

Ohio Valley Filk Fest 11



Columbus, OH
Oct 27-29, 1995



For All Fen With a Song in Their Heart

His Talley Folk



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For all men with a song in their heart

Ohio Valley Filk Fest 11

Steve Macdonald
Guest of Honor

Heather Alexander
Toastmistress

George "Lan" Laskowski
Listener of Honor

Paul & Catherine Macdonald
Interfilk Guests

brought to you by

The OVFF Committee

Diana Huey - *Chairman*

Shelby Bartellis	Carol Siegling
Emily Vazquez Coulson	Van Siegling
Lori Coulson	Bob Smith
Shannon Elston	Larry Smith
Kathy Hamilton	Jan Wagner
Sally Kobee	

With help from The Friends of OVFF

Lorene Andrews	Ed Jones
Bruce Coulson	Lee Wardstar
Bob Huey	

Oct 27-29, 1995

The Clarion Hotel, Worthington, Ohio

***Different World. Different Hunger.
Same Passion.***



**·TWILIGHT'S·
EYES**

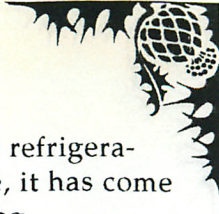
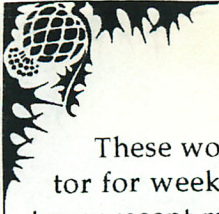
For More Information Call

1-800-694-8456

Antidote Music Marketing

1425 S. Vandeventer, St. Louis, MO 63110

or ask for the Twilight's Eyes room at the Clarion front desk.



"Stop Me Before I Volunteer Again!"

These words -- glaring letters on a sticker meant for my car -- have adorned my refrigerator for weeks now. Purchased out of frustration with a constantly hectic lifestyle, it has come to represent more than a mildly humorous proclamation of my frazzled state of being.

Recently, I was reminded that fandom -- especially filk fandom -- is a voluntary culture. Created by and for diverse folk, we are united by the music which brings us together. Hopes, dreams, and griefs are given voice and shared freely to any and all. We have laughter in prodigious quantities, and the kind of true friends we admire in novels but seldom hope to find.

Our community, like a garden, hasn't grown overnight or by accident. It's grown because people have given freely of their time and resources to ensure the safe haven that we all deserve. Their voluntary contributions don't draw attention; they often go unnoticed, blending so flawlessly into the background that everything seems to run effortlessly.

OVFF simply wouldn't be possible without the continued support of all of our volunteers. The performers who share their musical gifts, the listeners who choose to gather with us, and the committee which brings them all together into a balanced whole -- you are the true backbone of our community and without you, we'd have no purpose.

Steve Macdonald, Heather Alexander, George "Lan" Laskowski, Paul & Catherine Mac donald -- you have my heartfelt gratitude for making this convention such a bright and joyous occasion. In addition, I'd like to express my sincerest thanks to all of our many participants -- panelists, workshop hosts, performers, as well as the many listeners and participants in attendance this year; you're our reason for being.

Thanks, too, to Judith & Dave, Steve & Susan, Eli, Shel, Moo, Andy, Mew & all the friends of OVFF who supported me this year. It wasn't easy, but we did it! But more than anyone else, my greatest and undying gratitude is reserved for the OVFF committee: Kathy Hamilton, Shelby Bartellis, Van & Carol Siegling, Sally & Larry Kobee-Smith, Emily Vazquez-Coulson, Jan Wagner, Lori Coulson, Bob Smith, and Shannon Elston. I would never have made it through the year without you; your assistance has meant everything to me. And as always, all of my love to Bob.

I still have my bumper sticker. Now, it reminds me of all of YOUR efforts and I'm proud and humbled to have served you. We need you -- all of you; please don't ever stop volunteering.

Diana Huey
Chairman, OVFF XI

OVFF's Taping Policy

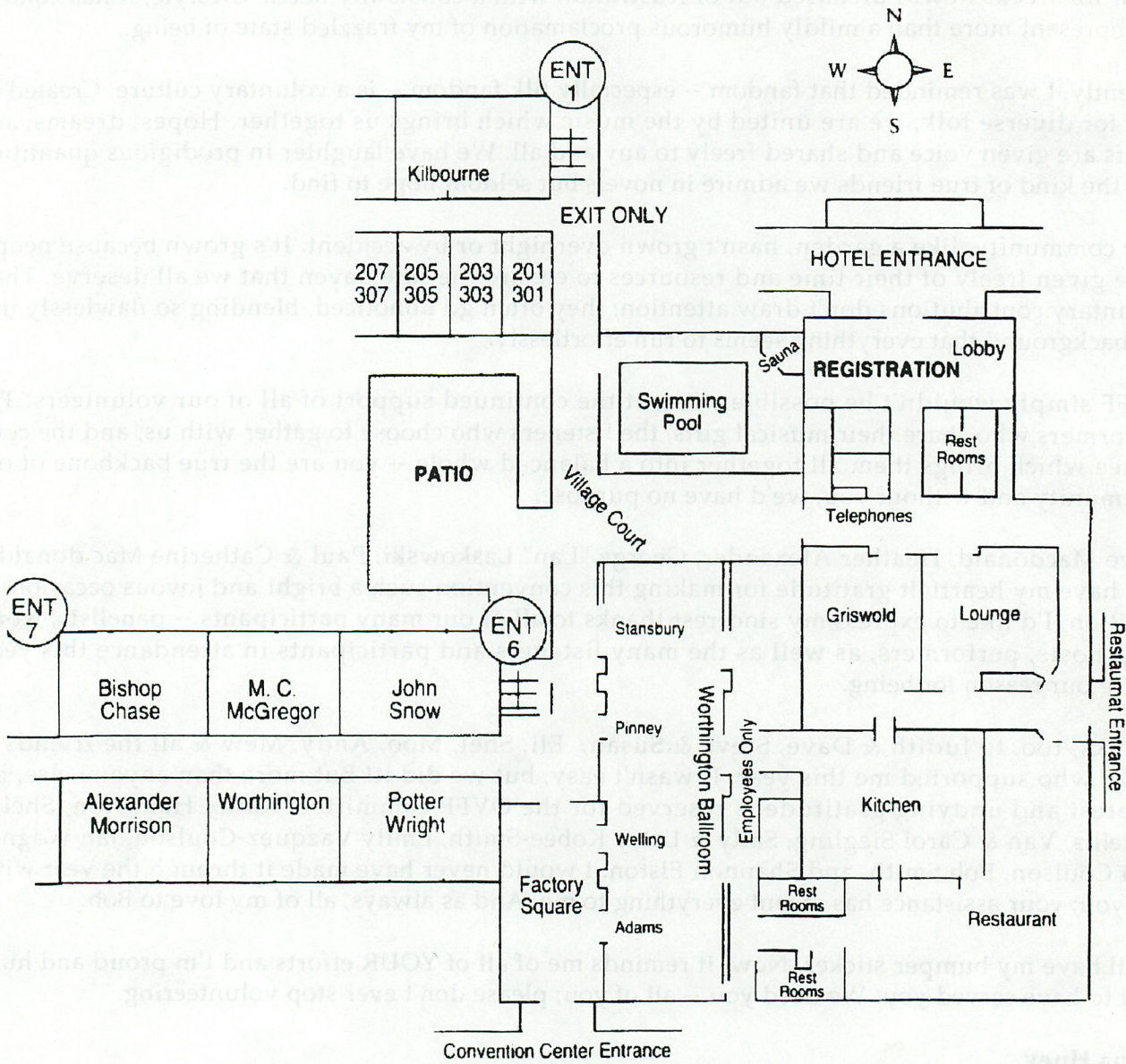
The concerts and open filksings will be taped by WAIL SONGS for commercial reproduction. Individuals are welcome to make tapes for their own private use as long as the recording is unobtrusive.

If you are interested in taping next year's convention, please write to the convention PO Box for a bid package.

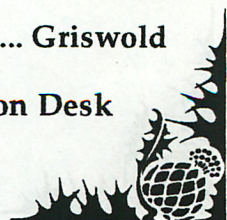
ART CREDITS

Cover Designs: Kathy Hamilton,
Front Cover center illustration: Lorene Andrews
Pegasii on the ballot and pages 20,22,30: Lorene Andrews
All other art is clip art

What's Where



- Main Function Room.....Worthington Ballroom
- Alternative Filk Rooms.....Bishop Chase & Alexander Morrison
- Con Suite.....Potter Wright
- Dealer's Room..... Griswold
- Babysitting.....Ask at the Con Registration Desk



Necrocon 10

Jan 5-7, 1996



**Ohio's Finest Relaxacon
Columbus, OH
The Harley Hotel
Rt 161 & Busch Blvd
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*The holidays are over.
It's the dead of winter.
Relax and unwind with us.
Escape to a weekend of
fantasies and dreams of
decadence and fun!!*

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Artist Demonstrations and Workshops

Dealers Room

Olympic size pool - Sauna - Hot Tub

LIVE ACTION VAMPIRE hosted by Kailen Mitchell

Plus we will be adding a live action Fantasy Mystery and more!!

There will be RPGs, card games and other diversions in the Game Room

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FOR MORE INFO WRITE:

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Or Call 614-882-9812

MEMBERSHIP RATES

**Preregistered: \$12 Single
Couples Discount: \$20 pair
At the Door: \$15 EACH**

ROOM RATES:

\$49 per night up to 4 people



Schedule of Events

All events take place in the Ballroom unless otherwise noted.

Friday

- 6:00 ish Con Suite opens
- 7:30 ish **Mad Hatter's Costumed Tea Party**
Tea, scones, and other refreshments will be served. Costumed attire is strongly encouraged. Wear a hat at least! Prizes will be awarded for best costume, best hat, and for whatever else tickles our Listener Guest of Honor's fancy!
- 9 ish **Tom Smith Concert**
- 9 ish **The "Everyone & Their Brother & Their Brother's Cat" Tape Release Party**
Come celebrate the release of several brand new filk cds and tapes! Artist's jam session, food, door prizes and more!! (in the Alexander Morrison Suite)
- 10 ish **Canadian Preserves** - a jam session showcasing our Northern neighbors - Judith Hayman, moderator
- 11 ish Open Filking

Saturday

- 10 ish **Anyone Can Sing Workshop** - 2 hrs - conducted by Mary Ellen Wessels. In the Alexander Morrison Suite. Sign-up at con registration desk.
- 10:30 ish **Reviewing and Critiquing Tapes and CDs** - Find out how Lan Laskowski, our Listener of Honor, reviews music, what he listens for, and what he chooses to write about. Many examples will be used from performers good and bad.
- Noon ish **Concerts**
- | | |
|-------|----------------------------------|
| 12:00 | Toastmistress: Heather Alexander |
| 1:00 | Dave Clement with Tom Jeffers |
| 1:30 | Bob Kanefsky & Company |
| 2:00 | Urban Tapestry |
| 2:45 | Paul & Catherine Mac donald |
| 3:30 | GOH: Steve Macdonald |
- 4:30 ish **One Shots** - 15 people, one song each. Sign-up sheets will be put out at 11 am Saturday at the Registration Desk.
- 6 ish **Dinner Buffet, Pegasus Awards Presentations & Meg Davis Raffle**
Tickets are on sale at the Registration Desk. We sell out every year so buy your tickets early. The alternative filk rooms will remain available for open filking.
- 8 ish **Song Writing Contest** (All original music & lyrics) -- Theme: Anti-Ose
Sign-up sheets will be put out at 11 am Saturday at the Registration Desk.



Saturday Evening

- 9:30 ish **Interfilk Auction** (will actually take place during the judging intermission of the songwriting contest)
- 10 ish **The Filk That Never Ends** or "Sleep is for the weak and sickly" - Open filking

Sunday

- 10 ish **No Wrong Notes Workshop** - 2 hrs - conducted by Sally Childs-Helton. In the Alexander Morrison Suite. Signup at con registration desk.
- 11 ish **OVFF Feedback** - We've changed a number of things this year. Please come tell us what you liked and didn't like.
- Noon ish **Lyric Writing Contest** (Original lyrics to pre-existing music) - Theme: Parodies of Show Tunes. Sign-up sheets will be put out at 11 am Saturday at the Registration Desk.
- 1 ish **Farewell Jam Session**
- 4:00 Function rooms close. Dead dogs may hang out at the Con Suite.
- 5:00 VERY ish **The Annual Trek to Siam Restuarant**
For several years now the concom and friends have celebrated the closing of a successful OVFF with dinner at the WONDERFUL local Thai eatery known as the Siam Restuarant. This year we decided to make it official. Please signup at the Con Registration Desk if you plan to attend so we know approximately how many people to tell the restaurant to expect.
- Later **Dead Dog Filk in the Con Suite** - We sing until the last body collapses.

Registration Hours:

(after hours go to the consuite)

- Friday: 3pm - 11pm
Saturday: 11am - 5pm
Sunday: Noon - 3pm (in the back of the jam session)

Con Suite Hours:

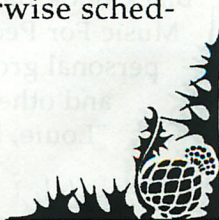
- Potter Wright Suite
Friday: 6pm - 3am
Saturday: 11am - 4am
Sunday: 11am - until we die on the vine


Dealer's Room Hours:

- Griswold Room
Friday: 5pm - 8pm
Saturday: 11am - 6pm
Sunday: 11am - 3pm


The Alternative Filk Rooms (Alexander Morrison and Bishop Chase Suites) are available for open filking when not otherwise scheduled.

Pool: Open until midnight





About Our Workshops



Everyone Can Sing

conducted by Mary Ellen Wessels
Saturday 10 am

If you think you can't sing, if someone *told* you that you can't, or if you just feel like a beginner -- come to this workshop! All levels welcome but activities geared to beginners. Basic vocal technique and theory will be covered, and some exercises will be done. This workshop is fine for repeating (we'll focus more on singing this time). Wear comfortable clothes. (PJs are fine!) Be prepared to have FUN and be silly! Due to the nature of this workshop no late comers will be allowed in after the first 15 minutes.

(MARY ELLEN WESSELS (known as "Mew") would like to get a major label contract so she could support her con habit. She currently lives in Michigan (but that could change - stay tuned for further developments!) Meanwhile, she travels around the country as much as possible giving workshops on music and performance, and singing. She has studied voice on and off for over 15 years and sings for fun and professionally in several genres (since she is unable to make up her mind). Whenever she gets the chance she sings with the Black Book Band. To pay rent she answers phones and leaps tall buildings for the same ISP that employs the GoH. To get on her mailing list for workshops, for the BBB, for an upcoming solo project or whatever . . . give her your address or send email to: mew@msen.com or m.wessels@GENie.geis.com)

No Wrong Notes!

A Music Improvisation Workshop for the Easily Intimidated
conducted by Sally Childs-Helton
Sunday 10 am

This workshop will introduce musicians of all experience levels (yes, beginners too!) to music improvisation through simple techniques and games. It is for anyone who would like to explore making music for the fun of it, and for more advanced players who want to expand their music-making skills. It is also for those who feel they can't be "real" musicians because they have no talent, or aren't "trained", or don't read music. You can't play any wrong notes because they don't exist!

We'll explore melody, harmony, rhythm, and various musical styles; if you took the workshop before, we'll cover some different ground. The workshop will also provide a safe environment for taking chances, so no one will be admitted after the first 15 minutes, and no observers are allowed. So -- bring your instrument(s) and your voice, and come ready to explore your creativity and have fun!

(SALLY CHILDS-HELTON has been playing drums and percussion of various sorts for almost 30 years, and has been teaching for almost 25. She is a paper-trained musician and ethnomusicologist who is now making up for her responsible and properly-spent youth by playing drums with the Black Book Band and instigating drum jams. Sally is in her last year of teacher training with Music For People, an organization that teaches music improvisation as a tool for musical and personal growth. Her goals in life are to help undo the damage done by bad music teachers and other critics, to decipher and publish a critical annotated study of the real lyrics to "Louie, Louie", and to successfully channel Frank Zappa.)

Children's Programming

All children's events will take place in the Bishop Chase Suite unless otherwise noted.

Friday

7:30 pm **Children's Table at the Tea Party** - Finger snack foods and party prizes.
(in the Ballroom)



Saturday

10:45 am **Storytelling with Graham Leathers**

4:30 pm **Children's Concert** - Performers include Urban Tapestry, Mary Ellen Wessels, Catherine Mac donald.

8:00 **Pool Party & Noodle Fun** - Come dressed in bathing suites and bring your child's favorite pool toys. (In the hotel pool obviously).

Sunday

Noon **Craft Hour** - Finger painting & other crafty stuff.

Babysitting Hours:

Friday: 7pm - 1am

Saturday: 10 am - 7pm

8pm - 2am

Sunday: 10am - Noon



MUSICON IS 5

January 5-7, 1996

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GoH: Mark Bernstein

Toastmaster: Tom Smith

Interfilk Guest: Rennie Levine

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Rooms \$40 flat rate for 1-4 filkers
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RSVP to: MUSICON
P.O. Box 198121
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\$23 before Dec. 1, 1995 ● \$28 thereafter

For more information, call (615) 889-5951 or (708) 394-3340 (no collect calls or calls after 10PM Central, please) or E-mail cbw@io.com

Steve Macdonald

My Songspinner by Susan Macdonald



For a long while there were people that thought that Steve was living in an alternate reality when he claimed to have a wife and two. . . then three children. He was accused of selecting random pictures to pass off as his family claiming they were waiting patiently at home. (I wouldn't exactly call it patiently, but since people are so nice as to credit me with that, I will accept it.)

After the family arrived on the fan scene, people wanted to know how the two of us. . . well, we're so different. Steve and I aren't sure what cosmic force got us (and keeps us) together, but. . .

It was the fall of 1982 and Pam and I had just arrived for the midnight showing of *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*. We were the first ones in the theater (unfortunately). We were chatting when all of a sudden "Eeee-hee-hee-hee" crackled from the back of the room. It was none other than that would-be filker, Steve. . . as a guitar toting Brad Majors. Suffice it to say that by the end of the evening I did not EVER want to meet this "person" again in my life.

About six weeks later, I found out (to my horror) that I was dating his roommate. The roommate turned out to be not so much of a gem, but I had a chance to visit with Steve for awhile then. As it turned out, our fathers were both school administrators; in fact, they worked together as teachers during the 50's. He knew my brother from Barbershop Chorus, and he'd met my sister at some meeting at Kalamazoo College. He turned out to be a wonderful listener, and had quite a sense of (rather twisted) humor. I have to admit that I was quite fascinated with his guitar playing. He'd been at it since he was 12 or 13.

So we dated, right? No, actually he went out with a couple of my girlfriends. I ended up housemates with one of his ex's. It was almost two years later when I went to see him play at a restaurant/bar and ended up as his date. (It must have been fate.) Five months later we were engaged. Eleven months hence, we were wed. It was all very romantic, and the families even approved (mostly). We have outdistanced the longest bet at our reception by more than double. (Have I really been married for a decade? Yikes!)

In my time with him, he has played more open stages, under-paid gigs, slow bar nights, and places with questionable futures than I'd even ever care to think about. For a while it was great fun, too. I got a lot of homework done while truly adoring my Songspinner. (I was still earning my BA.)

Well, nights out ended for me, but not for Steve, when our oldest, Luke, couldn't sleep through a gig. He kept pursuing his desire to play for an audience. (It also helped to keep us in groceries which made this behavior tolerable.)

Then, not too long after kid number two arrived (that would be Renee) a friend of Steve's told him that he just "had" to come to this science fiction convention she was going to. So, being oblivious to real life for a moment (OK, more than a moment), he agreed. I believe that it was *Capricorn* of 1992. I guess he even spent a good deal of time jamming with a guy who later turned out to be Steven Brust.

I wasn't sure who came home from that weekend. It looked like Steve, but there was this nugget of pure satisfaction in his soul that wasn't there when he left. (I, on the other hand, was anything but. . . I had just been left with two small children for the weekend, and "someone" was late getting home.) Anyway, that was the beginning of filk for Steve. It has resulted in travels from California to Canada, house sings, guest appearances, concerts, collaborations, tapes. . . (Joshua was born 10 days or so before the *Marcon 94* release of *Songspinner*. "Mom" was left with babysitters for that one!)

What people wanted to know about Steve after his first couple cons was "Where have you been? You're so good!" What I want you to know is that he was at the open mikes, and the run down joints, and playing every chance he got while he was looking for a place to play his *own* music, and be accepted and cared about by people like you. I also want you to know that for all his quirks, he's a wonderful man with a big heart, who is trying (and succeeding) to do the right things for the right reasons, and I love him for it. (Bill, I don't think I'll kill him. . . today, anyway. *Sigh*)



Heather Alexander

by Phil Obermarck

Heather Alexander spends her days playing tag with her three cats, being trained by her Arabian horse, horsing around with her husband, or being scolded by her parrot. Her free time is spent singing and playing original and traditional Celtic music on fiddle, guitar, mandolin, and bodhran.

With the release of her solo CD Wanderlust, she has been receiving nationwide recognition. Praised as "...an exceptional album" (Dirty Linen), with "high marks for authenticity and fire" (Folk Roots), Wanderlust is well worth a listen.

Her previous work on book/album tie-ins like Songsmith and Shadowstalker, as well as her original Celtic rock album Keepers of the Flame (with her former band Phoenyx), have assured her popularity at SF cons, while her appearances at pubs, coffee houses, and Highland Games have made her music available to the public at large.

If you have several hours to kill, ask her about her horse.



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April 19 - 21, 1996

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▲: Mary Ellen Wessels

▲: Barry & Sally Childs-Helton

▲: Steve Dixon

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FilkOntario 6

See our amazing and
aMEWsing magical
MEWsic!

Sally to FilK[♣]Ontario, or we'll
drum you out, Barry your bod,
and send your Childs to Helton!

April 19 - 21, 1996

Somewhere near Toronto, Ontario
Hotel has not yet been confirmed.
If you're not already on our mailing list, write us!



**Guest of Honour:
Mary Ellen Wessels**

**Official Filk Waifs:
Barry and Sally Childs-Helton**

**Interfilk Guest:
Steve Dixon**

**Pre-reg: \$30/US\$22 at OVFF
\$35/US\$27 till April 1/96**

**Contact: 302 College Ave. W., Unit 20
Guelph, Ontario N1G 4T6
Internet: scrimgeourh@onfpgu1.agr.ca
GENie: D.HAYMAN**



George "Lan" Laskowski

A Dangerous Man by Andrea D. Dale

When you meet Lan for the first time, he appears to be a fairly innocuous, warm hearted fellow. He asks a few questions and you may ask a few in return, maybe you'll chat for awhile. Time passes by and suddenly you realize your stomach is growling, night has fallen. . .and you're still talking and Lan is still listening.

Early on I discovered Lan's ability to learn everything about a person and leave them wondering what hit them. Lan's warm, inquisitive personality draws out the darndest things, like remembering your first date, singing at a filk for the first time, or your opinions on bed bugs.

He's a dangerous man, you see. . .He's a listener.

Exploring Lan & Maia's home is quite an experience. It abounds with card catalogs, artwork, music, tapes, raccoons, and movies -- with a few Hugos scattered about. Everything is tidily arranged and alphabetized, too. You can find EVERYTHING!!! And he's got a weekly schedule that would drive a presidential nominee nuts.

He's a dangerous man, you see. . .He's organized.

(Maia is, too, by the way. . .organized, that is).

As close friends, Lan and I have attended many conventions together. At every convention, I would awaken, woozy and sleepy eyed, to find the other bed empty and Lan long gone. I hadn't heard a thing, and the room is very quiet. Yet I *know* Lan was up fairly late at the filk the night before.

He's a dangerous man, you see. . .He's a morning person.



Ask Lan what he does with his time. Don't let him distract you with a question about yourself -- ask *him!!* Here's a few suggestions: editing Lan's Lantern, reviewing filk tapes and books, attending cons, winning Hugos, producing a fanzine, participating on panels, hosting house sings, and judging contests (just a few of his hobbies, mind you).

He's a dangerous man, you see. . .He's fannish.

As you can see, OVFF's Listener Guest of Honor has many fanaticisms, uh. . .qualities. His prodigious collection of filk tapes is far too organized for sanity. He's got an encyclopedic mind, with a memory good enough to make his friends uncomfortable. And a yearly calendar stuffed with events and deadlines. And don't forget. . .he's got a least a four to one ration of ears to mouth.

So when you see him wandering around (he's the innocuous, warm-hearted fellow), ask him a few questions. . .let him talk for a change.

And I still want to know. . .how can a filk listener be a <gasp> Morning Person!?!



Princess Catherine & Sir Paul

an Interfilkish Fairy Tale

by Judith Hayman

Long, long ago in a land far, far away, there lived a lovely blond (naturally curly) princess named Catherine. She was a charming widow with a tiny daughter; all her friends tried to bring light back to her life by introducing her to fine and wonderful men. But Catherine was a very special princess, for her passion in life was music -- wonderful, enchanted music. She played upon keyboards, guitar, and (insert any instrument known to man) and sang...music of all sorts! And the Land of Sunshine was glad of her presence in the Palace of Off Centaur.

And she was a pretty darn good business woman, too!

Meanwhile, in the cold Frozen North, a handsome dark knight, Sir Paul, was pining through the long winter nights in his weather station. Far from his homeland, he missed the joy of music and company; he played his guitar, sad and alone -- remembering the sweet folk music he loved -- with only an audience of small frozen birds to hear him. Then, one day, a catalogue for OCP appeared. Very curious, he ordered some music from the Palace of Off Centaur. It went astray, but Catherine came to the rescue, sent him the music and invited him to Filk of the Bay, an upcoming music fest. The knight decided that he wanted to leave the dark north for a visit to the Land of Sunshine and laughter, so he accepted the invitation and stayed at the Palace, where Catherine lived.

They met... They made music... She glowed... He lit up, and...

...after the music festival, he went back to the frozen north.

For several days, Princess Catherine remembered the knight who played guitar better than anyone in the Land of Sunshine. She sighed. She smiled. She walked into quite a number of walls in utter bemusement. Then, she contacted him. He wrote back. They talked. They talked some more. And, just as she was determined to set out on a quest to the Frozen North, he returned to the Land of Sunshine for a visit.

Then, after eighteen months of knightly trials and magical music, the dark knight forsook the Frozen North, married the princess, and moved to the Land of Sunshine.

But it doesn't end there!

After several years of making wonderful music and the birth of Brion, the princess left the Palace with her beloved knight and the tiny princess Robyn Elisabeth and moved BACK to the Frozen North. And there they live, happily ever after to this very day, making music and laughter.

Paul Mac donald met Catherine Cook about eleven and half years ago, through her involvement in Off Centaur (for which Catherine was one of the first inductees into the Filk Hall of Fame) and through his interest of music. They married in January 1986, and lived in California. A look at the OCP tapes and publications shows their enormous and multifaceted involvement with filk music and production. In 1989, Paul resumed a position with Environment Canada and the family moved to Newfoundland; they've since moved to Nova Scotia, and then New Brunswick.

Both are fine filk and folk musicians, and we are proud to have them in Canada. We think they're pretty ok friends, too! It's truly a joy to have them recognized by Interfilk for their talent.



Canadian Filk Preserve

by Judith Hayman

The Canadian filkers have taken the northern conventions by storm over the last few years. Filk is alive and flourishing in several centers. Winnipeg is home to Dandelion Wine (with two members here), Graham Leathers, and others. The Toronto area features (in addition to your host), Karen Linsley and Lloyd Landa, Freddy Brown, Heather Borean, Urban Tapestry, and many others. The Toronto area is also home to FilKONtario and a constantly growing number of regulars to the filk scene. And quite a few of them came to visit Columbus this year (a far cry from a few years ago when Howard Scrimgeour - a former OVFF listener guest and FKO concom - was the only Canadian here).

Tom Jeffers, now of Winnipeg, Manitoba, is Dandelion Wine's "sexy bass player" and a multi-talented charter member of the "instrument of the month club". He writes wonderful songs like "Circles in the Grain" and "Dandelion Wine", plays bass, sings, and is an all-round sweetie.

Dave Clement is the heart of Winnipeg's Dandelion Wine. His abiding love for the folk music of Canada and everywhere else shines through his wonderful vocal interpretations (to be heard on his two solo and two group recordings). Claiming to be a "beginner", he plays a heckuva guitar, drums, and penny whistle. Dave is nominated in the Best Performer Pegasus category. He's a joy to have in a sing, to hang out with, and generally to be goofy with. And he gives GREAT hugs.

Paul Mac donald, of Nova Scotia via Fredericton, New Brunswick, is one of our Interfilk Guests. He plays guitar inhumanly well, writes both tender, insightful, and total groaner songs. A professional punmeister, he is decidedly punful company. That's his back-up to the vocalists on many of the OCP publications.

Catherine Mac donald, currently from Fredericton, is also one of our Interfilk Guests. Her history with filk goes back to before it was CALLED filk. Also a member of the instrument of the month club, she sings, plays guitar, and especially keyboard. We have watched her learn to play new instruments on five minutes acquaintance.

Graham Leathers is another Winnipeg resident. He's wickedly witty, plays guitar, bodhran, and a number of other items, sings, and writes truly fine material. Funny, serious, weird, unusual, folky, filky. He is nominated this year for his song "Nantucket Sleigh-ride" in the Best Song Pegasus category.

Judith Hayman (your moderator) is from Hamilton, Ontario. She's the Canadian representative for Interfilk and ConChair for FilKONtario, the Canadian filk convention. In addition to performing she's been writing some songs -- one of which, "Sea of Stars" is nominated for the Best Song Pegasus.

Thanks!

Really, I mean it. I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped me in my ongoing research into filking, filkers and filk music. Yes the thesis is forthcoming, although there has been a slight change. I am now in American Culture Studies, rather than Popular Culture.

So, Please send all future material, whether it be lyrics, songsheets, recorded songs, ephemera, anecdotes or knick knacks to me at:

Solomon Davidoff
211 Moseley Hall
American Culture Studies
Bowling Green State University
Bowling Green, OH 43403

I wanted to list everyone by name, who has been a big help to me. The problem is, I'm happy to say, I can't afford to! There have been so many who filled out questionnaires, chatted for long hours into the morning and recorded music for me, that I just can't come up with enough money to bribe OVFF to print all of their names here. Suffice to say, if you're a filker (listener, writer, singer or other flavour), you're helping and I thank you..

That's all.

No, really . . . that's all I wanted to say.

Go on, you can go now.

I mean it. Go sing something (grin).

The preceding message was brought to you by Solomon Davidoff (I.X.E.), a researcher into the behavior and habits of filkers all over the world. Although he has never received money from the Carnegie Foundation, or other such doo-gooders, he has high hopes. In fact, if you want to send him money, use the address above. He'll not only appreciate it, he'll even go so far as to adopt a gerbil and name him after you. Or her. He's not sexist. Anyway, why are you still reading this? The print is awful small, and it's not like you're gonna find cute song lyrics here or anything of intrinsic value. Well, I admit that I might drop a pearl of wisdom now and then, but probably not now, seeing as how tired I am, trying to get this in on deadline and all. Ah, here comes the end of the page. Bye now.

ABOUT OUR PERFORMERS

DAVE CLEMENT & TOM JEFFERS are just two members of the Winnipeg band Dandelion Wine (and when they're this nice & this good, you can just guess how great the whole band is!) They make music like a master craftsman makes furniture: wonderful, seamless, solid, and enduring.

Dave is one of the nicest folks you'll ever meet. Although you may know him for his arresting baritone voice, his warm manner and genuine friendliness make him just as pleasurable to speak with. And his musical ability . . . is truly amazing.

Musically, Tom is like fine counterpoint to intricate melody; he plays (well!) many instruments including, but not limited to, bass, guitar, mandolin, cittern, penny whistle and dulcimer. He also has an abiding love for most forms of music. Gentle and warm-hearted, you'll find him to be someone you're glad to know.

BOB KANEFSKY has parodied over 200 filk and mundane songs. His parodies are collected in Songworm, and some are recorded on Tapeworm 1, 2, and 3, which feature four of his two dozen filksinger victims performing Kanef's parodies of their own work. These days his mundane day job, which is neither, involves working with planetary images and next-generation spacecraft software (that's small "n" and "g").

TOM SMITH has an infamous, um, *distinguished* reputation in filk circles. His tapes, Who Let Him In Here? and Dominos, mark him as a musician of

exceptional - and somewhat twisted - abilities. A quick-witted and silver-tongued punster, he excels at the repartee. Don't miss his antics, but woe to the unarmed fan who challenges him to a duel.

URBAN TAPESTRY is a filk group from Toronto. Allison and Jodi sing and Allison also plays guitar. Debbie plays flute and creative percussion. The songs we write and perform reflect many song styles - filk, folk, blues, jazz, ballads, humor, doo-wop and some rousing singalongs.

Our tape Castles and Skyscrapers and a songbook of our original material are available in the dealers room. Besides conventions, we also sing at weddings and children's concerts. We are also now on the web! Check out <http://www.interlog.com.ut/>.

We are excited about our first OVFF and look forward to (drinking heavily and passing out) meeting all of you and singing until dawn!

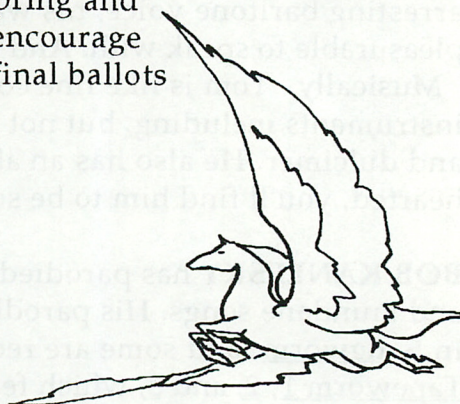




The Pegasus Awards

The Pegasus Awards were founded to recognize and honor excellence in filking. The nomination and ballot procedure is similar to that of the Hugo's except you do not need to buy a membership to vote. Nominating ballots are made available at the preceding OVFF and are distributed by mail, computer postings, and at as many cons as the OVFF Committee can send them to. The final ballot is released in the spring and again distributed via mail, at as many cons, etc, etc. We encourage you to duplicate and distribute both the nominating and final ballots to as many people as possible.

The awards will be presented this year at the Saturday evening banquet.



Past Pegasus Award Winners

1994

Best Filk Song (Tie): "*Drink Up The River*" by Kathy Mar
"*PQR (You Ain't Seen Nothing Yet)*" by Tom Smith

Best Writer/Composer: Tom Smith

Best Performer: The Black Book Band

Best Children's Song: "*Monsters in the Night*" by Diana Gallagher

Best Risque Song: "*Like A Lamb To The Slaughter*" by Frank Hayes

1993

Best Filk Song: "*Green Hills of Earth*" by Robert Heinlein/Mark Bernstein

Best Writer/Composer: Leslie Fish

Best Performer: Tom Smith

Best Humorous Song: "*Rhinotelexomania*" by Michael Longcor

Best Space Song: "*Lightsailor*" by Barry Childs-Helton

1992

Best Filk Song: "*God Lives on Terra*" by Julia Ecklar

Best Writer/Composer: Dr. Jane Robinson

Best Performer: Michael Longcor

Best Tribute: "*Madame Curie's Hands*" by Duane Elms

Best Genre Crossover: "*Return of the King*" by Tom Smith

1991

Best Filk Song: "*A Boy and His Frog*" by Tom Smith

Best Writer/Composer: Tom Smith

Best Performer: Tom Smith

Best Love Song: "*Velveteen*" by Kathy Mar

Best War/Vengeance Song: "*Temper of Revenge*" by Julia Ecklar





1990

Best Filk Song: "*Lullabye for a Weary World*" by T.J. Burnside Clapp
Best Writer/Composer: Julia Ecklar
Best Performer: Mitchell Clapp
Best Fannish Song: "*Weekend Only World*" by T.J. Burnside Clapp
Best Literature Song: "*Daddy's Little Girl*" by Julia Ecklar

1989

Best Filk Song: "*Dawson's Christian*" by Duane Elms
Best Writer/Composer: Kathy Mar & Duane Elms (tie)
Best Performer: Technical Difficulties
Best Fantasy Song: "*Wind's Four Quarters*"
by Mercedes Lackey/Leslie Fish
Best Techie Song: "*Do It Yourself*" by Bill Sutton

1988

Best Filk Song: "*Wind From Rainbow's End*" by Bill Roper
Best Writer/Composer: Mercedes (Misty) Lackey
Best Performer: Barry & Sally Childs Helton
Best Historical Song: "*Song of the Shieldwall*" by Malkin Grey
(Debra Doyle) / Peregyn Wyndryder (Mellisa Williamson)
Best Media Song: "*Superman's Sex Life Bogie*" by Tom Smith

1987

Best Filk Song: "*Harbors*" by Anne Passavoy
Best Writer/Composer: Leslie Fish
Best Performer: Julia Ecklar
Best 'Ose: "*Ian the Grim*" by Clif Flynt
Best Schtick: Unreality Warp/ Mediocre, etc.
by Clif Flynt & Bill Roper

1986

Best Original Filk Song: "*Witnesses' Waltz*" by Leslie Fish
Best Male Filker: Bill Sutton
Best Female Filker: Leslie Fish
Best Parody: "*Daddy's Little Boy*" by Murray Porath
Best Original Humorous Song: "*A Reconsideration of Anatomical
Docking Maneuvers in a Zero-G Enviroment*"
by Diana Gallagher

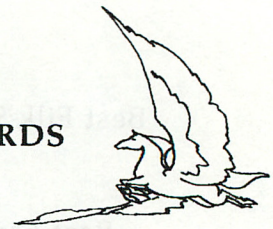
1984

Best Original Filk Song: "*Hope Eyrie*" by Leslie Fish
Best Male Filker: Bill Maraschiello
Best Female Filker: Julia Ecklar
Best Parody: "*Twelve Years at Worldcon*" by Frank Hayes
Best Original Humorous Filk Song: "*Unreality Warp*" by Clif Flynt





FINAL BALLOT
OHIO VALLEY FILK FEST 1995 PEGASUS AWARDS
For Excellence in Filking



Please vote once in each category. If mailed, final ballots must arrive by Friday, 22-Oct-95. Emailed ballots must be received by midnight Thursday, 26-Oct-95. Ballots may also be turned in at the convention up until midnight on Friday, 27-Oct-95. Mail to: OVFF, P.O. Box 20125, Columbus, OH 43220-0125; email to D.HUEY1@GENIE.GEIS.COM. We strongly encourage you to copy and distribute this ballot wherever you wish. You do not need to be a member of the convention to vote.

BEST FILK SONG

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>___ <i>Heat of the Blood</i>
by Tom Smith</p> <p>___ <i>Journey's Done</i>
by Steve Macdonald</p> <p>___ <i>Magic Carpet Ride</i>
by Andrea Dale Yeomans</p> | <p>___ <i>Nantucket Sleigh Ride</i>
by Graham Leathers</p> <p>___ <i>Sea of Stars</i>
by Judith Hayman</p> <p>___ No Award</p> |
|--|--|

BEST WRITER/COMPOSER

- ___ Bob Kanefsky
- ___ Talis Kimberley
- ___ Graham Leathers
- ___ Steve Macdonald
- ___ Mark Osier
- ___ No Award

BEST PERFORMER

- ___ Heather Alexander
- ___ Dave Clement
- ___ Talis Kimberley
- ___ Michael "Moonwulf" Longcor
- ___ Urban Tapestry
- ___ No Award

BEST MILITARY SONG

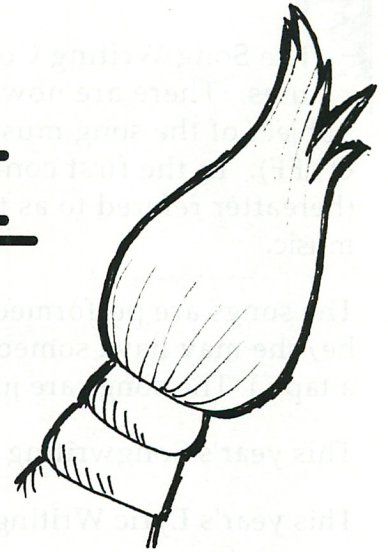
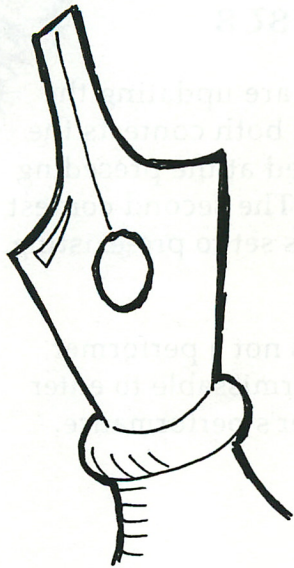
- ___ *The Ballad of Fleet Sargeant Ho*
by Lee Billings
- ___ *Come Ye Knights*
by Shelia Willis
- ___ *Ender's Game*
by Larry Warner
- ___ *Man of War*
by Kathy Mar
- ___ *When Tenskwatawa Sings*
by Michael Longcor
- ___ No Award

BEST SING-ALONG/CHORAL SONG

- ___ *Acts of Creation*
by Cat Faber
- ___ *Banned From Argo*
by Leslie Fish
- ___ *Bold Maurader*
by Richard Farina
- ___ *Circles*
by Gwen Zak
- ___ *Lord of Time*
by Peter David

NAME _____ **PHONE** _____

ADDRESS _____



WEB PAGE DESIGN AND WEB GRAPHICS

Some of the sites I've created:

OVFF - <http://www.interlog.com/~ohi/cons/ovff/>

Inkspot (*Resources for Children's Writers*) - <http://www.interlog.com/~ohi/inkspot/>

Urban Tapestry (*come see our OVFF concert!*) - <http://www.interlog.com/~ohi/ut/>

Writers' Resources on the Web (*part of the WWW Virtual Library*) -

<http://www.interlog.com/~ohi/www/writesource.html>


Inklings (*free electronic newsletter for writers*) -

<http://www.interlog.com/~ohi/ink/inklings.html>


My web pages have been chosen as Cool Site of the Day,
Funky Place of the Day, Seeress Vision of the Day, Novel Place of the Day,
Blue Plate Special, RH Lagerquist's Site of the Day, and Riddlers' Choice.

I do personal as well as corporate web pages, and can also
provide graphics to use on an already existing page.
Please contact me for more information or if you have any questions.

Debbie Ridpath Ohi - morgaine@utcc.utoronto.ca



The OVFF Songwriting Contests



The Song Writing Contest began at the second OVFF. This year we are updating the rules. There are now TWO (count them, two) different contests. In both contests the subject of the song must be appropriate to the topic (which is announced at the preceding OVFF). In the first contest, both lyrics AND music must be original. The second contest (hereafter referred to as the Lyrics Writing Contest) is for original lyrics set to pre-existing music.

The songs are performed before the judges at OVFF. If the songwriter is not a performer, he/she may have someone else perform the song for them. (It is also permissible to enter a tape.) The songs are judged on the quality of writing and not the singer's performance.

This year's Songwriting contest topic is **Anti-Ose**.

This year's Lyric Writing contest topic is **Parodies of Show Tunes**.

Previous Song Writing Contest Winners

1994 The Best Song Tom Smith Never Wrote

Paul Kwinn

Renee Alper

Solomon Davidoff

1993 Mythical Beasts

"Cold Butcher" by Steve Macdonald

1992 Love Songs (tie)

"I Will Walk With You" by Cynthia McQuillin

"Eternity's Waltz" by Michael (Moonwolf) Longcor

1991 Heros and Heroines

"Reed Turner, Novel Hero" by Renee Alper

1990 Aliens

"Face Hugger" by Tom Smith

1989 Best Drinking Song (tie)

"307 Ale" by Tom Smith

"I Can't Party as Hearty . . ." by Michael (Moonwolf) Longcor

1988 Ad Astra (To the Stars)

"Lightsailor" by Barry Childs-Helton

1987 Best Scary Song

"Hellraiser" by Tom Smith

1986 Things That Go Bump in the Night

"Doppleganger" by Kathy Mar

A decorative border of musical notes and stems surrounds the text.

Conterpoint-Too!

June 21-23, 1996

Washington, DC area — site to be announced

Guests of Honor

Heather Alexander
Leslie Fish

Toastmistress

Rennie Levine

BNFs At Large

Dr. Jane Robinson
Cynthia McQuillin

Registration:

\$30 until August 31, 1995

\$35 until May 15, 1996

\$40 at the door

Contact Address:

Conterpoint-Too!

PO Box 2823

Arlington, VA 22202

E-Mail:

conterpoint-too@twwells.com

steve-b@access.digex.net



Interfilk

by Judith Hayman

Interfilk, a charitable organization formed under the guidance of Bob Laurent, had its first director's meeting at Chicon V in 1991. Its purpose is to promote the exchange of filk music throughout the North American continent by providing the means and opportunity for filkers to travel to filk conventions that they normally would not be able to attend.

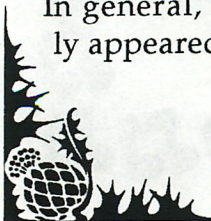


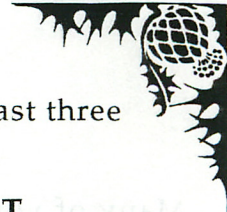
Funds for this sole purpose are raised through the auction of donated items -- compete with campy entertainment. These auctions typically occur at filk conventions, Worldcon, and other conventions with a strong filk component. In addition, various members of the filk community have organized other fund-raising activities; many performers and songwriters have donated royalties from recordings or publications to IF. Without the generosity of those who've donated gifts, bought auction items, offered royalties, and contributed in any way, IF could not continue.

The seven directors meet and determine IF guests and their convention destinations. In general, IF pays all or part of the travel and hotel expenses while the host convention contributes a membership and banquet ticket. The guest is asked to contribute to programming, to share their home music, and to return home to share their new-found knowledge of filk from a different environment.

Interfilk is delighted to receive suggestions for potential guests; all suggestions should be made to your local director. From the pool of nominees, IF chooses filkers who are not well known outside their own area and deserve wider exposure. They may be new and upcoming people or those who have not been recognized for their past contributions. And while IF guests are frequently performers or songwriters, listeners and organizers are also welcome nominees.

In general, filkers who have been guests at filk conventions, those who have previously appeared as IF guests, and IF directors are not eligible to be chosen.





The following guests have been sponsored by IF to filk conventions in the last three years:

<u>GUEST</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>APPEARED AT</u>
Mike Whitaker	England	Consonance 92
Randy Farran	Oklahoma	ConCertino 92
Steve Macdonald	Michigan	ConChord 93
Zander Nyronid	England	OVFF 93
Kristoph Klover	California	Musicon 94
Heather Rose Jones	California	FilkONtario 94
Urban Tapestry	Ontario	ConChord 94
Mark Osier	New York	Harmonicon 95
Jordan Kare	California	ConCertino 95
Catherine & Paul Mac donald	New Brunswick	OVFF 95

The directors of IF would be delighted to hear from you regarding nominations for guests, ideas for fund-raising, and feedback on what we're doing. You can reach us most easily via email:

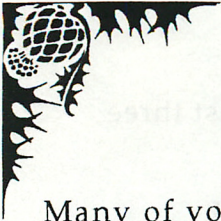
<u>DIRECTOR</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>EMAIL ADDRESS</u>
Bob Laurent	Oakland, CA	blaurent@ccnet.com
Gary Anderson	Pasadena, CA	72437.674@compuserve.com
Kathleen Sloan	Arvada, CO	k.sloan1@genie.geis.com
William Sutton	Marietta, GA	wrs@hpuerca.atl.hp.com
Spencer Love	Milford, MA	jsl@loveson.com
Mary Ellen Wessels	Ann Arbor, MI	mew@garnet.msen.com
Judith Hayman	Hamilton, ON	d.hayman@genie.geis.com

Please support the filk conventions by attending & enjoying any (all!) of the following:

Musicon	Nashville, TN	early January
Harmonicon	Kansas/Oklahoma	mid-February
FilkONtario	Southern Ontario	April/May
Northeast Filk Con	Boston/Baltimore/NY	June
ConChord/Consonance	S/N California	October/March
Ohio Valley Filk Fest	Columbus, OH	late October

There is also a British Filk Convention in early February which sponsors a "Flying Filk Fund" specifically to transport filkers from abroad to their convention.





A Friend in Need

Many of you know that I have a strong commitment to our filk community. And many of you may also know that songwriter & performer Meg Davis has Multiple Sclerosis. Meg needs a variety of computer hardware and software to continue to live the artistic and creative life that has enriched us all.

To that end, OVFF has organized a raffle--the proceeds of which will be used for the purchase of equipment that will assist her. (Cash donations made directly to her, while greatly appreciated, are taxable and affect the benefits that she can receive. Material gifts are treated differently.)

Raffle tickets are \$1.00 (larger amounts cheerfully accepted), and the drawing will occur during the Pegasus Awards Banquet. Winner need not be present to win.

Copies of her recordings can also be ordered directly from her, or may be purchased from your friendly, local filk dealer.

Diana Huey

Report From Wonderland / Beyond The MIRROR

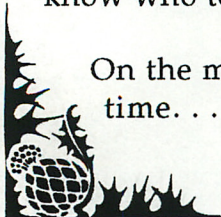
Contact: The White Rabbit, PO Box 233, Lake Leelanau, MI 49653-0233

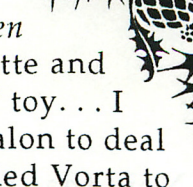
October, 1995

Dear Friends,

The White Rabbit tells me that you are all wondering what I'm up to and how I've been doing since my return from Bonnie Scotland in 1991. Well, the major thing I've had to be dealing with is a diagnosis of Multiple Sclerosis (info on MS to follow). It was hard to accept that I have a disabling disease but it was harder still to decide whether to tell folks about it or not. . . after all, it's still pretty much 'invisible' with me. . . but it quickly occurred to me that I could do myself and others with MS some good by helping to educate the public about the disease. You haven't seen me at any cons for awhile because of service fatigue but, now that I'm learning how to rest properly and how to use certain medications, I am looking forward to being with you at a convention soon. At this point, I would like to attend the Worldcon in San Antonio 1997 as I will have some new stuff published by then in the fantasy and sci-fi world. Perhaps you could all brain wave on how to arrange for me to do a short concert or two at the con (I don't know who to contact about that sort of thing. . .)

On the much lighter side of things, I am working on several creative projects at this time. . . I'm writing a sci-fi novel about life in Glasgow (and any of you who have





been there will know what I mean. . .), I'm working on turning "The Green Gryphon" (from Swing The Cat) into a children's book with a music cassette and soft toy (it's a real challenge to re-design a gryphon into a "non-aggressive" toy. . . I mean, he is part eagle and part lion you know, , , that's a lot of claw and talon to deal with. . .) Let's see what else. . . oh yes, I've been hired by a Texas firm called Vorta to write music for their haunted houses and we've also begun work on a CD of Halloween songs. So, as you can see, my creative side has not been squelched one little bit and I look forward to unveiling these new items to you.

I am sorry that I'm not there to talk to you all in person but I really appreciate this change to communicate (albeit by messenger). Thank you for your continuing support for my music and for all original music and thank you for caring. Keep those cards and letters coming. . . they really brighten my day. . .and I will let Diana know when I get an E-Mail address so we can get online together.

P.S. There is something that I've been puzzling about (and the White Rabbit hasn't got a clue either) and the question is about mysterious royalties that I keep getting from some radio station in Colorado. If any of you are from Colorado, would you happen to know who is playing my song from The Music Wonderland, "Teatime", over and over again? I mean, I've been getting royalties for hundreds of plays of this song and I'm wondering if someone is using my song as a program theme song or some such thing. I'd like to get in touch with whoever is using my music to thank them. So, if anyone knows who I should contact, please let me know. . . Thanks!

About Multiple Sclerosis

Between a quarter-and a half-million persons in the United States today have Multiple Sclerosis. It is not classified as a fatal ailment. Is there a cure? No. Is it contagious? No. It is unpredictable and hits people in different ways. M.S. is a chronic neurological disorder of the central nervous system - the brain and the spinal cord. The disease attacks the fatty sheath that covers nerve cells. This white fatty tissue is called the myelin sheath. MS causes one's own defense system to attack the myelin, break it down and strip it away. . . replacing the damaged area with scar tissue. Because it attacks nerves in many areas of the brain and spinal cord it is called "multiple" and "sclerosis" is another word for scarring. A person's symptoms depend upon where the attacks have taken place and nerve damage can result in anything from loss of walking ability to blindness. It also affects more complicated processes such as cognitive ability and short-term memory. Our best weapons are understanding and adaptability as well as a good sense of humor. Our best hope is the MS Society and the research that they are funding to find new drugs that will halt the progression of the disease and its disabling effects. If you wish to know more about MS, please call 1-800-LEARN MS. You can receive all kinds of up-to-date info for yourself or someone you know with the illness. And, if you are thinking of contributing to a charity this year, you might consider a donation to the MS Society so they can continue to fund research. I never thought I'd have anything in common with Annette Funicello other than mouse ears. Life is full of surprises, isn't it?

Meg Davis

Closing Notes

Now that you know how much fun you can have at OVFF, why not buy your membership now for OVFF 12 next year. We've cast our net far and wide and have caught a great starting line-up just for you! **Dave Clement** will be slushing down from the Frozen North as our Guest of Honor; **Leslie Fish** will be winging her way over from the sunny west coast as Toastmistress, and **Ann Cecil** will be holding up the honor of our own Midwest as the Listener of Honor. This weekend only, memberships are only \$16. You can buy them at the con registration desk Friday & Saturday, and at the table in the back of the Farewell Jam Session on Sunday. Dealer tables are \$15 (membership not included).

The two songwriting contests will be back, of course. The topic for the Original Songwriting Contest is: **First Contact**. The topic for the Lyric Writing Contest is: **Songs You Can Sing in the Shower**.

And don't forget to take your Nominating Ballot for the 1996 Pegasus Awards home with you. As always the first three categories are: Best Filk Song, Best Writer/Composer, and Best Performer. The two rotating categories are: Best Eerie/Spooky and Best Spiritual/Inspirational. We encourage you to copy and help us distribute the ballots as widely as possible.

(P.S. We welcome suggestions for songwriting topics or Pegasus categories. Please drop them in the suggestion box at Registration or send them to us at the PO Box or our email address.)

We send our warmest get-well wishes to Bill Rintz, who recently suffered a stroke, and to Rich Stover, who was recently operated on for cancer.



If you just can't wait a full year for another wondrous weekend of filking, don't forget our sister convention **Marcon** next May 3-5, 1996 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in downtown Columbus. Marcon's filking guest is none other than the fabulous **Joey Shoji**.

See you all next year!

MARCON

31

THE MAGIC BEHIND THE SCENES

Marcon Presents the Authors,
Wizards and Technicians:
Creators of your favorite worlds

Industrial Light
and Magic

Media Goh

Katherine
Kurtz

Author Goh

Joey
Shoji

Filk GoH

May 3-5, 1996
Hyatt Regency
Columbus

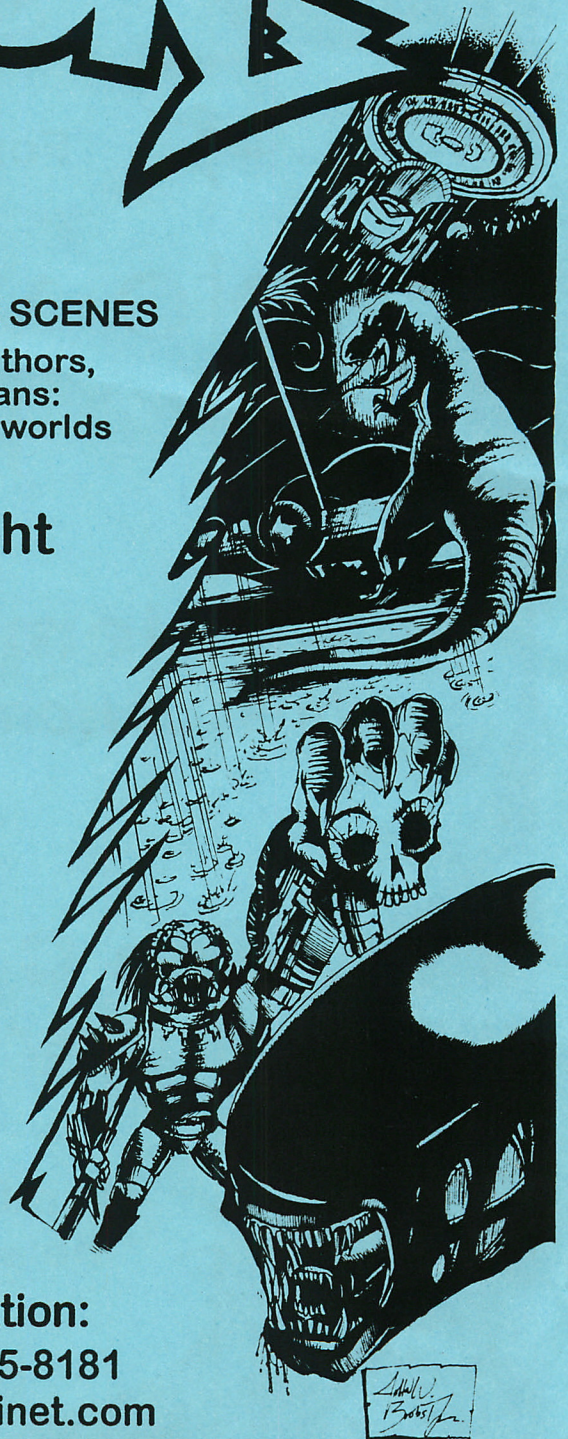
For More Information:


The Hotline: (614)475-8181

Internet: marcon@infinet.com

PO Box 141414 • Columbus OH 43214

World Wide Web Page: <http://www.infinet.com/~marcon>





Oct 25-27, 1995

For *Boootiful* music come to

ohio VALLEY FILK FEST 12

Dave Clement

Ghost of Honor

Leslie Fish

Toastmistress

Ann Cecil

Listener GOH

**Memberships on sale
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For more info, write:

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43220