



Folk Talk

A Newsletter for Columbia, Snake, and Yakima River Folk

Vol. 35 Issue 5

February 2024

Dan Maher - Tumbleweed Benefit

Saturday, February 17, 7:30 pm
All Saints' Episcopal Church, Richland

Our February concert will be a benefit for the Tumbleweed Music Festival, featuring longtime 3RFS and Tumbleweed supporter Dan Maher. We appreciate Dan's continuing generosity in doing this.

Dan Maher needs no introduction for most of us. He usually emceeds the Tumbleweed Saturday evening concert, except for the years when he has been one of the headliners. He is well known for having hosted Northwest Public Broadcasting's *Inland Folk* for 38 years and now for his new show, *Dan Maher's Good Road*, heard on [Folk Music Notebook](#). Legend has it that the idea to form the Three Rivers Folklife Society happened after his first concert for us in 1987. Dan collects songs, both traditional and contemporary, and makes them his own. His repertoire includes contemporary folk, cowboy songs, Celtic ballads, songs with hysterically funny lyrics, Australian drinking songs and 1960s pop. Dan loves sharing his joy in music with his audience and will soon have you singing along. He says he has lots of new songs to share this time, and that "they won't be boring or introspective." Dan has recorded several albums, four of which are available digitally at <https://danmaher.bandcamp.com>.

The funds raised by this concert will go towards this year's Tumbleweed Music Festival. Putting on a mostly free festival for all to enjoy costs a lot of money, and this is a chance for you to contribute to making that happen while having a great time enjoying a concert that is sure to be entertaining and fun.

The concert begins at 7:30 pm in the sanctuary of All Saints' Episcopal Church, 1322 Kimball Avenue in Richland. Park in the back parking lot and enter through the basement. Tickets are \$20 general admission and \$15 for members of 3RFS and can be purchased at the door or in advance at <https://www.3rfs.org/concert.htm>.

JAK at the February Coffeehouse

Friday, February 9, 7:30 PM
All Saints' Episcopal Church, Richland

JAK formed in 2023 through a series of serendipitous musical encounters that transpired over a couple of years. They quickly united and recognized a connection and desire to perform and bond over music. Since founding, the band has continued to explore and mature their sounds. Band members John Harder (bass/guitar/vocals), Alan Page (drums/guitar/vocals) and Ken McKiernan (guitar/harmonica/vocals/) are individually strong performers, and together they create a style of music that combines their collective influences.

Drawing on shared influences like Credence Clearwater Revival, Johnny Cash, Tom Petty, The Beatles, and much more, JAK is not afraid to take on any song or style. JAK places collaboration at the center of their music, allowing each member's talents to shape the music, as well as craft original songs.

JAK is a band that knows how to entertain. Audience members have described JAK as "musicianship combined with entertaining showmanship," "original songs with catchy lyrics," and "lots of good-natured fun."

Our coffeehouses take place at All Saints' Episcopal Church, 1322 Kimball Avenue, Richland. Admission is \$10 or \$8 for 3RFS members. The show starts at 7 pm with an open mic - come early if you would like to sign up for a performance slot.

President's Pen – by [Gene Carbaugh](#)

For over 50 years now, international folk dancing has alternated between a passion and hobby for me. Over the last couple of years, I've had pause to consider that genre – what is "international folk dancing?" I originally understood it to mean ethnic dances of a particular region and culture. And that was basically true 70 to 90 years ago in its early days of popularity. But as time went on, the traditional dances we did from particular villages were augmented by dances choreographed by ethnic professionals or troupes that were challenging, fun, and done to ethnic music. Some of these dances were introduced to us (meaning USA dancers) by Americans who studied with those ethnic professionals. As we performed the dances, the circumstances and nuances of rhythm, style, and culture were often lost or changed. Next came choreography fit to ethnic music by people or circumstances totally unrelated to the ethnic background of the music. A case in point is a dance I recently learned called Fado, performed to a Portuguese song. The dance is beautiful but bears no resemblance whatever to Portuguese dancing or styling and was choreographed as part of a Sacred Circle Dance genre with its roots in 1976 Germany for spiritual and curative purposes. Because the music is from

Portugal, some groups and instructors mistakenly refer to it as a Portuguese dance. All of these issues translate into musical genres that we encounter in our "folk music" circle. What does it mean to be "folk?" I like Tom Lehrer's comment that folk music was simply "music of the people" - with all the good and bad connotations that go with it. Good because a melting pot (hopefully) enriches flavors for all. Bad in that the true flavor (historical implications, connotations, etc.) can be lost. Pete Seeger is quoted as saying "Don't knock the folk process." Good words to live by, but we need to remember the roots and their value and impact on where we are today.

Tumbleweed News - by [Katrina Knight](#)

As you all know, we want to do our best to make Tumbleweed a great experience for everyone - audience, performers, and volunteers. To that end, we are taking a look at our various performance spaces and how we make use of them.

We're doing a lot of wonderful things, but we've expanded the number of performance spaces over the years and the audiences have still not come back

to pre-pandemic levels. We want all our performers to have the opportunity to play to a decent audience and that won't happen if people are spread too thinly between numerous spaces.

One of the things we'd like to accomplish is going back to using the big room in the Community Center mostly for dancing. Dance groups were hit hard by the pandemic and we haven't been getting many applications from them to perform. If you are involved in a dance group or know of one you'd like to see at Tumbleweed, please encourage them to apply and/or give us suggestions on who to ask. We're also considering whether we should have one less stage for scheduled performances, at least for a few years until audience numbers build up some more. Please let us know your thoughts on this. You can contact me at tumbleweedchair@gmail.com or 509-587-3060.

Another change that is in the works for this year is a new and improved Info Booth. We are currently in the process of getting estimates for a new canopy and awnings that we hope will be easier to set up and take down, safer in the event of bad weather, and better experience for everyone who works in it or patronizes it.

The deadline for the logo contest is approaching and the planning committee will be selecting this year's logo later this month. We already have some interesting entries from locations near and far, including Quebec, the Philippines, and Sri Lanka! Can we call ourselves "world famous" now?

It isn't too late to join the planning committee if you'd like to be involved in making choices for any of the things I've written about here. No experience is necessary, just a willingness to be involved. Remember, the festival doesn't put itself on. We need both volunteers and money to make it happen. Whatever amount of time you have to give, before or during the festival, we can find something useful for you to do. If you can't volunteer your time, attending this month's benefit concert is another way that you can help.

3RFS Bids Goodbye to Long-Time Member Alan Gibbs

It is with great sadness that Three Rivers Folklife Society notes the passing of a very long-time 3RFS member, Alan Gibbs.

Alan and his wife Judi were among the very first members of 3RFS. Judi remembers "What got Alan and me out for 3RFS events was the very first concert — the one in which John and Micki and others partnered to bring in Utah Philips — to see if there was interest in a folk music organization. We attended that one, and many others, before we relocated to Seattle in 1996.

In 1995, Alan and Judi started the 3rfs.org website. In this time of straight HTML, they figured out how to put sound clips online, and posted some of the earliest ones anywhere. Alan subsequently maintained and developed the 3rfs.org website by himself for 28 years, even after moving to Seattle, until May 2023, when a serious medical condition suddenly sidelined him.

Alan Gibbs was born February 23, 1939, in Weaverville, California. He received a scholarship to Stanford University, and subsequently received a Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering, with a concentration in the nuclear field. Alan subsequently moved to Richland and worked at Battelle, and was a part-time faculty member in Nuclear Engineering at what is now Washington State University Tri-Cities. He also worked at Energy Northwest and Siemens.

Alan and Judi Schneller married in 1969. They were married for 40 years, and remained good friends until the end. They delighted in travel, hiking, and art, including taking an academic year off in 1982 - 1983 to travel on a budget in the developing world. Their itinerary included Fiji, Australia (as a jumping off point), Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Nepal, India, Sri Lanka, Kenya, Egypt, and Morocco.

In 1996, he relocated to Seattle to pursue more graduate studies, this time at the University of Washington. He earned an MS in electrical engineering, with a

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Send items of interest to:

newsletter@3rfs.net

Send memberships to:

3RFS Membership

P.O. Box 1098, Richland, WA 99352

3RFS 2022-2023 Board of Directors

Gene Carbaugh, President 509-946-0504

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Tumbleweed Coord. - Katrina Knight

3RFS Info: www.3rfs.org 509-947-6735

(Micki Perry)

concentration in digital signal processing. He then worked at Mathsoft (later renamed Insightful) before retiring. After Alan's retirement, he and Judi collaborated on a business, the Write Guru. Judi indexed books, and Alan developed websites. Many of those websites were for artists and art galleries and involved photography and photo-processing of art.

Alan passed on January 10, 2024, in the Seattle suburb of Kenmore, Washington.

The 3RFS family honors Alan's memory, and will hold it close. Those wishing to donate in Alan's memory may donate to 3RFS, or to The Nature Conservancy. Plans for a memorial service are uncertain at this time.

Sing Along with Us

Friday, February 2, 7:00 PM
Friday, March 1, 7:00 PM
Micki Perry's House

Saturday, February 10, 6:00 PM
Saturday, March 9, 6:00 PM
Round Table Pizza

The First Friday Folkie Free For All and the Second Saturday Sea Song Sing-along continue to take place on the first Friday and Second Saturday of the month. February is sure to feature some love songs and Irish songs can be expected in March in honor of St Patrick's Day. Come out and join us on February 2 and March 1 at Micki Perry's house in Kennewick, and on February 10 and March 9 at Round Table Pizza on George Washington Way in Richland. Singing with friends is a sure way to have a some fun and chase away the winter blues!

News from the 3RFS/Tumbleweed Family...

Remembering Pat Phillips

Longtime Three Rivers Folklife and Tumbleweed volunteer Pat Phillips died on November 11, 2023 at the age of 90. She was born in Spokane January 16, 1933 and spent her early years in

Local Folk Events

February

2	FFFFFA	7:00 pm Fri	Micki Perry's, Kennewick
5	Tumbleweed Planning Meeting	7:00 pm Mon	Zoom
9	3RFS Coffeeshouse with JAK	7:00 pm Fri	All Saints', Richland
10	SSSSS	6:00 pm Sat	Round Table Pizza, Richland
12	3RFS Board Meeting	7:00 pm Mon	Gene Carbaugh's, Richland
17	Dan Maher - TMF Benefit Concert	7:30 pm Sat	All Saints', Richland
21	Tumbleweed Planning Meeting	7:00 pm Wed	Zoom

March

1	FFFFFA	7:00 pm Fri	Micki Perry's, Kennewick
4	Tumbleweed Planning Meeting	7:00 pm Mon	Zoom
8	3RFS Coffeeshouse with Kaylie Dawes	7:00 pm Fri	All Saints', Richland
9	SSSSS	6:00 pm Sat	Round Table Pizza, Richland
11	3RFS Board Meeting	7:00 pm Mon	Gene Carbaugh's, Richland
16	Trillium-239 - TMF Benefit Concert	7:30 pm Sat	All Saints', Richland
20	Tumbleweed Planning Meeting	7:00 pm Wed	Zoom

All Saints' = All Saints' Episcopal Church, 1322 Kimball Ave., Richland
Gene Carbaugh's = 803 Birch Ave., Richland
Micki Perry's = 1011 S. Dawes St., Kennewick
Round Table Pizza = Corner of George Washington Way and Torbett St., Richland

Kahlotus, Othello, and Lind, Washington. before moving to the Tri-Cities in the 80s. She attended Lind High School and Washington State College, where she graduated in 1954. She married Loren Woodside, and taught school in Othello and Lind, and also raised 3 children including Scott Woodside. Later in her life she married Bob Phillips, got her Library Certification from Eastern Washington University and for many was a librarian in Burbank. She was an active volunteer for Tumbleweed and hosted performers in her home for many years, all of whom had fond memories of her hospitality and cheerful disposition. She was an avid traveler and active church member up until the past few years after she had a brain tumor and a serious health decline. Pat's Memorial Service will be 11:00 am, March 9, at Kennewick First United Methodist Church, 2 South Dayton Street, in Kennewick. She will be greatly missed by those who knew and loved her.

A new time for Dan Maher's Good Road

Dan Maher's new radio show on Folk Music Notebook, *Dan Maher's Good Road* is off to a good start. Those of you who aren't night owls will be glad to know that as of February 3rd it is airing two hours earlier, from 7-10 pm. You can hear it when it airs by going to folkmusicnotebook.com, via the Folk Music Notebook iOS or Android phone app, or on your Alexa device. You can also hear it after 8:00 am on Sundays by going to the Mixcloud archives at <https://www.mixcloud.com/danmahersgoodroad/>.



If you have something for us to share in this column, please send it to newsletter@3rfs.net. News will be published as we have space and deem it to be appropriate.

Yes!

I want to help 3RFS and the Tumbleweed Music Festival Roll on!

I would like to contribute at this level:

- _____ \$1000.00
- _____ \$250.00
- _____ \$100.00
- _____ \$50.00
- \$_____ Other

Please keep my gift anonymous (Donor names will be listed in next year's program unless you indicate you wish to remain anonymous.)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

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E-mail -- _____

Send to: 3RFS TMF, PO Box 1098, Richland, WA 99352



Membership Application

Your membership gives you voting rights in Folklife elections, discounts on events, and is tax deductible! Plus it gives you the satisfaction of supporting 3RFS activities.

____ Individual (\$20) or ____ Family (\$25) Renewal? Y N

Name _____

Address _____

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Phone Number _____ E-mail _____

Please send Folk Talk (choose one) US Mail Email Both

I can help 3RFS with:

- Refreshments at concerts
- Taking admission at events
- Serve on Board of Directors
- Demonstrating folk arts
- Tumbleweed Music Festival
- Song Circles
- Setting up chairs
- Folding newsletters
- Publicity
- Membership
- Fund raising
- Coffeehouses
- Other

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