

December 11th Holiday Potluck Celebrates Music & Community

Each December, Charlotte Folk Society members come together with family and friends to celebrate the season, enjoy each other's company, and share the music we treasure.

We invite you to join us for the Folk Society's Holiday Potluck and Jams at 4 PM, Sunday, December 11th, in Langford Hall at Dilworth United

Methodist Church, 605 East Boulevard, in the Dilworth Community of Charlotte. Some parking is available on church property. Once those spaces are filled, please park on the streets near the church.

For those needing assistance with physical access, please call Dennis Frost's cell phone (704-650-8577) and someone will help you to come up in an elevator that opens to the exterior on the ground floor.

Please bring a dish to share that will serve eight or donate \$5 for each guest in your party. We can keep your dish hot or cold in the kitchen's appliances, but please do have your dish ready to serve when you arrive. Feel free to invite family and friends to join you.

Come at 4 PM to join Salem Macknee's song circle, a Celtic session led

by Ed Gebauer, or the Charlotte Appalachian Dulcimer Club. Or start a jam of your own choosing. Dinner will begin at 5 PM.

At 6 PM, we'll enjoy a half-hour concert of seasonal selections by The Community Singers, an intergenerational folk choir whose



Jamming at the Potluck

purpose is to promote peace and build community through music. Carol Raedy is the group's founder and leader.

Watch video of their performance here:

http://www.youtube.com/user/carolrraedy?feature=mhee#p/search/6/ALg_FhZxG6I

youtube.com/user/carolrraedy?feature=mhee#p/search/6/ALg_FhZxG6I

Jamming and singing will resume after the concert concludes. The event ends at 9:45 PM.

As is our custom, we'll draw names for door prizes. To be eligible, you need to have become a member since September 1, 2011 or to have renewed already for 2012. Just stop by the CFS Information Table on your way into Langford Hall to renew and to purchase raffle tickets for the beautiful Eastman MD-305 A-Style Mandolin (F hole) generously donated by The Violin Shoppe.

(Continued on page 3.)

Young Talent Showcase Gathering January 13th

The Charlotte Folk Society Young Talent Showcase Gathering for this season will take place on Friday, January 13, 2012, at 7:30 PM, in the Great Aunt Stella Center. CFS annually hosts this non-threatening public performance for young musicians in order to encourage them to carry on the musical traditions we cherish. Preservation of the music is part of our mission. The best means of preservation is to have generation after generation continue playing it!

Traditionally, the previous year's Marilyn Meacham Price Youth Scholarship recipient is the featured performer in the showcase. We look forward to hosting our two 2011 winners, Jake Bartholomew and Davy Fee, on the Stella Center stage.

Any interested acoustic musician through college age is welcome. Participation must be arranged in advance, however. **Contact Wanda Hubicki by December 16th; email phubicki@carolina.rr.com or call 704-563-7080 if you would like to perform.** Include a brief biography (age, school, music teacher, musical interests, instrument played). As well, a sharply focused head shot, digital, if possible, would be appreciated.

Charlotte Folk Society Mission

The purpose of the Charlotte Folk Society, a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization and an Arts & Science Council grant recipient, is to promote the ongoing enjoyment and preservation of traditional and contemporary folk music, dance, crafts, and lore.

Hire Musicians For Your Next Event

The Charlotte Folk Society has extensive resources to help you with your special event or conference – anything from just a taste of this region's Appalachian musical heritage to a full evening of music and dance with audience participation. Call Karen Singleton at 704-364-5433 to arrange for entertainment and/or instruction at reasonable rates.

CFS Member Discounts

Please support these merchants who offer Charlotte Folk Society members a 10% discount on their purchases. Present your membership card at the time of purchase:

AC Accounting (Allen Cooke)
CD Warehouse
Smiling Moon Guitars
The Violin Shoppe
Wax Museum
Rob Webster, Santa Cruz Guitars
Woody's (Rock Hill and York)



The musician's friend,
 Visit <http://hetzler.homestead.com>.

CFS Partners

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Folk Calendar Contributors

Thanks to Bill Cooke for putting together the dance calendar. We appreciate Hat and Dan Thompson for labeling and stamping the newsletter to get it in the mail each and every month. Call Wanda Hubicki at 704-563-7080 to volunteer.



Charlotte Folk Society Annual Membership Fees

Individual \$25
 Student \$15
 Family \$35
 Senior Individual (62+) \$20
 Senior Family (62+) \$30
 Sustaining \$50
 Sponsor \$100
 Benefactor \$250
 Patron \$500
 Lifetime \$1000
 Affiliate Organization \$35

CFS Folk Calendar

Folk Calendar is a publication of the Charlotte Folk Society. No articles may be reproduced without the permission of the Society. Deadline for all submissions is generally the 20th of the month preceding publication. Contact Wanda Hubicki at 704-563-7080. Submit articles by email at phubicki@carolina.rr.com, or by U. S. mail at 3610 Country Club Drive, Charlotte, NC 28205. All rights reserved.

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Webmaster
 Ed Gebauer
 704-886-5371

Founder and Board Member Emeritus

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803-548-5671

Charlotte Folk Society Events Information
 704-372-FOLK (704-372-3655)

Charlotte Folk Society website:
www.folksociety.org

(Holiday Potluck, continued from page 1.)

Drawing for the winning name will take place as we finish dinner.

Charlotte Folk Society Gatherings are made possible, in part, with funding from the Arts & Science Council and the North Carolina Arts Council, an agency of the Department of Cultural Resources, and the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that a great nation deserves great art.



CFS Sunday Old-Time Acoustic Jam January 8th

Monthly Charlotte Folk Society Old-Time Acoustic Jams take place on second Sundays, 2 PM to 4 PM, in the Asbury Care Center Living Room at Aldersgate, 3800 Shamrock Drive (between Eastway Drive and Sharon Amity Road) in east Charlotte. **The next Old-Time Jam will take place on Sunday, January 8th.** Jams are free and open to all musicians and listeners. If you have questions, please contact Jam Coordinator Tom Kelleher at 704-366-9441.

Directions: Traveling from Eastway Drive, make a right turn from Shamrock Drive into Aldersgate at the traffic light at Tipperary Place. Stop at the Guard Gate and say that you're going to the Asbury Care Center to the Folk Society jam session. The guard will direct you to the correct building and the receptionist in the Asbury Care Center will direct you to the Living Room.

Robin Bullock Christmas House Concert December 3rd

Those who attended the April 2011 CFS Gathering are quite familiar with the guitar virtuosity of Robin Bullock. That evening, he filled the Great Aunt Stella Center with rich tones of his special arrangements of Celtic and Appalachian favorites demonstrating why the *Baltimore City Paper* referred to him as the "Celtic guitar god." Now Robin is returning to the Charlotte area to present a Christmas concert on Saturday, December 3rd, in the even more intimate setting of a house concert.

Robin is well known for his Winter Solstice concerts, an annual tradition in Baltimore for over 30 years, and for the past several years with Asheville's Swannanoa Solstice concert. The music of Christmas, perfectly suited to the ageless tones of the acoustic guitar, comes to life in Robin Bullock's concert of carols and hymns spanning over 600 years, drawn from his best selling holiday recordings, *A Guitar for Christmas* and *Christmas Eve is Here*. Sample both recordings on Robin's website at www.robinbullock.com.

Internationally recognized as a master Celtic instrumentalist, Robin celebrates the many moods of the Yuletide season in gorgeous guitar interpretations, augmenting his six-string virtuosity with selections on cittern and mandolin. Combining familiar favorites such as *What Child is This*, *The First Noel*, *O Little Town of Bethlehem*, and his

show-stopping solo guitar arrangement of *Carol of the Bells* with lesser-known pieces such as the traditional Scottish carol *Ro-rate*, the Irish *Wexford Carol*, and the Shetland Islands fiddle tune *Christmas Day in the Morning*,

Robin weaves a spell from centuries of tradition and the joy of the season, creating an unforgettable evening of acoustic Christmas cheer.



Robin Bullock

The concert is at the home of Bethli and Mark Clemens in Cornelius. There will be a potluck dinner at 6 PM and the concert will start at 7:30 PM. Tickets are \$16 and advanced reservations and payment are required. Please contact Bethli Miescher Clemens at emiescher@bellsouth.net, or 704-892-4914. A wonderful way to ease into holiday spirits!

Willow Grove Old-Time Jam December 3rd

Join Bill Williams on the first Saturday of every month from 2-4 PM in the Activities Room at the Willow Grove Retirement Center, located at 10043 Idlewild Road, Matthews, NC 28105. **The next jam will take place on Saturday, December 3rd.** For information, call Bill Williams at 704-573-6154 or 704-517-2822 (cell).

Carolina Chocolate Drops Concert December 3rd

CFS fans of the **Carolina Chocolate Drops** will be happy to know that the stringband returns to Charlotte on Saturday, December 3rd, for an 8 PM show at The Neighborhood Theatre, 511 East 36th Street, in NODA. Opening for the **Chocolate Drops** is Frazey Ford of **The Be Good Tanyas**. Tickets are \$20 in advance; \$23 on the show date. Doors open at 7 PM. There are no reserved seats and the dance floor will be open. Be sure to visit Harry Taylor at the CFS table in the lobby.

Since Dom Flemmons, Rhiannon Giddens, and Justin Robinson met at the 2005 Black Banjo Gathering in Boone and formed the **Carolina Chocolate Drops**, the band has enjoyed a meteoric rise. Carrying forward and building on the African-American stringband tradition taught them by Mebane fiddler Joe Thompson, they have become wildly popular on the festival circuit and developed a well-deserved fan base on both sides of the Atlantic. Known for playing traditional instruments, including fiddle, banjo, guitar, bones, jugs, snare drum, and hambone, in a repertoire that ranges from stringband classics to Rhiannon's electrifying interpretation of Blu Cantrell's **Hit 'Em Up Style**, the **Chocolate Drops** have awakened new interest in an old tradition among young audiences. The trio's first recording on the Nonesuch label, **Genuine Negro Jig**, cap-

tured a GRAMMY in February this year for Best Traditional Folk Album.

Just days prior to this triumph, Justin Robinson announced his departure from the band to pursue a different direction. Since then, New York City musician Hubby Jenkins has joined the lineup. Jenkins is a multi-

instrumentalist known for his authentic and soulful interpretations of traditional American music, specializing in early blues, old-time, ballads, and ragtime.

Joining the trio on December 3rd will be New Orleans cellist Leyla McCalla, who also plays Creole banjo and blues guitar. She composes music and giving her voice to the poetry of Langston Hughes. She recently began working with the Music Maker Relief Foun-

dation in their Next Generation program at the urging of her enthusiastic admirers, Taj Mahal and the **Carolina Chocolate Drops**.

If you're wondering what the new **Chocolate Drops** sound like, check them out online. To listen to their set at the 2011 Newport Folk Festival, visit <http://www.npr.org/2011/07/31/137184049/newport-folk-2011-carolina-chocolate-drops-live-in-concert>.

Catch them at the Kelly Strayhorn Theater in Pittsburgh performing **Hit 'Em Up Style** (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_edFcPIpNPM). The tradition continues!



Rhiannon Giddens and Dom Flemmons

January 14th Celtic Slow Session

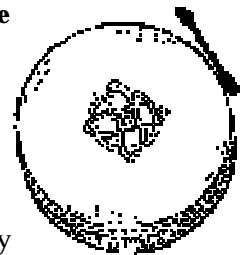
By Ed Gebauer

The Slow Celtic Session at the Charlotte Folk Society is an offshoot of the Celtic Session. This informal gathering of local musicians will focus on Celtic tunes played in the session style. The goal of the Slow Celtic Session is to allow folks to ease into the Celtic tunes with two key constraints: (i) we'll play slower than at the regular Session; and (ii) we'll have a shorter list of tunes so that you can know what will be played.

"Should I attend?" Yep, if . . .

- you're a beginner who wants to learn to play Celtic tunes (though we assume you know how to play your instrument),
- you're not a beginner, but you're new to Celtic tunes and want to ease in,
- you're not a beginner, but you want a slow pace to work on some techniques,
- you're conversant in one instrument, but want to dabble in another.

Check out the Celtic Slow Session webpage at: www.folksociety.org/slowcelticsession.shtml for more information. **The next Slow Session will be held in the afternoon on Saturday, January 14th, in east Charlotte.** Write John Goldsbury at flatpick_guitar@yahoo.com for directions, questions, and dates and times of future sessions.



Langston Hughes' *Black Nativity* Staged

Tomorrow's R.O.A.D. Inc. presents ***Black Nativity: A Gospel Song Play***, written by Langston Hughes, on December 2nd, 3rd, and 4th in the McGlohon Theatre at Spirit Square, 345 North College Street in Uptown Charlotte. Performances on Friday and Saturday are at 7 PM; Sunday's performance begins at 4 PM. Tickets range from \$10 to \$17 and can be purchased by calling 704-372-1000 or online at www.carolinatix.org.

Black Nativity is the joyous account of an historic event that occurred 2,000 years ago. It's a celebration that tells the original story of the Nativity in scripture, verse, music and dance. Based on the Gospel of St. Luke, combined with the poetry of Langston Hughes, this song-play touches a special chord in the hearts of all. This thrilling and electrifying performance is passionately narrated by up-and-coming young actors who create a vivid depiction of the Birth of Jesus Christ. This heart-warming, spirit-filled, family event arrives just in time for the holidays. ***Black Nativity: A Gospel Song Play*** created by Langston Hughes, has been a holiday favorite in theaters across the country since it debuted on Broadway in December, 1961.

Tomorrow's R.O.A.D. is a Charlotte, North Carolina-based 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization which seeks to engage and enlighten the community with cultural, historical, and arts programs that exemplify the organizational mission: to empower young people of all back-

grounds to understand and make change in the world through implementing and supporting cultural, historical, artistic, and leadership development activities connected to the history and heritage of the African Diaspora.

Charlotte Folk Society In *Our State* Magazine

Pick up the December issue of ***Our State*** Magazine and you'll find an article on page 30 entitled "Sharing the Spirit." It's accompanied by a photo of Charlotte Folk Society members Bob Wilusz, Tom Kelleher, Mary Fluke, and Greg Yeager performing for guests at the annual Christmas dinner hosted by the Cathedral of St. Patrick in Dilworth. Writer Elizabeth Lilly does a fine job of conveying how much the event means to all involved – church volunteers, CFS musicians, and those attending – including residents of public housing, shelters, as well as folks who are homeless. She describes how Bob Wilusz has recruited Folk Society musicians each year for three decades to join him in generously sharing the gift of music on Christmas Day.

Also on page 30 is a sidebar article entitled "Piedmont Pickers" which gives a brief history and description of Charlotte Folk Society Gathering activities. If you'd like to read both stories online, visit www.ourstate.com/charlotte-folk-society.

If you'd like to be an angel and volunteer at the dinner on Christmas Day, see the column to the right on this page!

Share the Gift Of Music On Christmas Day



For more than twenty years now, generous Charlotte Folk Society musicians have been providing music at the annual Christmas Day dinner at St. Patrick's Cathedral in Charlotte. The dinner is given freely to the homeless, shut-ins, people in senior living homes, and anybody else who wishes to share a meal and the company of others on Christmas. St. Patrick's sends out busses and vans to bring people in, and also to deliver meals.

CFS members perform music to help make the day a special one for the guests at this dinner. **This year, the music program goes from 11 AM to 2 PM on Christmas Day in the school cafeteria.** St. Patrick's Cathedral is located in the Dilworth community at Buchanan and Dilworth Roads. If you could join us, your gift of music would be most appreciated. Your Christmas Day will be even better when you share your joy in music. **If you would like to donate your musical or vocal talents or if you have any questions, please call Bob Wilusz at 803-328-1999 or email him at wilusz2001@yahoo.com. If you would like to assist with the dinner itself, please contact the church office at 704-334-2283.**

CFS Gathering Old-Time Slow Jam January 13th

By Ed Gebauer

Following a break in December, join us in January after the Gathering concert to play some Old-Time fiddle tunes at the CFS Slow Jam. Led by fiddler Ed Gebauer, this group meets up on the third floor in the Stella Center Conference Room, where beginner players are introduced to Old-Time tunes at a gentle pace. This is the place to start learning to jam with other players after learning those first few chords on your guitar or banjo, or your first tune on your lead instrument. Please check out the Slow Jam web page at www.folksociety.org/slowjam.shtml to see the tunes we'll be playing at the next Gathering on Friday, January 13th. We'll be playing in the key of A! Hope to see you there!

Beginners' Bluegrass Jam

The Queen City Bluegrass Jam meets every other Saturday, 2-4 PM, at the Asbury Care Center at Aldersgate, 3800 Shamrock Drive, (between Eastway Drive and Sharon Amity Road) in east Charlotte.

For the exact meeting dates each month, contact Jerry Leonard at jerryleonard999@yahoo.com. Or, join the group at www.meetup.com in order to keep current. Search on that site for "Charlotte Beginner Bluegrass Jam."

Shop For Unique Holiday Gifts By Local Artisans

The 11th Annual Pottery Central Holiday Kiln Opening will take place on Friday, December 2, and Saturday, December 3. Hours on Friday are 6:30-10:30 PM and will feature a kiln opening of Andrew Linton's latest work, silent auction, and food and drinks. Saturday will feature a student sale, silent auction, and cookout; hours are 10 AM to 5 PM. Admission is free both days. The Pottery Central Studio is located at 4843 Monroe Road in Charlotte. For directions, visit www.potterycentral.com or call 704-307-7557 or 704-537-4477.

Sarah Howe will be selling her functional stoneware pottery Saturday, December 10, and Sunday, December 11, at the log cabin home of Nancy Howe, located at 2107 Mandarin Boulevard in east central Charlotte. Hours are 10 AM-5 PM both days. Call 704-536-9594 for more information or directions.

The 7th Annual Chatham Avenue Fine Crafts Sale will take place Friday, December 2, and Saturday, December 3, at 2132 Chatham Avenue in the Plaza-Midwood Neighborhood of Charlotte. Hours are Friday, 5-9 PM, and Saturday, 10 AM-4 PM. The sale will feature functional sculpture by **Patrick Robertson Crawford**, unique beaded jewelry by **Celeste Dulin**, hand-woven fiber garments by **Judy Kidd**, stoneware bowls, bottles, and teapots by **Lucy Hazelhurst**, and photographs by **Albert Dulin**. Call Celeste Dulin at 704-334-6551 for more information or directions.

December 11th CFS Celtic Music Session

By Ed Gebauer

Near the end of each month, the CFS Celtic Music Session meets in members' homes to play music from the various Celtic traditions. All acoustic instruments are welcome, though this session does tend towards the intermediate level. To learn where and when sessions happen, join our mailing list by contacting John Goldsbury at: flatpick_guitar@yahoo.com. This month's Celtic Session will take place at the December 11th CFS Potluck at 4 PM, and continue after dinner. Be sure to check the January newsletter for more information on next year's sessions! Visit www.folksociety.org/celticsession.shtml to grab our tune list and learn how you can join this great experience!

CFS Instrument Lending Library

Use of the Lending Library is a benefit of Folk Society membership. To see which instruments are available, visit www.folksociety.org and click on the link to our Lending Library. With a \$25 deposit, you can borrow an instrument for three months to decide if it's one you would enjoy learning to play. You can keep it for three more months for a \$25 fee.

To inquire about borrowing a particular instrument, contact Elizabeth Teagarden at teagarden-sound@gmail.com or 704-444-0253.

My Week At The Swannanoa Gathering

By Davy Fee (As told to David Fee)

Which week did you attend?

I attended Guitar Week, which was held at the same time as Contemporary Folk Week in late July.

What classes did you take?

I took Rhythm For Life, Where Blues Meets Jazz, Swing Guitar and Gypsy Jazz.

Which was your favorite?

I liked Swing Guitar the best, because it was very hands on and I had a great teacher, Mike Dowling.

How was your skill level enhanced?

I gained insights into music theory. I learned new songs and new techniques. My confidence level was boosted in some ways, but it was also humbling to play with people who were so much better than me. I played the guitar in classes, but outside of that I mostly played the acoustic bass guitar.

Did you make any new friends?

Jake Bartholomew, Maddie Shuler, and I were always together outside of classes playing music.

What was the age range?

I was probably the youngest one there.

Any interesting experiences?

I really enjoyed staying up all night at the Moonshine Chapel. It was also fun meeting acoustic guitar legends such as Robin Bullock.

Where did you stay?

I lived in a very lavishly decorated dorm, and I shared a room with Jake. The food was buffet style and I often ate ice cream at every meal.

To whom would you recommend the Gathering?

I would recommend the Gathering for anybody who is interested in folk music regardless of skill level because there are appropriate level classes for all ranges.

Anything you'd like to say to the CFS people who made this week possible?

This was a life changing experience and I want to share what I've learned with the rest of the CFS.

Editor's Note: Davy Fee won one of two 2011 Marilyn Meacham Price Youth Scholarships to the Swannanoa Gathering. We appreciate his sharing his experience with us.



Davy Fee

Thanks To New And Renewing CFS Members

We extend a warm welcome to our new member and thank her and those renewing for choosing to support the Charlotte Folk Society. **The names of new members appear in bold below.**

The Charlotte Folk Society is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and your donations are de-

ductible as charitable contributions under applicable tax law.

We deeply appreciate donations above your basic membership and employer matches, as they enable us to continue to meet our mission. Monthly Gatherings in the Great Aunt Stella Center are supported by memberships, grant funds, and donations. All three are essential.

Individuals

Dori Bowman
Russell S. Davis, Jr.
Jeannie Fennell
Ralph Gettings
Barry Gilberg
Judith T. Goss
Martha Kiker
Cindy Moore
Katie Oates
Tom P. Phillips
Dave Porter
Belle Radenbaugh
Penny Miller Rogers
June White
Jim Wilkins

Families

Ellen and Mark Ahlstrom
Dan and Mary Ann Cotter
Rob and Sue Ellis
Laura and Andrew Farina
Rita and Gar Hartmann
Tommy and Diane Helms
Mark Larson and Cathy Hasty
Ralph and Brenda Messera
Daniel Neuspiel and Cathy Canepa
Jaye and Gerry Niel
Ron and Carol Norman
Michael and Heidi Rotberg
Patricia and David Stephens
Hat and Dan Thompson
Bob and Barbara Wilusz

Sustaining Members

Thom Duncan
Phil and Gracia Lesser

Sponsors

Nancy Howe
Jerry McGuire
Marilyn Meacham Price
Henry and Lucia Royal

Eastman Mandolin Raffle Drawing December 11th – Buy Tickets Now

Thanks to the generosity of Glen Alexander and David McGuirt, proprietors of The Violin Shoppe, Inc., Charlotte Folk Society will raise funds through an instrument raffle again this year. We are very appreciative of Glen and David's donation of an Eastman MD-305 A-Style Mandolin (F hole). The mandolin comes complete with an Eastman deluxe gig bag and retails for \$500.

This instrument is from Eastman's newest series of mandolins. They feature all-wood construction with a beautiful, classic satin lacquer finish that gives them a vintage look and a full body sound. Incredible sound and great playability make the 300 series hard to beat.

The Eastman MD-305 features a hand-carved solid spruce top and hand-carved solid maple back and sides. The top is supported with parallel bracing and is accented with ivoroid binding. A 12" radiused rosewood fretboard inlaid with white mother-of-pearl, an adjustable fitted ebony bridge, chrome hardware and tuning machines, a 1-3/32" bone nut, and D'Addario 174 strings make this a very desirable instrument.

The Violin Shoppe is located at 2112 East Seventh Street. Folk Society members receive a ten percent discount. Be sure to take

your CFS member card when shopping. For detailed information about instruments, accessories, and services offered, visit www.theviolinshoppe.net. Check out their new line of acoustic and electric instruments by Yamaha, as well as their fine Eastman guitars and mandolins. The Violin Shoppe offers traditional and bluegrass fiddle lessons, as well as classical violin

lessons, including the Suzuki Method. Instruction for guitar, banjo, mandolin, Dobro, bass, and bodhran is also available. Award-winning musicians/instructors, Glen Alexander and Jon Singleton, make The Violin Shoppe a destination for traditional and bluegrass students.

Tickets cost \$2 each or \$10 for six. The mandolin will be on display and raffle tickets will be available to purchase at Festival in the Park and upcoming Gatherings. For your convenience, buy tickets online at www.folksociety.org.

Drawing of the winning ticket will take place during the Folk Society's Annual Holiday Potluck, on Sunday, December 11th, at Dilworth United Methodist Church, 605 East Boulevard, in Charlotte. Ticket holders need not be present to win. For tax compliance reasons, the raffle winner **must** fill out a W-9 form **before** receiving the instrument. **The winner is responsible for all resulting income taxes, if any.**



Eastman MD-305 A-Style



THE VIOLIN SHOPPE



**2112 EAST 7TH STREET
CHARLOTTE, NC 28204
704-373-0551
www.theviolinshoppe.net**

**Tuesdays-Fridays 10 AM – 6 PM
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10% FOLK SOCIETY DISCOUNT**

**MAKE THE HOLIDAYS
MERRY & BRIGHT WITH
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**December Special: Complete Fiddle
Outfit, \$250**

Includes Case, Bow and Rosin!

**Several Great Mandolins in Stock:
See Our Gorgeous '56 Gibson A-
Style**

**Strings, Stands, Tuners, Capos,
Instrument Humidiers**

**Bluegrass & Old-Time Instruction
By Glen Alexander & Jon Singleton**

**Group Guitar Classes By
David McGuirt**

WSGE Host Seeking Guest Musicians For Radio Program

Randy Walker, host of WSGE 91.7 FM *The Roundtable Sunday Edition* is seeking bands or musicians who would like to be featured guests on his weekly radio program. If interested, contact Randy at lowwillie@aol.com for more information. Visit <http://www.wsge.org/program/publicaff.php>

Calendar

All calendar listings are subject to change and should be verified.

VENUE INFORMATION

The ArtsCenter, 300-G E. Main St., Carrboro, NC. 919-929-2787; www.artscenterlive.org

Belk Theater, Blumenthal Performing Arts Ctr., 130 N. Tryon St., Charlotte. 704-372-1000; www.blumenthalcenter.org

Blue Ridge Music Center, milepost 213, Blue Ridge Parkway, 700 Foothills Rd., Galax, VA. Call 276-236-5309, ext. 112; visit www.blueridgemusiccenter.org.

The Comet Grill, 2224 Park Rd., Charlotte. 704-371-4300.

Cook Shack Concert Series, The Cook Shack, Union Grove, NC. Exit 65 off I-77 North; turn west; travel 2 miles; sits on left of road. Reservations required; email cookshack-shows@roadrunner.com or call 704-539-4353. <http://uniongrovemusic.voila.net/index.html>

Diana Wortham Theatre at Pack Place, 2 Pack Place Square, Asheville, NC. 828-257-4530; www.dwtheatre.com

Don Gibson Theatre, Theatre, 318 S. Washington St., Shelby, NC. 704-487-8114; www.DGshelby.com

The Double Door Inn, 218 E. Independence Blvd. Charlotte, NC. 704-376-1446; www.doubledoorinn.com

The Evening Muse, 3227 N. Davidson St., Charlotte. 704-376-3737; www.theeveningmuse.com

Fairview Ruritan Club Concerts, Fairview Rd., SR821, Galax, VA. 276-238-0376; www.fairviewruritan.com

Fiddle & Bow Society Series, Community Arts Café, 411 W. 4th St., Winston-Salem, NC. 336-724-9393; www.fiddleandbow.org

Grey Eagle Tavern & Music Hall, 185 Clingman Ave., Asheville, NC. 828-232-5800; www.thegreyeagle.com

Knight Theater, 430 S. Tryon St., Charlotte, NC. 704-372-1000; www.blumenthalcenter.org

McGlohon Theatre, Spirit Square, 345 N. College St., Charlotte, NC. 704-372-1000; www.blumenthalcenter.org

The Neighborhood Theatre, 511 E. 36th St., Charlotte, NC. 704-358-9298; www.neighborhoodtheatre.com

Old Rock School, 400 Main St. West, Valdese, NC. Call 828-879-2129; visit www.bluegrassattherock.com

Orange Peel, 101 Biltmore Ave., Asheville, NC. 828-225-5851; www.theorangepeel.net

Ovens Auditorium, 2700 E. Independence Blvd., Charlotte. 704-335-3100; www.ovensauditorium.com/default.asp?ovens=11

www.ovensauditorium.com/default.asp?ovens=11

Puckett's Farm Equipment, 2740 W. Sugar Creek Rd., Derita, NC. 704-597-8230; www.puckettsfarm.com

Purple Onion, Hwy. 176, Saluda, NC. 828-749-1179; www.purpleonionsaluda.com

Ri-Ra Irish Pub, 200 N. Tryon St., Charlotte. 704-333-5554; www.rira.com

Rodi, 245 W. Garrison Blvd., Gastonia, NC. 704-864-7634; www.rodeworld.com

Summit Coffee, 128 S. Main St., Davidson, NC. 704-895-9090; www.summitcoffee.com

The Sylvia Theater, 27 N. Congress St., York, SC. 803-684-5590; www.sylviatheater.com

The Visulite Theatre, 1615 Elizabeth Ave., Charlotte. 704-358-9200; www.visulite.com

CALENDAR LISTINGS

DEC 2, Doyle Lawson & Quicksilver: A Holiday Concert, McGee Theatre, George A. Batte Jr. Fine Arts Ctr., Wingate Univ., 403 N. Camden St., Wingate, NC, 7:30 PM, \$25. Tickets: 704-233-8316; www.battecenter.org

DEC 2, Steve Simpson & Dave Petty, Summit Coffee, 8-11 PM.

DEC 2, Shuggie Brown, Double Door Inn, 10 PM, \$8.

DEC 2, Fiddle & Bow Society Presents John Gorka, Community Arts Café, 8 PM, \$20.

DEC 2-3, Annual Pottery Central Holiday Sale, 4843 Monroe Rd., Charlotte. Friday 6:30-10:30 PM; Kiln Opening of Andrew Linton's Latest Work; Silent Auction; Refreshments. Saturday 10 AM-5 PM, Student Sale; Silent Auction; Cookout. Free. 704-307-7557; 704-564-1923; www.potterycentral.com

DEC 2-3, 7th Annual Chatham Avenue Fine Crafts Sale by Patrick Roberson Crawford, Celeste Dulin, Judy Kidd, Lucy Hazelhurst, Albert Dulin, 2132 Chatham Ave., Plaza-Midwood Neighborhood, Charlotte. Friday 5-9 PM; Saturday 10 AM-4 PM. Functional sculpture, beaded jewelry, hand-woven fiber garments, functional stoneware, photographs. Call Celeste Dulin at 704-334-6551.

DEC 3, Mountain Home Music presents an Appalachian Christmas with MHM Musicians, Grace Lutheran Church, 115 E. King St., Boone NC. 8 PM, Free; Donations to benefit Santa's Toy Box and Hospitality House. www.mountainhomemusic.com/tickets.php

DEC 3, Christmas House Concert with Robin Bullock, Home of Bethli & Mark Clemens, Cornelius, NC. Potluck 6 PM, Concert 7:30 PM, \$16. Advance reservations & payment. RSVP to emiescher@bellsouth.net or 704-892-4914.

DEC 3, Jennifer Daniels, The Evening Muse, 8 PM, \$10.

DEC 3, Carolina Chocolate Drops w/Special

Guest Leyla McCalla and Frazey Ford opening, The Neighborhood Theater, 8 PM, \$20-23; dance floor open.

DEC 3, Willow Grove Old-Time Jam Session, Willow Grove Retirement Ctr., 10043 Idlewild Rd., Matthews, NC. 2-4 PM. Call Bill Williams at 704-573-6154 or 704-417-2822 (cell).

DEC 4, Ireland Family Christmas, Cook Shack Concert Series, 2 PM, \$13; advance reservations required; write CookShack-Shows@roadrunner.com

DEC 4, Traditional Irish Music Session w/ Jason Dulin, Monty Monaghan, Jon Singleton & John Trexler, RiRa Irish Pub, 7-9 PM.

DEC 4, The Rooster's Wife House Concert Series Presents Laurelyn Dossett, Mike Compton, Joe Newberry & Martha Bassett Performing Songs from *The Gathering: A Winter's Tale in Six Songs*, 114 Knight St., Aberdeen, NC. 6:45 PM, \$16-20. 910-922-7502; www.theroosterswife.org

DEC 4, Life Celebration of Andrew "Slim" Pickens, A Drumming Event & Memorial Service, The Neighborhood Theatre, 4 PM.

DEC 5, Open Bluegrass Jam, hosted by Anthony Scruggs, Belmont Soda Shop, 31 N. Main St., Belmont, NC, 7-9 PM, free; beginners to advanced and listeners welcomed. Contact Anthony Scruggs at scruggsopryhouse@yahoo.com

DEC 5, Rock Hill Nashville Songwriters Association International Meeting, Thursdays Too Restaurant Private Room, 147 Herlong Ave., Rock Hill, SC. 7 PM. 803-366-6117; <http://thursdays-too.com>

DEC 5, Find Your Muse Open Mic (Mondays), The Evening Muse, 7 PM, \$3.

DEC 6, Red Rocking Chair (Michael Reno Harrell, Jack Lawrence, Tom Kuhn & Dale Meyer) (Tuesdays), Comet Grill, 8:30-11:30 PM.

DEC 6, Concord Blues Preservation Club Blues Jam, The Speakeasy Alehouse, 9 Union Street North, Concord, NC. 7 PM, 704-796-4560

DEC 6, Rosanne Cash w/Mandolin Orange, McGlohon Theatre, 7:30 PM, \$39.50-47.50.

DEC 6, A Winter Concert with Laurelyn Dossett, Rhiannon Giddens, Mike Compton, Joe Newberry & Jason Sypher featuring the music of *The Gathering and Beautiful Star: An Appalachian Nativity*, Triad Stage, 232 S. Elm St., Greensboro, NC. 8 PM, \$20-30. Tickets: 336-272-0160; <http://triadstage.org/index.php?mo=12&yr=2011>
SOLD OUT

DEC 7, Tosco House Party, The Evening Muse, 8 PM, \$2. www.liveatleatherwoods.com

DEC 7, Leahy Family Christmas, The Caro-

Calendar, continued

lina Theatre, 309 W. Morgan St., Durham, NC, 8 PM, \$42-52. 919-560-3030; www.carolinatheatre.org

DEC 7, Leigh Glass & The Hazards, Double Door Inn, 9 PM, \$7.

DEC 8, The Snyder Family, Cook Shack Concert Series, 7:30 PM, \$13; advance reservations required; write CookShack-Shows@roadrunner.com

DEC 8, The Civil Wars w/Milo Greene, McGlohon Theatre, 7:30 PM, \$16.50-22.50. **SOLD OUT**

DEC 8, Drew Kennedy, The Evening Muse, 8 PM, \$5-7.

DEC 8, Holy Ghost Tent Revival, The Visulite, 9 PM, \$7.

DEC 8, Christmas in Dixie Benefit for York County DSS Foster Care Program featuring Susan Sherlock, Palmetto Boys, Charles Bradford, Paul Finnican, Hershel Brown, P. J. Brunson & more, Sylvia Theater, 8 PM, \$10.

DEC 9, Nora Jane Struthers, The Evening Muse, 8 PM, \$10-12.

DEC 9, Lefty Williams, Double Door Inn, 10 PM, \$10.

DEC 9, Songwriters Round w/Steve Simpson, Scott Hinkle, Jeff Talmadge & host Paul Finnican, Sylvia Theater, 9 PM, Free.

DEC 9, High Lonesome Strings Bluegrass Assn. Christmas Party featuring Never Too Late, Tabernacle Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 5601 Rd., Greensboro, NC. 6-11 PM. Bring a covered dish and goods/services to donate for door prizes. Santa will visit. www.highlonesomestrings.org

DEC 9, Steep Canyon Rangers, Porter Center for the Performing Arts, Brevard College, 400 N. Broad St., Brevard, NC. 7:30 PM, \$20-25. Tickets: 828-243-3496; www.etix.com

DEC 9, Smokin' Bluz Friday Night w/Part-Time Blues Band, Fanz Sports Grill, 3425 David Cox Rd., Charlotte.

DEC 10, Charlotte Blues Society Holiday Party featuring Bob Margolin & Friends w/Sam Robinson & the Groove Elators, Double Door Inn, 10 PM, \$8-12.

DEC 10, Special Christmas Party w/Darin & Brooke Aldridge, Leatherwoods Opry, 4837 Fallston Rd., Fallston, NC. 7:30 PM, \$12; advance tickets only. www.liveatleatherwoods.com

DEC 10, Noam Pikelnny (Punch Brothers) w/Aoife O'Donovan, Gabe Witcher, Chris Eldridge, Jesse Cobb & Mark Schatz, The Evening Muse, 10:30 PM, \$15.

DEC 10-11, Sarah Howe Pottery Sale, Home of Nancy Howe, 2107 Mandarin Blvd., East Charlotte. 10 AM-5 PM; Free admission. Call 704-536-9594 for information or directions.

★ ★ **DEC 11, CFS Annual Holiday Potluck & Jams featuring a Concert of Holiday Music by the Community Singers**, Langford Hall, Dilworth United Methodist Church, 605 East Blvd., Charlotte. 4-9:45 PM. Bring a dish to share or donate \$5/person. 4 PM Jamming, Song Circle; 5 PM Dinner, 6-6:30 PM **Community Singers**, 7-9:45 PM Song circle, Jamming. Raffle drawing for Eastman MD-305 A-Style Mandolin donated by The Violin Shoppe. Door prizes for current members.

DEC 11, Traditional Irish Music Session w/ Jason Dulin, Monty Monaghan, Jon Singleton & John Trexler, RiRa Irish Pub, 7-9 PM.

DEC 11, AFTON Showcase, The Evening Muse, 6:30 PM, \$10.

DEC 11, The Mostly Mountain Boys (Paul Brown w/Terri McMurray and John Schwab), Daniels Auditorium, NC Museum of History, 5 E. Edenton St., Raleigh, NC. 3-4 PM; Free. 919-664-8302; www.folksociety.org

DEC 11, Sarah Lee Guthrie & Johnny Irion w/Amanda Jo Williams opening, Neighborhood Theatre, 7:30 PM, \$10 general admission; fully seated show.

DEC 14, Ian Thomas w/ Jerry Leger, The Evening Muse, 8 PM, \$6.

DEC 15, Chatham County Line Electric Holiday Tour, Neighborhood Theatre, 8 PM, \$15-30. 1st set Traditional Bluegrass; 2nd set rock 'n' roll w/ electric instruments.

DEC 15, Navidad in Noda featuring Ultima Notica w/Matuto, The Evening Muse, 8 PM, \$10.

DEC 16, House Concert featuring Irish Guitarist & Singer John Doyle, The Ervin Home, 517 Lenoir St., Morganton, NC 28655. 7:30 PM; \$15 suggested donation to benefit artists. Space limited; advanced reservations & pre-payment required; contact Mary Ervin at 828-433-0163 or maryervin9@gmail.com Mail checks made to "John Doyle" to Mary Ervin at address above. BYOB; light snacks served. 90 minute concert with no intermission; guests invited to bring instruments to join Jamie in a front porch jam following the concert.

DEC 16, The Trishas w/Tennessee Hollow, The Evening Muse, 8 PM, \$8.

DEC 16, Vaughan Penn, Sylvia Theater, 9 PM, \$12-15.

DEC 16, Fiddle & Bow Society Presents Iona (Washington, D.C. Celtic Band), Community Arts Café, 8 PM, \$12.

DEC 16, House Concert featuring Irish Guitarist & Singer John Doyle, The Ervin Home,

517 Lenoir St., Morganton, NC 28655. 7:30 PM; \$15 suggested donation to benefit artists. Space limited; advanced reservations & pre-payment required; contact Mary Ervin at 828-433-0163 or maryervin9@gmail.com Mail checks to Mary Ervin at address above. BYOB; light snacks served. 90 minute concert with no intermission; guests invited to bring instruments to join Jamie in a front porch jam following the concert.

DEC 16, Acoustic Syndicate, The Visulite, 9 PM, \$15-17.

DEC 17, Benefit for Rodney Lanier featuring The Aqualads & Friends, The Evening Muse, 10:30 PM, \$10.

DEC 17, A Yuletide Celebration/Celtic Christmas: Irish, Scottish & Seasonal Music, Hosted by Musicians Ed Harrison & Daniel Hendrix; Featuring Rebecca Hendrix, Bill Landrum, Marshall Goers & Lucy Allen. Historic Hagood Mill Site & Folklife Center, 138 Hagood Mill Rd., Pickens, SC, 10 AM-4 PM. Tours, concerts, demonstrations & living history presentations. Contact Ed Bolt at 864-898-2936; www.co.pickens.sc.us/CulturalCommission/HagoodMill/default.aspx

DEC 17, Southern Magnolia, Travis Frye & Blue Mountain, Voice of the Blue Ridge Series, EARLE Theatre, 142 Main St., Mt. Airy, NC, 7:30 PM, \$7; Under 12 free. www.surryarts.org

DEC 17, An Appalachian Christmas, Hickory Grove United Methodist Church, 6401 Hickory Grove Rd., Charlotte, NC 28215. 7 PM, \$12-15. 704-536-9193 or 704-537-4686 for information.

DEC 17, Acoustic Syndicate, The Visulite, 10 PM, \$15-17.

DEC 17, Ricky Skaggs: A Skaggs Family Christmas, Smoky Mountain Performing Arts Center, Franklin, NC. 7:30 PM, \$35. 866-273-4615; www.greatmountainmusic.com

DEC 18, Thumbpickers Concert w/Clay Lunsford, J. P. VanHoy, Casey VanHoy, and Moon Mullins, Cook Shack Concert Series, 2 PM, \$13; advance reservations required; write CookShack-Shows@roadrunner.com

DEC 18, Traditional Irish Music Session w/ Jason Dulin, Monty Monaghan, Jon Singleton & John Trexler, RiRa Irish Pub, 7-9 PM.

DEC 18, AFTON Showcase, The Evening Muse, 6:30 PM, \$10.

DEC 18, Charlotte Jazz Orchestra Rehearsal, The Excelsior Club, 921 Beatties Ford Rd., Charlotte. 4 -5:30 PM; Free. 704-334-5709; http://excelsiorclub.net

DEC 18, Swannanoa Solstice w/Al Petteway and Amy White, Robin Bullock, and special guests; hosted by Doug Orr, Diana Wortham Theatre, 2 PM; 7 PM; \$35 Adult, \$30 Student, \$12 Child.

DEC 23, Jared Stamey Band, Double Door Inn, 10 PM, \$8-12.

DEC 27, Catawba River Bluegrass Association

Calendar, continued

Jam, First Presbyterian Church Activity Bldg., 512 Old Mount Holly Rd., Stanley, NC, 7 PM. Open jam; all welcome. Contact Robert "Rye" Billings at Charlotte-floods@yahoo.com or 704-249-5538.

DEC 29, Carrie Rodriguez, The Evening Muse, 8 PM, \$12-15.

DEC 31. New Year's Celebration w/ Simplified and John Earle (Good Nature), The Visulite, 9 PM, \$22-25.

DEC 31, John Tosco's 2nd Annual New Year's Eve Variety Show, McGlohon Theatre, 8-11 PM, General Admission \$20.11.

DEC 31, The Spongetones New Year's Eve Celebration, Double Door Inn, 9:30 PM, \$10.

LOOKING AHEAD

JAN 6, Deep River Rising (David Holt, Bryan Sutton, T. Michael Coleman), Fletcher Opera Theater, 2 E. South St., Raleigh, NC. 8 PM, \$25-27. 919-664-8302; www.pinecone.org

JAN 6, Fiddle & Bow Society Presents Red June, Community Arts Café, 8 PM, \$12.

JAN 7, The Ragbirds, The Evening Muse, 8 PM, \$8-10.

JAN 7, Russell Moore & IIRD Tyme Out w/ Narrow Road, Fairview Ruritan Club, 7 PM, \$20.

JAN 8, Lakota John Locklear (14 year old Lakota Lumbee blues guitarist), Daniels Auditorium, NC Museum of History, 5 E. Edenton St., Raleigh, NC. 3-4 PM; Free. 919-664-8302; www.folksociety.org

★ ★ **JAN 8, CFS Old-Time Acoustic Jam**, Asbury Care Center Living Room, Aldersgate, 3800 Shamrock Dr., Charlotte, 2-4 PM, Free. Call Tom Kelleher at 704-366-9441.

JAN 12, Sarah Jarosz w/Opener TBA, Neighborhood Theatre, 8 PM, \$12-15; fully seated show.

JAN 12, B. B. King, Knight Theater, 7:30 PM, \$59.50-99.50.

JAN 13, B. B. King, Knight Theater, 8 PM, \$59.50-99.50.

★ ★ **JAN 13, Charlotte Folk Society Gathering Concert & Jams featuring Annual Young Talent Showcase**, Great Aunt Stella Center, 926 Elizabeth Ave., Charlotte, 7:30 PM. Free; donations appreciated. Refreshments, song circle, Appalachian dulcimers, slow & fast jams follow concert. Doors open 7 PM. Free parking. 704-563-7080; www.folksociety.org

CONTRA DANCES

Charlotte Dance Gypsies, Chantilly Community Bldg., 2101 Shenandoah Ave., Charlotte. Potluck 6:30 PM, lessons 7:30 PM, dance 8-11 PM, \$8, students \$5. Gretchen at 704-537-1377 or Dean at 704-361-6387; www.charlottedancegypsies.org

DEC 10: Christmas Dance w/Sons of the Full Moon and Louie Cromartie calling.

DEC 21: Free Wednesday Waltz Series w/Lesly Bowers & Dennis Spring calling; dance to recorded music.

DEC 31: New Year's Eve Dance w/Hot Sonata and Diane Silver calling.

Charlotte Country Dancers, Chantilly Community Bldg., 2101 Shenandoah Ave., Charlotte. Every Monday evening. Lesson 7:30 PM. Dance 8-10 PM, \$7. Call Nancy Howe at 704-536-9594. www.charlottedancegypsies.org.

DEC 5: Eat More Chicken w/Dean Snipes.

DEC 12: Tonal Recall w/Gretchen Caldwell.

DEC 19: Dance in Nancy Howe's Log Cabin w/Local Musicians & Callers.

DEC 26: Global Warning w/Matt & Lindsay calling.

The Grey Eagle, Haywood Rd. & Clingman Ave., Asheville, Mondays, 8 PM, \$5. Call 828-232-5800 for details; visit www.oldfarmersball.com

DEC 5: Brad Battey & Kendall Rogers w/Charley Harvey calling.

DEC 12: 15th Annual Benefit Waltz; Dress elegantly, bring hors d'oeuvres, and contribute generously to help people in need. Dance to music by the finest local musicians.

DEC 19: Euphoria String Band w/Diane Silver.

DEC 26: No Dance; Grey Eagle closed.

Boone Country Dancers, Old Cove Creek School, Sugar Grove, NC. **Wear soft-soled shoes.** Lessons 7:30, dance 8 PM, \$7. Bob Oelberg at 828-265-2627; www.boonecountrydancers.org.

DEC 10: Laurel Creek String Band w/Connie Carringer calling.

Carolina Song & Dance Assn., Carrboro Century Ctr., Greensboro St., between Weaver & Main, Carrboro, NC. Lessons 7:30 PM, Dance 8-11 PM, \$8. Call 919-967-9948 for directions. Visit http://csda-dance.org/index.htm

DEC 3: FootLoose Trio w/Shawn Brenneman.

DEC 16: Buz Lloyd Dance w/Band & Caller TBA.

Columbia Traditional Music and Dance, Arsenal Hill Park Bldg., Laurel & Lincoln Sts., Columbia, SC. Lessons 7 PM, Dance 7:30-10:30 PM, \$8. Call 803-796-8935 or visit www.contracola.org.

DEC 17: Corner House w/Dean Snipes calling.

Fiddle & Bow Country Dancers, The Grange, Guilford School Rd., off I-40 E, Greensboro. Lessons 7:30 PM, Dance 8-11 PM. Call Carol Thompson at 336-272-3245 or email George Segebade at gsegebade_80@msn.com. Visit website at http://feetretreat.com.

DEC 17: The Elftones w/George Segebade.

Fiddle & Bow Country Dancers, Vintage Theatre, Vintage St. & S. Main St., Winston-Salem, NC. Every Tuesday; Dance 8-10 PM, \$6; \$4 students. See contact info above.

DEC 6: Reed Island Rounders w/Joy Greenwolfe calling.

DEC 13: Pilot Mountain Bobcats w/Warren Doyle calling.

DEC 20: Reel Shady w/George Segebade calling.

DEC 27: The McKenzies w/Kristin Seibert calling.

Harvest Moon Folk Society, River Falls Lodge, near Marietta, SC, Set up 5 PM, Potluck 6:30 PM, lessons 7:30 PM, dance 8-11 PM, \$8, Children free. Call Terry Pizuto at 864-639-6113 or email tpztt@clemson.edu; www.harvestmoonfolk.org.

DEC 2: Friday Advance Dance w/Kendall Rogers & Brad Batty and Keith Cornett Eustis calling. No potluck. No beginners or new dancers.

DEC 3: Renewable Engery w/Doug Singleton calling.

DEC 10: The Shifty Tweeds w/Rob Harper calling.

DEC 17: Dry Ridge Runners w/Caller TBA.

Old Farmer's Ball, Bryson Gym, Warren Wilson College, Swannanoa, NC, Thursdays, Lessons 7:30 PM, Dance 8 PM, \$6. Beginning & intermediate music jam Thursdays, 7:30 PM. Information: 828-299-8823/828-298-7821 or visit www.oldfarmersball.com.

DEC 8: Community Open Band w/Open Mic for Callers. Dessert potluck during break; bring something to share.

DEC 15: New Southern Ramblers w/Phil Jamison calling.

DEC 22: Contraversial w/Robin Marcus.

DEC 29: Dancing Bears w/Barbara Groh.

Triangle Country Dancers, Carrboro Century Ctr., Greensboro St., between Weaver & Main, Carrboro, NC. Lessons 7:30 PM, Dance 8-11 PM, \$9. Dance hotline: 919-286-6624; questions 919-220-8411. www.TCDancers.org

DEC 9: Kendall Rogers, David DiGiuseppe & Jim Roberts w/Bree Kalb.

DEC 31: Contraversial w/Shawn Brenneman calling.

Triangle Country Dancers, Talley Student Ctr. Ballroom, NC State Campus, Raleigh, NC. Lessons 6:30 PM, Dance 7-10 PM, \$7; Students \$5. Dance hotline: 919-286-6624; questions 919-220-8411. www.contradanceswithwolves.org.

DEC 5: FootLoose Trio w/Linda Cooper.

Triangle Country Dancers & Friends of the Senior Center, Central Orange Sr. Ctr., 515 Meadowland Dr., Hillsborough, NC. Lessons 7 PM, Dance 7:30-10 PM, \$8. Hot-

Calendar, continued

line: 919-286-6624; questions 919-220-8411.
www.TCDancers.org.

DEC 2: ElectroTrad w/Eileen Thorsos.

Triangle Country Dancers, Reality Center. 916 Lamond Ave., Durham, NC. Lessons 7:30 PM, Dance 8-11 PM, \$8. Dance hotline: 919-286-6624; questions 919-220-8411. www.TCDancers.org

DEC 30: Contraversial w/Shawn Brenneman calling.

DANCE WEEKENDS

MAR 16-18, Gypsy Meltdown 2012, Camp Thunderbird, Tega Cay, SC. **Groovemongers** and **Contrarians** w/**Gaye Fifer** and **Bob Isaacs** calling. www.charlottedancegypsies.org

ONGOING EVENTS

MONDAYS

Find Your Muse Open Mic, The Evening Muse, 8 PM, \$3.

1st MONDAYS

Open Bluegrass Jam, Belmont Soda Shop, 31 N. Main St., Belmont, NC, 7-9 PM, free; beginners to advanced and listeners welcomed. Contact host Anthony Scruggs at scruggsopryhouse@yahoo.com.

Nashville Songwriters Association International Meeting, Thursdays Too Restaurant Private Room, 147 Herlong Ave., Rock Hill, SC. 7 PM. 803-366-6117; http://thursdaystoo.com

4th MONDAYS

Wilkes Acoustic Folk Society, Watson Stage, Wilkes Community College, Wilkesboro, NC, 7 PM; www.wilkesfolks.com.

TUESDAYS

Charlotte Scottish Country Dance Society, Selwyn Ave. Presbyterian Church, 2929 Selwyn Ave., Charlotte, 7:30-9:30 PM, donation. Call 704-366-9260 or 704-333-6917.

Community Singers, Friends School of Charlotte, 7001 Wallace Rd., Charlotte, 7-8:30 PM, free. Contact Carol Raedy at 704-367-2536 or carol1@carolraedy.com.

Mineral Springs Music Barn Open Mic Jam Sessions, 5920 Eubanks St., Mineral Springs, NC (4 mi. east of Waxhaw, on Hwy. 75, by RR tracks), 7-10 PM. Black Hat Auctions: 704-668-1689.

2nd TUESDAYS

Nashville Songwriters Assoc. International, Workshop Meeting, The Well, 220 Main St., Pineville, NC, 7 PM. Call Fiona MacAllister at 704-483-1671; www.NSAICharlotte.com.

LAST TUESDAYS

Catawba River Bluegrass Association Jam, First Presbyterian Church Activity Bldg., 512 Old Mount Holly Rd., Stanley, NC, 7 PM. Open jam; all welcome. Contact Robert "Rye" Billings at Charlottefloods@yahoo.com or 704-249-5538.

WEDNESDAYS

Too Wet to Plow (Chris Sekerak, Pam Englebert, Josh Campbell & Michael Plumley), Philosopher's Stone Tavern, 7th & Caswell Sts., Charlotte, 7 PM, no cover. 704-350-1331.

Bluegrass, Puckett's Farm Equipment, 2740 W. Sugar Ck. Rd., Derita, NC. 9-11 PM. No cover. 704-597-8230; www.puckettsfarm.com.

Bluegrass, Old-Time Country, Folk & Gospel Jam Session, Cabarrus Co. Senior Ctr., 331 Corban Ave., SE, Concord, NC. 6-9 PM. Open to the public and free. Call 704-920-3484.

High Lonesome Strings Bluegrass Jam Session, The Cultural Arts Ctr., Room 100, 200 N. Davie St., Greensboro, 7-10 PM. 336-420-0238.

1st WEDNESDAYS

Tosco House Party (open mic), The Evening Muse, 3227 N. Davidson, Charlotte, 8 PM, \$2. Host John Tosco. www.toscomusicparty.org.

THURSDAYS

Open Mic, Puckett's Farm Equipment, 2740 W. Sugar Ck. Rd., Derita, NC. 8 PM.

1st & 3rd THURSDAYS

Bluegrass Thursday Night, Allison Creek Presbyterian Church, 5780 Allison Creek Rd., York, SC, 6:30-9:00, free; concessions available. 803-684-5875. www.allisoncreekbluegrass.com

2nd THURSDAYS

Storytellers Guild of Charlotte, Arboretum Barnes and Noble, 3327 Pineville-Matthews Rd., Charlotte, 7:30 PM, free. Storytelling first hour of meeting; public welcomed. Call Ramona Moore-Big Eagle at 704-568-6940.

3rd THURSDAYS

Songwriters Round, hosted by Rob McHale, Summit Coffee, 128 S. Main St., Davidson, NC. 704-895-9090; www.summitcoffee.com

FRIDAYS

Bluegrass Jam, E. H. Montgomery General Store, 750 Saint Stephens Church Rd., Historic Gold Hill, NC. 7-9 PM. Call Vivian Hopkins: 704-279-5674. www.historicgoldhill.com/eh_montgomery_general_stor.htm

Charlotte Appalachian Dulcimer Club, home of Carol Rousey, 9 AM-Noon. Call Carol at 704-321-2020 for directions.

English Country Dance, Matthews Orthodox Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall, 2701 Rice Rd. (off Idlewild Rd.), Matthews, NC, 7-9 PM. Free. 704-309-7649 or Jason-Mauney@gmail.com.

2nd FRIDAYS

****Charlotte Folk Society Gathering (August-June)**, Great Aunt Stella Center, 926 Elizabeth Ave., Charlotte. Concert, song circle & jams. Free & open to the public; donations appreciated. 7:30 PM. 704-563-7080; www.folksociety.org.

Charlotte Appalachian Dulcimer Club, Great Aunt Stella Center, 926 Elizabeth Ave., Charlotte. After Folk Society concert, app. 8:30

PM. Mark Willingham at 980-254-8059.

2nd & 4th FRIDAYS

Boots-N-Slippers Square Dance, Steele Creek Presbyterian Church, 7407 Steele Ck. Rd., Charlotte. 8-10 PM. Call 704-525-1940.

SATURDAYS

Morning Jam Session, Cook Shack, Union Grove, NC. Exit 65 off I-77 North; turn west; travel 2 miles; sits on left of road. Call Pal Ireland at 704-539-4353 for directions.

Bluegrass Jam Session, Pat's Gourmet Coffee Shop, 166 North Main St., Mooresville, 9 AM-1 PM. Call 704-662-6299.

Old-Time & Bluegrass Jam Session, Dixie's Coffee Roasters, 102 S. Main St., China Grove, NC. 9 AM-Noon. Contact The Rev. Greg Yeager at 704-754-6288.

Alleghany Jubilee, Spartan Theater, N. Main St., Sparta, NC. Live old-time & bluegrass bands; dancing. 8-11 PM; \$4. 336-372-4591; http://alleghanyjubilee.com

1st SATURDAYS

Willow Grove Old-Time Jam, Willow Grove Retirement Center Activities Room, 10043 Idlewild Rd., Matthews, NC, 2-4 PM. Call Bill Williams at 704-573-6154 or 704-517-2822 (cell).

3rd SATURDAYS

Old Time Square Dance (Traditional Appalachian style), Denton Civic Ctr., W. Salisbury St., Denton, NC. Bluegrass & old-time bands, 7-10:30 PM, \$5 adults. 336-472-2802; www.dentondance.net/dentondance

Folklife Demonstrations and Traditional Artists & Musicians, Historic Hagood Mill, 3 miles N of Pickens, SC, off Hwy. 178, on Hagood Mill Rd. www.co.pickens.sc.us.

EVERY OTHER SATURDAY

Queen City Beginners Bluegrass Jam, Asbury Care Center Living Room, Aldersgate, 3800 Shamrock Dr., east Charlotte, 2-4 PM, free. Email jerryleonard@yahoo.com for meeting dates/search "Charlotte Beginner Bluegrass Jam" at www.meetup.com.

SUNDAYS

Live Celtic Music at Ri-Ra, The Irish Pub, 208 N. Tryon, 7-9 PM, food available, no cover. 704-333-5554.

1st SUNDAYS

Charlotte Blues Society, Double Door Inn, 218 E. Independence Blvd., Charlotte, 8 PM, \$5. Concert & open mic blues jam. 704-455-5875.

2nd SUNDAYS

****CFS Monthly Old Time Jam Session**, Asbury Care Center Living Room at Aldersgate, 3800 Shamrock Drive (between Eastway Drive and Sharon Amity Road) in east Charlotte, 2-4 PM, free. Call Tom Kelleher at 704-366-9441.

3rd SUNDAYS

Dixieland Jam Sessions, Fraternal Order of Police Hall, 1201 Hawthorne Lane, Charlotte, 6-9 PM, free. Dinner & bar service available.

2011-2012 Charlotte Folk Society Gatherings

Our second-Friday Gatherings at the Great Aunt Stella Center (GASC), 926 Elizabeth Avenue, are family-friendly and open to the public. The front doors of the GASC open at 7 PM; concerts begin at 7:30 PM and last one hour. Refreshments, jams, song circle, and the Charlotte Appalachian Dulcimer Club follow. Gatherings are free; donations are appreciated and essential to presenting this series. Parking adjacent to GASC is free. Accessible entry and an elevator are available through the ground floor door on the parking lot side of GASC.



Davy Fee and Jake Bartholomew

January 13: The annual **CFS Young Talent Showcase** highlights the impressive talents of our young musicians. Featured performers will be 2011 Marilyn Meacham Price Scholarship recipients **Jake Bartholomew** and **Davy Fee**.

February 10: The **Flat Possum Hoppers**, an old-time and early country music stringband, not only capture the joy of early American music, they'll tell you all about its history! Band members are Tom Hanchett (fiddle), Tom Estes (banjo), Ruth Kee Wherry (bass), Mark Helms (mandolin), and John Cone (guitar). www.youtube.com/watch?v=wpsOG7ekqoM

March 9: **Abigail Lennox and Earl's Chair** (Michael Albert and Henry Lebedinsky) will help us celebrate St. Patrick's Day with an

evening of new and traditional Celtic songs and tunes. www.americanbach.org/Artists/HaynesAbigail.htm; www.cdbaby.com/cd/albertlebedinsky

April 13: **Red June** is a young progressive bluegrass/Americana band based in Asheville. The trio includes champion fiddler Natalya Weinstein (**Polecat Creek**), steel guitarist and vocalist Will Straughn (**Emma Gibbs**), and John Cloyd Miller, grandson of pioneering bluegrass fiddler Jim Shumate, on guitar, mandolin and vocals. www.redjunemusic.com

May 11: Back by demand, the popular **Charlotte Folk Society Members' Showcase** shines the spotlight on our many talented member musicians!

June 8: A concert by **Viva Klezmer!** honors the long history and many contributions of Charlotte's Jewish settlers and citizens. Klezmer is often described as "Jewish jazz." We challenge you to keep your feet still when Gene Kavadlo (clarinet), Ali Kavadlo (violin/percussion), Mike Mosely (guitar), and Ron Brendle (bass) take the stage! www.vivaklezmer.com

CFS Gatherings are made possible, in part, with funding from the Arts & Science Council and the North Carolina Arts Council, an agency of the Department of Cultural Resources, and the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that a great nation deserves great art.

Folk Society Membership Fees Increase January 1, 2012

By Dennis Frost

After many years with no increase in Folk Society membership fees, the Board voted unanimously in September to raise each membership category by \$5, effective January 1, 2012. This step was taken partially to compensate for a rent increase at the Great Aunt Stella Center this year and because of increased production and mailing costs for the newsletter. The Charlotte Folk Society has weathered this recession well. We are now in sound shape financially and this measure was taken to assure that we will continue to be, going forward. We sincerely hope that this small increase does not create a hardship for any of our good members because we cherish your involvement with CFS. We encourage you to renew your membership by December 31st to do so at the current rates. Thank you in advance for your support.



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704-535-2225

www.foskoskies.com

Cuz's Corner

By Dennis Frost

It's hard to believe that it's December, we've made it through Thanksgiving, and the Christmas holidays are again just around the corner. On the other hand, this shouldn't come as a shock since we've all been barraged with holiday merchandise and those peppy versions of our favorite carols every time we've enter the world of retail since Halloween – oh, well! I know this sounds like a broken record, but once again the world of roots music stands on shaky ground in what seems a perpetually shaky economy. Most of the artists we love all stand on that proverbial precipice between being full-time touring musicians and being part-time musicians with day jobx. Even better known roots artists are challenged in terms of keeping their bands on the payroll and also on the road. But this said, roots music just keeps on truckin' along. You wonder if this is because, unlike other "commodities," music is something that we human beings simply can't live without.

It's been nearly a year since we lost **Robin Rogers** and hardly a day goes by when I don't think about her and that incredible voice, her courage, and that undeniable spirit she shared with the world. For all of us that knew her, she lives on within us all and we are all better people because of her time here with us.

I sure hope you made our last Gathering concert with **Michael Reno Harrell** and **David Childers**. The night was just perfect with two absolutely breath taking performances, pristine sound, and incredible energy. These two guys prove that some of the best talent is right

here in our own backyard. These gentlemen are not only class acts, but have, between them, no doubt influenced a majority of the next generation of songwriters and musicians in the region and have mentored a great many of them – hats off!

There are some wonderful concerts gracing Charlotte stages during December, but there are a few in particular that you might consider. **The Carolina Chocolate Drops** have raised awareness of black stringband music over the last few years and their upbeat live shows have wowed audiences all over the world. The "Drops" bring their energetic show to the Neighborhood Theatre December 3rd with **The Be**

Good Tanyas' Frazey Ford opening as an added bonus. (www.neighborhoodtheatre.com) **Rosanne Cash** obviously comes from country music royalty, but has reached iconic status herself both through her original material and, more recently, as an interpreter in her latest **The List** CD. I didn't realize what a powerful presence she is live until I had the good fortune to hear her with her husband, John Leventhal, a few times in Nashville. With the impeccable sound and ambience of McGlohon Theater, this just might qualify as Cuz's no miss gig of the month. Catch Rosanne with **Mandolin Orange** on December 6th at McGlohan! **Nora Jane Struthers** may not be a household

name yet, but I think this up and coming bluegrass/Americana artist will be seriously filling some seats in the not-so-distant future. She's not only a fine singer, but she has the knack of writing songs that are timeless in nature – appearing at The Evening Muse on December 9th. One of my favorite performers and people in roots music has been the amazing **Carrie Rodriguez**, since her duet days with Chip Taylor. She has since become a no-miss on

the roots music circuit, so be sure to get those tickets early as she usually packs out The Muse, where she will perform right before the new year on December 29th. More information for Carrie Rodriguez, Nora Jane Struthers, and Rosanne Cash can be found on the Maxx Music website. (www.maxxmusic.com)

Speaking of December shows, have you ever wondered why some great acts always play to small audiences and some suddenly get wildly popular? The December 5th sold out McGlohon performance of

The Civil Wars got me thinking about this burning question.

I admit, this duo blew me out of the water at the AMA awards show, but less than year ago they played the Muse – go figure!

I'm really picky about Christmas music as I feel much of it is either "mush" or the tunes have been recycled one too many times. (OK, OK, bah humbug!) There are two new CDs, however, that got Cuz's holiday blood flowing and a seasonal disc that you should absolutely have in your collection is called **The Gathering**. This project started out as a song cycle written by **Laurelyn Dossett** and was commissioned for The North Carolina



Mr. & Mrs. Cuz

Symphony. **The Gathering** features both this wonderful grouping of original songs along with a variety of other seasonally themed tunes. This CF is simply breathtaking and features Laurelyn Dossett (**Polecat Creek**), Joe Newberry (**Big Medicine**), Mike Compton (**Nashville Bluegrass Band**), Rhiannon Giddens (**Carolina Chocolate Drops**), and Jason Sypher - what a lineup and what a record! Another wonderful Christmas disc is the new one from violin great **Mark O'Conner** called **An Appalachian Christmas** and features way too many iconic instrumentalists to mention. My favorites here are **Slumber My Darling** with Yo-Yo Ma and Edgar Meyer and a swingly **Winter Wonderland** with jazz guitar great Frank Vignola. Guest vocalists such as Alison Krauss and James Taylor certainly don't detract from the proceedings. I think this is a collection of music that will probably be pulled out year after year!

Well, it's the end of the year and everybody that writes about music has their "Top Ten" list for 2011, so I guess Cuz has to step up to the plate. (Drum roll, please!) Here are Cuz's picks for best CDs of the year from a slightly biased Americana bent:

1. Gillian Welch – **The Harrow & the Harvest**
2. Lucinda Williams – **Blessed**
3. **The Jayhawks** – **Mockingbird Time**
4. Ry Cooder – **Pull Up Some Dust and Sit Down**
5. John Hiatt – **Dirty Jeans and Mudslide Hymns**
6. Guy Clark – **Songs and Stories**
7. Robert Earl Keen – **Ready For Confetti**
8. **Infamous Stringdusters** – **We'll Do It Live**
9. Bruce Cockburn – **Small Source of Comfort**
10. **The Deep Dark Woods** – **The Place I Left Behind**

While we are making year-end lists, there was a five-way tie for the best shows I saw last year among Gillian Welch at Knight Theater, **The Flatlanders**, Lucinda Williams, and **The Jayhawks** all at McGlohan, and **The Steel Wheels** Gathering at the Great Aunt Stella Center. There were many more great ones, but these in particular come to mind. There will be many more great performances to come next year, so get out and catch some live music and keep our musicians working and on the road in these hard times. I hope you all have a great holiday season and I'll talk to you all next year! See you at the Potluck!

Yours in music!

Cuz

If you want to chat with Cuz about your favorite music, phone him at 704-532-8846 or write to him at dcmfrost@mindspring.com

Catawba River Bluegrass Association Jam

The Catawba River Bluegrass Association sponsors a jam at 7 PM the last Tuesday of each month in the First Presbyterian Church Activity Building, 512 Old Mount Holly Road, in Stanley, North Carolina. **The next jam takes place December 27th.**

Contact organizer Robert "Rye" Billings at Charlottefloods@yahoo.com or 704-249-5538 with questions. The association has pages on both Facebook and Meetup.com. From the group's Meetup.com page:

Our group is searching for the perfect jam. We are bluegrass enthusiasts and practicing musicians. We shall follow the Jam Commandments and we will treat everyone with respect from the beginner to the young, gun slinging, guitar hero with attitude. The purpose for setting up this group is to begin a regular jam session – no strings attached. Come when you can; have a good time.

Join CFS Now- Membership Expires 12/31/2012

Each fall we offer new and renewing members good value for their dollars! Join any time after September 1st, and your membership will be good through December 31, 2012. It's easy – just visit www.folksociety.org and join online, using a credit card, or use the membership form in this newsletter and mail it in with your check. Of course, you can also pick up a form at any monthly Gathering.

You'll receive a newsletter every month to keep you up to date on CFS events, as well as a calendar that covers the music we value all over North Carolina and beyond. Join or renew now – don't miss out on being eligible for door prize drawings at the CFS Potluck & Jam on December 11th! Members may also use the Instrument Lending Library and take advantage of merchant discounts and occasional concert ticket discounts.

If you have a question about your membership status, contact Bethli Miescher Clemens at emiescher@bellsouth.net or 704-892-4914.

Free Member Ads

For Sale: Three Dulcimers Built by Master Builder Harold Miller. Beautiful wood. Medium size. No Cases. **\$200, \$225, \$250.** For information, call Marilyn Price at 803-548-5671.

For Sale: Carvin MX-842 PA System. 8 channel, 200 watt powered mixer; two 15" two-way loudspeakers. Plus 3 mic stands, 2 booms, extra fuses & manual. **\$500.** Contact Homer Dunlap at 704-540-1861 or homerldun@aol.com

Two Acoustic Guitar Amps For Sale: SWR California Blonde (\$450) & a vintage Trace Acoustic TA35CR in very good condition (\$200). Contact Rick Spreitzer: 704-497-3924 or Rspreitzer@bellsouth.net.

Wanted: Stand-up bass; 3/4 or 1/2 size. Call Phil Lesser at 704-975-1014.

Great Aunt Stella Center Lost & Found

If you've lost an item while attending a concert at the Great Aunt Stella Center, please call Mark Ponischil, the Facility Manager, at 704-944-6014 and leave a message. His earliest opportunity to look into your inquiry will be the Tuesday following our Gathering. Please do not



simply come to the Stella Center to ask about lost objects, as there is no one else in the building who would be aware of what has been found and Mark is not on site daily. He will arrange with you a time to come and pick up your found items.



Great Aunt Stella Center

CONTACT MARK PONISCHIL FOR RENTAL INQUIRIES

704-944-6014

Info@greatauntstellacenter.org

Next Month . . .

JANUARY 13TH: ANNUAL CFS YOUNG TALENT SHOWCASE

Charlotte Folk Society
PO Box 36864
Charlotte, NC 28236-6864
www.folksociety.org

CFS ANNUAL POTLUCK & JAMS
Seasonal Selections by The Community Singers
Sunday, December 11, 2011, 4-10 PM
Langford Hall, Dilworth United Methodist Church
605 East Boulevard, Charlotte, NC 28203



Happy Holidays!

