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January 2005 Newsletter

Full Fulkerson Force Felt at January Coffee House, Saturday, Jan 15 at 7:30

Delaware Friends of Folk are beginning our 2005 coffee house series with a first for us, and unbelievably, a first for the artists involved too. Joey Fulkerson is known to many of you and he has played at several of our Festivals, but never the coffee house. Joey comes from a musically rich family and his little sister Salli and older brother Steve also play in their own groups at local venues. The curious thing is that they've never shared a bill together, until now!

When Dick Fulkerson was transferred to Dover Air Force Base in 1968, he brought his wife Nancy and the whole family with him. It proved to be a permanent situation and the five Fulkerson siblings are all graduates of Caesar Rodney High School. As the kids got older, the elder Fulkerson challenged his oldest son, Steve, to learn guitar. Steve did, and got a new guitar as a reward, leaving an extra for Joey to pick up and make his own. Salli says that a room in their basement was filled with musical instruments of all sorts, and it became the local hangout for the neighborhood. "My Dad always knew where we were and that we weren't in any trouble," she recalls. Yet another example of the power of music.

Joey is perhaps better known as Chubby Checker's guitarist, a gig he's had for about four years. He regularly tours with the Philadelphia native, most recently back from nearly 3 weeks in Australia. He's been on stage with Chubby in all 50 states, across Canada, and even Ireland. He thinks the most memorable event was a seven day cruise with other "classic" acts like Leslie Gore and Paul Revere and the Raiders. The band did one show and had to be on the cruise for seven days anyway. A side trip to some Mayan ruins only made it better.

When he's not touring the world, Joey still lives in Dover and can be found at any number of places, including the Touchdown and Irish Mike's. He regularly leads a Tuesday night open jam at Bubba's in Dover. It's a rock & roll version of our open mic nights and is a lot of fun unless you've got to be at a day job the next day.

So when I approached Joey about getting the family together, he thought it was a unique opportunity and agreed to make it happen. We're not exactly sure of the order of events, and probably won't be until it's all over. Sometime during the evening, Salli Fulkerson will perform with her guitar-playing partner Jimi Brown. Salli and Jimi have been on stage together for several years. Salli's hard-driving vocals and Jimi's powerful guitar perfectly compliment each other. We also know that Joey will play a set with a few friends, including Greg Haughey. Brother Steve Fulkerson has another gig that night, but will try to be around for a part of the show. Mom Nancy plays keyboards, but "never out in public."

It all starts at 7:30 pm, January 15, 2005, in the Underground on the campus of Wesley College in Dover. Admission will be \$5 for members and \$7 for non-members. We'll have plenty of hot coffee, cool drinks, and sweet snacks. Come out on a mid-winter night, bring a friend, and see it happen.

In February, we hope to be able to announce the performer lineup for the 14th Delmarva Folk Festival. If there's someone you'd like to see play, or you yourself would like to play, we need to know about it. Contact me or any Board member to get considered. And we need volunteers in lots of other areas too. See Kae Johnson to get on board the Festival Express.

We'd like to welcome two new members to our Board of Directors. Bob Hamel has been our Treasurer for about a year now and has done a great job of paying the bills, collecting the money, and

otherwise keeping us this side of legal. Beth Fizell is married to Paul Gumerman and they have been hosting the really great Cooldog House Concert series for nearly two years now. Beth brings a wealth of energy and enthusiasm to anything she does and we're looking forward to her help. Thanks to all who came to our membership meeting in December and participated in the voting process.

We also bid goodbye and thanks to former Board members Deloy Moore and Rick Schuman. They are still here and still working for Friends of Folk, but decided that their time and talent could be better-used if they weren't on the Board. Yet another fine example of the idea that election to the Board is not necessarily a life sentence.

--John Kidd, President of Delaware Friends of Folk

Festival News.....

Hi everyone. Happy 2005! With the new year comes planning for the next Delmarva Folk Festival. The 2005 Festival is scheduled for October 1, 2005 and promises to be a fun and exciting day for everyone. It's time to begin thinking about the many tasks that need to be completed prior to the big day. Many thanks to the returning Committee chairs, new volunteers, past volunteers, and supportive Board members who make the Festival possible through their hard work and continued dedication to this event.

We have a new Festival co-chair - Jan Crumpley. Jan has years of experience with both the DeFF Board and DFF and will make sure we stay on track. Thanks Jan! Let me just add that Kelly Crumpley has been the co-chair for the last two years and I really appreciated his help and insight. At least we're keeping this job in the family!

The first Folk Festival meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 2nd at 6:30 p.m. at W.T. Smithers in downtown Dover just prior to the DeFF monthly Board meeting at 7:30 p.m. Subsequent meetings will take place at Smithers beginning at 6:30 p.m. on March 2, April 6, May 4, June 1, July 6, August 3, September 7, and October 5. I look forward to seeing our hard working Committee Chairs at the first meeting next month. Remember, anyone who would like to assist in some way with the 2005 Folk Festival is invited to join us on February 2nd.

We have seven committees that need chairs for 2005 and a couple committee chairs who haven't quite decided if they will continue in their current position. We really need help to fill these vacancies to ensure the success of the Festival. Please take a look at the list below and consider joining our great team. Give me a call and I'll explain the job to you. If you are a current Committee Chair, please consider continuing with our team. If you've decided you are definitely not going to remain a Committee Chair, please let me know as soon as possible so I can find a replacement.

Festival Chair - Kae Johnson – 736-5585

Festival Co-chair - Jan Crumpley

Entertainment – John Kidd

Concession Food Sales- Clarence Brackin

Backstage Food - **Need a chair**

Ad Sales – Nathan Jackson

Ticket Sales – Ethel Matney

Program – Jan Crumpley

Publicity – Mollie Raley

Photographers – Sandy & Walt Wessels

Electricity – **Need a chair**

Merchandising – Tish Schuman

Security / Parking – **Need a chair**

Kids Activities – Patty Field

Volunteer Coordinator – **Need a chair**

Building / Facilities – Bob Hamel

Sound / Stage / lighting – John Kidd and Deloy Moore

Performance Workshop – John Kidd

Site clean up - **Need a chair**

Vendor Coordination – **Need a chair**

Charity – **Need a chair **

Insurance – John Kidd

Web Site – Beth Fizell

**Mosquito Spraying – Kae
Staff Appreciation Party - John, Lonnie, Kae**

--Kae Johnson, Festival Wrangler

“There but for fortune, go you and I” -- Phil Ochs, 1965

As this is written, we are being constantly reminded of the devastation in Indonesia, Thailand, Sri Lanka, and many other places that used to be called “Paradise”. In the larger picture, the 9.0 earthquake that started it all was just a little slip of a tectonic plate that had happened thousands of times. It’s just that this time there were a lot of people in the neighborhood. As we continue to “multiply and fill the earth”, we inevitably get in Earth’s way.

The response to calls for help has been truly remarkable, so far. But this is the kind of thing that takes a long-term commitment, and we the people have a curious habit of allowing ourselves to be led from one crisis to the next, as if we can only pay attention to one disaster at a time. Don’t forget Iraq, Afghanistan, and our military troops who are constantly in harm’s way. Don’t forget the four hurricanes that hit Florida and other states just a few months ago. Don’t forget Darfur, and the genocide being carried out in the name of someone’s God. Don’t forget Lonnie & Paula.

--John Kidd

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