



COLUMBUS, OHIO
OCTOBER 28-30, 2022.

GUEST OF HONOR

BETH PATTERSON

TOASTMASTER

TOM SMITH

HONORED LISTENER

SPENCER LOVE

INTERFILK GUEST

FRED CAPP & ROBIN BAYLOR

**BROUGHT TO YOU BY
THE OVFF COMMITTEE**

Linnea Davis
Chair
Leslie Davis
Doug Cottrill
Mary Frost-
Pierson
Jim Hayter
E A Huffman
Sally Kobee
Steve Macdonald
BJ Mattson
Chandra Morgan-
Henley
Robin Nakkula
Erica Neely
Mark Peters
J. Elaine Richards
Kat Sharp
Roberta Slocumb

Emily Vazquez-
Coulson
Elizabeth Wilson

AND STAFF

Mitch Bently
Mary Bertke
Alan Dormire
Lisa Garrison
Gabrielle Gold
Bill Henley
David Ifversen
Spencer Love
Jade Ragsdale
Seamus Ragsdale
Jody Roliff
Lyn Spring
David Tucker

**WITH THE HELP
OF THE FRIENDS
OF OVFF**

Lorene Andrews
Nancy Graf
Gary Hartman
Judi Miller
Jeff Tolliver
Kathy Hamilton

**THE
PEGASUS
COMMITTEE**

E A Huffman
Erica Neely
Co-Evangelista
Steve Macdonald
Co-Evangelista
Steve Shortino
Rob Wynne

Chairman's Welcome

Welcome everyone to OVFF 38.

2022 is the year of the Water Tiger in the Chinese zodiac. Years of the Tiger include 2022, 2010, 1998, 1986, 1974, 1962, 1950, 1938..... much like Filk includes people of all ages and musical styles.

The Tiger is known as the king of all beasts in China. The Tiger is a symbol of strength, exorcising evils, and braveness. With our music at OVFF we gain strength together, exorcise evils with the power of music and give everyone a chance to bravely share their songs.

We chose to alter the zodiac sign from Tiger to Cat because cats have a large place in our hearts and culture. I also like it because to me it reflects the inclusive nature of Filk. Many years ago when a group of Filkers were in a Theme Filk Circle someone asked how to follow the theme or song vine if you didn't have a song that fit. One of the Filkers suggested that to do that you just need to "Throw in a cat." It worked and I believe that a filk song was the result.

We have wonderful guests bringing their unique songs and styles. Our Guest of Honor Beth Patterson hails from Louisiana and brings us the sound of Irish Bouzoukis.

Our Toastmaster Tom Smith travels all over the country offering his wonderful blend of songs and music.

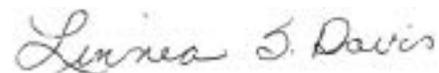
Spencer Love, our Honored Listener has listened at OVFFs for years and now we will find out his favorite songs and singers.

Interfilk has brought us Fred Capp and Robin Baylor. They now live in the Colorado Rockies, but have traveled far and wide. Want to break the ice talking to them? Ask about their 8 cats.

We will be throwing a lot of Cats to you and welcoming all the Kittens or Tigers created by the harmonies.

Linnea Davis

Chair 2022 OVFF 38



Con Policies

OVFF CONTACT INFORMATION

1720 Bendelow Dr
Columbus, OH 43228
Phone Number: (614) 937-1762
Visit our website: www.ovff.org
Email us at: ovff@ovff.org

COVID Regulations for OVFF 2022

Vaccination Policy

Due to COVID-19 concerns, for 2022 we will require proof of vaccination for all attendees.

Mask Policy & Social Distancing

OVFF will comply with all state and local regulations. Worthington's ordinance requires all people ages three and over within the City of Worthington to wear a face covering over their nose and mouth if they have symptoms, a positive test or exposure to someone with COVID-19.

OVFF politely requires all attendees to keep a mask on in all function spaces unless actively eating or singing.

OVFF'S RECORDING POLICY

Individuals are welcome to make recordings for their own *private* use as long as the recording is unobtrusive and the performer's implied permission is given. Performers have the option of announcing, "Please don't record me" prior to their performance.

We have also had requests for an explicit "no recording" room. To that end, this year we have designated one room (the Short North) as a no recording room for the entire weekend. We will have signs posted, so please respect the wishes of those that do not wish to be recorded. Thank you. If you want to record next year's convention for commercial reproduction, please contact us for a bid package.

OVFF'S ROLLOVER POLICY

If you purchase a membership in advance to OVFF in any given year and then find that you are unable to attend due to an unexpected change of plans, OVFF will gladly consider rolling over the membership to next year's convention PROVIDED you inform us before the beginning of the con. We require notice in writing, (e-mail or an old-fashioned letter) not a phone call or a verbal message carried by a friend.

Memberships will be rolled over only one year. If you are still unable to attend the second year, we regret that we cannot roll it over again.

OVFF's Anti-Harassment Policy

Harassment of any kind is not tolerated. If someone tells you "no" or asks you to leave them alone, your business with them is done.

Your right not to be harassed is not a right not to be offended. All of us have different things that we find offensive. If you are offended, the best solution may be for you to walk away from the person who offends you. Should that person pursue you and continue to offend you, that could be harassment.

If you feel that you are being harassed, or if you notice someone behaving inappropriately (such as violating hotel or convention policies), we respectfully suggest the following:

1. If you feel comfortable doing so, point out the inappropriate behavior to the person(s) involved. Often this will solve the problem immediately.

2. If you do not feel comfortable talking with the person(s) involved, or if talking to them does not resolve the issue, please report the situation immediately to any OVFF Concom member. It would be extremely helpful if you could provide a name, badge name, and/or physical description of the person(s) involved. Please remember that we need to know about any incidents during the event in order to take action.

OVFF reserves the right to revoke the membership of anyone failing to conform to the letter and spirit of these policies, those of our hotel, and the laws of the City of Worthington and the State of Ohio.

HECKLING

We know. We get it. Witty repartee with the performer(s) on stage is part of what makes folk so fun, right? And as long as everyone is laughing, this is definitely the case. However, sometimes, the performer doesn't laugh, or seems a bit upset. When this happens, please stop. If you continue and others nudge you to lighten up; you have probably crossed the line to harassment. Definitely stop. Please don't make us whack you with the Rule #42 clue bat.

Art Credits

Cover Art: Kat Sharp
Nancy Graf: Pegasus Awards logo
Lorene Andrews: All other pegasi used on the Pegasus Awards, ballots, and website.
All other art is clip art.



OVFF Schedule Of Events

The schedule of events printed here was accurate as of the time the program book went to "press". However, as is normal with any event the size of OVFF, it isn't unusual that some late adjustments to the schedule have been made. Changes will be posted on the whiteboard in lobby. All times are USA Eastern Daylight Time.

Thursday, 27-10-2022

8:00 'ish **Frisky Puppy Filk** (Fairfield) - First Filk of the weekend for those getting in early to get a head start. We don't know what we're singing, but we know it'll be fun! If it isn't in Fairfield, check the white board that will hopefully be set up in the main lobby for an updated location.



Friday, 28-10-2022

3:00'ish **Afternoon Delight** (Fairfield) - For those who need to get a little filk in before we start the rest of the weekend. We'll still be getting set up for the Friday main events, but we're pretty sure we have a room reserved this year. If not, we'll let you know on the white board in the main lobby.

4:30'ish **Registration Opens** (Polaris One) - Get your badge here!

5:00'ish **Kid Space Opens** (Arena District) - Check pocket program for details.

7:00 'ish **Mad Hatter's Tea Party** (Upper Terrace) -This charming event will be an opportunity for nibbles and chats with your cat-loving hostesses, Mary Frost-Pierson and Elaine Richards, who are hosting a cat lover's tea party. Please come appropriately attired in your favorite, most spectacular hat. Those without head gear will be provided with the most embarrassing hats possible. Our gracious hostesses will award prizes for the best costume, best hat, and whatever else tickles their fancy.

8:00'ish **Pegasus Nominees' Concert** (Cedar & Alder) - **Pegasus Nominees' Concert** (Cedar & Alder) - Are you familiar with the songs nominated for this year's Pegasus Awards? Here's your chance to hear them all! All nominated songs will be played for your listening pleasure. Don't forget voting ends at midnight!



8:00'ish **Open Filk** (German Village/Short North/Fairfield) - But why would you want to miss the Pegasus Concert?

10:30'ish **Music Release Party for Lauren Oxford and Faithful Sidekicks** (Upper Terrace) Right after the Pegasus Concert, come and celebrate the release of Lauren Oxford's debut, self-titled album, along with The Faithful Sidekicks' new album, The Dark Side of the Meep! (the first album of parodies they have ever released). There will be stickers and CDs for sale and hopefully some sort of free food! Most of the folks who played on the albums will be there as well to celebrate, so... the more friends, the merrier! Come join us!

11:00'ish **Theme Filk: Songs with 9 Lives** (Short North) -There are multiple versions of our favorite Filk songs; tunes given new life (and lyrics) again and again and again Join us for a circle of all versions - except the original - of some of our favorite filk songs. This will be a bardic circle rather than chaos filk. Cat Greenberg

NOMINEES FOR THE 2022 PEGASUS AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN FILKING



The ballot for voting at OVFF is online, and will be found at

<http://www.ovff.org/pegasus/ballot/>

At-Convention balloting will open immediately following the Pegasus Nominees Concert on Friday night, and will close at 12:01 AM, Saturday, October 29, 2022.

You may only submit one Final Ballot. Should you submit more than one Ballot, only the most recent one will be counted. Additional information and recordings of our Nominees is available on the website at:

<http://www.ovff.org/pegasus/>

We would especially like to thank Julia Ecklar, Prometheus Music, Kirstin and Bill & Gretchen Roper of Dodeka Records, Mark Peters, and all the artists for their kind support and permission to use their copyrighted recordings. Thank you for your participation!!

BEST FILK SONG

The Entwife

by Summer Russell

Following Our Dreams

by Laurence Dean

I Am I

by Eva Van Daele-Hunt

Poisoned Apples

by Don Neill

Spirals In Your Eyes

by Peter Alway

BEST CLASSIC FILK SONG

Come Ye Knights

by Sheila Willis

Crimson & Crystal

by Cynthia McQuillin

Helva's Song

by Cecilia Eng

I Am Stardust

by Lloyd Landa

Storm Dancing

By Tom Smith

Best Performer

Tim Griffin

Daniel Kelly

Jen Midkiff

Madison "Metricula" Roberts

Via Bella

BEST WRITER/COMPOSER

Cecilia Eng

Kari Maaren

Cathy McManamon

Ben Newman

Summer Russell

BEST FURRY FRIEND SONG

A Habitrail Named Klein

by Blake Hodgetts

Job the Armored Donkey

by Rhiannon's Lark

Meownir

by Madison "Metricula"

Roberts

Nobody's Moggly Lands

by Bob Kanefsky

Underfoot

by Jen Midkiff

BEST SONG THAT TELLS A STORY

The Alien Jellyfish Song

by Chris Conway

Before the Dawn

by Mike Whitaker

Colin by Steve Macdonald

Nine hundred and ninety-nine

by Mich Sampson / Marilisa

Valtazanou

Scarlet Town

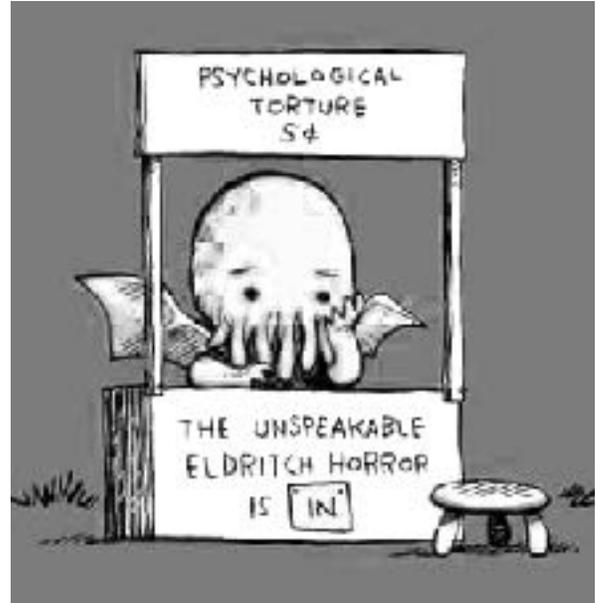
by Cathy McManamon



OVFF Schedule Of Events

Night Owl Open Filking (any open space) - And don't forget Franklin and Fairfield!

11:00'ish **A Slightly Scary Halloween** (German Village) - Halloween's coming up, and there are way too many songs of the season not to blast out the walls with 'em! Bring your best -- silly, serious, but definitely scary! We are guaranteed to do the Monster Mash and the Time Warp, and invocations of Cthulhu are pretty much mandatory. Anyone who knows the words to "Grim Grinning Ghosts" is gonna be shanghai'd into a full choral version. Tom Smith has liked scary songs since "Mad Monster Party". Or "How The Grinch Stole Christmas". Or The Addams Family. Or Lutheran Sunday School, there may have been a couple of weird things in there. Anyway, he has a vast catalog of 'em, and he knows that you know some too, and we're gonna have a gay old time releasing our inner creepiness. Tom Smith.



11:00'ish **Animals Which Aren't Cats** (Fairfield) - We prefer real animals, but aren't picky. Penguins, porpoise, platypus etc are all welcome. Just no cats. after spending an evening in a filk circle that was all cats, we decided that folks need a challenge. Fred and Robin Capp-Baylor

Saturday, 29-10-2022

10:00-11:00 **Workshop: Filk Preservation** (German Village) - How will filking in the late 20th and early 21st Century be remembered in 100 years? Filkers today have a chance to shape our own legacy through actively preserving important materials. This session will include some information on how to best care for important papers, photographs, recordings, and digital files, as well as tips for working with archives as a donor or a researcher. It will also provide an overview of an ongoing filk preservation project at Bowling Green State University. Dave Lewis, Sally Childs-Helton, Angela Pratesi, Merav Hoffman

10:00-11:00 **The Creative Kitty: How to Summon Your Mews** - (Short North) Creative inspiration is often like a cat. It doesn't always come when you call it, yet it will plunk itself on top of you while you're busy doing something else. Sometimes your only reward is when it shows you its butt. In this workshop, we'll discuss how to prepare for inspiration's random pounce, creating a more productive structure by working with the toys you already have, and the laser pointer of absurdity. Beth Patterson

10:00'ish **Chamber Filk Rehearsal 1** (Fairfield) - Come join Phil Textor to practice orchestral arrangements of filk songs for the Sunday Chamberfilk Concert. Please try to make it both rehearsals if at all possible. Phil Textor.



Ravenslake Music is the Midwest's comprehensive recording studio, able to offer full studio services as well as on-site recording. Ravenslake can take your song and turn it into a single, and can take a full set and turn it into a full album.

Ravenslake also offers filk's own "Wrecking Crew" in David M. Stowell and Daniel Gunderson. If you are a vocalist or single instrumentalist and want a full backing band behind your music, Ravenslake can work with you to arrange and record full tracks in multiple styles. If the two of them can't do it, they know someone who can.

If needed, we can come to you and record your voice and instrument, and then bring it back to our studio for further recording, mixing, and mastering. We are able to work with your schedule, as well as your location

If you have a DIY track that you've started work on, we can work with that as well.

We offer several options for mastering to fit most budgets, ranging from in-house mastering to multiple 3rd-party mastering houses.

David M. Stowell: david@ravenslake-music.com (773) 590-2580

Daniel Gunderson: daniel@ravenslake-music.com

www.ravenslake-music.com

What's Where



Con Registration & Operations
 Main Programming Room
 Alternate Programming Rooms
 Additional Open Filk Room
 Additional Theme Filk Room
 Dealers Room
 ConSuite
 ConSuite Overflow
 Meeting/Rehearsal Room

Polaris One
 Cedar & Alder Ballroom
 German Village, Short North
 Fairfield (after 8 PM)
 Franklin (after 8 PM)
 Buckeye Ballroom
 Oak Ballroom
 Arena District
 Polaris Two



ConSuite Full Service Hours
 Friday: 6very 'ish - 11:00
 Saturday: 9am - 11:30
 Sunday: 9am - 4 'ish

Dealers Room
 Friday: 5pm - 8pm
 Saturday: 11am - 5pm
 Sunday: 11am - 4pm

OVFF Schedule Of Events

- 11:30'ish **Workshop: Learn About the Blues** (German Village) - A workshop describing the history and structure of 12 bar blues. Participants will listen to examples of 12 bar blues, play tunes and solo over a 12 bar chord progression. If time permits we will write our own blues tune. Phil Textor
- 11:00'ish **Toast Master Concert** (Cedar & Alder) - Join our Toast Master as he kicks off our concert day with an hour plus of great music. Tom Smith
- 11:30'ish **Workshop: Plays Well With Others: Being a Band** (Short North) - What does it take to be in a band? What skills do you need to "play well with others?" How do you find compatible bandmates, select your repertoire, arrange your music, run rehearsals, find your audience, negotiate finding gigs, and everything else you need to have a harmonious relationship with your bandmates, musically and personally? Jen, Debbie, Barry, and Sally have many years of experience playing in bands from the sublime to the disastrous, so come discover how to "play well with others." Join the members of Wild Mercy as they celebrate their 20th "bandiversary" making music together! Wild Mercy (Barry Childs-Helton, Sally Childs-Helton, Debbie Gates, Jen Midkiff)
- 12:00-12:30 **One Shots** (Cedar & Alder) - Come listen to performers with a song to share. Sign up sheet is outside the main concert hall if you want to participate. Space is limited and you must sign up at least 1 hour before the one shot session begins
- 12:30'ish **Interfilk Concert** (Cedar & Alder) - Enjoy an hour of great music from our interfilk Guests Robin and Fred Capp-Baylor
- 1:00'ish **Yoga with Mary Crowell** (German Village) - Nothing energizes a sleep-deprived body like an hour of yoga. Be sure to wear loose clothes and bring a mat; if you don't have a mat, bring a towel. Dr. Mary Crowell.
- 1:00'ish **Workshop: Major/Minor Chord Swaps** (Short North) - Take a 3 or 4-chord song, swap minor chords for major and vice-versa. For example, if the song is Am-G-F, change it to A-Gm-Fm. Work out melody changes to compensate for the new tonality and share it here! Prep in advance is required and due to our different approaches to altered melodies this is probably not a sing-a-long session. A fun experiment with music theory! Cathy McManamon, Jason Neerenberg.
- 1:30'ish **Kids Concert** (Arena District) - Come join STEM educator, filker, and geek rock star Tim Griffin for some crazy (but rigorously researched and peer-reviewed) songs about physics, biology, and that weird thing on your lunch tray. Seating is limited and children have priority



OVFF Schedule Of Events

- 1:30'ish **More One Shots** (Cedar & Alder) - Another round of one shots if the first set didn't fit your schedule, or you just need to hear more music. Sign up sheet is outside the main concert hall if you want to participate. Space is limited and you must sign up at least 1 hour before the one shot session begins
- 2:00-3:00 **Special Guest Concert- Wild Mercy** (Cedar & Alder) - Come join our special guests Wild Mercy and help celebrate their 20th anniversary! Great music and great fun!
- 2:30'ish **Joyful Singing is for Everyone** (German Village) - Kathy teaches her very unconventional singing skills for people of all levels. Everyone attending should be sure to bring hydration supplies! Kathy Mar.
- 2:30'ish **Play Shop: Parody Puzzle Pieces** (Short North) - Come and collaboratively solve these parody puzzles in a hands-on workshop. Participants paste parody phrases in place of the original words on gigantic Post-It notes until the original is completely replaced. The idea is to reconstruct an unknown parody using clues including what scans, rhymes, is similar to the original, tells the desired story, and so on -- all the considerations that went into the actual writing of the parody. No fair cheating by looking up the words on songworm.com or elsewhere!
Bob Kanefsky
- 
- 3:00'ish **Honored Listener Concert** (Cedar & Alder) - Our Honored Listener, Spencer Love, has put together a set list of his favorite songs performed by some of his (and our) favorite performers. Join us to find out what they are, and who is performing!
- 4:00'ish **Guest of Honor Concert** (Cedar & Alder) - What a great way to wrap up the afternoon! Join us to hear this year's Guest of Honor Beth Patterson, for even more great music!
- 
- 6:00'ish **Pegasus Awards Banquet** - (Upper Terrace) - Come find out the winners of this years Pegasus Awards while enjoying a lovely dinner with friends.
- 8:00'ish **Traditional Song Writing Contest** (Cedar & Alder) - Our first songwriting contest of the weekend is the traditional type: write a song on the specified topic (**The Cat's Meow**). Entries should be new material of limited distribution written between November 2020 and October 2022 AND not entered in the 2020 or 2021 Song Writing contests (this is the last year we will accept entries from a previous year. We will return to our one year limit in 2023). Original lyrics and music OR original lyrics to existing music. Sign up sheets are available at the programming table in the main concert room (Cedar/Alder). Please bring four copies of your lyrics, including song title, your name, and the title of the original tune if it is not your original music. (The hotel front desk can make copies for you.) OR use the submission form on our website: ovff.org/programming-song-contest-entry-form. You may also bring a flash drive with the same information to us in the main concert room (Cedar/Alder). All entries MUST be received AT LEAST 1 HOUR before the contest starts. Please stop by the programming table in Cedar & Alder to confirm you are on our list if you haven't heard from us
- 8:00'ish **Open Filk** (German Village) - But why would you want to miss anything else?

OVFF Schedule Of Events

- 9:00'ish **Interfilk Auction** (Cedar & Alder) - Interfilk provides us with great guests that we would otherwise never get to meet. Come support interfilk and get cool stuff of interest to the filk community. You never know what will be on the auction block, and it's always a good time . Start time approximate- we will begin the auction after the Song Writing Contest finishes.
- 10:30'ish **Song Writing Contest Winners Announcement** (Cedar & Alder)- Find out who won the Song Writing Contest immediately prior to our second GoH Concert.
- 10:30'ish **Music Release Party for Daniel Gunderson and Steve MacDonald** (Upper Terrace) - Daniel Gunderson is releasing "Remember", and Steve MacDonald is releasing "Wanderer". Between these two albums humanity has waited over 50 years, and now they are finally upon us. Run! (... to join them at their joint release party after the Interfilk Auction on Saturday night!)
- 
- 11:00'ish **Open Filk** (Cedar & Alder) - More singing!
- 11:00'ish **Theme Filk- Poker Chip Filk** (German Village) - Most OVFF filks are chaos-style. In the poker chip style, everyone gets a poker chip. You can jump in when you want...if you have a poker chip. This way, everyone gets a chance to sing before anyone sings a second song. Kathy Mar.
- 11:00'ish **Beth and Bawdy Works- and yours too!** (Short North) - From mild euphemisms to "oh no, you didn't," let's hear your sordid material! Whether it's the tiniest bit titillating or contains enough smut to bring an entire Iowa corn crop to its knees, we're here for it. Beth Patterson
- 
- 12:00'ish **Theme Filk: Honored Listener** (Franklin) There were just TOO MANY songs to choose from as favorites for the honored listener concert, so Spencer is hosting a theme filk to present at least SOME of the rest of his list. Join him in listening and singing along with more of his favorites as he chooses songs and performers from the audience. This will turn into an open filk at some point..
- 12:00'ish **LOUD Filk** (Fairfield) - Like your filk a little LOUDER? The LOUD FILK welcomes electric instruments, drums, string sections, and jamming along. It's a different way to filk! Dave Stagner.

Sunday, 30-10-2022

- 10:30 'ish **Medieval Tunes to Filk to, just like Blackmore's Night** (Short North) - If you have ever found a tune that you like but can't use because it is copyrighted, I have a solution- don't use copy righted materials! Blackmore's Night and Owain Phyfe (among others) brought tunes from the Medieval and Renaissance periods to life. I have examples to show and a collection to share. Multiple song sources will be given and sheet music provided. Jo-Ann Scheffer
- 11:00'ish **Even MORE One Shots** (Cedar & Alder) - Come listen to performers with a song to share. Sign up sheet is outside the main concert hall if you want to participate. Space is limited and you must sign up at least 1 hour before the one shot session begins

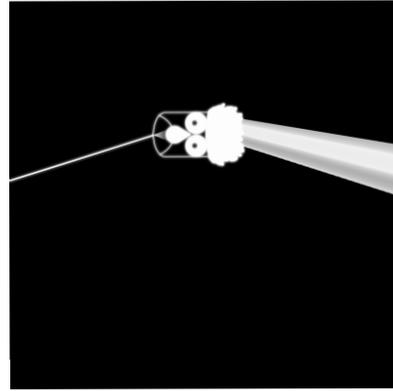
New Albums At OVFF!



Lauren Oxford
by Lauren Oxford

Lauren Oxford's self-titled, debut album—recorded, engineered, and produced by Eric Distad—presents her songs the way they've always sounded in her heart: with lush, warm orchestration provided by many friends you (and her) know and love, including Jen Midkiff, Sunnie Larsen, Betsy Tinney, Mary Crowell, Jen Distad, Cathy McManamon, Cat Faber, Brenda Sutton, and Sally Childs-Helton.

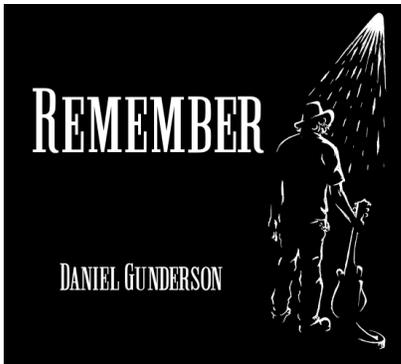
<https://laurenoxford.bandcamp.com>



Dark Side of the Meep
by The Faithful Sidekicks

The Faithful Sidekicks are proud to present our new CD: *Dark Side of the Meep*. A 12 song collection of musical parodies ranging from Radiohead to Mary Poppins about Board Games, Star Wars, The Muppets, and more!

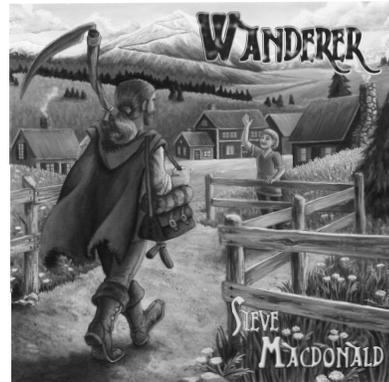
Available on Bandcamp November 4!
<https://thefaithfulsidekicks.bandcamp.com>



Remember
by Daniel Gunderson

Remember is a 30-year dream that finally came to reality over the COVID pandemic. With the assistance of David M. Stowell, Daniel's Americana-flavoured originals, as well as his take on beloved covers, brings his instrumental expertise to every aspect of this album.

<https://danielgunderson.bandcamp.com>



Wanderer
by Steve Macdonald

Steve Macdonald's first original album in 18 years features songs that led up to, and came out of, the WorldDream. Also included are songs that you may have heard, but are presented here in wide release for the first time- such as *Divinity Reflected*, **warm**, and *Merry Meet*.

Available on Bandcamp November 4!
<https://stevemacdonald.bandcamp.com>

OVFF Schedule Of Events

- 11:30'ish **Chamber Filk Concert**(Cedar & Alder) - Come join Phil Textor to play orchestral arrangements of filk songs. Rehearsals were on Saturday. Here's the performance! Phil Textor.
- 12:00'ish **Iron Filker Song Writing Contest** (Cedar & Alder)
-Our second songwriting contest, designed for those fast on the draw. Three verses and a chorus, written during the con itself on the specified topic. Original lyrics and music OR original lyrics to existing music. Sign up sheets are available at the programming table in the main concert room (Cedar / Alder). Please bring four copies of your lyrics, including song title, your name, and the title of the original tune if it is not your original music. (The hotel front desk can make copies for you.) OR use the submission form on our website: ovff.org/programming-song-contest-entry-form. You may also bring a flash drive with the same information to us in the main concert room (Cedar / Alder). All entries MUST be received AT LEAST 1 HOUR before the contest starts. Please stop by the programming table in Cedar / Alder to confirm that you are on our list if you haven't heard from us.
- 
- 12:00'ish **Ten Years(!!!) of GriffinEd** (Short North) - For ten years, Tim Griffin has been using filk music to help kids learn STEM and other academic subjects through a small educational nonprofit. Join us for a discussion of where we've been, what we've learned, where we are now, and how you can be part of what's next. Tim Griffin
- 1:00'ish **Half Hour Concert** (Cedar & Alder) - Denise Gendron
- 1:30'ish **Half Hour Concert** (Cedar & Alder) - Naomi Hinch
- 1:30'ish **Workshop: So You Want to Play Harp** (German Village) - There's something just... magical...about the harp, right? Have you ever wanted to try it out for yourself, but all the unknowns scared you off? Well, let's reduce those unknowns! Jen Midkiff has been playing harp for nearly three decades and is here to let you try her Celtic harps and answer all your questions—or at least, all the questions she can in an hour!! Jen Midkiff
- 1:30'ish **Workshop: What to leave out** (Short North) - Let's face it -- none of us are as good a musician as we really want to be. What do you do when you want to perform a song that is really too hard for you? You leave stuff out. We'll be discussing how you can put out a good performance by leaving things out -- what do you HAVE to keep? How does this vary by instrument? Robin Baylor
- 2:00'ish **Toast Master Encore Concert** (Cedar & Alder) - Tom Smith
- 3:00'ish **Iron Filker Winners Announcement** (Cedar & Alder) - Find out who won the Iron Filker Contest immediately prior to the closing jam.
- 3:00'ish **Closing Jam** (Cedar & Alder) - Join us for this bittersweet moment when we come together to play and sing along – mostly to rock, folk, and oldies filk. Anything that almost everyone knows is acceptable. Barry Childs-Helton.
- 3:00'ish **Closing Jelly** (German Village) - For those who find the Farewell Jam a bit too amplified. Come say farewell here instead.

OVFF Schedule of Events



5:00-7:30 **Equipment Corral** (Polaris 2) - Room will be safely locked with your equipment inside while we all break for dinner. Room locks at 5 PM, so get your equipment here before then, or make sure it's safe somewhere else. Open when people get back from dinner.

5:00-7:30'ish **Dinner Break** You can sign up to go to bd's Mongolian Grill, or choose a different one if you like.

7:30'ish **Dead Dog Filk** (Cedar & Alder) - Not ready to go home yet? Join us for one more night of open filk, or chat with your friends in other open areas. The fun starts when people get back from dinner.

7:30'ish **Dead Hound Dog Filk** (ConSuite) - The Dead Dog just got too darn big, so we are going to try splitting it in half up front this year. Choose the dog you like, or float between.

7:30'ish **Dead Horse Filk** (TBA) - If there are enough people who want a third venue, and we have the space, we can beat this horse unto the wee hours of the morn. This will be subject to demand and room availability. That is, if there are enough people, and we have the space, we'll do it. We'll let you know at the con after dinner Sunday.



Leslie Fish's lost works, newly unearthed!

Prometheus Music is excited to share our newest filk CD,
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This epic project brings to life the best of Leslie's unreleased
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OVFF Songwriting Contests

We held the first songwriting contest in 1986 at the second OVFF. Eventually, so many people entered the contest, that in 1995 we added a second contest.

This year we are again holding two contests. The first contest, to be held Saturday evening at 8:00 pm in the main programming room, is the traditional type: write a song on a specific topic announced in advance. Entries should be new material of limited distribution written between November 2020 and October 2022. They can be original lyrics and music OR new lyrics to existing music. This year's topic is:

The Cat's Meow.

The second contest is an "Iron Filker" contest, to be held Sunday afternoon at Noon in the main programming room, requires that the song be written AT THE CON on a topic not announced until the opening of the con. We ask for three verses and a chorus. This year's surprise topic is: **To Be Announced**

Contest Rules: The songs are to be performed in front of a live audience for a panel of three judges. Songs are judged on the quality of the writing - not on the strength of the performance. If the songwriter is not a performer, the entry may be performed by a friend. Please note that the songwriter must be in attendance at the convention in order to enter. Please bring four (4) copies of your song for the judges. A copier should be available in the hotel's business center. OR use the submission form on our website: ovff.org/programming-song-contest-entry-form. You may also bring a flash drive with the same information to us in the main concert room (Cedar/Alder). All entries MUST be received AT LEAST 1 HOUR before the contest starts. Please stop by the programming table in Cedar/Alder to confirm that you are on our list if you haven't heard from us.

Past Songwriting Contest Winners

2021 Songwriting Contest

"My Corona"

1st Place: *Optimism Song* by Luke Bretscher

2nd Place: *Not If But When* by Gabrielle Gold

3rd Place: *Betelgeuse* by Michael Stein

Audience Choice:
As We Run Toward Our Future by Cecilia Eng

2020 Songwriting Contest

"My Corona"

1st Place: *Raise your Voice in Chorus* by Douglas Davidson

2nd Place: *Spikey Ball of Death* by Paul Kwinn

3rd Place: *Don't Forget to Wash Your Hands* by Dana Katz-Buchshtav

Audience Choice: *Spikey Ball of Death* by Paul Kwinn

2019 Songwriting Contest

"Music is the Universal Language"

1st Place: *CISUM* by Claudia Mellenthin

2nd Place: *"Long Before"* by Cat Greenberg

3rd Place: *Music is the Universal Language* by John McDaid

Audience Choice: *"El Muro (the Wall)* by Rhiannon's Lark

2019 Songwriting Contest (Iron Filker Contest)

2018 Songwriting Contest: "Psychedelic"

1st Place: *"The Storm Sublime"* by Dave Stagner

2nd Place: *"Cat Without a Grin"* by Brett Glass

3rd Place: *"Deep Dream"* by Gabrielle Gold

Audience Choice: *"The Best Part of Science"* by Tim Griffin

2018: "Mad Catter" (Iron Filker Contest)

1st Place: *"Uraba Lugens"* by Elizabeth Greenberg

2nd Place: *"Mad"* by Andrew Ross

3rd Place: *"Cat in the Hat"* by Brett Glass

Audience Choice: *"Mad"* by Andrew Ross

2017--Something Wicked This Way Comes

1st Place: *Something Wicked This Way Comes* by John McDaid

2nd Place: *Wicked Sings* by Leslie Hudson

3rd Place TIE: *A Wicked Something* by Paul Kwinn

OVFF Songwriting Contests

and *What Rough Beast* by Cat Faber
Audience Choice: *Wicked Sings*
by Leslie Hudson

2017—Welcome to my Nightmare
(Iron Filker Contest)
1st Place: *Time (Welcome to My Nightmare)*
by John McDaid
2nd Place: *Caveat Emptor*
by Naomi Rivkis
3rd Place: *Steps* by Kerri-Ellen Kelly
Audience Choice: *Caveat Emptor* by Naomi Rivkis

2016—Dr.....I Presume
1st Place: *"Presumption of Doubt"*
by Randy Hoffman
2nd Place: *"Clan Macrimmon"*
by Gary Hanak
3rd Place: *"Muses"* by Cat Greenberg
Audience Choice:
"Presumption of Doubt"
by Randy Hoffman

2016--George of the Jungle
(Iron Filker Contest)
1st: *"George"* by Andrew Ross
Audience Choice: *"George"*
by Andrew Ross

2015--Time after Time
1st Place: *"It's Only Love"*
by Beth Kinderman
2nd Place:
"I Built a Time Machine"
by Eric Distad
3rd Place: *"Time After Time"*
by Gary Hanak
Audience Choice:
"I Built a Time Machine"
by Eric Distad

2015--It's About Time
(Iron Filker Contest)
1st Place: *World Wide Wait*
by Brett Glass
2nd Place: *It's About Time*
by Beth Kinderman
3rd Place: *It's About Time*
by Cathy McManamon
Audience Choice: *Oops*
by Dave Stagner

2014--A Sticky Situation
1st Place: *"A Song of Stick Pins"*
by Eric Distad
2nd Place: *"Sticky Situation"*
by Gary Hanak (tie)
2nd Place: *"Stuck on You"*
by Bill & Gretchen Roper (tie)
Audience Choice: *"Sticky Science Situations"*
by Sandra & Bari Greenburg /
Sandra Greenburg & Gary Hanak

2014--I'm Sorry
(Iron Filker Contest)
1st Place: *I'm Sorry*
by Sandra Greenburg
2nd Place: *Rasputin's Lament*
by Crystal Wolfe & Chris Canary
3rd Place: *Sam's Yer Uncle*
by Andrew Ross
Audience Choice:
I'm Sorry by
Cat Greenburg

2013--Once Upon a Time
1st Place *"Climbing the Mountain"*
by Cat Faber
2nd Place *Snow White, Red Road*
by Lizzie Crowe/Eric Coleman
3rd Place *Slightly Evil Waltz*
by Peter Alway

Audience Choice: *Climbing the Mountain* by Cat Faber

2013--Fractured Fairytales
(Iron Filker Contest)
1st Place: *The Brothers Cheeryble*
by Andrew Ross
2nd Place: *Bloodstains & Ballgowns* by Charming McGillicutty
3rd Place: *The Death of the Perpetrator*
by W. Randy Hoffman
Audience Choice:
The Brothers Cheeryble
by Andrew Ross

2012--Come Fly With Me
1st Place: *"Come Flying With Me"*
by Cat Faber
2nd Place: *"Fly With Me"*
by Gabrielle Gold
3rd Place: *"Oz"* by Bill Roper
Audience Choice:
"We Dared to Dream"
by Gary Hanak

2012--Gravity Sucks
(Iron Filker Contest)
1st Place: *Turn Off the Gravity*
by Glen Raphael
2nd Place: *The Real Culprit*
by Jen Midkiff
3rd Place:
The Burden of the Serious Artist
by Randy Hoffman
Audience Choice: *The Real Culprit*
by Jen Midkiff





November 25—27, 2022

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Toastmistress: Judi Miller

Fan GoH: Carol Cook

Music GoH: Cheshire Moon

Music, music, music! And even more music with Leslie Hudson!

Games, merchants, art, writers workshop, a fantastic con-suite, and a plated banquet.

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Meet Our Guest of Honor Beth Patterson



Beth Patterson was born in a swamp. Okay, more accurately, she was born in a hospital near a swamp, but that's close enough to romanticize the origin of this Lafayette, Louisiana native. Described by audiences as "a cross between a cobra and a puppy," multi-instrumentalist Beth Patterson is foremost a player of the eight- and ten-stringed Irish bouzoukis (adaptations of a traditional Greek instrument). Known for her razor wit and musical versatility, her performances are chock-full of drive, savage energy, and passion, laced with humor and rapport with her

listeners, dishing out an eclectic repertoire of original and traditional songs. She integrates her quirky, progressive sound with Celtic music and other ethnic styles, resulting in her own sound she dubs "SWAP" (Songwriter/World/Acoustic/Progressive).

This musical mongrel began her career in her early teens as a classical oboist and a Cajun bass player (with the required teenage heavy metal stint on the side), but not truly belonging to any of these, set out to create her own niche when she was adopted by a stray bouzouki. After moving to New Orleans, she began to play the circuit, initially intending to do the folksy thing, but accepted gigs of all types left and right because no one told her that they shouldn't be played on the bouzouki. (Not to mention that it was a sin.) So she tried on genres as though playing dress-up, snatching up influences like a crazy cat lady with felines...she couldn't bear to reject a thing.

Beth later fled to Ireland, studying ethnomusicology at University College Cork, where she studied traditional Irish music and ethnomusicology. This finally rendered her with the mind of a prog rocker, the heart of a world music-lover...and let's just skip the part about her soul.

So, what has this hussy actually done? Well, Ms. Patterson has released eight solo CDs and has received airplay in every continent (Antarctica notwithstanding). She has appeared on over two hundred recordings (including the nationally charting *Change of Habit* by her former band The Poor Clares). Soundtrack appearances include the motion picture *The One-Eyed King* (starring William Baldwin and Armand Assante), and Mike Judge's Mirimax release *Extract*. She's performed in twenty countries across five continents. Various artists have recorded over a hundred of her compositions and co-writes. She completed a bachelor's degree in Music Therapy from Loyola University, New Orleans.

Beth has occasionally worn other hats as a body paint model, film extra, minor role actor, recording studio partner, record label owner, producer, and visual artist. She is a lover of exquisitely stupid movies and a shameless fangirl of the band *Rush*.

In addition to solo gigs, Beth also performs in ZouKeys (a prog/jazz/Celtic/roots mashup duo with her husband, acclaimed pianist Josh Paxton), Celtic fiddler superstar Seán Heely, and nabs the occasional freelance bass gig. She is currently writing a sequel to her novel *The Wild Harmonic* and has contributed to over eighty fiction anthologies.

Meet Our Toastmaster

Tom Smith

The Real Truth About Tom Smith

Tom Smith used to provide fake biographies when asked by convention committees, but he's getting old and slightly cranky and it's too much effort. All the good jokes have to go into songs, you see. Oh, and MST3K-style riff parties. And phone calls with old friends. And DoorDash delivery people. And the folks at U-M Health. Oh, and I guess here, too.

True stuff: I've been coming to OVFF since the second one. I didn't know it existed when they had the first one. I had a slight crush on the late and lovely Naomi Pardue, and I still have one on Judi Miller.

I remember the dinner at the Chinese restaurant next to the hotel, when about three dozen people (please revise this number in your head if I'm wrong, it has been over thirty years) just dropped in on them, and they stepped up and made us a fantastic dinner.

I remember my first concert. Among other things, I sang "Hard Love" by Bob Franke. I don't know that anyone expected that out of me, even that early on.

I remember winning the awards for "A Boy And His Frog". Still one of the greatest moments of my life.

I remember the Guitar Army, and Kathy Mar belting out a perfect version of "White Rabbit".

Of course I remember the Clarion, and us nearly getting shut down by a cowboy who couldn't sleep and a front desk person who

couldn't read a contract. Wrote a song on the spot.

I remember when Steve MacDonald first sang Frank Hayes's "When I Was A Boy", and utterly flattened the room.

I remember singing "Undead Happy Trees" at one of the few Dead Dogs I've managed to attend, and the look on Seanan McGuire's face was fantastic.

I remember Renee Alper. And Dave Alway. And Cindy McQuillin. And Harold Stein. And others, some gone, some who never get here anymore. I miss them all cruelly.

I remember so much more. Many details blur around the edges; the timeline gets messed up. But the memories, the feelings, the great and powerful and wonderful feelings remain.

I am fortunate enough to have blood family whom I love. I am even more fortunate to have this chosen family, the best people I know, who laugh and cry and sing with me. I thank you all so much for your support, love, and laughter over the years. And, even though it's getting physically harder for me to get to conventions, I hope to keep doing OVFF for decades to come.

Hugs all around. I love each and every one of you.-Tom

Tom Smith has been doing this since 1985. There are rumors he's gotten good at it. If you want to determine that for yourself, check out his music at tomsmith.bandcamp.com, or his Patreon page, patreon.com/filkertom.



Meet Our Interfilk Guests Fred Capp & Robin Baylor

Fred Capp and Robin Baylor are a married music team who together go by “Capplor.” Robin writes mostly parodies and is a regular contributor to Xenofilkia. Fred writes more original stuff, including his 2021 Pegasus Loser recently submitted to Dr Demento, “Chuck the Corpse” (If anyone

Their music style is mostly folk/light rock, although nothing is rejected out of hand. (Well, you wouldn’t really want to see us attempt rap. Just no.) Fred plays mostly guitar, but is competent on banjo and mandolin. Robin plays anything with strings except mandolin, a few things with wind,



hasn’t heard Chuck the Corpse PLEASE bring them to our concert — we haven’t had fresh meat in a while)

and a kalimba. (So far, recorded playing violin, harp, fife, ukulele, and bass guitar) (The mountain dulcimer at this point is crying at not having been professionally recorded. This must be fixed)

Aside from writing originals and parodies, they have been known to do 100+ year old found filk, and of course stuff based on the popular music of third quarter 20th century. Robin has a particular fondness for vocal harmony, and will sing or play along with anything whether she knows it or not. Since retirement (hey, it takes TIME to get this good) work has finally gotten traction on their first album, Individual cuts are currently available at capplor.bandcamp.com, eventually to be compiled and mastered as a collection.

How is it that these two are filkers? Well, both were doing it before they ever heard the word, and when they heard it went running towards, rather than away like any sane person. Fred is a native of Silicon Valley before it was Silicon Valley, and Robin moved there, met him, and lived there from 1989 to 2008 (Married 1996) and so have met and played with a lot of familiar names: Savitzky, Fish, McQuillan, Kanefsky, etc.

Along the way, before and after meeting, there have been adventures. Fred lived in Alaska, driving under a moose and getting kidnapped by Inuits and taken to Siberia during the Cold War. Sometime after that he got a reputation as the office "Speaker to Skunks" (Mostly persuading them to leave quietly and not spray anybody. One poor unfortunate did not follow his advice) Robin was in the Air Force, working with Captain Steve Rogers and Lieutenant Murphy of Space command (Really!)

Adventures together of course include courtship at Grand Central Starport (Steve Savitzky's living room), marrying on the anniversary of the first moon landing, and raising two kids, who sometimes perform with us. Tammy brings out the trombone-

shaped kazoo, and Ace's voice is angelic in the way none of the rest of our voices are. Fred lost his job in the dot-com bust and retired early to raise kids and draw a bilingual web comic. <http://www.littlelevers.com/Angels/>

In addition there have been various house animals including 8 cats (total over the years), 3 dogs, and a not-domesticated squirrel.

Apropos of nothing: Robin got into fiber arts when both the kids and the house were very small as something that wouldn't wake the kids up, and became very useful when we moved out of California and to the base of the Rocky Mountains in Colorado. When you see her around the con, she will probably be spinning. Fred will be recognized as the tall redhead (probably standing out in filk circles, not so much around our current location — they grow them BIG here.)

Ask them about the communist bear cub they didn't quite meet.



Meet Our Honored Listener Spencer Love

Picture this. I'm in the basement of the Big Blue House, somewhere in the late 2000's -- for those not in the know, Big Blue House is home to Spencer-Love, Persis Thorndike and at the time, Talis ThorndikeLove. Spencer and I are considering the damage to two Macs that had been through not only a flood, but also a fire and considering our options.

This, for me, sums up more than I can say about Spencer. When things are really bad,

(spoiler, those tapes are currently in my living room, being transferred, and by the time you read this, we should be done).

In 2008, I accidentally started working with Spencer Love. It was a part time gig, and one that I later split with Harold Stein. I wanted to put out albums to support Contata (now NEFilk), the convention I had recently started chairing, and I knew that Spencer had started the cycle that had stopped that convention from



he calls a friend, and he goes into problem solving mode. That afternoon saw me scrubbing the innards of the machines with a toothbrush for the next several hours. Why? Because there were thousands of hours of untransferred digital tapes riding on the result.

falling over when the original runners could no longer make it go. In addition, he was the man with the recordings. Spencer had been running tape (either DA-78s, DA-88s or DATs) at just about every convention I'd been to up and down the east coast since I got into filk in 1996.

That first year, I dug into filk history and listened to his recordings of Contata 1994, finding what might have been Mike Rubin's last concert. I was fascinated. What else was in his archives?

It turns out, just about everything. Spencer found filk in 1974, and stayed up all night filking with Filthy Pierre and Bob Asprin. If that's not an auspicious start, I'm not sure what is. Someone should write a song about that. There are existing songs about Spencer, not all of them paint him in the best light, but they all rib him with a sense of humor founded on the fact that for a very long time Spencer was seemingly indefatigable. Consider that between 1974 and his induction into the Filk Hall of Fame in 1997 Spencer

... was one of the founders of Interfilk (and has stayed involved since 1991)

... worked for Bob Laurent taping conventions for Wail Songs that became classic live filk tapes

... founded Love Song Productions and started their catalog with The Pegasus Winners vol. 1

... ran filk at three Worldcon, starting with hymnal sings, and introducing formal concerts, as well as theme circles

... founded MASS FILC

... sang with Critical Mass

... travelled to the British Filk Convention and brought back recordings

... recorded just about every regional convention's filk track on the east coast

Here's the thing though. Spencer's sheer stick-to-itiveness is impressive. He's spent 1974 until 2022 in the service of filk. That's almost 50 years. That's longer than I've been alive. Sorry Spencer, I'm sure that makes you feel old.

Spencer is always the first person to pooh pooh these achievements, and I suspect

that when I send him this bio to review, there's going to be a long list of corrections, and attributions to the people who helped him, which is only fair. Spencer works best with his friends around him, and they are legion, and far flung.

I didn't know what I was getting into when I started this journey. I didn't know the long conversations we would have at terrible hours and frequently while exhausted, often while standing over the sound desk, while sitting on the floor of an empty filk room, while staggering around a supermarket, or going out for sushi. I treasure those hours, and I hope there are more in the future. And it's not just me. A lot of the people reading this are probably nodding. They too have had one of Spencer's magical shoulder-unlocking massages, or have spent time talking with him about music, or human behavior, or engineering. If you haven't had a long rambling conversation with Spencer yet, what are you waiting for? Go do it. Opportunities like this don't present themselves every day.

By Merav Hoffman



About Our Panelists



Barry Childs-Helton If it's true that "a man is what he thinks about all day," why hasn't this guy turned into a guitar covered with words? Active in fandom/filkdom with wife Sally since the '80s, he edits computer books, writes songs, blogs on LiveJournal, and performs (guitar/bass/vocals) with Wild Mercy.

Sally Childs-Helton Percussionist, ethnomusicologist, archivist, educator, rabble-rouser. Filker since 1983 when she dragged drums into the filk room and nobody threw her out. University archivist at Butler University; teaches ethnomusicology; facilitates drumming retreats (www.womendrum.org); teaches guided music improvisation; accompanies and composes for dance, theater, and choruses; performs with improvising quartet Thin Air and eclectic Celtic and filk band Wild Mercy. With husband Barry, inducted into the Filk Hall of Fame in 2003; has several Pegasus Awards for best performer. Filk scholar. Believes everybody is a musician and that

almost anything can be a percussion instrument. Mostly harmless.

Dr. Mary C Crowell writes geeky songs about gaming and mythology. She also teaches music theory, piano, and composition at a community college in north Alabama as well her private studio. She has taught yoga off and on again since 2001.

Margaret & Kristoph are the only American group to have received authorization from the Estate of J.R.R. Tolkien to set and record Tolkien's poetry, which they released in 2000 on their CD *The Starlit Jewel*. In 2008 they performed in the Disney movie *Bedtime Stories*, in 2018 they won the *Lost Chord Award*, and in 2020 they won the *Pegasus Award for Best Performer in filk*.

The Faithful Sidekicks are the acoustic geek/filk comedy musical duo of Eric and Jen Distad. They started making music together in 2004 but it wasn't until they combined Eric's love of songwriting with Jen's skills in Improv Comedy that they found their musical passion and started having enormous fun in the process. They have been described, "like the *Mountain Goats*, but geekier and funnier."

Denise Gendron has been enjoying sf since the original *Star Trek*. She has been singing and playing music even longer and loves combining the two. An award winning music teacher, she has written many instruction and performance books, but discovered the joys of performing (especially with her cello!) through the wonderful members of the filk community.

Cat Greenberg has been filking since she first discovered it in 1988 and knew she'd found her tribe. Her songs range from original stories, fun sing-a-longs and re-imagined fairy tales to political statements and history lessons.

About Our Panelists

She's also part of the Archon Filk Crew and keeps the St. Louis House Filk email list.

Tim Griffin is a retired STEM teacher; an award-winning songwriter, performer, and storyteller; and the founding director of **Griffin Education**, a 501(c)3 nonprofit dedicated to raising academic achievement in grades K-12 through fun educational music.

Daniel Gunderson has played in many bands and many styles over the years, and always enjoys a chance to back someone up on



stage or in a circle. He's happiest with other musicians, in a circle, in a jam, or on stage. He is comfortable in a variety of styles, and if it has keys, strings, or if he can hit it, he can play it.

Naomi Hinchen is a singer-songwriter and ukulele player from Cambridge, MA. At various other times she is a writer, video game developer, word puzzle enthusiast, fanfiction addict, and podcaster. This is her first in-person OVFF, after performing at virtual OVFF in 2020. More of her music can be found at <https://naomihinchen.bandcamp.com/>.

Merav Hoffman is the Director of the Harold M. Stein Memorial Filk Archive, she is also Programming Chair for NEFilK, Vice President of Interfilk, and a moderator on the #filkhaven Discord. She was inducted into the Filk Hall of Fame in 2021. When she's not filking or recruiting volunteers for the projects above (WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!) she's creating digital architecture at work, lace knitting, performing with one of her three bands, writing songs, stories and poems, or tending to her many plants. Merav lives in NJ with her family.

Bob Kanefsky has parodied hundreds of original filk songs and dozens of folk and pop songs, and takes special delight in parodying two or more at once. In his mundane day job, which is neither, Kanef works at NASA Ames in California writing planning-and-scheduling software that is used by scientists and engineers scheduling Mars rovers, by flight controllers scheduling astronaut time on ISS, and by astronauts (real and pretend) on simulated missions for scheduling their own time. He has always been interested in space but credits Minus Ten and Counting for his career choice on Earth.

Lady Mondegreen started in 2001 when Merav Hoffman, Seanan McGuire and Batya Wittenberg decided to write songs together and dragged their friends in to help sing them. The band is a cluster of infrequently appearing comets. Never all together at the same time, but making indelible patterns each time they pass.

Dave Lewis is the sound archivist and ethnomusicologist at Bowling Green (Ohio) State University's Music Library and Bill Schurk Sound Archives. He organized BGSU's filk preservation grant proposal and is coordinating work on the project, slated for

About Our Panelists

completion in April 2023. He's been working with archival sound recordings in archives and museums and generally geeking out about audio, culture, and music topics for nearly 20 years.

Steve MacDonald is a Michigan native who was transplanted to Germany, Steve Macdonald has been performing filk and folk since the early 80's. He found the filk community in 1992, was an early Interfilk Guest, and he has been honored to serve as a GoH at over 30 conventions over the following years. In January 2021 he finally released the *Worldream* online for its 20th anniversary. Steve began recording his fourth album of all-original material in 2004; but life interrupted this until now. He expects to be releasing this album, titled *Wanderer*, at OVFF in 2022. In addition to his solo efforts, Steve also performs together with Katy as the duo *Twotonic*. Steve also sings together with Katy and friends Eva and Rafael Van Daele-Hunt in 'Barbership', the world's first filk barbershop quartet. And he occasionally performs in 'DKSM', a trio together with Katy and Marilisa Valtazanou.

Website: www.stevemacdonald.org

Bandcamp: steve-macdonald.bandcamp.com

Kathy Mar worked as a professional folksinger and streetsinger in Denver for many years before she discovered filk and filkers discovered her. Her recordings include *Songbird*, *On a Bright Wind*, *Bamboo Wind* (Off-Centaur Productions), *Plus Ca Change*, *Plus C'est Les Meme Chose*, and the re-released CD double (Thor Records). Made by Magic (Dandelion Digital), *My Favorite Sings* (Prometheus), *Kathy Mar Live*. (Love Song Productions). She was inducted into the Filk Hall of Fame in only the second year of its existence and, with Lindy Sears, instigated the Dandelion Conspiracy to promote filk to general SF conventions.

Cathy McManamon hails from Chicago where she plays in the bands *Random Fractions* and *Toyboat*. She also plays solo, or with a variety of other musicians, or as a studio arranger/musician for *Canticles Productions*. She enjoys the ever-changing challenges of being a working musician wherever the journey takes her.

Jen Midkiff is a licensed music educator (BA, MM) who has been playing the harp for (lemme count...gasp! 29 years!). She began as a college student and fell in love with playing the harp. She has been playing professionally for weddings, funerals, parties, and other special occasions since 1998. She is currently working on adding CMP to her alphabet soup (Certified Music Practitioner), hoping to use her harp to help people in hospital and hospice settings. She's also a huge nerd and has been active in fandom and filk since 2003.



About Our Panelists

Jason Neerenberg has been around filk circles for quite some time and plays bass with Random Fractions and Toyboat. He has recently been working on writing his own songs, some for his band and some for a future solo album, in between teaching high school math and practicing martial arts.

Lauren Oxford (formerly Lauren Cox, now married as of April 2022) is a songwriter, singer, and multi-instrumentalist who stumbled into filk by befriending Cat Faber, who is still her very favorite convention travel partner. She is a four-time Pegasus nominee, twice for Best Writer/Composer in 2018 and 2019, and twice for Best Performer in 2020 and 2021. Her self-titled debut album was recorded in June 2022 with dear filk friends and released at OVFF 38; it's **FINALLY A THING THAT EXISTS IN THE WORLD** and is available digitally and on CD. Lauren lives in the lush, green mountains of East Tennessee with her wife Emma and their three cats, Ansel, Henri, and Alli.

Angela Pratesi is the head librarian of the Music Library and Bill Schurk Sound Archives at Bowling Green State University. As a member of the filk preservation grant team, she has thoroughly enjoyed learning about the music and fan culture of the filk community. She can often be found making obscure popular culture references while helping students find music research and performance materials.

Bill and Gretchen Roper have been filking together and separately for a very long time. By himself, Bill has a reputation for being grim, but together, Bill and Gretchen are usually very funny. They hope that still works post-pandemic.

Jo-Ann Sheffer is known as The Honorable Lady Siri Toivosdotter in the Society for Creative Anachronism. In her real life, she has taught Music from Pre-K to College and professional musicians for more than 35 years, mostly vocal music but she also plays Recorders, Keyboards and Drums. She is looking forward to her first OVFF.

Dave Stagner is a guitarist, songwriter and producer living in Minneapolis. His song



Sublime was the 2018 OVFF songwriting contest winner, and *This is How Elvis Died* was nominated for a Logan Award for Best Original Comedy Song. He has produced numerous filk and filk-adjacent albums, most recently Beth Kinderman's *Hero's Journey*, and Astrisoni's *Sounding with the Stars*. He has been a member of numerous filk bands, including Beth Kinderman and the Player Characters, Gernsback Continuum, and the Feng Shui

About Our Panelists

Ninjas. Oh, and he came up with the idea for the LOUD FILK!

Bill and Brenda Sutton The Suttons have been a fixture in the filk community since...well, for a while now. They have recorded several albums and are actively involved with the Interfilk Auction at OVFF every year. In addition, they are members of the Filk Hall of Fame and have won numerous Pegasus Awards—singly, together, and as members of other bands like Three Weird Sisters.

Phil Textor is a songwriter and performer who plays trumpet, tin whistle, Indian flute, and ocarina. Phil is now teaching himself arranging. He is in both a community and a jazz band in Dayton, Ohio His current project is Chamberfilk.

Gerry and Sandy Tyra were first introduced to Filk while in college when we met Michael Longcor. Our first SF convention was MidAmeriCon. Gerry wanted to do some experiments in acoustics. We considered how to get field experience and EmpireCon (WesterCon 52) became our first gig. Since then we have worked a few cons here and there. We were Interfilk guests at FilkOntario in 2009. The Microphone Petting Zoo is part of the ongoing science experiments in sound support and acoustics. To pay the bills, Gerry is a Software Engineer (aka code monkey).

Deborah VanHeyningen is best known for filking in Zoom circles, with her pet parrot (and occasional backup singer) Basil on her shoulder. She's been a geek her entire life, and a filk fan since 1988, when she walked into a room at ConFusion, to hear Tom Smith singing *Temperature of Revenge*. She generally performs

a cappella, and enjoys both singing filk classics and learning new songs. Once in a blue moon, she'll even write something herself. When not pursuing her various hobbies, she works in a medical research lab at the University of Michigan studying respiratory virus immunology.

Wild Mercy 2002: Jen Midkiff and Debbie Gates founded Wild Mercy as a duo with Jen on harp/vocals and Debbie on keyboards/vocals. Debbie invited co-worker Barry Childs-Helton to join on guitars and bass, then Barry's wife Sally was added on percussion, and an eclectic Celtic band was born. Wild Mercy released three albums (Summer Storm, 2003; Furious Fancies, 2005; and Dream of a Far Light, 2008, with Amy McNally on fiddle). The band has performed around the US and Canada at conventions and venues including bars, museums, and weddings. Wild Mercy was honored with a Pegasus Award in 2012. Help us celebrate our 20th Bandiversary!



The Pegasus Awards

The Pegasus Awards were founded to recognize and honor excellence in filking.

Any member of the worldwide filk community is eligible to win. Past Nominees have hailed from the United Kingdom, Canada, Germany, Australia, and Singapore as well as the United States.

The Pegasus is an ongoing project throughout the year - there's almost ALWAYS *something* you can vote on! Between now and April, fill out a Brainstorming Poll of filkers and songs that you think are cool, nifty, or just plain good. You can fill out one, or a thousand polls.

From May to July, you can submit one Nominating Ballot to help determine the five Nominees in each category who will be on the Final Ballot.

And from September to OVFF, anyone with an interest in the filk community can submit a Final Ballot to help select one of this year's six

Pegasus Award winners! MP3 samples, lyrics, and short bios of all nominees can be found online on the Pegasus Awards site:

<http://www.ovff.org/pegasus/>

Remember, you do not need to be a paid member of OVFF to vote.

The announcement will be made on Sunday this year.



Do you know someone who you feel deserves accolade? Fill out the Brainstorming Poll! Curious about whether or not a song is eligible for Nomination? Looking for lyrics of past Winners or Nominees? Check out the Pegasus site. The Pegasus Awards only has the meaning that you (the filk community) choose to give it. Your

participation in the Awards is needed, and deeply appreciated.

Past Pegasus Award Winners

2021

Best Filk Song :

Second Hand Heaven

By Lawrence Dean

Best Classic Filk Song:

Nessie, Come Up

By Dr. Jane Robinson

Best Performer:(Tie)

The Faithful Sidekicks

Rhiannon's Lark

Best Writer/Composer

Lawrence Dean

Best Mad Science Song:

I Built a Time Machine

By Eric Distad

Best Cheery-Ose Song

Tiny Kraken

By Rhiannon's Lark



2020

Best Filk Song (Tie):

Child of the Library

by Piers & Gill Cawley

Mordred's Lullaby

by Heather Dale

Best Classic Filk Song:

Somebody Will

by Ada Palmer

Best Performer:

Margaret & Kristoph

Best Writer/Composer:

Andrew Ross

Best Media Song:

Goodnight, Sarah Jane

by Talis Kimberley

Best Space Song :

Following in Valentina's

Footsteps by Valerie Housden

Past Pegasus Award Winners

2019

Best Filk Song:
Lucy on the Line
by Time Griffin
Best Classic Filk Song
Ship of Stone
By Don Simpson
Best Performer:
Playing Rapunzel
Best Writer/Composer:
Eva Van Daele-Hunt
Best Singalong Song:
Gone Filkin'
By Tom Jeffers
Best Family Song:
Golden Rule
by Sabine Kinder

2018

Best Filk Song:
Pageant Legend by Katy Dröge-
Macdonald / Ju Honisch
Best Classic Filk Song
Creature of the Wood by
Heather Alexander /
Philip Obermarck
Best Performer:
Random Fractions
Twotonic (tie)
Best Writer/Composer:
Leslie Hudson
Best Roadtrip Song:
Oregon Trail by Tim
Griffin
Road to Santiago by Heather
Dale (tie)
Best Song About Community:
Many Hearts, One Voice
by Steve Macdonald

2017

Best Filk Song:

"We Are Who We Are" by
Michelle Dockrey
and Tony Fabris

Best Classic Filk Song:
"Alligator in the House"
by Betsy Tinney / Cade
Tinney / S.J. Tucker

Best Performer:

Judi Miller

Best Writer/Composer: (Tie)

Ju Honisch / Jordin Kare

Best Horror Song:

"Dear Gina"

by Seanan McGuire

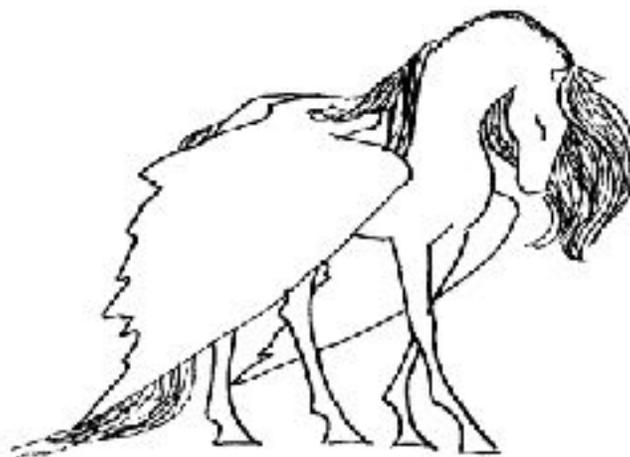
Best Perky Song:

"Chocolate Is a Vegetable" by

Graham Leathers

2016

Best Filk Song:



"Creatures of Dream"

by Batya Wittenberg

Best Classic Filk Song:

"Take It Back"

by Kathleen Sloan

Best Writer/Composer:

Barry Childs-Helton

Best Performer:

Play It With Moxie

Best Adapted Song:

"Six Transit Genitalia Centauri"

by Bob Kanefsky

Best Exploration Song

"Starsoul"

by Roger Burton West / Jodi

Krangle

2015

Best Filk Song:

"My Story is Not Done"

by Seanan McGuire

Best Classic Filk Song:

"Captain Jack and the Mermaid"

by Meg Davis

Best Writer/Composer:

Cat Faber

Best Performer:

Jeff & Maya Bohnhoff

Best Adapted Song:

Grabthar's Silver

Hammer

by Steve Macdonald

Best Time-Related

Song:

"Precious Moments"

by Phil Allcock

2014

Best Filk Song: (Tie)

"Paper Worlds"

by Talis Kimberley

"Snow White, Red

Road"

by Cheshire Moon

Best Classic Filk Song:

"Grandfather" by Gary Hanak

Best Writer/Composer:

Tim Griffin

Best Performer:

Cheshire Moon

Best Adapted Song:
"Midichlorian Rhapsody"
by Jeff Bohnhoff
Best Song of Passage:
"Outward Bound"
by Cat Faber

2013

Best Filk Song:
"Joan" by Heather Dale
/ Ben Deschamps
Best Classic Filk Song
"Second-Hand Songs"
by Jonathan Turner
Best Writer / Composer:
Talis Kimberley
Best Performer:
Alexander James Adams
Best Fairytale Song:
"Dryad's Promise"
by Betsy Tinney
Best Alien Song:
"Little Fuzzy Animals"
by Frank Hayes

2012

Best Filk Song:
"Cheshire Kitten"
by S.J. Tucker
Best Classic Filk Song:
"Tiberius Rising"
by Rand Bellavia &
Adam English
Best Writer / Composer: (Tie)
Juanita Coulson &
Dr. Mary Crowell
Best Performer: (Tie)
Betsy Tinney & Wild Mercy
Best Gaming Song:
"I Put My Low Stat"

by Dr. Mary Crowell
Best Travel Song: "No Hurry"
by Michelle Dockrey

2011

Best Filk Song:
"Wicked Girls"
by Seanan McGuire
Best Classic Filk Song:
"The Phoenix"
by Julia Ecklar
Best Writer / Composer:
S. J. Tucker
Best Performer:
Amy McNally
Best Badass Song:
"Evil Laugh"
by Seanan McGuire
Best Romantic Song:
"As I Am"
by Heather Dale

2010

Best Filk Song:
"A Thousand Ships"
by Ju Honisch / Katy Dröge-
Macdonald
Best Classic Filk Song:
"Fire In The Sky"
by Jordin Kare
Best Writer / Composer:
Heather Dale
Best Performer:
S. J. Tucker
Best Mad Science Song:
"What A Woman's For"
by Seanan McGuire
Best Magic Song:
"Where The Magic Is Real"
by Paul Kwinn



Closing Notes

The last songs have been sung. The last conversations spoken. We leave for our cities and homes with a warm glow (and maybe some new CDs and books.) It has been good to see everyone again. Here is my very firm wish that next time we host OVFF 39 in October 2023 this whole COVID mess will be behind us and there will be many more songs of hope and happiness. Note: Except for those people who always write dark songs. We love them too.

Our 2023 theme is *Do-Re-Mi*. Remember the start of the song in *The Sound of Music*? "*Let's Start at the very Beginning...*" Our Guest of Honor is Summer Russell. Our toastmaster is the wonderful Lauren Oxford (nee Cox), Our Listener guest of Honor will be Mike Gucciard. Check our website www.ovff.org for news of next year's convention.

The song contest topic is "We Are Family." So, hone your songwriting skills until then.

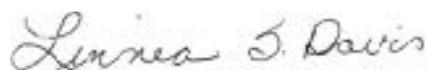
The categories for the 2023 Pegasus Awards are: Best Filk Song, Best Classic Filk Song, Best Performer, Best Writer/Composer, Best Science Song, and Best Adapted Song (includes parodies).

Throughout the year at each filk con or filk-friendly con you attend, please remember to fill out a Pegasus Brainstorming Poll. You can find links to the poll on the Pegasus website at: www.ovff.org/pegasus.

Thanks to all, performers and audience alike!

For all fen with a song in their heart. Thank you again.

Linnea Davis
ConChairs OVFF 38



Ohio Valley Filk Fest 39

October 27-29

Guest of Honor:

Summer Russell

Toastmaster: Lauren Oxford

Listener Guest of Honor:

Mike Gucciard

Doubletree Hotel
Worthington, OH

