



## Let's Recall 110th Birthday of Woody Guthrie – followed by Special Tribute Concert Sunday, Sept 11

BY D. BOSTON

Sunday, September 11 from 1 to 3:30 pm, the Society will pay tribute to Guthrie and some of his musical devotees in an afternoon of songs held outdoors at Nocterra Brewing Co. in Powell. Ray Ray's Hog Pit will offer food.

Not only was Woody Guthrie one of American's most prolific songwriters and a true poet of the people, he also can be considered one of the most significant figures in American Folk music. Bob Dylan, Phil Ochs, Pete Seeger, Billy Bragg and Tom Paxton (amongst others) have ALL acknowledged Guthrie as a major influence in their musical achievements.

Woodrow Wilson Guthrie was born in Okemah, OK July 14, 1912, the third child of Nora and Charley Guthrie. Woody's father was ambitious, a land trader, and an eloquent writer who had a keen interest in politics.

See Woody Guthrie, pg 3

## A Different Strummer Newsletter Highlights

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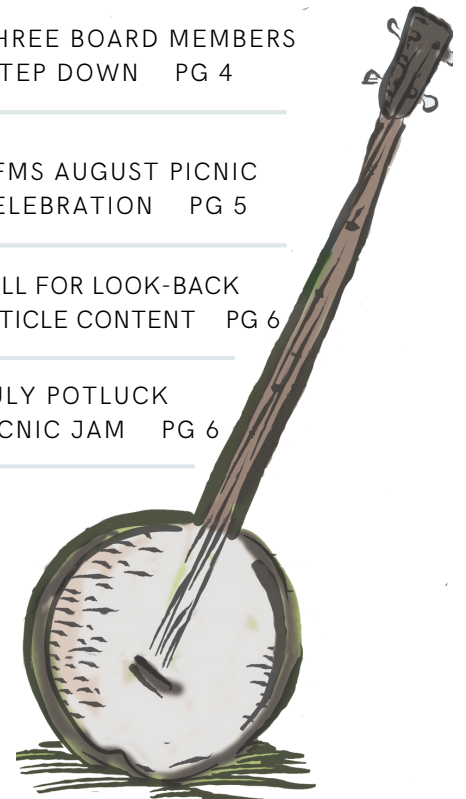
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# Upcoming – Two Exciting CFMS Fundraiser Events – 'Music AND Humor' & A Woody Guthrie Tribute.



BY D. BOSTON

We thought we'd try holding a couple of Central Ohio Folk Festival 2023 fundraiser concerts while the weather is still warm and it's pleasant to be out and about!

Two exciting events are planned; both are something we haven't tried before as fundraisers.

The first event has the theme of "Music AND Humor", will feature Mary Miller and Mike Hale and will be held at La Chatelaine in Worthington. Pencil the date on your calendar for: Sunday, August 28 from 2 to 4 pm!

The show will open with Mary Miller providing a segment of observational humor and parodies which are sure to have you laughing long after the show. Then the show will roll into some great music. Mary & Mike will perform a variety of Americana, Folk, Country, Gospel and Classic popular tunes from the 50s, 60s and 70s (and more) – with plenty of opportunities to sing along!



The second event has the theme of "Songs of Woody Guthrie & His Devotees" and will feature multiple people performing the songs of Guthrie and those who were influenced by him. You can even expect an appearance of Woody himself (well, kind of). So, pencil that date in as well for Sunday, September 11 from 1 to 3:30 pm at Nocterra Brewery in Powell!

More details will follow in upcoming newsletter issues. These are both fundraisers for the Central Ohio Folk Festival 2023. We suggest a donation of \$10-15 per person, but it is free-will donation.

**SAVE THESE DATES!!!**

**Sunday, August 28, 2-4pm at La Chatelaine, Worthington**

**Sunday, September 11, 1-3:30pm at Nocterra Brewery, Powell**



“ Life is this sound, and since creation has been a song. . .the world is the music and the people are the song. ”  
 – Woody Guthrie

Woody Guthrie, from pg 1

Woody's daughter, Nora says: "I would say all the outward skills that one needs for success in the world, that's what Woody picked up from his dad. He picked up writing capabilities and also a respect for thought, debate and books."<sup>1</sup>

Nora adds her dad's mother was equally important in Woody's early years in that she sang a lot of the old Scots-Irish ballads and played the piano. "Everyone has his or her connection to what that maternal love is and to Woody it was music."<sup>2</sup>

Nora says it was then that Woody acquired a deep sense of empathy and compassion. As the ravages of Huntington's Disease increasingly took its toll on his mother, the townspeople made fun of her. "He was so hurt by that. He understood at a very early age what it was to have misfortune handed to you by fate . . . you find that motif also running through every single song that Woody wrote."<sup>3</sup>

In the mid-1930s, young Woody and his wife Mary found themselves in the midst of the Great Depression and a drought that had hit the midwestern plains. It was then Woody "first realized the power of music to capture the truth about people and places. In thinking back about this time, he wrote, 'there on the Texas plains right in the dead center of the dust bowl, with the oil boom over and the wheat blowed out and the hard-working people just stumbling about, bothered with mortgages, debts, bills, sickness, worries of every blowing kind, I seen there was plenty to make up songs about.'"<sup>4</sup>

In Scott Alarik's article entitled "Writings in the Key of You" he quotes Nora as saying: "'Woody always wrote in the key of you. . . . He was always putting himself in the shoes of people he met along the way. He's the fly on the wall in everybody's life.'"<sup>5</sup> Alarik continues: "As personal as Woody's songs feel, Nora Guthrie says he was rarely writing about himself. About songwriting, he wrote: 'I look through your eyes to see the hill you're standing on', and 'Every word I ever wrote was something I heard from somebody else. My job is to tell you something you already know.'"<sup>6</sup>

Alarik summarizes by saying: "Woody was his own best yarn. His life spilled out like lore, punctuated by highways, rivers, labor camps and stormy oceans, peopled by hobos and intellectuals, labor radicals and lovers, immigrant refugees and compadres named Lefty Lou, Cisco, and Lead Belly. His life, and how he lived it, was the best ballad he left us, and the song that makes all the other songs true."<sup>7</sup>

[See Woody Guthrie, pg 7](#)



# Longtime Board Members Step Down

BY PETE INSABELLA



HUGH FARTHING



LINDA MCDONALD



DAN CLARKE

Three of the longest-serving members of the CFMS Board will be stepping down this year. Hugh Farthing, Linda McDonald and Dan Clarke have volunteered their time and energy for many years as part of the Folk Music Society's Board. They will be stepping away from their Board responsibilities but will continue to be active in various activities of the organization.

Hugh Farthing served as President and Vice President of the organization, in addition to being a Trustee member. He and Linda McDonald have managed the Bob Kirby Scholarship Program in recent years. The Bob Kirby Scholarship is awarded each year to one or two promising young folk musicians. Hugh also has taken responsibility for management of logistics for the Americana/Folk Concert series (coffeehouse) concerts. He is a volunteer worker at various CFMS Folk Festivals, and most recently he coordinated the workshop that taught young Festival goers how to make guitars out of cigar boxes.

Hugh has been a key figure in the folk music outreach effort that brings our folk singers to various nursing homes in the greater Columbus area. When the COVID

pandemic made personal visits impossible, Hugh continued to provide nursing home concerts via ZOOM technology. Hugh Farthing can be seen on a regular basis these days singing folk songs every Saturday with the Worthington Square players.

As mentioned, Linda McDonald and Hugh Farthing worked together for years on the Kirby Scholarships as well as being involved in other major contributions. "Since being a mom, I was always interested in making a fun Children's Tent at the Central Ohio Folk Festival, which I have tried to do since 2007. I [also] try to capture all the fun of our festival in my photographs." Linda has also hosted a number of folk music picnics and get-togethers at her home. Linda is a charter member of the Worthington Square players and her lilting flute melodies can be heard every Saturday and whenever the Worthington Squares provide musical background for activities throughout Franklin County.

Dan Clarke has been a workhorse in CFMS' varied outreach concerts. Not only does he play on Saturday mornings with the Worthington Squares, Dan is in the center of things any time the Folk Music Society is asked to provide music, whether at a children's concert at Franklin Park or a folk music session at the Franklin Country Fair. Dan Clarke has also been a stalwart volunteer at many CFMS activities, most recently partnering with Hugh Farthing at the recent Folk Festival.

**These three mainstays of the Folk Music Society should be applauded for their Board service over the years.**

EDITORS NOTE: Look for an upcoming article in a future issue introducing our newest board members.



# CFMS August Picnic Celebration & Farm Tour



CFMS Members, Ann and Terry Smith along with Ann's parents, will be the hosts of an August CFMS picnic at Ann's parents farm in the rolling hills of Ashville, OH (not too far from Columbus)! Save the date for August 7.

Besides eating & jamming, guests will have the opportunity to tour a 207 year-old house, see a ground mounted, 58 panel, 17,000 watt solar system, walk back the lane between rows of corn and soybeans, and relax.

**THE HOSTS WILL NEED YOUR RSVP IN JULY SO THEY CAN ORDER THE PROPER AMOUNT OF CORN.** They will respond to your RSVP and provide the Google Map address at that time.

## EVENT DETAILS:

- CFMS Potluck / Jam / Farm Tour

- **HOSTS:** Ann & Terry Smith and Ann's parents, who live on the family farm founded in 1804

- **WHEN:** Sunday, August 7

- **GATHER at 12:30pm**

- POTLUCK at 1:00 pm

- **EVENT ENDS:** 6:00 pm

- **LOCATION:** just SE of Rickenbacker air base, about 22 miles from Clintonville, a 35 minute drive.

**ADDRESS WILL BE PROVIDED WHEN YOU RSVP**

- **BRING** a dish to share

- **HOSTS** are providing roasted sweet corn, iced tea & lemonade

- **RECOMMENDED:** bring your own washable table service, comfortable chair, musical instruments & voices

For questions, please call Ann's cell phone 614-599-7560 or Terry's cell phone 614-571-0846.

**To RSVP, email Ann at:**  
**[fran1024@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fran1024@sbcglobal.net)**

## Calling for Contributions from CFMS Members for "Look Back" Article for August Issue

We thought we'd do a look back article in our next newsletter issue to take a look at what various CFMS members were doing in years' past – if possible relating to music, dance or your interest in the arts. If you're hard put to find a photo to share with that theme, any photo will do. What we're looking for is a photo and a short explanation of the photo (and/or what you were doing at the time).

And we want all aged members of the CFMS to participate! If you're interested in contributing, just submit a photo, along with a short explanation to:

[dianeboston@columbusfolkmusicsociety.org](mailto:dianeboston@columbusfolkmusicsociety.org) by not later than July 15. If you have questions, just ask email that same address.

It will be an opportunity for reflection and to share more about yourself to our broader community. If there is an overwhelming response (which we hope there will be!) we may have to publish the article by spanning a couple of newsletter issues.

Below is a photo which was the original inspiration behind this "project". We'll let you guess who the CFMS members are and we have no idea what they were doing! **We look forward to hearing from you!**




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## THIS MONTH'S Potluck Picnic/Jam, July 10th



You are invited to a Potluck Picnic/Jam by host, Cissy Behren.

Bring a dish to share, an outdoor chair, an instrument or singing voice or just yourself! Plates, utensils & drinks will be provided.

**When:** July 10th, 1:30-4:30 pm

**Where:** 9261 Winchester Rd, Canal Winchester

**How to Get There:** From Columbus, take Rt. 33 S past Gender Rd; exit at Diley Rd. At light (top of ramp), turn right. This curves down and becomes Hill Rd as you pass through another light. Take the second road on the left (red houses on street corners) which is Waterloo Rd (over old canal path). Stop sign is Winchester Rd - turn left. You will soon pass a sign for a Farm Market (on right). Farm fields to the left and a few houses & you are at 9261 Winchester Rd. Turn right into drive and follow driveway. Please park in the back. Driveway will be marked. Phone for Behrens: 614-397-3858.



## Welcome NEW and RETURNING Members

Nick Weiland  
Barbara Wells

Sherry Gainer  
Larry Staats



## Save the Date!

### Concerts

**Sun, Aug 28 – 2-4pm**, Mary Miller & Mike Hale: a concert featuring Music & Humor (see article)

**Sun, Sept 11 – 1-3:30pm**, Woody Guthrie Tribute Concert (see article)

### Zoom Jam Sessions

Mon, Tues: 10 am-Noon;

Sat: 9:30-11:30 am;

Thurs: 10 am-Noon, Nursing Home Zoom, ~10-12 residents log in. If interested in this event or for Zoom log-on information, contact Jane at: [vanaukj@gmail.com](mailto:vanaukj@gmail.com)

### In-Person Jams

**Saturday Mornings** – 9:30-11:30 am, Whetstone Park / picnic area

**Mondays** – 6-8 pm, 4th Ave Christian Church, 296 W 4th Ave (not July 4th)

**Thursday, July 14** – 10 am-noon, Franklin Park Conservatory

**Saturdays, July 16 & 23** – 10:30 am-noon, Worthington Farmers' Market

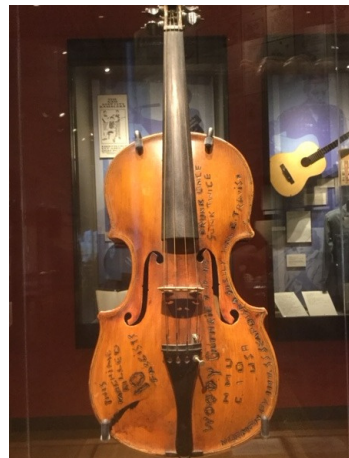
**Friday, July 22** – 10 am-1pm, Commons on Rich Street

**Sunday, July 24** – Franklin County Fair Gazebo -for fair passes contact Linda, [milocurtis444@yahoo.com](mailto:milocurtis444@yahoo.com)

Woody Guthrie, from pg 3

Woody's granddaughter, Sarah Lee Guthrie, also a musician, says, "Making music with him, "I really feel like he was with me, dancing in front of me, waving his arms and saying 'Hey, let's do this.' . . I think Woody is a part of everybody who loves him."<sup>8</sup>

There is no doubt that Woody Guthrie's songs and legacy has and continues to have a major influence on American culture and we will be paying tribute to that in mid-September. Event coordinator and Woody Guthrie portrayer Jeff Putnam explains, "This is a great chance to hear talented local musicians perform both new and old songs written or inspired by the founding father of American folk music."



*Woody Guthrie's fiddle, on display at the Woody Guthrie Center in Tulsa, OK – a 12,000 sq ft space also housing the extensive Woody Guthrie Archives.*

*The Woody Guthrie mural depicted on page 3 is located in downtown Okemah, OK. It depicts Woody Guthrie and Okfuskee County history.*

<sup>1</sup> Excerpt from Interview dated Oct 7, 2010 between John Erling from "Voices of Oklahoma" and Nora Guthrie

<sup>2</sup> Ibid

<sup>3</sup> Ibid

<sup>4</sup> Rambling Round: The Life and Times of Woody Guthrie, by Mark Allan Jackson as quoted from Woody Guthrie, "My Life"

<sup>5</sup> Writings in the Key of You: Woody Guthrie's Enduring Legacy, March 12, 2013, by Scott Alarik

<sup>6</sup> Ibid

<sup>7</sup> Ibid

<sup>8</sup> Ibid

**Special Woody Guthrie Tribute Concert, Sunday September 11, 1 – 3:30 pm, Nocterra Brewing Company, Powell, OH. Food available.**





## The Columbus Folk Music Society

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### BECOME A MEMBER OF THE COLUMBUS FOLK MUSIC SOCIETY

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ New ☐ Renew Preferred Newsletter Format: ☐ Digital ☐ Hard Copy

Name(s)/ Band Name (if applic): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell): \_\_\_\_\_ If Band, website: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address(es) (if a household / band membership): \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership renewals are due annually on September 30th.** Check one of the membership levels listed below.

- |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$20 | <input type="checkbox"/> Band Membership \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> Silver \$250      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Household \$25  | <input type="checkbox"/> Good Friend \$50     | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron \$200  | <input type="checkbox"/> Life Member \$500 |

For credit card transactions, visit CFMS website at: <https://www.columbusfolkmusicsociety.org/member-application.html>

Membership amounts may be tax-deductible. My place of work matches donations: ☐

**Like to volunteer? Please click all that apply. We are an all-volunteer driven organization!**

- |                                       |  |   |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> May festival | <input type="checkbox"/> Leadership            | <input type="checkbox"/> Cooking / Baking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CFMS events  | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing/Communication | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Legal        | <input type="checkbox"/> Desktop Publishing    |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising  | <input type="checkbox"/> Database              |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Help | <input type="checkbox"/> Organizational Tasks  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Musician     | <input type="checkbox"/> Music Instruction     |   |

*Please send completed membership form  
with payment to: Columbus Folk Music  
Society, P.O. Box 20735, Columbus,  
OH 43220*