

QCBFolkNotes

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April 2011



"It's all about the music"

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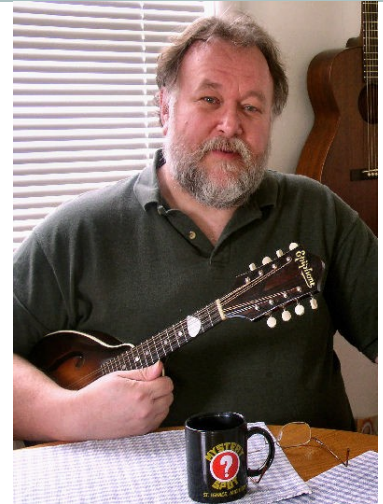
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Joel Mabus heads to Leo for April 29 special concert

Joel Mabus has spent a long career in folk music mixing the traditional and the original. His style includes singing old ballads with a new twist or writing new songs that sound like they have been handed down from a past generation.

Joel comes to the Leo Coffeehouse for the QCB's last special concert of the season on Friday, April 29 at 7:30 pm.

Joel started out in local bluegrass and string bands and made his first record in 1977 with Frank Wakefield. Three years later, he signed with Flying Fish records, and in 1986 he started his own independent label before the coming of the home studio and compact disc, both so common today. While he is known as a songwriter familiar to the



Joel Mabus

folk crowd (many of his songs have been covered by others and published in Sing Out Magazine), he is also a fixture on the traditional scene as a guitarist, singer, teacher, fiddler and old-time banjo player.

Tickets for the Joel Mabus concert are \$10 mem-

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Edensong concerts return for the 48th year

In spite of budget cuts and financial shortfalls everywhere, the Queen City Balladeers will again sponsor the annual Edensong concert series in Eden Park's Seasongood Pavilion on four Fridays this summer, July 8, 15, 22 and 29,

This year marks the 48th straight Edensong, which started in 1964 in

the same location and has been a mainstay every year since.

The artist selection is currently in process, and acts who will appear will be announced in the May 2011 issue of QCBFolkNotes.

As always, the concerts are free and open to the public, and details about parking will be announced.

PLAYING AT LEO IN APRIL

APRIL 3

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

7:30 Cheryl McKinney—long-time Leo jammer returns for a set of originals, covers, Celtic, old and new folk, bluegrass and traditional music; www.myspace.com/heartens tone

8:15 Ann and Phil Case—popular old-time singing duo with fine playing on vintage instruments; <http://dryrun.wyso.net>

APRIL 10

7 Jonathan New—debut of this singer/songwriter from Kentucky; www.reverbnation/jonathan new#1

7:30 Brandt and Brenda—feels like old friends who combine tight vocals with solid instrument work to produce genuine heart-felt music with warmth and familiarity; www.bluegrasstill.com

8:15 Chris Collier—award-winning Cincy singer/songwriter back with a new CD; www.chriscollier.com

APRIL 17

Open mic—three 10-minute slots—arrive early to sign up

7:30 Kelly Fine—original folk-pop, a Leo debut; www.myspace.com/kellyfine music

8:15 The Flock—Celtic, blues, folk and more;

www.myspace.com/theflock kcincy

APRIL 24

Closed for Easter Sunday

MAY PREVIEW

1 Open mic, Larry Lankford, Sean Ashby

8 Nat Morgan, Greg Mahan, Dylan Sneed (also presenting a 5:30 workshop)

15 Open mic, The Red Cedars, Shiny and the Spoon

22 Eric Falstrom, Lagniappe, Noah Wotherpoon and Jesse Bair

29 Season ending hoote-nanny and potluck with pickin', grinnin', eatin' and more!

APRIL HOSPITALITY VOLUNTEERS AND EMCEES

HOSPITALITY

3 Julie Malkin and Jim Good

10 Barb and Dennis Iverson

17 Nancy Cox and Cousin Will Black

24 Closed

May 1 Lori Findsen and Tony Montgomery

EMCEE

3 Elaine Diehl

10 Prudence Hunt

17 Chris Bieri

24 Closed

May 1 Prudence Hunt

Want some good old-time Southern Appalachian music? Try looking in Andy's neck of the woods

Roads leading north out of Mt. Airy, North Carolina toward Galax, Virginia link a series of small communities that can claim some of the richest music making traditions of the Blue Ridge.

Round Peak, Pine Ridge, Skull Camp, Lowgap and Beulah all have been home to generations of master musicians who evolved a local fiddle and banjo ensemble tradition into a powerful brand of string band music—music that continues to be played at dances, fiddlers' conventions and fundraising events held in these communities. In addition, old time music enthusiasts throughout the world now acclaim this tradition.

In contrast to these small rural communities, Mt. Airy, a large town of 10,000 residents, has become a center for traditional music in recent decades. It is also an economic hub for the region, home of industries that pro-

duce granite products, textiles and furniture. The vigorous local economy helps to support the malls, restaurants and motels that have grown up around the edges of Mt. Airy and the theaters and museum that flourish closer to downtown.

Despite the ongoing activity, Mt. Airy maintains a reputation as a sleepy southern hamlet. This image is a lingering effect of the success of the town's most famous native son, actor Andy Griffith, and the idealized small town of Mayberry that he created for his television program, *The Andy Griffith Show*. Griffith drew heavily from the character of Mt. Airy in depicting his fictional town, at times even incorporating actual places, such as the Snappy Lunch Café that he frequented as a youth, into the series.

Griffith was also well acquainted with local music traditions. In some of the early epi-

sodes he would take up his guitar and sing songs such as "Riding On That New River Train." In episodes that featured the fictional "hillbilly" clan, the Darling family, Griffith and his co-writers often included bluegrass music, albeit performed by a Missouri band, the Dillards.

Due to the long-standing national popularity of Andy Griffith and his show, the Mayberry theme is highly visible in the commercial life of Mt. Airy. The name "Mayberry" appears frequently on business mar-quees, or restaurant menus, and in storefront window displays. Visitors come to Mt. Airy, sometimes by the busload, hoping to find the places where myth and reality intersect. Although little about the present-day town resembles Mayberry, the Surry County NC musical traditions that influenced a young Andy Griffith remain strong. —Ed.

Still time left to attend Leo Sunday workshops at 5:30

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 5:30 Sunday workshops at Leo. Each one 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.

April 3—**Pam Temple** of Wild Carrot: Vocal Workshop on how to become a better singer

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

Continued from first page

bers/\$12 non-members in advance and \$12 members/\$15 non-members at the door. Tickets can be purchased at the Leo Coffeehouse on Sunday nights; by sending a check along with a SASE to QCB Special Concerts, P.O. Box 9122, Cincinnati, Ohio 45209; or by going to the QCB website at www.queencityballadeers.org and using PayPal.

See the March 2011 issue of QCBFolkNotes for additional biographical information about Joel Mabus.

Still time left to volunteer at App Fest

If you think the Cincinnati Appalachian Festival is just about the best local musical event going, why not plan to volunteer at the QCB's CD sales table? You'll not only help the App Fest and the Balladeers, but you'll also get free admission and parking while you enjoy some of the best local roots music around.

There are still a few volunteer slots left, so contact QCB volunteer coordinator Pete Armstrong in person at the Leo Coffeehouse, via e-mail at pmarmstrong@fuse.net or by calling Pete at 513-575-1143.

And while you're at it, check with Pete about other QCB volunteer opportunities at the Leo Coffeehouse.

Out of the loop?

Have you not been receiving your copy of QCBFolkNotes either through snail mail or e-mail as you requested? Sometimes addresses change and members forget to let us know, so we get returned U.S. mail or e-mail bounce-backs. We can fix it! Tell us at ramblinchuck@fuse.net or call 321-8375.

We've got a million of 'em

A guy goes to a friend's house and leaves his banjo in the back seat of his car.

"Not good," says the friend. "We've had a lot of cars broken into in this neighborhood."

So the guy goes out to check, and sure enough, his car window has been smashed.

Only now there are three banjos in the back seat.

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

