



# Traditions

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SUSQUEHANNA FOLK MUSIC SOCIETY

Summer 2020



Jess Hayden

## Message From SFMS's Executive Director

Hello everyone, I hope that you are all safe and sound.

In this newsletter, we will be providing you with a little information about SFMS's recent activities, the effects of the coronavirus pandemic on our operations, and our plans for the future.

As you may know, the restrictions placed on large gatherings led to the cancellation of all of our scheduled spring events and the postponement of the summer Susquehanna Folk Festival. While we were saddened by these changes, we quickly pivoted to hosting folk music concerts online. Since April we have presented "SFMS Comes to You," a series of "virtual" concerts to benefit local musicians. We recently hosted two other popular online events, Jaerv at Gothenburg and the Emerging Artist Showcase.

We have worked hard to make virtual viewing super easy; in most cases, events can be viewed both on our website and on social media platforms. It has been heartening to see so many people joining us online, and the featured musicians have been appreciative of the contributions many of you were able to make.

With an eye towards planning for our fall season, we recently circulated a survey to better understand the preferences of our audience. The overall takeaway was that many of our audience members still feel uncomfortable with attending indoor events. Because of this we have made the decision to remain virtual for the time being. We will be looking at the survey results to guide us as we develop our fall season, and we encourage you to visit our website at [www.sfmsfolk.org](http://www.sfmsfolk.org) to learn about any new programming. Of course, we will also be communicating to you about upcoming events through our email announcements and newsletters.

While the coronavirus pandemic has presented financial challenges for performing arts organizations as well as performers, we are very appreciative for important sources of income that will provide us with a measure of financial stability. One such source is a \$50,000 CARES Act grant that we recently were awarded through the National Endowment for the Arts. Additionally, we are grateful for the outpouring of support from our members and patrons since the shutdown, especially during spring's Give Local York fundraiser.

Financial assistance from grants and contributions, as well as your attendance at our virtual events, will help to ensure that we continues to flourish, both during this period of virtual content and later when we are able to return to in-person programming.

Take good care of yourself, and I hope to see you soon.



The Franklin H. and Ruth L. Wells Foundation



The Stabler Foundation



The Hall Foundation

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## SFMS Receives \$50,000 CARES Act Grant

The Susquehanna Folk Music Society is pleased to announce that it has been awarded a \$50,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts with funding through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

SFMS is one of 846 nonprofit arts organizations nationwide (including 36 in Pennsylvania) to receive \$50,000 NEA grants, which totaled \$42.3 million and were evenly distributed among small, medium and large arts organizations. Some 3,100 eligible arts organizations had applied to the NEA for funding. (In April, a separate tranche of CARES Act funds, totaling \$30 million, was distributed by the NEA to state and regional arts agencies for disbursement of grants in smaller amounts.)

The CARES Act funding is meant to strengthen and sustain arts organizations during the uncertain financial times resulting from the coronavirus pandemic. In announcing the grant awards, NEA Chairman Mary Anne Carter noted, "All of us at the [NEA] are keenly aware that arts organizations across the country are hurting, struggling, and trying to survive . . ." Grant monies may be used to support staff salaries, fees for artists or contractual personnel, and facilities costs. The 18-month funding period runs from July 1 through December 31, 2021.

In addition to supporting SFMS's staffing needs, the CARES Act grant will allow SFMS to present programming that draws upon its work as a Folk and Traditional Arts Partner with the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts. SFMS is currently charged by the PCA with identifying, documenting and serving folk arts practitioners who live and work in Cumberland, Dauphin and Lebanon Counties. With the grant monies, SFMS intends to identify musical "cultural ambassadors" within four distinct communities in those counties – tentatively, African-American, Jewish, Irish and Puerto Rican – and to develop free public programming involving them and revered nationally touring musicians from the same communities. The project contemplates four, daylong collaborative residencies – either online or in-person – that facilitate a mutually beneficial exchange of music and ideas during moderated rehearsals, workshops and culminating performances.



### Jaerv at Gothenburg

On July 19, SFMS broadcast its first online international event, featuring 90 minutes of music and conversation with Jaerv, the acclaimed Swedish folk quintet that has been a long-time favorite of audiences in central Pennsylvania.

The event featured a full-length concert recorded by Jaerv earlier this summer in the lovely tower of Sweden's Gothenburg Cathedral. The group's trademark five-voiced vocals and dazzling instrumentals tinged with pop, jazz and

**Jaerv members (from left) Joel Hagen, Markus Gustavsson, Anders Bergsten and Harald Nilsson performing at Gothenburg Cathedral.**

classical influences were on full display. Before the concert, SFMS's Jess Hayden and Grace Lee had an engaging chat about all things musical with group members Joel Hagen, Markus Gustavsson, Anders Bergsten and Tobias Hedlund.

The entire event has been archived for convenient viewing anytime. Fans may access the performance either by visiting the homepage of the SFMS website (<https://sfmsfolk.org/info/home.html>) or by clicking on this link: <http://bit.ly/Jaerv-at-Gothenburg>.



## Rob Kronen Wins First Place in Emerging Artist Showcase

Rob Kronen, a singer-songwriter and guitarist based in Berks County, was the winner of the \$500 first-place prize in SFMS's third annual Emerging Artist Showcase competition, held Sunday, August 9, in an exciting online format.

Kronen and four other finalists from a pool of 36 entries performed 15-minute virtual sets for a panel of four judges as well as the viewing audience, whose votes helped to determine the winner. Kronen's three-song set included "Jacob" and "Jellyfish," two powerful, blues-tinged numbers featuring masterful work on slide guitar, and "I Can't Keep Away From You," a poignant love song for his wife.

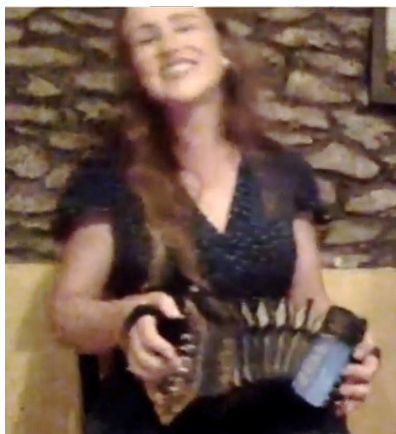
Originally from Knoxville, Tenn., Kronen has released two recordings, the full-length "Neanderthal (Blue)" and the EP "American Flood, Pt. 1." A second installment of "American Flood" is planned for release later this year. Kronen has a passion for incorporating folk melodies into innovative sonic landscapes. He also enjoys learning and teaching the techniques of hill country blues and Delta-style slide guitar.



**Rob Kronen**

The other EAS finalists were Angela Autumn, a Nashville-based singer-songwriter with country, bluegrass and folk roots in western Pennsylvania; Buffalo Rose, a six-member Americana band from Pittsburgh with a repertoire of original contemporary folk; Caroline Keane, a concertina player from County Kerry, Ireland; and Emily Drinker, a singer-songwriter and ukulele player from Philadelphia whose music blends soul, pop and folk.

Judging the EAS were Kate Bright, a music educator with York's Lincoln Charter School; JJ Sheffer, producer of the Kable House Presents concert series at York's Central Market House; Justin Angelo, of Lancaster's Justin Angelo Band, the 2018 EAS winner; and Jeff Selby, frontman for Philadelphia's The Quixote Project, the 2019 EAS winner.



**Caroline Keane**



**Buffalo Rose**

SFMS Board members Peter Lee and Sara Willard emceed the event, chatting with each of the finalists after their performance, and Hank Imhof provided entertainment on guitar and banjo while the judges' scores were being tallied. The EAS planning committee headed by former SFMS Board member Joe Cooney selected the five finalists from the original pool of entries.



**Angela Autumn**



**Emily Drinker**

The EAS, which features five acoustic acts that are not yet regulars on the concert series or festival circuits, has been a popular feature of the first two Susquehanna Folk Festivals. This year's EAS was moved to an online format after the July 2020 Susquehanna Folk Festival was postponed to July 2021.

Fans can view the EAS on YouTube at <http://bit.ly/SFMS-EAS>.

# "Keep the Music Coming" Survey Results

## Options for SFMS in Next 6 Months

Online & In-Person	- 60
Online Only	- 66
In-Person	- 4
Take a Hiatus	- 25

## Outdoor Events (if social distancing guidelines in place)

Yes	- 42
No	- 29
Maybe	- 58

## Indoor Events (if social distancing guidelines in place)

Yes	- 19
No	- 71
Maybe	- 38

## Frequency of Events

Every Other Month	- 1
Monthly	- 64
Three Per Month	- 1
Biweekly	- 38
Weekly	- 11
As Appropriate	- 1
As Resources Allow	- 1
Not Interested	- 3

During July 6-10, SFMS conducted an online survey of its members and friends, seeking input on programming options in light of the coronavirus pandemic. The survey comprised 12 multiple-choice questions, the results of which are set forth on this page, plus two other questions, one asking what considerations would govern one's decision whether to attend an in-person event during the pandemic and the other an open-ended request for comments or suggestions.

One hundred fifty-five persons responded to the survey. Not all respondents answered every question, and some of the multiple-choice questions allowed respondents to select more than one answer. Those respondents who provided narrative answers to the question about attendance at in-person events stressed the importance of implementing public-health measures, such as mandatory mask-wearing and socially distant seating, as well as awaiting a decline in the level of coronavirus cases and the availability of a vaccine. The narrative answers to the request for comments or suggestions largely elaborated on preferred events or made recommendations for specific performers.

## Types of Performers

New, Up-and-Coming Bands	- 111
Performers of Color	- 104
World Musicians	- 100
Veteran Folk Musicians	- 138

## Events Attended Per Year

None	- 7
1-5	- 96
5-10	- 34
10-20	- 12
Over 20	- 5

## Types of Online Events

Local/Regional Artists	- 115
National/Internat'l Artists	- 93
Coffeehouses	- 48
Instrument Workshops	- 40
Lectures	- 40
Q&A Sessions	- 29
Storytelling Workshops	- 22
Song Circles	- 20
Youth Programs	- 19
Dance Workshops	- 17
Guided Sessions	- 15
Harmony Singing	- 1
Not Interested	- 3

## Online Platform

YouTube Live	- 123
Zoom	- 96
Facebook Live	- 64
Teams	- 1
Link From SFMS Site	- 1
All Types	- 1
Unlikely to Use	- 7

## Admission Charge

Set Price	- 60
Donation	- 57
Not Pay	- 9

## Payment Platform

PayPal	- 76
SFMS Online Store	- 43
Venmo	- 15
SFMS Direct (payment by check or manual credit card processing)	- 49

## SFMS Member

Yes	- 99
No	- 49
Prefer Not to Say	- 6

## Age

Youth	- 1
20-35	- 5
35-50	- 8
Over 50	- 140



Barb Schmid and Todd Clewell perform during an "SFMS Comes to YOU" online concert on May 28.



## "Give Local York" Raises Funds for SFMS



Eileen Ivers performs during the livestreamed concert.

The third annual "Give Local York" campaign on May 1 – a 24-hour giving spree to benefit over 300 York County nonprofits – proved to be another successful fundraiser for SFMS.

SFMS received contributions totaling \$6,834, comprising \$5,655 from 63 online and offline donors, \$466 from the "stretch pool" administered by the GLY organizers, and \$713 in "Artsmatch" funds from the Cultural Alliance of York County.

The highlight of SFMS's fundraising effort was a 75-minute livestreamed concert, with the theme "SFMS Keeps the Music Coming," featuring music and dance performances and expressions of support for SFMS from nearly three

dozen local, national and international artists. Fans may access the concert by visiting the GLY page on the SFMS website ([https://www.sfmsfolk.org/events/GiveLocalYork\\_2020.html](https://www.sfmsfolk.org/events/GiveLocalYork_2020.html)) or by clicking on this link: <http://bit.ly/Keep-the-Music-Coming>.

## Help Support SFMS Musicians

The coronavirus pandemic has deprived musicians of a major source of income – live, in-person performances. Fans of musicians who have performed for SFMS can help cushion this adverse financial impact by supporting their online concerts, workshops, teaching and other creative activities and by purchasing their CDs, digital recordings, songbooks and other merchandise.

Most online concerts are non-ticketed events that rely on donations from viewers. Some SFMS musicians have established a regular schedule of online performances. For example, **Pete and Maura Kennedy** livestream a one-hour concert on YouTube every Sunday from their apartment in New York City's Greenwich Village; **Guy Davis** performs a daily (except Saturday) set on his "Kokomo Kidd" Facebook page; and **Tom Chapin**, with daughters Lily and Abigail, performs a daily, family-oriented show on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube called "Mornings with Papa John."

Some SFMS musicians, such as **John McCutcheon** and **Peter Mulvey**, have joined **Patreon**, which allows subscribers to make regular, sustaining contributions in exchange for exclusive content. Still other SFMS musicians have developed new teaching opportunities online. One example is **Natalie Haas**, who offers private instruction on cello through the String Masters collective.

Many SFMS musicians have completed recording projects during the pandemic. They include **Kristyn Harris** ("A Place to Land"); **Eileen Ivers** ("Scatter the Light"); **The Jakob's Ferry Stragglers** ("The Straggle is Live"); **Tim O'Brien** ("The Crossing," 1999-re-issue); **Hubby Jenkins** ("The Fourth Day"); **Pete's Posse** ("Acapella"); **Twisted Pine** ("Right Now"); **Laura Cortese & The Dance Cards** ("Bitter Better"); **April Verch** ("Top of the Hill"); **Dirk Powell** ("When I Wait for You"); **Maeve Gilchrist** ("Harpweaver"); and **McCutcheon** ("Cabin Fever: Songs From the Quarantine," pay-what-you-can). **Ali Hutton** of Scotland's Old Blind Dogs has just released his long-awaited book of piping tunes.

The best way to purchase recordings and other merchandise from musicians is directly through their websites. Many musicians sell their merchandise on **Bandcamp**, which has waived all fees for musicians on the first Friday of each month through December.

### SFMS Contact Information

#### SFMS Office

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(717) 319-8409

More information at

[www.sfmsfolk.org](http://www.sfmsfolk.org)



*Susquehanna Folk is  
YOUR grass-roots voice  
for folk music and dance!*

The financial support of our members enables us to present high-quality concerts, dances, workshops, and other events at modest prices.

Your membership can easily pay for itself!

A Susquehanna Folk membership also makes a unique and thoughtful gift.

Folk is a vibrant community, a living tradition shared with friends. Be a part of it.

Get a membership form at:

[www.sfmsfolk.org/info/membership.html](http://www.sfmsfolk.org/info/membership.html) ♦ 717-745-6577

*Member benefits include:*

- ♦ substantial admission discount for most events
- ♦ family membership extends discounts to everyone in your household
- ♦ a FREE Sampler CD each season
- ♦ inclusion in SFMS's online Resource List
- ♦ the satisfaction of seeing traditional arts flourish in our community

*Please consider becoming a member.*

Individual membership: \$25

Family membership: \$40

*Memberships and donations are tax deductible, and will be acknowledged in writing. Your membership extends one year from the date you join. Multi-year memberships are welcomed!*

## Thanks to These New and Renewing Members

### New Members

Rodney Beever - York  
Jean Brackbill - Mechanicsburg  
Carolyn Dries & Thomas Tucker - Lancaster  
Sandra Ferns - York  
Donna & Russell Flickinger - Hanover  
David & Cindi Gray - Monkton  
Ellen Hochman - Towson, MD  
Kate & Bruce Humphrey - Harrisburg  
Anita & Bill Jester - Shillington  
Paul Kasper - Waynesboro  
Andrew Kegg - Lewisberry  
Sherry McLain - Dauphin  
Timothy & Valerie McMahon - Harrisburg  
Dale & Kathy Michael - York  
William & Sylvia Montani - Landisville  
Chris & Debby Moore - Newport  
Krista Mae Myers - Harrisburg  
Marian Renoll & Kent Thomas - York  
Kevin & Lauren Rock - Jacobus  
Gerry & Cathy Russell - York

Eryn Spangler\* - Harrisburg  
Jack & Nancy Stark - White Hall  
Ed & Donna Stockton\* - Harrisburg  
Glenn & Michelle Williams - York

### Renewing Members

Beth Alwine - Harrisburg  
Rick Begley - Camp Hill  
Ron & Tracy Benenson - York  
Scott Birchman - Bethel  
Steve & Cindy Bortner - Palmyra  
David Bowen - Lancaster  
Linda Bowers & Michael Proce\* - Camp Hill  
Susan Bratton - Mechanicsburg  
Ray Brugler - Millerstown  
Klaus & Ingeborg Brunnengraeber\* - Red Lion  
Fred Burgess - Carlisle  
Carol Buskirk\* - Harrisburg  
Seamus Carmichael - Lebanon  
Bart & Kate Carpenter - Harrisburg  
Corine Charrier - Mechanicsburg  
Todd Clewell & Barbara Schmid - Felton  
Joe & Debby Cooney - Harrisburg  
Barbara Corson - Dauphin

Pam Cummings - Harrisburg  
Pat Devlin - Dillsburg  
James, Caroline & Liz Dillon - Harrisburg  
Stephanie Dobroski - Lebanon  
Dan & Nora Doyle - Carlisle  
Kathleen & Jaxon Eves - Palmyra  
Harry & Ruth Fenton - Lebanon  
David Flesner - Gettysburg  
Anne Ford\* - Mechanicsburg  
Sharon Foust\* - York  
Fred & Kathy Fries - Bloomsburg  
Claude & Jane Frymark\* - Mechanicsburg  
Jill Gebhart - Elizabethtown  
Robin & David Golberg - Camp Hill  
Mr & Mrs Scott Graham - Morgantown  
Gary, Linda & Adam Grobman - Harrisburg  
William Gulvin - Columbia  
Harry Haddon - Lancaster  
Steven Haldeman - Manheim  
Tom Harrison - Lewisburg  
Keith Hassler - Wrightsville  
(Continued on page 7)

## Thanks to These New and Renewing Members (Continued from page 6)

John & Jess Hayden\* - New Cumberland  
 Michael & Paula Heiman - Harrisburg  
 M. Kay Heller\* - Shippensburg  
 Danielle Houser - Harrisburg  
 Aaron & Alice Hurwitz - Carlisle  
 Andy Isaacs - Harrisburg  
 Pete Jakubowski\* - Pottstown  
 Lee Johnson - Camp Hill  
 Tom & Karen Juengst - York Haven  
 Ryck & Peggy Kaiser - York  
 Robert Kandratavich - Landisville  
 Debbi Kauffmann - Glen Rock  
 Eve Kermit & Victor Canfield - Hummelstown  
 Deb Killinger - Jonestown  
 Patsy Kline - Palmyra  
 Stefan Klosowski - Harrisburg  
 Charlotte Knudsen - Dillsburg  
 Bruce & Joan Kolka - Lemoyne  
 Chuck Krepley & Denise Messinger\* - Arentsville  
 Gary LaBelle\* - Harrisburg  
 Patty Lambert - Warriors Mark  
 Dale & Gail Laninga - Mechanicsburg  
 John Laskowski - Halifax  
 Chris Leahy & Judy Stammerman - Harrisburg  
 Pat & Bill Long - York  
 Jean & Al Lumpkin - Danville  
 Marilyn Mamone & Tom Cook\* - Camp Hill  
 Bob & Merita Marek - Camp Hill  
 Caroline Rohr Martinek - Albuquerque, NM  
 Barbara Martinetti - Harrisburg  
 Vince & Linda Matusheski - New Cumberland  
 Jay & Joan McBride - Carlisle  
 Pat McCaskey - Lancaster  
 Kate McCutchan - Enola  
 Robert & Barbara Meehan - Harrisburg  
 Michele Miller - Carlisle  
 Chris Moulton - Mechanicsburg  
 Mary Nancarrow & Cynthia Swanson\* - Harrisburg  
 Rodney Owens - Harrisburg  
 Carl Petticoffer - Ephrata

Mary Beth Phillips - Lemoyne  
 Meredith & Tim Poole - Camp Hill  
 David & Jane Popko - Palmyra  
 Greg & Laurene Proudfoot - Camp Hill  
 Theodora Quinn - Dover  
 Loren Reinhold - Hummelstown  
 Rebecca Rogers\* - East Petersburg  
 Gary & Diane Rothrock - Harrisburg  
 Dave Royer - Elizabethtown  
 Jeff Schmidt - Shermansdale  
 Ruth Seitz & Nicholas Petchel\* - Enola  
 Terry Bachmann - Harrisburg  
 Daniel & Diane Sheetz - Dillsburg  
 Jean Snyder\* - Marysville  
 Michael & Cindy Sobkowski\* - Harrisburg  
 Cushla & Jim Srouer - York  
 Kathy Summers - Millersville  
 Gail Swezey & Mike Martys\* - Gettysburg  
 Tom & Jody Tay - Harrisburg  
 Jeffrey & Jennifer Wallitsch - Elizabethtown  
 Kristin Warner - Harrisburg  
 Kirk & JoAnn Webber - Mechanicsburg  
 Pamela Weinberg - New Cumberland  
 Tim Whelan - Harrisburg  
 Mark Will - Akron

Lynn & Bill Witmer - Palmyra  
 John Worhach - Mechanicsburg  
 Mary & Rodney Yeaple - York  
 Craig Zumbrun & Sandy Rushton\* - York  
 Jim & May Louise Zumwalt - Fayetteville

### A Special Thanks

\*SFMS thanks these members and others who wish to remain anonymous for donating an additional \$1,291.

### Are You Due to Renew?

Please note: If the expiration date on your mailing label has passed, or you haven't received any correspondence from us in a while, your membership has probably expired. To continue your membership, please renew now.

If you have any membership questions, please call me at (717) 763-5598 or email me at [member-ship@sfmsfolk.org](mailto:member-ship@sfmsfolk.org).

Thanks for supporting SFMS.  
 ~ Bruce Kolka, Membership Coordinator



**Karl Senseman**  
 September 23, 1944 - April 2, 2020

### In Memoriam

Karl was a great friend to SFMS and a personal friend of mine. As a member of the original board of directors back in 1985, Karl helped to create the vision for what SFMS would become, and as a member of the Susquehanna Folk Festival Steering Committee, he greatly influenced the festival's vibrant dance program. Karl loved music and all kinds of dance, and he was the best partner anyone could ask for on the contra dance floor! Karl will be greatly missed, but I am forever grateful for the indelible mark that he leaves on SFMS.

~ Jess Hayden





378 Old York Road • New Cumberland, PA 17070

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## Susquehanna Folk Music Society Memories



Except as noted, all photos are from the “SFMS Keeps the Music Coming” livestreamed concert. Top row, from left: Anders Bergsten, Joel Hagen, Tobias Hedlund and Markus Gustavsson of Jaerv; Kristyn Harris. Middle row, from left: Hubby Jenkins; Michael Arthur, during an “SFMS Comes to You” virtual concert; swing dancers Rye and Carla Crowen; Jim Hurst. Bottom row, from left: Autumn and Canyon Moore; Elana James; Shane Speal.