Newsletter of the Madison Folk Music Society

Volume 34, No. 5/ May 2008

Multi-Award Winning David Francey Makes Debut Appearance in Madison on May 3rd

Calgary, April 5th 2008 - David Francey won his third JUNO (equivalent to a Grammy in the U. S.) in the Roots and

Traditional - Solo category for his latest CD, <u>Right of Passage</u>. He is absolutely thrilled to win the award, it is every bit as exciting as receiving his first JUNO for <u>Far End of Summer</u>. This honor means a great deal to David as this category is judged by his peers. In just six years David has had 4 JUNO nominations and won 3 JUNOs! Wow! And to put a little icing on his cake, just 28 days later he will be making his debut concert performance in Madison, sponsored by the Madison Folk Music Society.

"The songs on <u>Right of Passage</u> address the different paths my life has taken, both good and bad. Some were written from experience gained aboard an Algoma Central ore carrier. Some were written about people I met out on the road or the places I ended up. Some are memories recalled and described. All deal with transitional moments in life, mileposts on the hopefully long march where we all earn our 'right' of passage." -David Francey



David Francey was born in 1954 in Ayrshire, Scotland, where as a paper boy he got his first taste of the working life. He learned to read at an early age, and by age eleven was devouring the newspapers he delivered. This helped establish his interest in politics and world events while developing the social conscience that forms the backdrop of his songs. He was twelve when his family immigrated to Toronto. He says he can trace his love of the land, the history, and the people of his adopted country to weekend family drives exploring southern Ontario. Music played a large part in these family outings. They sang traditional Scottish tunes as they drove through the Canadian countryside. Dad and sister Muriel sang melody, while mother and David sang harmonies. His attachment to Canada grew with travel. He hitched across the country three times, then thumbed his way to the Yukon. This attachment surfaces in his songs of rail lines, farms, and the St. Lawrence Seaway. He grew to understand (continued on page 3)

FOLK ON STATE RETURNS FOR 6th SEASON!

The Madison Folk Music Society will again be co-sponsoring Folk on State with the Greater State Street Business Association. This year we will be back at Elizabeth Link Peace Park (Peace Park) in the 400 block of State Street. We can use your help if you would be willing to volunteer for a Saturday or two (or three or four!). It is not too much work: setting up chairs, selling CDS, and passing out flyers. The best part is sitting down to enjoy the music. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Megan Christiansen at madknitter@earthlink.net, as she has again agreed to be our volunteer coordinator this year.

We'll give you a sneak peek of who will be opening the season on June 7th.....Peter Mulvey. We are pleased to bring back Peter who has so graciously accepted our invitation every year to play on our stage and has told us that he hopes to continue

to play this great event until he is old. Our June newsletter and our website will have the whole line-up. But we can assure you we will have another great summer of free music filling State Street this year.

Francey (continued) the people while working in Toronto train yards, the Yukon bush, and as a carpenter in the Eastern Townships. These experiences color his first CD, <u>Torn Screen Door</u>, with songs like Hard Steel Mill, Gypsy Boys, and Working Poor and his second, <u>Far End of Summer</u>, with Highway, Flowers of Saskatchewan and February Morning Drive. In concert David is a singer and a storyteller who can establish, in minutes, a personal rapport with his audience. His wry humor and astute observations combined with his openhearted singing style have earned him a loyal following. The concert will take place at the Wil-Mar Center - 953 Jenifer Street, Madison, WI at 8:00 p.m. tickets are available in advance for \$14 and \$16 day of show. Advance tickets may be purchased at Borders Books East & West, Spruce Tree Music, B-side Records, Orange Tree Imports and Steep-n-Brew on Odana Road. On the day of the show tickets are only available at the door. **Please don't forget to bring a non-perishable donation for the food pantry**.

Canadians and House Concerts

As long as we're on the subject of great Canadian singers, please save the date for these two house concerts:

Thursday, May 15 @ 7:00. Madfolk member Vicky Jones invites you to attend this concert performed by John Wort Hannam. Songs, delivered by his rich, warm voice, champion the way things used to be, small towns, the working class, and the sanctity of the land and those who work it. This will be John's first Madison appearance, so come out and let him know what a great audience Madison has. Please RSVP by calling 238-4661 or emailing Vicky at mail@vickyjones.com.

Sunday, May 18 @ 7:00. Madfolk member Darlene Buhler will be hosting a house concert by Garnet Rogers. Donation requested is \$15 and reservations are required in advance either calling 608) 846-9214 or e-mailing Darlene at dbuhler@charter.net This is one of those rare appearances of Garnet in a house concert. Many members are familiar with Garnet's past performances for Madfolk concerts and festivals and now will have a chance to see him in a little more intimate setting. Garnet will have his newest CD that he has been touring with Get A Witness - Live. Please bring an item for the food pantry for this house concert.

Madfolk Helen Schneyer Memorial Scholarship: Opportunity for Folk Music Lessons

In 2007, MadFolk initiated the Helen Schneyer Memorial Scholarship program and at our annual meeting in October we actually awarded the first two scholarships. The recipients were Suzy Grindrod, a local teacher wanting to improve her music skills to better use them with her students and Jeremy Goodman a young (teenage) musician looking to improve his command of the mandolin and other stringed instruments. In an an effort to encourage the next generation of folk musicians, the Madison Folk Music Society has established The Helen Schneyer Memorial Scholarship to fund folk music lessons of the applicant's choice. Two scholarships of \$300 in lessons per year will be awarded annually, to be paid directly to the folk music instructor of choice. Budding folk musicians of all ages are encouraged to apply.

The scholarship is named in honor of the late great folk singer Helen Schneyer, who has played memorable house concerts in Madison at the home of her sister, Madfolk member Mona Wasow. Upon Helen's death on July 16, 2005 in Vermont, Mona's colleagues from the U.W. School of Social Work took up a collection in her honor, which Mona contributed to the Madison Folk Music Society. The funds were initially used to bring Ed Trickett to Madison for a Spring 2006 Memorial concert, at which contributions were added for an additional memorial. Helen Schneyer was known for her renditions of lugubrious ballads, work songs, African American spirituals and Baptist hymns, which she sang, among other places, on Prairie Home Companion, at the White House at the request of Eleanor Roosevelt, and in Mona Wasow's living room. She shared the stage with many of America's best-known folk singers and songwriters, including Woody Guthrie and Pete Seeger, who urged her at an early age to sing.

A simple application form can be downloaded from the Madfolk web site: www.madfolk.org, or by writing to Madfolk, P.O. Box 665, Madison, WI 53701. Applications will also be available at Spruce Tree Music and Madison Music. Applicants should identify the folk music teacher with whom they wish to study before applying; scholarships will be paid in advance, directly to the instructor. Deadline for applications is September 1 annually. Winners will be announced and presented at the Madfolk annual meeting in October.

Each of us who treasure our folk music heritage is encouraged to help keep this effort carrying over into the future and we encourage all who can to make tax deductible contributions to continue this memorial scholarship. Contribution may be made payable to Madison Folk Music Society, with "Helen Schneyer Scholarship Fund" noted in the memo portion, and sent to the address above. This can be done at any time including when dues are submitted. There will also be a donation box at MadFolk events to allow for donations to the fund as inspired by the moment. In this way, Madfolk hopes to ensure that there is a new generation who will attempt to replace those who have gone on to sing in the "Angel Band."



The Madison Branch of the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) and The Madison Folk Music Society

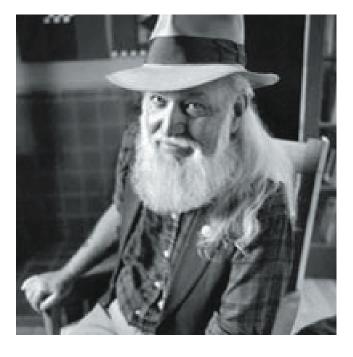
present

a Birthday Celebration and Benefit Concert to help cover medical expenses for

UTAH PHILLIPS

legendary labor & folksinger

"The Golden Voice of the Great Southwest"



Wed. May 14, 2008 * 7pm

BARRYMORE THEATRE \$ 2090 ATWOOD AVE.

Performers include: + Lou & Peter Berryman + Anne Feeney

- + Ken Lonnquist + Larry Penn + Kris Adams + Josh Harty
- + Stephen Lee Rich + John Wort Hannam + Tricia Alexander & + David HB Drake, with Skip Jones as emcee.

\$12 per ticket at the door, or in advance at Lakeside Press, 1334 Williamson St. For more info call Jerry at 608-255-1800.







Madison IWW and Madison Folk Music Society host benefit for Utah Phillips on May 18

Bruce "Utah" Phillips is known to a couple generations of Madison folk music fans. His music has regularly been featured on Wisconsin Public Radio's "Simply Folk" and the folk shows on WORT-FM. He has performed all over town – at the UW Music Hall, Great Hall, the Madison Senior Center, and even once in a backyard off Johnson Street. His name and his songs are known to young anarchists and old train buffs; to labor and anti-war activists; and those who simply love his humorous tales.

U. Utah Phillips, as he billed himself in the early days, started his career in folk music in Greenwich Village, in the heady days of what he calls "the great folk scare" – but it was his work with Catholic Worker anarchist Ammon Hennacy that shaped his political ideology.

As a boy, Phillips had seen the planes flying practice missions before they went to bomb Hiroshima and Nagasaki, but after his own experience at the end of the Korean War, he knew that militarism was not the answer. It was through Hennacy's radical pacifism that Phillip's found direction. He worked in the Catholic Worker "Joe Hill House" in Salt Lake City for about eight years.

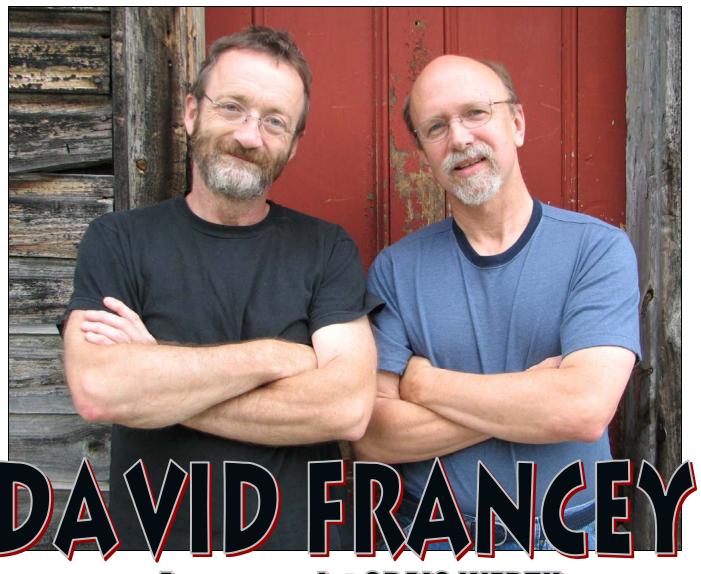


In 1968, he ran for Senate on the Peace & Freedom Party ticket, and later says he was run out of the State of Utah (much like the legendary ashes of Wobbly musician and organizer Joe Hill himself). Phillips joined the Industrial Workers of the World (the IWW or "Wobblies") and found in this almost forgotten labor organization a vehicle for his own views of organizing – "One Big Union".

The Wobblies were a singing movement, and Utah Phillips became their best singer. He traveled the country telling the stories and sharing the songs of this radical, visionary labor union that had been almost destroyed by US government repression in the early twentieth century.

Phillips always worked IWW material into his shows, but he also became both a chronicler and cultural ambassador for the fast disappearing life and lore of hobos and trains. A voracious reader and collector of stories and songs, Phillips is as comfortable talking about the history and origin of an old song as he is spinning the legend of a famous labor battle like the 1909 Seattle Free Speech Movement.

In 1991, with the launch of the Gulf War, Phillips began performing material about his own time in Korea. The powerful concert performances (one of which was here in Madison) were eventually released as a cassette, and later a CD called "I've Got to Know" after the title of the Woody Guthrie anti-war song. In 1996 and 1999, Utah Phillips teamed up with folk-rock icon Ani DiFranco to release two CDs. His name became a household word to a whole new generation of activists. Working from his home community radio station in Nevada city, KVMR, Phillips also produced a regular weekly radio show called "Loafer's Glory" – it aired in Madison on community station WORT and is still available through his website utahphillips.org. In 1995, Bruce Phillips was diagnosed with congestive heart failure. He continued to perform, though at a reduced rate, for the next dozen years. In 2008 he announced his official retirement from the road. After several hospital visits, Phillips is at home and doing well – but hospital costs have been tremendous. (Not a surprise, Phillips himself would hasten to point out, in a nation that cares more for its corporations than its citizens). Groups across the United States have been hosting benefits for the legendary folk and labor activist. Here in Madison, friends and comrades from the Madison IWW and the Madison Folk Music Society are hosting a special Birthday Benefit Concert (his 73rd birthday is May 15). The concert, held at the Barrymore Theatre, 2090 Atwood on Wednesday May 14th beginning at 7:00pm will feature a number of local and regional artists including: Lou & Peter Berryman, Anne Feeney, Ken Lonnquist, Larry Penn, Kris Adams, Stephen Lee Rich, John Wort Hannam, Tricia Alexander and David HB Drake. All will perform a song by Utah, together with something of their own. The whole event will be emceed by longtime friend Skip Jones. Tickets are available by phone, online and at all of the regular Barrymore outlets, as well as Lakeside Press, Madison's IWW printshop at 1334 Williamson. For more information, call 608-255-1800.



& Accompanist CRAIG WERTH

Saturday, May 3, 2008 8:00 pm Wil-Mar Center

953 Jenifer Street

One of Canada's best-loved troubadours. - Greg Quill, Toronto Star

Presented by the MADISON FOLK MUSIC SOCIETY

Programming support by WORT 89.9 FM

Tickets \$14 advance, \$16 day of show

Available at: B-Side Records, Borders Bookshops East & West, Spruce Tree Music, Orange Tree Imports, Steep & Brew (Odana Rd) Non-perishable donations of food will be collected for local food banks.

LOCAL STATE PARKS WORK WITH MADFOLK TO BRING MUSIC TO THEIR PARKS!

Governor Nelson State Park Friday Night Folk Jamboree Concerts will start at 7:00 p.m. so bring your picnic dinner. More details to follow in our June Newsletter!

June 6th - Stephen Lee Rich & Sandy Adina June 20th - David HB Drake July 18th - Erin O'Brien August 1st - Tracy Jane Comer August 15th - Amy Curl & Dan Kennedy

PLUS....Summer sing-alongs will return to Blue Mound State Park this summer. Dates and complete information will be in our June newsletter. We are excited that Mac Robertson is again volunteering to lead the sings, and let me tell you even if you're not normally a singer, Mac will have you joining in and singing in no time!

CD Reviews by Judy Robinson

Jud Caswell, Blackberry Time

Jud Caswell has a degree in music from Dartmouth College and played in jazz bands, orchestras and medieval ensembles before taking up the acoustic guitar. His willingness to experiment with and learn from different musical genres is quite apparent on 'Blackberry Time.' The title track pays homage to the last days of summer. The song urges us to enjoy them and reminds us not to spend the time lamenting summer's passing but to 'just be thankful for the sweet because you know that it don't keep.' He gets a little edgier with 'For Sale', a retort to people who believe that everything and everyone have their price and that they can buy their way through any opposition to their plans. 'Down in the Crawlspace' is also high energy, it is about finding respite when it feels as though your job is encroaching on your sanity. Karen Mal plays mandolin 'The Raven in the Apple Tree', and her accompaniment underscores the song's Slavic flavor. 'Whatever Happened to Rob' is a witty reflection on the transitory nature of some friendships. 'The Men Behind The Bushes (the First Family, not the shrubbery) has some searing imagery. Caswell sings about using 'Jesus as a body shield as you rob the country blind' and deplores 'the riptide of arrogance and influence.' In the last track, 'Let It Go', Caswell acknowledges that the tendency to hold onto anger is understandable but proposes that letting it go is the wiser course.

Caswell has won eight nationally recognized songwriting contests, including the Dave Carter Memorial, Boston Folk Festival, and Kerrville New Folk contests. His song "Blackberry Time" is being taught in the songwriting curriculum at the Berklee College of Music in Boston. Caswell lives in Maine and unfortunately, he doesn't have any gigs in our area in the near future. Until he comes our way, you can go to judcaswell.com to order his cd's, read his blog and find out more about his music.

Peter Cooper, Mission Door

Peter Cooper has help from some big names on his second cd, 'Mission Door'. Nanci Griffith and Todd Snider help out with vocals on the title track and it was produced by Lloyd Green who is a 'Steel Guitar Hall of Famer.' Cooper is from Nashville and his songs have a definite country sound. His lyrics are astute and the subjects of his songs are sometimes universal, sometimes esoteric. The opening track, 'Boy Genius', is about the fear of being found out to be not quite as good as everyone thinks we are. He sings about not getting along with his girlfriend's family on 'They Hate Me'. 'Sheboygan' is a tongue-in-cheek rebuttal to the belief that everything we do is preordained by a 'higher power.' The refrain "sittin' in Sheboygan drunk again, everything according to the master's plan" rather succinctly expresses Cooper's opinion of this philosophy. Cooper sings about Hank Aaron on '715.' The song is about more than Aaron breaking Babe Ruth's record; it's also about what Aaron overcame to achieve that milestone and what he was subjected to as a result of his accomplishment. 'Andalusia' is about the town in Alabama where Cooper's paternal grandfather grew up. Hank Williams also lived in Andalusia and Cooper's grandfather saw him play 'on a flat-bed stage on the courthouse lawn.' The song with the most unusual subject matter is 'Thin Wild Mercury' which is about a quarrel between Bob Dylan and Phil Ochs. Apparently, Ochs was in a limo with Dylan one night and a comment he made about one of Dylan's songs made Dylan so angry that he threw Ochs out of the limo. Quite an interesting but little known piece of musical history. Cooper played Folk on State last year but will not be able to return for our upcoming season. You can go to petercoopermusic.com to order both of his cd's and learn more about him.



While my musical partner Lou listened via earbuds to a talking book and took her turns at the wheel on the way home from a short tour ending in far southern Illinois, I goofed with the game of naming songs that came to mind as I watched the scenery go by. My only rule was that I couldn't use the same song reference twice. In a carful of people this could be a fun competition, but maybe against the clock or the odometer instead of against each other, to avoid dustups. Here is a transcription of my scrawls, with apologies for not attributing and probably misnaming songs.

Starting on Hwy. 127 between Pinkneyville and Nashville, Illinois (I didn't know there was such a place) and heading toward I-64: Woods (Teddy Bears' Picnic: "If you go down in the woods today..."); two lane highway (Follow That Road); working farm (Farmer In the Dell); deserted farm (Hollis Brown); wide flat land (Home On the Range); liquor store in Nashville IL (Bottle of Wine); sign: Washington County Fairgrounds (I Went to the Animal Fair); police department (Officer Krupke); school zone (What Did You **Learn in School Today?**); gas station (**Tiptoe To the Gas Pumps**, sung by Tiny Tim); Fire plug (When I Was a Cowboy: "If your house catches fire and there ain't no water 'round, throw your suitcase out the window, let the goddam thing burn down"); Chevrolet (Gonna Buy You a Chevrolet); for sale sign on house (This **Old House:** "This old house once knew my children, this old house once knew my wife..."); guy helping another guy change a flat (**Help**); McDonald's arches on farmland horizon (Old MacDonald Had a Farm); little restaurant (Alice's Restaurant) in Nashville, Il (Nashville Cats).

Now on hwy. I-64 west over Little Crooked Creek (Cripple Creek); cell phone tower (Wild About my Lovin: "Hello Central, what's the matter with the line..."); a line of trucks (Convoy); great flat vistas (On a Clear Day You Can See Forever); barbed wire fence (Don't Fence Me In); pond with row-

boat (Row Row Row): little brown church in the distance (Little Brown Church in the Vale); lodging sign (Heartbreak Hotel); blowing grass by road (Green Green Grass of Home); blossoming trees (Apple Blossom Time); St. Louis 41 miles sign (Meet Me In St. Louis); stand of Scotch pine (In the Pines); flooded woods (Backwater Blues); Bridge (Bridge over Troubled Waters); sign: Shoal River (Deep River Blues); baseball field (Take Me Out to the Ball Game); Sugar Creek (Honeycomb: "Sugar in the mornin' sugar in the evenin'...") Cadillac (Maybelline: "I saw Maybelline in a Coup de Ville..."); oil well walking-beam (Ballad of Jed **Clampett**: "Oil that is. Black gold, Texas tea..."); purple clover (I'm Looking Over a 4 Leaf Clover); Forsythia (You Are My Sweet Forsythia [cheating; it's one of our own songs]).

White roofs (Up On the Rooftop); fishing boat on trailer (Fishing Blues); crossroads (Crossroads); cornfield (Long Gone Like a Turkey Through the Corn); redwing blackbirds on fenceposts (Blackbird); "Whiskey River" truck (Whiskey River); sign for airport (Come Josephine in my Flying Machine).

Now on Hwy. 4. Shadows on road (Me And My Shadow); sunshine on road (You Are My Sunshine); stop sign (Stop in the Name of Love); Casey's General Store (Casey Jones); housing development, Lebanon, Il (Little Boxes); old barn (Chugalug: "Me 'n' a friend sneak off behind this big old barn..."). Sign: firewood sale (Put Another Log on the Fire); hills (Oklahoma Hills); white dog in field (Old Blue); straw for sale (Turkey in the Straw); porches (Don't Reach 'Neath the Welcome Mat); flagpole (Star Spangled Banner); mailboxes (I'm Gonna Mail Myself To You); junkyard (Bad Bad Leroy Brown: "meaner than a junkyard dog"); big chimney (The Drummer and the Cook: "One eye on the pot and the other up the chimney"); old peeling paint on barn (Old Paint); for sale sign (Who Will Buy).

Now west on Hwy. 70. Road construction ahead (**Detour**); dandelions (**Dandelion Wine**); trash by road (**Garbage**). Now 55 north. Wabash National truck (**Wabash Cannonball**); sign for Chicago (**That Toddlin' Town**); horses

(Stewball); campground sign (Tenting Tonight); trees far away (Looky Looky Yonder); rest area welcome center (Come In Stranger); "Wake Up; Drive Alert" sign (Wake Up Little Suzy).

Woman walking (Walkin' Blues); Hilton Garden Inn (The Garden Song); FOOD sign (Food Glorious Food); School of Medicine (Shortnin' Bread: "Sent for the doctor..."); Illinois State Fair sign (Our State Fair); Camp Butler National Cemetery (Where Have All the Flowers Gone); truck wash (Mud Glorious Mud); Motorcycles (Motorcycle Song: "I don't want a tickle, I just wanna ride on my motorsikkle..."); bird on a wire (Bird On the Wire); Heartland Worship Center (Amazing Grace); grain bin (Oats and Beans and Barley Grow); Love's Service Plaza (Love is a Many Splendored Thing); gravel pile (Rock of Ages); sign: "Trees Removed" (Lumberjack Song); little building by railroad track (Wayward Wind: "In a lonely shack by a railroad track..."); two people on bikes (Bicycle Built for Two); curve in road (Turn Turn); more cornfields (Jimmy Crack Corn); country road (Take Me Home, Country Roads); cows (Git Along Little Dogies); sign: "Hit a worker, 14 years in jail" (Jailhouse Rock); Grain Elevator Museum sign (America the Beautiful: "...amber waves of grain"); swing set (On Christmas Day: "Children go out in the yard and swing on Christmas day"); bald guy in car with sunroof (Zippity Doo Dah: "Plenty of Sunshine..."); chains hanging off truck cab (Chain of Fools); Dixie Service Plaza (Dixie); smoke in distance (On Top of Old Smoky); windy rest area (They Call the Wind Mariah); house with window shades (Silhouettes On the Shade); Open 24 hours (24 Hours to Tulsa); county fairgrounds (What Can the Matter Be: "Why's Johnny so long at the fair?"); cloverleaf (Golden Wedding Day: "...thru the fields of clover we'll ride home to Dover..."); trailer park (King of the Road: "Trailers for sale or rent..."); biker with green jacket (Green Green, it's Green They Say); man fishing (Ain't It A Shame: "Ain't it a shame to go fishin' on a Sunday..."); sign: Oak State Products now hiring (Get a Job).

Many hours later, a certain little green house (There's No Place Like Home).



Did you know???

You can now renew your membership or print out a membership form ONLINE at www.MadFolk.org



Please check your mailing label and see if it's time to renew so you'll know about all the great music coming in 2008! THANK YOU!

Mad Folk Board of Directors
Darlene Buhler, president846-9214
dbuhler@charter.net
Norbert Wodke, secretary836-8422
nfwodke@chorus.net
Dede Goldberg246-4332
Speedydd99@yahooo.com
Bill Fiore256-4687
fior@charter.net
Tracy Comer276-8192
tracy@tracycomer.com
Ron Dennis226-9472
rondenpho@aol.com
Meg Skinner238-6950
askinner@wisc.edu
Vicky Jones238-4661
vickyjones@aol.com
Committee contacts
Concert: Darlene Buhler, 846-9214
Festival: Bill & Mary Fiore, 256-4687

Concert: Darlene Buhler, 846-9214
Festival: Bill & Mary Fiore, 256-4687
Newsletter: Dede Goldberg, 246-4332
Newsletter/Calendar Judy Robinson
Phone: 469-1218/ E-mail jbella@merr.com
Advertising: Darlene Buhler, 846-9214
Membership: Tracy Comer, 276-8192
MadFolk e-mail:MadFolk@charter.net
MadFolk web site: www.MadFolk.org

Madison Folk Music Society

P.O. Box 665, Madison, WI 53701

Address Service Requested Newsletter Published Monthly

	er, P.O. Box ^o	/adison Folk Music Society 930446, Verona WI 53593-0446 □ New Member
Name		
Address		
City/State		Zip
Phone		
E-mail Membership C Student Senior Regular Family Friend Contributing Life Scholarship Do	\$10\$8\$12\$15\$25\$50\$500	Check One: I would like to help with: Newsletter Concerts Festival Housing performers Publicity Membership Transportation
		Your contribution is tax-deductible and helps You may designate its use. Thank you.

Time to renew? Don't want to cut up your newsletter? Just be sure your name is on your check and mail it to address shown. Enclose a note if your info has changed.

Nonprofit Org-U.S. Postage PAID Madison, WI

Permit No. 2278