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Three Rivers Folklife Society  
P.O. Box 1098  
Richland, WA 99352  
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## Yes! I want to help the 2010 Tumbleweed Music Festival

I would like to contribute at this level

<input type="checkbox"/> Bronze	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Silver	\$100.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Gold	\$250.00
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Send to: 3RFS TMF, P.O. Box 1098, Richland, WA 99352  
Enclose your check payable to Three Rivers Folklife Society.



## 2010 Member Application

Your membership gives you voting rights in folklife elections, \$3 off most concerts, and is tax deductible! You'll even get a nifty membership card to show your friends and neighbors!

Individual (\$15) or  Family (\$20)    Renewal?    Y    N  
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### I can help 3RFS with:

- |  |  |                                       |
|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Refreshments at concerts    | <input type="checkbox"/> Setting up chairs   | <input type="checkbox"/> Fund raising |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Taking admission at events  | <input type="checkbox"/> Folding newsletters | <input type="checkbox"/> Coffeehouses |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Serve on Board of Directors | <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity           | <input type="checkbox"/> Song circles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrating folk arts     | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership          | <input type="checkbox"/> Contra dance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tumbleweed Music Festival   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other               |                                       |

Send check to: Three Rivers Folklife Society, P.O. Box 1098, Richland, WA 99352.

## Tumbleweed Gets Rolling, Rolling...

Thursday, 25 February, 7:00 PM

Tumbleweed Music Festival 2010 is already in the planning stages. And it is not too late for you to get involved. The Tumbleweed Steering Committee

meets on the 4th Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM at the Richland Library.

At the January meeting the agenda included picking the theme for the songwriting contest. Applications for performers and the songwriting contest should be available on the 3RFS website at [www.3rfs.org](http://www.3rfs.org) sometime this month. Copies of the applications

will be mailed out in March. If you know someone who would be a good candidate for the festival this year, contact Duane Horton, 628-0709, or Micki Perry, 783-9937, and we'll send them an application.

Join us at the next meeting and become a part of one of the best-loved festivals in the Pacific Northwest.



# Folk Talk

A Newsletter for Columbia, Snake, and Yakima River Folk

February 2010

## Sänger and Didele & Uncle Joe's & Tumbleweed

Saturday, 20 February, 7:30 PM

The Great Sänger and Didele (We love those guys!) will perform their special brand of music and mayhem for a fundraising concert to benefit Tumbleweed Music Festival on Saturday, February 20th. The show will be opened by one of our favorite local bands, Uncle Joe's Banjo Band.

In the past few years The Great Sänger and Didele, sometimes known as "Seamen of the Inland Empire," have become notorious on the Northwest nautical music scene. They actually got their start at the 1998 Tumbleweed Music Festival, and have rocketed to fame (but not much fortune) ever since. Known for their zany humor and their juxtaposition of goofy parody songs and beautifully executed serious nautical music, some folks have compared them to the Smothers Brothers, and yes, they are actually brothers. Locally we know them as Kent and Kurt Mesford. They grew up in Richland as members of the musical Mesford clan, but somewhere along the line

their alter-egos took over, and The Great Sänger and Didele eclipsed the humble and prosaic Mesford boys.

The mythic Sänger and Didele had a whole different history, according to their Myspace profile:

"The tale of Sänger and Didele begins some 30-odd years ago. Cleetus Sänger, heir to the famous Sänger Kazoo Company fortune, was born in a humble 47 room mansion on the outskirts of Tillesquat, Washington. A precocious child, he early showed a talent for typewriter repair and tormenting the neighborhood cats with duct tape. No one dared discipline the child, as he possessed a three-alarm scream that could bring even the largest and most macho adult male to his knees. Young Sänger therefore grew up totally convinced of his own superiority over the little people, or "scum" as he chose to call them.

Meanwhile, Homer Didele did not have such an easy life. Abandoned in the woods outside Tillesquat shortly after his birth, he was adopted by a friendly tribe of clams. When finally discovered by human beings, he was

fully grown, but had the mind of a fully grown person raised by clams. He spoke no English; his only means of communication was a rudimentary form of Basque. His transition into human society was not easy, but was aided by liberal use of electroshock therapy and frequent rewards of SPAM.

Homer was given a scholarship to the prestigious Northwest Presbyterian Dental College of Business and Agriculture, conveniently located in the heart of downtown Tillesquat. Majoring in Mineral Husbandry (with a minor in loansharking), Didele joined and was quickly made captain of the university tambourine squad. Meanwhile, Sänger was also majoring at the university. Fate decreed that the two were to meet through their mutual hobby of competitive dog grooming. It was at a meet against rival Tillesquat Women's College of Botany and Hair-dressing that the pair discovered a shared love of inflicting themselves on the public. It is this love that continues to bring them to you to this very day."

Continued on Pg. 2, see Fundraiser

## Katie Evans, Something New at Coffeehouse

Friday, 12 February, 7:30 PM

Singer/songwriter Katie Evans from Austin, Texas, will be a new face at this month's Three Rivers Folklife Society Coffeehouse. For Katie, music is a journey encompassing her fears, her pain, her joy, lessons learned, the people in her world, her ups, her downs - basically - her life. This emotion filled solo performer takes you on the journey down the roads of life through melancholy melodies and

lyrics that search for truth in a world of sadness and joy. Her words reflect the experiences that Katie has perceived in her life and in the lives of others. Her music enables you find the beauty in the little things. Her voice touches the soul and her songs reflect upon lifetime memories. To Katie, songwriting is a way of life and her greatest passion is sharing her music and perhaps changing a life along the way.

Katie grew up in Ohio and moved to Alaska for a three-year adventure

where she fine-tuned her craft and recorded her first CD, entitled "A Passing Afternoon." She currently resides in Austin, Texas, when she is not touring.

Join us for fresh new music at All Saints' Episcopal Church, 1322 Kimball Ave., in Richland. The coffeehouse begins with an open mic session at 7:30 PM. Potential performers should come early to sign up for a performance slot. Suggested donation at the door is \$8/\$6 seniors and students.

## Fundraiser (cont.)

This biography does not tell us that Cleetus Sanger does lead vocals and rhythm guitar and Homer Didele does lead guitar and rhythm vocals and a killer version of "Shenandoah." The boys have produced two CDs; "Seaman of the Inland Empire" and "The Great Sanger and Didele: Live at the Tillesquat Bowl." They have a new CD available for family and friends, which you may be able to purchase at the concert. Come out to support our local heroes and Tumbleweed Music Festival at the same time! We love those guys!

Uncle Joe's Banjo Band, who will open the show, do family-friendly old-time music. They are all from the Tri-Cities area so they are also local favorites. Paul Knight is the banjo player and sings lead vocals. Chris Mesford plays bodhran and other percussion instruments. Kurt Mesford plays guitar, and sings some too. Jan Hylden plays flutes and whistles and Debbie Hembree fiddles as Phil Cathey thumps along on the bass. This fun-filled fundraising concert will be held on Saturday, February 20th, at 7:30 PM at the Community Unitarian Universalist Church, 2819 W. Sylvester in Pasco. Tickets are \$11 general admission and \$9 seniors and students when purchased in advance at Bookworm stores and Octopus' Garden. \$1 more at the door. 3RFS members receive a \$3 discount. All proceeds go to Tumbleweed Music Festival 2010.

## It's Never Too Late for 3RFS Membership

Does your Folk Talk mailing label say "Non-Member?" All memberships lapse with the start of the new year unless you became a member during or after Tumbleweed 2009. In that case, your membership is good throughout 2010. If you have been a member and want to stay current, please renew now. If you have never joined, maybe this year would be a good time to do so. Membership fees are \$20 for a family membership and \$15 for an

## Another Raffle Guitar for TMF!

Thanks go to Jay Howlett and Blah! Blah! Woof! Woof! for once again providing Three Rivers Folklife Society with a Breedlove guitar as a raffle prize for Tumbleweed 2010. This year it is a Breedlove Retro Dreadnought. Inspired by the Breedlove Revival designs, this guitar is one of four key retro models with an ear towards tradition. These fine instruments are created with the same level of craftsmanship that have made the award winning Breedlove Atlas Series so highly regarded. The Dreadnought models are extremely quick and powerful for demanding flatpicking, bluegrass and the blues.

The Breedlove Retro Series Dreadnought/SM is a vintage orchestra model instrument with a solid Sitka spruce top, solid mahogany back and laminate sides, rosewood finger-board, ivoroid binding with herringbone top purfling, Abalone rosette, and an L.R. Baggs Stage Pro, element active pick-up system with volume and tone controls. The value of this guitar is \$1049. Thanks Jay, Blah! Blah! Woof! Woof! and Breedlove.

By the way, Jay and his friends in Blah! Blah! Woof! Woof! will be performing a concert for 3RFS in April. Come out and thank them then. Meanwhile, you can start buying raffle tickets at our February concert with The Great Sanger and Didele and Uncle Joe's Banjo Band.

individual. Your membership entitles you to \$3 off on concert tickets and \$1 off on contra dance admission. If you attend a lot of events it is a real bargain. You also get to vote at our annual meeting/concert in May. (Free to members.) Memberships help cover the cost of printing and mailing the newsletter, and 3RFS administration expenses. Contact Jim Zimmerschied with any questions about your membership at 943-0097.

## February Fosters First FFFFA

Friday, 5 February, 7:30 PM

Since the first Friday in January was New Year's Day and Micki Perry, the host, was basking in the Mexican sun, there was no First Friday Folkie Free-For-All to usher in the New Year. Now that Micki is back and the first Friday of February isn't a holiday the FFFFA gathering will resume again.

The Free-For-All is really just a song circle with all genres of music and all levels of proficiency welcome. You don't have to lead or teach a song, but everyone has a chance to pick a song or tune or two that everyone can sing or play. Bring a dessert or snack to share and be prepared for a sweet time of sharing favorite songs and tunes.

It's all at Micki Perry's home, 1011 S. Dawes St., in Kennewick. For information and directions and call Micki at 783-9937

*Folk Talk* is published monthly from August through May by the Three Rivers Folklife Society.

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**3RFS Info:** www.3rfs.org 509 528-2215

**Deadline for the March newsletter is February 15th.**

## Out of Town

### February

**20** Walla Walla Friends of Acoustic Music Contra Dance 7:30 PM, Sat, Unity Church of Peace, 810 C St., Walla Walla www.fam/bmi.net

**25-28** Wintergrass Thurs.-Sun. Hyatt Regency Hotel, Bellevue, WA www.wintergrass.wordpress.com

**27** "Under a Celtic Moon" Concert, 7:00 PM, Sat, Liberty Theater, Dayton, WA

## Contra to Contraversatile

Saturday, 27 February, 7:30 PM

It has been far too long since we've have the pleasure of dancing to this month's band - Contraversatile. Shelly Jenkins and the rest of the crew have been playing for the Yakima dances for many, many years. Their experience and high quality musicianship make them a "dancer's" band. Silas Minyard the caller, comes to us from Portland, and is a relative newcomer. He is a delight, and we are looking forward to a fun-filled evening.

All dances will be taught so no experience or partner is necessary. Bring your friends, family and snacks to share for a great evening of music, dancing, and fun at Shuffler's Shanty, 717 N. Irving St., Kennewick. Go to 3rfs.org for a map. Admission at the door is \$8 gen./\$6 Seniors and teens. Kids under 12 are free. \$1 discount for 3RFS members.



## Local Folk Events

### February

- 5** First Friday Folkie Free-for-All 7:30 PM Fri Micki Perry's
- 8** 3RFS Board Meeting 7:00 PM Mon Richland Library
- 12** Katie Evans Coffeehouse 7:30 PM Fri All Saints'
- 13** 2nd Saturday Sea Song Singalong 7:00 PM Sat Round Table Pizza,
- 20** The Great Sanger & Didele Concert 7:30 PM Sat CUUC  
2010 Tumbleweed Music Festival Benefit  
Open by Uncle Joe's Banjo Band
- 25** 2010 Tumbleweed Music Festival 7:00 PM Thurs Richland Library  
Planning Meeting
- 27** Contra Dance 7:30 PM Sat Shuffler's Shanty

### March

- 5** First Friday Folkie Free-for-All 7:30 PM Fri Micki Perry's
- 8** 3RFS Board Meeting 7:00 PM Mon Richland Library
- 12** Jill Cohn Coffeehouse 7:30 PM Fri All Saints'
- 13** 2nd Saturday Sea Song Singalong 7:00 PM Sat Round Table Pizza,
- 13** Desert Thistle Pipe Band Concert 7:30 PM Sat Chief Jo Middle School  
www.deserthistlepipeband.org Richland
- 20** Kim Angelis Concert 7:30 PM Sat CUUC
- 25** 2010 Tumbleweed Music Festival 7:00 PM Thurs Richland Library  
Planning Meeting
- 27** Contra Dance 7:30 PM Sat Shuffler's Shanty

All Saints' = All Saints' Episcopal Church, 1322 Kimball Ave., Richland  
 CUUC = Community Unitarian Universalist Church, 2819 W. Sylvester St., Pasco  
 Micki Perry's = 1011 S. Dawes, Kennewick  
 Richland Library = Richland Library, 955 Northgate Dr., at Goethals Dr. and Swift Blvd.  
 Round Table Pizza = Corner of George Washington Way and Torbett St., Richland  
 Shuffler's Shanty = 717 N. Irving St., Kennewick

For information, call 509 528-2215

## Sing Sea Songs for Sweeties!

Saturday, 13 February, 7:00 PM

Romance? You want romance? Serenade your Valentine along with 15 or 20 other sea song singers belting out sea chanteys between bites of pizza and sips of beer the night before Valentines Day!

The Second Saturday Sea Song Singalong gives you an opportunity to wine and dine and sing to your sweetie (or not!) on Valentine's Eve, February 13, at Richland's Round Table Pizza on the corner of Torbett and George Washington Way. The music begins around 7:00 and continues until they want to close the place. There is no charge except for the food and beverages. Sweeties are optional. Just come and sing!