

alaska folk
festival inc.
P.O. Box 21748
Juneau, AK 99802-1748

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January 2010 Newsletter

36th Annual
Alaska Folk Festival
April 5-11, 2010



Guest Artist Guy Davis

He's a musician, composer, actor, director, and writer. But most importantly, Guy Davis is a bluesman. The blues permeates every corner of Davis'

creativity.

Throughout his career, he has dedicated himself to reviving the traditions of acoustic blues and bringing them to as many ears as possible through the material of the great blues masters, African American stories, and his own original songs, stories and performance pieces.



Dance Band The Tallboys

Based in Seattle, Washington, The Tallboys are a four piece old time string band well-versed in traditional fiddle tunes and mountain

songs. They stay honest to their traditional inspirations, yet charge up their sound with a raw edge of gritty enthusiasm conjured from their years of street performing. The Tallboys consistently deliver exciting stage performances and hard-driving dance tunes.

**February 26 is the
DEADLINE
for Performer Applications**

AFF Honors Doc South

The Alaska Folk Festival is especially pleased this year to honor Harold "Doc" South, 82, of Palmer. Doc, as he is known by a legion of younger musicians, dancers, students and admirers, is widely regarded as the central figure in Alaska's old time music scene of the early 1970s. The blending of Doc's strong fiddling and dance calling with the youthful enthusiasm of Fairbanks' bands, the Sidewinders and his own Doc South Family Band is arguably the foundation of the old time string band revival in Alaska. Aside from several bands and individuals playing the very unique Athabascan fiddle music in isolated villages (a long lived tradition dating back to Fort Yukon in the mid 1800s), there were really no other known bands playing Appalachian string band music in Alaska at that time. Dozens of people currently active in the folk music scene in Alaska owe their start in roots music, or were at least heavily influenced by Doc and his square dances at places like the old Howling Dog saloon in Ester, the University of Alaska, and a number of Anchorage-Palmer area venues.

Doc and his family moved from Fairbanks to
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Alaska Folk Festival Membership Form

36th Annual Alaska Folk Festival: April 5-11, 2010



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): _____

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Signature: _____

All members receive the Festival newsletters. Benefactors, Patrons, Friends, and Sustaining Members will be listed in the Festival program (deadline: March 15, 2010). Please mail to: Alaska Folk Festival, PO Box 21748, Juneau, Alaska 99802. Thank You!

January 2010 Newsletter

Gold Street Music

Gold Street Music offers a wonderful opportunity to hear local musicians in an acoustic setting. On the first Saturday of each month, Gold Street Music presents performances at Resurrection Lutheran Church, on the corner of 10th Street and Glacier Avenue, at 7:30 pm.

February 6: This Gold Street concert line up so far is: **Pat Henry, Stewart Ely, Glenn Hoskinson, Tony Tengs and Leif, Greg & Lis.** \$5 at the door.

March 6: Gold Street concert is a fund raiser for the Resurrection Lutheran Church's food pantry. They have been Gold Street's host for the last several years and have treated us very well. They provide groceries to about 350-400 people a month. They have had a significant increase in food needs with the recession. All the proceeds will go to the food pantry. Gold Street will provide refreshments. So far the line up is : **Buddy Tabor, Collette Costa, Martha & Jim Stey, Mike Truax.**



Concert: Buddy Tabor & Friends Feb 12

Local singer and songwriter Buddy Tabor and friends will perform **Friday, Feb. 12, 7:30 pm** at **Resurrection Lutheran Church.** Playing with Buddy are: **Libby Sterling, Jason Caputo, Betsy Sims, John Hartle, Paul Disdier** and possibly others. This is a fund raiser for the Alaska Folk Festival. Admission is \$10.



Frostbite Folk Festival February 19-21, 2010

Come to Whitehorse and warm up. Check out their website at www.frostbitefest.ca or call (867) 668-4921 for more details. Reduced rates for travel between Whitehorse and Southeast Alaska can be found on the Alaska Marine Highway website at <http://www.dot.state.ak.us/amhs> or call toll free 1-800-642-0066

Contra Dance Schedule - January to May 2010

Date	Band	Caller	Location	Time
Th 1/21	Jerry Fiscus and Friends	Odette	Terry Miller Gym	7:30-9:30 pm
Sa 1/30	Impromptu	Tom	St. Ann's	7:30-11:00 pm
Th 2/11	Grateful Celtics	Tom	Terry Miller Gym	7:30-9:30 pm
Sa 2/20	Full Circle	Tom	St. Ann's	7:30-11:00 pm
Th 3/11	Happy to Be Here	Odette	Terry Miller Gym	7:30-9:30 pm
Sa 3/27	Red Steer	Odette	St. Ann's	7:30-11:00 pm
Th 4/22	Meritonic	Odette	Terry Miller Gym	7:30-9:30 pm
Sa 5/15	Lis and Leif	Tom	St. Ann's	7:30-11:00 pm

Annual Meeting

The folk festival's annual membership meeting will be held at the Juneau Arts and Culture Center (former Armory), across the parking lot from Centennial Hall, at **5:00 pm, Friday, April 9, 2010**. Please plan on attending. It provides us an opportunity to hear your concerns. This is your Folk Festival and the best way to improve it is with your input. Election of board members, free food and drinks are on the agenda for all current AFF members.

AFF Board Needs You!

AFF Board members are all volunteers who love the Alaska Folk Festival and are willing to serve a 3 year term working on the board, organizing the Festival. Here are the current board members with term expiration years shown.

Greg McLaughlin, President (exp '10)
Carol Ackerson, Vice President (exp '10)
Jamie Brown, Treasurer (exp '11)
Scott Burton, Secretary (exp '10)
Pat Henry (exp '11)
Lise Paradis (exp '12)
Sergei Morosan (exp '12)

This year there are 3 seats on the board up for election. This is your chance to assist in running a fine organization. Your energy and vision can help make the Alaska Folk Festival successful for many years to come. Come check out this great opportunity at any board meeting, then run for a board member seat in April.

AFF Board Meetings

Interested people are encouraged to attend AFF board meetings. All AFF board meetings are open to the public. As the 36th Annual Alaska Folk Festival approaches, your help is appreciated. If you have suggestion, comments or just want to jump in and help, please stop by. Meeting usually take place at the **KTOO conference room at 7pm on Thursdays**, but check the website for any changes.

Meeting Dates:

Feb 11
Mar 4
Mar 11
Mar 18
Mar 25
Apr 1

Other Dates:

Feb 26 - deadline for performer apps
Mar 5 - tentative schedule mailing
Apr 9 - annual membership meeting

AFF Contacts & Info Sources

Phone: 907-463-3316
Email: info@alaskafolkfestival.org
Address: PO Box 21748, Juneau AK 99802
Web Site: <http://AkFolkFest.org>
ListServ: <http://groups.yahoo.com/aff-1/>

Folk Festival Applications DEADLINE FEBRUARY 26

The **performer application is on yellow paper**. You will notice that the instructions say to cross out the times you are unable to perform. Every year someone circles, underlines or makes other marks that leave us scratching our heads. Following the instructions will help us help you.

New this year on the performer application is a question asking permission to post your recorded performance on our web site. At this stage we just want to gauge our performers' opinion of this possibility. There are other issues to resolve.

The **dance band / workshop applications are on pink paper**. Please think about the workshop you would like to present and let us know as many details as possible.

The **volunteer form is on blue paper**. Please look over each task carefully and think about what you want to do. Volunteering is fun, good for you and good for the folk festival. Volunteer forms may be submitted any time, but sooner is better. You may also fill out a volunteer form online at our web site.

REMEMBER: THE APPLICATION DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 26, 2010. That means the application **must be in our hands by 5pm on Feb. 26**. Applications received after the deadline will be placed on the stand-by list.



Musicians are Invited

Chicago has "Blues in the Schools". What a great idea! When I first discovered this - blues artists going into the schools to teach children about their local treasures - I thought, "why not Folk Festival in the Schools?" I'm happy to say, that a decade or so later, this idea has come to fruition. Glenn Gelbrich, Juneau's superintendent of schools and the Folk Festival board have embraced the idea of inviting Folk Fest artists into Juneau schools. Interested artists are encouraged to contact Grace Elliott at sahajkaur.elliott@gmail.com

Festival Program Ads

Ads for the printed festival program are now available. Prices begin at \$75 for the 1/8 page size. See our webpage at AkFolkFest.org/AdSales.php or email Carol at Ads@AkFolkFest.org for more information. Pass the word along to people and businesses that may be interested. There are many ways to help support your folk festival.



This year's artwork was created by Kathy Hocker

Request for 2011 Artwork

We are already accepting artwork for the 37th Annual Alaska Folk Festival to be held at Centennial Hall on April 4 -10, 2011. The artwork will be used for our poster as well as on T-shirts, mugs and other merchandise sold at the festival. When creating your design consider that highly detailed art may be hard to reproduce or difficult to scale for our merchandise needs. The selected artist is granted a monetary award. Please send your artwork design to Alaska Folk Festival PO Box 21748, Juneau, AK 99802, or give it to a board member. See our website for past winners: <http://akfolkfest.org/artist.php>

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Anchorage in 1979, after Doc became chief admissions psychiatrist at Alaska Psychiatric Institute (API). Doc continued his ever popular and inspiring teaching of old time music and dance well into the 1980s. At the Mountain View Community Center, he taught traditional music classes until his retirement from API, when he moved to Palmer. During that period, Doc became part of one of the better known Irish bands in Alaska at the time, the Muldoon Celidh Band. With a variety of musicians he continued the long, inspiring run of the Doc South Family Band.

The Alaska Folk Festival -- especially the many, many people Doc has influenced over the years -- are excited to honor this beloved friend of Alaskan folk music.

Doc South is featured in the October-November 2009 issue of Old Time Herald, in an article entitled "Old-Time Music in Alaska: Then and Now" by Page 4

Alaska Folk Festival Membership

Is Your Mailing Label correct?

Please check your mailing label. Did we figure out your handwriting on the membership form and get your name spelled correctly?? Is the other information on the label correct? If you find a mistake on your mailing label, give Michael Sakarias a call at 586-4422, or leave a message on the AFF voice mail, 463-3316.

The EXPIRATION DATE, as it appears on the mailing label, is 12 months after your membership donation. If your mailing label says "Member for: 2010" you are a member in good standing for AFF36. We will list all Sustaining and higher members in the program, unless you ask us not to. If you have checked the "do not list" your name box on the membership form, you should see "dnl--" preceding the Membership Level on your mailing label.

If you are not a current AFF member, send in the form along with \$15 or more and you'll be set for the next year.

Why become an AFF member?

The Alaska Folk Festival is funded primarily by memberships -- individuals, families, and businesses (some of whom also donate goods and services). The rest of the AFF's funding comes from sales of merchandise at the membership table, donations and occasional fund raising concerts.

There are four ingredients that go into each Alaska Folk Festival: musicians (450+), an audience (10,000+ for the week), volunteers (250+) and members (800+ households).

If you really want to enjoy the 36th Annual Alaska Folk Festival coming up this April, 2010, become a member (or renew) to help make it happen.

Michael Sakarias 586-4422
Keeper of the AFF database/ mailing list

Fairbanks musician Pete Bowers. Some of the above was excerpted from that article.

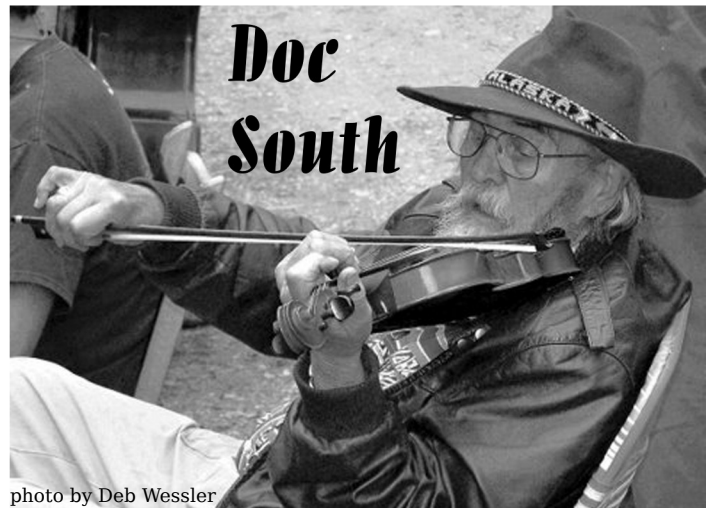


photo by Deb Wessler