

SECOND SUNDAY FOLK DANCES...A Fun, Family, Musical Tradition

Second Sunday Folk Dances Celebrates 34th Season

The Second Sunday Folk Dance series celebrates its 34th year of great music. One of the Midwest's most popular venues for folk music and dance, the Second Sunday series is the largest, longest running event of its kind, presenting great musicians in an intimate setting. Dean and Bette Premo (White Water) organize and host the series, described at the website secondsundayfolkdance.com.

For the first two dances and again for the last folk dance of the series, we return to the beautiful and spacious dance hall of the Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp, a nearly 90-year-old camp founded during the Great Depression. For the first time, the historic Crystal Theater in downtown Crystal Falls will host an event, December's concert. For the 2019 winter season (January-March), we plan to be at Second Sunday's original home at the Fortune Lake camp dining hall...stay tuned to our website and press releases.

The Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp is located between Iron River and Crystal Falls (in Iron County, Michigan), 2 miles west of Crystal Falls on US-2. Turn south on Bible Camp Road and drive for less than a quarter mile. Turn right on Fortune Lake Camp Road, drive just a short distance, and look for parking (lower for the October, November, April events, and upper for January-March events).

The Crystal Theater (December's event) is located on Superior Ave. about half way down the hill from Crystal Falls' iconic County Courthouse building. Parking is in the back or on city streets.

Each event opens at 4 PM Central Time with a short opening set by White Water, followed immediately by the featured guest act's concert. Except for the special Crystal Theater December event, the second half of the event is devoted to dancing in many forms with music by the Front Parlor Dance Band and dances taught by Bette Premo and others. Refreshments are available at each dance, and the entertainment lasts until 7 PM. Admission for those over 15 is \$7 and children 15 and under are admitted free. For more information about the folk event call 906-822-7889.

The exciting lineup of performers for the 2018-19 Second Sunday season include:

October 14 – Martin & Susanne

Start with two compelling voices, an uncanny sense of harmony and a deep grounding in traditional American music. Add stunning guitar work and a warm, intimate performance style and you have

Martin Grosswendt and Susanne Salem-Schatz. Martin is internationally known as an interpreter of pre-war blues and other roots music, playing early in his career with folk legends such as U. Utah Phillips, Rosalie Sorrels, and Jim Ringer & Mary McCaslin. A veteran of Boston's roots music scene, Susanne slips seamlessly into any genre; soulful blues singer one minute, sassy honky-tonk gal the next. Martin and Susanne's performances strike a deep emotional chord. They share their deep love and respect for the roots of classic blues, old time, and early country as they make the music their own, presenting it with style, grace, and wit. Touring together since 2015, they've played at well-known venues including Caffé Lena, Brandywine Friends of Old Time Music, and The Rooster's Wife. Their first CD together, "Old Songs, New Hats," was released in 2015, and a new recording in the works. Visit their webpage www.martingrosswendt.com/martin-and-susanne/.

November 11 – All Strings Considered

All Strings Considered has a primary focus on traditional old-time instrumental and vocal music of the Appalachian region with a bit of Celtic and Scandinavian tossed into the mix from time to time. The group's sound is a blend of Jamie Kitchel on fiddle, Rochelle Schuster on hammered dulcimer, Phil Watts on guitar, Annette Watts on autoharp, and Maggie Morgan on bass. All Strings Considered will get your feet tapping to those great traditional fiddle tunes then soothe your day with a gentle waltz or tell a story with an Appalachian song. An All Strings Considered concert is a fun event for the whole family. They add a bit of history about the culture and tradition of the music and mix in a few tall tales from the mountains. For this concert they will be focusing on the music of the Original Carter Family of southwest Virginia. Learn more about the band at ascstringband.com.

December 9 – The Lost Forty (at the Crystal Theater)

A native of the northern Minnesota logging town of Bemidji, Brian Miller teams up with Wisconsinite Randy Gosa to perform the Irish-influenced music of men who roamed the Great Lakes region in the days when pine was king. Miller and Gosa are both renowned in the Irish traditional music world for their work with top artists (including Bua and Myserk) in the US and Ireland. As a duo, they mix a passion for northwoods history and folklore with their finely honed approach to song-arrangement to bring this rich but under-explored music to life. Find them on the web at www.thelostforty.com.

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January 13 – Bryan Bowers

January is the traditional appearance from Bryan Bowers who is a master autoharp player and traditional songster that has been a major presence on the North American folk music scene since the mid – 1960s. He is a powerful singer and a gifted performer, and is a returning favorite to the Second Sunday Folk Dance stage. For nearly three decades, Bryan Bowers has been to the autoharp what Earl Scruggs was to the five-string banjo. He presents instrumental virtuosity combined with warmth, eloquence, expression, and professionalism. Bowers has been described by the Houston Post as one of the finest all-around entertainers on the folk and bluegrass circuit and a person who is a national treasure. Visit Bryan's website at www.bryanbowers.com.

February 10 – Red Tail Ring

Laurel Premo and Michael Beauchamp of Red Tail Ring create lush, intricate arrangements of original folk music and traditional ballads with banjo, fiddle, guitar, and close harmonies. "The very best of the 21st century's minimalist and highly original folk music . . . a peerless duo." – American Roots UK. The Michigan-based band completed their fourth full-length studio release, *Fall Away Blues*. Featuring new songwriting fused with old-time and country blues themes, the album tackles topical subjects such as gun violence and environmentalism as well as age-old questions of place and love. Red Tail Ring "doesn't just pay homage to vintage folk and roots music: The duo breathes new life into it, channeling the power and charm of seminal material into its own original songs." – John Sinkevics, LocalSpins.com Since 2009, Red Tail Ring has performed their brand of acoustic roots all over the United States, traveled overseas to play in the UK, Denmark, Germany, Finland, and Sweden, and has also appeared at some of the most notable festivals and venues that the US has to offer, such as The Ark, Club Passim, Caffé Lena, the Indiana Fiddlers Gathering, Wheatland Music Festival, and Hiawatha Traditional Music Festival. More about Red Tail Ring on the web at redtailring.com.

March 10 – Kitty Donohoe

Michigan Emmy award-winning songwriter Kitty Donohoe was born into a large, creative family outside of Detroit and has been "making up" songs for as long as she can remember. Describing her music as "folky, bluesy, Irishy, American, Canadianish," she draws from her roots to create music that is uniquely her own ~ music that's "haunting, melodic, and literate" ~ All Music Guide. With a love of language, an innate sense of melody, and the soul of a storyteller, she backs herself on piano, guitar, and cittern with equal finesse, but she sees these skills as mostly providing the foundation for the music she writes, both songs and instrumentals. "Kitty creates a glorious sound" ~ Sing Out. Kitty's latest CD, "The Irishman's Daughter," combines her original pieces with some traditional music and is getting great reviews. Much more is found at her website is www.kittydonohoe.com.

April 14 – Jack Williams

The music of Jack Williams, rooted in his native South Carolina, was shaped by a 54-year career of playing folk, rock, jazz, R&B, classical, and the popular music of the 30s, 40s, and 50s. He is counted among the most dynamic performers on today's "folk" circuit. Jack is an uncommonly unique guitarist, a writer of vivid songs with a strong sense of place, and a storyteller in an old Southern tradition who further illustrates each tale with his guitar. Rich Warren of WFMT Chicago's *The Midnight Special* said, "His artistry is nothing short of amazing." Vic Heyman, in *SING OUT!*, wrote, "He is one of the strongest guitar players in contemporary folk." Playing for more than 50 house concerts each year, Jack enjoys the intimacy of that venue most of all, with a more personal connection to his listeners. He has had acclaimed appearances at the Newport, Boston, Philadelphia, Kerrville, New Bedford SummerFest Folk Festivals, where his musicianship, songs, stories, and commanding presence have established him as an uncommonly inspiring and influential performer. Please take a look at his website, www.jackwilliamsmusic.com.

Sponsors Sought for Support

Second Sunday Folk Dance organizers seek funds to foster the activities and underwrite the expenses of guest artists, many of whom travel hundreds of miles to perform.

Sponsors for the 2017/2018 SSFD series included Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp, White Water Associates, John and Judy Reed, Louise and Nelson Rounds, Jacobs Funeral Home, Mike and Nancy Lewis, Bill and Wilma Verrette, CoVantage Credit Union, Hiawatha Music Coop, Cottages to Castles, Riverside Plaza, MJ Electric, Westphal's, Jacob's Funeral Home, Ralph and Jean Eckerberg, David and Julie Holperin, Tall Pines Grocery, Northern Michigan Bank, Aspirus Iron River Hospitals, Lion's Club of Crystal Falls, Ruth Warmanen, Andy Davis CPA, Mark Silver and Mary Hindelang, Steve and Rita Kickert, Tom Plummer and Celeste Magers, and Bob Arthur.