

# music news

## Reflections of a Newbie

by Carl Boast

I first learned about SVSA in a chance encounter with Judy Larson on a birding outing. She told me about her husband, Greg Trafidlo, and his participation in the group. I had met Greg at a Trifolka performance in Moneta. We met again at a Friends of the Bedford Library concert and Greg encouraged me to come to a meeting. I had written some songs many years ago when I played guitar in a Rock 'n' Roll band. Although my interest in music had persisted, playing/writing time had waned considerably. Now that I was retired, perhaps it would be a good time to rekindle my interest. Actually performing was a low probability, but perhaps I could interest other performers in some of my "old" songs. It was about October 2006 when I ventured to my first SVSA meeting.

First, everyone introduced themselves and mentioned highlights of what they had been doing musically the last month. That seemed nice because it took some pressure off, since it wasn't just the "new guy" who spoke about himself. It soon became fairly intimidating, however, when each member spoke in turn about their latest CD sales and current recording sessions on their next CD's and listed the performing venues they had played and the ones coming up. Well, if I wanted exposure to some folks who might put one of my songs on a CD and play it to the public, apparently I was in the right place. When my turn came, musical achievements were a small part of my little "bio" – instead I spoke of my science career, photography, nature interests and family. I was pleasantly surprised at the apparent interest in my activities and encouragement to achieve.

The main format of each meeting is to listen to a recording of a new song with a copy of the lyrics available and then to offer constructive criticism. Very positive and insightful comments were offered. Songs would clearly be improved by incorporating the suggestions that were made. Potentially harsh comments were presented softly but pointedly. Generally, I liked what I witnessed and decided to join the group.

A few months went by before I found the time and the nerve to bring in one of my old songs. In the meantime, I found myself trying to attend more live music performances and even listening to recorded music with a keener ear to the lyrical content. Finally, shaking the dust off my guitar and digging through old files, I pulled a song out from those many years before.

Next came the realization that I no longer had a reasonable way to record a song at home. The world had changed and digital recording was now everywhere. I was not up to speed. With the aid of a "Band In a Box" (an electronic keyboard with built in accompaniment), an old microphone and a \$20 cassette recorder, I managed to get a track recorded – a major rejuvenation!

next meeting:  
**Wednesday,  
Sept. 26  
7:30 p.m.**

Third Street  
Coffeeshouse,  
Roanoke

With my ego on a shelf, I nervously presented the tape and lyric sheets to the group. It wasn't very good. No one actually said that, but they said the story line was inconsistent, rhyme schemes were missing, word order was awkward, etcetera. I came home depressed, but enlightened. It was very helpful to have knowledgeable, insightful, objective and constructive criticism.

More time passed. I did not get to every monthly meeting. My interest in music continued. I pulled out a second song. This time, when I played it the voices in my head from the SVSA group were bringing up critical questions. I modified the song and made another "Band in the Box" recording. I was having fun! This time I was less nervous about bringing the song to the meeting. Once again, thoughtful and constructive criticism was offered by the group. They pointed out the non-conversational word order, and lack of payoff for the ending. Again, my interpretation was that there were major inconsistencies in the song that were apparent after objective listening. If either of these two songs were to be improved they would need quite a bit of work. I went back to my song file.

The third song I worked on even more. Chord progressions changed, lyrics changed. The input from the SVSA group was not just affecting the specific songs I had brought to them, it was also carrying over to my ability to critique a song – even my own. I had noticed that my input to other members' songs at the monthly meetings had been growing from a descriptive summary to actual constructive suggestions. Now I was doing my own home critique and the song was getting better for it!

Discussions with members had steered me to some digital recording software and I also purchased an additional microphone. Although I still relied on my "Band in a Box," I made my first digital recording.

This song was received more positively. There were still significant improvements to be made, but the suggested changes (such as to increase the use of visual imagery and to create a greater distinction of the chorus from the verses) seemed more easily achievable than those for my previous songs. I went home encouraged.

Within days I was addressing some changes to the song. It improved. I thought it would help to have it sung by a more competent singer. My confidence was raised enough to contact an acquaintance who had been professionally trained. Carmel agreed to hear the song, and in addition to providing a more competent voice, she offered some welcome suggestions for improving the song. She had great suggestions! We worked together to make more changes. We added a harmony line. We decided to sing the song with just guitar accompaniment (no "Band In a Box") and some percussion provided by Carmel's daughter, Sarah.

Carmel also had contact information for a fellow in Forest with high-level home recording equipment who was willing to work with us at no charge. We practiced.

**“I came home depressed, but enlightened. It was helpful to have knowledgeable, insightful, objective and constructive criticism.”**

We went to Forest and recorded the song. By now Carmel was a full collaborator and she was included as a co-writer on the lyric sheets. These modifications were done in time to bring the new version to the next SVSA meeting. I was now playing so much that finger calluses were returning.

The work we had put into the song was recognized by the group, as was Carmel's excellent voice. More good constructive comments were offered. We had wondered whether we should perform the song live at Open Mic at Third Street Coffeehouse, and several members encouraged us to do that. Carmel and I incorporated many of the most recent suggestions and we ventured to Third Street Coffeehouse. It was early September 2007.

Almost exactly a year had gone by since I first attended an SVSA meeting. My interest in music was rekindled. My songwriting and my appreciation for songwriting was improved. I'm having fun!

The people at the SVSA meetings have proved to be teachers as well as critics. They are tolerant, encouraging, and generous with their knowledge and experience. I expect continued growth in my songwriting facilitated by this group.

## classifieds

### RECORDING & PRODUCTION SERVICES

**Thompson Audio Service** - Harold Thompson recorded several songs by Pole, Trafidlo & Phillips; Symphony Creek; Duncan & Danielle; Deb Ferron & Polk Green; Julie Ann Sgroi and others. (540) 721-1413

**Steve Langston Recording and Production** - Close to downtown Roanoke. Inexpensive. Expert recording and production on very high quality computerized and analog equipment. Record with a two-time Billboard winner. Call Steve Langston, (540) 339-4772

**Catawba Sound Studio** - The most affordable, professional studio in the region. From demo to full retail release. \$5/hr discount for all SVSA members. Artists recorded here include Marian & Dan McConnell, Greg Trafidlo, The Bluegrass Brothers, Matt Ramsey, and Bootsie Daniels & Smack Dab. (540) 992-4738. Email [catawbasoundstudio@yahoo.com](mailto:catawbasoundstudio@yahoo.com), or visit [www.catawbasoundstudio.com](http://www.catawbasoundstudio.com).



P.O. Box 698, Salem, VA 24153

#### SVSA Board Members

Charlie Divers - President  
David Simpkins - Vice President  
Greg Trafidlo - Secretary  
Connie Sellers - Treasurer  
Kathy Acosta - Newsletter Editor

*SVSA DISCLAIMER: The ideas and opinions contained in this newsletter are intended to be helpful to songwriters. The SVSA companies and organizations mentioned are believed to be legitimate SVSA music news; however, SVSA does not endorse any products or services and offers no guaranteed success based on the content.*

*We are always looking for articles about SVSA members and articles of interest to the songwriting community. Send articles and information to the Editor, Kathy Acosta, at 125 Polk St., Radford, VA 24141, or [svsa@davidsimpkins.com](mailto:svsa@davidsimpkins.com).*

*SVSA is a non-profit organization.*

## **International Songwriting Competition accepting entries through October 15**

The International Songwriting Competition (ISC) is now accepting entries for 2007. One of the largest songwriting competitions in the world, ISC gives away over \$150,000 in cash and prizes, including an Overall Grand Prize package of \$25,000 (US) in cash and over \$20,000 in merchandise.

ISC offers 19 categories for entries, including Pop/Top 40, AAA (Adult Album Alternative), Rock, Country, Americana, R&B/Hip-Hop, Blues, Folk/Singer-Songwriter, Jazz, Gospel/Christian, Instrumental, Children's Music, Lyrics Only, and Performance. A new category this year is Comedy/Novelty, which will be judged by "Weird Al" Yankovic, David Cross of the TV show "Arrested Development," and Cheech Marin. All original comedy, parody, and novelty songs are welcome in the new category.

The ISC 2007 judging panel includes recording artists Tom Waits, Loretta Lynn, Ray Davies, Julian Casablancas, Nelly Furtado, Kenny Wayne Shepherd, Ornette Coleman, Youssou N'Dour, Sean Paul, Jerry Lee Lewis, Frank Black, Robert Smith, Cassandra Wilson, David Cross, Craig Morgan, John Mayall, Joe Satriani, Toby Mac, Michael W. Smith, Chris Hillman, John Scofield, Hinder, Amy Ray, Darryl McDaniels, Macy Gray; Peter Hook, Paulina Rubio; and Tiesto. Also judging will be numerous music industry executives. ISC is open to musicians, artists, and songwriters at every level from amateur to professional. Artists may submit as many songs as desired in each category or enter the same song in more than one category.

Entries are accepted online or by mail. Entry deadline is October 15. The fee per entry is \$30. For more information or to enter ISC 2007, visit [www.songwritingcompetition.com](http://www.songwritingcompetition.com).

### **Third Street Coffeehouse seeks volunteers; is now booking performers for 2008 season**

Third Street Coffeehouse, Roanoke's legendary music venue, is in need of volunteers to help staff the club on Friday nights. Please consider adding your name to the list -- let's keep Third Street going for another twenty years! If you're interested in volunteering, contact Marian McConnell at [threecavrs@aol.com](mailto:threecavrs@aol.com) or call her at (540) 309-4707.

Marian also reports that she is now booking for the 2008 season at Third Street. Performers interested in getting a night of their own should contact Marian.

# svsa member recordings



jane cassidy

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## Jane Cassidy

Buffalo Woman: Is That a Real Fire? — Original folk music from a Lynchburg, Virginia, singer/songwriter. Includes some songs about Rendezvous (18th century reenactment).

[Buffalowomanstipi.tripod.com/itarf.html](http://Buffalowomanstipi.tripod.com/itarf.html)



steve clark

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## Steve Clark

Eleven sweet and true amusing tunes by Steve Clark, plus one each by fellow SVSA songwriters Mike Pearrell (“Justine”) and Greg Trafidlo (“Simple as Dirt”). A cover of Tish Hinojosa’s “Love is On Our Side” balances out this quirky singer/songwriter CD. Available at [cdbaby.com](http://cdbaby.com).



frank dieter

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## Frank Dieter

Red Tears on a Velvet Sky — A new collection of home studio demos. Except for “Saturday Night,” which was recorded in 1976, all songs are new. Songs: My Best Days, Friendships Renewed, Time To Say Goodbye, I’m Down on the Market, Saturday Night, At My Age, Crystal Creek, Goodnight Mr. Daniels, Only Came by for Tea, Rockabilly Rock (instrumental)

Rough Cuts from the Blue Room — Demos that represent examples from the blues, jazz, folk, adult contemporary, New Age, and instrumental genres that Frank covers.



andrew gregory

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## Andrew Gregory

Self-titled debut CD. See [www.andrewgregorymusic.com](http://www.andrewgregorymusic.com) or call (434) 760-2426.



mary gordon hall

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## Mary Gordon Hall

Wine Glasses & Wooden Spoons — The new CD from this Charlottesville singer-songwriter. Heartfelt and witty contemporary folk. With a slew of Charlottesville musiciansg, and Sloan Wainwright and SVSA’s Greg Trafidlo singing on one track.

I Won’t Go to Bed Until I Sing My Song — Children’s music. To purchase either, see [www.marygordonhall.com](http://www.marygordonhall.com).



la la land

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## The La La Land Band

House Blend — Fourteen songs with creative melodies, sophisticated harmonies, and philosophically and emotionally charged lyrics from Steve Langston and his wife La Wanda Jenkins.

[La\\_La\\_Land@cox.net](mailto:La_La_Land@cox.net).



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## Barbara Martin

**Kaleidoscope** — Barbara's first solo CD since 1999 is her jazziest yet. All-original with co-writes with California jazz composer Joel Evans, guitarist extraordinaire Mac Walter, and Barbara's long-time co-writer Greg Trafidlo. Purchase online at [CDBaby.com](http://CDBaby.com), or send \$15 to Rare Bird Music, 211 Fayette Street, Staunton, VA 24401.

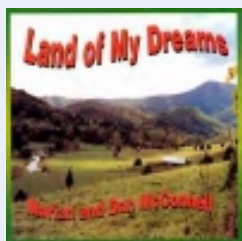
**From Ragtime to Rock and Roll** — A children's CD. See [barbaramartinmusic.com](http://barbaramartinmusic.com)

**Touch the Sky** — Swinging acoustic blues and jazz from Barb Martin and Mac Walter.

**A Different View** — Classic blues of the 1920s, early jazz and "slice-of-life" songs that ring with truth, wit, and experience.



barbara martin

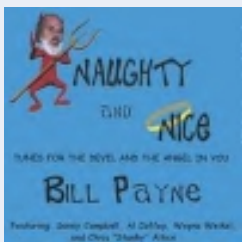


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## Marian and Dan McConnell

**Land of My Dreams** — Takes the listener along on an excursion in the Blue Ridge Mountains in Virginia through 14 original folk songs with celtic and country/rock underpinnings. Recorded at Catawba Sound Studio. Available online at [cdstreet.com](http://cdstreet.com), [klaritymusic.com](http://klaritymusic.com), [efolkmusic.com](http://efolkmusic.com), and [cdbaby.com](http://cdbaby.com)

marian & dan  
mcconnell



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## Robert Matter

**Songman** — Acoustic/electric/vocal sound reflecting the intensity of solid folk/pop songwriting. Buy online at [cdbaby.com](http://cdbaby.com).

bill payne

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## Bill Payne

**Naughty And Nice** — A vein of humor runs through Bill's acoustic country and blues-influenced CD. Features eleven original songs recorded at Catawba Sound Studio. Available online at [CD Baby](http://CD Baby) and at [billpaynemusic.net](http://billpaynemusic.net). To subscribe to Bill's monthly newsletter, e-mail [stryper7@rev.net](mailto:stryper7@rev.net).



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## Mike Pearrell

**Dimestore Detective** — Mike's first solo CD features 14 original compositions. Produced by Greg Trafidlo; guest SVSA musicians include Greg, Janette Parrish, Britt Mistele, Dianna Parks, Steve Langston and more. Addy-award-winning graphic design, too! Available at Mike's shows.

mike pearrell

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## Neal Phillips

**Still Life** — Strong songwriting, excellent multi-instrumental musicianship, and eclectic insight (and a clever swipe at TBTP). For more info, see <http://phillipsmusic.net/neal/>.

**Magical Forest** — Great folk songwriting. Buy it from Neal at his or Trifolkal's gigs.

**Lovegrove Street** — Intelligent, original acoustic folk featuring well-crafted songs and a wry sense of humor. Buy it at [CD Baby](http://CD Baby).



neal phillips



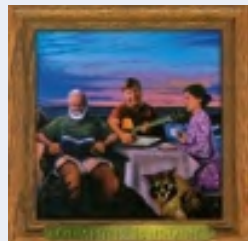
pole, tradidlo &  
phillips



david simpkins



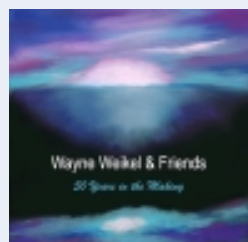
greg tradidlo



greg tradidlo



trifolkal



wayne weikel  
& friends

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## Pole, Tradidlo & Phillips

Foxfire — Dirty Linen magazine called this “a charming recording.” Contact Greg Tradidlo at [kirasongs@aol.com](mailto:kirasongs@aol.com), or (540) 384-7770.

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## David Simpkins

Long Story Short — David’s first solo CD falls into the Americana genre — a blend of rock, folk, blues, and country. The CD offers 12 original Americana tunes. “Long Story Short” has been winning critical praise. Buy from CD Baby, or at David’s shows.

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## Greg Tradidlo

Folk Singular — Greg’s third solo CD reflects the diversity of his songwriting and production skills. With SVSA’ers Britt Mistele, Barbara Martin, Mary Gordon Hall and Denise Jordan Finley on background vocals, and Marc Baskind on guitar and vocals. Included is a cover of SVSA member Mike Pearrell’s song “Lost Daddy’s Lullaby.” See [www.trifolkal.com](http://www.trifolkal.com).

Co-Writers in Disguise — Contemporary folk/country with an emphasis on well-crafted lyrics and humor. SVSA members appearing on the CD are Frank Dieter, Neal Phillips, Barb Martin, Steve Langston, and Mike Pearrell.

Old Dog – New Tracks — Songs that range from silly to sublime, drawing you in with warmth, wit, and humor. Buy it from CD Baby or contact Greg at [kirasongs@aol.com](mailto:kirasongs@aol.com).

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## Trifolkal

Tao from the Mountain — Tight harmonies, warmth, and witty songwriting from Laura Pole, Greg Tradidlo & Neal Phillips. Features classics such as “Shenandoah” as well as original tunes including “Appalachian Rap” and “The Starbucks of County Down.” See ordering info above.

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## Wayne Weikel & Friends

50 Years in the Making — To order, phone (540) 992-4738 or e-mail [catawbasoundstudio@yahoo.com](mailto:catawbasoundstudio@yahoo.com). Available with sound samples at [klaritymusic.com](http://klaritymusic.com).

# performing member gigs

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## ***Friday, September 21***

**Greg Trafidlo with Trifolkal**  
House Concert, Libertytown, MD

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## ***Saturday, September 22***

**Frank Dieter with Stephanie Christensen**  
Private House Party, Roanoke, Virginia

**Greg Trafidlo**

Co-writing Workshop for Baltimore Songwriters' Association  
Baltimore, Maryland

**Steve and LaWanda**

Three L'il Pigs restaurant, Troutville, Virginia, in the Botetourt Commons shopping center. On the deck if the weather's good, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Directions: Take U.S. 220 North from Troutville; the first shopping center on your left. Contact Steve at 339-4600 for more information.

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## ***Sunday, September 23***

**Andrew Gregory with Nic Garcia**  
Acadia Cafe  
Minneapolis, Minnesota, 8 p.m.

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## ***Saturday, September 24***

**Frank Dieter**  
Chateau Morrisette, 1-4 p.m.

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## ***Saturday, September 29***

**Barbara Martin and Mac Walter**

Bounty of Virginia, Fundraiser for The Northern Virginia Conservation Trust, 5-7 p.m.

Salona Historic Property, 1235 Dolley Madison Boulevard, McLean, Virginia. \$100 admission includes wine tasting, appetizers, and music. Children free. For more information: (703) 354-5093 or [aspence@nvct.org](mailto:aspence@nvct.org).

**David Simpkins**

Radford Farmers' Market, 10 a.m. - noon  
Downtown Radford, Virginia 24141

**Paddy Dougherty with Paul Reisler**

Kid Pan Alley songwriting project performance with Lynchburg Symphony Orchestra. 7 p.m., E.C. Glass High School, Lynchburg, Virginia. Premiering five songs co-written with elementary school children through the award-winning Kid Pan Alley project. For more information: [www.lynchburgsymphony.com](http://www.lynchburgsymphony.com) or [www.kidpanalley.org](http://www.kidpanalley.org)

**Andrew Gregory**

Hugh Weber's 40th Birthday Roast Spectacular, Sioux Falls, South Dakota

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## ***Wednesday, October 3***

**Greg Trafidlo with Laura Pole**

Virginia State Hospice Directors' Conference

Roanoke, Virginia

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## ***Friday, October 5***

**SVSA Songwriters in the Round**

With Bill Payne and other SVSA members TBA.

Third Street Coffeehouse, 8:30-10 p.m. (Open Mic from 7:30-8:15)  
Admission is FREE; donations appreciated. Third Street and Mountain Ave.,  
downtown Roanoke, Virginia 24015 (in the basement of Trinity United Methodist  
Church). For more information: (540) 344-6744 (ext 309) or see <http://community.roanoke.com/thirdstreetcoffeehouse>

**Greg Trafidlo, Steve Clark, David Simpkins, and Mike Pearrell**

Songwriters in the Round

Givens Books, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

2236 Lakeside Dr, Lynchburg VA 24501. For more information: (434) 385-5027 or  
see <http://www.givensbooks.com>

**Frank Dieter**

"First Fridays in Fredericksburg," The Griffin Bookstore and Coffeeshop, 7:30-9:30  
p.m.

Fredericksburg, Virginia

**Paddy Dougherty**

Riverviews Artspace, Lynchburg, Virginia, 6-8 p.m. For more information, see  
[www.riverviews.net](http://www.riverviews.net)

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## ***Saturday, October 6***

**Greg Trafidlo with Marc Baskind**

Private Party, Virginia Beach, Virginia

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## ***Sunday, October 7***

**Paddy Dougherty**

The Awareness Garden, Lynchburg, Virginia, 2 p.m.

The dedication of bricks for cancer victims and/or survivors will follow at 2:30 p.m.  
For more information: [www.awarenessgarden.com](http://www.awarenessgarden.com)

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## ***Tuesday, October 9***

**Paddy Dougherty**

Lynchburg College, Lynchburg, Virginia, 6:30 p.m.

A candlelight service for victims of abuse and sexual assault. More information:  
[www.lynchburgcollege.edu](http://www.lynchburgcollege.edu)

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## ***Friday, October 12***

**Mike Pearrell**

Third Street Coffeehouse, 8:30-10 p.m. (Open Mic from 7:30-8:15)  
Admission is FREE; donations appreciated. Third Street and Mountain Ave.,  
downtown Roanoke, Virginia 24015 (in the basement of Trinity United Methodist  
Church). For more information: (540) 344-6744 (ext 309) or see <http://community.roanoke.com/thirdstreetcoffeehouse>

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## ***Friday, October 12***

**Barbara Martin and Mac Walter**

Kelly's Gingernut Pub, 10 p.m.- 1 a.m.

133 Mason Ave., Cape Charles, Virginia. For more information: (757) 331-3222 or [www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=45297](http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=45297)

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## ***Saturday, October 13***

**David Simpkins**

Radford Farmers' Market, 10 a.m.- noon

Main St., Downtown Radford, Virginia 24141

**Barbara Martin**

Fundraiser for BARK (Bandit's Adoption and Rescue of K-9's), 6-9 p.m.

James River Wine Cellars, 11008 Washington Highway, Glen Allen, Virginia. For more information: (804) 550-7516 or [www.jamesrivercellars.com](http://www.jamesrivercellars.com)

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## ***Saturday, October 13 and Sunday, October 14***

**Paddy Dougherty**

The Virginia Garlic Festival, Amherst, Virginia. 1 and 3 p.m. each day on the Garden Stage. See [www.rebecwinery.com](http://www.rebecwinery.com)

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## ***Friday, October 19***

**David Simpkins**

Coffee Buy The Book, 6:30-9:00 p.m.

Solo performance. Admission is FREE; donations appreciated. 10 W Main St, downtown Pulaski VA 24301. For info call (540) 980-4424 or see <http://www.coffeobuythebook.net>

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## ***Saturday, October 20***

**Greg Trafidlo, Mike Pearrell, Mary Gordon Hall**

Rapunzel's, Lovingson, Virginia

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## ***Wednesday, October 24***

**Barbara Martin and Mac Walter**

Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts, MHCA Emerging Artist Series, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

801 Chase St., Annapolis, Maryland. For more info: [www.marylandhall.org](http://www.marylandhall.org)

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## ***Friday, October 26***

**David Simpkins**

The Coffee Mill, 7:00-9:30 p.m.

10 W. Main Street, downtown Radford, Virginia 24141. For more information: (540) 267-3008 or [www.coffeemillonline.com](http://www.coffeemillonline.com)

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## ***Saturday, October 27***

**Barbara Martin and Mac Walter**

Guitar Workshop: "Creative Chord Substitutions and Improvising - Going Beyond the Third Fret," 3 p.m.; House Concert: 8 p.m.

The home of Greg Trafidlo and Judy Larson, 4050 Bluebird Lane, Salem, Virginia. For more information: (540) 384-7770 or e-mail Greg at [kirasongs@aol.com](mailto:kirasongs@aol.com)

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## ***Friday, November 2***

**Greg Trafidlo with Trifolkal**  
Smith Mountain Lake Arts Council  
Moneta, Virginia

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## ***Saturday, November 3***

**Greg Trafidlo with Trifolkal**  
Concert, Charleston, West Virginia

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## ***Friday, November 9***

**David Simpkins**  
Coffee Buy The Book, 6:30-9:00 p.m.  
Solo performance. Admission is FREE; donations appreciated. 10 W Main St, downtown Pulaski VA 24301. For info call (540) 980-4424 or see <http://www.coffeobuythebook.net>

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## ***Wednesday November 21***

**Paddy Dougherty**  
Meriwethers Market Restaurant, Lynchburg, Virginia  
7:30-10:30 p.m. For more info see [www.meriwethers.com](http://www.meriwethers.com)

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## ***Friday, December 7***

**David Simpkins**  
Third Street Coffeehouse, 8:30-10 p.m. (Open Mic from 7:30-8:15). Admission is FREE; donations appreciated. Third Street and Mountain Ave., downtown Roanoke, Virginia 24015 (in the basement of Trinity United Methodist Church). For more information: (540) 344-6744 (ext 309) or see <http://community.roanoke.com/thirdstreetcoffeehouse>

**Paddy Dougherty**  
Riverviews Artspace, Lynchburg, Virginia, 6-8 p.m. For more information, see [www.riverviews.net](http://www.riverviews.net)

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## ***Friday, December 14***

**David Simpkins**  
Coffee Buy The Book, 6:30-9:00 p.m.  
Solo performance. Admission is FREE; donations appreciated. 10 W Main St, downtown Pulaski VA 24301. For info call (540) 980-4424 or see <http://www.coffeobuythebook.net>

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## ***Monday, December 31***

**Barbara Martin and Liz Barnes, jazz duo**  
First Night Charlottesville, 6:00 and 7:30 p.m. shows  
Temple Beth Israel, Charlottesville, Virginia. For more information: [www.firstnightva.org](http://www.firstnightva.org)

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## ***Friday, January 25***

**Steve and LaWanda**  
Third Street Coffeehouse, 8:30-10 p.m. (Open Mic from 7:30-8:15). Admission is FREE; donations appreciated. Third Street and Mountain Ave., downtown Roanoke, Virginia 24015 (in the basement of Trinity United Methodist Church). For more information: (540) 344-6744 (ext 309) or see <http://community.roanoke.com/thirdstreetcoffeehouse>