

FOLK CLUB OF SOUTH FLORIDA

FOLK NOTES

Contemporary, traditional, roots and alternative music

September 2008

ACOUSTIC UNDERGROUND

CONCERT SERIES *PRESENTS:*

Paul T

Saturday, Sept. 6, 8 p.m.

Paul T. Morris (a.k.a. Paul T.) reminds you of a comfortable old baseball glove that just fits right, has taken you through many games and puts you in the right groove to play a good



game. When he settles into a comfortable riff you relax and go with his music not unlike Johnny Cash would have set up for you. With more decades of professional playing than any of us want to own up to, he might bring you a rhythm reminiscent of a 1950s stroll, or a solid country one/two beat, a gentle waltz ballad or a driving, high-energy wake'm-up piece. Whatever he offers up, you are glad to be in the moment enjoying it.

Paul T. has performed all over this nation but has taken to South Florida and we have taken to him. From Palm Beach County to the Keys, he has been getting more and more sand in his shoes playing many of our venues and drinking in our mindset and life style. An Arizona native, he still sings and talks of his home state fondly, but he is settling in here. Named "Arizona's No. 1 Songwriter" by the Arizona

Republic in 1988, his work has been recorded by several artists on major labels and used as soundtrack and theme music for television programs.

Paul T's wide-ranging material, rock-based acoustic grooves, and captivating, high-energy live shows have made him in demand for 35 years at state and county fairs, for the National Anthem at major league games, and as a favorite soloist on Carnival Cruises worldwide. Paul T has played with many of the great musicians who define our times, including: Alabama, Gregg Allman, John Anderson, Eddy Arnold, Hoyt Axton, Moe Bandy, Gary U.S. Bonds, Roy Clark, John Conlee, Gail Davies, Mac Davis, the Gatlin Brothers, Vern Gosdin, Dr. Hook, Delbert McClinton, Ronnie Milsap, Ricky Nelson, Willie Nelson, Buck Owens, Johnny Paycheck, Charlie Pride, Jerry Reid, Johnny Rodriguez, Mel Tillis, Tanya Tucker, and the legendary Don Williams.

Paul T is at his best with his personal story songs, full of humor, tragedy, tenderness and commentary on everyday life in all its fragile and absurd reality, and imbued with a natural empathy for the roots of country music. "Tracing my song lines and everything I know about the power of music back to the late William E. ("Bill") Compton, the father of open-format FM radio in Phoenix ... driving old pickup trucks held together with duct tape and hairpins ... listening to Cat Stevens, John Stewart, Richie Havens, the Beatles ... through quiet desert nights where clouds float across the moon ... the Mesoamerican and life-changing rhythms of wind slapping the lines on a flagpole ... a woman who knows more than she lets on ... and the powerful faces of our street people and our vets, the real heroes...."

Listen to Paul T online at www.paultmorris.com, then come over to Luna Star and enjoy the evening. **Saturday, Sept. 6, at 8 p.m.**

LUNA STAR CAFE

775 NE 125th St., North Miami. Phone 305-799-7123
Requested contribution \$7 for member of any folk club; \$10 for non-member

THE PREZ SAYS . . .

Tropical Storm Fay, too many concerts?, Thanks Barker

By Barry J. White

They spelled the name wrong. Tropical Storm Fay should have been spelled Fey.



As many of you know, fey in some languages means strange, unknown, and foreign. And that storm certainly was. There must be many weather forecasters who wonder if they just shouldn't chuck their tools and get out Ouija boards; they would have been just as accurate. Certainly

the huge amounts of water in northeastern Florida were a disaster for many and we hope they are whole and comfortable soon.

But we really needed the rain and God works in mysterious ways. How does a storm wind its way all the way up and across our peninsula, just where the water was needed? Anyone who predicted that would be in a padded room. As with many things in Florida, life here is a constant wonder and adventure; we never know what nature or man will do. If you have the stomach for it, it's a great ride.

On September 6, as you can see on Page One, we have two exciting shows. Some have said that the Luna Star event should have been moved to another date. Have you ever been to New York City? Did you note the hundreds of important, quality and worthy events going on at the same time? While the fundraiser for the Broward Folk Club deserves full support from all of us, the first Saturday of every month has been sponsored by the Folk Club of South Florida for more than eight years. Scheduling of national touring artists is mostly dependant upon their unique logistics and we are sure that was the case here. So, we are blessed with two fine events on one night; bully for us. If you choose to come to the Luna Star Café or you cannot make the BFC event but you want to support the Broward Folk Club, buy a ticket and

ask them to give it to someone who would not ordinarily attend such a show.

Our thanks to our good friend John Barker for filling in as editor of Folk Notes for July and August while "Hop", John Hopkins, was on vacation. Both issues were first-rate and we appreciate John B's fastidious and dedicated work.

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Broward Folk Club
presents

An Evening with Zoë Lewis

Saturday, Sept. 6, 8 p.m.

The Broward Folk Club, in conjunction with the Broward County Cultural Division, presents An Evening with Zoë Lewis. ZOË is a band in a body! She plays jazz, jump jive, Latin grooves, swing, international folk, and funk originals on anything from the piano to the spoons! Troubadour / vaudevillian / storyteller / singer-songwriter / piece of work! Her music is upbeat, amusing and perfect for all ages. Come and experience and support the arts, via this live musical event, in a comfortable theatrical setting. Learn about the Broward Folk Club, and help raise funds to be used toward the 2009 South Florida Folk Festival. The 2008 Festival was a financial disaster thanks to an exceptionally rainy weekend.

Broward County Main Library Auditorium, 100 S. Andrews Ave., Fort Lauderdale. Premium seats \$25, general admission \$20. There's a \$5 discount for members of the BFC or the Folk Club of South Florida.

TRIP REPORTS

A green and tuneful Ottawa

By Linda Singer

Imagine enjoying pleasant days, cool evenings, breezes, strikingly beautiful sunsets on a scenic river

while being at a fantastic folk festival in August. My husband, Dave, and I just attended the 15th annual Ottawa Folk Festival, Aug. 14-17. It was amazing. Six hundred fifty volunteers and paid staff worked to get grants, donors, and sponsors and to market and sell tickets, creating a professional-quality festival. They had a huge main stage with professional lighting and sound, a hall auditorium, and various



Tao Rodriguez-Seeger at the Ottawa Folk Festival, 2008

music tents, including an 8,000-square-foot dance tent. They had about 32,000 attendees. The Ottawa Folklore Center hosted various informative workshops from learning how to play didgeridoos and tin whistles to learning how to choose guitar strings, how to string your guitar and how to maintain your guitar. (After all these years of playing guitar without knowing that basic information, I found the guitar string workshop most helpful). There were ukulele- and drum-making workshops.

This year for the first time, they had a totally green festival. The food vendors, which included Caribbean, Thai and vegetarian fare, served on reusable plates with silverware. People returned their dishes and flatware to be washed by volunteers using solar-heated water. Compostable beer cups were deposited in cup holders beside trash bins, where they were recycled. The toilet facilities were always kept immaculate by both paid staff and volunteers. Outside of the portable toilets, there were foot-operated pumps to draw water into the portable sinks so that people could wash their hands. There was an enviro tent that produced programs geared to raise environmental awareness.

A local yoga school held classes outdoors. Yoga

was incorporated between acts on the main stage. While the next act was setting up, a yoga instructor would lead everyone in doing yoga stretches. I sure appreciated it, as the yoga breaks renewed me.

A smaller tent stage next to the main stage was used by performers and the yoga instructors between main-stage acts.

Now for the music: remember Country Joe and the Fish (*I Feel Like I'm Fixing to Die Rag*)? Country Joe McDonald is still alive, kicking, and strumming. He performed three times, to the delight of the audience. He has updated his Vietnam War protest to include Afghanistan and Iraq and to include women serving in the military. He put a Robert Service poem to music most excellently.

Odetta, who is now 78, performed from a wheelchair, with her powerful messages. She had wanted to be an opera singer when young, but growing up during the Jim Crow era made that impossible.

Pete Seeger's grandson, Tao Rodriguez-Seeger, exhibited his ancestral values of struggle, solidarity, and hope. The Carolina Chocolate Drops were much beloved, performing folksy, traditional style music, and dancing up a storm.

You probably have not heard of the Canadian artists. There is a parallel universe to ours in Canada



that is generally unknown to Americans, with very talented artists. I enjoyed this 25-year-old blues artist, Roxanne Potvin, for one for example.

How can one person make a difference? Chalmers Doane was honored at the festival for his achievement. Having been a musician and a director of music education in Halifax, he improved choral and instrumental music education programs. Recognizing the potential of the ukulele as an effective, affordable way to teach music to kids, he created a method and taught teachers how to deliver enthusiastic music education. At one point, 50,000 school children and adults throughout Canada and

parts of the United States were learning to play the ukulele as a direct result of his work.

I never took the ukulele seriously before. It never sounded that good to me. Then James Hill, a former student of the Doane method, performed on main stage with his ukulele. I never knew the instrument could sound so good in so many different genres. He was most impressive and delightful to listen to.

Canada has a very active folk tradition. There

are folk festivals all over. We were lucky to attend the Ottawa Folk Festival. Check their website at www.ottawafolk.org to learn more.

If you decide to go, you will need chairs. I expected to be able to buy lawn or camping chairs easily in Ottawa, but learned after checking several stores that they are considered to be a seasonal commodity and mid-August is not their season! Either take your own camping chair that can fit into your luggage or buy one at Canadian Tire.

Old-time licks, played right

By Tony Thomas

I was lucky enough to spend Aug. 3-10 at the Augusta Heritage Center's Old-Time Music Week at Davis & Elkins College in Elkins, W.Va. At the same time there was also a dance week that involved everything from mountain flatfoot and buck dancing to tango, jazz, and blues dancing, and a vocal week that involved everything from British traditional ballads, singer-songwriter music, to jazz, gospel and rap. Augusta also has an extensive Elderhostel program that opens these programs to seniors.

I took the week-long intermediate banjo class taught by prize-winning claw-hammer banjoist Hilarie Burhans. I had been invited into the advanced course by Joe Newberry, but I wanted to review fundamentals and learn to do things I can do fast, right, not just fast. The class did succeed; folks at the Luna Star on Saturday night said they'd never heard my banjo playing better!

I also attended daily workshops by other players

which were fascinating, especially those by West Virginia fiddler and fiddle-maker David Bing and champion flat-pick guitar player Steve Kilby, and films on the history of traditional music in West Virginia. Every day after lunch, the old-time program offered a concert by the instructors or by traditional fiddle and banjo players from West Virginia and Kentucky. There were three major concerts by combined instructors and name performers from the old-time, vocal, and dance program. Every night, an old-time or contra dance was held. On Saturday, the scene switched to a nearby Elkins city park for an annual old-time festival open to the public.

What I really liked were the personal interaction, the friendliness, and the accessibility of folks of different experiences. The first dinner I sat down to on Sunday, I ended up sitting with Bruce Molksy, a great musician known as a fiddler and banjoist and to finally meet master banjoist Joe Newberry whom I'd met over MySpace. Later I became friends with the great dulcimer player Don Pedit; we both loved the great ice cream that was there for anyone who wanted it. But it was also the opportunity to meet and make friends with all kinds of players, as well as people who were



Fiddlers Chance McCoy and Scott Prouty and banjoist Anna Roberts-Gevalt play for old-time dancer. Photo by Tony Thomas.

in the vocal, dance, and Elderhostel programs that really made this thrilling for me.

Everyone seemed to offer something special: The 10-year-old Grace was one of the best players in our banjo class; Sam, a retired high-school principal from Denver had gone back to the banjo in retirement; two virtuosi ukulele players and professors of dance came from Virginia Tech in Blacksburg; Claire, a just-retired librarian from Chevy Chase, Md., was planning to put on *South Pacific* in her living room; a whole bevy of English were there – both ex-pats and folks who had come all the way from the soggy isle for Augusta and the Clifftop Festival held the previous week.

Augusta had many young folks in their teens and 20s who were terrific fiddle, banjo, and guitar players. They performed, taught, and were the center of the hot jams that ran later and later every night. That's refreshing because like other forms of folk music, often Old-Time Music gatherings seem more like an AARP convention. Look out for great young old-time stars in the making: Chance McCoy, Jimmy Triplett, and fiddler-banjoist Anna Roberts Gevalt.



The intermediate banjo class at Augusta celebrates with champagne at week's end. Tony Thomas is at the far right and the instructor, Hilarie Burhans, is fourth from left. Photo by John Voss.

The most fun was the playing and jamming. Jamming went on at every break and in the evenings after the concerts and classes. It kept going later

every evening; Saturday night, folks were picking until the sun came up. I was in a dorm across from where the instructors stayed, and I heard some great music when players like Bruce Molksy, Joe Newberry, and Triplett gathered to pick. I didn't mind that they played until long after my 2 a.m. bedtime.

It was nice because instead of large orchestrated jams involving 20-30 musicians that I have seen elsewhere, at Augusta small jams of 5-10 were spread around the campus and the dorms, mixing beginners and old timers, playing at different speeds and different kinds of Old-Time Music. Also, people doing old-time dancing, both from the old-time and the dance programs, were always around to dance to the jams – which made them special because the music is really dance, not concert music.

Even if you aren't into Old-Time Music, each summer Augusta offers weeks devoted to Appalachian crafts, swing, jazz, blues, bluegrass, and the guitar. It's worth it not just to learn but to be in a world where everyone shares your interests and where music, dance and friendship seem to be in bloom.

Selected links

Augusta Heritage Center

<http://www.augustaheritage.com/>

Hilarie Burhans

<http://contradance.googlepages.com/hilarieburchansclawhammerbanjo>

Steve Kilby <http://www.kilbymusic.com/>

Chance McCoy

<http://www.myspace.com/chancemccoy>

Jimmy Triplett

<http://www.oldtimeherald.org/archive/backissues/volume-11/11-1/triplett.html>

Folk calendar for September

All events start at 8 p.m. unless time is given. Our club events are in bold.

1	Mon	Open mic > Java D'Lites , Coral Springs, 8:30 pm Acoustic open mic > Marvelous Coffee , Cooper City
2	Tue	Lou's jam > Luna Star Café , North Miami, 5-7 pm Old-time music jam > Elks , Pompano Beach, 7-10 pm Acoustic open mic > Chocolate Moose , Davie, 7 pm Shauna Sweeney open mic > Kingshead Pub , Sunrise Blues jam > Nitecap Lounge , North Miami Beach, 9 pm
3	Wed	August Campbell > Churchill's , Miami, 10 pm
4	Thu	Open mic > Elks , South Miami Diane Ferlatte , songs & stories > North Dade Regional Library, 7:30 pm
5	Fri	Luna Star TBA check website or call 305-799-7123 Diane Ferlatte , songs & stories > North Dade Regional Library, 9:30 am-4:30 pm
6	Sat	Bluegrass jam > Lake Forest fire station, Hollywood, 3 pm Paul T, Acoustic Underground Concert > Luna Star Café , North Miami (see page 1) Zoë Lewis, Jacob Jeffries, Laura Sue; Broward Folk Club benefit > Broward Main Library Open mic > Chocolate Moose , Davie, 8:30 pm
7	Sun	John Brown's open mic > JohnMartin's , Coral Gables Folk & Acoustic Music: Michael Stock , host - 91.3 FM, 2 pm Bluegrass festival > The Oak Grove , North Miami Beach, 12:30 pm
8	Mon	Open mic > Java D'Lites , Coral Springs, 8:30 pm Acoustic open mic > Marvelous Coffee , Cooper City
9	Tue	Lou's music jam > Luna Star Café , North Miami, 5-7 pm Old time music > Elks , Pompano Beach, 7 pm Acoustic open mic > Chocolate Moose , Davie, 7 pm

		Shauna Sweeney open mic > Kingshead Pub , Sunrise Open blues jam > Nitecap Lounge , North Miami Beach, 9 pm
10	Wed	Nashville Songwriters in the Round > Luna Star Café , North Miami
11	Thu	Open mic > Elks , South Miami Raffa and Rainer > Luna Star , 11 pm
12	Fri	Luna Star TBA check website or call 305-799-7123
13	Sat	Ellen Bukstel / Mindy Simmons > Labyrinth Café , Oakland Park, 7:30 pm Open mic > Luna Star Café , North Miami Open mic > Chocolate Moose , Davie, 8:30 pm Open mic (Broward Folk Club) > Brass Monkey, Coral Springs Peters Rd. Swamp Blues Band > Brass Monkey, 10 pm Bluegrass jam > Lake Forest fire station, Hollywood, 3 pm
14	Sun	John Brown's open mic, JohnMartin's , Coral Gables Folk & Acoustic Music: Michael Stock , host - 91.3 FM, 2 pm Open house song swap > The Whites, Kendall, 5 pm (see page 7) Open mic > Starbucks, Miami Springs
15	Mon	Open mic, Java D'Lites , Coral Springs, 8:30 pm Outta d'Blues > The Barnacle , Coconut Grove, 6 pm (music 7-9 pm) Acoustic open mic, Marvelous Coffee , Cooper City
16	Tue	Lou's jam > Luna Star Café , North Miami, 5-7 pm Irish music > Luna Star , 7 pm Old time music > Elks , Pompano Beach Acoustic open mic, Chocolate Moose , Davie, 7 pm Blues jam, Nitecap Lounge , North Miami Beach, 9 pm
18	Thu	Open mic, Elks , South Miami
19	Fri	Luna Star TBA check website or call 305-799-7123 Jesse Jackson > Luna Star Café
20	Sat	Diane Ward > Luna Star Café Open mic > Chocolate Moose , Davie, 8:30 pm Bluegrass jam > Lake Forest fire station, Hollywood, 3 pm Valerie C. Wisecracker > Les Beans Café, Lake Worth, 8 pm

21	Sun	John Brown's open mic, JohnMartin's, Coral Gables Bluegrass & Barbecue > Old Davie Schoolhouse , noon to 5 pm Folk & Acoustic Music: Michael Stock , host - 91.3 FM, 2 pm
22	Mon	Open mic, Java D'Lites , Coral Springs, 8:30 pm Acoustic open mic, Marvelous Coffee, Cooper City Blues open mic > Chocolate Moose, Davie
23	Tue	Lou's jam > Luna Star Café, North Miami , 5-7 pm Old time music > Elks, Pompano Beach Acoustic open mic > Chocolate Moose, Davie , 7 pm Shauna Sweeney open mic > Kingshead Pub, Sunrise Blues jam > Nitecap Lounge, North Miami Beach , 9 pm
25	Thu	Open mic > Elks, South Miami
26	Friday	Out of the Blue > Luna Star Café, North Miami
27	Sat	Open mic > Luna Star, North Miami Open mic > Chocolate Moose, Davie , 8:30 pm Bluegrass jam > Lake Forest fire station, Hollywood, 3 pm Valerie C. Wisecracker > Florida Keys Birding & Wildlife Fest, Marathon
28	Sun	John Brown's open mic > JohnMartin's, Coral Gables Folk & Acoustic Music: Michael Stock , host - 91.3 FM, 2 pm BFC Music In The Park > Secret Woods, Dania Beach, 2 pm
29	Mon	Open mic > Java D'Lites, Coral Springs , 8:30 pm Acoustic open mic > Marvelous Coffee, Cooper City
30	Tue	Lou's jam > Luna Star Café, North Miami , 5-7 pm Old time music > Elks, Pompano Beach Acoustic open mic > Chocolate Moose, Davie , 7 pm Shauna Sweeney open mic > Kingshead Pub, Sunrise Blues jam > Nitecap Lounge, North Miami Beach , 9 pm

Fuller detail about events and venues may be found at www.gotfolk.com. To add an event to our calendar, e-mail writerrad@aol.com – before the 18th of the previous month.

Song Swap

We thank Chris Kirchner and Mike Malone, who graciously hosted August's open house and song swap, providing food and a convivial environment to all attendees. There were many newcomers, who we hope will come back.

September's open house and song swap for The Folk Club of South Florida will be held on Sunday, Sept. 14, from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the home of Ronnie and President Barry White, 10001 SW 129th Terrace, northwest of the Falls Shopping Center in Kendall. Call for directions. Their phone number is 305-251-1960.

Please bring your contribution to a pot-luck dinner, musical instruments that you care to play, and songs to sing.

–Linda Singer

Contra crowd in full swing

Sept. 13: **Second Saturday Contra Dance - Davie Barn Dance**, beginners lesson 7:30pm, dance 8-11 p.m., \$10. The band is Loose Shoes, the caller, Warren Pollans.

For complete contra listings in South Florida (and the best events upstate), ask Cliff to send you his twice-monthly e-mail. Drop a note to CliffBC@gmail.com, and tell him Folk Notes sent you.

Luna Star Café

Bored with the average? Come feed your mind as well as your face.

We offer fine food, exotic coffees, beers, & spice beverages, along with the best in art, poetry, story-telling, folk and traditional music, blues and jazz. It's a living room atmosphere, and a place for stimulating conversation. 775 NE 125th St., North Miami - (305) 892-8522. Open to midnight Tuesday through Friday and to 1 am on Saturday nights.



FOLK CLUB OF SOUTH FLORIDA

Is a non-profit organization (501-C) and member of The North American Folk Music and Dance Alliance. We proudly support Friends of Florida Folk and the radio station WLRN in Miami, Florida.

President and director **Barry J. White**, 305-251-1960, bwtamia@bellsouth.net
Vice-President and director **Valerie Caracappa**, 305-891-3528
Secretary and director vacant
Treasurer and director **Jane Matthews**, mommamatt@aol.com
Director Carol Foster, Mangomum2@aol.com
Director Tony Thomas, writerrad@aol.com
Director Bob Ingram, gingham38@bellsouth.net
Director Charlie Rathburn, CRatMiami@aol.com
Director Michael Stock, 305-995-2264 or mstock@wlrn.org
Members-At-Large: Nellie Lee, Win Lippert, Grant Livingston, Linda Singer, Andrew Susman and Frost Walker

Newsletter: John Hopkins, 786-242-0766 or jdh-miami@att.net

Barker House Concert Series: www.floridamusic.org
Broward Folk Club: www.browardfolkclub.com
Local Folk Music Resources: www.gotfolk.com
North American Folk Music and Dance Alliance: www.folk.org
South Florida Folk Festival: www.southfloridafolkfest.com
Palm Beach Folk Club: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/pbfcchat>

WEBSITE LINKS

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PLEASE FILL OUT MEMBERSHIP INFO AND
MAIL YOUR TAX-DEDUCTIBLE CHECK

Made out to:

FOLK CLUB OF SOUTH FLORIDA
10001 SW 129 Terrace
Miami, FL 33176

Annual membership entitles you to a special rate on concerts, a monthly newsletter and admission to our annual party featuring complimentary food and music. Please choose the membership that is best suited for you and your family:

**INDIVIDUAL \$20.00 -- FAMILY \$25.00 --
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THE FOLK CLUB OF SOUTH FLORIDA
10001 SW 129 Terrace
Miami, FL 33176

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DON'T MISS:

- PAUL T at the Luna Star Café, 8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 6
- SONG SWAP near The Falls, 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 14, phone 305-251-1960
- FOLK & ACOUSTIC MUSIC with MICHAEL STOCK, Sundays 2-5 PM, WLRN 91.3 MHz