

Yes! I want to help the 2017 Tumbleweed Music Festival



2017 Membership Application

Your membership gives you voting rights in folklife elections, \$2 off most concerts, and is tax deductible! You'll even get a nifty membership card to show your friends and neighbors!

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

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Please send FolkTalk by (choose one) US Mail Email Both

I can help 3RFS with:

Refreshments at concerts Setting up chairs Fund raising

Taking admission at events Folding newsletters Coffeehouses

Serve on Board of Directors Publicity Song circles

Demonstrating folk arts Membership

Tumbleweed Music Festival Other

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

I would like to contribute

at this level Bronze \$50.00

Silver \$100.00

Gold \$250.00

Platinum \$1000.00

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____

Send to: 3RFS TMF, P.O. Box 1098, Richland, WA 99352

Enclose your check payable to *Three Rivers Folklife Society*.

Membership Reminder

Thank you to all actual paid members. While our presentations are for all, it is your support that helps us to produce them. This is just a reminder at this busy time of year that your mem-

bership may need to be renewed. If you have renewed your membership or started a membership at or since Tumbleweed Music Festival 2016, in September, you are golden. Your

membership is good through December 2017. If your membership was started or renewed before 2016 Tumbleweed, it will need to be renewed by the end of December.

Help us promote 3RFS where the most people will see it. *Thanks!*

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Folk Talk

A Newsletter for Columbia, Snake, and Yakima River Folk

Vol. 28, Issue 5

January 2017

Tracy Spring Shares Songs from TR Ritchie

Saturday, 21 January, 7:30 PM

Tracy Spring, singer/songwriter from Bellingham, displays rich, compelling vocals and versatile guitar playing. She's a writer of poetry, and music rolled into one. Her wide musical range is demonstrated by the women she's been compared to: Sarah McLachlan, Tracy Chapman, kd lang, and Yo Yo Ma's cello.

An award-winning songwriter and seasoned performer, Tracy has played in folk venues and festivals throughout North America and Australia. Combining folk, blues, old R&B, and jazz influences, she displays a style all her own. Tracy has won many songwriting competitions including being a two-time winner of the Tumbleweed Music Festival's songwriting contest. Many of her songs

are like 3-minute novels, telling a compact story, but all convey strong emotions and grab your heart and cause you to think about what makes us human and thinking and loving beings. Her style ranges from folk to jazz and blues. She plays guitar and mountain dulcimer, but it is her unique bluesy voice that penetrates to stir the soul.

Tracy's songs "Sometimes Angels," "Somebody's Child" (co-written with Becca Christel), "In Our Hands," and "What Would You Give To Change the World" have been used for soundtracks promoting philanthropy, raising funds for thousands of charitable organizations. In addition to these humanitarian anthems, she co-wrote (with Janis Carper and Becca Christel) "Of This World," recorded by Peter, Paul & Mary on their 2004 studio

album, "In These Times."

For the last few years, Tracy was a partner to TR Ritchie who passed away on January 29, 2014, in Bellingham, of pancreatic cancer. TR was a self-taught musician who eventually settled in the Northwest. In 1994, he moved to the canyon country of southeast Utah. There in 2008, he and Cozy Sheridan co-founded the Moab Folk Camp, in conjunction with the Moab Folk Festival. He returned to the Pacific Northwest in the summer of 2012 to concentrate on his solo career. TR's songwriting awards and accolades are many. In 2011, he also wrote a book of poems, "Works On Paper".

During this concert for Three Rivers Folklife Society, Tracy will be sharing some of her original songs, but mostly focusing on the songs of songwriter, **Continued on page 2, See Concert**

Coffeehouse Presents Quinell Oucharek

Friday, 13 January, 7:30PM

Quinell Oucharek, a new performer to the Coffeehouse, was born in Alberta, Canada, and grew up playing hockey. But in his family, "if we wanted to play sports, we had to do something with music too." So he played the trumpet and sang in the choir. He eventually picked up the guitar. Oucharek and his family moved to the Tri-Cities when he was about 12. He attended Tri-City Junior Academy in Pasco and later Columbia Basin College. After college, he spent a year teaching at his Pasco alma mater. During that time, he recorded his album, "Till We're Free." He has a collection of standout tracks from

"Hooked on a Feeling," - a song that's loosely inspired by the classic B. J. Thomas tune - to the newer "You Are Mine." On the latter track, he tells his great-grandparents' love story.

Quinell also collaborated with Richland native and director Justin Frick on "From the Woods: Inside Llewyn Davis," a 14-minute documentary piece. Frick had the idea for the piece after watching the Coen brothers' film "Inside Llewyn Davis."

Quinell was named after Bob Dylan's song "The Mighty Quinn," and he's long been drawn to performers like Dylan, Cat Stevens, and James Taylor. He likes the often highly-produced music of today - and finds quality in

it. "But I think there's nothing really that beats the vulnerability of a solo musician on an acoustic guitar, with simple lyrics that fit a melody," he said. "I think that's why folk music hangs around. There's a line in the movie (Inside Llewyn Davis), 'if it was never new and it never gets old, then it's a folk song.'"

The evening will start with an open mic session. Come early to sign up because slots are limited. The coffeehouse is held at All Saints' Episcopal Church, 1312 Kimball Ave., Richland (drive around to the lower parking lot in the back). Suggested donations are \$8 for general admission or \$6 for teens and seniors at the door.

poet and partner TR Ritchie. Tracy and TR had a very special relationship during his last years and Tracy was responsible for helping produce a boxed set with a DVD documentary about TR that is a combination of interviews with TR and footage of his best singer/songwriter friends singing his songs at a tribute concert he attended and performed at 10 days before he died. There is also a CD with TR's versions of the songs sung at the concert. This compilation is called "TR Ritchie: An American Songwriter" and it is available at his web site, www.trritchie.com. It will, of course, be available at the concert. Tracy will perform at the Community Unitarian Universalist Church, 2819 W. Sylvester St., Pasco. Tickets are \$14 general admission and \$12 for seniors, students and 3RFS members. Tickets can be purchased in advance at Bookworm stores and Octopus' Garden or at the door.

"Lost Banjo" Finds A Home

Amidst all the folkie jokes about banjos, there is a cadre of people who actually enjoy listening and playing the banjo. Tumbleweed Festival coordinator Gene Carbaugh was dumbfounded (along with other TMF volunteers) with the discovery of a very nice banjo in a sturdy case left in the Richland Community Center hospitality room when the festival closed on Labor Day. No name or any other form of owner identity was on the banjo or in the case. All agreed that surely someone would be missing this, but in the days following the festival, neither the Community Center nor 3RFS were contacted. Not wanting to put the banjo up for grabs for anyone who might be seeking a free instrument, notice of a "Found Instrument" was sent out to all the TMF performers as well as a notice in the newsletter. There were enough unique features about the banjo to be reasonably sure that only the owner could describe it. What to do?

Meanwhile, Festival Coordinator, Gene, started banjo lessons with Paul Knight, using his son's banjo (a very nice Deering Goodtimes with resonator, by the way). As October and November passed, the temptation to try out the homeless banjo was great, and Gene started playing it occasionally, finding the sound quality and style very nice. By this time Gene was trying to decide what to do with the lost banjo. What if no one claims it? Discussing it with the 3RFS board and the Tumbleweed planning committee was leading to a couple of alternatives if it went unclaimed by next Labor Day's Tumbleweed: 1) put it up for silent auction, which would risk having someone come out of the blue and say, "Hey, that's my banjo." Or... 2), holding it through the next festival and, if still unclaimed, Gene expressed a willingness to buy it at a fair price. Then came the December 3, 3RFS concert featuring Hank Cramer and Carter Junction. Both Hank and the Carters stayed with Gene and Susan Carbaugh and in the course of the visit, Gene shared the dilemma of the banjo with Hank, and his concerns over how to reunite it with the owner. He wondered if Hank might have any suggestions. On Sunday morning the Carters, the Carbaughs, and Hank, accompanied Michelle Cameron to her church for special music by the Carters. (Aside: Sarah Carter actually grew up in that church, and was well known by many still there, which really made the special music extra special.) Just as everyone was getting ready to depart, Gene remembered that he had not shown the banjo to Hank, who had asked about it. As Gene apologized for forgetting to show it to Hank in the rush to get to church, Hank offered, "I was thinking about that last night, and realized I might know who it belongs to." Gene responded with an enthusiastic and hopeful, "Ohhh?" Then ensued a short interrogation: Hank: "First, let me ask you if it has a signature on the head?" Gene: "Yessss" - very hopefully on Gene's part because this was a tidbit that had not been includ-

ed in the "found" announcements. Hank: "And does it say 'Happy Fralings, Emmylou Harris'?" Gene: "Happy Fralings, yes but we could never make out the signature." Hank: "Well, I built that banjo over 30 years ago. I attended an Emmylou Harris concert and she was doing autographs afterwards. I didn't have anything to write on, but then dashed out to my car, brought my banjo in and had her autographed it.

Furthermore, on the back of my Dakota vinyl album (1982 release), you can see me holding the banjo and even make out the signature." Hank then went on to explain that it sat in his closet all these years, coming out once or twice a year. It ended up at Tumbleweed because Brian Maskew had specifically asked Hank to play it for a couple of songs in Brian's set. When the set ended chaos ensued as Hank rushed to get Brian almost immediately to the airport, and then Hank was caught up in his own travels to Viet Nam the next week. He had left it at the Richland Community Center and had not even missed it. After all, he's a guitar player and that's all he takes to his concerts. Then came the clincher. Hank: "As I was lying in bed last night

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Deadline for the February newsletter is January 20th.

thinking about that banjo you mentioned, I started to realize that I may have done about the dumbest thing a musician can do - forgot an instrument at a gig. But then I thought, 'I didn't build that banjo for it to sit in a dark closet all the time. It's found its way to Richland and into the hands of someone taking banjo lessons. Gene, I want you to have that banjo as a gift.' Gene was totally speechless for a moment and then could only come up with an astounded, "Thank you." So Gene now has renewed incentive to practice and is looking forward to the day when he might appear in public and play this incredible gift of music received from the very generous, kind-hearted folk musician, Hank Cramer. (This is what Folklife is all about)

Let the Sunshine In

I listen to folk and world music when I want to feel better about the future. I can either marinate in hopelessness, or do some reliable things that eventually make me feel better, like exercising, doing art, or playing good music. That being said, here's my "feel-good" list of music.

- 1) Pretenders - The Singles
Brings back energy and idealism
- 2) Lucinda Williams - World Without Tears
Good for after a breakup
- 3) The Chieftains - Long Black Veil
Sad Irish music makes you feel good
- 4) Afro Celt Sound System - Vol. 3: Further in Time
Get stuff done-driving music!
- 5) Abba - Gold Just Try It!!!
- 6) B-52s - Time Capsule
Originality and other-planet pep
- 7) Maktub: Khronos
Groovy, earthy and funky
- 8) Great Big Sea - Great Big DVD or The Hard and The Easy
High Energy sea songs
- 9) Lyle Lovett - Live in Texas
"Please, make it a cheeseburger"
- 10) Ian Anderson - The Secret Language of Birds
Never fails to pick me up!
Jen Stutesman

Local Folk Events

January

- | | | | |
|-----------|----------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| 6 | First Friday Folkie Free-For-All | 7:30 PM Fri | Micki Perry's Kennewick |
| 9 | 3RFS Board Meeting | 7:00 PM Mon | Gene Carbaugh's Richland |
| 13 | Quinell Oucharek Coffeehouse | 7:30 PM Fri | All Saints', Richland |
| 14 | 2nd Saturday Sea Song Singalong | 7:00 PM Sat | Round Table Pizza, Richland |
| 17 | Tumbleweed Planning Meeting | 7:00 PM Tue | Gene Carbaugh's Richland |
| 21 | Tracy Spring Concert | 7:30 PM Sat | CUUC Pasco |

February

- | | | | |
|-----------|----------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| 3 | First Friday Folkie Free-For-All | 7:30 PM Fri | Micki Perry's Kennewick |
| 10 | Coffeehouse | 7:30 PM Fri | All Saints', Richland |
| 11 | 2nd Saturday Sea Song Singalong | 7:00 PM Sat | Round Table Pizza, Richland |
| 13 | 3RFS Board Meeting | 7:00 PM Mon | Gene Carbaugh's Richland |
| 18 | Hank and Claire Concert | 7:30 PM Sat | CUUC Pasco |
| 21 | Tumbleweed Planning Meeting | 7:00 PM Tue | Gene Carbaugh's Richland |

All Saints' = All Saints' Episcopal Church, 1322 Kimball Ave., Richland
 CUUC = Community Unitarian Universalist Church, 2819 W. Sylvester St., Pasco
 Gene Carbaugh's = 803 Birch St., Richland
 Micki Perry's = 1011 S. Dawes St., Kennewick
 Round Table Pizza = Corner of George Washington Way and Torbett St., Richland

For information, call 509 528-2215

Sweep the Snow Off the Decks for SSSSS

Saturday, 14 January, 7:00 PM

Where else would you want to be than with a lively, lovely group for "grog" and pizza and nautical song-singing on the second Saturday of January?

We meet every month for Second Saturday Sea Song Singalong (SSSSS) at Round Table Pizza in Richland, on the corner of George Washington Way and Torbett. We sing sea chanteys and other group songs in a fun, infor-

mal (warm) atmosphere. All are welcome and there's no cost except for the food and beverages.