



Dedicated to the preservation of folk, traditional and acoustic music.

# Quarter Notes

www.plankroad.org ♪ Winter Issue, January 2013

## Plank Road's Regular Events



### Sing-Around

Two Way Street Coffee House  
1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays - 2:00-4:00PM

### Bluegrass Jam

Two Way Street Coffee House  
4<sup>th</sup> Saturday - 2:00-4:00PM

### 2ND Tuesday Song Circle - BYOS!

Two Way Street Coffee House  
2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday - 7:00-9:00PM

A monthly opportunity for musicians to perform tunes for each other, within a song circle.

### Plank Road All-Volunteer String Band Practice

First Church of Lombard  
630-889-9121  
2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday - 2:00-4:00PM

### LAST THURSDAY Open Mike

Two Way Street Coffee House  
7:00 - 9:30PM  
Last Thursday of every month. A monthly unplugged open mike for high school and college-age students only.

## President's Message

Happy New Year to all of you. It's 2013 and I have been thinking back to the time when I first started playing a guitar. I always loved music and liked to sing, but didn't have the patience to sit still for music lessons; I was too busy playing sports and just running around outside. When I went away to college at Bradley University, I met some guys who played guitars and sang and I would sit in and sing with them. One day my friend Tom loaned me an old guitar and showed me a few chords, and soon I was hooked.



I went home at Christmas and proudly strummed a few songs for my family (Long Black Veil, etc), and they were thrilled. I am the oldest child in a large Irish Catholic family, and my younger siblings have all learned to play, most of them better than me, but they all credit me with providing the inspiration for what became a family tradition. Whenever we get together, it isn't long before the guitars come out and the music begins.

So, I would be interested in hearing from you. How and when did you start playing? And why? If you want to tell your story, please send it to me at reohanlon@gmail.com, and we will post it on our Plank Road web site.

Plank Road had a very successful year in 2012, as I told everyone at our annual meeting. We hosted 80 individual events, gained several new members and sponsored a guitar workshop in May. We look forward to 2013 for more of the same, with a few new twists. I hope to see all of you sometime soon.

— Bob O'Hanlon



Go to [www.plankroad.org](http://www.plankroad.org) and/or [www.twowaystreet.org](http://www.twowaystreet.org) for full details!

## Upcoming Events

### Old Time Barn Dance Party and Downers Grove Annual Ice Sculpture Festival/ Pancake Breakfast

Sat., February 9  
See top of back page for details.

### Heather Styka & Mark Dvorak The Maple Street Chapel

In Lombard at Main and Maple  
Sun., Feb. 17, 3:00 PM  
facebook@ Maple Street Chapel  
Folk Concerts  
See page 7

### 25TH International Folk Alliance Conference

Toronto, Canada  
February 20-24  
[www.folk.org](http://www.folk.org)

Music of the Civil War  
Paul Passen on hammered dulcimer  
Harper College, Music Center, P205  
Thurs., Feb. 28, 12:30 PM, Free



## A Few PRFMS 2012 Event Highlights



Row 1: Winter Old Time Barn Dance 2/12

Row 2: Holiday Party 12/12, Log Cabin Jam 9/12

Row 3: Eric Lambert Workshop & Concert 5/12, Holiday Party 12/12, Downers Grove Rotary GroveFest 6/12

Photos by Jen Shilt

A huge thank you to departing board members Cathy Jones and Charley Smart for their years of volunteer service on behalf of acoustic music. Please make welcome new board members Barbara Ellingsen and Gary Steffenson.

Thank You!

## Donna Stjerna and Still on the Hill

Donna Stjerna and Kelly Mulhollan play mostly original, roots-based acoustic “folkgrass” in their duo, Still on the Hill. This article was written from an interview with Donna during a music retreat in Arkansas last spring, at Wattle Hollow. While listening to the recording of this interview, I was drawn back to the Ozark Mountains surrounding Fayetteville, Arkansas. To the thick, green woods, to the sound of birdsong everywhere. A home-sickness set in for a home I’ve never known. Such is the call of the Ozarks. Sit back and relax, read along and enjoy a visit to Arkansas in the springtime. Get to know some musically-minded folks of extraordinary good will. –Vicki

Relaxing together on the wooden plank steps of one of the many decks of Wattle Hollow last May, surrounded by deep woods and the creatures of the forest, Donna and I started talking about some of the projects she and Kelly do through music. As we spoke, we could hear the music made by retreat participants as they jammed together during the afternoon break, and sometimes it seemed as if the birds were singing along with them. Thus, our interview was pleasantly punctuated with guitars, fiddles and mandolins and the songs of the Red Eyed Vireo, the Northern Parula and Tufted Titmouse.



Donna Stjerna and Kelly Mulhollan

“I think it is important for us as human beings to interact socially in the respect that we help do whatever we can to be part of that whole tapestry.”

It is impossible to fully describe Still on the Hill in one article, for they are many things. Besides making their living as touring acoustic musicians and recording artists, who play original songs with great expertise, Donna and Kelly interact with their community on many levels - exceptionally so. Donna and I began our conversation talking about their community work and what drives them to do it.

“Kelly and I both, we love our community, for one thing,” Donna said. “Fayetteville is an amazing community... We have not a lot of finances, being folk musicians, to donate to different causes that we believe in, or to do financial work to fix what needs fixin’... And, we feel the world gives us so much, and our community gives us so much, that we feel that if we use our art and our music to somehow give back... we feel it’s as an important a part of what we do (with) our life, just our life, to be active some way in the world...”

“I really think as humans, humanity, we are very social beings. And, I think it is important for us as human beings to interact socially in the respect that we help do whatever we can to be part of that whole tapestry. And everybody has different ways they can do it. People that have money can do it with their money. People that have a gift of teaching could go to nursing homes and just read to the elders or whatever way that capacity is. Ours happens to be through our music. So, we have to have a big chunk of what we do be socially-minded, community-minded.”

Before we go further into the community work Donna and Kelly do - conducting children’s shows and educational workshops

through the school system and other venues, and, working on various causes through (for starters, an example) the Fayetteville Omni Center for Peace, Justice and Ecology (Omni Center) - let’s pause to talk about the framework around which their work is done. Music!

It takes two duos to do all the music Donna and Kelly hold in their hearts and minds. Still on the Hill puts on a new set of clothes (literally and figuratively) and changes their name to Toucan Jam when they perform some of their educational and multicultural shows. Whether as Still on the Hill or Toucan Jam, Donna and Kelly have been recognized together and individually for their musical expertise with many awards, including “Best Folk Group of the Ozarks” and “Best Guitarist” (Kelly). Julie Koehler, from *Bluegrass Now*, said “...their original material is packed with new ideas, social awareness and a level of intellect and consciousness that’s seldom found in contemporary tunes.” The Toucan Jam CD, “A World of Music,” won them the Parents’ Choice Approved Award and Best New Artist in Children’s Music Web Award; they developed a family program of the same name for festivals, concerts and special events with the music of this CD.

I encourage you to visit their website, [www.stillonthehill.com](http://www.stillonthehill.com). The site is beautifully done, and a fun and relaxing activity in itself. Available there are nine CDs (including a compilation and solo recordings) and an excellent video documentary that you don’t want to miss, “Ozark: A Celebration in Song.”

But, if you ever get the chance, don’t miss Donna’s and Kelly’s live performance. Maybe you were one of the lucky ones who saw their unforgettable performance at Denny Davis’ and Jim Wilson’s house concert several years ago.

“If we ever lose power in Northwest Arkansas, we could tap into the energy of Still on the Hill and have enough left to air condition Texas!!!” said Keith and Ezra from Trout Fishing in America. Part of the high-energy showmanship could be due to Donna’s history of years on the road as a fiddler in a country show band, playing the Reno/Vegas circuit.



## MUSIC INSTRUCTION

### Creativity

by Donna Stjerna - Still on the Hill, with Kelly Mulhollan

The following article was written from my notes of a workshop on creativity presented by Donna at a 2012 music retreat held in Arkansas at Wattle Hollow. The retreat was offered by Jack and Judy Williams with Still on the Hill for twenty-plus musicians from across the country. Enjoy! -Vicki

You can't be around Donna Stjerna for any length of time without her magic rubbing off on you. She is a unique woman, a unique musician that exudes joy and creativity. The best teachers are those who embody what you want to learn; no one walks the talk better than her. Over the course of two hours, workshop participants traveled with Donna down the road to creativity, stopping along the way to visit some of the places she found on her own personal journey.

#### Creativity is a Mind-set

Donna opened the workshop by saying, "I think creativity is a mind-set...I think we can open up that mind-set, each one of us, by learning to think creatively in everything." I wondered about that word, "mind-set." One definition says it is "the established set of attitudes held by someone..." So, it seems that thinking creatively is all about our attitudes.

"Also, people always think, everyone thinks, that being creative means making art," said Donna, that "making art is being creative. We can be creative in everything we do - in cooking, in the way we live our life. Creativity and thinking creatively can come out in every aspect of our life. And when we start thinking creatively in every aspect of our life, it shows up in our songwriting, in our music-making and everything...."

*"I think creativity is a mind-set."*

Donna shared with us a little of her background before the workshop got into full swing. She said she does not feel she was born a creative person, but that she came to live creatively in her 40's. As a young adult, Donna fiddled full-time in a country band that played cover songs. While this provided a good, musical living and some fun, there was not enough room for creative development. Donna said her journey to creativity really started with making salt dough Christmas ornaments and little piggies (yep!) and selling them through "Whimsicals," an art gallery in Fayetteville she opened on a shoe string with another artist - being around artistic people was part of her journey. She made special art pieces each month, to go along with the monthly theme of the gallery; she was "trying, stretching and growing," - re-framing herself was also part of her journey. She thinks she's become a creative person since then.

#### Just Do It!

Donna told us, "Creativity is also about getting things done. Creative people not only make things but find ways to achieve nearly anything they want. Roadblocks are something that can be easily worked around and, in fact, provide many opportunities."

"Just do it!" Sometimes, instead of writing/learning a song or doing a different project, Donna said, people use up time thinking about the reasons why they can't do something creative. The group started brainstorming these excuses:

#### Find out more about Still on the Hill and their recordings: [www.stillonthehill.com](http://www.stillonthehill.com)

Spend time with Donna and Kelly through their excellent DVD, "Ozark: A Celebration in Song," where you can visit with the people from the Ozark Mountains who they celebrate in song.



[www.creativitygames.net](http://www.creativitygames.net) for more creative exercises!

I don't have enough time, I don't have the right skills, I don't know where to start, and, people will laugh at me. I can't do it perfectly. The last one is a real killer. Perfection is a bad one, a serious and "a dangerous one," said Donna. Jack Williams added to the list: I don't have the right tools or the right information, and, I haven't read the theory book so I can't make music. Charlie, a workshop participant offered: I don't have enough time to go start to finish.

Donna said, "You will find that if you have a creative mind and just jump in there and just do it... it'll take on a life of its own, believe me... We're all creative beings." "Never think that you can't," added Jack.

#### Revisiting Your Child,

The essence of creating melodies, lyrics and songs  
An Exercise - An Origami Project

Donna brought to the group an exercise in Origami, paper-folding, meant to stretch our creativity. We were given a single sheet of paper and told to fold it only four times. Here are some of the questions we were to think about as we folded:

How can you think outside the box, creatively? Can you make use of shadows? What if you fold and unfold the paper? Does the piece represent something?

Afterwards, amidst much laughter(!), we shared with each other the objects we made and sometimes the stories we made-up to go with them: person dressed in a cloak, overlooking a moor in England, like Heathcliff; goose in flight; window frame; necktie; mountain backdrop to a stage play, etc. Group members got quite creative... And when an errant group member admitted using only three folds instead of four? Donna said, "That's good!"

Jack said, "I talk about going back to your childhood... the whole idea of revisiting yourself back before you had... society and the teachers and people who beat you into your little box... The thing is, there are some of us that get too old and too cool to do things like this (finger painting, collage, and origami) and to realize the childish simplicity of it.

"And (in) the essence of this lies... your ability to create melodies, lyrics and songs and paintings and dance, film. The essence of it lies in your ability to see something this small." "Something this simple," Donna added. "It's like going back to being a child again," said Jack.

Donna Stjerna - Continued from page 2

But it's not all high energy stuff. Donna said that every year, she and Kelly do one show each, pretty much by themselves, for the experience and fun of it. Last year, Donna did a show called "My Kitchen Table." She sat down at a table positioned in front of a backdrop of important memorabilia from her life: her dad's oil paintings; her first fiddle and another fiddle, both painted by her dad; carvings made by her mom. She then performed her original songs, likely for the first and last time; they were personal songs, "her-story." She said, "I let all my skeletons come out of the closet and dance around the stage!" Kelly was there and did a few tunes, but he mostly stood by for moral support. The audience was huge and with her all the way. The show was a tremendous hit!

But it is not surprising that people seek out Donna's musical performance and her company. When you are around Donna, you feel her deep respect for all living things, her joy, and you are encouraged, uplifted. Her gentle spirit touches the people who pass through her world and we are all the better for it. Donna told me that when she goes on walks, she names her favorite trees by one of their characteristics and they become a friend; Bill for a tree with a knothole that reminds her of the character Mr. Bill, Camy for a tree with bark that looks like camouflage, Miss Maggie for a big old magnolia tree. How cool is that?

Donna and Kelly could stay plenty busy playing gigs around the country for listening audiences. And, they do play many, many concerts for audiences both large and small. Festivals, libraries, small theatres and house concerts, with house concerts being their very favorite! Yet, they still devote a great deal of time working in schools and in the community through organizations such as the Omni Center. In fact, the mayor of Fayetteville proclaimed December 20th as "Still on the Hill Day" for all the work they do in the community!

They joyfully "package their community work up" in song. Through the support of a wonderful arts council, they work in schools to increase awareness of cultural diversity and the children's awareness of their own culture, the rich culture of the Ozark Mountains, which is their birthright; sadly, they find many children are unaware that they live in the Ozarks and what this culture has to offer.

"...their original material is packed with new ideas, social awareness and a level of intellect and consciousness that's seldom found in contemporary tunes." -Julie Koehler, *Bluegrass Now*

Still on the Hill offers to schools a program of "preservation and participation," called "An Ozark Journey." The program combines music and history - old, traditional tunes with new, original tunes - about past and present, people and places, important to the culture. The grand finale is the "ozarkestra," where the children get to play music with Donna and Kelly on instruments from the Ozarks!

Through the program "Things with Wings," involving both a classroom workshop and school assembly, Donna and Kelly hope to pass along to children their mutual love of birding, as Kelly's parents passed it down to him. In the classroom,

"If we ever lose power in Northwest Arkansas, we could tap into the energy of Still on the Hill and have enough left to air condition Texas!!!"

-Keith and Ezra from Trout Fishing in America.

they teach the beginning aspects of bird watching through question and answer and involving the students in a musical performance. They bring to the children, fallen nests and feathers they gathered and teach them to identify the calls of local birds through field recordings. The children leave the workshop with their own field guide they colored and the knowledge of how to use it, as well as a better understanding of the natural world around them.

The "Things with Wings" school assembly takes the students on an imaginary trip around the world, exposing the children to cultural diversity by bringing to life the legends surrounding six birds on six different continents. Donna and Kelly morph into Toucan Jam - both of them don costumes, use puppets and sing original songs that tell these stories to the accompaniment of instruments from all over the world, given to Kelly by his parents as gifts from their travels.

We bring this article to a close on a peaceful note, a note of hope, with a few words about some of the community work done by Still on the Hill through the Omni Center. I find it personally encouraging that some of today's troubadours follow in the footsteps of the greats - Pete Seeger; Woody Guthrie; Joan Baez; Peter, Paul and Mary; etc. - musicians whose intent was to channel some of their creative expression, their lyrics and their melodies, into projects for the greater good.

A special monthly open mic for peace hosted at the Omni Center by Donna and Kelly, allow like-minded local musicians the opportunity to gather together and sing about peace, justice and ecology. Also through the Center, they coordinate Earth Day, which last year celebrated trees. By working with local artists who designed boxes made of home-made paper containing shrines to trees, sold by silent auction, and a Still on the Hill concert, money was raised to help save the Ozark Chinquapin Chestnut Tree - a tree native to the Ozarks, a food source that has all but gone extinct. The trees are not out of the woods yet and we are happy to report that things are looking up for the Chinquapin Chestnut. For more information, see the Ozark Chinquapin Foundation, where Donna and Kelly serve on the board, at [www.ozarkchinquapin.com](http://www.ozarkchinquapin.com).

As I said, it is impossible to fully describe the activities of Still on the Hill in one article. And, we haven't even talked about their unique retirement plan - the Ozark Ball Museum in their home, <http://americanprofile.com/articles/ozark-ball-museum> or their future plans for a flea circus. And... Well, another time. -Vicki

If you want to find out more about what Donna and Kelly are up to, go to [www.stillonthehill.com](http://www.stillonthehill.com) and click on "More," then "Newsletter." It's fun, interesting reading. ♪



## Member News

Most of you have noticed that Jeanne Halama has not been doing the sound lately for the Two Way Street Coffee House, a volunteer post she held for many years. When I called Jeanne to get her permission to give you an update, I said, "Jeanne, people are wondering what's up with you." She said, quick as a flash, "Well, they always have!" ha. On a serious note, Jeanne is recuperating from what she describes as a minor stroke. She is still able to do her art, writing, reading and "whatevers," just a little slower. We hope to see Jeanne out and about at music venues again soon.

We want to wish Heather Styka the best of luck on her move to Maine this spring – land of many great acoustic gigs! Our loss is the Northeast's gain. We'll miss you, Heather and will look forward to your visits back here to see friends and family and to play for us. You can see Heather at Maple Street Chapel on Feb 17, where she'll share the stage with Mark Dvorak.



## Books and CDs

### Folksongs of Illinois, #4, by Company of Folk



"Chicago Since 1945":

Produced by musician-scholar **Bucky Halker**

CD #4 presents Chicago's remarkable musical traditions since WWII and includes tracks from Junior Wells and Buddy Guy, Jethro Burns, Eddie Blazonczyk, Betti Xiang, Juvenato, Los Pichardo, Maxwell Street Klezmer Band, the American Indian Center Drummers, and more. There's a recitation from Studs Terkel, street sounds, and Cathy Richardson's rendition of a forgotten Woody Guthrie gem. Folk Songs of Illinois, #1-3 are great too.

[www.buckyhalker.com/company-of-folk](http://www.buckyhalker.com/company-of-folk)

### Tom Russell Fans!

A new songbook, "120 Songs of Tom Russell, the definitive songbook," and a new re-release of Tom's first solo record, "Don't Look Down," are available through

[www.villagerecords.com](http://www.villagerecords.com)

## PRFMS 2012 Event Highlights



Photos by Jen Shitt

Row 1: (Left to Right) Log Cabin Jam 9/12

Row 2: Civil War Re-Enactment and Barn Dance, Lombard 7/12

## Creativity - Continued from page 3

When you listen to the melodies and lyrics created by these musicians, you have to think that they know what they're talking about!

### Writer's Block

Fuel for practice

"When you have writer's block," Donna said, "... sometimes if you have some fuel, you can unblock that block. I often give myself writing challenges just to keep practicing writing... writing is a skill like every other..." She said, "The muse doesn't always just drop on your shoulder." Our writing challenge that day was to write a song to share with the group later – it didn't have to be finished. Our "fuel" for writing consisted of two things: a list of suggested song topics, and, treasures from a bag of tricks - everyday objects - which we could include in the song. Topics included: old money, tornadoes, out of this world, anger, window shopping, I miss Pluto, identity crisis, trees, weather, addiction, mother, what if you were invisible or a caged-bird, and telling a secret. Treasures included a small battery, coin, pine cone, etc. But bottom line, Donna said, "No rules, please!"

There was further method to this madness. We were each to take a melody we knew very well and put new words to it. Then, change the melody by speeding it up, slowing it down, making it a talking blues, a waltz, putting it in a minor key, etc. Voila! A brand new song!

We had the very best time, going around the circle, sharing our new material.

*"The muse doesn't always just drop on your shoulder."*

### Joy

Kelly shared that, "Living with Donna is a fascinating, whirlwind of creativity, that never ends and it's very inspiring. She does it with such joy. But when you watch Donna writing a song or whatever... some of us in the creative process, puzzle, concentrate, (while) problem-solving – not joyful... she is in there smiling or laughing, having the best time!"

"She's totally joyful," Kelly said, "the whole time she works. Hour after hour, (she's) just joyfully trying to find these tunes. It's amazing..."

"You never lost your child," said workshop participant, Rich to Donna.

"I think I found my child," Donna answered. "I think that all my years growing up, I wasn't my child..." Donna explained. "It wasn't until I was in my 40s, actually when I met Kelly – when I opened my little gallery and started meeting artists, him (Kelly) taking me to Kerrville (Kerrville Folk Festival, in Texas) where people were writing songs from their heart. It was like a floodgate, allowing that mind-set to come in. And then I opened up that door, that floodgate. It was like being born again. Its like – FUN!

"And, I think it's just a mind-set... it's not a skill and it's not something you are born with. You just gotta open that door and be playful and have fun with it." ♪



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- Rick Kogan, Chicago Tribune, WGN Radio

**WIND RIVER**  
FROM FOLK ERA

**Upcoming Performances:**  
Sundays, 2-24, 3-17, 4-7, 5-5 at Great American Bagel Westmont 10am, Western Springs 11:30am  
Fridays, 3-1, 4-5, 6-7 at Wicked Good Café, The 2013 Home of Comfort Food! Naperville 7pm [www.wickedgoodcafe.com](http://www.wickedgoodcafe.com)  
3-9 Books on First, Dixon and 4-12 JustGoods, Rockford



**Rich and Vicki Ingle**  
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[www.comfortfoodmusic.com](http://www.comfortfoodmusic.com)

**PRFMS 2012 Event Highlights**



Danada Fall Festival 10/12



Photos by Vicki Ingle

## A Special Thanks to our Membership Contributors!!

### Sustaining Artists (\$200 - \$399)

Benefits: Feature article and picture in one newsletter; 1/4 page reserved space in four newsletters for name(s), contact information and upcoming performances; individual membership(s) in PRFMS.

- **Comfort Food - Vicki and Rich Ingle**  
www.comfortfoodmusic.com | 708-795-0695
- **Mark Dvorak**  
www.markdvorak.com

### Supporting Artists (\$50 - \$199)

Benefits: Line listing in four issues with name of group, name(s) of member(s), contact information; individual membership(s) in PRFMS.

- **Heather Styka**  
www.heatherstyka.com

### Supporting Members (\$50 - \$199)

- |                        |                            |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| John J. Allan          | Andy Malkewicz             |
| Mary and Dan Anderson  | Gregg and Elizabeth Morton |
| Romaine Burbach        | Elizabeth Morton           |
| Frank and Helen Clarke | Jen Shilt                  |
| Joe Jablonski          | Paul Zimmerman             |



www.folk.maplestreetchapel.org  
facebook @ Maple Street Chapel Folk Concerts

## Maple Street Chapel

Lombard, at Main and Maple Streets

### Folk Music Concerts Winter/Spring Schedule

- |      |         |                              |
|------|---------|------------------------------|
| 2-17 | 3 PM    | Heather Styka & Mark Dvorak  |
| 3-16 | 7:30 PM | Eric Lambert & Friends       |
| 4-20 | 7:30 PM | Small Potatoes               |
| 5-4  | 7:30 PM | Danny Schmidt & Carrie Elkin |



## Plank Road 2013 Annual Membership Meeting



Photos by Jen Shilt



To see more PRFMS event photos visit our new Facebook page!



Plank Road Prfms

<https://www.facebook.com/plankroad.prfms>



90.9 FM, WDCB, PUBLIC RADIO  
from College of DuPage

Online Streaming - www.WDCB.org

For a program guide, call 630-942-4200

**"Folk Festival" with Lilli Kuzma,**

Tuesdays 7 to 9 PM

Folk Festival is an eclectic mix of folk styles and artists, traditional to contemporary, that includes folk-related and folk-influenced music.

**"Bluegrass Review" with Phil Nussbaum**

Tuesdays 10 to MIDNIGHT

## Quarter Notes

Vicki Ingle | Editor

Jennifer Shilt | Graphic Design

We welcome ideas for articles or photos you'd like to share, please send them to [vingle@comcast.net](mailto:vingle@comcast.net)

CHECK OUT [www.plankroad.org](http://www.plankroad.org)





# WINTER OLD TIME BARN DANCE PARTY

and Downers Grove Annual Ice Sculpture Festival

Saturday, February 9, at 8:00 PM

Doors open at 7:30 PM - Musicians arrive at 7:00 PM to warm-up  
Two Way Street Coffee House, 1047 Curtiss St., Downers Grove, IL  
(Across from the Public Library)

Enjoy a fun-filled evening of music and dancing for the entire family.

Dance the night away! Our Caller will walk and talk you through all the dances at our 'No Experience Necessary' dance.

Dances are informal, with no costumes needed.

In fact, you don't even need to bring a partner!

Refreshments available.

\$5.00 admission for everyone 5 years of age and older



## FCC Brothers Men's Group Annual Pancake Breakfast

Saturday, February 9, 2013 at 8:00am to 11:00am

First Congregational Church in Downers Grove | 1047 Curtiss St., Downers Grove, IL

The Plank Road All Volunteer String Band will play from 9:00AM to around 10:30AM

After the Pancake Breakfast and before the dance, be sure to check out the amazing ice carvings and fun events at the **Downers Grove Ice Sculpture Festival**

For more information visit <http://www.downtowndg.org>



## Folk Music Resources

See [www.plankroad.org](http://www.plankroad.org)  
Click on Favorites

Find Us On   
facebook

We are excited to announce that we have launched a new Facebook page! Please visit us at:  
<https://www.facebook.com/plankroad.prfms>

## 2013 PRFMS Officers

**Bob O'Hanlon - President**  
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**Carol Spanuella - Vice President**  
carolspan1@hotmail.com

**Gary Steffenson - Treasurer**  
gksteff@gmail.com

**Barbara Ellingsen - Secretary**  
woodwindwizard@gmail.com

### 2013 Board Members

Bill Boylan  
Dave Humphreys  
Jennifer Shilt  
Kristen Shilt



**PRFMS Contact:**  
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Email: [reohanlon@gmail.com](mailto:reohanlon@gmail.com)  
(630) 325-7764



P.O. Box 176, Downers Grove, IL 60515

## IMPORTANT PRFMS Membership INFORMATION

### PRFMS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME!

All memberships renew annually at this time.

*We hope you continue to be a part of the Plank Road Folk Music Society and keep up with group events through the newsletter.*

*We wish you a joyful 2013 to the sound of acoustic music.*

If you have not yet renewed your membership, we have included a form for your convenience. Please update the form and send your individual (\$10/yr), family (\$20/yr), or supporting (\$50-\$199/yr) membership fee to:

PRFMS  
P.O. Box 176,  
Downers Grove, Illinois 60515

Membership info is available online at

[www.plankroad.org](http://www.plankroad.org)

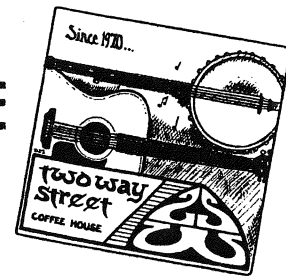


LIVE MUSIC Every Friday Since 1970!

# TWO WAY STREET COFFEE HOUSE

1047 Curtiss Street • Downers Grove, Illinois 60515 (across from the Public Library)

www.twowaystreet.org • 630-969-9720



## ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE

- Friday February 1 8:15pm \$7 **CHAD ELLIOTT** — From Coon Rapids, Iowa, “Equal parts Townes Van Zandt and Woody Guthrie. A remarkably competent finger style guitarist and arguably one of new folk's most gifted new lyricists.” (*NoDepression.com*)
- Friday February 8 8:15pm \$7 **HIROYA TSUKAMOTO** — Young award-winning guitarist & songwriter from Kyoto, Japan. Studied at Berklee College of Music and has since toured internationally, including several gigs at New York’s legendary Blue Note!  
*(Ice Sculpture Festival!)*
- Friday February 15 8:15pm \$7 **SANCTIFIED CRUMBLERS** — Uber-picker Eric Noden and Rick “Cookin” Sherry (Devil in a Woodpile) write & play in old blues, country & New Orleans jazz traditions. Resonator guitar, banjo, washboard, harmonica, & clarinet!  
*(Note Change!)*
- Friday February 22 8:00pm \$7 **OPEN MIKE** — All welcome! Great variety of acoustic artists! So popular we must limit number of acts. 1-2 songs, 10 minutes max. Open 7:30 for signups – first come, first served. Show starts 8:00. Info: 630-968-5526.
- Friday March 1 8:15pm \$7 **ARI & MIA** — Boston's Americana sister act: adventuresome violin & cello, soaring vocal harmonies, fiddle tunes, soulful & spirited traditional music of Southern Appalachia, jazz & swing plus their own bold songs!
- Friday March 8 8:15pm \$7 **JENN RAWLING & BASHO PARKS** — From Portland OR: Jenn — songwriter-guitarist & American folk & old-time country singer, joins Basho — master violinist & harmony singer. “Stone cold killer stuff!” (*Midwest Record*)
- Friday March 15 8:15pm \$7 **ELAINE ROMANELLI** — From New York City, her songs meld poetic lyrics and soaring singing with wry humor, and a hint of Celtic lilt. “... Powerhouse voice ... operatic flourishes ... bluesy sass and wit.” (*Acoustic Guitar*)
- Friday March 22 8:15pm \$7 **JASON & GINGER** — Jason Fickel’s killer slide guitar and wry lyrics create a musical experience whose roots are nourished by the power and versatility of vocalist Ginger Curry. “Witty...poignant...powerful.” (*WFHB*)
- Friday March 29 8:15pm \$7 **NATASHA BORZILOVA** — Formerly with Grammy-nominated Russian band Bering Strait, she’s a captivating, intelligent and highly listenable singer-songwriter-guitarist rivaling the best in folk, pop, rock and Americana.
- Friday April 5 8:15pm \$7 **KERRY PATRICK CLARK** — “A musical Norman Rockwell.” From Ohio, an award-winning, nationally #1 charted singer-songwriter-guitarist and storyteller. Former member of The New Christy Minstrels. 6 solo CDs!
- Friday April 12 8:15pm \$7 **AMY DIXON-KOLAR** — Prize-winning singer-songwriter with entrancing lyrics, distinctive vocals and guitar, and traditional, contemporary and Celtic songs. Her song “Rosa Sat” is a YouTube sensation now sung worldwide!
- Friday April 19 8:15pm \$7 **KALLET, EPSTEIN & CICONE** — Acclaimed songwriter Cindy Kallet joins fellow New Englanders Ellen Epstein & Michael Cicone. Songs old & new with gorgeous & daring harmonies. Guitar, hammered dulcimer, a cappella.
- Friday April 26 8:15pm \$7 **WE'RE ABOUT 9** — Young, fun-loving Baltimore trio brings musical prowess, complex harmonies, poignant songs with guitars to an edgy, charming, upbeat show. “Profound & fun!” (*WPMG*) “Wildly entertaining.” (*The Gazette*).

<sup>1</sup>Featured on WFMT 98.7 “Folkstage” with Rich Warren. <sup>2</sup>Featured on WDCB 90.9 “Folk Festival” with Lilli Kuzma.

<b><i>(Ice Sculpture Festival!)</i></b> Sat Feb 9 8pm \$5 ALSO: Sat April 6!!	<b>Old Time Barn Dance Party!</b> — Reels, squares, line dancing, waltzes and more, plus music of our great live band. Fun for the whole family! All dances taught and called by our expert leaders. No experience, costume or partner needed. Plank Road Folk Music Society is co-sponsor.
2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays, 7-9pm Feb 12, Mar 12, Apr 9	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday Song Circle</b> — BYOS! ( <i>Bring Your Own Songs!</i> ) A monthly opportunity to informally & acoustically perform <i>your</i> songs for the circle! Plank Road Folk Music Society is co-sponsor.
Saturdays, 2-4pm Feb 2 & 16 Mar 2 & 16, Apr 6 & 20	<b>Sing-Around</b> — Our popular song fests where beginners and experienced musicians can learn and/or share songs. Listeners and singers welcome too! Songbooks provided. Plank Road Folk Music Society co-sponsors. First and third Saturday afternoons of every month at 2:00 pm.
Saturdays, 2-4pm Feb 23, Apr 27 ( <i>not Mar 23</i> )	<b>Bluegrass Jam</b> — Musicians of all experience levels gather to improve skills, learn/share tunes, & have fun! 4th Saturdays, 2:00-4:00pm. Plank Road Folk Music Society is co-sponsor.
Thursdays Feb 28, Mar 28, Apr 25 7:00-9:30pm <i>Free!</i>	<b>LAST THURSDAY!</b> — Monthly open mike for high school & college age students. Last Thurs of every month. Music, poetry, any performance art - 10 min. max. Signups begin 7pm - first come, first served. Info at <a href="http://twowaystreet.org">twowaystreet.org</a> , on Facebook, or call 630-968-5526.

Live entertainment is featured every Friday night beginning at 8:15. Doors open by 7:30. \$7.00 donation requested. Beverages and snacks available. The Two Way Street Coffee House is a not-for-profit community project of the First Congregational United Church of Christ, Downers Grove. Member: Plank Road Folk Music Society, Fox Valley Folklore Society, Old Town School of Folk Music, Aural Tradition, Folk Alliance International. For current entertainment listings and updates, booking and other information, visit us on the web at [www.twowaystreet.org](http://www.twowaystreet.org) and on Facebook.

