



March 2009

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# Springtime Bluegrass & Acoustic Music Concert Series

*By Julie Sullivan*

Lucky Girl Productions is launching an affordable mini-concert series this spring featuring some exciting bluegrass music in the fun and intimate setting of the Unity Church. Refreshments will be available at the 100 seat hall.

Details of each show are being refined so please check out [www.luckygirlproductions.org](http://www.luckygirlproductions.org) for updates. As you can see, some previous Pickin' in

the Pines bands will be highlighted, and you can get a sneak peak at some of our featured 2009 bands. Favorite local acts will also be opening. Unity Church is located off of N89 in Doney Park opposite Timberline and behind Second Chance Animal Shelter. There will be a map on the Lucky Girl site.

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Saturday, April 11

7:30 pm @ Unity Church Hall

**Heart Prairie**

(featuring Nancy Riccio and Julie Sullivan)

**Murphey's Law**

(A featured regional band at Pickin' in the Pines 09 with Billy Parker on mandolin.)

\$12 advance \$14 door

Friday, May 8

7:30 pm @ Unity Church Hall

**Headline Bluegrass**

(A featured regional band at Pickin' in the Pines 09—last year's band contest winners!)

**The Badly Bent**

(Pickin' in the Pines 06 and 07 favorites from Durango, Colorado)

\$14 advance \$16 door

Friday, May 29

7:30 pm @ Unity Church Hall

Opening Act (TBA)

**Laurie Lewis & Tom Rozum**

(Pickin' in the Pines 06 and long-time favorites in a rare duet performance.)

\$20 advance \$22 door

Contact Julie Sullivan for details at 928 779 1120 or email: [julie@luckygirlproductions.org](mailto:julie@luckygirlproductions.org)

# Meditations on Songwriting

by Avtar Khalsa

*I've found that the melody is already inherent in the language, and if I pay close enough attention to the roundness of the vowels and the cadence of the words, I can tease the melody out of the words it is already woven into.*

-- Rosanne Cash

I'm pretty sure the process of writing songs is different for each person. It's part craft and part inspiration. We mix these in different amounts and weave them in different patterns, each of us in our own unique way.

I won't try to tell you how to write a song. I'm not sure I could or even should. What I'd like to do here is offer some suggestions. These are things I've learned by noticing to my own process, as well as lessons I've gleaned from other songwriters.

This is just the bullet list. Space permitting, maybe I can elaborate on each of these in future FFOTM newsletters.

- Pay attention to what you hear “inside”—in your heart as well as your head. You may hear words, music, or both. Find a way to capture them. Remember the Willie Nelson line: “Pickin’ up hookers instead of my pen I let the words of my youth slip away.” Don’t let your words, or your melody, slip away.
- Let it roll, let it run, let it echo. If the beginnings of a song show up at your creative door, invite it in and see if it wants to play. It may become your friend for life.

- Don’t self-censor. Don’t let your ego or intellect get in the way of your creativity. Likewise, don’t lock yourself in a style box. When “Subterranean Homesick Blues” came to Bob Dylan, did he think to himself, “I’m a Greenwich Village folk singer. I don’t write songs like that.” No! He wrote the song, then went out and found himself a rock and roll band so he could play it at Newport.
- The song will have its own story. It may be different than the one you know. Enjoy it. Don’t fact-check it.
- Give the song whatever time it needs. Push too hard and the song will suffer. Just nurture it, play with it, love it, and let it be what it will become. I’ve had some songs write themselves in a day. Others have taken decades. I don’t think I had much influence on the how long it took to finish any of them.
- Songs, like children, grow, mature and change. Your song may change. You may end up with multiple versions. Celebrate them all.



# Sedona Bluegrass Residency and Festival 2009

By Bert Harclerode

The Red Rocks of Sedona are host to the third Sedona Bluegrass Festival, April 29 thru May 2. The Festival features Grammy Award winning artists Tim O'Brien headlining the Sunday Festival as well as bassist Todd Phillips and David Grier, joined by Matt Flinger.



## Sedona Bluegrass Festival 2009

Welcoming the return of

### Tim O'Brien

### Sunday, May 3

Los Abrigados Resort - Creekside  
Doors open at 11:30am

Phillips-Grier-Flinger Bluegrass Trio / Crystal Ridge Bluegrass Band /  
Burnett Family Bluegrass Band

#### TICKETS:

\$40/person, youth tickets by phone only. Outlets include: Arizona Music Pro and Cedar Music, Flagstaff ~ Bashas' Sedona and Rycus' Corners-VOC Think For Ink, Prescott ~ Planet Music & Video, Cottonwood. Phone: 928.204.2415 - [www.ChamberMusicSedona.org](http://www.ChamberMusicSedona.org)

#### The residency schedule is:

Wednesday, April 29 ~ 7-8pm  
Informal Concert Performance with  
Phillips-Grier-Flinger Trio  
Sedona Public Library  
admission: two cans of food

Thursday, April 30 ~ 6-9pm\*  
Bluegrass BBQ with PGF Trio  
Private Oak Creek Home  
admission: \$65/person or \$110/couple  
reservations required

Friday, May 1 ~ 5-8pm  
Sedona Gallery Association First Friday Artwalk  
Burnett Family Bluegrass Band  
admission: free

Saturday, May 2 ~ time TBD\*  
Workshops @ NAU for:  
Guitar with David Grier, Bass with Todd Phillips  
Fiddle/mandolin with Matt Flinger  
admission: \$25/person

Saturday, May 2 ~ 6-9pm\*  
Fret, Fun and Fundraiser BBQ  
Main Street Catering / Private Flagstaff home  
admission: \$65 or \$100/couple  
reservations required

\* with Special Event advance purchase

# First Saturday Contra Dance News

*By Kari Usher*

Greetings and happy Spring or happy second Winter and skiing opportunities. A bunch of us headed for Phoenix for the Good Luck Gals dance and workshop. What a fun time that was. We got to do a bunch of zesty dances with shadows and right & left diagonal moves as well as other fun combinations. Deb Comly and Peg Hesley kept us moving and laughing while we danced away the Winter in our bones.

So that being said, we would love to see you and yours out and on the dance floor for the upcoming dances.

**March 7<sup>th</sup>** Peg Hesley will call to Updraft

**April 5<sup>th</sup>** Susan Petrich from Las Vegas will call to Just Desserts

\*\*April is 2 for 1 month – if you are a college student bring your ID and a friend and get in two people for the price of one.

**May 2<sup>nd</sup>** Mars Hillbillies

\*\*May is college students get in free with their ID

**June 6<sup>th</sup>** Laila Lewis from Tucson will call to Just Desserts

\*\* June is PROM month. Get yourself an outfit and dance the night away.

**July 11<sup>th</sup>** Claire Zucker and Round the House will be up from Tucson.

\*\*We are dancing the second Saturday in July

Dances are at Ashurst Hall on the NAU campus. Ashurst Hall is in Old Main. The lesson/refresher time is at 7:30pm and we dance until 11pm. Suggested donation of \$5 FFOTM/students and \$8 for the public. No partner needed, live music is provided, bring a smile and wear comfortable clothes. Call Kris for more information about the dancing or helping out at the dances. We would love your input. 526-3020. See you on the dance floor.

## Pickin' in the Pines

*By Darcy Falk*

Pickin' in the Pines Bluegrass & Acoustic Music Festival tickets are on sale now. If you purchase before March 30, 2009, you can use the **\$5 off** coupon on page 3. The lineup is nearly complete, and it's going to be another illustrious group of performers this year! You can also expect a whole host of other activities, including workshops, contra dance events, kids activities and more.

Camping in the group campground filled up fast last

year. If you plan to camp, we're recommending that you also purchase camping passes early.

We're looking for volunteers to help with various aspects of the festival. If you're interested in helping out, please contact Michael Falk (michael.falk@NAU.EDU), Rusty Tweed (774-5760) or Bill Vernieu (bv4@mindspring.com) and they'll put you in touch with the folks who need your help.

# Membership Update

By Jude McKenzie

We had 29 renewing memberships and 2 new in the last month, bringing our total membership to 259. Please take the time to check your mailing label to see if you need to renew your membership; you can use the form below or look for the letter inside. Thanks to those

supporting Flagstaff Friends of Traditional Music by keeping their membership up to date. If you want more information about Flagstaff Friends of Traditional Music, you can always contact me at 928-556-3161 or e-mail to [mckenzie@npgcable.com](mailto:mckenzie@npgcable.com).

## New and Renewing Members

John Aber & Joan Carstensen

AZ We Dance

Jenny Blue & Rick Moore

Duane Booher

Dan Boone & Ann Higgins

Shannon Clark & Karen Malis-Clark

Alcyone Coon

Kevin Elliott

Jillian Farrell

John Fisher

Terry & Doug Griffin

Barry Malpas

Mary Ann McLeod & Scott Rogers

Wilbert Odem

Gretchen Pfeiffer & R. Hardwick

Rod Robinson

David & Teresa Wayne

Suzanne Woods

Matt Ziegler

## Notes

### Miss Gypsy Blue

Patricia Ann Kohan-Ghadosh, aka Miss Gypsy Blue, 53, died Jan. 31, 2009, at Flagstaff Medical Center.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Feed My Sheep Fund, 1025 Banbury Court, Napa, CA 94558. Words of sympathy may be e-mailed to the family at [doris@dorisgentry.com](mailto:doris@dorisgentry.com). *"We were all very lucky that she came to our circle and shared with us her beautiful voice and songs."* – Matthew Henry Hall

## Grand Canyon Celtic Arts Academy

The Grand Canyon Celtic Arts Academy is bringing musicians to Flagstaff to teach a two day workshop in July and perform at the Northern Arizona Celtic Highland Festival. The workshops will take place July 15 and 16 and will offer instruction in Irish fiddle, flute, penny whistle, DADGAD guitar, Irish tenor banjo, and bodhran. For more information, please contact Kari Barton at [Kari@LivingTraditionsPresentations.com](mailto:Kari@LivingTraditionsPresentations.com) or call 928-600-1365.

## Irish Dance Lessons

Kari Barton is offering to teach an adult Irish Dance class if there is enough interest. This class would most likely take place on Monday nights. If you are interested, please call Kari at 928-600-1365 or email [Kari@LivingTraditionsPresentations.com](mailto:Kari@LivingTraditionsPresentations.com).

## Radio Shows

**Saturday Folk** - 6-10am on KVNA AM 600, and 101.7 fm and streaming live at [radioflagstaff.com](http://radioflagstaff.com).

**Thistle and Shamrock** - Saturday evenings at 8:00pm on KNAU, 88.7/91.7 FM.

**Celtic Connection** - Saturday evenings on KNAU, FM 88.7/91.7 FM.

**Under Western Skies** - Sunday morning at 7:00 am on AM 930.

**Celtic Corner** - Saturday evenings 6-7pm. Sunday mornings 7-8am (replay). KJZA, 89.5 FM,

**The Folk Sessions, Live!** - Saturdays, 7-9pm, repeated at midnight. 89.5 fm KJZA. <http://www.folksessions.com>

**Prescription Bluegrass** - Saturday Nights from 9-10 (repeats Sunday 6-7am) KJZA-89.5 FM

**O God Where Art Thou** - Sunday Mornings from 11-Noon. KJZA-89.5 FM

# Upcoming Events Calendar

March 9 - Monday - FFOTM Board Meeting

7:00 at the Coconino Center for the Arts. Contact Jesse Anderson: jesse.anderson@gmail.com or 607-3698.

Fri. March 6 - Lake Havasu Bluegrass on the Beach  
Dailey & Vincent, Cherryholmes, U.S. Navy Bluegrass Band, The Brombies, Audie Blaylock & Redline, New Found Road, The Bluegrass Brothers, Lorraine Jordan & Carolina Road, Bound to Ride, The Anderson Family.  
\$15-\$20, 209-480-4693, Lake Havasu State Park, www.LandsPromotions.com

Sat. March 7 - English Country Dance Workshop & Dance  
1:00-4:00 At the Baptist Church in Lake Montezuma. Caller Marsden MacRae (Las Vegas) and Updraft (Mary Anne McLeod, Judy Francis and Mike Reddig), 774-5936, or azwedance@gmail.com \$10 per participant

Sun. March 8 - English Country Dance Workshop & Dance  
1:00-4:00 at Studio 111, 111 S. San Francisco Street, Flagstaff. Caller Marsden MacRae (Las Vegas) and Updraft (Mary Anne McLeod, Judy Francis and Mike Reddig), 774-5936, or azwedance@gmail.com \$10 per participant

Fri. March 20 - Contra Dancing at Mountain School  
311 W Cattle Drive Road, Flagstaff. Caller Deb Comly and music by Clusterfolk. 774-5936, or azwedance@gmail.com  
Adults: \$6, Students: \$5, Ages 16 and under: \$3. 7:00-7:30 Pre-dance lesson, 7:30-10:30 Contra Dance

Sat. March 21 - Contra Dance at the Cottonwood Civic Center, 805 Main Street, Old Town Cottonwood. Caller Deb Comly & music by Clusterfolk, 774-5936 or azwedance@gmail.com. AFTERNOON OPEN HOUSE: FREE DANCING! Come see what the Cottonwood dance is all about, and be our guest at the afternoon dance from 3:30-5:00. Contra Dance: Adults: \$6, Students: \$5, Ages 16 and under: \$3. 5:30-6:30 Potluck, 6:30-7:00 Pre-dance Lesson, 7:00-10:00 Dance

Fri. March 20 - Terry Dumdei  
Featured performer at the Flagstaff Folk Project, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 510 N. Leroux Street  
7:30 – 8:30 p.m. – Open Mic  
8:30 – 8:45 p.m. – Refreshment Break  
8:45 – 9:45 p.m. – Terry Dumdei  
There is a cover charge of \$5.00. www.flagfolkproject.org.

March 30 - Jason Isbell & The 400 Unit with Justin Townes Earle At The Green Room, Flagstaff, Doors 7/Show 8pm, \$13adv/\$15 day of. 15 N. Agassiz

April 4 - Bruce Cockburn @ The Orpheum  
Orpheum Theater, Flagstaff. Doors 7pm/Show 8pm, \$22-\$40 in advance.

April 17-19 - Durango Bluegrass Meltdown  
www.durangomeltdown.com, (970) 259-7200

# Ongoing Events Calendar

First Tuesday from 8-11: Nolan McKelvey at The Wine Loft, upstairs at 17 N. San Francisco St. in downtown Flagstaff, 928-773-9463.

Second and fourth Tuesdays from 8-11: Voluntary String Band at The Wine Loft (see contact info above.)

Third Tuesday from 8-11: Major Swing at The Wine Loft (see contact info above.)

First Wednesday from 8-11: Wednesday Night Vintage Series with Tony Norris, at The Wine Loft (see contact info above.)

Second and Fourth Wednesdays from 8-11: The Mars Hillbillies at The Wine Loft (see contact info above.)

Every Wednesday - 12:00 pm: jam open to anyone at the Old Town Shops, on the corner of Leroux and Birch. Contact Christina Vojta for more information 814-6132.

Every Thursday – 7:00 pm: FFOTM Just Desserts contra dance band rehearsal. Open to anyone who wants to play or listen to contra dance music. Starts at 7:00pm at the home of Deb Comly and Mike Reddig, 1457 W. Meade. For more information call 774-5936.

Every first Saturday 7:30 pm FFOTM Contra Dance at Ashurst Hall on the NAU campus. Come on out for the 7:30 pre-dance lesson. Call Kris for more information 526-3020 or Judy at 214-7017.

Every Sunday 7:00 - 9:00 pm: Irish Session at Charlie's Pub and Grill, 23 N Leroux. Open to anyone who wants to play or listen to Irish traditional music. For more information contact Kari Barton at 600-1365 or Jay Ham at 699-8463.



## FFOTM MEMBERSHIP FORM

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ new \_\_\_\_\_ renewal \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone - Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Individual Membership - \$12.00 per year

Family Membership - \$15.00 per year

\_\_\_\_\_ Individual Membership \$12

\_\_\_\_\_ Family Membership \$15

Make checks payable to FFOTM  
and mail to:

FFOTM  
P.O. Box 23366  
Flagstaff, AZ 86002  
FFOTM Membership Form

www.ffotm.net



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