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To: undisclosed-recipients;



Vancouver Folk Song Society

November 2023

www.vfss.ca

Friends (Quaker) Hall, 1090 west 70th at Osler St.

Got news?

Contact us with comments or news at vanfolksong@gmail.com by **Saturday, Dec. 2** to be included in the next newsletter.

This email newsletter is sent to VFSS members and subscribers by request.

To unsubscribe, go to vfss.ca/email-lists.

Coughs? Sniffles? A bit of a fever? [COVID](#), flu or "just" a cold? None of those is any fun, and for some, it can be very serious! If you have symptoms, please join us safely over Zoom. We care about your good health and ours, too. Share songs, not bugs.

Schedule & Upcoming Events

- **7:00 pm** Doors open
- **7:20 Harmony jam** invites everyone to warm up their voices together as they start the evening with well-loved sing-along songs.
- **7:30 - 8:30** open stage / song circle
- **8:30 - 8:45** break (bring your own snacks/beverages)
- **8:45 - 9:45** feature performers
- **10:00 pm** Doors close

5th Wednesdays Zoom-only song circles with breakout rooms if there are enough participants.

The Zoom link will be sent to our mailing list the day before, as usual.

Nov. 1

In person

Open stage & feature sets

No online options

- **Jane Slemon** is a sensitive songwriter and flautist, and a muscular guitar player. Jane says, "I was the fourth kid to arrive into my family, so guess which harmony was left?" Jane sings and plays with musical groups including Erratica and J.E.S., has recorded two CDs, and shares music in many community settings.
- **Third Time Lucky!** sings a variety of music including Folk, World Music and songs of Life and Living. Come and share soulful and uplifting

...bring, come and share social and spiritual connection in Community with **Patti Palm, Bernadette Mah, and Tim Mah.**

- **Illiteratty (30 min)** A style that encompasses folk, swing, world, rockabilly, cabaret and more. With sharp lyrics, 5-part harmonies, and multiple instruments, **Earle Peach and friends** throw a party that you don't want to miss!

Nov. 15

Zoom options

Online song circle for the first half

Live-stream of the feature performances

Zoom link will be emailed the before the event

- **Rick Pollay** has sung bass in high-spirited choirs, hosted the "Gospel Train" show on co-op radio, and sings regularly with the Vancouver Folk Song Society – especially in their sea shanty group, The Lazy Jacks. In recent years, Rick has also turned his hand to songwriting.

- **Chaya Harvey** returns to charm us again with her ethereal vocals and sparse instrumentation. Her voice and guitar weave a world of transcendent, melancholic beauty. Check out her dreamy melodies and tender lyrics on her latest recording, "[Born in Spring.](#)"

- **(30 min) Lazy Jacks Shanty Crew** sounds best with audience participation, and the VFSS audience is always quick to catch on, whether it's welcoming old favorites or learning new shanties. They also include able musicians to add variety to the usual a capella presentation.

Nov. 29

Fifth Wednesday

Online song circle

Fifth Wednesday online-only song circle, with featured performer to-be-determined

Dec. 6

- Details coming soon

Dec. 20 VFSS Winter Solstice gathering Open stage all evening!

The annual (aside from missing a few years due to Covid and snow storms) Winter Solstice evening will warm your hearts and vocal chords. What song makes you feel warm and fuzzy at this time of year? Our host/MCs will be Madeleine de Little and Jim Edmondson. There are a limited number of spots so please consider a collaboration. Maybe a new one! Sign up with Jim at jim.edmondson@telus.net

Yummy nibblies provided by Linda Chobotuck, hot chocolate by the Re:Sisters, Jim will bring wine, hot cider TBA. Many thanks to all the providers! Please bring your own mug.

Accessible Folk!

The Friends Hall recently upgraded its facilities to include elevator access for those using wheelchairs or other mobility aids. The entrance is from Osler St.

How to be a Feature: Sign up for your “15 minutes of fame” in a live set at the front desk at the Folk on Wednesday or [email](#) the coordinator.

Our COVID precautions

We can't eliminate all risk of exposure, but we do try to limit it by caring for one another through our safety measures.

- **Masks.** We *welcome* you wearing a mask when you're not leading a song or reciting a poem, especially if you have health risks. Please respect each other's choice and continue to stay home if you're not feeling healthy.
- **Dress for the weather!** We open doors and windows for ventilation, and use in-room air purifiers with HEPA filters, and CO₂ monitors.

If you are experiencing any [Covid symptoms](#), please stay home and get well soon!

VFSS folks

Sun. Oct. 29th Barb Shaw (a.k.a. “Random Old Lady”) is performing at **The Irish Heather**, 248 E. Georgia St., from 6-8 pm. \$10 at the door. Come for some laughs as we eat, drink, sing, stomp and generally forget our cares to the lyrically crafted, irresistible sing along tunes of ROL.

Folk at the Vancouver Public Library

Two free events in the Montalbano Family Theatre at the Vancouver Public Library on 350 West Georgia St. feature well-known faces from the VFSS.

- **Tues., Nov. 14 VPL Writers' Showcase 6:30 pm-8 pm: Chris Levenson** has a new book of poetry called [Moorings](#). He will be reading from this, his 14th collection, as one of four people at VPL Writers' Showcase.
- **Sat., Nov. 21 Songwriters' Showcase 1-3 pm** Join us for an afternoon celebrating storytelling through song with local authors **Barry Truter, Earle Peach**, and Kristina Olsen. The authors will share their stories through song, and talk about their creative influences, crafting and catering to their muse, and promoting their work. The Q&A session will be followed by a jam between the three artists, and an opportunity for book sales and signing.

Fri. Nov. 10 Lazy Jacks Shanty Crew are one of the features, along with Little Mountain Trio, at **Folk Music on the Beach**, Hollyburn Sailing Club. Details below.

Fri. Nov. 17 A memorial service for Ben Hechter will be held at the Unitarian Church of Vancouver (949 W. 49th Ave. @ Oak) on Friday, Nov. 17 at 2 pm. Ben was a long-time member of the Folk, enjoyed singing and playing guitar and mandolin, and participated in a wide array of musical events over many years. Following the service, light refreshments will be served in Hewett Centre. All welcome. Musical contributions to the Nov 17 service are also welcomed! Please contact Elizabeth Dunn if you have any general or musical inquiries about the service (emdunn3@gmail.com). Our VFSS website has a personal [remembrance](#) from one of Ben's friends from the Folk.

Sun. Nov 26 The Left Coast Labour Chorus (with **The Re:Sisters**) in their first in-person concert since Covid, **Step It Up: Voices for Climate Action**. Featuring Luke Wallace, who performed pre-pandemic at the Folk, and the Alouette Sisters. Refreshments and our famous Raffle basket will be available. **2 pm at Ukrainian Hall, 805 East Pender St.** You can get a ticket from any Re:Sister at Folk's regular gatherings or on [Facebook](#).

[Eventprite](#).

Michael Averill has recorded a new collection of (old) songs, including some of his father's favorites. His father, Garry, was a big influence on Michael, and you can listen to the new recordings, done live, at <https://michaelaverill.bandcamp.com/album/my-dads-songs>.

How to stay in touch

- With [Facebook](#) and [Youtube](#), you can view the news and photos we share there.
- Our [website](#) has details and reminders of upcoming VFSS events, as well as news, photos, notes about what to expect at our events, and technical tips for Zoom events.

OTHER EVENTS

Music & More on Main UPDATE & Correction

Zoom on 1st and 3rd Thurs. **Live** on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month. **New addition – last Sunday afternoon of each month.** Little Mountain Neighbourhood House had a fire this summer and the live events have been moved to **City Heights Housing Society, 155 E. 37th Ave.** Park on 37th Ave. (not in the resident's parking lot), walk up the west side of the building to the lobby at the back. If there is no one waiting to let you in, go past the bike racks into the garden on the north and tap on the glass of the meeting room. Contact Tim Mar at timmarsongs@gmail.com if you want to perform or attend. To get on the mailing list, email Stoo Born at emin7b5@shaw.ca.

Folk Music on the Beach – 2nd Fridays

Fri. Nov. 10 at the Hollyburn Sailing Club, **Feature: Lazy Jacks Shanty Crew** and **Little Mountain Trio.** 1326 Argyle Ave., West Vancouver. \$10 at the door, BYOB. House band from 7:30-8 pm, featured performers from 8 – 10 pm. Reserve with Neil at carroll_neil@hotmail.com. It helps with their planning! www.folkmusicatthebeach.com

Musical Friends on Fraser (MFF)– 2nd Fridays

Fri. Nov. 15 MFF is an open stage coffeehouse at the 411 Seniors' Centre, 3502 Fraser St. Doors open at 7 pm, Open stage starts at 7:30 pm and a 30-minute feature begins at 8:30 p.m. The evening finishes around 9:30 pm-10 pm. By donation. For more information, contact earlepeach@yahoo.ca

Deep Cove Coffee House – 3rd Fridays

Nov. 17 Feature: Laura Crema, with Bill Coon on guitar. **Opening: Debra Dohaniuk.** Mount Seymour United Church, 1200 Parkgate Ave, Doors open: 7:00 pm, Warm-up acts: 7:30 pm, Feature act: 9 pm. Admission: \$15 includes baked goodies, coffee, teas and cold drinks (Youth: \$5 / children & musicians: free).

Beats on Broadway – 4th Friday

Fri. Nov. 24 Feature: Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House, 800 E Broadway. Doors

THU, NOV. 24 Feature: Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House, 600 E Broadway. Doors open at 7 pm, Open stage starts at 7:30 pm and a 30-minute feature begins at 8:30 p.m. The evening finishes around 9:30 pm-10 pm. By donation. For more information, earlepeach@yahoo.ca

Local Folk Resources

Available at our in-person events or order copies online

- ***Songs of the Pacific Northwest***, by Philip Thomas, edited by Jon Bartlett. 208 pp., 62 songs with lyrics, notes for melody, and chords, historical background to the people and events in the song, b&w photos, and index.
- ***Phil Thomas & The Songs of British Columbia***, by Jon Bartlett, 35 pp. This is a brief biography of Phil Thomas and a description of how he travelled throughout BC meeting singers and collecting their songs and history.
- **"Blow the Man Down: Tall Ships on the Fraser."** This CD is a collection of some of our favorite shanties, performed by a collection of singers no longer performing together – so this is your only chance to hear them! It's a gift to new members upon joining, but maybe you need more than one copy. It includes a small booklet of historical information about shipping on the Fraser River and the songs.

To read more or order copies, go to <https://vfss.ca/order-form/>

Local links and beyond

Across the Water to Vancouver Island

Check out the [Victoria Folk Music Society](#) to see a schedule of their events, as well as other music (and dance!!) events around the Island.

Rogue Folk Club live and streaming

The [Rogue](#) is offering live concerts again, as well as streaming options. Upcoming concerts include performances by long-time folk favorites as well as new faces.