide them to the auction table then watch the bidding soar. Please show your support by joining in the fun. \$10 General Admission, kids 12 and under free.

We're seeking volunteers as well to help out with decorating the hall and setting up the Silent Auction, and pitching in a few minutes to wrap them up at the end of the dance. Grab the sign-up sheet at the upcoming PCFS meeting February 3 and jot your name down...THANKS. Any questions or on-line volunteering can be directed to Glen Morningstar Jr. at 248-330-0832 or gmorning@aol.com.

[Note: PCFS Historian Glen Morningstar Jr. has updated the "History of Starry Night for a Ramble and the Paint Creek Country Dance Orchestra" for inclusion with this newsletter. See the PDF file attached. And, to see what a Contra Dance looks like, see <https://www.youtube.com/@newsomeja> ~ed.]

###

Membership Highlights

At the January Gathering, we signed up a new member. Please welcome: Sue B.

Dotty D. has been recognized for her and her late husband's contributions to Paint Creek Folklore Society through the years by being voted by the Board to be an Honorary Lifetime Member. Congratulations Dotty!

We are currently at 77 members: 37 Single memberships and 20 Family memberships. We continue to add more younger members which is important to the growth and continuation of the group. Know anyone who you think might be a good fit for PCFS?

When you attend a gathering, please stop by and sign in and get your badge. It may be the only way we know you attended.

Let's all plan to bring a music-minded friend or relative to a Gathering this year. They just might be pleasantly surprised by what we offer as group. Make sure you tell them we are a fun group! Their first visit will be free. We have snacks and plenty of conversation, music and camaraderie.

See you soon!

Dan D & Jack E, Membership Co-chairs

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2023-24 Song Swap Themes

February - Share Your Romantic Side

March - Songs From The Frontier

April - The American Civil War

May - Songs About Trees

June - Revolution

July - Revival

###

Announcing New *Keepin' Tabs* Editor

With thanks to outgoing editor Shirley Worth, we welcome Andy Mather returning as our KT editor, and look forward to seeing how he expresses his unique style for us!

###

Ridin' Drag

by Jack F

St. Patrick's is on the way. I mention this because it helps us understand two important issues relevant to song selection. These being theme and timing.

First, **theme**. We suggest a theme for our song swaps. Nevertheless, around Paint Creek, you're at liberty to treat any posted theme as you will. You may honor the theme, ignore the theme, or deliberately embrace the antithesis of the theme. With February's theme of romance, this is less of a challenge. Most of us know a love song. Heck, *Froggy Went A Courtin'* is about amore. So, this month you're safe. Have fun.

March on the other hand? Well, I suggest that 6/8 time isn't mastered on the morning of St. Paddy's Day. What I mean by **timing**, is not the signature of the music, but time required to learn the song. The amount of time you must practice. You will not play your best version of Silent Night, if you wait until Christmas Eve. Starting on Thanksgiving is cutting it close. Here is my recommendation, begin your holiday themed, or any pieces you intend to perform, at least ninety days before. And do not be stingy, give every one of those songs their ninety days.

Thirty days or so into the process, play it for your dog, parakeet or cat. Sixty days is when your friends gather in the living room to swap songs, forget lyrics, blow chords, and generally get the feel of presenting these works in process. Then comes the song swap or your favorite open mic. The songs will reward your effort, listeners will recognize that you care.

Fifty-one days remain to prepare for all things Irish. Open a Celtic anthology, listen to U-2, The Chieftains, or perhaps peruse *Coles 1000 Fiddle Tunes*. Pick one and dig in, remember you don't need to play in 6/8. Truth is, you needn't play anything Irish; the March Theme is Songs of the Frontier. Like Monument Valley.

When John Ford was directing Duke Wayne, Wallace Beery and Maureen O'Hara in *The Quiet Man* he leaned on a piece called *St. Patrick's Day in the Morning*. He liked the rhythm so well he used it in two of his three cavalry trilogies. You can hear the

melody featured with *Gerry Owen* and *The Girl I Left Behind Me*, on the soundtracks of *Ft. Apache* and *She wore a Yellow Ribbon*. Each a love story, each a promise of romance.

###

Events and Links

*If you know of events or links that may interest PCFS members – or if **you** are appearing somewhere, send information to pcfs.kt@gmail.com*

Member Showcase

Tara

February 4, 5-8 pm - Gus' Snug, Clawson
February 18, 5-8 pm - O'Connor's Public House, Rochester
February 25, 2:30-3:30 pm - Gaelic League, Detroit

Dr. Peter Stephenson

Every Monday, 8-10 pm - Open Mic, Dessert Oasis, Rochester
Every Friday - 7-10 pm Live Music Fridays - Bean & Benny, Oxford

Jams, Concerts, Events, and more...

OCTDS Hi Steppin' Line Dance

February 3, 7:00 pm lesson, 7:30-10:30 pm dancing. \$10 suggested donation. First United Methodist Church of Troy, 6363 Livernois octds.org/dance_schedule

Mama's Coffeehouse, Birmingham

February 17, 7:30 pm - Buddy Mondlock. \$17, \$15 student/senior. Michelle Held opens. <https://bucmi.org/music-choir/mamas-coffeehouse> or <https://www.facebook.com/MAMAsCoffeehouse>

Endless Strummers Ukulele Club

The Endless Strummers Ukulele Club meets Monday evenings 7:00-8:30 at Spirit of Christ Lutheran Church, 749 W. 14 mile Road, Clawson, for a little instruction and a lot of strumming. Beginners are welcome. For more info, contact Jack Erickson. jackofallstrings@gmail.com

Open Mic Night, Starkweather Arts Center, Romeo

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

Open Mic Night, Shelby Township Community Center

Second Saturday of each month. 7:00 pm (doors open at 6:30), Instrumental music, singing, or listening. \$3 at door, drinks and snacks provided. 14975 21 Mile Rd, Shelby Township. Contact Nan at nan.drinkard@gmail.com

Open Mic at Dessert Oasis Coffee Roasters

Every Monday, 8-10 pm at The Dessert Oasis Coffee Roasters, 115 S. Main Street, Royal Oak. docr.coffee

BaseLine Folk Society

Third Saturdays, 7 pm at Plymouth Community Arts, 774 Sheldon Rd., Plymouth. Open mic and a featured performer. \$7 donation requested at door. Facebook: <https://bit.ly/BaseLineFolk>

Open Mic Night, Plymouth Coffee Bean Co

First Monday of each month, 6:00 pm signup, 6:30 pm start. 884 Penniman Ave., Plymouth plymouthcoffeebean.com

Michigan Storytelling

MI Story newsletter posted monthly: storytelling events around Michigan michiganstorytelling.org

Ten Pound Fiddle

February 2-3 - The 20th Mid-Winter Singing Festival, singingfestival.com or tenpoundfiddle.org
Friday, 7:30 pm -\$25; Saturday, 11:30 am children's concert & 12:30 community sing -donations accepted.

ACTMAAD Calendar

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

The Ark

The Ark is now open for in-person events, requiring proof of full vaccination and masking. 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. To find virtual events, click "Event Category and check "Online Event". cdss.org/events

Facebook Links

Lois Sprengnether Keel: "Keeping the Public in Public Domain", facebook.com/lois.sez

Huber Breese Music Online Concerts: 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. 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. [facebook.com/meredithaxelrod](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](https://www.facebook.com/cdss.org)
Ten Pound Fiddle Concerts and Dances: [facebook.com/TenPoundFiddle](https://www.facebook.com/TenPoundFiddle)
The Ark: [facebook.com/TheArkAnnArbor](https://www.facebook.com/TheArkAnnArbor)
AACTMAD: [facebook.com/AACTMAD](https://www.facebook.com/AACTMAD)
Oakland County Traditional Dance Society (OCTDS): [facebook.com/OCTDS](https://www.facebook.com/OCTDS)
Detroit Irish Music Association-CCE: [facebook.com/groups/DetroitIMA](https://www.facebook.com/groups/DetroitIMA)

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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. Circulation: about 200 people on PCFS mailing list, which is not published or shared. Commercial use of mailing list is not permitted.

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.

Our website: [paintcreekfolkloresociety.org](https://www.paintcreekfolkloresociety.org)

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100086482332379>

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