What's In A Name?

Not much. And consequently, it will not seriously upset the balance of power in the Western World when the news breaks that as of Jan. 1, the name of the Folk Project’s Friday night concert series will change from “The Minstrel Coffeehouse” to “The Minstrel.”

“Why?” you ask. Well, it’s a matter of expectations from the general public unfamiliar with the Folk World. Time was when “coffeehouse” was synonymous with a folk music concert series. Today it more likely conjures up visions of a place where people can gather, sip $4 cups of latté, chat and check their e-mail, while some guy with a guitar strums in a corner for tips trying to be heard over the espresso machine. We want to dispel that image in the minds of both potential attendees and some higher level performers and their agents.

No big deal. Most regulars generally refer to the place as “The Minstrel” already. Those who let slip the C-word will not be flogged until they mend their ways. Emcees who do, including me from time to time, may get a razzing, but that’s to be expected. The “Coffeehouse” appellation will probably hang on for some people for as long as our previous title, “The Minstrel Show.” We dropped “Show” sometime in the early 90s, and still slips out in the conversation of some of the old-timers. The name recognition will still be there. The Minstrel will still deliver great music, every Friday, at nominal prices in an informal atmosphere, with professional quality. The Earth will continue to spin on its axis.

Mike Agranoff, Minstrel Committee

Your chance to perform in the Greatest Project Show on Earth

The Valentine’s Day Extravaganza is a great opportunity for all our members to perform for a large and loving audience. The show is Friday, Feb.13 at the Minstrel. Call Minister of Love Mark Schaffer at (973) 989-4429 to sign up to sing solo or accompanied by either our 10-piece electric boogie band or our jazz trio. To join the Minstrels of Love Choir—don’t wait ’til the last minute, we need you now—call choirmaster John Lamb at (973) 895-5071.

Special Folk Project Events in January:

Peter Ostroushko 1/16 see page 7 • Tern Swings! 1/31 see page 10

January Evening o’ Music

Sat., 1/10, 8pm • Nancy Haslam’s

Join Nancy and the gang for our monthly music party; bring instruments, songs voices AND food & drink to share. The hot spot is 6 Park Way, Morris Plains (973) 538-5017... for brave souls, the hot tub is still operating!

From the south: 202 north, go through Morristown, Morris Township— make a SLIGHT left in the center of Morris Plains, at the train station (Franklin Ave. but don’t turn onto Franklin). You’ll be parallel to the RR tracks; turn left at the first street, J aqui; turn right on Park Way; #6 is second house on the left. From the north: 202 south, pass the intersection of route 53, go under the RR bridge and make the hard right, take first left onto J aqui, first right onto Park Way, #6 is second on the left; from East: take route 10 west to 202 South, follow north directions; from west: take route 10 east to 202 south, follow north directions. Park on either side of the street or in driveway.
Jan. 2: Joe Crookston and Danielle Miraglia

Start the new year with one of the newest favorites of the Folk Project, and much of the folk world in general, JOE CROOKSTON. What strikes one first about Joe’s performance is the intensity. There is a palpable force behind the music that makes you sit up and take notice. On top of that there is a sense of poetry and spirituality to his lyrics, and some pretty credible guitar chops and vocal power to lend support to his writing. Our opening act DANIELLE MIRAGLIA’s performance belies her “pretty girl” image with well-written hard-hitting songs backed up with strong punchy guitar work. Whether recounting a bar encounter between a red-neck veteran and a women’s rights activist, commenting on the tribulations of a road musician, or delivering a rocked-out slide guitar version of the classic “Stagger Lee,” Danielle proves she can stand on her musical chops irrespective of her image.

Jan. 9: Open Stage

Our almost-monthly opportunity for you to take to our stage. We provide this service to the local acoustic music community, Folk Project members and non-members to perform a 15-minute set of music. The music is diverse and often surprising. Visit www.folkproject.org/fp_minstopen.html for information on how to sign up to perform. Note: No Open Stage in Feb.

Jan. 16: A Folk Project Special Concert with Peter Ostroushko

Tickets $15.00. Advance tickets at the Minstrel or online: www.folkproject.org/fp_special.html

PETER OSTROUSHKO is one of the finest mandolin and fiddle players in acoustic music. A talented studio musician, he has recorded on over 100 albums, and produced 15 solo albums. He has toured on a regular basis with Robin and Linda Williams, Norman Blake, and Chet Atkins. He has also worked with artists like Jethro Burns, Emmylou Harris, Willie Nelson, John Hartford, Taj Mahal, and a host of others. Peter has spent more than 25 years as a frequent performer on A Prairie Home Companion, and has also appeared on Austin City Limits, David Letterman, Mountain Stage, and even Mr. Rogers’ Neighborhood. The Minnesota Orchestra asked him to play Mahler’s Seventh Symphony.

Jan. 23: Anne Hills and Chuck E. Costa

ANNE HILLS possesses one of the finest voices in folk music. That voice has been heard in combination with Tom Paxton, Michael Smith, and as part of the renowned vocal trio, Herdmans, Hills, and Mangsen. She is also a fine songwriter and song collector, and her high-spirited and feisty stage presence makes her concerts exciting to watch and listen to. Tonight’s opener CHUCK E. COSTA dispels any notion that “sensitive singer-songwriter” might be a pejorative term. His songs are thoughtful, well crafted, beautifully sung, and yes, sensitive. And that’s a good thing.

Jan. 30: Peter Fischman & Deb O’Hanlon and Flip Peters & Larry Maltz

PETER FISCHMAN is a hidden gem of a songwriter who ought to be widely known and lauded. His songs of home and friends and family capture a moment or depict a place or event with the visual acuity of an Ansel Adams photograph. His wife DEB O’HANLON adds her clear soprano voice to the mix. They will also sing some of Peter’s well-written parodies as well as traditional songs. Tonight’s opening act FLIP PETERS & LARRY MALTZ are a couple of real hot guitarists. They specialize in twin-guitar renditions of jazz standards and other familiar and unfamiliar songs. Really classy licks, tasty arrangements, and solid rhythm characterize their performance.

UPCOMING:


The Minstrel is an acoustic music concert series run by the Folk Project, a non-profit folk music and arts organization. We use the facilities of the Morristown Unitarian Fellowship, 21 Normandy Heights Road, Morristown, NJ. We hold shows almost every Friday, year round, and the second Friday of the month is usually an open stage/audition night. The music we present is “folk” music in its broadest sense. That is, in addition to traditional American and ethnic “folk” music (in its purist definition), we welcome music of contemporary, primarily acoustic songwriters, and other types of music more folkie in attitude than in content. Shows start at 8:00 PM; dress is casual. We serve coffee, tea, and baked goods. There is no alcohol or tobacco on the premises. Admission is inexpensive on our regular Friday concerts we ask $7.00 on your way in, and, if you feel the show was worth it, an additional amount at your discretion on the way out, which goes to supplement what we pay the feature performer. For travel information, or information on shows call 973 335 9489 or visit our website at http://www.folkproject.org.

To volunteer call Sandie at (908) 501-3842 • volunteers@folkproject.org
Members’ Gigs & Friends

Mike Agranoff: Fri., 1/9: 7:30pm, Music Off Main, 128 Willow Grove, Hackettstown. (908) 684-4278, www.artsoffmain.com; Sat., 1/10: Acoustic Renaissance Concerts, Hinsdale, IL, split bill with Kat Eggleston (908) 802-0236; Sun., 1/18: 2pm, Borderline Folk (see Venues) (845) 354-4586; Sat., 1/24: 8pm, Lewis Circle House Concerts, Hatboro, PA. email Lorrie.Holm@gmail.com

Laible “Blu” Blutman: Sat, 1/10: Crossroads Coffeehouse; Sat., 1/17: Albert Hall (see Venues)

Liz Pagan & Dave Kleiner: Sat, 1/10: Second Saturdays Music Cafe opening for Oscar Brand (see Venues); Sun., 1/25: appearing free at th Studio Yoga open house — free yoga and other movement classes, concert at 4pm, 2 Green Village road (upstairs from Green Mountain Sports). Email lizpagan@verizon.net or call Studio Yoga (973) 966-5311 for more details.

Yoga with Liz: Maplewood 6 sessions: Sat., 1/10, 17, 24, 31; 2/7, 28. 9–10am, Level 1, $72; 10:15-11:45am, intermediate, $84. Register Studio Yoga, (973) 966-5311; Montclair 8 sessions starting 1/8, Level I, Thurs. 7:30-8:45pm, register (973) 429-0288 or lizpagan@verizon.net

Legal Aid Needs Aid

My son, Jim, is an attorney with Connecticut Legal Services in New London. A nonprofit, their funding comes from a trust which is invested in real estate. In the current economic downturn, their funds will run out in eighteen months, leaving the working poor and indigent legally unrepresented. NJ LS was in the same position but was saved by a bailout bill. As a way to raise funds, CLS has set up an account with goodsearch.com, a Yahoo-based search engine that donates money to a nonprofit of your choosing each time you search. The first time you use it, type in “Connecticut Legal Services” and click on “verify.” This costs you nothing and works like any other search engine. Thank you for any support you can provide. For more info, contact jhaslam@connlegalservices.org

Nancy Haslam

Pinewoods Folk Music Weekend • Fri.–Sun. Feb. 6–8

The Folk Music Society of New York winter getaway with informal music making all weekend long — instrumental jams, ballad singing, contemporary songs, traditional songs, whatever! There’s even jigsaw puzzles and skiing, sledding, shopping and hiking.

Location: The Warwick Center in New York’s Greenwood Lake area, 465 acres, 7 miles of hiking trails. The activities are in 3 buildings joined by both indoor and covered outdoor walkways; central gathering room with fireplace and several smaller gathering areas. Ideal for informal music making. Info/reservation form: www.folkmusicny.org/weekends.html. Reservations may also be made directly online at www.winterfolkwknd.eventbrite.com. Phone info: (718) 549-1344 (after 11am). Note: Folk Project members get reciprocal Member Rates.

“...Horses Sing None of It!”

Is a folksy non-commercial public access TV series featuring a surprising variety of guest performers, hosted by Ralph Litwin. All types of (mainly acoustic) music, storytellers, dancers, others. Schedule available at the Folk Project web page. Seen on: Cablevision Morris area, Sundays 7:300pm ch. 21; Manhattan Neighborhood Network (MNN), New York City, Thursdays 2:30pm on Time/Warner Cable ch. 34 and on RCN Cable ch. 82; also broadcast via streaming video on the web at www.MNN.org (popup players 34/82 http | mms); Comcast (formerly Patriot Media/Somerset, NJ) Fridays 3:30pm, ch. 280; Comcast Cablevision of Northwest NJ, Mondays 3:30pm ch. 21; Service Electric Cable TV Allentown, PA, Thursdays 9:30pm ch. 50; Staten Island Community TV (SICTV) Saturdays 6pm, ch. 34; Fargo Access (www.cityoffargo.com/cable) on Cable One Fridays 6:30pm & Mondays 3:00pm Ch. 12 in Fargo, ND; LVTV-3, Adelphia Cable, La Verne, CA at Fridays 6:00pm
Albert Hall/Sounds of the NJ Pines: Country/bluegrass/folk every Saturday. 125 Wells Mills Rd. (Route 532), Waretown. (609) 971-1593 or www.alberthall.org; Sat., 1/17: Laible “Blue” Blutman & the Waretown Philharmonic

Acoustic Café: Our Lady of Mercy Church, 2 Fremont Ave, Park Ridge, NJ, 8pm, (201) 573-0718, www.goodacoustic.com/cafe.htm; Coming Jan. 17: Modern Man

Borderline Folk Music House Club: Info: (845) 354-4586, www.borderlinefolkmusic.4themax.com; Sun., 1/18: Mike Agranoff 2pm, New City Ambulance Corps Bldg, 200 Congers Rd., New City, NY

Bluegrass & Old Time Music Assoc. (BOTMA): Every 3rd Sun. from Sept. thru May, Embury United Methodist Church Hall, 49 Church St., Little Silver, NJ. 1-5pm. $4 for BOTMA members / $5 for non-members. Info: www.newjerseybluegrass.org

Café Z: Third Saturdays: open mic, 7pm concert. $5 inc. refreshments, Zion Lutheran Church, corner of Elm and Esterbrook Aves., Rahway. (732) 388-3865; Sat., 1

Chantey Sing: Seamen’s Church Institute, 241 Water St., 2nd fl., NYC 8pm. www.wooden-shipsmusic.com/nychanty/nychanty.html

Coffee With Conscience: 1st United Methodist Church of Westfield, 1 E. Broad St. 8pm info 908-412-9105, Concerts4Causes@aol.com; www.coffeewithconscience.com; Sat., 1/17: Ellis Paul

Community Theater at Mayo Center for Performing Arts: 100 South St., Morristown, NJ, for tickets/info call 973-539-8008, www.mayoarts.org, shows at 8pm

Crossroads Coffeehouse: 8pm, Crossroads Community Church, 104 Bartley Rd., Flanders. (973) 786-7940 or (908) 879-7739; Sat., 1/10: Laible “Blue” Blutman

Delaware River Folksong Fellowship: Song circle the 2nd Sunday at the Friends Meeting House in Mount Holly, NJ, www.myspace.com/delawareriverfolksongfellowship

Dull Music: www.dullmusic.com

Folk Friday in Maplewood: Informal 2nd Fri. sing-along session for all ages. Starts 7:30pm, hosted by Lisa Novemsky. Ethical Culture Center, 516 Prospect St., Maplewood. Call (973) 763-1905 to confirm date, for directions

Godfrey Daniels: 7 E. 4th St., Bethlehem, PA (610) 867-2390, www.godfreydaniels.org

Good Coffeehouse: 53 Prospect Park W. at 2nd St., Park Slope, Brooklyn, doors open at 7:30, music at 8pm, (718) 768-2972 or www.bsec.org/events/coffeehouse; Fri., 1/9: Ernie Hawkins; 1/16: Swing Street with Barry Bryson; 1/30: Night of Magic

Hand Made Music: Open mic 3rd Saturday, The Community Presbyterian Church, 145 Carletondale Road, Ringwood, jim1962@verizon.net; On Hiatus

The Hillside Cafe Coffee House: 45 Hillside Crescent, Nutley. Doors open at 7:30, show at 8pm. (973) 616-0106 or jrlds@comcast.net, www.hillsidecafe.com; Sat., 1/17: Alice Project, Jill Fenske

Hurdy Gurdy Folk Music Club: Fair Lawn Community Center, 10-10 20th St., Fair Lawn 8pm. (201) 384-1325. www.hurdygurdyfolk.org; Sat., 1/10: Cathie Ryan

MoFiddles/Menzel Violins: 4260 Town Center Way, Livingston, NJ, Bluegrass & Old Time Music Jam 1st Thursdays 7pm, RSVP to (973) 994-1083 or mo@mofiddles.com, $12; Thurs., 1/8: Jay Unger & Molly Mason; Sun., 1/25: Peter Puma Hedlund

Indie Music Showcase: Monthly, at Luna Stage, Bloomfield Ave., Montclair. info:michael@something-artsy.com. 6:30pm;
Music at the Mission: West Milford Presbyterian Church, 1452 Union Valley Rd., West Milford, (973) 728-3081, www.musicatthemission.org; Coming Feb. 14: The McDades

Outpost In The Burbs: at the Unitarian Church of Montclair, 67 Church St., Montclair (973) 744-6560. Doors open 8pm, concert at 8:30. www.outpostintheburbs.org. Next concert; Fri., 12/5: Jimmy Webb

People's Voice Cafe: The Community Church of New York Unitarian Universalist, 40 East 35th St. (bet. Madison & Park), NYC, 8pm, www.peoplesvoicecafe.org or (212) 787-3903; Sat., 1/3: Jon Fromer/Kim & Reggie Harris; 1/10: Mothers & Daughters; 1/17: John Flynn/Greg Greenway; 1/31: Steve Suffet/Anne Price


The Place: House Concerts, 3pm potluck, 4pm concert. RSVP to jamask8@comcast.net or (973) 992-7491 for info; Sun., 1/11: John Flynn

Princeton Folk Music Society: Christ Congregation Church, 50 Walnut Lane, Princeton, 8pm, (609) 799-0944 $15/Members $10/$3 kids under 12. www.PrincetonFolk.org; Fri., 1/16: Bruce Molsky

Sacred Harp Singings: Much info at http://www.fasola.org/; 2nd Sun.: 2pm, St. Paul's Church, 199 Carroll St, Brooklyn. (718) 293-2848; 3rd Sun.: 2:30pm, St. Bart's Church, 109 E. 50th St., NYC. (212) 750-8977; 4th Sun. (except July & August): 2pm, Montclair Friends Mtg, Park & Gordonhurst. (973) 509-2165; 1st Sat. (except July/August): 3pm, Living Room, 154 Ludlow St., NYC

Sanctuary Concerts: The Presbyterian Church, 240 Southern Boulevard, Chatham. Most concerts 8pm, www.sanctuaryconcerts.org; Sat., 1/3: The Tom Chapin Band (family concert); Sat. 1/17: Lucy Kaplansky, Julie Gold; Sat., 1/24: Rodney Crowell Acoustic Trio featuring Jenny Scheinman & Will Kimbrough

Second Saturdays Coffee House/Open Mic: Summit Unitarian Church, 4 Waldron Ave. Sign up at 7:30pm, shows at 8pm. If you are a singer/songwriter & would like to “host” one, call (908) 412-9105 Concerts4Causes@aol.com; Sat., 1/10


South Street Seaport Sea Music Concerts: South Street Seaport Gallery, 3pm, NYC. (212) 691-7610

Stony Brook Friends of Old Time Music Jam: Mannion's Pub & Restaurant, 140 West Main Street, Somerville. Starting around 7:30pm. (609) 924-5353 or visit www.diamondcut.com/oldtime/; 1st and 3rd Tuesdays each month

Sunday Night Music Club: www.sanctuaryconcerts.org

The Uptown Coffeehouse: Soc. for Ethical Culture, 4450 Fieldston Rd., Bronx, NY, 5pm, $15/$3 kids <12. www.uptowncoffeehouse.org, (718) 885-2498; Sun., 1/4: Joe Crockston

Walkabout Clearwater Coffeehouse: United Methodist Church, 250 Bryant Ave., White Plains, (914) 949-2146,WalkaboutClearwater.org; Sat., 1/10: Pete Seeger & Friends

Watchung Arts Center: 18 Sterling Road (on the Watchung Circle) Watchung, NJ, 8pm, (908) 412-9105; Sat, 1/10: Red Molly

Lotsa Jams listed at http://home.comcast.net/~epollak/jam.htm
Department of Stuff

As your newly appointed Merchandise Chair, I thought you'd like to know my general approach to merchandising and how you can give me input. I believe that the purpose of merchandising is to promote the Folk Project, rather than to raise money. My goal is to set prices as low as possible to cover costs, to encourage people to buy. I also feel that we should go with high quality products that people will actually use and enjoy over a long period of time, rather than cheap trinkets that will quickly break, get lost or wear out.

One immediate need is to identify suppliers. For a variety of reasons, I prefer to work with professionals rather than volunteers or people who do this as a sideline or hobby. I am especially interested in knowing about vendors who have in-house design capability and have worked with music-related organizations before. If anyone has had positive, first-hand experience with a reputable vendor, please send contact information.

A key factor in determining cost per item is the quantity we order from the supplier. The larger the quantity, the lower the cost per item. In order to keep prices low, manage inventory and not overwhelm the volunteers who staff sales, we will have a limited number of products available. This is where you come in. Please consider the ideas below and check off the ones you are interested in and might buy. Return your feedback to me either as a hard copy or by e-mail, MaggieNJ 42@aol.com. Items will have the FP logo unless otherwise specified.

Margaret Crowl

__ T-shirt-w/ FP logo
__ T-shirt w/ former design
  Specify:
  ____________________________
__ T-shirt w/ new design (TBD)
__ Long sleeve denim shirt
__ Hooded sweatshirt
__ Regular sweatshirt
__ Baseball cap
__ Nylon windbreaker jacket
__ Fleece vest
__ Coffee/Tea mug—ceramic
__ Coffee/Tea mug—insulated metal to fit cup holder
__ Lapel pin
__ Embroidered patch
__ Embroidered patch w/ instrument mandala
__ Round sticker
__ Square sticker w/ instrument mandala
__ Nylon six-pack cooler (also useful for CD storage)
__ Fleece blanket
__ Picnic blanket (one side water resistant)
__ Canvas tote bag
__ Nylon tote bag
__ Nylon gym-duffle bag
__ Fanny pack
__ Other:
  ____________________________

FP Performers for Spring Festival

Folk Project festivals have a long tradition of spotlighting talented performers from our own community. Sharing the stage with Small Potatoes, Harvey Reid and the Dave Rowe Trio this Spring will be:

**Tom Rhoads and Amy Ksir:** Familiar to audiences as members of Broadside Electric, Tom and Amy perform music from Renaissance to Rock ‘n Roll with intelligence, style and enthusiasm. As part of the mix, they play guitar, bouzouki, dulcimer, oboe, accordion and whistle.

**Kathy Moser:** Songwriter, performer, teacher, social artist and a part-time east coast musician morphing into a national full-time touring artist. Her songs range from lawn mowers to world peace, accompanied by guitar and a mean beat with her feet in a tambourine.

**Scooter “Scooter” Ferguson:** Sensitive guitar work, a fine voice and a presentation radiating sensitivity and charm. An excellent example of the multi-talented amateur musician that enriches the Folk Project.

The Spring Festival is a work in progress. Go to festival.folkproject.org for updates.

**Folk Project Spring 2009 Festival • April 17-19, 2009**

**Star Lake Camp, Bloomingdale, NJ**
A Special Event at The Minstrel
Fri., Jan. 16 at 8:00pm
Special Admission Price: $15.00

The Minstrel and Folk Project Special Concerts combine to present a special musical event.

Peter Ostroushko is one of the finest mandolin and fiddle players in acoustic music. A talented studio musician, his first recording session was a mandolin set on Bob Dylan's Blood on the Tracks and he has since recorded on more than 100 albums and produced 15 solo albums. His most recent are Peter Joins the Circus and Coming Down from Red Lodge.

A Peter Ostroushko performance is a banquet for the ears. He serves up a wide range of music: folk (Greg Brown, Taj Mahal, Robin and Linda Williams), bluegrass (Norman and Nancy Blake, Tim O'Brien, Hot Rize), jazz, classical and rock, with occasional tidbits from his Ukrainian heritage. A master fiddler and mandolinist, his performances always include his own original compositions, served up with virtuoso flourish.

For more than 25 years, Peter has been a frequent performer on “A Prairie Home Companion,” and has also appeared on “Austin City Limits,” “David Letterman,” “Mountain Stage” and even “Mr. Rogers.” Peter has also played on Mahler’s Seventh Symphony with the Minnesota Orchestra.

**“AN ACOUSTIC MUSIC FAN’S DELIGHT”** Dirty Linen

**“FIVE STARS! JACKPOT! …. PETER OSTROUSHKO DESERVES A PROMINENT PLACE IN THE FRONT RANK OF TODAY’S ACOUSTIC MUSIC SCENE.”** Sing Out!

**“ONE OF THE FINEST MUSICIANS ON THE PLANET.”** Rhythm Music Magazine

Tickets available in advance at The Minstrel every Friday night, and at the door.
For more information, call (908) 591-6491 or visit www.folkproject.org

Funding for this event has been made possible in part by funds from the Arts Council of the Morris Area through the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State a Partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

Winter Weekend 2009
Theme o’ the Year: Fiddling While Rome Burns
Fri. - Sun. Feb 20 – 22; Somewhere in lower upstate New York
Thirty ODD folkies convene at a private home to share food, chitchat, music and communal vibes. Registration limited to 25 on site; day trippers welcome. Contact lizpagan@verizon.net (or (973) 429-0288, days or before 8pm) to register or for more details.
Dec. 31/Sat. Swingin' Tern New Years Dance
2/Fri. Minstrel: Joe Crookston, Danielle Miraglia
3/Sat. Swingin' Tern: Anniversary Dance — Folk Project callers, Grand Picnic
EVERY Saturday: The Guitards (Tom Picard and Gary O'Neill), 3p, A Taste of Portugal, 44 E. Cherry St., Rahway.
Sanctuary Concerts: The Tom Chapin Band, 8pm, Chatham. www.sanctuaryconcerts.org
4/Sun. EVERY Sun.: Music You Can't Hear On The Radio, 7pm, WPRB 103.3FM; www.wprb.com
Uptown Coffeehouse: Joe Crookston, 5pm, The Bronx. www.uptowncoffeehouse.com
5/Mon. EVERY Monday: Maplewood International Dancers, 7:30pm. New location: Recreation House, 124 Dunnellen Road. (973) 376-7568
6/Tue. FP Board Meeting: 8pm, Ruth Wolfish's
EVERY 1st & 3rd Tuesday: Stony Brook Friends of Old Time Music Jam, 7:30pm, Mannon's Somerville. www.diamondcut.com/oldtime/
EVERY Tuesday: Northwest NJ Acoustic Jam, 7pm, Westside United Methodist Church, Hopatcong. (973) 770-0179
7/Wed. EVERY Wednesday, Straight Morning Drive, featuring Straight Drive 15 minutes after the 7:30am station break. 6-9am, WDVR-FM and www.wdvrfm.org
EVERY Wed.: Morristown Int'l Dancers, 7:30pm, Mountain Lakes. (973) 539-7020
EVERY Wednesday: “Down Jersey” with Jim Albertson, 7:30pm, WSNJ am1240, am1440 and www.wsnjam.com; http://members.aol.com/downjerseyjim/
8/Thurs. Alternate Thursdays: Scandinavian couple dancing, 7:30 pm, Bound Brook. See skandinjo.org for dates/info.
NJ Songwriters Circle monthly meeting, 7pm, Dave Kleiner's. (973) 429-0288
MoFiddles at Menzel Violins: Jay Unger, Molly Mason, 7pm, Livingston. (973) 994-1083
9/Fri. Minstrel: Open Stage
Music Off Main: Mike Agranoff, 7:30pm, Arts Off Main, Hackettstown. (908) 684-4278
10/Sat. Evening o' Music: 8pm, Nancy Haslam's, 6 Park Way, Morris Plains. (973) 538-5017
Watchung Arts Center: Red M oly, 8pm, Watchung. (908) 412-9105
Crossroads Coffeehouse: Laible “Blu” Blutman, 8pm, Flanders. (973) 786-7940
Hurdy Gurdy: Cathie Ryan, 8pm, Paramus. (201) 836-5500
Second Saturday Coffee House: open mic, 8pm, Summit. (908) 412-9105
11/Sun. Sacred Harp Singing, 2pm, Brooklyn. (718) 793-2848
North Jersey English Country Dancers, caller Tom Arnesse, 2pm, Ridgewood. (201) 652-4014
The Place House Concert: John Flynn, 3pm potluck, 4pm concert. RSVP (973) 992-7491 or jamask8@comcast.net.
15/Thurs. Newsletter deadline. Send stuff to newsletter@folkproject.org
16/Fri. Minstrel/Special Concert: Peter Ostroushko
Princeton FM S: Bruce Molsky, 8pm, Princeton. (609) 799-0944
17/Sat. Swingin' Tern: Jeff Walker, Walker Family Band
Coffee with Conscience: Ellis Paul, 8pm, Westfield. (908) 412-9105
Sanctuary Concerts: Lucy Kaplansky, J Julie Gold, 8pm, Chatham. www.sanctuaryconcerts.org
Laible Blu & The Waretown Philharmonic, Albert Hall, Waretown. www.alberthall.org
Hillside Café: Alice Project, Jill Fenske, 8pm, Nutley. (973) 616-0106

18/Sun. Sacred Harp Singing, 2pm, St. Bart's Church, NYC, (212) 750-8977
Borderline Folk Music Club: Mike Agranoff, 2pm, New City, NY. (845) 354-4586

23/Fri. Minstrel: Anne Hills, Chuck E. Costa

24/Sat. Sanctuary Concerts: Rodney Crowell, 8pm, Chatham. www.sanctuaryconcerts.org

25/Sun. Studio Yoga Open House, downtown Maplewood, workshops/demos plus Dave Kleiner/Liz Pagan mini-concert at 4pm, free. (973) 966-5311
North Jersey English Country Dancers, caller Melanie Axel-Lute, 2pm, Ridgewood. (201) 652-4014
Sacred Harp Sing, 2pm, Montclair Friends Meeting. (973) 779-8290
MoFiddles at Menzel Violins: Peter Puma Hedlund, 4pm, Livingston. (973) 994-1083

30/Fri. Minstrel: Peter Fischman & Deb O’ Hanlon, Flip Peters & Larry Maltz

31/Sat. Tern Swings! See page 10

GOOD OF THE ORDER/COMMUNITY NEWS

This is a place to share news about memorable events and challenges you have faced in the past month with your Folk Project Community. Please send details for inclusion in this column to Eddie Roffman, eroffman@optonline.net.

Bill Cox has been working at developing commercial models for energy efficiency and power savings. Recently, he presented papers at the Gridweek conference in Washington, DC and at Grid-Interop in Atlanta, outlining exciting new methods for efficient usage of energy. His presentations include outlines for creation of interactive computer communication networks to coordinate electrical consumption, which will allow more to be done with limited electrical generation capacity. Wow!

Jeff Loy’s sister passed away recently. Please be sure to give messages of condolence and comfort to Jeff, to help him through this difficult time.

Evelyn Maurer’s mother is recovering at home from a heart attack. We wish her a complete recovery.

Geoff Lamb is home for vacation after an excellent first semester at Susquehana University. He’s spending time reading books and making music.

Kirsten Lamb played double bass on a recently released Telarc recording, Air, with the “Oberlin 21,” a group that accompanies artists from the Cleveland Orchestra. The recording has received positive reviews and some of the royalties are being donated to the Environmental Defense Fund.

Continued on Page 13

Sign Up for Your E-Newsletter

Our monthly newsletter is now available in electronic version. Advantages of receiving the E-Newsletter are: you will receive it much earlier each month; you will be less likely to misplace it; this will save trees, energy and reduce greenhouse gases; you will save the Folk Project almost one dollar per month.

Sign up at enews.folkproject.org
If you made it to the Minstrel on Oct. 24 last year, you likely remember the unusual and engaging show presented by Saints & Strangers, a musical mélange that includes members of local favorites Left Field, WSAGNBSCLRME and the 12-member Ad Hoc Chorale. You now have a twice-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see it again, with the Headlong Retreat song cycle extended to fill a full evening’s performance. Think of it as The Director’s Cut.

Saints & Strangers will be featured for two nights at The Touchstone Theater in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, as part of its Village Voices series. The dates are Jan 16 and 17, the time is 8:00PM and tickets are $15 at the door. You can purchase advance tickets on-line or by telephone, and you’ll find all the details at http://www.touchstone.org. Hope to see you there!

Chris Riemer
Join the Folk Project

Cut out this handy dandy membership form and mail it, with your membership fee, to Pat Rolston, membership@folkproject.org or 50 Wesley Place Box 120, Mount Tabor, NJ 07878 • (973) 586-7061

Choose at least one: ___ New ___ Renew ___ Doo be doo

Name _________________________________________________________________________________
Address _______________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
Home Tel. _________________________________ Work Tel. ________________________________
E mail 1: __________________________________ E mail 2: __________________________________

Do you play or sing music:
[   ] For fun  [   ] Occasionally perform in public  [   ] Professionally or semi-professionally

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DO donation to Folk Project
(Tax deductible! We are also eligible for Corporate Matching Donations and banjos.) $ _____________

Total amount enclosed: $ _____________

NEW! Please check one:  
[ ] I’d like to receive a print newsletter  
[ ] I’d like to save trees and receive an Enewsletter

Make your check payable to: The Folk Project

*Family membership is one basic or supporting membership plus $3 for each additional family member/banjo. Please list the names of additional family members:
Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 8:25 PM on December 2nd by President Mark Schaffer.

President: Mark noted the following as important:

**Membership:** Pat said that our membership is holding steady at about 400, with about 600 individual members. She suggested that we could put more effort into member retention. For example, she pointed out that many of the non-renewed memberships are of one-2 year duration, so in some way we are not meeting the needs of new members. This is a topic for a future meeting to discuss.

**Publicity:** George reports that there have been some personnel changes at the Publicity Committee, and the list of outlets that we send information to has been trimmed to clean out the deadwood. People can go to “ewe.folkproject.org” to sign up for the e-Newsletter.

**Merchandise:** Brad is stepping down. Margaret will be the new Merchandise Committee chair, though Bobbie will be reporting for the Committee at Board meetings. A new T-shirt is planned. Internal Affairs: Sandy says “Twas another successful year of Evenings o’ Music, with several new hosts and some perennial favorites hosting lovely parties. As always, the Folk Project as an organization and the Internal Affairs Chair as an individual are very grateful for those folks who open their homes to our friends to host these gatherings. In addition to the normal party lineup, the Special Concerts committee led by Pam Robinson arranged for several workshops that were held in the hours before an Evening o’ Music, so that the workshop attendees could put their new skills or expanded repertoire to immediate use. A good time was had by all, and we plan to continue the practice into 2008. The January EOM will be held at the home of Nancy Haslam in Morris Plains, and a few other months are already spoken for. If you’d like to host an EOM, please contact Sandy to book your month! And please encourage your friends to attend; EOM’s are a great introduction to the Folk Project.

**Community Affairs:** Elizabeth says Thanks! to all the volunteers who helped her with outreach activities. The Performer Directory is getting ready for a new edition, so get your information to her soon. If you know of any member who has had/is having a significant event (birth, death, illness, graduation, relocation, etc.) please let Elizabeth know.

**Sound:** Bob reports that we had a successful sound workshop at S’n’T in January, and the monitors at S’n’T were replaced this year. We are going to upgrade the microphones at M instrel over the next several months.

**Minstrel:** Mike reports that the reorganization and renewal at M instrel have had good results (though occasionally disrupting his com- fortable old routine). Thanks! to all the folks who have stepped up to help. The official name of the activity has been shortened from “The M instrel Coffeehouse” to “The M instrel” to avoid confusion with places where you can buy expensive coffee, use the Wi-Fi to check your email, and ignore some guy in the corner strumming a guitar. M instrel Staffing: Sandy gave a very special Thanks! to Bill Henderson for all he does to help make the M instrel go smoothly. He received a well-deserved standing ovation.

Horses Sing None Of It: Ralph reports that we taped our 500th episode in July. Altogether, we taped shows #427 through #456 in January-November, 2008, with four more scheduled for December for a record year of 34 new shows, God willing and the creek don’t rise. Sw signin’ Tern: Connie mentioned that Sw ingin’ Tern had lost money this year, that we had plans to improve the bottom line, that the caller workshop was a success, that Dec 20 is the callers graduation night following the annual holiday party at Doug & Brian’s, that the New Year’s Eve Dance will be wonderful, that Everyone should plan to stay for the 25th Anniversary Dance on January 3 and that we were supporting the Special Concerts’ Swing Dance/Concert on January 31. She also recommended that Sw ingin’ Tern and M instrel should work together on a plan to reach out to the area colleges. Special Concerts: Pam reports that we produced six events in 2008, all artistic successes. We did three workshops (vocal, guitar and percussion), and three house concerts (Howard Emerson, Barbara Lamb and Buck P Creacy). A total of 129 individuals attended the various events. For the year, our income/loss for the six events was about flat. See announcements in this Newsletter for future events.

Festival: Lori notes 2008 has been a year of change: new Festival Chair Person, new Committee members, new location, new dates (the new site is not available on Mother’s day), new booking policies, and a new positive bottom line. We’re looking forward to two spectacular festivals in 2009 – April 17-19 and October 9-11. We hope to see you all there. Storytelling: Rivka tells us that, in spite of having to move indoors due to rainy weather, the Storytelling Festival at Grounds for Sculpture was an artistic and financial success. Next year we are scheduled for 17th annual NJ Storytelling Festival at Grounds for Sculpture Oct 18th. We are actively looking for more locations for storytelling festivals in other areas of the state.

**Adjournment:** Adjournment at 10:30 PM. NEXT MEETING WILL BE AT RUTH WOLFSHIE’S HOUSE ON JANUARY 6TH.
GOOD OF THE ORDER (cont’d from page 9)

Sandie Reilly and her family have adopted a new border collie puppy; the new puppy is helping them deal with the recent death of Roxi, who had been their beloved pet for more than 10 years. When not feeding, exercising and playing with the new puppy, Sandie, who has ridden over 4,200 bicycle miles so far this year, is still trying to get up to 5,000 by the end of December.

Happy 13th Birthday to Thomas Lachowicz. Thomas says, “thank you” for the cards and letters that he has received while away at boarding school.

Andy Koenig joined Facebook. He’s found many more people he knows on Facebook than on MySpace.

Russ Kelner was hospitalized for treatment on his back, and has moved on to rehabilitation. We wish relief from pain and a complete and speedy recovery.

Carl Croce recently performed on the Heartlands Hayride radio show on WDVR (89.7). He expects to be on again in the near future. BTW, Carl continues to lose weight, he says he’s able to wear shirts that he hasn’t worn for the past 6 years. Right on, Carl!

Pam Robinson reports with a big smile that her recovery from surgery continues to go well. Her doctors have cleared her for all activities.

SWINGIN’ TERN—
25 YEARS DANCIN’

Although hard to believe, Swingin’ Tern Dances will celebrate its 25th anniversary on Jan. 3. It all started with a late night conversation back in September 1983. Don Flaherty, Artie Grimes, Doug Heacock, Jim Gartner and Lori Weiss (Falco) were at the Golden Touch Diner after a concert at the Closing Circle, a coffeehouse run by FMS, a sister organization to the Folk Project. Don and Artie were lamenting that there was no place to contra dance outside of Princeton and New York City. Doug said he didn’t have much experience with contra dancing but was good at organizing things. He had just joined the board of the FP, which could provide the umbrella support for an upset venture. The incubation had begun.

A committee met at Artie’s house to brainstorm. Artie, Don, Doug, Lori, Jim, Eddie Roffman and Jean Silver were early participants. Artie and Eddie suggested “Swing and Turn” for the name of the dance series. Doug said, “Oh, you mean those funky shore birds?” “No, Swing and Turn from ‘Swing and Turn Jubilee’, an old timey standard.” Doug said, “That’s great, we can call it Swingin’ Tern Dances and have a pun already built into the name—many puns can follow!”

Doug and Don agreed to co-chair, with Don and Artie booking the talent. Doug lined up the first venue at the College of Saint Elizabeth in Convent Station. Knowing that the Folk Project didn’t entertain half-baked ideas, he tried to work out all the details, going as far as printing up a flier for the first three months. Contingent on FP board approval, Steve Schnur agreed to call the first dance for a $25 minimum payment. The Pot Luck String Band agreed to a $35 minimum for their six members.

Doug’s presentation to the Folk Project board created heated discussion. The Project had never supported dance other than the Saturday night contra dance at Festivals. Doug pointed out that the Project constitution referred to support of the folk arts, not just folk music. The board finally approved the motion and Swingin’ Tern Dances was hatched. Once the Project made their decision, they threw their full support behind the dance, with many members showing up for the first dance on Jan. 7, 1984. For a $3 admission price, 112 dancers turned out for a phenomenal first dance and the caller and band went home with well over their minimum payment. Swingin’ Tern Dances skipped the fledgling phase and took full flight with between 120 and 200 dancers per dance in the first year.

After 16 months dancing at St. Elizabeth, followed by a short stint at the Madison YMCA, Swingin’ Tern found its home of 23 years at Ogden Memorial Church in Chatham. Dances are held on the first and third Saturday of each month from 8-11pm. Regular special events include the New Year’s Eve Dance, the Rock ‘n’ Reel in April (contras/rock ‘n’ roll) and the Harvest Hoot in October (contras/swing).

Who woulda thunk it? The Swingin’ Tern Jubilee will become a reality on Jan. 3—come dance with us!
Feets Don’t Fail Me Now!

Blue Ribbon Cloggers: Meets in Pluckemin, Tuesdays, 7pm. Call Paula Fromen (908) 735-9133 or Heidi Rusch (908) 453-2750 for info.

Center Contra: Gender-role free contra dance in NYC. LGBT Community Center, 208 West 13th St., Room 301, 7:30pm. Usually 2nd Fri. Open to all. (971) 991-0597, (347) 275-7983, or www.lcdfd.org/nyc or email AmericanFolkDanceNYC@yahoo.com

Country Dance*New York: dances every Saturday, English country dance every Tuesday, at the Church of the Village, 201 West 13th St. and 7th Ave., NYC. Soft soled shoes only. www.cdny.org, (212) 459-4080; Sat., 1/7: Winter Surprise; 1/27: Gotham Assembly — see web site for location/details.

Lambertville Country Dancers: Soft soled shoes only! Contra/English country. Info: (609) 882-7733 or www.lambertvillecountrydancers.org


Morristown International Dancers: Wednesdays, Mountain Lakes Comm. Church, 48 Briarcliff Rd, 8:30pm, 7:30pm beginners. $4 member/$5 non-member (973) 539-7020 or (973) 228-5966, http://us.geocities.com/njfolkdance/fd_morristown.html

North Jersey English Country Dancers: 2-5pm, Unitarian Church, Cottage Place, Ridgewood, potluck, $8/members, $10/non-mem. (201) 664-4370, (201) 652-4014. www.maxelleute.net/njecd.html; 1/11: Caller Tom Arnesse; 1/25: Melanie Axel-Lute

Palisades Folk Dancers: Twice a month on Sundays, 3pm, Church of the Atonement, Engle St. & Highland Ave., Tenafly. GinnyandHallB@cs.com.

Philly Family Folk Dances: Memorial Church of the Good Shepherd, 3820 The Oak Rd, East Falls, PA. 2nd Sundays, 2-4:30pm (215) 844-2474

Princeton Folk Dance Group: 7:30pm, Riverside School, Riverside Drive, Princeton. Tuesdays (except school closings) www.princetonfolkdance.org (609) 924-6930

Princeton Folk Dancers: 8pm Fridays, Susan Patterson Center, Stockton St. & Monument Dr. (behind Borough Hall), Princeton, www.princetonfolkdance.org

Princeton Country Dancers: Suzanne Patterson Center, Borough Hall, Princeton, Wed. (and some Saturdays) 8pm, beginners 7:40. Pickup band musicians welcome. Usually $6. (609) 683-7956 or (609) 924-8813, email pcdinfo@aol.com. Band info only: (609) 252-0248 or srl@mail.princeton.edu performerlisting at www.princetoncountrydancers.org. Special Community Dance, www.princetonol.com/groups/pcd/

PCD English Country Dance series: Dance 8-11, intro/basics at 7:30. $8 ($4 seniors & students). Call for info.


Swingin’ Tern: Sat., 12/31: New Year’s Eve Dance— Susan Taylor/Raise the Roof; Sat., 1/13: Anniversary Dance-FP Callers/Grand Picnic; Sat., 1/17: Jeff Walker/Walker Family Band; Sat., 1/31: Tern Swings

Valley Contra Dance Society: 7pm, 2nd and 4th Saturdays, UU Church of The Lehigh Valley, 424 Center Street, Bethlehem, PA. $9/$5 students. www.valleycontradance.org, (610) 868-7432; 1/10: Rick Mohr/Contraptions; 1/24: Shane Knudsen/Gooseberries; 1/31: Ron Buchanan/All Hat No Cattle

More on dancing at the Country Dance and Song Society • www.cdss.org
Beginner’s workshop, 7:30pm; dance at 8pm. $10, $5 with student I.D. Soft soles only. Presented by the Folk Project.

Ogden Memorial Church, Chatham
Contra and Square Dancing to live music. All dances taught. No partner necessary. Located on Rte. 124 (Main St.) in downtown Chatham, northern NJ. From NJ TP (exit 14) or GSP (exit 142), take Rte. 78 West to exit 48. Take Rte. 24 West to exit 7A (Chatham) onto Rte. 124 which is Main St. Ogden Memorial on right just after 4th light, across from Bean Curd Restaurant. Use Elmwood entrance. From Rte. 287 (exit 35) take Rte. 124 East 6 miles into Chatham. Ogden Memorial on left just before 1st downtown light. By train: Morristown line to Chatham station, go 1 block north.

(973) 762-4947 or (973) 635-1048 or Folk Phone, (973) 822-1313

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Sat., 1/3:
Anniversary Dance FP
Callers/Grand Picnic
Band: Jody Kruksal–concertina, percussion; Sam Zygmuntowicz–fiddle; Bill Peek–piano; Marco Brehm–bass; plus mystery musician. Callers: Bob Isaacs, Dan Black, Don Flaherty, Melanie Axel–Lute, Mark Widmer
Contras
Swing and turn, Jubilee, Live and learn, Jubilee.
It’s all out on the old dance floor, As the jubilee nears,
With all your friends at Swingin’ Tern, Who’ve danced for 25 years.
   Swing and turn, Jubilee, Swingin’ Tern, Jubilee.
The most fun that you’ll ever have, Is dancin’ at the Tern,
   Swing and turn, Jubilee, Swingin’ Tern, Jubilee.
So come down on a Sat’day night, Expect smiles galore,
   Swing and turn, Jubilee, Swingin’ Tern, Jubilee.
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Sat., 1/17: Jeff Walker/Walker Family Band
Jeff Walker–guitar; Kathy Walker–fiddle; Peter Walker–accordion, Uillean pipes; Laurel Walker–fiddle, mandola, mandolin; Mary Claire Walker–bass; Patrick Walker–penny whistle, flute, guitar; Forrest Walker–percussion
Contras
We are family, I got all my children with me.
We are family, We Walkers get you up to dance.
Everybody can see we’re together, With applause we earn.
And we play just like birds of a feather, Down at Swingin’ Tern.
All of the people around us they say, Can they be that close?
Just let me state for the record, We’re playing tunes in a family dose.
We are family, I got all my good friends with me.
We are family, Get up ev’rybody and dance!

Sat., 1/31: Tern Swings! See details on page 10

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Non-dancing children must be supervised at all times.