

THE COTTON PATCH RAG

The Newsletter of

the Houston Folklore and Music Society

Volume 56, Number 3
MAR 2021



SECOND SATURDAY CONCERTS ARE ALL TENTATIVE for the foreseeable future and will be determined on a case by case basis as the Houston Folklore and Music Society AND West University Community Building both determine it will be safe from a public health perspective.

Second Saturday Concert is presented by the **Houston Folklore and Music Society**, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation of folklore and folk/acoustic music. Concerts are held in the West University Community Building at 6104 Auden (intersection of Auden and Rice Blvd). Contact Carolyn Davis (281-240-9797) or carolynadavis@aol.com for more concert information. Visit our website at: houstonfolkmusic.org.

March 13, 2021: *CANCELED*

April 10, 2021: ~~Anne Hills~~ - *CANCELED*

May 8, 2021: C. Daniel Boling - *PENDING*

September 11, 2021: Paul Sachs

October 9, 2021: *To Be Announced*

November 13, 2021: Roy Book Binder

OTHER HFMS EVENTS

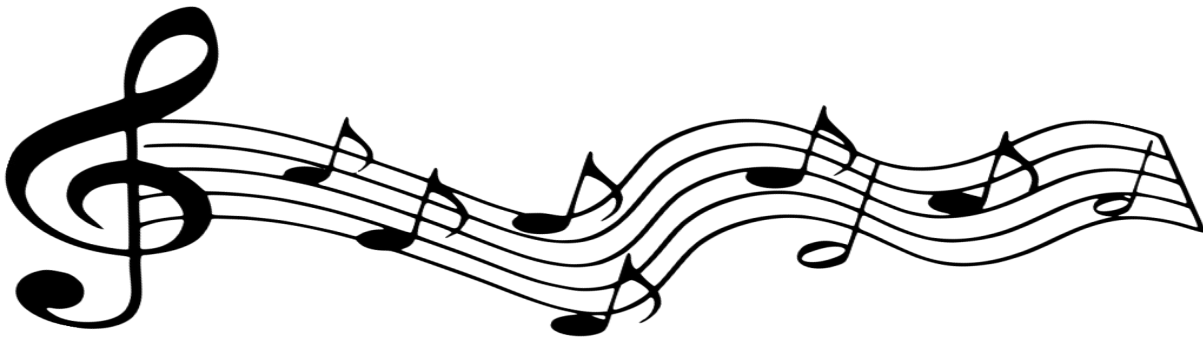
***MARCH HFMS MEETING/SONG CIRCLE — CANCELED

Our monthly song circle meeting at the Jewish Community Center is canceled for public health reasons.

***MARCH PICKIN' PARTY — CANCELED

Watch our web site, <http://www.houstonfolkmusic.org/#pknpty> and emails for updates.

STAY HEALTHY AND OUT OF HARM'S WAY!!!



DEAR MEMBERS OF THE HOUSTON FOLKLORE & MUSIC SOCIETY

From March 2020 onward, the COVID19 virus has caused a cessation of our usual society activities, which include; monthly song circles, picking parties, and the production of the Second Saturday Concert series. Because of this, the board would like to grant an **extension to the expiration dates of your memberships by ten months.** We understand many of you have been supporting individual artists via contributions to their online performances; *we know how much they must appreciate your kind efforts!* If you have the ability and wish to *contribute to the HFMS*, **you would also have our deepest appreciation!** For online donations please go to houstonfolkmusic.org OR contact Paul Cooper, Treasurer at 713-204-1207 or pcooper1@peoplepc.com.



Please help Support Houston Folklore and Music Society

HFMS IS TEMPORARILY UNAVAILABLE ON SMILE.AMAZON.COM. WE ARE WORKING TO GET THIS RESOLVED AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE! Amazon shoppers can help support HFMS in our mission to continue promoting folk and acoustic music (and similar folklore traditions) in the greater Houston area. Doing so allows us to continue bringing excellent performers to Houston for Second Saturday Concerts. You can help **at no cost to you** when you make purchases from Amazon. Simply go to smile.amazon.com, sign into your Amazon account and select "Houston Folklore and Music Society" as your charitable organization.

After that, go to smile.amazon.com each time you shop and Amazon will automatically donate 0.5% of the amount of your purchase to HFMS. Every little bit helps! Please send this information to everyone you know who might be willing to support our organization in this way. It only takes a minute and will help us continue the HFMS tradition.

AND/OR

CONSIDER A GIFT TO HFMS. MAKE A TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATION!! HFMS is a 501(c)3 organization. Your contribution to support our organization can be claimed as a charitable donation. Contact Paul Cooper, Treasurer at 713-204-1207 or pcooper1@peoplepc.com.

WHILE YOU'RE SHOPPING...

Brrrrr! The temps are dropping in the Texas Hill Country, but we've got a great solution! These cozy KFF apparel items just dropped in our merch store!

<https://www.kerrvillefolkfestival.org/mercantile-shop>



A Sci-Fi Story of How Music Saved the World

by Andy Longo



I recently chanced to view a low-budget campy sci-fi movie which demonstrated the important benefits of music. In the movie, general Tritus was sent to earth with a virus to be used to exterminate earthlings so his people, living on the doomed planet, Hondo, could come and repopulate the earth. Alas, his space ship crashed as it arrived on earth and he had to go to a big-box store for supplies. Within the store he heard music for the first time, and he was overwhelmed. General Tritus goes on to buy various musical instruments and gains proficiency as a banjo player. He is also assimilated into earth culture.

It turns out this is a parable for all of us earthlings.

Music can provide many benefits to the individual and make positive changes to the brain chemistry. One need not be a player of an instrument. The benefits are achieved by those who listen and learn the melodies. It turns out there are benefits simply by anticipating a phrase to come and then hearing it. For those shade-tree and formally trained music makers, there is the cross brain chemistry and neural networking benefits that come from using both hands in one objective. Aside from using both hands, there is the process involved in committing to memory lyrics and melodies. This requires the music perceived by the left side of the brain storing it to the right side of the brain.

Some benefits of music are simple and direct. Consider Alzheimer patients who are institutionalized. For them, they are in an unfamiliar place surrounded by unfamiliar people. This can be most overwhelming even when care is done well. The hearing of a familiar melody can do much to give them a sense of place and contribute to their well being. It provides a familiarity in otherwise very strange surroundings.

It is good to know that listening to music is such a positive experience and is gluten and sugar free!

On Making Of Musical Instruments

by Andy Longo



When the editor of the CPR, Cehlena Solus, asked me to write an article about this instrument maker, Jim Morris, I said agreed. I read the article about him that appeared in the Oldtime Central newsletter. Through the magic of the wonderful technology available to all of us, I submit this link which includes a well written story and video:

[Profile of Jim Morris, instrument maker](#)

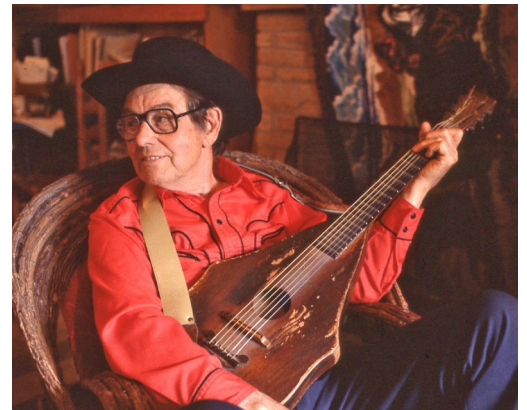
I hope you enjoy the article as I have. As a shade tree musician and wannabe instrument maker, I am qualified to prattle onward with my observations.

It turns out there is a wonderful tradition and long history of instrument makers who used whatever materials were available to them. For example, it was discovered that the Neanderthal bone flute was designed to play in the pentatonic scale. In other words, it would be able to play an arrangement of Amazing Grace, a melody written in the pentatonic (5 note) scale.



Blind Willie Johnson learned to play on an instrument given to him by his father, a single string diddley bow. Later, his song *Dark Was the Night, Cold was the Ground*, went out into the galaxy on the Voyager spacecraft.

Jimmy Driftwood, who wrote, *Tennessee Stud* and *Battle of New Orleans*, was a history teacher for many years. He made a guitar from a scrap fence wood.



One of our past HFMS presidents, Lane Goldsmith, made a guitar from wood reclaimed from a chest of drawers.

Working with one's hands can be very rewarding in itself. In the making of an instrument, there is the anticipation of how it will sound. Sometimes, one is disappointed and other times, one can be surprised and pleased. There is also the experience that comes to pass when one's progress is stymied by lack of knowledge and experience only to have a solution present itself in some unexpected moment.

In the event, that you may be infected by the desire to build a musical instrument there is help out in the online world at several levels. There is [C B Gitty](#) and [MGB Guitars](#) for entry level builders. [Amazon](#) will offer parts such as tuning keys, bridges, pickups and such. [Steward MacDonald](#) has high level components and kits available along with paint kits to achieve sun-burst finishes. You can make a diddley bow with a soda can, a broom stick and a couple of screws. There is no limit in simplicity or sophistication.

[Tom Chapin](#) has a wonderful song, [Music Made by Hand](#), (at 10:05 on the [video](#)) about family and the passing down of musical traditions, that have meaning on an even deeper level dating back to the times of Neanderthal society.



MARCH FEATURED SONG

WITH HEARTS UNDAUNTED AND COURAGE TRUE

 by Paul Cooper

A song about cold weather seemed to be in order. This traditional ballad about Lord John Franklin's ill-fated expedition in 1845 to find a Northwest Passage around the pole is one of my favorites. There were a great many recordings on YouTube to choose from – some by big "names" like Sinead O'Connor and Pentangle. I liked this version by Andy Toman, which you can hear at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RqGpU33j4AA>, or on the HFMS Audio Archive page at <http://www.houstonfolkmusic.org/HFS Audio Archive.html>. As with all traditional songs, you'll find the wording varies from version to version as much as the musicians performing them.

Lady Franklin's Lament for her Husband

The Oxford Book of Sea Songs, Roy Palmer "The text given here, which was originally printed in 1853 or '54, entered oral tradition in England, Ireland, Scotland and North America..."

D **G**
 Was homeward bound one night on the deep
Em **A**
 Slung in my hammock, I fell asleep
D **G** **D**
 I dreamed a dream which I thought was true
D **A** **G** **D**
 Concerning Franklin and his gallant crew



Continued...

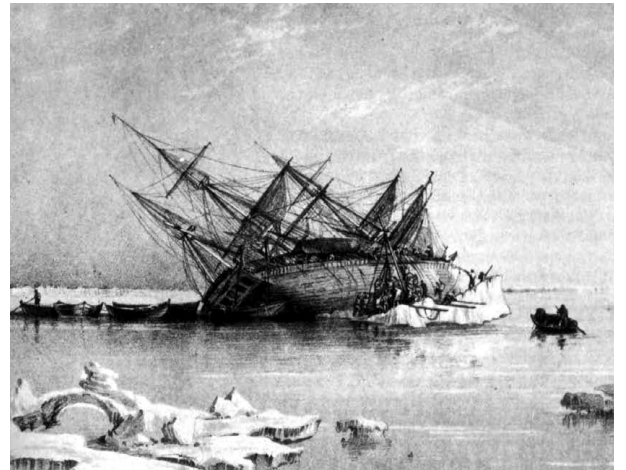


To find a passage around the Pole
Where tempests wave and wild thunders roll
Is more than mortal man can do
With hearts undaunted and courage true

In cruel hardship they have vainly strove
Their ships on mountains of ice were drove
At Baffin's Bay where the whalefish blows
The fate of Franklin nobody knows

For since that time a hundred years are past
And many a keen and a bitter blast
Blows o'er the grave where the poor seamen fell
Whose dreadful sufferings no tongue can tell

These sad forebodings they give me pain
For the long lost Franklin across the main
Likewise the fate of so many before
Who have left their homes to return no more



FROM THE EDITOR

Just when you thought it couldn't get worse! HAH!!! First the threat to our democracy with a scene from our Capitol unfolding like news from another country and then Snowpocalypse 2021!!! Who would have seen it coming? We had such optimism with new vaccines, a new administration, and a new year offering what we hoped was a chance for a fresh start! Instead it seems we've been dealt blow after blow. But through all of this we have learned that we are still pioneers at heart. That necessity really does lead us to become inventive, to check on our neighbors and loved ones, to share humor and thoughts and ideas. At heart the drive for survival and community remains strong! If you know of anyone in need don't hesitate to use the email below to reach out. If we can't help, we will find someone who can!

If you know of any local or virtual events coming up that you'd like to share, or if you have an article you think may be of interest to the folk music community, please email **Cehlana**: Celtic.Music@aol.com and be sure to include **LOCAL EVENTS** (or **CPR Article**) in the subject line; we'll do our best to include it in the next issue.

UPCOMING & UPDATED FOLKLORE AND MUSICAL EVENTS around Texas & the US

Tristan Scroggins -
[Bluegrass Mandolin Workshops](#)
THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 2021
6:30 PM CST – 9:30 PM CST



From now until 6 pm CT on March 5th, you can amplify the future of folk and traditional arts practitioners by supporting Texas Folklife's Big Squeeze and Stories from Deep in the Heart programs during [Amplify Austin](#).



[NTIF Sets Sail on the Virtual Ocean with Music and More!](#)



[SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 2021 2PM – 9PM CST](#)

Following a day of seminars, workshops and jams, the Crankie Cabaret will feature a variety of beautiful Crankies (including YOURS if you submit one!) in a Facebook Watch Party. Afterwards, stick around for some kickass old time dance music!

Mountain Dulcimer Music Fest



Santa Clara Valley Fiddlers Association
Sunday, March 7, 2021
FREE! — [Monthly Virtual Jam](#)

1:00 – 2:00 PT – Slow Jam

If you're a beginner or learning a new instrument, join the slow jam. Then stay and play along with the up-tempo group.

2:00 – 4:00 PT– Up-tempo Jam

Experienced musicians join in for some old time, bluegrass, rags and reels or a Cajun two-step! All traditional acoustic genres are welcome!



Sat, March 13, 2021
9:00 AM – 6:00 PM CST
Historic Downtown
McKinney, TX 75069

5K Run, Beer Sip & Stroll, Social distanced, live Irish music throughout the day, outdoor vendor market, St. Paddy's dog costume contests, Irish cuisine, a St Patrick's Day photo-booth and more!

[Click Here For Tix](#)



Come study 5-string banjo online with some of today's best players and teachers. MARCH 13-14, 2021. Four levels of serious instruction. Clawhammer AND bluegrass banjo styles, some instruction in old-time fingerpicking. Old-time fiddle, bluegrass guitar AND – new this year – bluegrass mandolin!

<http://www.suwanneebanjocamp.com/>

"STORIES FOR CREATIVE FORCES, YOUR STORY, YOUR VOICE!" WORKSHOP SERIES



Thursdays 7:00 PM–8:30 PM from April 15–May 13, 2021

**A FREE FIVE-WEEK FOLKLORE, STORYTELLING, AND AUDIO PRODUCTION WORKSHOP
SERIES FOR MILITARY VETERANS, SERVICE MEMBERS, AND THEIR FAMILIES**

Note: For the safety of workshop participants and instructors, this program will be conducted remotely

Texas Folklife Presents: "Stories for Creative Forces, Your Story, Your Voice!"

The upcoming Stories for Creative Forces workshops series is designed to help our veterans, retirees, active-duty service members, and their adult family members express their stories and folklore (customs and traditions). All participants will gain fundamental instruction and experience in constructing and telling a compelling story, interviewing techniques, audio recording, and production. The workshop series will be informative, fun, and connecting. At the conclusion of the series, each attendee will have had an opportunity to walk away with a completed "Your Story, Your Voice!" project.

Scan the QR code to the right to sign up!

Questions? Contact Deborah Peyton, Creative Forces Program Coordinator at creativeforces@texasfolklife.org; or by calling her directly at (512) 292-7594 or the Texas Folklife office at (512) 441-9255. Visit texasfolklife.org for more information.



SCAN ME TO SIGN UP



**Virtual New England Folk Festival 2021
APR 23 AT 3 PM CDT – APR 25 AT 6 PM CDT
Join us for traditional music, dance, and
craft! The program will consist of multiple
tracks of live concert, play-along, and dance-
along events, plus a collection of videos.**

Watch for updates here

<https://www.neffa.org/> and here

<https://fb.me/e/q67OQIOk0>



JUST FOLKING AROUND



Online lessons with **Handmade Music School** teachers are available via Skype or another platform. Contact:

andrew@handmademusicschool.com

For a variety of workshops available online:
<https://handmademusicschool.com/events/>



[Join an Irish Fiddle Session](#)



Partake in a wide variety of virtual song and dance!

[Golden Link Folk Singing Society Virtual Sing Arouns](#)

[Country Dance & Song Society](#)

[San Francisco Folk Music Club Community Calendar](#)



[Join an online Open Jam to keep the boredom away!](#)

Old time and other genres!



Join a Virtual Folk Dance from any number of countries



[Folk Arts Center Of New England](#)



[Judith's Virtual Folk Dance Calendar](#)



[Royal Scottish Dance Society Global Dance Listings](#)



[North Bay Country Dance Saturday Evening Waltz Parties on Zoom](#)



See an extensive list of folk and acoustic virtual concert links

[Folk Alliance Internation Live Stream Concerts - March Calendar](#)

[Golden Link Folk Singing Society Concerts](#)

[Google Map of Old Time Jams, Festivals, Fiddle Contests, Irish Sessions, and Contra Dance Bands in the US and Around the World!](#)
(confirm local listings)



Virtual Dream Cafe

Community. Communion between audience and performers. Cyclical energy. Inspiration, anticipation, spontaneity; SHARED transcendent moments. Things we sorely miss! The VDC attempts to recreate this atmosphere, until live music venues are able to reopen.

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



Mighty Cause
Charity Go Fund Me
Bayou City Art Festival
Or Text "SAVEOURART" to 243725

KEEP THE ARTS ALIVE IN 2021

OTHER FESTIVALS



The Houston and District Branch RSCDS
Invites you to participate in our
Virtual Ceilidh
Submit your Ceilidh Act by
March 6th 2021

Watch the Ceilidh on March 13th!

Find out how to submit a ceilidh act and more details at www.houstonrscds.org



HOUSTON DISTRICT

We would love for YOU to participate by contributing a ceilidh act, whether that be reciting a poem, playing music, singing a song, performing a dance, etc. Ceilidh acts should be no more than 5 minutes long. Upload your video online to

a cloud storage space and send us the link so that we can download it and compile the acts into one ceilidh video! [Details Here!](#)

SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 2021 AT 9 AM – 7 PM
AND
SUNDAY, MARCH 28, 2021 AT 11 AM – 6 PM
[San Antonio Highland Games and Celtic Music Festival 2021](#)



LOCAL FOLK MUSIC VENUES



<https://www.doseydoetickets.com/barn>

The Mucky Duck is having live shows again! And streaming some on YouTube and Facebook!

<https://www.mcgonigels.com/#shows>



IS BACK!!! Limited in house seating will be available for upcoming shows AND live streaming

<http://andersonfair.net/>

OPEN FOR LIMITED CAPACITY SHOWS. ALL CDC GUIDELINES WILL BE FOLLOWED. MASKS ARE REQUIRED TO ENTER AND MOVE AROUND THE VENUE. PLEASE PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING WHEN WAITING TO GET INTO THE OLD QUARTER.

<http://oldquarteracousticcafe.com/>



CLOSED FOR NOW - JP Hops House

Houston's Premier Brew Pub and Music Venue

<https://www.jphopshouse.com/>

Ready and waiting for county permission!

*****MORE LOCAL EVENTS*****

HTX
Market

EAT. SHOP. ♥ DO GOOD.

March Calendar

These outdoor markets have safety procedures in place to keep everyone safe and healthy, so please mask up.

Come out to say, "Hi" and support our artisans, small businesses, and non-profits each week.

<https://www.htxmarket.com/calendar?view=calendar&month=03-2021>



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2021
11 AM – 11 PM
15th Annual Houston Irish Stew
Cook-off and Music Festival
to help raise funding for the
Houston St. Patrick's Parade. We
bring together Irish Food, local
food, Vendors, Friends, Family,
Music from Irish roots to modern.



SEE YOU OCTOBER 9 & 10TH AT
OUR DOWNTOWN FESTIVAL!
Watch for information:
www.bayoucityartfestival.com



Virtual dances by HIFD/AIFD are planned every Friday.
Doors open at 7:15. Dancing from 7:30 to 9:30



CLASS IS AVAILABLE ONLINE ONLY CURRENTLY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE
Tuesday evenings at 7:30pm Virtual Scottish Country dance class!

MARCH 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Shake Russell 7p Mucky Duck	3 Pat Byrne 5p Mucky Duck	4 Phil Hurley and the Lost Pines 7p Mucky Duck Mike & The Moon Pies 8:30p Dosey Doe Ken Gaines and Wayne Wilkerson 8:45p Anderson Fair	5 Ulla-The Irish Invasion 7p Mucky Duck Mark May Band 8:30p Dosey Doe Kyle Hutton 8:45p Dosey Doe Breakfast, BBQ & Whiskey Bar Lynn Langham and Doug Gill 8:45p Anderson Fair	6 Kaitlin Butts 7p Mucky Duck Jamie Richards Band 8:30p Dosey Doe Davin James 8:45p Dosey Doe Breakfast, BBQ & Whiskey Bar Townes Van Zandt Birthday Celebration 11p Old Quarter Acoustic Cafe
7	8 Red Elvises 7p Mucky Duck	9 Shake Russell 7p Mucky Duck Charley Crockett Band 8p Dosey Doe	10 Pat Byrne 5p Mucky Duck Charley Crockett Band 8p Dosey Doe	11 Paack 7p Mucky Duck Tyler McCollum 8:30p Dosey Doe Daniel Holmes 8:45p Dosey Doe Breakfast, BBQ & Whiskey Bar	12 Ruby Dice 7p Mucky Duck Scotty Alexander, Holly Tucker & Darrin Morris - "In The Round" 8p Dosey Doe Leslie Waugh with Wayne Wilkerson 8:45p Anderson Fair Brandon Rhyder 8:45p Dosey Doe Breakfast, BBQ & Whiskey Bar	13 Sue Foley 7p Mucky Duck Cas Haley 8:30p Dosey Doe Fallon Franklin 8:45p Dosey Doe
14 	15	16 Shake Russell 7p Mucky Duck	17 	18 Darden Smith 7p Mucky Duck Sam Riggs - Acoustic 8:30p Dosey Doe Will Carter 8:45p Dosey Doe Breakfast, BBQ & Whiskey Bar	19 Two Tons of Steel 7p Mucky Duck Dana Cooper 8p Old Quarter Acoustic Cafe Blue Water Highway Band 8:30p Dosey Doe Hayden Haddock 8:45p Dosey Doe Breakfast, BBQ & Whiskey Bar Shake Russell 8:45p Anderson Fair Chris Beall 9:30p Mucky Duck	20  NHC Dulcimer Society 2pm Club Meeting Monte Warden 7p Mucky Duck Lisa Morales 8p Old Quarter Acoustic Cafe Cannon Brand 8:30p Dosey Doe Josh Fuller 8:45p Dosey Doe Breakfast, BBQ & Whiskey Bar
21	22	23 Shake Russell 7p Mucky Duck	24 Pat Byrne 5p Mucky Duck Wade Bowen with Kyle Hutton "Real Life Real Music" 8p Dosey Doe	25 Cari Hutson 7p Mucky Duck Gary Hoey 8:30p Dosey Doe Chuck Cannon 8:45p Dosey Doe Breakfast, BBQ & Whiskey Bar	26 John Fullbright 7p Mucky Duck Crash Test Dummies 8:30p Dosey Doe Zac Wilkerson 8:45p Dosey Doe Breakfast, BBQ & Whiskey Bar Dana Cooper 8:45p Anderson Fair John Fullbright 9:30p Mucky Duck	27 Bluegrass Jam 12p Kleb Woods Nature Cntr Opie Hendrix 7p Mucky Duck Billy Hartman/Zach Pack/ Dalton Mills 8p Old Quarter Acoustic Cafe Jamie Lin Wilson - Duo 8:30p Dosey Doe Gary Kyle 8:45p Dosey Doe Breakfast, BBQ & Whiskey Bar
28 	29	30 Shake Russell 7p Mucky Duck	31 Pat Byrne 5p Mucky Duck Mando Saenz with Brother & The Hayes 8p Old Quarter Acoustic Cafe			

DISCLAIMER: Calendar includes all music events from venues that support folk music – events May include other genres. Please check venue or musician websites for show details!

Thank you for supporting live music!

PLEASE KEEP OUR HISTORIC ORGANIZATION ALIVE DURING THIS PANDEMIC. INVITE YOUR FRIENDS TO JOIN HOUSTON FOLKLORE AND MUSIC SOCIETY OR BUY THEM A GIFT MEMBERSHIP!

HFMS is a non-profit, membership organization dedicated to the preservation and promotion of folklore and folk/acoustic music. Activities include the following monthly events: *Second Saturday Concerts*, Monday night song circle/meetings, and Pickin' Parties. Dues are \$20 a year for a membership. Members receive our monthly digital newsletter (The Cotton Patch Rag) and the satisfaction of supporting and promoting live folk/acoustic music and other folklore activities in the greater Houston area.

Fill-out, print, and mail this page along with check(s) payable to **Houston Folklore and Music Society**, P.O. Box 542348, Houston, TX 77254 , **OR visit our website and join on-line at houstonfolkmusic.org**

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

New Membership Renewal Re-Joining

Is this a new address? Yes No Today's Date:

NAME

STREET

CITY

STATE

ZIP

PHONE

(wk)

E-MAIL:

Enclosed is \$20 Annual Dues Enclosed is additional tax deductible donation to nonprofit organization.

Thank you!

For information contact:

Neely Atkinson, President
Paul Cooper, Treasurer
Andrew Longo, Webpage Editor
Cehlana Solus, Cotton Patch Rag Editor
Carolyn Davis, Second Saturday Concert Producer

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