

# Yes! I want to help the 2015 Tumbleweed Music Festival



## 2015 Member 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) Renewal? Y N

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

### I can help 3RFS with:

- |  |  |                                       |
|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Refreshments at concerts    | <input type="checkbox"/> Setting up chairs   | <input type="checkbox"/> Fund raising |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Taking admission at events  | <input type="checkbox"/> Folding newsletters | <input type="checkbox"/> Coffeehouses |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Serve on Board of Directors | <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity           | <input type="checkbox"/> Song circles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrating folk arts     | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership          | <input type="checkbox"/> Contra dance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tumbleweed Music Festival   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other               |                                       |

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

I would like to contribute  
at this level

<input type="checkbox"/> Bronze	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Silver	\$100.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Gold	\$250.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Platinum	\$1000.00

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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

Send to: 3RFS TMF, P.O. Box 1098, Richland, WA 99352

Enclose your check payable to Three Rivers Folklife Society.



# Folk Talk

A Newsletter for Columbia, Snake, and Yakima River Folk

Vol. 26, Issue 9

May 2015

## Bonsai! As In Uncle!

Saturday, 2 May, 7:30 PM

The Seattle trio Uncle Bonsai performs original, contemporary folk/pop music. With their soaring and intricate 3-part vocal harmonies and biting humor, accompanied by only an acoustic guitar, Arni Adler, Patrice O'Neill, and Andrew Ratshin deliver poignantly unflinching portrayals of life, love, and a guy named Doug. The trio's influences range from the Beatles to Stephen Sondheim. Some say they are Zappa cross-bred with Peter, Paul and Mary, or Loudon Wainwright III with the Roches. Three tightly tiered and adhered voices, acoustic guitar. That's it. Nearly naked folk/pop for everyone.

Uncle Bonsai's songs are almost one-act plays or short stories, resisting strict pop, folk, or singer/songwriter categories. Consequently, in the '80s the trio paired with a wide range of artists - Bonnie Raitt, Suzanne Vega, Tracy Chapman, They Might Be Giants, The Persuasions, The Bobs, and

Robyn Hitchcock - reflecting a diversity of categorization. In addition to their regular appearances at clubs and festivals, the group stretches the boundaries of "folk" music, appearing in theaters and concert halls throughout North America.

Now entering its 31st year, Uncle Bonsai continues to perform and release new material. In mid-2013 the group released its first ever "bedtime" book for grownups, *The Monster in the Closet/Go To Sleep*. This fully illustrated, reversible, hard cover book for parents, features two popular Uncle Bonsai songs, with artwork by members Arni Adler and Patrice O'Neill, and includes a recording of the songs. Their most recent audio release, "The Grim Parade," is a collection of live and studio performances of songs focused on the passing of time, the passing of genes, and the passing of pets - the truth of everything seemingly buried somewhere under the family tree.

Uncle Bonsai even impresses those

jaded sophisticates on the East Coast. The New York Times wrote, "...performs funny original songs whose exquisite musical detail and subtle needling wit attain a level of craft not often seen in pop." And from the Boston Globe: "Uncle Bonsai are not normal. (They have) humor that starts at irreverent and moves out from there. They have the technical ability one expects of the Pointer Sisters or Manhattan Transfer...The crowd gave them a wildly enthusiastic reception and they encored with a breakneck "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy" that left the Andrew Sisters' original in the dust."

Uncle Bonsai will perform in the Community Unitarian Universalist Church, 2819 W. Sylvester St., Pasco. Tickets in advance are \$11 general admission and \$9 for seniors and students. They can be purchased at The Bookworm in Kennewick and Octopus' Garden in Richland. \$1 more at the door; \$3 off for 3RFS members.

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

## Annual Meeting & Spanaway Bay!

Saturday, 16 May, 6:00 PM potluck;  
7:30 PM meeting and concert

Once a year we hold a general meeting of Three Rivers Folklife Society members. The only order of business is election of the Board of Directors, which we sweeten by placing it in between a potluck and a concert, free to 3RFS members. This year's concert stars Spanaway Bay.

From the rocky shores of Spanaway Bay, south of Puget Sound and direct-

ly above the center of the earth, sails the rollicking folk duo Spanaway Bay. Kent and Carol Mesford have been engaging audiences throughout the Puget Sound (and inland regions) with an eclectic mélange of Maritime, Celtic, English and American folk songs since their trial by fire at the Port Townsend Wooden Boat Festival some years ago.

This lively duo are the favorite chantey singers aboard the 1913 schooner *Adventuress*. Additionally, they perform with *Broadside & the Handsome*

Cabin Boys, and *Sänger & Didele*. The audience is encouraged to join in on the highly singable choruses, so you can taste the salty, bluesy flavor of Spanaway Bay!

The meeting and concert will be held in Pasco at the Community Unitarian Universalist Church, 2819 W. Sylvester St. There is no admission charge if you're a member. If you are not a member, you can join at the door. If you want to take part in the potluck, come at 6:00 PM with a dish to share.

Three Rivers Folklife Society  
P.O. Box 1098  
Richland, WA 99352  
Return Service Requested



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## 3RFS 2015-2016 Board Candidates

We will elect a Board of Directors at our annual meeting. Most of our current board is willing to serve again. Here is the current slate:

**Nancy Ostergard, President** (incumbent). Nancy is the volunteer coordinator for 3RFS; hers is the sweet voice asking you to bring cookies to the next concert. She has served on the Board for several years including the presidency this year.

**Micki Perry, Vice-president** (incumbent). Micki is one of the founding members of 3RFS. She has served on the Board at various times over the past 25 years, remains our primary concert booker/producer, and was the director of Tumbleweed Music Festival for 5 years.

**Frank Cuta – Secretary** (incumbent). Frank has been active in 3RFS for ages, and has served as secretary for many years. He provides sound at concerts and at the Tumbleweed Music Festival, and is on the Tumbleweed planning committee.

**Gene Carbaugh, Treasurer** (incumbent): Gene successfully coordinated the 2013 and 2014 Tumbleweed Music Festivals and is back in the saddle again for the 2015 festival. Gene has lent his singing voice to numerous Mid-Columbia Musical Theatre musicals, where he has also served on the board and as business manager.

**Connie Eckard, Member at Large** (incumbent): Connie is a mostly retired writer and editor. He is a dedicated supporter of the arts, especially Tumbleweed Music Festival. Now Connie is a River Stage fixture as master of ceremonies.

**Trevor Hollenbeck, Member at Large** Trevor has been in charge of the Friday night Youth concert for the past two years. He is a performer in Silver Dollar Circus. We delight in having a 20-something interested in hanging around with old Folkies.

**Jim Kelly, Member at Large** (incumbent). Jim has lived in Richland since 1984, and retired from his career in

the the nuclear industry in 2013. He enjoys camping, spelunking, railroad-ing, folk music, and canoeing. Jim's community involvement includes Odyssey of the Mind and Richland Police volunteers.

**Bob Lewis, Member at Large** (incumbent). Bob is a professor in the computer science department at WSU Tri-Cities. He is a big folk fan and has attended every Tumbleweed except one when he was sick. He is volunteer coordinator for Tumbleweed and also manages 3RFS's membership database.

## Summer Is Festival Season

From May through September you can probably find a festival every week-end. Here are a few local ones of that might interest 3RFS music fans.

**UnTapped Blues and Brews Festival:** Fri., 8 May at Clover Island Inn and Sat., 9 May at Benton Franklin County Fairgrounds. Friday night's headliner is Too Slim and the Taildraggers. Saturday night features the Taj Mahal trio! see <http://untappedblues.com>

**Sacajawea Bluegrass Festival and Dutch Oven Rendezvous:** Fri-Sun, 12-14 June, Sacajawea State Park, Pasco. The Mid-Columbia Traditional Arts and Music Association (MCTAMA) puts on this festival, with regional and national acts of the highest caliber. Admission to the state park is covered by your festival ticket. For schedule, ticket, volunteer info <http://www.mctama.org/sacajawea-bluegrass-festival>

**Prosser Scottish Fest and Highland Games:** Sat, 20 June, Port of Benton Wine and Food Park, Prosser. Celtic Music, Pipe Bands, Highland Dancers, Highland Heavy Athletics and more! <http://prosserscottishfest.org/>

**Ye Merrie Greenwood Faire:** Sat-Sun, 27-28 June, Howard Amon Park, Richland. This has been a gem of a Renaissance Faire for 29 years! For information see <http://yemerriegreenwoodfaire.org>

## More NW Festivals!

Hit the road for more great music ! **Northwest Folklife Festival:** Fri-Mon, 22-25 May, Seattle Center. The hugest, fullest, community-festival we've ever seen! Music, dance, food, art, jamming. [www.northwestfolklife.org](http://www.northwestfolklife.org)

**Wenatchee River Bluegrass Festival:** Fri-Sun, 19-21 June, Chelan County Expo Center, Cashmere, WA. Instrument workshops, food, band scramble on outdoor covered stage. Main acts perform indoors. Camping available. <http://www.cashmerecoffeehouse.com/wrbfest.htm>

**Yakima Folklife Festival:** Fri-Sun, 10-12 July. Downtown Yakima venues on Friday and Saturday nights; Franklin Park and Yakima Valley Museum during the day Saturday and Sunday. Our friends in Yakima have put on this lovely, free festival every one of the past 33 years. <http://www.yakimafolklife.com>

**Columbia Gorge Bluegrass Festival:** July 23-26, Stevenson, Washington. National and regional favorites, contests, camping, beer garden. <http://www.columbiagorgebluegrass.net>

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Editor: Mary Hartman  
Production: Kendal Smith  
Original Design: Theresa Grate  
Send items of interest to: [mail@3rfs.org](mailto:mail@3rfs.org)  
Send memberships to: Gene Carbaugh  
P.O. Box 1098, Richland, WA 99352

### 3RFS 2014-15 Board of Directors

Nancy Ostergaard, President	396-7448
Micki Perry, Vice President	783-9937
Frank Cuta, Secretary	967-2658
Gene Carbaugh, Treasurer	946-0504

### Members at Large:

Connie Eckard	946-2441
Jim Kelly	627-1016
Bob Lewis	374-7520
<b>3RFS Info:</b> <a href="http://www.3rfs.org">www.3rfs.org</a>	<b>509 528-2215</b>

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

## Out of Town

### May

**14** Will West and the Friendly Strangers 7:30 PM Thu  
GESA Powerhouse Theater,  
111 N. Sixth Ave., Walla Walla  
509 529-6500

**16** Walla Walla Contra Dance  
7:30 PM, Sat, 810 C Street,  
Walla Walla

See "More Festivals!" for more out of town music all summer long.

## House Concert at Micki's

Thursday, 4 June, 7:00 PM

Dave and Sharon Thormalen, from Corvallis, Oregon, will perform at the home of Micki Perry. They're former members of the Swing Beans, who played here in the early days of 3RFS. For over 25 years Dave has made Thormalen harps. Sharon plays the harp composing many original tunes for it. Cost is \$15 including refreshments. Call Micki at 509-783-9937 or 509-947-6735 to reserve a spot, space is limited.

## Coffee Break

Big round of applause to Alan Page and Derek Westlund for another wonderful season. The Coffeehouse is on break and will return in September.

## SSSSS Sails on in The Summer

Saturday, 9 May, 7:00 PM

If it's the 2nd Saturday of the month, you can bet we'll have a 2nd Saturday Sea Song Singalong at Round Table Pizza in Richland. It's a group of friendly, fun music-lovers singing sea songs and more. We meet around 7:00 PM and there is no cost except for the food and beverages.

## Local Folk Events

### May

<b>1</b> First Friday Folkie Free-For-All	7:30 PM Fri	Micki Perry's Kennewick
<b>2</b> Uncle Bonsai Concert	7:30 PM Sat	CUUC Pasco
<b>8-9</b> UnTapped Blues & Brews Festival with Taj Mahal <a href="http://untappedblues.com">untappedblues.com</a>	Fri (Clover Island Inn) Sat(Benton Franklin Fairgrounds)	
<b>9</b> 2nd Saturday Sea Song Singalong	7:00 PM Sat	Round Table Pizza, Richland
<b>11</b> 3RFS Board Meeting	7:00 PM Mon	Gene Carbaugh's Richland
<b>16</b> 3RFS Annual Meeting and Concert with Spanaway Bay	7:30 PM Sat	CUUC
<b>16</b> Deadline for Tumbleweed Performer and Song Contest applications		
<b>19</b> Tumbleweed Planning Meeting	7:00 PM Tues	Gene Carbaugh's

### June

<b>4</b> Dave and Sharon Thormalen House Concert	7:00 PM Thurs	Micki Perry's
<b>5</b> First Friday Folkie Free-For-All	7:30 PM Fri	Micki Perry's
<b>8</b> 3RFS Board Meeting	7:00 PM Mon	Gene Carbaugh's Richland
<b>12-14</b> Sacajawea Bluegrass Festival	Fri-Sun	Sacajawea State Park, Pasco
<b>13</b> 2nd Saturday Sea Song Singalong	7:00 PM Sat	Round Table Pizza, Richland
<b>16</b> Tumbleweed Planning Meeting	7:00 PM Tues	Gene Carbaugh's
<b>27-28</b> Ye Merrie Greenwood Renaissance Faire <a href="http://yemerriegreenwoodfaire.org/">http://yemerriegreenwoodfaire.org/</a>	10:00 AM to 5:00 PM Sat-Sun	Howard Amon Park, Richland

### July

<b>1</b> Deadline for Tumbleweed food and arts and crafts applications		
<b>3</b> First Friday Folkie Free-For-All	7:30 PM Fri	Micki Perry's
<b>11</b> 2nd Saturday Sea Song Singalong	7:00 PM Sat	Round Table Pizza, Richland
<b>13</b> 3RFS Board Meeting	7:00 PM Mon	Gene Carbaugh's Richland
<b>21</b> Tumbleweed 2015 Planning Meeting	7:00 PM Tues	Gene Carbaugh's Richland

All Saints' = All Saints' Episcopal Church, 1322 Kimball Ave., Richland  
CUUC = Community Unitarian Universalist Church, 2819 W. Sylvester St., Pasco  
Gene Carbaugh's = 803 Birch St., Richland  
Micki Perry's = 1011 S. Dawes St., Kennewick  
Round Table Pizza = Corner of George Washington Way and Torbett St., Richland

For information, call 509 528-2215