

# Mad Folk News

## Si Kahn Returns to Madison for Benefit Concert

Legendary folk musician and community organizer Si Kahn is returning to Madison this November for a special benefit concert on Armistice Day. Kahn will perform at the Barrymore Theatre on Saturday November 11th at 7pm along with Vietnam veteran musicians Jim Walktendonk and Will Williams, together

“When I was a boy... all the people of all the nations which had fought in the First World War were silent during the eleventh minute of the eleventh hour of Armistice Day, which was the eleventh day of the eleventh month. It was during that minute in nineteen hundred and eighteen, that millions upon millions of human beings stopped butchering one another... Armistice Day has become Veterans’ Day. Armistice Day was sacred. Veterans’ Day is not.” – Kurt Vonnegut, World War II veteran and author.

with the Madison Gospelaire and Mad City Funk band. The show, co-sponsored by the Clarence Kailin Chapter 25 of Veterans For Peace and The Progressive magazine will be a benefit for The Progressive celebrating 108 years of publishing in Madison. David Giffey, artist and former combat journalist will emcee the show.

Si Kahn has been a musician and organizer for over 50 years, beginning as a volunteer with the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee in Arkansas during the Civil Rights movement. He has continued to live and work in the South, assisting in union struggles, working against the privatization of prisons, and most recently with “Musicians United,” a group working to protect the environment in Bristol Bay, Alaska. He has also written numerous theater works including “Joe Hill’s Last Will,” which was performed in Madison by John McCutcheon in 2015.

Jim Walktendonk has lived and performed in the Madison area for decades. His songs, many influenced by his time in Vietnam and his exposure to Agent Orange defoliant, are

personal and powerful. He was featured in the 1987 HBO special “Welcome Home Concert.”

Will Williams and his wife Dot bring beautiful gospel harmonies to the stage. Will is a regular participant in peace and justice events in Madison, and was profiled in the 2009 documentary film “The Good Soldier.”

The Clarence Kailin Chapter 25 of Veterans For Peace is named for the late Spanish Civil War vet whose life was a model for a generation of activists in a variety of movements for peace, justice, and equality. Members will be on hand to share information about their current projects. The Progressive magazine was founded by “Fighting Bob” La Follette in January 1909. It has continued since that day as a voice for peace, social justice, and the common good. The print edition of the magazine is published bi-monthly, with daily content appearing on the web at [www.progressive.org](http://www.progressive.org).


This year’s benefit concert is built around the theme, voiced by Veterans for Peace nationally, that November 11th should return to its roots as a day for peace – calling for an end to all wars as it did 99 years ago.

“This year with a rise of hate and fear around the world it is as urgent as ever to ring the bells of peace.

We in the U.S. must press our government to end reckless rhetoric and military interventions that endanger the entire world. Instead of celebrating militarism, we want to celebrate peace and all of humanity.” – Veterans for Peace 2017 action statement.

For more information, contact the Barrymore at 608-241-8864 or The Progressive at 608-257-4626.

### Mad Folk Concert Tickets

When you see this symbol –  – you’ll know that you’re reading about a Mad Folk sponsored event. Advance tickets for Mad Folk shows are available online at [www.madfolk.org](http://www.madfolk.org) and at these outlets:

- Orange Tree Imports, 1721 Monroe Street
- Spruce Tree Music, 851 East Johnson

Purchase tickets ONLINE for Mad Folk concerts via Brown Paper Tickets (with \$1.62 service charge):

<https://www.brownpapertickets.com/producer/10879>

You can also purchase advance tickets by mail. Send a stamped self-addressed envelope with your check payable to Mad Folk, PO Box 665, Madison, WI 53701. If all else fails, call 608-846-9214 for information.

# House Concerts at Mike & Carol's

By Mike Tuten

Carol and I moved into Arbor Hills in November of 2003 and have been hosting over 40 acts in our home since then. All of them fall under the Folk Music umbrella but as with all genres, There is great diversity among them.

Your first question may be What is a House Concert? As the name implies, it is a concert in someone's home. Those coming experience the performers in an intimate setting designed primarily for listening and sharing. All of the performers we have hosted tell us this format is their favorite because of the intimacy they have with the audience. This intimacy usually leads to shared insights to their music that seldom if ever are shared in more commercial venues. So, how does this work?

Carol and I advertise our events almost exclusively by email and have a suggested donation listed for the event, all of which goes to the performer(s). As the phrase suggests, this is a suggested donation amount. If this is a budget breaker, those coming are free to donate what they can afford. The primary focus is on the music and all of our performers share this attitude.

In November we will be hosting Carolyn Carter from Mountain View Arkansas and Madfolk and Madison's own Tracy Jane Comer with her group Common Chord.

Carolyn is making her third appearance in our basement performance space on Sunday, November 5 with a show starting at 7; doors opening at 6:30. The suggested donation is \$15.

She grew up and began her career in the Northern part of Ozark Hill country in North-eastern Arkansas. With ancestors from Scotland and her paternal grandmother Cherokee, her ethnic background is similar to most of the Ozark mountain Natives. The well known "Trail of Tears" runs through Stone County, AR, so much of the music and many of the stories are a blend of stories from immigrant settlers and pioneers to Native Americans who lived in the area for centuries.

While great bluegrass and mountain music is not rare to Stone County, the beautiful folk lyrics and stories that intertwine with Carter's familiar voice( which is very reminiscent of the 1960's and 1970's when good folk music was bursting all over this country) is indeed a rare pleasure to hear . Her simple guitar

chords add a quiet melody to the songs that Carolyn Carter writes and sings to share her mountain culture and life story with her audience. You have just made a friend you hope to keep for life!

For more information on Carolyn go to <http://carolyncarter.info/>

Next we are hosting Tracy Jane Comer and her group, Common Cord on Friday, November 17 with a show starting at 8; doors opening at 7:30. The suggested donation is \$10.

Tracy is joined by Michael Bryant, Bruce Buttel, Faye Bruggink and Delores Jenison.

This concert came about as I chatted with Tracy and Michael at a performance at the Brink Lounge where their music competed with the general bar background noises.

I felt their music need a quiet listening space to be fully appreciated so invited them to perform at our house. Here's what they have to say about their music:

"From folk to swing and lots in between!" Common Chord was formed originally as a duo in 2015 by singer/songwriters Michael Bryant and Tracy Jane Comer, and has now grown to five regular performers, with the addition of Bruce Buttel (songwriter, guitar and vocals), Delores Jenison (backing vocals), and Faye Bruggink (clarinet and bass). Add in the instrumental skills of group founders Michael (guitar, bass, mandolin) and Tracy (guitar, viola/violin, cello, bass, hammered dulcimer, keys) plus their talents in arranging and composition, and you get uniquely rich, textured, and tasteful arrangements.

Common Chord's repertoire includes originals from each of three writers in the group (Michael, Tracy, and Bruce) plus unique covers from the likes of Tom Waits, the Beatles, Robert Johnson, Cheryl Wheeler, and more, with flavors of folk, blues, swing, country, pop, and jazz. At a Common Chord show you'll hear lead vocals traded around plus lots of full harmonies, backed by guitars, viola, clarinet, mandolin, bass, and sometimes hammered dulcimer and cello (space permitting). Their music has appeal to audiences of all ages. Their debut CD (self-titled) was released in January 2017 and was reviewed in Mad Folk News in May of this year.

For more information go to [www.commonchord.us](http://www.commonchord.us)

Send an email to [maddog-210@charter.net](mailto:maddog-210@charter.net) if you want more information on these and future events at our home.

## Seeking a new host for Tuesday morning folk

WORT Radio show is very sad to be losing Peter Allen and all of his talents as he moves on to a new endeavor. With his departure WORT now has an opening for a volunteer morning host for our indie/folk/acoustic/singer songwriter show on Tuesdays from 9 am-noon.

It is radio show that does well with a mix of traditional folk and singer-songwriters, but includes some of modern young "indie" bands and artists blurring the lines between folk, rock and blues, along with plenty of classic folk and roots music and bringing live bands into the studio, is the kind of format that makes this show so great. No prior radio experience is necessary, just a knowledge of and passion for the music, and the availability to be here on Tuesday mornings.

So if you, or if you know of anyone who may be interested, you can have them contact Sybil Augustine at WORT.

## David Greely

David Greely is a one of the best-known and most versatile Louisiana-based Cajun fiddlers and vocalists.

Born in Baton Rouge of Cajun and Irish ancestry, David learned Cajun music on dance hall stages throughout South Louisiana, in the archives of Cajun and Creole music at the University of Louisiana, and from his apprenticeship to Cajun fiddle master and National Heritage Fellow Dewey Balfa.

David teaches Cajun fiddle, lyrics and vocals to students the world over in workshops and music camps as well as by Skype. He will be doing just that in Madison, November 15 and 16!

David will be appearing in a house concert on November 16 in Madison. The evening before, November 15, he will be hold a Cajun fiddle workshop, followed by a Cajun song vocals workshop. Contact information for reserving a seat at the house concert and attending the workshops is given on the Refrigerator Cover.

**FOUR LOST SOULS - JON LANGFORD**  
**BLOODSHOT RECORDS - 2017**



Review by Kiki Schueler

Welshman Jon Langford is a man of many bands, I could probably name ten without even thinking too hard, but his newest collaboration may be his most intriguing yet. He began his music career in England with the Mekons- part of the first wave of Brit-punk bands, and contemporaries with the Clash and the Sex Pistols. Unlike those bands, the Mekons still perform and record. Since moving to Chicago two decades ago, he has blended classic country, that most American of music, into his music. One of his longest running outfits, the Waco Brothers, use an obvious Johnny Cash crush to drive their addictive alt-country tunes. On Four Lost Souls he shifts his attention to Alabama, specifically Muscle Shoals and its famous sound. He brought three Chicagoans with him on this journey, guitarist John Syzmanski and a pair of stunning vocalists, Bethany Thomas and Tawny Newsome. The latter sang on the last two Skull Orchard records, while Thomas has appeared in numerous theater productions across the country. The record was produced by Norbert Putnam, who played with Elvis and Roy Orbison, and produced records for Joan Baez, John Hiatt and the Flying Burrito Brothers. The studio musicians featured on the record include bassist David Hood, father of the Drive By Truckers founder Patterson Hood, and one of the original Swampers (the Muscle Shoals Sound studio house band), and Randy McCormick who played the iconic piano intro to Bob Seeger's "Old

Time Rock & Roll."

Of course that impressive cast wouldn't mean a thing if the record didn't have that swing, as they say. And the Four Lost Souls definitely deliver. The record opens with "Poor Valley Radio," an interesting parallel to Langford's own "Nashville Radio." While loneliness is a theme in both, instead of a cautionary tale of drugs, fame and excess, "Poor Valley" is about the music and the need to play it. As the ladies humorously sing, "These songs aren't going to sing themselves." The luminous pedal steel comes courtesy of Pete Finney, who's played with everyone from Carl Perkins to Bonnie Prince Billy. The record continues its travelogue from Tennessee to Mississippi along "The Natchez Trace," a propulsive and rollicking ride. Arriving "In Oxford Mississippi," the three vocalists each take a turn on verses about a city where "the past is always near." Guitar and pedal steel both shine on a shimmering, subtle melody. Thomas wows on the soulful "Mystery," her only rival is the lonely pedal steel that carries the tune.

Appropriately, "Halfway Home" marks the descent into the second half of the record in joyous style, making the most of McCormick's piano. It's the record's most infectious tune, a cotton candy song that sticks with you, its chorus bouncing around in your head pleasantly for hours. Langford's ever present, always charming Welsh accent adds another layer to the regret felt in "Fish Out of Water," "I should have stayed by the great lakes, not come down here to die, out of my element in this desert, high and dry." It's followed by the propulsive "What's My Name," an incendiary ode to Mohammed Ali. The intricate vocals do homage to the fighter who floats like a butterfly and stings like a bee. "Snake behind Glass" pairs a loping trail ride melody to a puzzle of lyrics. Record closer "Waste" hints at the

Everly Brothers "All I Have to Do is Dream" and the trio's vocals hold up to that high standard. In fact, everything about this record seems slightly magical. Hopefully this line-up will turn out to be one of Langford's enduring relationships, and not just a one night in Alabama stand.

Mad Folk News is published monthly by the Madison Folk Music Society, a non-profit, volunteer-led society dedicated to fostering folk music in the Madison area. Contact us at [madfolk@charter.net](mailto:madfolk@charter.net). Learn about concerts, membership, scholarships, and volunteer opportunities at [www.madfolk.org](http://www.madfolk.org). [www.facebook.com/pages/Madison-Folk-Music-Society/34497984835](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Madison-Folk-Music-Society/34497984835)

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<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Madison-Folk-Music-Society/34497984835>

# The Mad Folk Refrigerator Cover

Nov 2017

## Mad Folk Events



**Brian Bowers**

Friday January 5th

**Christine Lavin**

Friday January 12th

**Tom Paxton  
and The DonJuans**

Sunday February 11th

**Cosy Sheridan**

Sunday March 11th

## Gigs

**Pat and Mary Ellen McCluskey**

Invitation & Advance RSVP required.

For full details or to request an invitation, contact Jenny at [threeplygardens@gmail.com](mailto:threeplygardens@gmail.com) or 608-986-3760

- Nov 12th @ 4pm (doors 3:30pm) Open the Door for Three - \$20

**Mike and Carol's House**

Invitation & Advance RSVP required.

For full details or to request an invitation, contact Mike at [maddog-210@charter.net](mailto:maddog-210@charter.net)

- Nov 5th @ 7pm (doors 6:30) - Carolyn Carter - \$15
- Nov 17th @ 8pm (doors 7:30) - Common Chord - \$10
- Dec 10th @ 7pm (doors 6:30) - Bitter Sweet Christmas Band - \$15

**Dave & Anne Host Folk**

Invitation & Advance RSVP required.

For full details or to request an invitation, contact Dave & Anne at [annedave@chorus.net](mailto:annedave@chorus.net) - 608-256-2958

- Nov 17th @ 7:30 pm (doors at 7) Claudia Schmidt - \$20 / \$17 under 18

**Carrie Newcomer, Parker J. Palmer and Gary Walters**

First United Methodist, 203 Wisconsin Ave. Madison

- Nov 10th @ 7:30pm (doors at 7) - \$30 adv / \$35 d.o.s.

**The Holden Home**

Invitation & Advance RSVP required.

For full details or to request an invitation, contact Karen Holden at [kcholden@wisc.edu](mailto:kcholden@wisc.edu) - 608-238-6039

- Nov 16th @ 7:30pm (doors at 7) David Greely - \$15

## Venues



18 S. Water St.  
Ft. Atkinson, WI  
[cafecarpe.com](http://cafecarpe.com)  
920-563-9391

**Cafe Carpe**

All shows at 8:30pm unless indicated otherwise.  
Please call 920-563-9391 to reserve.

- Fri, Nov 3rd, Patric Ball - \$18
- Sat, Nov 4th, Richard Shindell - \$22.50
- Wed, Nov 8th, Irish Session - @7pm
- Thu, Nov 9th, The New Pioneers - \$10 - @7pm
- Fri, Nov 10th, Lost John & The Dusty Millers
- Sat, Nov 11th, Bill Camplin Band - \$12
- Fri, Nov 17th, Satchel Paige Welch & Kai Welch
- Wed, Nov 22nd, Irish Session - @7pm
- Fri, Nov 24th, Coyote Brother
- Sat, Nov 25th, Sam Llanas - \$20
- Thu, Nov 30th, Song Circle w/ Tricia Alexander - \$5 - @7pm

**FOLKLORE VILLAGE** ...preserving it on

3210 Cty Hwy BB  
Dodgeville, WI  
[folklorevillage.org](http://folklorevillage.org)  
608-924-4000

**Folklore Village**

- Sat, Nov 4th - Healthy Hoedown (Potluck @6pm - Dance @7:15)
- Tue, Nov 7th - Open Mic - @7pm
- Sat, Nov 11th - Harvest Jam: Friends of Folklore Village Fall Fundraiser

- Fri, Nov 3, @7pm - Common Chord - Crossroads Coffeehouse, Cross Plains
- Sat, Nov 4, @10am - Tracy Jane Comer - solo acoustic - What'ya Know? at a House of a Guy's Own, Madison
- Saturday, November 4, 2017 @ 4:00 pm - Common Chord - The Farm Sports Pub, Madison
- Thu, Nov 9, @6pm - Tracy Jane Comer with Alan Maslowski - Babe's, Madison
- Fri, Nov 10, @7pm - Briana Patrice Trio - Brix 340, Waunakee
- Wed, Nov 15, @6pm - Briana Patrice Trio - Me & Julio, Fitchburg
- Thu, Nov 16, @7pm - Briana Patrice Trio - The Brink Lounge, Madison
- Fri, Dec 1, @7pm - Briana Patrice Trio - Brix 340, Waunakee
- Sat, Dec 16, @7pm - Common Chord - Chocolaterian Middleton, Middleton
- Wed, Dec 20, @6pm - Briana Patrice Trio - Me & Julio, Fitchburg
- Thu, Dec 21, @7pm - Tracy Jane Comer & Friends - The Brink Lounge, Madison

## Misc

**Old Time Jam**

Monthly - 3rd Sunday of every month, 4 to 6pm

EVP West 3809 Mineral Point Road

Coodinator: Al Wilson

cell: 608-572-0634

[adwilson@pediatrics.wisc.edu](mailto:adwilson@pediatrics.wisc.edu)

Madison Area Ukulele Initiative -- Singalongs 3rd Sunday 11am - 1:30pm  
- for location visit [www.MAUImadison.com](http://www.MAUImadison.com)

## On the Air



[wpr.org](http://wpr.org)

**Simply Folk** on Wisconsin Public Radio w/ Dan Robinson, Host

Sun 5:00-8:00pm

Concerts recorded in Wisconsin, music and dance of people the world over. For playlists, calendars, station listings, and more, visit [www.wpr.org/simplyfolk](http://www.wpr.org/simplyfolk).



[wort-fm.org](http://wort-fm.org)

**WORT 89.9 FM** community radio

Sun -- 3:00-5:00pm

- "On the Horizon" w/ Ford Blackwell, Paul Novak, Gloria Hays & Helena White

Weekdays 9:00am-noon

- Mon - Global Revolutions (folk from the world over) w/ Dan Talmo & Martin Alvarado
- Tue -- One Fine Morning w/ P.C. Allen
- Wed -- Back to the Country (country music on a theme) w/Bill Malone
- Thur -- Diaspora (folk and international) w/Terry O'
- Fri -- Mud Acres (bluegrass and acoustic) w/Chris Powers

**WMUU 102.9 FM**

- Sat - Exiles Return with Elizabeth Delaquess  
- 4-6am and again from 10am-noon

## Madison Dance

- African/African-American Dance classes with live drumming -- Sun, 7:00-9:00pm -- Metro Dance, 3009 University Ave. -- 255-3677 / 251-4311

- SpiritMoves Ecstatic Dance 2nd and 4th Weds, 7:00-9:00 pm -- The Center for Conscious Living, 849 East Washington Ave. -- \$7 min. donation

- English Country Dance taught--1st, 3rd (and 5th) Mon7:30-9:30pm -- Wil-Mar Center, 953 Jenifer St. -- 238-9951 or 231-1040

- International Dancing -- Wed; classes 7:30-8:30pm, request dancing 8:30-11:00pm -- The Crossing, 1127 University Ave. -- 241-3655 and Sun, 8-10pm

- Irish Dancing -- Monthly Ceili and set dance events are posted at [celticmadison.org/dance](http://celticmadison.org/dance)

- Italian Dancing -- Tue, 7:00-9:00pm, no experience or partner necessary -- 838-9403 (Philana)

- Madison Contra Dance Cooperative -- Tue; 7:30 jam band practice, intermediate level dancing 7:45-9:40pm -- \$5 for non-members -- Gates of Heaven, 302 E. Gorham -- 238-3394 (Steve)

- Morris Dancing -- Wed, 7:00pm -- call for location -- 238-9951

- Scottish Country Dancing -- Sun, 7:00pm -- Wil-Mar Center, 953 Jenifer St. -- 358-4478

- Israeli Folk Dancing -- Tues, 7:00pm -- Will-Mar Center, 953 Jenifer St. Melissa Marver -- [mdmarver@gmail.com](mailto:mdmarver@gmail.com)

# Is this your last copy of *Mad Folk News*?

There are two ways to renew your **tax-deductible** membership

## Way #1 – online

Visit [www.madfolk.org](http://www.madfolk.org) and click on "Join MFMS"

## Way #2 – unplugged

Complete, clip, and mail this form

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Madison-Folk-Music-Society/34497984835>

Madison Folk Music Society

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### Madison Folk Music Society

join  renew

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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Choose membership category: \_\_\_\_\_

Senior / Student \$10 \_\_\_\_\_

Regular \$12 \_\_\_\_\_

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

Friend \$25 \_\_\_\_\_

Contributing \$50 \_\_\_\_\_

Life \$500 \_\_\_\_\_

Scholarship fund donation (optional) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

GOING GREEN - Send my newsletters electronically by email

Send your check, payable to MFMS to: Mad Folk c/o

Tracy Comer, P.O. Box 930446 Verona, WI 53593-0446