

QCBFolkNotes



"It's all about the music"

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Minutes tell the story, here's what's going on now with QCB

The Queen City Balladeers board of directors held a meeting on January 14, and we wanted to let the membership know what was discussed and what things are coming up on the QCB schedule for the rest of the 2010-2011 season.

Mustard's Retreat concert First on the agenda was the Mustard's Retreat concert scheduled for February 11 at Leo. See additional information on the last page of this issue.

Joel Mabus concert Joel will appear in concert at Leo on Friday, April 29. Additional information is forthcoming.

Appalachian Festival This annual Cincinnati event will be held at Old Coney Island on May 6-8. The QCB usually staffs a CD sales table, and we will have further information for the membership as it becomes available. QCB volunteers who help out at the CD sales table get free parking and free admission for the weekend. Volunteer coordinator Pete Armstrong will start to schedule volunteers in the near future.

Balladeer Academy/Folk Music

in the Schools Program This exciting new QCB program is still in the early stages; further information is forthcoming.

Edensong 2011 The Seasingood Pavilion at Cincinnati's Eden park has been reserved for July 8, 15, 22 and 29. Some details still need to be worked out due to budgetary considerations. We will pass along final information about Edensong as soon as we receive it.

New QCB Librarian Dennis Iverson has been appointed as the club's librarian, whose job it will be to organize *Continued on last page*

Mustard's Retreat is almost here, see last page



Michael Hough, left, and David Tamulevich of Mustard's Retreat

PLAYING AT LEO IN FEBRUARY

FEBRUARY 6

Closed for Superbowl Sunday

FEBRUARY 13

7 Moment in Thyme—Don and Fran team up in this guitar-dulcimer duo to present traditional and familiar folk tunes. (Rescheduled from a snowed-out night earlier this season.)

7:30 Dave Gilligan—Singer/songwriter and Flock harp player returns with his wry anti-love songs for Valentine's Day.

8:15 Steve Bonafel and One Iota—acclaimed original and traditional bluegrass music; www.stevebonafel.com.

FEBRUARY 20

7 Open mic—three 10-minute slots—arrive early to sign up—first three to sign up play.

7:30 John Redell—Cincinnati-based blues guitarist—but expect the unexpected as John is skilled

in classical, rock, folk and songwriting as well; www.johnredell.com.

8:15 Butch Ross—the Bela Fleck of the mountain dulcimer returns from Tennessee. Butch will present a workshop on playing traditional songs on the dulcimer at 5:30; www.butchross.com.

FEBRUARY 27

7 Greg Tackett and Papa Joe—old time music; www.papajoe.com.

7:30 Riley School of Irish Music students—featuring children of all ages dedicated to the pursuit of Irish traditional music; www.rileyirishmusic.com.

8:15 Anna and Milovan—father and daughter duo delivering folk, blues and originals. Pick up your copy of Anna's new solo CD; www.annaandmilovan.com.

Note: Check out www.queencityballadeers.org and individual websites for more in-

formation about artists appearing at Leo.

MARCH PREVIEW

MARCH 6

7 Open mic

7:30 Jim's Red Pants

8:15 The Late Arrivals

MARCH 13

7 James Buchanan

7:30 Ellie Fabe

8:15 Magnolia Mountain

MARCH 20

7 Open mic

7:30 Calamity Rain

8:15 Robin Lacy and DeZydeco

MARCH 27

7 Open mic

7:30 Cheryl McKinney

8:15 Ann and Phil Case

FEBRUARY HOSPITALITY VOLUNTEERS AND EMCEES

HOSPITALITY

6 Closed for Superbowl Sunday

13 Charlotte and Jim Wethington

20 Nancy Cox and Cousin Will Black

27 Richelle and Mark Rucker

March 6 Stephanie Allaire & Rebecca Pace

EMCEE

6 Closed for Superbowl Sunday

13 Ellie Fabe

20 Spencer Funk

27 Mike Flanders

March 6 Papa Joe

What does folklore mean to the QCB? Let's take a look

Folklore, as defined by some people, is a group's traditional art, literature, knowledge and customs that are conveyed largely through oral communication and behavioral example.

Every group with a sense of its own identity shares, as a big part of that identity, folk traditions—the things that people believe, do, know, make and say.

The word “folklore” describes an enormous and deeply important part of a group's culture, or life. Considering how large and complex the subject is, it's no wonder that folklorists define and describe folklore in so many different ways. Try asking musicians for a definition of “folk music,” for example, or an anthropologist for a definition of “culture.” No single definition will suffice—nor should it.

This is true in part because any folklorist will emphasize a particular thing about folklore according to his or her own interests or even a particular audience he is trying to reach. And for folklorists, just like members of any group who share a mutual interest, disagreeing with one another is part of the work—and yes, the enjoyment, of the field. It's also one of the best ways to learn about the subject.

Again, there are as many definitions of folklore as there are individuals to define the word. But there is one important thing that these definitions should have in common, and that is to challenge the notion of folklore as something that is old, unimportant, outdated, untrue or dying out. Though folklore connects people to their past, it remains an important part of the present and

is at the heart of all groups and cultures—including our own—throughout the world.

Lacking room to talk more about this now, I'm going to jump to a conclusion here: Folklore defines the importance of an organization like the Queen City Balladeers, and its main mission, in my view, of keeping folk/roots music alive, even though change is constant.

Since the QCB was founded in 1963, has the world changed much? Is the Pope . . . well, you get the idea.

What I am proposing is a greater dialogue about both the mission of the QCB in particular and folk music in general.

Watch this page for more on this in future issues, but meanwhile, what do *you* think? -Ed.

Continuing this month, learn some new music skills with QCB 5:30 Sunday workshops presented at Leo

Do you want to get a better idea of how to play that banjo or dulcimer that's been sitting in the closet? Or would you like to learn more about playing an instrument, singing, songwriting or musical arranging? Then we have just the thing to get your interest—and hopefully the learning process—going.

Consider attending one of the pre-show Sunday workshops at Leo. Each one is designed to grab your attention and is presented by an expert who can help you with what you want to learn.

All workshops are held upstairs at Zion UCC, begin at 5:30 pm and last about an hour. Admission is free for QCB members and \$5 for non-members. Watch for new workshops as they are

scheduled.

Think of it as an exciting beginning and the opportunity to learn something new—then the rest is up to you.

February 20—**Butch Ross**: Adapting Traditional Songs on the Dulcimer

March 6—**Jim's Red Pants**: Arranging Songs for a Duet

April 2010, exact date TBD—**Pam Temple of Wild Carrot**: Vocal Workshop

May 8—Texas-based singer/songwriter **Dylan Sneed**: Songwriting Workshop

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The Queen City Balladeers

Playing roots music since 1963

We're on the web:

www.queencityballadeers.org

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and manage books, magazines, recordings and other materials that relate to roots music and other interests of Queen City Balladeers members. Look for additional information in future issues of QCBFolkNotes as soon as the details are worked out.

Snow Cancellation Procedure A system is being devised by which members can check on possible cancellations of Leo due to bad weather. More on that as details are finalized.

Membership There are currently 225 active QCB members on the membership list. In addition, 109 former members are now in lapsed status, so get out there and talk to anyone you know whose membership has expired and not been renewed.

Remember, the QCB board is charged with the day-to-day operation of the organization, but all QCB members are invited to attend board meetings and participate in discussion about planning, policies and other issues. Just ask any board member for information about where and when the meetings will be held.

Mustard's Retreat Concert

Don't forget about the Mustard's Retreat concert to be held at the Zion UCC on Friday, February 11. Tickets for this not-to-be-missed evening are still available by going online to www.queencityballadeers.org and using the PayPal option or sending a check along with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to QCB Special Concerts, P.O. Box 9122, Cincinnati, Ohio 45209. Prices are \$10 members/\$12 non-members in advance, \$12 members/\$15 non-members day of show and \$10 member/\$12 non-members if ordering online. Allow time for tickets to be delivered if ordering by mail. You can also call 513-321-8375 with questions but the phone possibly might not be answered due to out-of-town travel.

A special thanks to our major sponsors who so generously support the Queen City Balladeers and the Leo Coffeehouse!

