

MadFolk News

Lucy Kaplansky becomes part of the MadFolk family of performers on May 9th!

Lucy Kaplansky has performed on many stages in and around Madison, but on May 9th she becomes a MadFolk performance luminary. I must say this article took me a little longer to write than I normally do because I got so caught up watching so many video's online of Lucy playing and the music and songs just kept me wanting to go to the next to the next video of her playing!

A little background of Lucy, She started out singing in Chicago folk music clubs as a teenager. Then, barely out of high school, Lucy Kaplansky took off for New York City. In NYC she found her music tribe, with Suzanne Vega, Steve Forbert, The Roches, and others, including Shawn Colvin, who she most often found herself singing as a duo with. But then, Lucy left the mu-

sic industry to go back to school to pursue a doctorate in Clinical Psychology she took a job at a New York hospital working with chronically mentally ill adults, and also started a private practice. Lucy was often pulled back into the studio by her friends, (who now had contracts with record labels) wanting her to sing on their albums. Then, luckily for us, she left the medical field and came back to folk music fulltime, giving us one of the most beautiful voices in contemporary folk music. Once she started recording her own cds, she also recorded a cd of covers under the name of Cry, Cry, Cry, which was her, Dar Williams and Richard Shindell. -note all 3 of these performers have opened for Joan Baez here in Madison. Most recently she was in the Madison

area performing with John Gorka and others. If you know Lucy's music, you know you will want to see this show, as it will be such a good intimate listening experience. If you're new to Lucy, perhaps check out one of her songs, "Last Days of Summer" wrote about her child moving out to go to college, or "Old Friends" a duet she does with Shawn Colvin that reflects on friendship, that we can all relate to with our own friends, if you dig deep you may even find her doing a cover of Bruce Springsteen's Thunder Road.

We hope to see you at this show, please remember we collect non-perishable items at the door to give to a local food pantry. Tickets are \$20 in advance and can be purchased at www.madfalk.org

Joe Jencks and Deidre McCalla May 19th

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Shawn Colvin, who she most often found herself singing as a duo with. But then, Lucy left the music indus



Gnome Man's Land

By Emily Beebe

CAST of CHARACTERS:

GEOSMIN FIPPLEDOWN– Head Plant Manager
TARPAULIN 'TARPO' CORMWALLOW – Director of Fertilizer R&D
VIGGY PARKLUST– Newly-hired Sound and Lighting Engineer
JACK FROST - Punk

ACT I, Scene I

Setting: Southern Wisconsin, April 1st, 2024. GEOSMIN and TARPO, a pair of weathered garden gnomes, stand side by side near a shed at the edge of a fallow garden in early morning sunlight.

GEOSMIN: (bending over to contemplate a newly unfurled crocus) Spring has come early to the garden this year!

TARPO: Indeed! We hardly suffered this Winter, beyond that one scuffle with Jack Frost.

GEOSMIN: Gotta hand it to him, he does keep the dark season interesting. He makes me feel alive!

TARPO: Hmm. Maybe we were too hard on Jack. (sighs) I was dreaming about a trio of brownies sweeping cobwebs off my manure spreader when, poof! 50 degrees – wide awake in a pile of slush dotted with deer berries.

GEOSMIN: (straightens up, wincing) Ow! My back hasn't recovered from burying all those gremlin gourds last October. I admit I could've used another month of hibernation.

TARPO: (chortles) You did fine work with that! Why, if the humans found them all amongst the dead vines, there'd be nothing left to cross-pollinate the zucchinis!

GEOSMIN: (chuckling) Aye! The abominable squash prank never gets old.

TARPO: (peering through the grape trellis) Who's that guy?

VIGGY: Hallooooooooooooo! (A little man with lanky arms, short legs, and a pointy red hat lopes unevenly toward them across the yard with a large sack on his back, dragging a dented lantern)

GEOSMIN: He's new. Just arrived from Mount Horeb, I think.

TARPO: He won't last the season. Remember what happened to that weird little Harley Davidson gnome that showed up last June?

GEOSMIN: Sure do. The chipmunks shoved him off the woodpile and stole his leather jerkin. He fell apart after that.

TARPO: (shakes head) Poor lad. He didn't see it coming in those dark glasses. Luckily, he was sleeping off a night of 'doin' the dew'. Not much of a security guard.

VIGGY: (breathing hard, reaches the other gnomes). Greetings, Fellow Scandihoovians!

TARPO: Hallo! You must be the new guy. What brings you to our neck of the woods?

VIGGY: it was dark, but I'm pretty sure it was a Prius.

GEOSMIN: (offers his hand) I'm Geosmin Fippledawn, and this is Tarpaulin Cormallow. We're the senior caretakers of this yard. Tarpo is our fertilizer man.

TARPO: And Geosmin here is our head plant manager.

VIGGY: (shakes hands with GEOSMIN and TARPO) You can call me Vigg. Vigg Parklust. I'm the new sound and lighting engineer.

TARPO: Lighting? Excellent! We could sure use some nocturnal sunshine to keep the lettuce slugs at bay. (muttering to himself) Not sure why we need a sound guy though. Modern times.

VIGGY: (drops sack with a loud clank) Where can I set up?

GEOSMIN: Why, you have hours before dark! How about a tour?

VIGGY: (sniffing the air) I smell Jack Frost. Better get started. The motion sensors need to be calibrated.

GEOSMIN: Ho, ho. I don't think you need to worry about Jack. We pinned him under the birdbath a few weeks ago. It's been freakily warm ever since.

VIGGY: (pointing across the yard at an overturned birdbath) You mean that one?

TARPO: Crikey! He's right. That would explain that my crunchy footbones and that persistent Northern wind.

GEOSMIN: This isn't good. The peas and carrots are already in the ground. The broccoli is up! I thought we were safe.

VIGGY: (pulling cables and technical-looking equipment out of his sack, muttering) I know it's in here somewhere... Aha!

(VIGGY extracts a small ukulele from his sack)

TARPO: (shakes head, frowning) Don't tell me they're playing those things in Mount Horeb now.

VIGGY: (tuning) I learned this trick from a former colleague in M.A.U.I. Jack will be digging his own hole after a few verses of Waltzing With Bears.

GEOSMIN: (laughing) HAH! Be back in two shakes of a lambs-ear! (enters the garden shed)

(Loud clanging erupts from the shed. GEOSMIN emerges with a tarnished sousaphone). I think I may join you this evening!

TARPO: (throws his stubby hands in the air) Does this mean you're going to practice that song all day? (turns to leave) See ya. I got a wheelbarrow to fill. (fade to black)

🎵 Lucy Kaplansky plays her first MadFolk concert on May 9th

For those of you who know Lucy, I know you'll be buying tickets right now – go to the website www.madfolk.org for a link to purchase them. Lucy has already announced the show on her site and fans have already been contacting us for tickets! This is going to be a super intimate concert with her.

For those who are not familiar with Lucy, we will have much more in the newsletter next month, we just wanted to give our MadFolk family first chance at the tickets.

Lucy Kaplansky is an acclaimed singer-songwriter of rare talent, “a truly gifted performer with a bag full of enchanting songs” (The New Yorker) and “the troubadour laureate of modern city folk” (The Boston Globe).



**Madison Folk Music
Society PRESENTS**

Lucy Kaplansky

Thursday, May 9

7:00 pm

THE NORTH STREET CABARET, 610 North St, Madison WI

Tickets \$20 advance, \$25 day of show

Available at: <https://madfolk.org>

Non-perishable donations of food will be collected for local food banks.

KG & The Ranger - 35 years Riding the Western Music Trail Together

**April 26, 2024 - 7:30 PM - Wild Hog in the Woods Coffeehouse
(504 S. Brearly St. in the WII-Mar Neighborhood Center)**

Admission: \$2 members / \$4 general public

In 1986, a chance encounter while playing for a barn dance in Madison led to a long professional musical career - and a marriage! Karen Gogolick was a successful jewelry designer with a store just off State Street. Rick Roltgen was working as a loan officer for a Madison credit union. They both played upright bass. At that time The Wild Hog in the Woods Coffeehouse was a young all-volunteer organization that hosted monthly barn dances, backed by a pickup band. One night both Karen and Rick showed up to play bass for the dance, and their musical friendship began. Karen invited him to play bass in the string band she was in (Stone Soup) because she wanted to spend more time playing banjo. They both started bringing classic cowboy songs into the band and quickly realized their shared love of this type of music. In 1989 they started performing as a duo specializing in vintage cowboy songs from the Silver Screen era. Playing together sparked love of a different kind and they married that same year!

Their first show as "KG & The Ranger" was in April 1989 at, where else, the Wild Hog in the Woods Coffeehouse. From three shows that first year to six the next, they grew

their performing schedule until they were playing over 100 shows a year. It became obvious that they had a choice: quit their day jobs or cut back on the number of shows they could do. They chose to go full-time and have made a living as musicians since 2000.

Since that small beginning, they have played over 3000 shows, entertaining audiences in Wisconsin and around the nation. From festivals and outdoor concerts to small groups at assisted living communities, they put their hearts into every show. Preserving the music that came from the singing cowboys of the 1940s has become a passion and a mission for this award-winning duo. Awards include the International Western Music Association's Harmony Yodeling Champions, Outstanding Entertainers / Duo, Harmony Singing Awards, and the Wild West Arts Club's "Montie Montana Award for Showmanship".

35 years after that first show together they still travel about 12 weeks a year doing shows across the country and they keep an active schedule the rest of the time here in Wisconsin. Their 35th Anniversary Celebration at The Wild Hog on Friday April 26th will include their daughter Angie Roltgen, a very tal-

ented singer who has added in her lovely harmonies on CDs and occasional shows over the years. Angie has a busy schedule performing with Remington's Ride, a Fond du Lac area Western Swing band, so this is a very special and rare chance to hear her. KG & The Ranger have recorded seven CDs, with their newest album "Saturday Matinee" released last year.

"Western Music" is a unique musical genre with roots in country, swing and folk. It is distinctly different from today's "country" music. Picture Roy Rogers or Gene Autry singing on horseback, or the Sons of the Pioneers' stunning harmony vocals creating images of cowboy life and the great American West. It borrows chords and melodies from jazz, adds poetic descriptive lyrics about the west, sprinkles in some yodeling and complex harmonies, and ends up with a family-friendly rich and entertaining musical experience. Add KG & The Ranger's special touches of humor and history and you get a show you don't want to miss. These vintage songs will bring back memories for many, while KG & The Ranger's fresh take on these classics will turn everyone, young and old alike, into fans.

Upcoming MadFolk Shows!

May 9th - Luch Kaplansky

May 19th - Joe Jenks and Deirdre McCalla

August 30th - Connie Kaldor

November 4th - Garnet Rogers

LET'S GO DANCING: SAID THE FIREFLY TO THE HURRICANE - VARIOUS ARTISTS

2024 - TASTY GOODY RECORDS



Review by Kiki Schueler

A project that began as a 60th birthday present for Drivin N Cryin frontman Kevn Kinney from his wife Anna Jensen is turning out to be a gift to all music lovers, as well as some very deserving charities. Kinney celebrated six decades in 2021 and to celebrate Jensen invited some of the musicians he had worked with over the years to cover one of his songs. That invitation netted over 100 songs. When asked if he would consider releasing some of the tracks, Kinney stipulated that any profits would go to charity. The carefully selected groups include the musician mental health organization SIMS, How Big Is Your Dream which supports music and art education, Out of the Woods which benefits children with spinal cord and brain injuries, and Farm Link which connects farmers with food banks. Each of the charities has a connection to the musicians who participated. Said the Firefly to the Hurricane was released on vinyl for the Black Friday Record Store Day in 2023, and became available digitally earlier this year. It is the first of four planned releases, all featuring cover art by Jensen, appearing roughly seasonally over the next year.

On the Outlaw Country Cruise earlier this year I had the chance to see two Drivin N Cryin shows, and they could not have been more different. The first was a folky, singer-songwriter set, the second a full-blown rock show. The songs here highlight that range— from Shelley Colvin and Dylan LeBlanc's take on the gorgeous

waltzing lullaby "Save For Me" (from his solo record Down Out Law) to Jason Isbell's Crazy Horse-channeling "Look What You've Done to Your Brother" (from DNC's Fly Me Courageous). Isbell's own output seldom gets above mid-tempo, so it's a pleasure to hear him rock here. While Kinney was born and raised in Milwaukee, he moved to Atlanta in 1985 to form Drivin N Cryin. Many of the artists featured here, such as Isbell and his former Drive By Trucker bandmate Patterson Hood, are friends Kinney made in his time in Georgia. Hood has the honor of the title track, which also leads off the record. His charmingly gritty voice is ably backed by REM's Peter Buck (a frequent Kinney collaborator) on mandolin and Scott McCaughey on backing vocals and a host of instruments, including mellotron and harmonica. Their whimsical, enchanting version sets a high bar that no one else quite reaches, though many come close.

Parker Gispert of the Athens band The Whigs chooses wisely with another Fly Me Courageous track, "Together." He moves between piano and guitar with only minimum percussion propelling the song, inhabiting it so completely it becomes his. The always excellent Great Lake Swimmers slow the frenetic Mystery Road track "Peacemaker" from a gallop to a lope. Tony Dekker's stunning high and lonesome voice is perfect for this haunting translation. Shovels and Rope intensify the desperation and darkness of another of Kinney's solo songs "Gotta Get Out of Here" simply by doubling the vocals. Athenians Elf Power turn in an infectiously lo-fi adaptation of "Mountaintop," while Alejandro Escovedo does his best Lou Reed on "Another Scarlet Butterfly." Gordon Gano in collaboration with Boy Dirt Car takes on "Gotta Move On" with raucous joy. Of the choice Kinney says, "It's cool they picked this song, because that was kind of

my Violent Femmes rip-off."

Listening to the well-crafted songs on this record, it's hard to reconcile the fact that Kinney and Drivin N Cryin aren't better known. Perhaps by the time all four volumes are released that will change. It is, after all, the gift that keeps on giving.

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. Learn about concerts, membership, scholarships, and volunteer opportunities at www.madfolk.org.

www.facebook.com/pages/Madison-Folk-Music-Society/34497984835

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If you are on Facebook, please consider (if you have not already) "friending" or is it "liking" this page. Then when you are on this page you can invite others to "like" this page.

<https://www.facebook.com/madisonfolkmusicsociety>



• See madfolk.org or our facebook page for latest show postings

Lucy Kaplansky

Thursday May 9th at 7pm (doors @6:30) - North Street Cabaret, Madison
\$20 advance / \$25 day of show

Joe Jencks and Deidre McCalla

Sunday May 19th at 7pm (doors @6:30) - North Street Cabaret, Madison
\$20 advance / \$25 day of show

On the Air



Don't forget!
Non-perishable donations of food are collected for local food banks at all Mad Folk shows!



Simply Folk on Wisconsin Public Radio w/ Síle Shigley, Jeff Durkey & Steve Gotcher

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



WORT 89.9 FM community radio visit <https://wortfm.org> for more info!

Sundays 3pm - 5pm - "On the Horizon" w/ Ford Blackwell, Paul Novak, Gloria Hays & Helena White

- Mon 9am to noon - Global Revolutions w/ Dan Talmo & Martin Alvarado
- Tue 9am to noon - Green Morning Radio w/ Brian Hirsch - Except Last Tuesday of the month - One Fine Morning w/ Peter Allen
- Wed 9am to noon - Back to the Country (country music on a theme) w/ Steven & Marianne, Nate Gibson, Art Stevenson & Bill Malone
- Thur 9am to noon - Hejira (folk and international) w/ Gloria Hays, George Dreckmann, Jeff Spitzer-Resnick & Paul Novak
- Fri - Mud Acres (bluegrass and acoustic) w/ Chris Powers



WVMO The Voice of Monona - Promoting the best in Good Music - Roots Music - Americana Music

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Misc

Stuart Stotts

Weekly new song Facebook Live event. Song Premiere on Tuesday (SPOT) at 11AM
facebook.com/stuart.stotts

Sea Shanty Sing @Roxy's Restobar -- 208 W. Main St, Stoughton

No experience necessary. Songbooks provided and songs taught. 7pm every second Tuesday.

Open Mic @Cargo Coffee -- 750 E. Washington Ave.

Brave the stage or enjoy the show every first and third Sunday, 5-7pm. Sign-up starts at 4:30pm

Open Mic @Java Cat -- 4221 Lien Rd.

Check out local talent at the cafe's new location on the last two Sundays of each month.

Old Time Jam

Monthly - 3rd Sunday of every month, 2 to 5pm

Location: Brix Cider, Mt Horeb

Coodinator: Greg Jones, 7771jones@gmail.com

Al Wilson, adwilson@pediatrics.wisc.edu

Madison Area Ukulele Initiative -- Singalongs

3rd Sunday 11am - 1:30pm

- for location visit www.MAULmadison.com

Venues



18 S Water St.
Ft. Atkinson, WI
cafecarpe.com
920-563-9391

Cafe Carpe

- Thu, April 4th - The Wildwoods - @7:30pm - \$20
- Fri, April 5th - Mustard's Retreat - @8pm - \$20
- Sat, April 6th - Tim Grimm - @8pm - \$20
- Fri, April 12th - Cheryl Wheeler w/ Kenny White - @8pm - \$30
- Sat, April 13th - Bill Camplin w/ Michael Hecht - @7:30pm - \$12
- Fri, April 19th - Mojohand - @8pm - \$15
- Thu, April 25th - Song Circle w/ Tricia Alexander - @6:30pm - \$5
- Fri, April 26th - Joshua Davis - @8pm - \$20
- Sat, April 27th - Tricia Alexander / Jim Gary / Wattle & Daub - @7:30pm



Wil-Mar Center
504 S. Brearly St.
wildhoginthewoods.org
608-233-5687

Wild Hog in the Woods

- Fri, April 5 at 7:30pm - Noise of the Boys
- Fri, April 12 at 7:30pm - Skip Jones
- Fri, April 19 at 7:30pm - Dave Schindele and Guests
- Sat, April 20 at 2:00pm - Hootenanny Singalong
- Fri, April 27 at 7:30pm - KG and The Ranger

FOLKLORE VILLAGE ...passing it on

3210 Cty Hwy BB
Dodgeville, WI
folklorevillage.org
608-924-4000

Folklore Village

- Tues, April 2nd - Online Open Mic
- April 5th-7th - English Country Dance & Music Weekend
- Tues, April 16th - In-Person Open Mic
- April 19th-21st - Cajun Music & Dance Weekend
- Tues, April 27th - Maypole Social - Potluck starts @6pm

NORTH STREET CABARET

610 North St
Madison, WI
northstreetcabaret.com

- Sat, Apr 27th - Big Tooth and Louka and Co - @8pm - \$20
- Sun, Apr 28th - Tall Poppy String Band and Northern Resonance - @6pm - \$20
adv/\$27 d.o.s.
- Aug 2nd to 3rd - 21st Annual Sugar Maple Music Fest
Two-day outdoor festival at the William G. Lunney Lake Farm County Park



Our House

Invitation & Advance
RSVP required.

For full details or to request an invitation, contact Dave & Anne at
annedave@chorus.net - 608-256-2958 or 335-7909 - Admission for all concerts is \$20 entirely for musicians

- Friday, May 10th - The Rough and Tumble

Kiki's Righteous House of Music

Invitation & Advance RSVP required.

For full details or to request an invitation, contact Kiki at
righteousmusicmgmt@gmail.com

- Friday, April 5th @ 8pm (doors at 7) The Low Czars - \$10
- Saturday, April 6th @ 8pm (doors at 7) Micha Schnabel & Vanessa Jean Speckman - \$15
- Thursday, April 11th @ 8pm (doors at 7) Erik Koskinen Band w/ Jeremy Moses Curtis - \$15

Black Hawk Folk Society

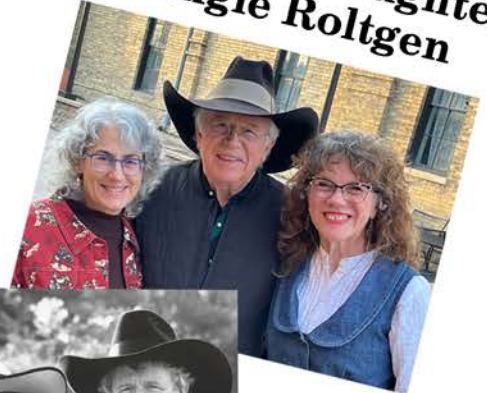
• Saturday, April 13th - @7pm - Steve Hazell - \$10 adults; free 18 and younger
Mountain View Community, N3137 21st Lane, just off Highway 152, South of Mt. Morris

KG and the Ranger

35th Anniversary Concert



*Joined by daughter
Angie Roltgen*



**International Western Music Association
Outstanding Entertainers Award & Harmony Yodeling Champions**

Friday April 26th • 7:30 PM

★ Wild Hog in the Woods Coffeehouse ★
504 S. Brearly St. (Wil-Mar Center) Madison, WI

Vintage songs of the West in three-part harmony!
Bring back memories of the Silver Screen singing cowboys ~
hear your favorites plus rare "lost gems"

Celebrate 35 years in harmony with the West

wildhoginthewoods.org • www.kgandtheranger.com

Jencks: "Resonant, honey-rich voice...open-hearted humanity" *WFUV FM*
McCalla: "Alluring contemporary folk...both inspired and inspiring" *Roots Music*



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Society PRESENTS**

Joe Jencks & Deidre McCalla

Sunday, May 19

7:00 pm

THE NORTH STREET CABARET, 610 North St, Madison WI

Tickets \$20 advance, \$25 day of show

Available at: <https://buytickets.at/madisonfolkmusicsociety/1183974>

Non-perishable donations of food will be collected for local food banks.



"WHEN IS MY RENEWAL DUE?"

(Hint: It is NOT the date on the mailing label!)

The date shown on the mailing label is NOT your membership expiration date!

There has been some confusion lately, and we apologize for that.

The date is just the date the labels were printed, as new cost-saving postal procedures do not allow us to include expiration dates there anymore.

When it is time to renew, we will send you a personal notice by mail or email.

At that point you will be able to either mail a check or renew online at www.madfolk.org.

If you have questions about your membership in the meantime, send email to info@madfolk.org. Thanks for your membership and support of Mad Folk!

Way #1 – online

Visit 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

P.O. Box 665, Madison, WI 53701

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Madison Folk Music Society

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Choose membership category:

Senior / Student \$12 _____

Regular \$15 _____

Family \$20 _____

Friend \$25 _____

Contributing \$50 _____

Life \$500 _____

Scholarship fund donation (optional) \$ _____

Total \$ _____

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

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