



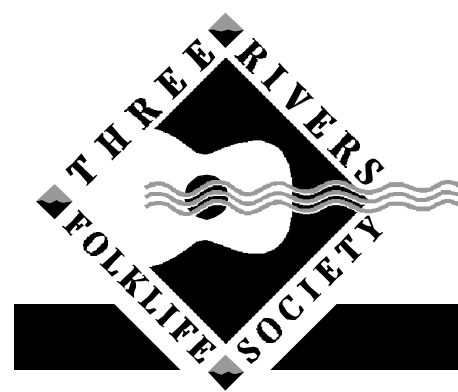
Three Rivers Folklife Society

P.O. Box 1098  
Richland, WA 99352

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

A Newsletter for Columbia, Snake, and Yakima River Folk

May 2009

## Membership Meeting & Murante Concert

**Saturday, 16 May, 7:30 PM**

As May brings warmer weather and more sunshine, it also brings our annual Three Rivers Folklife Society membership meeting and concert. This year we will follow the usual format - there will be a brief financial report, followed by elections of members of the board. After the meeting part (which should be really short!), the fun will begin with an evening of music from Larry Murante.

It's no surprise that Seattle-based Larry Murante is gaining a reputation as one of the finest contemporary singer/songwriters to emerge from the Northwest in recent years. Larry's three CD releases, "Kiss Me One More Time" (1994), "Water's Edge" (2000), "Point of Entry" (new in 2009!) have garnered critical acclaim from all over the country and parts of Europe. In the past few years he's racked up a string of national and regional songwriting awards and honors.

Larry grew up in the small rural town of Nazareth, Pennsylvania (also

the home of Martin Guitars). In high school, Larry began singing in working bands of every kind. "In my late teens I was singing in a wedding band that performed a variety of styles including jazz, pop, swing, R&B and top-40," he recalls. "In those early years I was also singing in rock cover bands and playing in top 40 groups in town on the weekends. And when I wasn't doing that, I was listening to and playing acoustic folk-rock music. My biggest influence from that period (and even today) were the early 70s singer/songwriters like Joni Mitchell, James Taylor, CSNY, the Eagles and Jackson Brown."

Larry's voice is a testament not only to good pipes but to years of training — over a decade of study with opera, jazz, and musical theater stylists. It's a voice of smooth power and precise intonation and audiences love his show-stopping high notes: long sustained flights that inspire awe among many of his peers.

His songs are full of the sense of how lucky most of us are to have music,

companionship, family, a roof overhead, a semblance of mental health, food on the table and the opportunity to grow — these are gifts that in Larry's songs seem tenuous and tender. His joyful, high-octane performances are legendary. As a performer, he cranks out more watts with his powerful voice and acoustic guitar than most rock bands can manage. For many musicians, it would be enough to aspire to such dynamic performances. But for years Larry has had his eye on another prize as well: the ability to pack truckloads of story into a few minutes of song.

The concert will be held at the new Community Unitarian Universalist Church, 2819 West Sylvester St., in Pasco. It's FREE for 2009 3RFS members. If you're not a member, you can join at the door! Otherwise, tickets are \$12 general and \$10 for seniors and students at the door.

There will be a potluck preceding the annual meeting at 6:00 PM. Bring a dish to share. 3RFS will provide drinks and picnicware.

### Local Folk Events

|             |   |                    |                             |
|-------------|---|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>May</b>  | <b>9</b> 2nd Saturday Sea Song Singalong                            | 7:00 PM Sat        | Round Table Pizza, Richland |
|             | <b>10</b> Massenkoff Russian Folk Festival                          | 2:30-4:30 Sun      | -547-6243                   |
|             | <b>11</b> 3RFS Board Meeting  | 7:00 PM Mon        | BPABC                       |
|             | <b>16</b> 3RFS Annual Membership Meeting & Larry Murante Concert    | 7:30 PM Sat        | <b>CUUC</b>                 |
|             | <b>26</b> Tumbleweed Planning Meeting                               | 7:00 PM Tues       | RCC                         |
| <b>June</b> | <b>8</b> 3RFS Board Meeting   | 7:00 PM Mon        | BPABC                       |
|             | <b>12-14</b> Sacajawea Bluegrass Festival and Dutch Oven Rendezvous | Fri-Sun            | Sacajawea Park, Pasco       |
|             | <b>13</b> 2nd Saturday Sea Song Singalong                           | 7:00 PM Sat        | Round Table Pizza, Richland |
|             | <b>13</b> Greenwood Mini-Faire                                      | 8:00-5:00 Sat      | HAP                         |
|             | <b>18</b> Humanities Washington presents Phil and Vivian Williams   | 7:00 PM Thurs      | MCL                         |
|             | <b>27-28</b> Ye Merrie Greenwood Faire                              | 10:00-5:00 Sat-Sun | HAP                         |
|             | <b>29</b> Tumbleweed Planning Meeting                               | 7:00 PM Mon        | RCC                         |
| <b>July</b> | <b>3</b> Mid-Columbia Symphony                                      | 7:00 PM Fri        | Flat Top Park,              |
|             | <b>24</b> Wylie and the Wild West concert                           | 7:00 PM Fri        | Flat Top Park               |
|             | <b>24-25</b> Art in the Park  | 9:00 am Fri -Sat   | HAP                         |

BPABC = Battelle Performing Arts Business Center, 716 Jadwin Ave., Richland  
CUUC = Community Unitarian Universalist Church, 2819 W. Sylvester St., Pasco  
HAP = Howard Amon Park, 500 Amon Park Dr., Richland  
MCL = Mid-Columbia Library, 1620 S. Union St., Kennewick, 737-6300  
RCC = Richland Community Center, 500 Amon Park Dr.  
**Round Table Pizza = New Location! 1435 George Washington Way, Richland**

For information, call 509 528-2215

## Meet the Candidates for the 3RFS Board

The following members have agreed to run for 3RFS Board positions for 2009-2010. Some are incumbents, but there are also a few new faces. Here's a little bit about each of them.

**Alan Page - President (incumbent).** Alan is the producer and host of the 3RFS Coffeehouse and is the captain of "Team Tumbleweed" the organization force behind Tumbleweed Music

Festival 2009. He looks forward to continuing as president.

**Micki Perry - Vice President.** Micki is one of the founding members of Three Rivers Folklife Society. She has served on the Board various times over the past 20 years. She has also been our primary concert booker and producer and was the coordinator of the Tumbleweed Music Festival for 5

years. She's also a Master Gardener.

**Cindy Rakowski - Treasurer.** Cindy has served on the board for 2 years as a member at large and vice president. She is active in the contra dance community as an organizer and caller (and of course, a dancer!). When not dancing around the Pacific

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### Board

Northwest, Cindy is a hydrologist with Battelle.

**Kim O'Keefe -- Member at Large (incumbent).**

Kim says that when she and her family moved to the Tri-Cities in 2003, one of the first things they did was attend Tumbleweed Music Festival. She began volunteering at the festival the next year, and became our volunteer coordinator in 2006.

**Duane Horton -- Member at Large.**

Duane has been active in 3RFS for over 13 years, and has helped organize Tumbleweed Music Festival since it began. For the past 2 years he has been in charge of the festival information booth. He is a geologist who has worked at Hanford for 25 years.

**Kurt Mesford -- Member at Large.**

Kurt and the Mesford clan have been involved in 3RFS for years. Kurt is half of "Sänger and Didele," those madcap mariners of the Inland Empire, and a member of Uncle Joe's Banjo Band. He's also a music teacher. His knowledge and sense of humor will be welcome on the board.

**Paul Knight -- Member at Large.**

Paul loves to play banjo and sing old-time songs with Uncle Joe's Banjo Band. He has also been known to play the blues. He is a regular at 3RFS events and looks forward to serving on the board. Paul is a Vietnam Veteran and retired from DOE as an Industrial Hygienist.

### New Web Design

Big thanks to Alan Gibbs and "The Write Guru" for creative and technical expertise in redesigning the 3RFS website. It's gorgeous and easier to use than ever.

This is the last issue of our newsletter until our special August pre-festival issue. You can always keep in contact via our new-and-improved website at 3rfs.org

### Summer Full of Music on It's Way

Although 3RFS doesn't have formal concerts in the summer months, there are plenty of fabulous musical activities to enjoy here in the Tri-Cities.

#### Sacajawea Bluegrass Festival:

Sponsored by our friends at the Mid-Columbia Traditional Arts and Music Association (MCTAMA), this annual festival has grown to be a great event. Featured bands include Ned Crisp and Bottomline, all the way from Greenup County, Kentucky; Green Mountain Bluegrass Band; Runaway Train; Loose Digits; Dewgrass; and Cabbage Hill.

The festival also features Dutch oven cooking, cowboy stories and poetry, along with music workshops, a band scramble, and vendors of great food, crafts, and musical instruments.

Friday-Sunday, June 12-14, Sacajawea State Park, near Pasco. For information about schedule or tickets, visit [sacajaweabluegrass.org](http://sacajaweabluegrass.org). Tickets are also available at the gate.

#### Ye Merrie Greenwood Faire:

Renaissance knights, wenches, and a Queen. Combine these wonders with period musicians, dancers, magicians, and puppeteers, and you've got a great event! The main faire runs for two days, June 27-28. Tickets are available at the gate. You can get a free sneak preview at the "mini-Faire" on Saturday, June 13th. Information at [greenwood\\_players.home.comcast.net](http://greenwood_players.home.comcast.net).

#### Art in the Park:

Allied Arts has been bringing us this annual show for 59 years. Come and enjoy the shady park, support the artists, and listen to free entertainment. The performer schedule hadn't been determined at press time, but the lineup usually includes some of our local folkies. Watch the Tri-City Herald in July for details. Friday - Saturday, July 24-25, starting at 9:00 AM both days in Howard Amon Park, Richland. [alliedartsrichland.org](http://alliedartsrichland.org).

#### West Richland concert series:

Bring a blanket or lawn chairs and a picnic, if you wish. These concerts are hugely popular and totally free! All start at 7:00 PM at Flat Top Park, on the corner of Van Geisen and Bombing Range Road.

◇ July 3 - Mid Columbia Symphony: pops and patriotic music

◇ July 24 - Wylie and the Wild West: Award winning Yahoo Yodeler plays pumped up cowboy and western!

◇ August 7 - Ockham's Razor: Cutting edge Celtic! This is not your grandfather's Irish music.

◇ August 21 - Bram Brata & Ok 2 Botay: Steel Drums for family fun.

### Jewish Music Night

Saturday, 30 May, 6:30 PM

Congregation Beth Shalom is hosting an evening of Yiddish singing and Israeli dancing at 312 Thayer Drive, Richland. The event is open to all; there's a nominal fee for admission.

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

**Editor:** Mary Hartman  
**Production:** Kendal Smith  
**Original Design:** Theresa Grate

**Send items of interest to:** [mail@3rfs.org](mailto: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 2008-09 Board of Directors**  
Alan Page, President 943-5662  
Cindy Rakowski, Vice President 308-6408  
Frank Cuta, Secretary 967-2658  
John Perry, Treasurer 783-9937

Members at Large:  
Ed Lund 551-0933  
Kim O'Keefe 375-6139  
Chuck Peden 967-3447

**3RFS e-mail:** [mail@3rfs.org](mailto:mail@3rfs.org)  
**3RFS Info:** [www.3rfs.org](http://www.3rfs.org) 509 528-2215

**Deadline for the August newsletter is July 15th.**

### Out of Town

#### May

**16** Walla Walla contra dance  
7:30 pm Sat, Stateline Grange,  
Milton Freewater, 938-7403  
or 522-0399

**22-25** Northwest Folklife  
Festival, Seattle Center

#### July

**10-12** Yakima Folklife Festival  
Fri-Sun, Yakima Valley  
Museum and Franklin Park,  
Yakima [www.yakimafolklife.org](http://www.yakimafolklife.org)

### 2009 Northwest Folklife Festival

22-25 May

Northwest Folklife Festival, held over Memorial Day weekend, is one of the largest, varied and most vibrant free folklife celebrations in North America. Produced by Northwest Folklife and Seattle Center, it hosts more than 7,000 participants, 27 stages and venues, roughly 1000 performances, and an audience of approximately 250,000 at the 74-acre Seattle Center.

Participants immerse themselves in four days of music and dance performances, visual arts and folklore exhibits, symposia, workshops, craft and cooking demonstrations and films. Admission is free, but donations are strongly encouraged.

One hundred years ago, Seattle hosted the 1909 Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition, or "the A-Y-P." It was Seattle's first world's fair. The 38th annual Northwest Folklife Festival celebrates the centennial of the A-Y-P and includes special performances, exhibits, and demonstrations to celebrate this milestone in Seattle's history! For more information, go to [www.nwfolklife.org](http://www.nwfolklife.org).

## Yes! I want to help the 2009 Tumbleweed Music Festival succeed!

I would like to contribute \_\_\_\_\_ **Bronze, \$50.00**  
at this level \_\_\_\_\_ **Silver, \$100.00**  
\_\_\_\_\_ **Gold, \$250.00**  
\_\_\_\_\_ **Platinum, \$1000.00**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: 3RFS Tumbleweed Music Festival, P.O. Box 1098, Richland, WA 99352  
Enclose your check payable to *Three Rivers Folklife Society*. Thank You!



### 2009 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.**

### Get Smart!

Did you see the March/April issue of Mid-Columbian magazine? It featured a fabulous article about local guitar phenom, Joe Smart. Gail Clark wrote the article, which also featured Joe's partners in gypsy jazz, Doug Rice and Kurt Gustafson. If you can't find it at news stands, you can request back issues via the magazine's website, [mid-columbian.com](http://mid-columbian.com).

### SSSSSingalong Blossoms in May!

Saturday, 9 May, 7:00 PM

Join us for our once a month informal gathering at Richland's Round Table Pizza. We may get startled looks from other diners when we break into song, but after a few verses they start to smile. Round Table recently moved into what used to be Henry's, corner of Torbett & George Washington Way.