



Three Rivers Folklife Society

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Folk Talk

A Newsletter for Columbia, Snake, and Yakima River Folk

January 2008

Help us promote **3RFS** events! Post the enclosed flyer where the most people will see it.

Thanks!

Local Folk Events

January

- 11** Gypsy Jazz Trio Coffeehouse 7:30 PM Fri All Saints'
- 12** 2nd Saturday Sea Song Singalong 7:00 PM Sat Round Table Pizza, Richland
- 14** 3RFS Board Meeting 7:00 PM Mon BPABC
- 19** Pint and Dale Concert 7:30 PM Fri **KSC**
- 26** Contra Dance 7:30 PM Sat **KSC**
- 27** Last Sunday Song Circle 2:00-4:00 PM Sun Round Table Pizza, Richland
- 29** Tumbleweed Planning Meeting 7:00 PM Tue Richland Community Center

February

- 8** Laddie Ray Melvin Coffeehouse 7:30 PM Fri All Saints'
- 9** 2nd Saturday Sea Song Singalong 7:00 PM Sat Round Table Pizza, Richland
- 11** 3RFS Board Meeting 7:00 PM Mon BPABC
- 16** T. R. Ritchie Concert 7:30 PM Sat **KSC**
- 23** Contra Dance 7:30 PM Sat **KSC**
- 24** Last Sunday Song Circle 2:00-5:00 PM Sun Round Table Pizza, Richland
- 26** Tumbleweed Planning Meeting 7:00 PM Tue Richland Community Center

KSC = Kennewick Senior Center, 500 South Auburn, on the east side of Keewaydin Park, across from the East Benton Country Museum

All Saints' = All Saints' Episcopal Church, 1322 Kimball Ave., Richland
BPABC = Battelle Performing Arts Business Center, 716 Jadwin Ave., Richland
Round Table Pizza = 245 Torbett, Richland, 946-0667

For information, call 509 528-2215

William Pint and Felicia Dale at the Sr. Center

Saturday, 19 January, 7:30 pm

With vocals, guitar, mandola, Irish pennywhistles, percussion and exotic sounds of the *vielle-à-roue* or hurdy gurdy, the Seattle duo William Pint & Felicia Dale will be bringing an energetic and contemporary spirit to their Tri-Cities performance this month. Drawing on several cultures, Pint and Dale perform traditional and modern music and songs reflecting the intense vitality of those who live and work on the sea. Their music fits into the world of modern folk, rock and popular song, but it's rich with the myth, narrative, rhythm, rhyme and lyric associated with the days of the tall ships.

Felicia grew up steeped in the traditional lore of the sea. Raised on Vashon Island, she spent her childhood sailing Northwest coastal waters and cruising Canada's "inside passage." Her father was a sea captain who brought back tales and treasures from exotic ports of call. With a mother transplanted from Paris, Felicia learned French as her first language acquiring a lifelong love for the songs of French seafaring tradition.

Her exposure to the *vielle-à-roue*

or hurdy-gurdy was through several Seattle area players and then a performance by the French group Cabistan while she was on tour at Mystic Seaport in Connecticut. Returning to Seattle, she immediately commissioned an instrument from California luthier Michael Hubbert.

Felicia's striking vocal harmonies are matched by her creative use of the hurdy gurdy and Irish pennywhistles. She takes these traditional instruments far beyond their usual roles as she blends them into the texture of a song or departs on improvisational romps with ease.

William Pint was led into the folk world in 1970. He was wooed away from his early rock and roll influences by the folk/rock sounds of Steeleye Span and Fairport Convention. This led to a growing interest in more traditional, less electric music. In 1977, he headed west to escape the cold winters of his home in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and to pursue music. The salt air of Puget Sound and the rich, seafaring history of the Pacific Northwest soon led him to explore the song and lore of deepwater sailors.

William's emotionally expressive singing is complemented by his power-

ful guitar and mandola work. With these he can supply settings of great delicacy or wild, driving rhythms.

Pint and Dale have won an ardent following across the United States, Great Britain, Germany, Poland and the Netherlands with their recordings and appearances at festivals and concerts. These include our own 3RFS stages and local Renaissance Fair. They have recorded eight albums, the independently released CDs "Port of Dreams" and "Making Waves," and Waterbug label releases, "Hearts of Gold," "Round the Corner," "When I See Winter Return," "Hartwell Horn," "White Horses," "Seven Seas" and "Set of the Sail."

This concert will be held at our new, temporary home: Kennewick Senior Center, 500 South Auburn, Kennewick (off of Auburn, South of 1st and across from the East Benton County Museum in Keewaydin Park). Tickets are \$11 general/\$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.

Everyone's Asking: What's Your Hurdy Gurdy?

We got curious about this peculiar instrument, and learned the following from Wikipedia. A hurdy gurdy is a stringed musical instrument in which the strings are "bowed" by a resined wheel. The player turns a crank, which turns the wheel past the strings, working a lot like a violin bow. The player uses a keyboard to press small wooden wedges against the strings to play a melody. It has a soundboard to make

the vibration of the strings audible. There are also several drone strings that accompany the melody, which gives it a sound reminiscent of bagpipes.

Historians think the hurdy gurdy was invented in Western Europe before the eleventh century. During the Renaissance, the hurdy gurdy was very popular, but by the end of the 17th century it was considered very low class. It made a comeback in 18th century France,

where it became popular with nobles. Hurdy gurdies get confused with barrel organs (the music box instrument played by "organ grinders" with monkeys in bell-hop suits). The Pacific northwest is something of a Mecca for hurdy gurdy players. The "Over the Water Hurdy Gurdy Festival" is held annually at Fort Flagler State Park, near Port Townsend.

More Info On page 2.

Gypsy Jazz Trio at the Coffeehouse

Friday, 11 January, 7:30 PM

The first coffeehouse of 2008 will feature hot Gypsy jazz. The group, Gypsy Jazz Trio features local performer Doug Rice at its nexus.

Doug joined the Wayne McGuffin big band and studied guitar with local guitar icon, John LaChappelle. In college, Doug kept busy in several Jazz and Fusion groups and taught private lessons. A highlight of his career was to study classical guitar with James Reid, from the University of Idaho. Doug graduated from Washington State University with degrees in music and education and taught music at Richland High School for 10 years

Doug currently performs around the Tri-Cities as a soloist and as a member of several performing groups the latest being Gypsy Jazz Trio.

The 3RFS coffeehouse starts with an open mic. Come early or call Alan if you want a performance slot, since we have been filling up fast. The 3RFS Coffeehouse is at All Saints' Episcopal Church, located at 1322 Kimball, Ave., Richland. Suggested donation at the door is \$8 general/\$6 seniors and students. For more info contact Alan Page at 943-5662.

New Board Member

Ed Lund was appointed to fill the 3RFS Board vacancy left by Bruce Mesford's passing. He has been a valuable and versatile volunteer at Tumbleweed for years. Ed stepped up last November to help Bruce Mesford produce the The Constellation's Crew concert.

He is a nautical song fan and a welcome addition to the board. Ed can be contacted at grimwolf@hotmail.com A new Vice President will be selected by the board at their next meeting

Please start considering taking an active role in 3RFS by running for a board position in May 2008.

2008 Tumbleweed Planning on a Roll!

The 12th annual Tumbleweed Music Festival is scheduled for August 30-31, 2008, in Howard Amon Park. Mary Hartman has agreed to coordinate the festival again, assisted by Micki Perry on publicity and a dedicated crew on the planning committee. We would love to have new faces and new ideas on the committee, so if you can help, please come to our first planning meeting Tuesday, January 29, at 7:00 PM in the Richland Community Center's Conference Room. Or just call Mary at 943-0327.

We already have some good news for the 2008 festival. The City of Richland has once again come through with a grant from the hotel/motel tax fund. We have also received our first business donation from Johnson Motoring Services. Hank Cramer has donated a beautiful, wooden model of the U.S.S. Constitution for us to raffle. We also have a lead on obtaining an awesome raffle guitar... more on that later!

Do you know of a business that might want to support the 2008 Tumbleweed Music Festival with a donation? Please let us know! Call Mary at 943-0327 or e-mail festival@3rfs.org.

Come join us it's a great experience for all involved!

Mary Benson Update

Mary Benson, a nautical singer with a big voice, well-loved in Three Rivers Folklife country, continues to recover from a stroke. Her hardest task is working on speech therapy. 3RFS collected \$700 for Mary's medical insurance fund. This money is being used to help her pay for insurance. We were able to cover about 2 months. The generosity of all of the contributors is amazing. Thank you all for helping.

If you would like to get in touch with Mary to send her best wishes or other messages, she can be reached at syren12@comcast.net

Go West for Wylie

Friday, January 11, 7:30 PM

Yakima Folklife Society is bringing Wylie & the Wild West to their town.. Wylie Gustafson and his band play cowboy folk, honky-tonk, yodeling, and fine western music. They have been honored by the Academy of Western Artists and the Western Music Association with awards for the 2005 Group of the Year, 2004 and 2005 Yodeler, and 2006 Best Western Swing Album.

The concert will be held in the Great Hall of the Yakima Valley Museum at 2105 Tieton Drive in Yakima Call 509-248-0747 for information.

Resolve to Renew!

2007 3RFS memberships expired at the end of 2007. If you joined at or after Tumbleweed 2007, you're covered for 2008, otherwise you need to renew your memberships for 2008. Now!

Your membership entitles you to a big discount on concert tickets. Fill out the form in this newsletter and mail it in with your dues. (They are tax deductible!) Dues help us pay printing, mailing and other operating expenses.

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

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Production: Kendal Smith
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Send items of interest to: mail@3rfs.org
Send address changes to: Jim Zimmerschied
1757 Boston, Richland, WA 99354
Send member classified ads to: P.O. Box 1098, Richland, WA 99352

3RFS 2007-08 Board of Directors
Alan Page, President 943-5662
Frank Cuta, Secretary 967-2658
John Perry, Treasurer 783-9937
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Phil Glover 582-6396
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Chuck Peden 967-3447
Cindy Rakowski 308-6408

3RFS e-mail: mail@3rfs.org
3RFS Info: www.3rfs.org 509 528-2215

Deadline for the February newsletter is January 15th.

Out of Town

January

11 Wylie and the Wild West
7:30 pm Friday, Yakima Valley Museum, 2105 Tieton Drive, Yakima. 509-248-0747.

Contra Returns - at the Senior Center

Saturday, 26 January, 7:30 PM

Start out the new year by dancing with Marte Fallshore and Scatter Creek. Scatter Creek is from Kittitas County and will play old-time fiddle tunes for your dancing pleasure. Band members are Steve Moore and Dale Brubaker on fiddle, Jan Demorest on guitar and Appalachian dulcimer, and Hugh Fraser on banjo. Marte Fallshore, also from Kittitas County, calls energizing contras. She's been calling in Eastern WA and beyond for over 10 years.

All dances will be taught - no experience necessary. Bring your friends, family, and snacks to share, for an evening of music, dancing, and fun. Admission at the door is \$8 general/\$5 for seniors and teens. Kids under 12 are free. 3RFS members get \$1 off. The dance will be held at our new, temporary home: the Kennewick Senior Center at 500 South Auburn, Kennewick; off of Auburn, South of 1st, and across from the East Benton County Museum in Keewaydin Park.

Song Circle Resumes Last Sunday in Jan.

Sunday, 27 January, 2:00 PM

Do you ever get the urge to sing the old folk songs or camp songs or any songs from your youth? Then your opportunity is at hand! Come join a group of laid-back music lovers as they sing all styles of songs! Bring friends, guitars, banjos, spoons, autoharps, harmonicas, and most important of all, a voice - tuned or untuned.

Yes! I want to help the 2008 Tumbleweed Music Festival succeed!

I would like to be a: Patron, \$50.00
 Donor, \$100.00
 Contributor, \$250.00

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Send to: 3RFS Tumbleweed Music Festival, P.O. Box 1098, Richland, WA 99352



2008 Membership 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) Is this a renewal? Y N

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

I can help 3RFS with:

- Providing refreshments at concerts
- Taking admission at events
- Serving on Board of Directors
- Demonstrating folk arts
- Tumbleweed Music Festival
- Setting up chairs
- Folding the newsletter
- Publicity
- Membership
- Other _____
- Fund raising
- Coffeehouses
- Song circles
- Contra dances

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

Warm Up with SSSSS

Saturday, 12 January, 7:00 PM

Matey, it's cold outside, so we'll need lot's o' warm bodies to keep the chanteys rolling at Richland Round Table Pizza this month. - the perfect opportunity to fulfill that resolution to become one with the sea. It's a friendly group with eats and drinks for a reasonable price at the usual 7pm-ish time. No singing experience required.

Harry Babad, enthusiastic leader, is recreating a few song sheets from his 50 plus year old, foot-high collection to pass out. We use the prolific Rise Up Singing songbook, if you have one or you can buy one from Harry as he has them available for purchase. Mark your calendar for the last Sunday in January, a join us at the Richland Round Table Pizza for a couple of hours of great fun.