Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>May Items of Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Notes From the President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wispy Mop Music Podcasts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘Coronavirus Listening’ Music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pull Up A Chair’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional Folk Song Circle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sound Post Classified Ads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAME Info and Membership</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Wispy Mop Music Podcast Series
By Todd Walker
Page 3
Greetings FAME members,

I sincerely hope everyone is doing their part in helping to contain the Covid-19 Pandemic. This has been a unprecedented time in our world history to say the least and while many of us are able to work, even if from home, some members of our society do not have that luxury and we must do what we can to help them.

All FAME events have been cancelled or postponed until further notice as we have notified the membership through the FAME website and Social Media pages. The May Board meeting has been also cancelled; however we will be able to act on any matters necessary through email and by phone if necessary.

During this time that we are unable to support live local musicians and venues let’s not forget them. I suggest checking out their web pages, downloading their music, etc. Let’s all stay healthy and safe but also see what we can do to help keep our local music scene alive during this difficult time.

Board meetings are open to the public, and generally occur the first Wednesday of each month and are held at Lough Memorials. Currently no meetings are planned until the State restrictions on gatherings is lifted.

Sincerely,
Sam Ott

Follow FAME on Facebook to keep up with current events:

https://www.facebook.com/FrederickAcousticFAME/

The new FAME website is up and running with new features including membership renewal...

www.frederickacoustic.org
We are still in the midst of the COVID-19 version of daily life. As a result, we cannot go out to a coffee house to listen to LIVE acoustic music, thus CD's, albums, the radio, YouTube/Vimeo, and online streaming sites like Spotify are the go-to sources for music. Hopefully our world will get back to normal soon and venues will be allowed to re-open for regular hours.

In the meantime, another new episode is live on Wispy Mop Music Acoustic Radio Podcast Series. It and other podcasts are live now on iTunes or at the Link below.

In the meantime, please stay safe and healthy.

Todd  Link:  http://www.wispymopmusic.podbean.com/
SONGS OF SUMMER

Summer classics from Jimmy Buffett, America, Seals & Crofts and many more.
Featuring the duo Safe Harbor with Michelle Swan

Saturday 20, June 8:00pm
Carroll Arts Center
91 West Main St. Westminster, MD
$25 Adults
$20 Seniors (60+) / Students

Tickets available at the Carroll Arts Center website
or at the box office. Call 410-848-7272 for tickets!

SAVE THE DATE AND GET YOUR TICKETS TO THE SONGS OF SUMMER PERFORMANCE ON SATURDAY JUNE 20TH AT 8:00PM AT THE CARROLL ARTS CENTER FEATURING THE DUO SAFE HARBOR WITH MICHELLE SWAN
The COVID-19 (Coronavirus) stay-at-home directive and self-quarantine rule has shuttered live music venues. As a result, performers who rely on music as their full or part-time income, are now hunkered down in home offices and family rooms, trying to make sense of this new, temporary, lifestyle.

Many performers have produced online concerts on Facebook and YouTube. Most are homespun in nature and give a look into the unglittered life of an acoustic musician when away from spotlights and attentive audiences.

This new normal, although temporary, has severely dented the checkbook of many performing musicians, many of whom are F.A.M.E. Members and/or family members. One is the son of local musical legend John DuRant, John DuRant Jr., many times marqued as 'Johnny Strum'.

A full-time musician, his musical life in now in a double-ended cul-de-sac. Although John Jr's live performances are not available to us, his 2019 CD 'Elevation Road' is.

'Elevation Road' is a mix of originals, traditionals and covers of popular songs like 'Are You Happy Now' (Richard Shindell) and 'Healing Time' (John Denver). The recording was produced by John DuRant Jr and Baltimore's own John Grant. An exceptional guitarist/instrumentalist himself, Grant lends his musical chops to every song except 'From Braddock Heights', on which DuRant Jr has chosen open source music which creates a wonderful backdrop to his spoken delivery of Thomas Chalmers Harbaugh's poetry. It is a fitting end to a nice collection of songs.

The music is professionally done and fits each song, as it should, most likely under the direction of John Grant. John Jr's vocals are upfront and strong with an underlying hint of his 'Son of Strum' Renaissance personna.

Standouts of the CD, in my humble opinion, are:

'Amy', an original song by DuRant Jr (vocals), with help from John Grant (guitar, synthesized cello), Jeff Havens (bass guitar), Randy Wothke (percussion), Maria Tolmachova (back vocals), Donna Korn (Viola), and Sarah Stepanick (violin).

'Face 2 Facebook', lyrics by John DuRant Sr, music, vocals & guitar by John DuRant Jr, with accompaniment by John Grant (guitar & banjo), Jeff Havens (bass guitar), Randy Wothke (percussion), and John Jr's long-time friend Christopher Marsheck (guitar).

'Cold Missouri Waters', words & music by James Keelaghan, vocals by John DuRant Jr, with accompaniment by multi-instrumentalist John Grant (guitar, bass guitar, banjo, octave mandolin, & synthesized percussion).

'Down In The Valley' (traditional), guitar & vocals by John DuRant Jr, John DuRant Sr (background vocals), John Grant (guitar), Jeff Havens (bass), Donna Korn (viola) & Sarah Stepanick (violin).
‘Coronavirus Listening’ Music Review (Pg 2)

By Todd Walker

From Braddock Heights', words by Thomas Chalmers Harbaugh, spoken word by John DuRant Jr.

In addition to finding 'Elevation Road' on Pandora, Music.Apple.com, cdbaby and iheart.com, you can find the recordings on John's website: johndurantjr.com

Although you can free listen via Pandora etc, why not download the CD, or better yet, contact John to purchase a hold-in-your-hand CD (I own one) to play on your stereo for the whole family to hear.

Other listening recommendations:

'More Songs and Music from Gettysburg'

'Cold Fact' by Rodriguez (check out John DuRant Sr's recommendation of the movie 'Searching for Sugar Man').

'A Burning Thirst' by Dan Webb. Drinking songs of Ireland, Scotland and Parts Unknown.

Now go and enjoy some music!
Sorry Brandi Carlisle, I’ll get to you next month. This month I’m going to write about John Prine again who we recently lost to the Coronavirus. He was just a regular guy whose song writing was anything but regular. Most of this article was first published in the FAME newsletter in Feb. 2014, but I’ve updated it because John Prine bears another look by our readers.

I really feel sorry for today’s youth when it comes to music. Oh sure, they have iTunes, Pandora, Satellite radio, downloads and uploads everywhere, but you know what we had back in the day?? We had the record section of the public library where we could read the liner notes about what we were about to hear and read about the singers. Then there was the cool artwork on the cover we could marvel at. It was at such a record section of the Catonsville public library that I checked out John Prine’s album “Prime Prine” my senior year of HS in 1976. I went home and put it on the RCA record player (if you’re younger than 30 go ask your parents what a record player is.) As soon as I heard the first song “Sam Stone” I was hooked on his ability to use his words to quickly paint the picture. With lines like “There’s a hole in Daddy’s arm where all the money goes” set the stage for what the song was about.

John Prine was never destined to be another Elvis Presley. For one thing his voice was like a mix between Froggy from the Our Gang comedies and Bob Dylan. However John did possess one important attribute….man the guy can write some great songs. Before I tell you more about the songs and the man let me tell you about the first night John Prine got up to sing in front of a live audience.

For starters John Prine was a mailman who walked his route everyday in a Maywood IL. just outside Chicago. Every day when he got home from delivering the mail he would go into his bedroom and start writing songs. Each week he would go to the open mics at a bar called “The Fifth Peg.” Well one night in 1969 he had a little too much to drink and started telling the not so talented performer who was up on stage that he was terrible and that he stunk. The guy yelled back at John “Hey Buddy if you think you can do better then get your ass up on stage.” Full of liquid courage John Prine thought to himself, “why not?” He went up to the mic and proceeded to sing “Sam Stone” and “Hello in There”,

After he was finished, he said, “The place was silent, you could hear a pin drop. I thought man I must really stink, I guess this was a bad idea.” Then the place went crazy with applause. The owner gave him a 6-week contract for the weekends and as they say, the rest was history. Chicago may have lost a mailman, but the world gained a music legend.

John Prine is an oddity, no matter how you look at it. For instance, he’s from the Chicago area, but sings with a dirt-road Country twang (Hello in tharr, hello.) Also active in the Chicago folk music scene at the time was Steve Goodman. After Kris Kristofferson caught one of Goodman’s performances in Chicago after a recommendation from Paul Anka,
Kris and Goodman talked a little backstage. Steve said to Kristofferson that “If you think I’m good, then you’ve got to listen to a friend of mine named John Prine.”

Kristofferson took Goodman up on his offer and was so impressed with John that he opened the doors for Prine to get a record contract, which he did. John Prine and Steve Goodman would become lifelong friends writing and touring together until Steve’s death in 1984 from Leukemia.

One of the reasons I love John Prine so much is that he was just like a regular Joe who writes cool songs. I mean the guy served in the Army overseas, was a mailman and got his start at an open mic on a dare. All his hits were based on things he experienced or people he knew. I remember watching John Prine on “Austin City Limits” in 1978 in my apartment in Pascagoula Mississippi when I was in the Navy and thought it was the coolest thing since sliced bread. He was driving around Maywood IL. with a friend and pointing out all the town landmarks that were mentioned in his songs and singing the line that talked about them or the people that lived or worked there.

Not just one or two songs, but lots of his songs. Many of his songs had you rewinding and saying to yourself “wait, what did he just say?” Songs like “Let’s Talk Dirty in Hawaiian.” would fall into that category.

It’s no surprise that in Johnny Cash’s autobiography he said that when he needs songwriting inspiration he listens to his “Big Four” …Randy Crowell, Guy Clark, Steve Goodman and John Prine. In 2009 Bob Dylan told The Huffington Post that John Prine is one of his three favorite writers. “Prine’s stuff is pure Proustian existentialism. Midwestern mind trips to the nth degree.”

In early 1998 John was diagnosed with cancer on the side of his neck. He had major surgery to remove a substantial amount of diseased tissue, followed by six weeks of radiation therapy. He pulled through that like a champ. In November of 2013 he announced on his web site that he was undergoing surgery for lung cancer. He pulled through that like a champ as well. On March 19, 2020 John Prine’s wife Fiona announced that she had tested positive with the coronavirus. On March 26 John was taken to the hospital with symptoms of the virus and tested positive. On March 30 Fiona tweeted that she had recovered, and that John was stable, but not improving. On April 7, 2020 John Prine died from complication of the COVID 19 virus.

In accordance with John’s wishes that he expressed in his song “Paradise” half his ashes were spread in Kentucky’s Green River. The other half were buried next to his parents in Chicago.

Some might think it ironic; some might think it funny; I just think it’s pure John Prine that the last song, on the last album that he ever recorded was called “When I get to Heaven.” It came out two years ago on April 13, 2018. Almost two years to the day of when he passed away. The song talks about what he’s going to do when he gets to heaven. Things like start a rock and roll band and see his parents and brother. The last line goes like this…”Cause I’m gonna have a cocktail, Vodka and Ginger Ale, Gonna smoke a cigarette that’s nine miles long, I’m gonna kiss that pretty girl on the Tilt A Whirl, Yeah this old man is going to town. We’re going to miss you John. Listen now to “When I get to Heaven.”

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JKPDFQRmG_M

Next Month: Brandi Carlisle (I promise)
Greetings to all as we continue to miss our second Saturday monthly get togethers. In this installment, I thought we’d take to time to recap the 2019 stats that Dori had compiled and with Karen Fetters’ help, the charts below. There were 40 new songs, two which were not in the Rise Up Singing Songbook, *Spirit in the Sky* and *Walk Right In*. Nineteen were introduced by Bill Adams and four by Barbara Collins. All-time Top Six contributors are Past President Rick Hill (78), myself (75), Bill Adams (55), Dave Koronet (34), Barbara Collins (33), and Gloria McCracken (28).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>Ranking for # of Times Song Sung</th>
<th># OF TIMES SONG SUNG</th>
<th>SONG TITLE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Golden Oldies</td>
<td>1ST PLACE</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>You Are my sunshine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traveling</td>
<td>2ND PLACE</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>City of New Orleans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faith</td>
<td>TIE FOR 3RD</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Simple Gifts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lullabies</td>
<td>TIE FOR 3RD</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Sweet Baby James</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain Voices</td>
<td>TIE FOR 3RD</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Take Me Home Country Roads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoors</td>
<td>TIE FOR 3RD</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Loch Lomond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Times &amp; Changes</td>
<td>TIE FOR 3RD</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Today</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traveling</td>
<td>TIE FOR 3RD</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>You Were On My Mind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Love</td>
<td>TIE FOR 4TH</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>I Just Called to Say I Love You</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoors</td>
<td>TIE FOR 4TH</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Oh What a Beautiful Morning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sea</td>
<td>TIE FOR 4TH</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Run, Come See Jerusalem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Struggle</td>
<td>TIE FOR 4TH</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Times They are a changin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Times &amp; Changes</td>
<td>TIE FOR 4TH</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Those Were the Days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Times &amp; Changes</td>
<td>TIE FOR 4TH</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Turn, Turn, Turn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traveling</td>
<td>TIE FOR 4TH</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>500 Miles</td>
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<tr>
<td>Traveling</td>
<td>TIE FOR 4TH</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Done Laid Around</td>
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<td>TIE FOR 4TH</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Early Morning Rain</td>
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<tr>
<td>Traveling</td>
<td>TIE FOR 4TH</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>The Erie Canal</td>
</tr>
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<td>Unity</td>
<td>TIE FOR 4TH</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Let's Get Together</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work</td>
<td>TIE FOR 4TH</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Joe Hill</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Song Rankings by the Number of Times Sung in 2019
Dublin Roasters, 1780 N. Market Street, Frederick  
Second Saturday of each month, 1-3 p.m.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ranking</th>
<th># of Songs Sung by Category in 2019</th>
<th>Category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st place</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>Traveling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tie for 2nd place</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Love</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tie for 2nd place</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Times &amp; Changes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Outdoors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th place</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Golden Oldies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tie for 5th place</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Hard Times &amp; Blues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tie for 5th place</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Good Times</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th place</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Sea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tie for 7th place</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Lullabies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tie for 7th place</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Mountain Voices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tie for 7th place</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Play</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th place</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Struggle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th place</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Creativity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th place</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Faith</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Number of Songs Sung by Category 2019

I have been reminded that this original F.A.M.E. event has given “folks” of all ages and demographics something to look forward to - a place to share that financially costs them [minimally...]. And we will never know the extent of how many friendships were formed, what information was shared among the participants or the amount of joy that was felt at each event.

As always thanks to Serina Roy and her Dublin Roasters staff for their support.

Stay safe and be well.

You [all] are my Sunshine!
Tomy
Classified ads are free to FAME members in good standing and will run for two consecutive months unless renewed in writing.

Eligible advertisements include the following categories:

Members who would like to buy, sell, or trade their musical instruments and musical equipment

Members who are seeking out other musicians to play with - or members seeking out other musicians for the purpose of starting a band together

Members offering private musical instruction and instrument lessons

Members promoting upcoming gigs or concerts

All transactions are strictly between the buyer and the seller, FAME only posts the advertisement. The Sound Post editor reserves the right to reject any ad deemed to be commercial in nature, or not consistent with F.A.M.E.’s goals and overall mission.

Submit your requests for a classified ad to samandkatherine@comcast.net

Wanted—Board members for the FAME Board. Meetings once a month. Help us keep acoustic music alive in Frederick County.
FAME Board of Directors
Sam Ott ..................President
Dave Ott .................Treasurer
Max Honn ...............Secretary
Dori Bailin ..............Organizer
Dave Koronet ..........Social Media
Tom Kohlhepp.........Publicity
Don Barber ..........Newsletter
Hank Kobrinski .Scholarships and Workshops

F.A.M.E. Goals:
• To nurture, promote, and preserve original and traditional acoustic music of all genres in Frederick and Frederick County through live music, education, and community outreach.
• To educate aspiring musicians and the general public about all aspects of original and traditional acoustic music of all genres via workshops, open mics, showcases, and concerts.
• To reach out to the community via workshops and concerts, especially through schools and youth organizations and the setting up of mentoring opportunities for young and aspiring acoustic musicians.

Frederick Acoustic Music Enterprise (F.A.M.E.) is a 501(c)(3) organization. Donations may be tax deductible if you itemize deductions.

F.A.M.E. Membership Application/Renewal

All active members receive a copy of the monthly newsletter via email. Non-members and members who do not use email may check out past newsletters at www.frederickacoustic.org.

Membership levels:
- Regular Membership $35
- Student $10
- Senior (65+) $10
- Family (up to 4) $60
- Lifetime Membership $495

Annual membership is for 12 months

Name: ____________________________
Address: __________________________
City: ____________________________
State: __________ ZIP Code: __________
Phone: __________________________
Email: __________________________

Membership Level: __________________________
Amount Enclosed: $ ___________. OO
Date: __________________________

Please mail to: F.A.M.E. Membership, 5181 Holter Road, Jefferson, MD 21755
Questions: (301) 788-3066

All Regular and Lifetime members attend the annual F.A.M.E. picnic at no charge. Senior and student members and guests are welcome to attend at cost.