

**Fall 2008
Newsletter**

**35th Annual
Alaska Folk Festival
April 13-19, 2009**

Message from the president

As the trees begin to turn brilliant shades of red, yellow and orange, we are reminded once again of winter's imminent approach. Time to clean out the chimney, gather firewood, wax the skis and rosin the bow. Time for friends and family to gather and share music in the long winter ahead. The Folk Festival board too has been preparing for winter, with some great concerts coming your way. I'll let the board members who are producing those concerts tell you more about them; or you can visit our website at www.akfolkfest.org.

As you know, 2009 is the fiftieth anniversary of Alaska statehood. It is also the thirty-fifth anniversary of the Alaska Folk Festival. (Wow! How does it go by so fast?) The board has been working hard on next year's festival to make it an even more special event. As always, the festival charges no admission at the door. However, the cost of producing the festival goes up every year. You can help us by volunteering some of your time or making a financial contribution with your membership to the Alaska Folk Festival.

As many of you need to plan ahead for spring, the dates of the Alaska Folk Festival are April 13 - 19, 2009. Looking ahead further we have April 5 - 11, 2010 and April 4 - 10, 2011.

Performer applications will be out in January. Until then, come to concerts, volunteer, show your support and keep on pickin', squeezin' or sawin' out tunes. And have a great winter.

Greg McLaughlin

AFF Concerts:

Sun, Sept 28 - Gordon Bok - see right column

Fri, Oct 17 - Tommy Sands - see page 2

Tue, Nov 11 - Eric Bibb - in the works

Treasurer Report - Prine Concert

The sold-out John Prine concert was a huge success. A fine and memorable evening was enjoyed by all. The folk festival added over \$1600 dollars to our account to help finance future festivals. \$350 of that came from merchandise sales. So why was there only \$1250 of ticket sales profit with such a large audience? The AFF board decided early on to make a priority of keeping the ticket prices as low as possible. And this was successful with Juneau having the lowest prices, not only in Alaska, but in any recent Prine concert.

The heroes, as usual, were all people who volunteered to help out. It just wouldn't happen without all this great support! If you haven't had a chance to help behind the scenes and would like to, send us a line or let a board member know you are willing.



**Gordon Bok
Carol Rohl
Sept 28
7:30pm**

Alaska Folk Festival is proud to present an evening in concert with **Gordon Bok**. Enjoy the warmth and gentle humor Gordon shares with his audiences. His rich voice and fine story telling will delight and entertain you while his songs give voice to the courageous people who work on the sea. Playing both 6 and 12 string guitars, Gordon will be joined by **Carol Rohl** on harp.

Sunday, Sept. 28, 7:30pm

Resurrection Lutheran Church

Tickets at Hearthside \$15 or at the door \$17

Once again, Alaska Folk Festival volunteers were the key to making things run smoothly. Thanks to the following folks for your efforts on the John Prine concert.

Sally Donaldson
Amy Randolph
Kathy Fanning
Jack Fontanella
Jenna O'Fontanella
Maridon Boario
Jamie Brown
Melanie Brown
Karen Smith

Joe Arnold
Joyce Levine
Mark Ridgeway
Paul Ridgeway
Riley Woodford
Lori Thompson
Phil Reeves
Dale Whitney

Alaska Folk Festival Membership Form

35th Annual Alaska Folk Festival: April 13-19, 2009



Amount \$ _____	
___ Member	(\$15 - \$29)
___ Sustaining Member	(\$30 - \$49)
___ Friend	(\$50 - \$99)
___ Patron	(\$100 - \$249)
___ Benefactor	(\$250 and above)
<input type="checkbox"/> Please do not list my name in the program.	

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State/Zip: _____

Amount: \$ _____	Visa or Mastercard ONLY		
Exp. Date: _____	CSC (3 digit security code): _____		
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Signature: _____			

All members receive the Festival newsletters. Benefactors, Patrons, Friends, and Sustaining Members will be listed in the Festival program (deadline: March 26, 2009). Please mail to: Alaska Folk Festival, PO Box 21748, Juneau, Alaska 99802. Thank You!

Fall 2008 Newsletter



Oct 17 - Tommy Sands with Moya & Fionan

Tommy Sands, County Down's singer, songwriter and social activist has achieved something akin to legendary status in his own lifetime.

From the pioneering days of the highly influential Sands Family, Tommy has brought Irish Music from New York's Carnegie Hall to Moscow's Olympic Stadium. His songs, like "There were Roses", and "Daughters and Sons", have been recorded by Joan Baez, Kathy Matthea, Dolores Keane, and many others.

Back home in Northern Ireland, he has just completed a CD written with Protestant and Catholic school children about their towns and villages. During

the Good Friday Agreement Talks, his impromptu performance with a group of children and Lambeg drummers was described by Northern Ireland Deputy First Minister Seamus Mallon as "a defining moment in the Peace Process". In May 2002 Tommy Sands received an honorary doctorate of Letters from The University of Nevada for his outstanding work as musician and ambassador for peace and understanding and, May 18th was pronounced "Tommy Sands Day in Reno".

In 2006, Sands' work reached a level of international respect few others are able to boast. The Tipperary Peace Convention announced Tommy Sands as a nominee for their 2007 International Peace Award. Sands now joins a group of previous nominees that includes Nelson Mandela and the Dalai Lama.

"Tommy Sands has achieved that difficult but wonderful balance between knowing and loving the traditions of his home and being concerned with the future of the whole world. . . " - PETE SEEGER

"Tommy Sands is one of the most important songwriters in Ireland if not the rest of the world. . . " - SING OUT (USA)

Centennial Hall, Friday Oct 17, 7:30pm

Tickets \$17 advance / \$20 at the door

See AFF website for updates

AFF Board Members

AFF Board members are all volunteers who love the Alaska Folk Festival and are willing to serve a three-year term working on the board organizing the Festival. Here are the board members through the next Festival, with term expiration years shown.

Greg McLaughlin, President (exp '10)
Terry Hoskinson, Vice President (exp '09)
Jamie Brown, Treasurer (exp '11)
Linda Frame, Secretary (exp '09)
Amy Randolph (exp '10)
Scott Burton (exp '10)
Pat Henry (exp '11)

Planning meetings for AFF35 continue throughout the fall and winter. If you would like to become involved, please check our web site for the dates of the upcoming meetings.

September-December 2008 Contra Dance Schedule

Date	Caller	Band	Location
Th 9/18	Odette Foster	Jerry Fiscus & Friends	Capital School
Sa 9/27	Tom Paul	The Jig Is Up	St. Ann's
Sa 10/18	Tom Paul	Full Circle	Centennial
Th 10/30	Odette Foster	Red Steer	Capital School
Th 11/13	Jim Grammel	Impromptu	Capital School
Fri 11/28	Odette Foster	Grateful Celtics	St. Ann's
Th 12/11	Odette Foster	The Jig Is Up	Capital School
Sa 12/20	Tom Paul	TBA	Centennial
We 12/31	TBA	Happy to Be Here	St. Ann's

AFF Contacts & Info Sources

Web Site: <http://AkFolkFest.org>
Address: PO Box 21748, Juneau AK 99802
Email: info@alaskafolkfestival.org
Phone: 907-463-3316
ListServ: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/aff-l/>

Did you check your mailing label to see if your membership is current?