

Mad Folk News

April Verch comes to The Brink April 4

♪ Join us for an unforgettable night for the April Verch concert, full of fiddling, vocal harmonies, and unbelievable step dancing! April hails from Canada's Ottawa Valley where she learned step dancing as a child. She became the first woman to win both of Canada's most prestigious fiddle championships: the Grand Masters and Canadian Open. Band members Cody Walters (bass, claw hammer banjo) and Hayes Griffin (guitar) make for a perfect trio of instruments and three-part harmony!

April Verch doesn't just perform music, she exudes it. She's been called a "world class fiddler" by New Grass Revival founder Sam Bush, and "one of the most versatile artists of traditional music's new breed" by The News & Observer's Jack Bernhardt. Her music has been described as Old-Time with a side of Cana-

da's Ottawa Valley: plucky, straight-backed Canadian tunes fit so snugly beside ancient Appalachian airs that you'd think they'd been neighbors for centuries.

April Verch has been writing fiddle tunes since she was 11 years-old. And, that's after she started her performing career as a step dancer. On tour in support of her eighth CD, Verch and Cody Walters stopped by the Folk Alley studios for an interview with Jim Blum. Verch and Walters perform original tunes and discuss the differences in old-time fiddle styles in her native Canada and across North America.

Verch was born to traditional music, in Canada's hard-working, hard-dancing Ottawa Valley. She was a local star at four, step dancing with her sister and winning awards at contests.

The fact that they were for "Youngest Competitor" didn't dampen her child-eyed enthusiasm. When Canada hosted the 2010 Winter Olympics, she was asked to represent her country's music at the opening ceremonies. After time spent at the Berklee College of Music, Verch is now focusing full time on her music, adding singing and songwriting to her repertoire.

For more information on April please go to www.aprilverch.com

Mad Folk Concert Tickets

When you see this symbol – ♪ – you'll know that you're reading about a Mad Folk sponsored event. Advance tickets for Mad Folk shows are available online at www.madfolk.org and at these outlets:

- Orange Tree Imports, 1721 Monroe Street
- Spruce Tree Music, 851 East Johnson

Purchase tickets ONLINE for Mad Folk concerts via Brown Paper Tickets (with \$1.62 service charge):

<https://www.brownpapertickets.com/producer/10879>

You can also purchase advance tickets by mail. Send a stamped self-addressed envelope with your check payable to Mad Folk, PO Box 665, Madison, WI 53701. If all else fails, call 608-846-9214 for information.

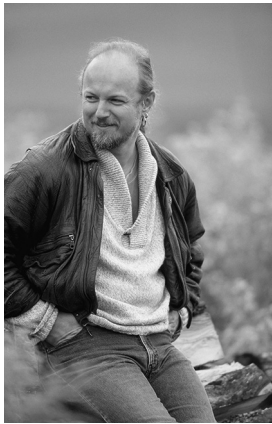


Garnet Rogers & Archie Fisher at The Brink

♪ Madison favorite Garnet Rogers is bringing his long-time friend and musical collaborator back to Madison. It has been many years since we have had the privilege of hearing these two together. It promises to be a night to remember.

Garnet and Archie toured across Canada and America in the summer of 1985, early in Garnet's career as a solo singer-songwriter. Archie had worked with Garnet and his brother Stan before Stan's death, Remember his song "Witch of the Westmorland"? That tour was a huge success. A wonderful recording "Off The Map" features tracks recorded from that tour.

Master guitarist, Archie Fisher is one of Scotland's foremost folksinger/ songwriters. He is known throughout the country as the host of BBC Radio Scotland's award-winning



'Travelling Folk' programme, which he presented for over 25 years. Recognized for his contributions to Scottish folk music, in 2007 he was inducted into the Scots Traditional Music Hall of

Fame and in 2006 was awarded an MBE for services to traditional music. The most recent recognition of his art came in 2008 when he was granted the Tradition Bearers Award from the Goderich Celtic Roots Festival in Canada. His current Windward Away release on Greentrax 329 has already achieved widespread acclaim on both sides of the Atlantic.

Archie was born in Glasgow into a large singing family, which yielded three professional singers, Archie and his sisters Ray and Cilla Fisher. Constant music, combined with his father's appreciation of many musical styles (opera, music hall, traditional ballads) had a strong impact on Archie's musical development, while his mother, a native Gaelic speaker from the Outer Hebrides, was a strong influence on the lyrical quality of his singing and songwriting.

Garnet is a Madison favorite, and we are thrilled to welcome him back to the Brink! In addition to the treat of seeing him perform with his old friend Archie, we get a chance to get his new CD! "Summer's End" was just released, it is Garnet's first studio album since "Shining Thing" was released in 2004. Sample a few songs on Garnet's website at www.garnetrogers.com/site/?page_id=497.

Garnet Rogers has established himself as

'One of the major talents of our time". Hailed by the Boston Globe as a "charismatic performer and singer", Garnet is a man with a powerful physical presence – close to six and a half feet tall – with a voice to match. With his "smooth, dark baritone" (Washington Post) his incredible range, and thoughtful, dramatic phrasing, Garnet is widely considered by fans and critics alike to be one of the finest singers anywhere. His music, like the man himself, is literate, passionate, highly sensitive, and deeply purposeful. Cinematic in detail, his songs "give expression to the unspoken vocabulary of the heart" (Kitchener Waterloo Record). An optimist at heart, Garnet sings extraordinary songs about people who are not obvious heroes and of the small victories of the everyday. As memorable as his songs, his over-the-top humour and lightning-quick wit moves his audience from tears to laughter and back again.



MadFolk Music Lesson Scholarships Awarded

The Madison Folk Music Society has embarked on a new partnership with Madison Music Makers Inc. to identify promising young folk musicians who could benefit from private lessons, in addition to the group lessons Madison Music Makers provides at the Zion City Community Outreach Center, and the Goodman and Bayview Community Centers. Audience members at the March 1st Bill Staines concert were treated to a guitar duet of Sound of Silence by this year's scholarship winners, Freddy Vicuna Moreno and Jonathan Miranda Naxi, both students of local musician Louka Patenaude..

The scholarships honor the memory of folksinger Helen Schneyer, sister of MadFolk member Mona Wasow. Following Helen's death in July of 2005, Mona's colleagues in the School of Social Work took

up a collection to provide a memorial for Helen, which Mona turned over to the Madison Folk Music Society. After a memorial concert with Ed Trickett, the board decided to use the balance as seed money for music lesson scholarships for a new generation of folk musicians to replace those who had gone on to sing with the Angel Band. More recently, the scholarships have been funded by tax-deductible contributions made when renewing Mad Folk memberships, and cash contributions placed in the stringless guitar at MadFolk concerts.

Another way to contribute to Madison Music Makers Inc., which enriches the lives of low-income children by supporting their long-term music performance skills and higher education goals, is to pass along gently used student-sized stringed instru-

ments which may have been collecting dust in your attic. Guitars and violins are especially needed, but cello and even drums are welcome. Instruments will be appraised, and a tax receipt given for the fair market value. Donated instruments can be dropped off at the home of founder and program director Bonnie Greene. 705 Edgewood Ave, Madison 53711, or you can call MadFolk Scholarship chair Meg Skinner at 238-6950 for pick-up and delivery.

MadFolk looks forward to a continuing relationship with Madison Music Makers Inc. to identify and reward with private lesson scholarships, promising students with a particular interest in folk music. Congratulations to Freddy Vicuna Moreno and Jonathan Miranda Naxi!

See next page for photos of the winners!

Ellis Makes Debut MadFolk Appearance



**MadFolk Music
lesson scholarship
winners Jonathan
Miranda-Naxi
(above) and
Freddy Vicuna
Moreno (below)
playing together.**

Ellis has had quite a buzz going about her for awhile, and this is the first opportunity we have been able to get her schedule matched with ours! Come to The Brink Lounge when Ellis will hit the stage at 7:00 on April 10th (doors open at 6:30). Tickets are \$14 in advance and \$17 day of show.

We are excited to have Ellis coming to visit our MadFolk stage. She will grab your attention the minute she hits the stage with her smile and she will keep your attention the whole night with her captivating voice. She is at once funny and wise, thoughtful and uninhibited, and her uplifting lyrics. Nothing

gives you true feel of a performer until you see them live, but I am going to share a few quotes about Ellis from folks who have seen her perform, and they recommend you come out and catch Ellis in a live concert.

"Ellis is a skillful songwriter and engaging performer. She is at once innocent and wise, contemplative and impulsive. Her voice is captivating and perfectly suited to her inspiring lyrics. All of these accolades are important, but more important than any of them is the fact that Ellis is a good and generous soul and that this is everywhere apparent in her music as you will surely discover should you choose to join us for what will seem like the chance meeting of a long-lost and cherished friend." — Ed Cremo, RiverFolk Concerts at the Cooperage

If ever there was a feel-good folk musician, this is the woman — somebody who really does send you off feeling bet-



ter about the world." — John Davy, Flyin' Shoes Review

A winner of several awards and honors, Ellis has been recognized both for her songwriting skills as well as her engaging performances. Many folk festivals have "audience choice" awards, and Ellis has claimed those honors at Falcon Ridge Folk Festival, Moab Folk Festival, and Sisters Folk Festival. She also won the Grassy Hill Kerville New Folk Contest in 2013, the Midwest Mountain Stage New Song Contest (US) in 2011 and the award for the Just Plain Folks (International) Best Female Singer Songwriter Album in 2009.

For more information about Ellis go to <http://www.ellis-music.com>

And for anyone at this show with their ticket stub from April Verch's concert or ticket for Garnet Rogers show the next night, will be able to reach in to our grab bag for a set of 3 CD's! Another reason not to miss this show!

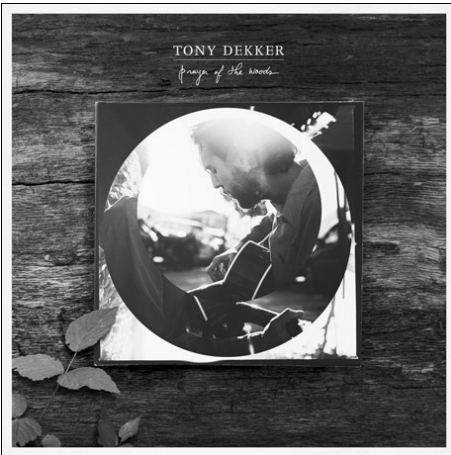
And as always, please bring a food item for donation to the local food pantry.

If you are on Facebook, please consider (if you have not already) "friending" or is it "liking" this page. Then when you are on this page you can invite others to "like" this page.

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Madison-Folk-Music-Society/34497984835>

PRAYER OF THE WOODS - TONY DEKKER

APPLE SEED RECORDS



Review by Kiki Schueler

When I reviewed the Great Lake Swimmers' New Wild Everywhere a couple of years ago I opined "that the band could be pared down to just (lead singer Tony) Dekker and (multi-instrumentalist Erik) Arneson and I would be happy." On Prayer of the Woods Dekker has gone one better: he plays every instrument and his is the only voice you hear. And I'm beyond happy. Woods is a heartbreakingly gorgeous record, full of jangly guitar with Dekker's swoon-worthy voice the featured act. While ten instruments are listed, including pump organ, accordion, mellotron and autoharp, it's the acoustic guitar that handles the bulk of the work. The rest are just supporting players that provide a gentle cushion on which these songs rest.

The record's title track is adapted from an anonymous traditional poem, common at the entrance of forest preserves. Its riddle-esque sounding lyrics, "I am the handle of your hoe, the door of your homestead, the wood of your cradle, and the shell of your coffin. I am the bread of kindness and the flower of beauty," are quite literal, but they take on a more figurative, even spiritual, meaning when sung by Dekker. The poem ends with a universal plea for all of nature, "Ye who pass by, listen to my prayer: Harm me

not." It isn't surprising that Dekker would make this the centerpiece of the album; he's long supported and publicized ecological issues, even penning the last record's "Ballad of a Fisherman's Wife" in response to the BP oil disaster. This solo record's attention grabber "Land of the Glass Pinecones" is actually a cover, and despite the fact that it was written by a band named Human Sexual Response, it fits in perfectly here. Lyrics like "Seeds are made from rhinestones, squirrels never scatter them, they know what rhinestone seeds portend" seem to line up with Dekker's own often oblique couplets. The original plays like a drug trip; this version is the one that's addictive.

Subdued opening track "On My Way Back" is among his most literal. It opens with the lament, "Getting back to town isn't as easy as it seems, when you've been up all night with bad dreams," before going on to detail those nightmares, finally conceding, "It isn't as easy as it seems, to drive away your dreams, but I'm on my way back." Standout second track "Somewhere Near Thunder Bay" is a melodic, swaying sea shanty, his voice and guitar rising and falling like the gentlest of rowboat rides. Vivid but confounding images abound, "No blood escaped when the spell broke, nothing was turned into anything else." The accordion finally makes its presence known on the chorus, the kind of chorus that makes you want to put your arm around your neighbor and sway back and forth, kind of like a sober "Piano Man." The somnial references, along with what sounds like an accordion but could upon further review be the mellotron, return on the excellent "Talking in Your Sleep,"

which opens with urgent strumming and ends with the lullaby of Dekker's layered vocals.

The record closes with a less surprising cover, fellow Canadian Gordon Lightfoot's "Carefree Highway." Dekker slows it down a turn, but retains the original's folky beauty, his soaring alto every bit as iconic. It occurs to me that every Canadian band should be required to cover Lightfoot at some point in their career. I'd buy a Rush record today if it had "Sundown" on it.

Mad Folk News is published monthly by the Madison Folk Music Society, a non-profit, volunteer-led society dedicated to fostering folk music in the Madison area. Contact us at madfolk@charter.net. Learn about concerts, membership, scholarships, and volunteer opportunities at www.madfolk.org.

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Gauguin: The Guitar Player, 1894



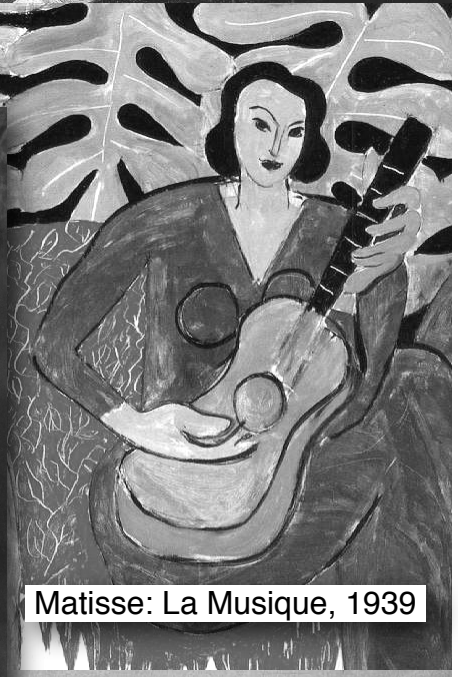
Vermeer: The Guitar Player, 1672



DeCamp: The Guitar Player, circa 1900



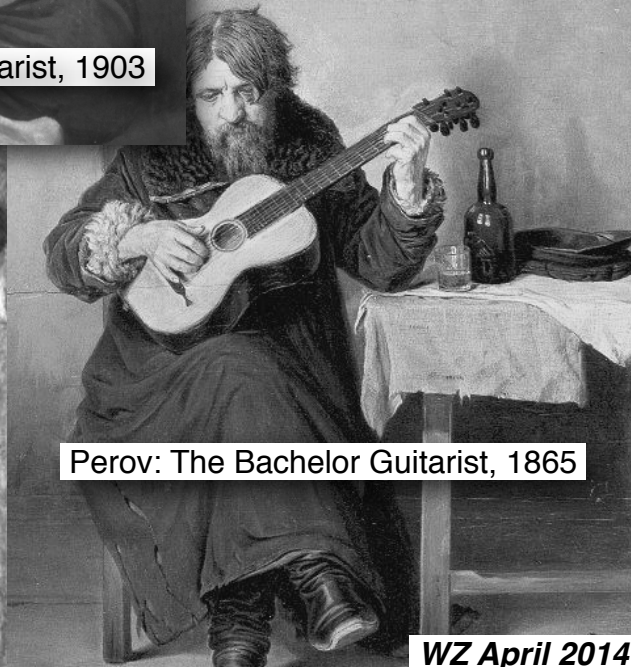
Picasso: Old Guitarist, 1903



Matisse: La Musique, 1939



Renoir: Woman Playing the Guitar, 1896



Perov: The Bachelor Guitarist, 1865

The Mad Folk Refrigerator Cover

April 2014

Mad Folk Events



April Verch

• Friday, April 4, show starts at 7, doors at 6:30
At the Brink Lounge-\$15 advance, \$17 day of show

Ellis

• Thursday, April 10, show starts at 7, doors at 6:30
At the Brink Lounge, \$14 advance \$17 day of show

Garnet Rogers & Archie Fisher

• Saturday, April 11, show starts at 7, doors at 6:30
At the Brink Lounge-\$18 advance, \$20 day of show

Venues



The Brink Lounge

- Wednesday, April 2, Aaron Williams and the Hoodoo w/guest, Alison Margaret, 8pm, no cover
- Tuesday, March 11, Robert J acoustic solo, 6:30pm, no cover
- Sunday, April 13, The MMC and Mad Toast Live Presents: Jazz on a Sunday Featuring Christian Howes -- \$18 at the door or \$15 in advance.
- Saturday, April 18, Allison Merten CD Release Celebration Featuring Jimmy Murn @ Nightclub 7:30pm, \$7

701 E. Washington
thebrinklounge.com
608-661-8599

Irish Cultural & Heritage Center
2133 W Wisconsin Ave
Milwaukee, WI -- ichc.net
414-345-8800

ICHC

Fri, Apr 11-- Moya Brennan
7:30pm -- \$21 adv. / \$25 d.o.s. -- Students \$10 w/ ID

Mother Fool's

- Fri, Apr 4 -- 8:00 PM - Erik Brandt and Noah Riemer - \$6
- Sat, Apr 5 -- 8:00 PM - Mal-O-Dua - \$6
- Fri, Apr 11 -- 8:00 PM - The Werewolverine - \$6
- Fri, Apr 18 -- 8:00 PM - The Star Bandits - \$6

Mother Fool's
Coffeehouse
1101 Williamson St.
motherfools.com
608-259-1030

FOLKLORE VILLAGE Folklore Village

3210 Cty Hwy BB
Dodgeville, WI
folklorevillage.org
608-924-4000

- Saturday, April 12 - Sones de Mexico
A six piece ensemble presenting traditional son folk music and innovative arrangements of Bach, Led Zeppelin and Woody Guthrie! Doors 6:30, concert 7:00
\$10 adults, \$6 youth (ages 5-17), under 5 free

Cafe Carpe

- All shows at 8:00pm unless indicated otherwise
- Friday, April 4, The Fauxtons / Jill & the Jax \$5
 - Thursday, April 10, The New Pioneers, 7pm \$9
 - Friday, April 11, Lonesome Bill Camplin \$7.50
 - Saturday, April 12, Sam Llanas, 8:30pm \$20 adv
 - Thursday, April 17, The 442's \$15



18 S. Water St.
Ft. Atkinson, WI
cafecarpe.com
920-563-9391

Gigs

Kiki's Righteous House of Music

Invitation & Advance RSVP required.
For full details or to request an invitation, contact Kiki at
righteousmusicmgmt@gmail.com

- Saturday, April 12, Micah Schnabel w/ Robby Schiller - 9pm
Suggested Donation: \$8
- Thursday, April 17, Richard Buckner - 8pm - Suggested Donation: \$20
- Thursday, April 24, Leo & Anto - 8pm - Suggested Donation: \$20
- Friday, April 25, The Flat Five - 9pm - Suggested Donation: \$20

Dave & Anne Host Folk

Invitation & Advance RSVP required.
For full details or to request an invitation, contact Dave & Anne at
annedave@chorus.net

- Friday, May 2, Julie Patchouli and Bruce Hecksel - 7:30pm -
Suggested Donation \$18

Mike Tuten's Music House

Invitation & Advance RSVP required.
For full details or to request an invitation, contact Mike at
maddog-210@charter.net

- Sunday, May 4, Sparky & Rhonda Rucker - 7pm - Suggested Donation \$15
- Sunday, May 18, Buddy Mondlock w/ Mike Lindauer - 7pm -
Suggested Donation \$15

Make Music Madison - June 21 -- Madison Folk Music Society and Madison Songwriters Guild are joining forces to host an event at Elizabeth Link Peace Park on State Street. Ron Dennis and Stephen Lee Rich will be selecting performers made up of folk musicians, songwriters and youth. The plan calls for continuous music from 9:00 am until 7:00 pm.

3 Rivers Old-Time Dulcimer and Fiddle Festival -- June 5-8
La Crosse, WI -- Register by Monday, May 12. To register, visit www.mhecopark.org/events2/2014-06

Misc

Old Time Jam

Monthly - 2nd Sunday of every month, 4 to 6pm
EVP West 3809 Mineral Point Road
Coordinator: Al Wilson
cell: 608-572-0634
afwilson@pediatrics.wisc.edu

Madison Ukulele Club-- Singalongs 1st and 3rd Weds 7:00-9:00pm
-call for location- 246-8205 (Andrew)

Cajun jam held every first Sunday 2 p.m.-5 p.m.
At the Froth House: 11 N. Allen St., Madison We welcome all levels of experience with instruments and Cajun music.
kcholden@wisc.edu for more info. www.prairiebayoucajun.com

On the Air



wpr.org

Simply Folk on Wisconsin Public Radio w/ Stephanie Elkins, Host
Sun 5:00-8:00pm
Concerts recorded in Wisconsin, music and dance of people the world over. For playlists, calendars, station listings, and more, visit www.wpr.org/simplyfolk.



wort-fm.org

WORT 89.9 FM community radio

Sun -- 3:00-5:00pm

- On the Horizon (world music) w/Ford Blackwell, Paul Novak & Dan Talmo
- Weekdays 9:00am-noon
- Mon - Global Revolutions (folk from the world over) w/ David & Martin Alvarado & Eugenia Highland
- Tue -- For the Sake of the Song (traditional American folk) w/Jim Schwall
- Wed -- Back to the Country (country music on a theme) w/Bill Malone
- Thur -- Diaspora (folk and international) w/Terry O' Powers
- Fri -- Mud Acres (bluegrass and acoustic) w/Chris Powers

Madison Dance

- African/African-American Dance classes with live drumming -- Sun, 7:00-9:00pm -- Metro Dance, 3009 University Ave. -- 255-3677 / 251-4311
- SpiritMoves Ecstatic Dance 2nd and 4th Weds, 7:00-9:00 pm -- The Center for Conscious Living, 849 East Washington Ave. -- \$7 min. donation
- English Country Dance taught -- 1st and 3rd Mon, 7:30-9:30pm -- Wil-Mar Center, 953 Jenifer St. -- 238-9951 or 238-9951
- International Dancing -- Wed and Sun; classes 7:30-8:30pm, request dancing 8:30-11:00pm -- The Crossing, 1127 University Ave. -- 241-3655
- Irish Dancing -- Monthly Ceili and set dance events are posted at celticmadison.org/dance
- Italian Dancing -- Tue, 7:00-9:00pm, no experience or partner necessary -- Wil-Mar Center, 953 Jenifer St. -- 838-9403 (Philana)
- Madison Contra Dance Cooperative -- Tue; 7:30 jam band practice, intermediate level dancing 7:45-9:40pm -- \$5 for non-members -- Gates of Heaven, 302 E. Gorham -- 238-3394 (Steve)
- Morris Dancing -- Wed, 7:00pm -- call for location -- 238-9951
- Scottish Country Dancing -- Sun, 7:00pm -- Wil-Mar Center, 953 Jenifer St. -- 835-0914

Is this your last copy of *Mad Folk News*?

There are two ways to renew your **tax-deductible** membership

Way #1 – online

Visit www.madfolk.org and click on "Join MFMS"

Way #2 – unplugged

Complete, clip, and mail this form

Madison Folk Music Society
P.O. Box 665, Madison, WI 53701
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Renew your membership today at
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Madison Folk Music Society

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Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Choose membership category:

Senior	\$8	_____
Student	\$10	_____
Regular	\$12	_____
Family	\$15	_____
Friend	\$25	_____
Contributing	\$50	_____
Life	\$500	_____
Scholarship fund donation (optional)	\$	_____
Total	\$	_____

GOING GREEN - Send my newsletters electronically by email

Send your check, payable to MFMS to: Mad Folk c/o
Tracy Comer, P.O. Box 930446 Verona, WI 53593-0446