



Three Rivers Folklife Society

P.O. Box 1098
Richland, WA 99352

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KENNEWICK, WA

Help us promote **3RFS** events! Post the enclosed flyer where the most people will see it.

Thanks!

Local Folk Events

February

- 8** Laddie Ray Melvin Coffeehouse 7:30 PM Fri All Saints'
- 9** 2nd Saturday Sea Song Singalong 7:00 PM Sat Round Table
Pizza, Richland
- 11** 3RFS Board Meeting 7:00 PM Mon BPABC
- 16** T R Ritchie Concert 7:30 PM Sat **KSC**
- 23** Contra Dance 7:30 PM Sat **KSC**
- 24** Last Sunday Song Circle 2:00 PM Sun Round Table
Pizza, Richland
- 26** Tumbleweed Planning Meeting 7:00 PM Tue Richland
Community Center

March

- 1** "Hawkeye" Herman Concert 7:30 PM Sat Battelle
Open by "Walla Walla" Paul
- 2** "Hawkeye" Herman Workshop 2:00 PM Sun Perrys'
- 8** 2nd Saturday Sea Song Singalong 7:00 PM Sat Round Table
Pizza, Richland
- 10** 3RFS Board Meeting 7:00 PM Mon BPABC
- 14** Mike and Val James Coffeehouse 7:30 PM Fri All Saints'
- 15** Campbell Road Concert 7:30 PM Sat **KSC**
- 22** Contra Dance 7:30 PM Sat **KSC**
- 23** Last Sunday Song Circle 2:00 PM Sun Round Table
Pizza, Richland
- 25** Tumbleweed Planning Meeting 7:00 PM Tue RCC

All Saints' = All Saints' Episcopal Church, 1322 Kimball Ave., Richland
Battelle = Battelle Auditorium, Battelle Blvd., Richland
BPABC = Battelle Performing Arts Business Center, 716 Jadin Ave., Richland
KSC = Kennewick Senior Center, 500 South Auburn, east side of Keewaydin Park,
across from the East Benton County Museum
Perrys' = John & Micki Perrys', 1011 S. Dawes, Kennewick, 783-9937
Round Table Pizza = 245 Torbett, Richland, 946-0667

For information, call 509 528-2215



Folk Talk

A Newsletter for Columbia, Snake, and Yakima River Folk

February 2008

T R Ritchie Presents Award-Winning Music

Saturday, 16 February, 7:30 PM

T R Ritchie's life in music almost didn't happen. "It was the summer of my second year in college," he relates. "I got a job... on a crew building back-country trails, alongside a kid from New Jersey who played guitar. In the evening after work he'd take it out and fingerpick the blues and it was magic to me. I come from people who aren't all that musically inclined, so this kid was something. I remember thinking, 'This is it. This I gotta learn.'"

After college, T R moved to Seattle and began singing on the streets and in the little cafes near the waterfront around the Pike Street Market. For the next decade he divided his time between winter music in clubs and concert halls around the Pacific Northwest and summers working on trail crews for the Forest Service. In 1984 he released his first collection of songs, "Not Just Another Pretty Songwriter," to good reviews. His concert schedule began

taking him farther afield and he quickly established a place for himself among the top ranks of songwriter/performers on the national touring scene.

Songwriting awards accumulated. He was a two-time finalist at the Kerrville Folk Festival's New Folk showcases and a headline performer. He won top honors from the Napa Valley, CA, Sisters, OR, and Jubilee, CO, Folk Festival songwriting competitions. In both 2001 and 2005 he was the only double-showcase songwriter featured at the Walnut Valley Festival's New Artist Showcase in Kansas. Also in 2005, he was one of only a dozen finalists chosen from more than twelve hundred applicants to showcase his music at the Mountain Stage Newsong Festival in West Virginia.

Ritchie has produced three more CDs: "Changing of The Guard," "Homeground," and his most recent, "My Father's Wildest Dream." Meanwhile T R moved to the canyon country of southeast Utah. He continues to tour

nationally, both as a solo act and in support of long-time musical partner Cosy Sheridan. A new CD is also in the works.

T R was a regular in the early days of Three Rivers Folklife performances and also performed at last year's Tumbleweed Festival. In concert he is spontaneous, engaging and spirited. He serves up his music with technical grace and unwinds the narrative of his life and times in words and song. By turns witty, insightful and philosophical, T R is a natural storyteller who delivers a gem of a performance.

The concert will be held at our new, temporary home, the Kennewick Senior Center at 500 South Auburn in Kennewick, across from East Benton County Museum at the east end of Keewaydin Park. Tickets are \$11 general/\$9 seniors and students when purchased in advance at Bookworm stores and Octopus' Garden. \$1 more at the door. 3RFS members receive a \$3 discount.

Laddie Ray Melvin Solos at the Coffeehouse

Friday, 8 February, 7:30 PM

Laddie Ray Melvin is a folksinger who has played music in the Pacific Northwest for many years. As a songwriter he carefully crafts his lyrics and surrounds them with music from American folk tradition. He works with country, blues, folk and folk rock as he sings of life, death, work, family, love, and hope.

Laddie Ray has produced two independent CDs. The first was "Rocky Ground," and the most recent is "In The Aftermath." He has also recorded with songwriters Brad Keeler and Lyle Morse. Together they form a trio that

is heard often in the Spokane area and headlined at last year's Tumbleweed Music Festival. Their joint album is titled "Three Different Ways."

Mark Stanton, owner and sound engineer of Summit Sound, writes, "His songs are crafted with care. Laddie Ray weaves humanity, time and landscape into his songs." Laddie Ray's work is heard on "Inland Folk" on Northwest Public Radio, and "Singer Songwriters on Sunday" on Q104, a mid-Columbia commercial station. Laddie Ray has also appeared on Spokane public radio's "Nacho Celtic Hour."

Laddie Ray is also an educator.

Putting his MFA to work, he recently conducted a craft-based workshop on lyric writing at Holy Names Music Center in Spokane and plans to continue this work.

The coffeehouse starts with an open mic. Come early or call Alan if you want a slot, because we sometimes fill up. The Coffeehouse is held at All Saints' Episcopal Church, 1322 Kimball Ave., Richland. Suggested donation at the door is \$8/\$6 senior and students. For more information about the Coffeehouse contact Alan Page at 943-5662.

Tumbleweed Begins RU With It?

Tuesday, 26 February, 7:00 PM

The 12th annual Tumbleweed Music Festival is scheduled for August 30-31, 2008, in Howard Amon Park and we need input! The first planning meeting was held Tuesday, January 28, with great results. The Tumbleweed committee had a great time brainstorming themes for the 2008 songwriting contest. "Generations" was the winner. We hope this theme will bridge youth and age, new and old, tradition and innovation. We'd like to spotlight some younger musicians at this year's festival and take a look at the future of folk.

Another goal for Tumbleweed 2008 is to diversify our musical genres. While we will continue to feature acoustic music, there's room for variety. Do you know of a great African drummer? A Mariachi band? Astring quartet? A jazz trio? Please tell them about the festival, and tell us about them!

Do you know of a business that might donate to support Tumbleweed? Please let us know! Call Mary at 943-0327 or e-mail to festival@3rfs.org.

Tumbleweed's a Bestseller!

Best-selling author and former Tri-Citian, Patricia Briggs, has a new fantasy novel. "Iron Kissed" is the third in a trilogy of books featuring Mercy Thompson and a variety of magical folk who live in and around the Tri-Cities. This book is particularly fun because it contains a scene set at Tumbleweed Music Festival! Mercy goes to hear a physician/werewolf friend perform. Patricia writes, "Tumbleweed was nominally free, but you could show your support by purchasing a button for two dollars... and the button men were relentless." She obviously, knows Harry, our "button vampire!" The book's acknowledgements include the following. "And, of course, the dedicated folks of the Three

Rivers Folklife Society and the many talented musicians who put on the Tumbleweed Music Festival every Labor Day weekend so that we should have music." You can get "Iron Kissed" or Patricia Briggs' other novels at The Bookworm, and other local bookstores.

The Raffle is On for 2008!

Jay Howlett has donated a beautiful new Breedlove guitar to 3RFS to raffle off as a fundraiser for Tumbleweed 2008. Jay is doing this on behalf of "Blah Blah Woof Woof," an independent music cooperative. He wrote, "I love your festival and your organization. I'm happy to help. You do a wonderful thing for your community. I've played at a lot of festivals and Tumbleweed is really a great vibe. It's true grassroots!" Check out blahblahwoofwoof.com.

We'll start selling raffle tickets soon, and will draw the winning ticket at Tumbleweed on August 31.

Hank Cramer, Free Celtic & Cowboy

Thursday, 21 February, 7:00pm

Hank Cramer returns to town for an educational and entertaining presentation, "Celtic to Cowboy, Roots Music of the American West," hosted by the East Benton County Historical Society.

The presentation will be at Central United Protestant Church, 1124 Stevens Drive, Richland. It is open to the public and admission is free of charge.

Hank will examine the rich song traditions of American cowboys, and explore the origins of the music. Hank will sing many popular songs of the American West (the audience is encouraged to sing along), and then show examples of where the songs derived. Although "Celtic to Cowboy" is the title, the origins are not Irish alone: many blues melodies and hollers came from black freedmen in the South; yodeling from

German and Swiss immigrants; many melodies, and much of the anglicized vocabulary, came from Mexican and Spanish origin.

African-American Music Featured

24-25 February, 7:00 PM

Consort Columbia Vocal Ensemble presents "American Hallelujah," a concert featuring songs of faith, joy and praise, including poignant and powerful settings of African-American slave music by Moses Hogan, Alice Parker and H.T. Burleigh. The concert will be held at First Lutheran Church at 418 N Yelm, in Kennewick.

3RFS Membership: A Renewable Resource

Have you renewed your Three Rivers Folklife Society membership for 2008? Your membership entitles you to discounted concert tickets. Please fill out the form in this newsletter and mail it in with your membership dues (which are tax deductible! Your dues help pay for printing and mailing expenses.

Folk Talk is published monthly from September through May by the Three Rivers Folklife Society.

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Original Design: Theresa Grate

Send items of interest to: mail@3rfs.org
Send address changes to: Jim Zimmerschied
1757 Boston, Richland, WA 99354
Send
Member classified ads to: P.O. Box 1098, Richland, WA 99352

3RFS 2007-08 Board of Directors
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3RFS Info: www.3rfs.org 509 528-2215

Deadline for the March newsletter is February 15th.

Out of Town

February

8 Robbie Fulks concert (acoustic honky tonk) 7:30 PM Fri., Yakima Valley Museum, 2105 Tieton Drive, Yakima, 509-248-0747

16 Walla Walla Contra Dance, Sat., 7:00 PM instruction; 7:30 PM dance, Stateline Grange, http://fam.bmi.net/fsch1.html

Contra Dancing in February

Saturday, 23 February, 7:30 PM

The February dance will feature the band Contraversatile. The band from Yakima is always a favorite, and their high energy playing will get your feet moving. With 3RFS' own Cindy Rakowski calling the tunes, it will be a great way to chase away the mid-winter blues.

All dances will be taught - no experience necessary. Bring your friends, family, and snacks to share for an evening of music, dancing, and fun.

Admission at the door is \$8/\$5 for srs. and teens. Kids under 12 are free. 3RFS members get a \$1 discount. The dance will be held at our new, temporary home: Kennewick Senior Center, 500 South Auburn, Kennewick across from the East Benton Country Museum at the east end of Keewaydin Park.

Just in case You Missed It...

William Pint and Felicia Dale debuted our new concert/dance venue at the Kennewick Senior Center. It is a warm, intimate room that was enjoyed by all.

If you missed the coffeehouse in January, the Gypsy Jazz Trio turned out to be "The Hotheads", bringing together Kurt Gustafson, Joe Smart and Doug Rice. Look for any opportunity to see them. They are hot!

Yes! I want to help the 2008 Tumbleweed Music Festival succeed!

I would like to be a: Patron, \$50.00
 Donor, \$100.00
 Contributor, \$250.00

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Send to: 3RFS Tumbleweed Music Festival, P.O. Box 1098, Richland, WA 99352



2008 Membership Application

Your membership gives you voting rights in folklife elections, \$3 off most concerts, and is tax deductible! You'll even get a nifty membership card to show your friends and neighbors!

Individual (\$15) or Family (\$20) Is this a renewal? Y N

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

I can help 3RFS with:

- Providing refreshments at concerts
- Taking admission at events
- Serving on Board of Directors
- Demonstrating folk arts
- Tumbleweed Music Festival
- Setting up chairs
- Folding the newsletter
- Publicity
- Membership
- Other _____
- Fund raising
- Coffeehouses
- Song circles
- Contra dances

Make check payable to: Three Rivers Folklife Society, P.O. Box 1098, Richland, WA 99352.

Song Circle in Feb.

Sunday, 24 February, 2:00 PM

Come sing with a group of laid-back music lovers! Bring a friend or three, the "Rise Up Singing" songbook, if you have one (Harry will have some for sale if you need one), guitars, banjos, spoons, autoharps, and harmonicas, and most importantly, a tuned or untuned voice. As usual, we'll meet at Richland's Round Table Pizza.

SSSSS Love Boat

Saturday, 9 February, 7:00 PM

What more could a Valentine want than an earful of sea chanteys just in time for this February holiday? Top it off with a mugful of your favorite beverage and a mouthful of pizza and you've got it made! It's all happening at Richland's Round Table Pizza at the usual 7pm-ish time. No singing experience required.