

# FOLK CLUB OF SOUTH FLORIDA

# FOLK NOTES

Contemporary, traditional, roots and alternative music

April 2008



Raffa Jo Harris, right, and Rainer Davies

## ACOUSTIC UNDERGROUND CONCERT SERIES PRESENTS

### Raffa and Rainer

**Saturday, April 5, 8 p.m.**

When we read reviews which describe a Miami act as one of “5 Local Bands You Need To Hear” in one (Jason Jeffers, 944 Magazine, Miami) and “Miami folk heroes” in another and Best Pop Act (Miami New Times), our attention has been obtained and our interest aroused. One of our goals is to bring in emerging performers so we can experience them and for them to get to know a “folk” audience. For many such acts, it is the first step to performing in a

mainstream folk setting and a beginning of a new or additional direction in their career.

944 Magazine continues: “When she's not knitting, Raffa Jo Harris writes cozy, charming, timeless songs that rip your heart out of your chest and hand it back to you in a sandwich bag. A crooning siren, she sings in a voice that sounds like it should be coming from some kind of mountain woman, not a Miami gal who grew up, and still enjoys, booty dancing to bass music. Along with her guitar partner, Rainer Davies, Raffa has carved out a place for herself in the frantic Miami music scene, that of the female troubadour. . . . In their two years together, they've earned a following all over town and (produced) a CD entitled *Stolen Coal*, which has been selling rapidly.”

Their bio continues: "While Miami's folk heroes Raffa and Rainer may not have deciphered the structure of the DNA molecule, levitated giant white tigers, or employed a DJ named Spinderella, they have won the hearts and discerning ears of the Magic City's concert-going faithful ... Besides playing a plethora of local shows, including a recent performance in support of Cat Power and one in the beautiful Spiegelworld tent, Raffa and Rainer have brought their winning combination of haunting melodies, inspired lyrics, and delicate finger-picking to audiences from cabins in Georgia to the frozen tundra of Montreal, and are excited to make the Luna Star Cafe their latest stop on the road of guitar-based singer-songwriter duos."

We are pleased and excited to present them. Get a preview at [www.myspace.com/raffaandrainer](http://www.myspace.com/raffaandrainer)

**Saturday, April 5, at 8 p.m.**

LUNA STAR CAFE

775 NE 125<sup>th</sup> St., North Miami

305-799-7123

Requested contribution \$7 for member of any folk club; \$10 for non-member

## THE PREZ SAYS ...

### Condolences; BBQ

By Barry J. White

We like to consider ourselves a folk family. Whether in the same city or across the nation or world, we feel bound together by our love of and commitment to our special genre. And, like all families, we have our celebrations and our losses, direct and shared.



David Thornburgh was a dedicated supporter and lover of folk music. He showed his love as a performer, songwriter and financial underwriter of folk music. I always enjoyed his enthusiasm for the Folk Club and its mission. Val Wisecracker shares her memories

elsewhere in this issue of Folk Notes. We will miss David's presence but can always draw on the memory of his commitment, energy and work for our music.

We learned that Danny Aaronson's sister passed away in the last week. Our thoughts and condolences are with Danny and his family. May her memory be as a blessing.

On a happier note, we all like a BBQ. (If you're the one who does not, keep it to yourself). So, we found a lovely site and are having a BBQ at our **Annual Meeting** on March 30. The weather forecast looks good and we have a lovely setting for the meeting. Read about it on Page 3 and please make plans to join us.

## MICHAEL STOCK

### On Folk and Acoustic Music

My calendar is pretty empty right now, so I'll let you in on a couple of my unwritten radio DJ rules that I have followed through the years.



I don't like being censored but I do want to keep my show, so I try to stay away from bad words. I also don't like to endorse drug or alcohol use. I figure that I am just a conduit for good music and have access to a great library of important historical folk music as well as the most current singer-songwriters.

I get to choose what I like, but it is just that, what I like. Many times I have played a song that I did not mean to play, and I will get complimented on it. In our folk community, as in the world, we all have different tastes so I try to keep an open mind, and stay within the parameters of (what I think is) Folk & Acoustic Music.

I also try to play music with a positive message. I believe that playing music of aware artists with a smart message, to like-minded listeners like you, will eventually pay off. Our minds will meld and swoop up others who are inquisitive about a higher consciousness. We will all be working toward a better world, a world where everyone will be kind

and care for their fellow man, a world where we all listen to Folk & Acoustic Music.

I am excited about the first Newport Guitar Festival on Miami Beach. The first two weeks in April, I will feature interviews with Henry Lowenstein - the ambitious guitar collector who is putting on the festival. He will bring by a few CDs of artists playing at his festival, and bring some guitars. I don't know how this will play on radio, but I will to my best to describe them, tell you how much they are worth, and not take up too much time doing it.

I did an earlier phone interview with Mary Flower, who will be at the festival, and I will play that interview and something from her new CD as well. I know Lowenstein hasn't asked, but I can already suggest a better name for his festival, maybe the Greenwich Village Newport Austin Nashville Guitar Festival on Miami Beach.

I also have Peter Road 7 coming into the studio April 13, as well as artists who will be performing for Earth Day on April 20 at Crandon Park.

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*Michael Stock's show airs every Sunday from 2 to 5 p.m. on WLRN, 91.3 MHz. You can call Michael at 305-995-2220 or write him at [mstockwlrn.org](mailto:mstockwlrn.org).*

## A member we'll miss

David Thornburgh was a gentle, kind, generous and loving man.

At house parties he would buy six CD's from the artist and then give them away to his friends. This was typical David behavior.

He spent his life surrounded by art, books and his extensive music collection. His recent show of oil paintings at Luna Star Café was a big hit.

David had many letters published in The Miami Herald and was always fighting for the underdog.

He wrote hundreds of songs and would send them out to his friends for their amusement. Some were gentle love songs, others long raves about injustice to others.

He was an amazing man, a generous supporter of our folk club and we will truly miss him.

-Val Wisecracker

## FOLK CLUB OF SOUTH FLORIDA

### ANNUAL MEETING

**Sunday, March 30, 2008 - 11 a.m. to sundown  
Greynolds Park, North Miami Beach**

All paid-up members of the Folk Club of South Florida are invited to our Annual Meeting at the Oleta River shelter in Greynolds Park in North Miami Beach. We will have an election of officers and directors. Information on the process is provided on Page 4 in this edition of Folk Notes.

We will be having a (no additional charge) BBQ including Boca Burgers and corn on the grill -- something for everyone to eat. If you want your food cooked on foil, just tell us. If you want it blackened, we can do that, too.

Enter Greynolds Park off of NE 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, just south of Miami Gardens Drive. The shelter is straight ahead on your left. There is a \$5 per car entry fee for the park.

If you are not already a paid-up member, you can pay up or join at the Annual Meeting. Y'all come. Questions? Call 305-505-9011.

11 a.m. – Gathering, visiting, food with spontaneous outbursts of music, song, and stories  
2 - 3:00 p.m. – Annual meeting and election  
3 p.m. to sundown – Open mic

## Candidate statement

The music and the people involved in the Folk Club of South Florida, have been an important part of my recreational life. So I would like to see our community thrive and continue to offer enjoyable music and good fellowship for many years to come. To that end, I am offering myself as a candidate for election on the folk club board. I hope that in the coming year(s) we will not only continue with our song swaps, but that we can resume offering occasional house concerts to showcase out of town performers. Also, I would like to see the Folk Club of South Florida collaborate with the Broward Folk Club regarding the Annual Folk Festival and other special events.

When I arrived in Miami in the summer of 1980 there was no folk music happening here. The only

music event was the monthly meeting of The South Florida Blue Grass Association. Having been actively involved in folk music and folk dance in New York and New Jersey, my husband and I decided that we wanted to have a similar experience in Miami. So, I chose the name Folk Music Society and placed notices for song swaps in The Miami Herald. The first few gatherings were in my home and later we met at various homes. So the folk music community had its beginning in the fall of 1980.

Since 1980, many good things have evolved. The Folk Club of South Florida was formed as a legal entity, the Broward Folk Club was started by Robby Greenberg, many good friendships have occurred, including at least one marriage. And, of course, there have been many enjoyable musical happenings.

So with this brief history, I am submitting my candidacy for the South Florida Folk Club Board.

- Nellie Lee

**Voting Procedures**

Members may vote for the listed candidates by putting a check by each name or they may line out a listed name and write in another person's name.

Ballots will be provided at the annual meeting. No ballots which are carried in by hand will be counted.

MAIL-IN BALLOTS. The ballot here can be printed out, completed as described above, and mailed in. It must be received by U.S. Mail by Saturday, March 29, 2008. The sealed ballots will be opened by the Election Committee at the Annual Meeting. If the voter is not a paid-up member or if the membership payment is not enclosed with the ballot, it will not be counted. The member's name must be on the outside of the mailed envelope. Ballots must be mailed to:

Folk Club of South Florida  
10001 SW 129 Terrace,  
Miami, FL 33176

**BALLOT**

(An i designates incumbent)

**For president and director**

Barry J. White (i) \_\_\_\_\_

**For vice-president and director**

Valerie Caracappa (i) \_\_\_\_\_

**For secretary and director**

Dan Aaronson (i) \_\_\_\_\_

**For treasurer and director**

Jane Matthews (i) \_\_\_\_\_

**For directors (elect five)**

Carol Foster (i) .....

Bob Ingram (i) .....

Nellie Lee .....

Charlie Rathburn (i) .....

Hannibal Sosa .....

Michael Stock (i) .....

Tony Thomas (i) .....

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## Folk Calendar for April

Where time is not given, check with venue to be sure.

Tue	1	Lou's jam > Luna Star Café Open blues jam > Nitecap
Wed	2	Open mic > Churchill's Pub
Thu	3	Open mic > Elks Rick Udler > Luna Star
Fri	4	J.D. Danner > Luna Star
Sat	5	<b>Raffa &amp; Rainer: Acoustic Underground &gt; Luna Star, 8 p.m.</b>
Sun	6	Folk & Acoustic Music: Michael Stock, host - 91.3 FM, 2 p.m. John Brown presents Acoustic Night at John Martins
Mon	7	Blues open mic > Chocolate Moose
Tue	8	Lou's jam > Luna Open blues jam > Nitecap Skiffle night > Churchill's
Wed	9	Open mic > Churchill's Pub
Thu	10	Open mic > Elks
Fri	11	Newport Guitar Festival > Miami Beach Conv. Ctr., 10 a.m.-7 p The Three Jacks > Luna Star
Sat	12	Newport Guitar Festival > Miami Beach Conv. Ctr., 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Open mic - Luna Star
Sun	13	Newport Guitar Festival > Miami Bch. Conv. Ctr., 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Folk & Acoustic Music: Michael Stock, host - 91.3 FM, 2 p.m. John Brown presents Acoustic Night at John Martins
Mon	14	Blues open mic > Chocolate Moose
Tue	15	Lou's jam > Luna Open blues jam > Nitecap
Wed	16	Open mic > Churchill's Pub
Thu	17	Karma > Luna Star Open mic > Elks
Fri	18	Boomslang Swampsinger > Luna Star
Sat	19	
Sun	20	Folk & Acoustic Music: Michael Stock, host - 91.3 FM, 2 p.m. John Brown presents Acoustic Night at John Martins
Mon	21	Blues open mic > Chocolate Moose

Tue	22	Lou's jam > Luna Open blues jam > Nitecap
Wed	23	Open mic > Churchill's Pub
Thu	24	Open mic > Elks
Fri	25	
Sat	26	Open mic > Luna Star
Sun	27	Folk & Acoustic Music: Michael Stock, host - 91.3 FM, 2 p.m. John Brown presents Acoustic Night at John Martins
Mon	28	Blues open mic > Chocolate Moose
Tue	29	Lou's jam > Luna Open blues jam > Nitecap
Wed	30	Open mic > Churchill's Pub

### Looking ahead

Gamble Rogers Festival, St. Augustine, May 2-4

Events are more fully described at [www.gotfolk.com](http://www.gotfolk.com). To get your event into the Folk Notes calendar for May, e-mail [danaaronson@earthlink.net](mailto:danaaronson@earthlink.net) before April 20.

## Song Swap

Michael and Chris Malone will host our Song Swap on April 13 at their home in South Miami. Bring your tasty contribution for the covered-dish supper at 5 p.m., and plan on the party breaking up at 9 o'clock. For directions, phone 305-662-4003.

## Contra dance

Loose Shoes plays and Brian Kushner calls on April 12 at the Davie Women's Club, 6551 Orange Drive, Davie. Beginners lesson at 7:30 p.m. and dance 8-11 p.m. Bring a snack to share, and \$8 per person.

Want to try the contra dance e-mail group? It's [groups.google.com/group/South\\_Florida\\_Contradance](http://groups.google.com/group/South_Florida_Contradance)

## 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 **Dan Aaronson**, danaaronson@earthlink.net  
Treasurer and director **Jane Matthews**, mommamatt@aol.com  
Director Carol Foster, Mangomum2@aol.com  
Director Betsy Graber, BGraber209@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 jdih-miami@att.net

Barker House Concert Series: [www.floridamusic.org](http://www.floridamusic.org)  
Broward Folk Club: [www.browardfolkclub.com](http://www.browardfolkclub.com)  
Local Folk Music Resources: [www.gotfolk.com](http://www.gotfolk.com)  
North American Folk Music and Dance Alliance: [www.folk.org](http://www.folk.org)  
South Florida Folk Festival: [www.southfloridafolkfest.com](http://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 --  
SUPPORTING \$35.00 -- SUSTAINING  
\$75.00 -- SPONSOR \$125.00**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

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

**First Class Mail**  
**Address Correction Requested**

### DON'T MISS:

- **ANNUAL MEETING**, Greynolds Park, North Miami, 11 a.m. to sundown March 30
- **RAFFA and RAINER** at the Luna Star Café, 8 p.m. Saturday, April 5
- **SONG SWAP** in South Miami, 5 p.m. April 13, phone 305-662-4003
- **FOLK & ACOUSTIC MUSIC** with MICHAEL STOCK, Sundays 2-5 PM, WLRN 91.3 MHz