



Three Rivers Folklife Society
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Folk Talk

A Newsletter for Columbia, Snake, and Yakima River Folk

August 2009

Help us promote
Tumbleweed Music Festival!
 Post the enclosed flyer where
 the most people will see it.
Thanks!

Dan Maher Concert Supports Tumbleweed

Saturday, 8 August, 7:30 PM

Dan Maher, the host of Northwest Public Radio's "Inland Folk," has been a strong supporter of 3RFS for many years and has helped promote our Tumbleweed Music Festival since it began in 1997. He not only helps publicize Three Rivers Folklife Society events (Tumbleweed especially), but for the past several years he has donated a concert where all proceeds go towards supporting the festival.

Through the generosity of Dan and many others, we are able to keep all

the daytime events at Tumbleweed free to the public.

Dan has been hosting the "Inland Folk" radio show for over 25 years. The three hour show, airing locally from 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM on KFAE (89.1 FM), features all genres of folk music from blues to bluegrass. Dan is known throughout the Northwest as a master of the sing-along and as a singer/songfinder who takes traditional, contemporary and popular songs and puts his own stamp on them so they become signature songs for him.

Dan has produced four albums of

music and is always looking for songs for the next one.

Dan will be joined by special guest Teresa Morgan. Three Rivers folk will recognize Teresa's strong, clear voice from her many years with The Cutters.

The concert will be held at the new Community Unitarian Universalist Church, 2819 West Sylvester Street in Pasco. Tickets are \$11 general/\$9 seniors and students, when purchased in advance at Bookworm stores, and Octopus' Garden. They are \$1 more at the door and 3RFS members get a \$3 discount.

Superstitious Theme for Tumbleweed 13!

Saturday-Sunday, 5-6 September

This year's festival is the "13th" annual. If the success of a music festival depended on luck, we'd be nervous. Fortunately, the success of a festival doesn't need luck, instead it happens with hard work and passion, and the Tumbleweed team has plenty of that. "Superstition" is the theme of this year's event.

The 13th Annual Tumbleweed Music Festival will be held in Richland's Howard Amon Park and Richland Community Center. There are 4 outdoor stages, an indoor dance stage, plus an open mic stage. The music at Tumbleweed runs the gamut of acoustic genres: blues, bluegrass, traditional, contemporary, ethnic, nautical, jazz, old-time and "alternative." There are also lots of dance groups and participatory dance, family-friendly entertainment, and local and regional arts, crafts and food vendors. There are

about 100 different acts at the festival, which is free from 11 AM until 7 PM each day. A Saturday evening concert has an affordable ticket price of \$8 general admission/\$5 seniors and students. Concert headliners are singer-songwriter Larry Murante, Appalachian singers Elizabeth and Sandy LaPrelle, Celtic band Watch the Sky!, and nautical duo Shanghaied on the Willamette.

It's no surprise that Seattle-based Larry Murante is gaining a reputation as one of the finest contemporary singer/songwriters to emerge from the Northwest in recent years. Larry's voice has a smooth power and precise intonation, and audiences love his show-stopping high notes. Larry's songs are full of the sense of how lucky most of us are to have music, companionship, family, a roof overhead, a semblance of mental health, food on the table and the opportunity to grow. His joyful, high-octane per-

formances are legendary.

Elizabeth LaPrelle is a young singer of old songs. She performs the old mountain music of Appalachia with an emotional force that brings the tradition to life. Her large repertoire of solo, a capella ballads is supplemented by traditional southern harmonies and old-time tunes with traditional instrumentation. Elizabeth learned her first songs from her mother, Sandy LaPrelle (who in turn had learned them from her parents). Now Sandy joins Elizabeth, adding harmonies. The duo hails from Rural Retreat, VA.

Watch the Sky! has been a consistent presence in the Seattle folk scene since 1991. Jan and Chris Glanister and Joe Wagner bring Celtic verve to traditional, contemporary, and original ballads and pub songs. Rich, tight vocal harmonies are their trademark, backed by driving rhythms and sweet whistle riffs.

Continued on Pg. 2 see Tumbleweed

Local Folk Events

August

- 7** First Friday Folkie Free-for-All 7:30PM Fri Micki Perry's
- 7** Ockham's Razor 7:00 PM Fri Flat Top Park, West Richland
- 8** Dan Maher Tumbleweed Benefit with Teresa Morgan 7:30 PM Sat CUUC
- 10** 3RFS Board Meeting 7:00 PM Mon Alan Page's
- 21** Bram Brata and OK 2 Botay 7:00 PM Fri Flat Top Park, West Richland
- 24** Tumbleweed Planning Meeting 7:00 PM Mon RCC
- 29** Kerry Grombacher House Concert 7:00 PM Sat Micki Perry's
- 30** Tumbleweed Volunteer Orientation 2:00 PM Sun RCC Patio

September

- 4** Tumbleweed Set-up 5:00 PM HAP
- 5** Tumbleweed Music Festival 11AM-11 PM Sat HAP
- 6** Tumbleweed Music Festival 11AM-7 PM Sun HAP
- 11** Carolyn Cruso 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 Alan Page's
- 19** The Wanderers Concert 7:30 PM Sat CUUC
- 25-26** Heritage Days Fri-Sat Sacajewea State Park, Pasco
- 26** Conta Dance 7:30 PM Sat FLC

All Saints' = All Saints' Episcopal Church, 1322 Kimball Ave., Richland
 CUUC = Community Unitarian Universalist Church, 2819 W. Sylvester St. Pasco
 FLC = First Lutheran Church, 418 N. Yelm St., Kennewick
 HAP = Howard Amon Park, Lee Blvd. & Amon Park Dr., Richland
 Micki Perry's = 1011 South Dawes, Kennewick, 528-2215
 RCC = Richland Community Center, 500 Amon Park Dr.,
 Round Table Pizza = Corner of George Washington Way and Torbett, Richland
For information, call 509 528-2215

First Friday Folkie Free-For-All. It's NEW!

Friday, 7 August, 7:30 PM

Micki Perry will host the first of what we hope will be a series of First Friday of the month get-togethers (there will not be one in September due to our Tumbleweed set up.) The format will be more like an organized song circle than a chaotic melee. Everyone gets a chance to lead or pick a song. All genres of songs and tunes are welcome. Bring a dessert or snack to share and the beverage of your choice. Call 509-783-9937 for directions or information.

Superstious Songs Reign Supreme

Saturday, 5 September, 5:00 PM

The theme for this year's festival and its songwriting contest is "Superstition." A judge narrowed the entries down to 10 who will perform their songs before a panel of judges at the festival.

Finalists are MJ Bishop, Seattle, "Chasing Twisters Again;" Jeff Knoch, Lynnwood, "The Lost Dutchman Mine;" Jim Coleman, Richland, "Flynn Superstition;" Thomas Hubbard, Seattle, "Divining Rod;" Bob Morgan, Seattle, "You Make Me Superstitious;" Mike Murray, Port Townsend, "Grandpa Held the Snakes;" Megan Rutherford, Richland, "Damned Dandelions;" Thaddeus Spae, Seattle, "Turtles All the Way Down;" Tracy Spring, Bellingham, "Get Lucky with You;" and Steve Wacker, Seattle, "Superstitions Are My Lifelong Strategy."

Donate Fresh Stuff!

Tumbleweed has a great reputation for feeding our performers and volunteers extremely well. If you have an abundance of garden produce or fruit, we'd love to have it to keep everyone satisfied! To arrange to drop off your produce, please call Chris at 943-5107.

Kerry Grombacher House Concert

Saturday, 29 August, 7:00 PM

Kerry Grombacher has been coming all the way from New Orleans to our Tumbleweed Music Festival for many years. We're pleased to announce that he'll be playing a full-length house concert the week before Tumbleweed this year. Kerry paints vivid portraits and tells fascinating stories with his contemporary folk and western songs. This songwriter's latest release, "It Sings in the Hi-line," is a collection of original Western tunes, some with a strong Cajun influence. He plays guitar and mandolin, and his gentle, approachable personality will be a perfect feature in the intimate setting of a house concert.

Micki Perry is hosting this concert at her home at 1011 South Dawes in Kennewick. Space is limited, so we advise that you call ahead for reservations and driving directions: 783-9937 or 528-2215. The cost is \$15 and includes refreshments.

Tumbleweed

Joe's rock-influenced guitar brings a contemporary drive to their Celtic sound while Jan beats bodhran and dumbec. Chris plays penny whistles and cittern. Singable music combined with their sense of humor brings audiences a fun, warm musical experience.

Portland's Shanghaied on the Willamette is the lively music duo of Jonathan Lay and Gordy Euler. They perform songs and tunes "plundered from land and sea," including traditional Celtic, English, and old-time American music, especially music of the sea and waterways. Jonathan, with a powerful and supple voice, also plays guitar, tin whistle, harmonica, and a rollicking bodhran. Gordy is a skilled vocalist and a multi-instrumentalist playing fiddle, mandola, tin whistle, guitar and banjo. All of those sounds

allow them to craft exciting and varied arrangements and programs.

Tumbleweed is a participatory experience. An open mic stage, hosted by the Mid-Columbia Traditional Arts and Music Association, offers anyone at the festival a chance to sign up to perform on a stage. Free workshops provide hands-on learning on all sorts of instruments and dance forms, peer-sharing topics of interest like songwriting and promotion. Spontaneous jams occur all over the festival grounds. The popular "Band Scramble" is a challenge to perform in a serendipitous band with one hour to come up with 2 songs to perform on stage an hour later!

Readers are sadly aware that one of Tumbleweed's visionaries, John Perry, passed away in March. There will be a tribute to John to wrap up this year's festival on Sunday evening, featuring some of John's favorite friends and performers. Micki Perry will be the emcee.

This year's Tumbleweed doesn't include a Sunday Night Contra Dance, but there will be plenty of dancing during the day. Check the enclosed schedule for times and places.

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

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Send items of interest to: mail@3rfs.org
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Deadline for the September newsletter is August 15th.

Out of Town

August

5 Walla Walla Contra Dance,
Wed., 7:30 PM, Pioneer Park
Gazebo, Walla Walla
, Admission is FREE

Volunteers Get Ready!

Sunday, 30 August, 1:00 PM

There are still plenty of chances to get involved in your favorite festival. We need folks to provide beds for performers, help in the kitchen, move microphones, set up, tear down, sell buttons, T-shirts, and CDs, take tickets, run errands, and more. If you would like to help, please call Kim at 375-6139.

Volunteers, there will be an orientation session before the festival Sunday, August 30, at 1:00 PM. It's a good opportunity to learn more about what you'll be doing at Tumbleweed. You'll find us behind the Richland Community Center, in Howard Amon Park, on or near the patio.

Sponsors Rule!

Tumbleweed Music Festival is deeply grateful to all who donate money or services to help keep the festival free for most events. We received a major grant from the City of Richland's Hotel/Motel tax program. The City also provides many support services at the Community Center and in Howard Amon Park.

Other sponsors include Blah Blah Woolf Woolf Music Cooperative, Precision Sound, Tri-City Herald, The Entertainer, Northwest Public Radio, MCTAMA, Jane and John Titland, Print Plus, Team Battelle, and Dan Maher. Please thank these folks when you see them!

We'll list all sponsors and donors on our website and in the festival program. If you or your business want to donate, call 528-2215 for information on sponsorships.

Yes! I want to help the 2009 Tumbleweed Music Festival succeed!

I would like to contribute _____ **Bronze, \$50.00**
at this level _____ **Silver, \$100.00**
_____ **Gold, \$250.00**
_____ **Platinum, \$1000.00**

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

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



2009 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.

Win the Breedlove Raffle Guitar

For the second year in a row, Jay Howlett of "Blah Blah Woolf Woolf" music cooperative has generously donated a beautiful Breedlove guitar. This year it's a Breedlove Atlas AJ250/SF Plus Jumbo Acoustic-Electric. Features include a deep jumbo body, soft cutaway, solid Sitka spruce top, flamed-maple back and sides, Fishman Classic 4 pickup/preamp system, and

built-in tuner. It retailed for \$1,339. The model has been discontinued and is no longer available. A hardshell case is included. Only 500 tickets are available at \$5 each.

You can see photos of the guitar on our website, 3rfs.org. We'll draw for the winner at the 3RFS concert on December 5, 2009. You don't have to be present to win. You can buy tickets at the Tumbleweed Music Festival or any other 3RFS event between now and the December concert.