

F O L K C L U B O F S O U T H F L O R I D A
FOLK NOTES

Contemporary, traditional, roots and alternative music

November 2008

ACOUSTIC UNDERGROUND

CONCERT SERIES PRESENTS:

Brooke Campbell

Saturday, November 1, 8 p.m.

Looking at Brooke Campbell's website and My Space site makes one of an age feel a rush – of warmth and love-of-a-child whom they see emerging into life, engaging the world and sharing – a gift of music and love of life.

Reading the messages posted to her sites you see that she has touched many people with her sound, her stories and her message. They love hearing her. They want to hike and share time with her in the finest and most mellow way.

When a young artist can elicit such responses you only want to hug them, nurture them and, in some small way, share their experience and hope they take joy in the moment, appreciating where they are in their lives, understand how they are affecting people and wish they continue to move wisely and surely along the path they are creating.

Here is some of Brooke's own story:

My hometown was decorated with low-rider trucks with gun racks in the back. And I loved all the music that pumped out of them – r&b and country.

At school, I was fascinated by the artistic kids and would kind of sit at their feet, just soaking up the way they saw the world. The cool kids who came home from college brought the Indigo Girls and James Taylor. I, however, was a bit of a jock. I ran track and did varsity cheerleading (a source for endless ribbing-my friends in the marching band would throw ice at me as I cheered.) and never thought that I could create anything.



Brooke Campbell photo © 2006 by Leslie Ryann McKellar

I started writing kind of as a joke, and haven't stopped in 7 years. I swear, there are few things that I love to do as much as writing music – let's see: that moment in hiking a mountain when you break the trees and get the view, having close friends who have known me forever over for a visit, giving something of myself that I don't think I can – stuff like that.

I'm so grateful to have people who tell me when they think I'm writing crap. That is absolutely invaluable.

Since I seem to have to keep writing, I hope to use their wisdom and the stuff that time teaches to improve ...

Join us at Luna Star for the continuation and to enjoy Brooke Campbell's first show in South Florida. And visit her websites to hear her music.

<http://www.brooke-campbell.com/music.html>

<http://profile.myspace.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=user.viewprofile&friendID=61481364>



Our new-talent spotlight this month falls on Amanda Stallings, opening for Brooke.

Saturday, Nov. 1, 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 . . .

South Floridians sing for the whole land

By Barry J. White

For anyone who identifies with the traditional folk music, these are heady and fertile times since much of the energy for such music comes from strife. Political, economic, social. Without protest, except for broken hearts, the genre would hardly exist.



A fine example of this is the work of our own

Ellen Bukstel and her nationally recognized ditty *They Lost My Vote 2008*. Cleverly and insightfully written by her and Nancy Wuerzburger, well-performed and now with an excellent world-class video, she has definitely boarded the protest train with as much aplomb as Jesse James. Check her out at

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MSUSwDckKsY>

Another song to gain national attention is Rod MacDonald's *My Neighbors in Delray*. In a poignant and personal song, he tells a first-hand story as filled with irony and hurt as any great novel. Whenever he performs it publicly, it is apparent that he strikes at the gravely insulted fiber of an injured and enraged people who might only be guilty of being too open, too welcoming, too naïve.

Is there something unique or nurturing about South Florida that we are able to send out missives which speak to and define what our fellow citizens are thinking and experiencing? Or could it be that our small, little-known but tenacious folk music subculture, which as been simmering and fermenting under the radar for the last 40 years down here, since the early days when Bob Ingram and his friends held forth, has grown some fine showpiece specimens and borne some fine fruit?

We have several other local artists who have written enduring messages such as Valerie C. Wisecracker and Amy Carol Webb. Congratulations to these and others in our circle whose music has gone beyond our borders. In this day of instant gratification and seven-second sound bites, their success reminds us that there are no short cuts to their level of achievement and no substitute for hard work and persistent dedication to a career or craft.

Swell kickoff for SE Folk Alliance

By Doug Spears

I was blown away by the level of talent present at the first conference of the Southeastern Regional Folk Alliance, held at Middle Tennessee State University during October. As is typical for these conferences, there were "official" showcases for

artists selected by the SERFA committee, private or “guerrilla” showcases back in the hotel late at night, and a “fast pitch” showcase Sunday for artists selected, again, by the SERFA committee. I performed in three guerrilla showcases and the fast-pitch one. I watched a lot of performances in the course of the 2½ days. My usual experience is that you see an even mix of weak, average and strong performances. However, this crowd was strong across the board. There were no performances that wouldn’t have been well-received at any festival or house concert throughout Florida and the rest of the Southeast. I was quite impressed!

This initial conference was fairly small (about 100 attending), but VERY well organized, thanks to the SERFA Six – our president, Kari Estrin, along with Denise Williams, Betty Friedrichsen, John Stoecker, Christine Stay and Charlie Dahan. It was a terrific kickoff for what I’m certain will become the strongest regional presence in Folk Alliance.

I had the chance to renew old acquaintances and make so many new ones. I doubt there were 10 people at this conference who I didn’t get to spend time with in one way or another. I had questioned whether the expense would be worth it to me, but I worried without reason! Besides making some very promising booking contacts I got some great information from the workshops and feel part of an authentic, larger folk family.

If you want to get involved in SERFA, start by getting onto SERFA’s list serve at lists.serfa.org/listinfo.cgi/serfa-serfa.org or by joining their Yahoo Group at launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/SoutheastFolk. Next year’s conference will be held Oct. 14-18 at the Ozark Folk Center – www.ozarkfolkcenter.com – in Mountainview, Ark. Put it on your calendar now!

Doug Spears is an Orlando singer-songwriter. This article is adapted from his e-mail journal, “Notes from the Road.” www.dougspearsmusic.com

Song swap and open house

The Folk Club of South Florida song swap, covered dish supper and open house will be held

from 5 to 9 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 9, at the home of Jane Walker. Come to play, sing, or listen. Please bring your pot-luck contribution for dinner.

Address: 14250 SW 105th Terrace, Miami

Telephone: 305-772-5670

Directions: Go west on SW 104th Street, then south on SW 143rd Avenue. At the end of 143rd, turn left on SW 105th Terrace. (To get a good map, visit Google.)

Thank you to all who attended and supported the September open house and song swap at our house. It was amazing. Many of the attendees have told me how enjoyable they found it to be. I didn’t know so many people could fit in our house!

– Linda Singer

Riffs and pull-offs

By John Hopkins

It was my great pleasure to hear Michael Smith’s house concert at Arlene Boumel’s a few nights ago, and a thrill to see his body language as he played songs that until then I knew only from CDs.

Thinking of *Sister Clarissa* and of *I Brought my Father With Me*, I told him I especially admired his story-telling, and asked if much of it was from his own life. Yes, he said, it is. “I used to take a grain of fact,” he said, “and make it grow for the song, but the older I get the more of what I write is real.”

Maturity does aid candor, no doubt. Knowing that one’s time on Earth is finite must encourage honesty.

Speaking of finite time, what a sweet taste of imagined reality is found in *The Dutchman*! Smith generously touted [Liam Clancy’s performance](#) of his song, which you can find on YouTube, then proceeded to play and sing, movingly, as our 42 voices joined on the chorus. As always, I teared up at Margaret’s seeing her unborn children in the old man’s eyes.

Barry White has some *Rise Up Singing* songbooks that he would part with for \$15 each. Pete Seeger helped compile this 281-page collection of nearly 1,200 songs, with lyrics and guitar chords.

Call Barry at 305-251-1960 or drop a note to bwtamia@bellsouth.net.

Have you got your December calendar handy? Our club's Acoustic Underground headliner on Dec. 6 is the world-traveling Annie Wenz, a singer-songwriter worth planning for. If you don't know her work, check out www.anniewenz.com or www.myspace.com/anniewenz.

Also save Sunday, Jan. 18, 2009, for the South Florida Folk Roundup. The Broward Folk Club is planning nine hours of good music that afternoon and evening – not quite the South Florida Folk Festival, but surely worthwhile. Look for more about this event in Folk Notes next month.

When the Wall Street Journal writes on *The State of the World in Bluegrass*, the music has arrived. You probably won't find the article online anymore, but look up the Oct. 28 paper for Barry Mazor's report on six honorees at the International Bluegrass Music Association Awards. The hot six:

- Dailey and Vincent
- Dale Ann Bradley
- Michael Cleveland & Flamekeeper
- Andy Hall
- The Steeldrivers
- Everett Lilly

Heard on XM Radio lately is *32 Cents*, a new album from Arlo Guthrie, who is joined in this tribute to his dad by The Dillards. Arlo plans a Florida tour in February and March next year, with Fort Lauderdale and Stuart on his schedule.

Rene Gonzalez, head of the classical guitar program at the University of Miami, is launching South Florida's Songboard, an organization for lovers of guitar and the other plucked soundboard instruments – lute, banjo, mandolin, etc. He's thinking of performances, lectures, forums, networking, maybe even some CD production. To join or learn more, e-mail drgonzalez@miami.edu.

Special events for November

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

Saturday, Nov. 1

Brooke Campbell, singer-songwriter, in the Acoustic Underground Concert Series at [Luna Star Café](#), 775 NE 125th St., North Miami (see page 1).

[Diane Ward Band](#) with Jack Shawde & Debbie Duke, 7 p.m. (potluck 6 p.m.), Glades Edge House Concert. Suggested donation to artist \$15.

Sunday, Nov. 2

[South Florida Bluegrass Association](#), Oak Grove, 1511 NE 207th St., North Miami Beach.

Friday, Nov. 7

[Grant Peeples](#), Southern outlaw leftneck, Luna Star Café.

[Broward Folk Club](#) open mic, featuring Rod MacDonald, Fresh Aroma, 3656 W. Hillsborough, Deerfield Beach.

Saturday, Nov. 8

[Matthew Sabatella](#) plays for the Florida Fair at [Calder Race Course](#), 21001 NW 27th Ave., Miami Gardens, 11 a.m. through the afternoon.

Sunday, Nov. 9

Folk Club song swap and potluck dinner, hosted by Jane Walker, 5-9 p.m., 14250 SW 105th Terr., West Kendall. 305-772-5670 (see page 3).

Wednesday, Nov. 12

Songwriters in the Round monthly meeting at [Luna Star Café](#).

Thursday, Nov. 13

[Jennings & Keller](#) at the monthly Barnacle Under Moonlight, 3485 Main Highway, Coconut Grove, 7 p.m., 305-442-6866.

Friday, Nov. 14

[Ben Prestage](#), blues singer-songwriter, Luna Star Café.

[Sunita Staneslaw](#), harpist, at Sunshine Cathedral, 1480 SW 9th Ave., Fort Lauderdale, 954-462-2004.

Saturday, Nov. 15

[Diane Ward](#) at the Luna Star Café.

[Kraig Kenning & Lauren Adams](#) at Boumel House
Concert, 954-341-0086 or aboutmel@bellsouth.net.

Broward Folk Club [song circle](#) and potluck, 7 p.m., hosts
Jamie & Lenore Sacculloa, 4800 SW 76th Ave.,
Davie, 954-252-1433.

Tuesday, Nov. 18

Third Tuesdays Irish music session, [Luna Star Café](#).

Wednesday, Nov. 19

Karma at the [Luna Star Café](#).

Thursday, Nov. 20

Alex Diaz / [Xela Ziad](#) at the [Luna Star Café](#).

Friday, Nov. 21



Appalachian singer-songwriter [David LaFleur](#) returns to
the [Luna Star Café](#).

[Steve Greenberg's open mic](#) at Starbucks, 9700 Pines
Blvd., Pembroke Pines, 954-436-3564.

Sunday, Nov. 23

Broward Folk Club's monthly [Music in the Park](#), Julia
Assembly Hall, Secret Woods Nature Center, 2701
W. State Road 84, Dania Beach, 954-791-1030.

Friday, Nov. 28

[Lumpy Sue Acoustic Music Fest](#), 11 a.m. to sunset,
Greynolds Park, 17530 W. Dixie Hwy., North
Miami Beach.

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.

Play, sing or listen

You are welcome at these weekly "open mic" events,
starting at 8 p.m. unless specified here. To add,
change or remove a listing, write to Tony Thomas at
writerrad@aol.com.

Sundays

John Brown's acoustic showcase, [JohnMartins](#), 253
Miracle Mile, Coral Gables

Mondays

[Java D'Lites](#), 2528 University Dr., Coral Springs, 8:30
p.m.

[Marvelous Coffee](#) (acoustic), 8616 Griffin Rd., Cooper
City, until 11 p.m.

Tuesdays

Lou's jam, [Luna Star Café](#), 775 NE 125th St., North
Miami, 5-7 p.m.

[Old-time jam](#), Elks Club, 700 NE 10th St., Pompano
Beach, 7-10 p.m.

[Chocolate Moose](#), 9118 SR 84, Davie, 9 p.m.

[Shauna Sweeney](#), Kingshead Pub, 2692 N. University
Dr., Sunrise

[Blues](#) at Nitecap Lounge, 15455 W. Dixie Hwy.,
North Miami Beach, 9 p.m.

Wednesdays

[Raffa & Rainer](#) and open mic, Churchill's Pub, 5501
NE 2nd Ave., Miami

Thursdays

[Elks Club](#), 6304 SW 78th St., South Miami

Saturdays

[Bluegrass jam](#), Lake Forest fire station, SW 39th Street
& 41st Avenue, Hollywood, 3 p.m.

Open mic (except Nov. 1 and 15), [Luna Star Café](#). On
the 8th, stay for New Year's Eve party with
Alexis.

Acoustic open mic, [Chocolate Moose](#), 9118 SR 84,
Davie, 8:30 p.m.

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
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Director Charlie Rathburn, CRatMiami@aol.com
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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:

- BROOKE CAMPBELL at the Luna Star Café, 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 1
- SONG SWAP in West Kendall, 5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 9, phone 305-772-5670
- FOLK & ACOUSTIC MUSIC with MICHAEL STOCK, Sundays 2-5 PM, WLRN 91.3 MHz