

# The Folk Song Society of Greater Boston

# FSSGB

# FOLK LETTER

*Dedicated to providing opportunities for everyone to make, enjoy & support folk music*

Volume 53 Number 1

January/February/March 2025

FSSGB Annual  
Members Concert

January Trad Swap

“Singing for  
Justice” (Viewing of  
Faith Petric documen-  
tary, and singalong) -  
*date changed*

Old-time Music with  
Janie Rothfield and  
Allan Carr

Mid-Day Singing  
Parties



Look for more info on  
our website:

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

Email [info@fssgb.org](mailto:info@fssgb.org)



Join us on  
Facebook!

## Annual FSSGB Members' Concert *(in person!)*

Saturday, January 25, 2025, 1pm (*note early start time!*)

First Parish in Waltham

50 Church Street, Waltham, MA

Admission: \$15 for all (17 and under free), payable at the door

Please join us for our annual Members' Concert! We're delighted to be going back to an in-person format for this concert. This is a favorite event of the year for many of us — an opportunity to delight in the rich and diverse talents of FSSGB members, old and new.

All FSSGB members are invited to sign up to perform one song or tune. Contact Lori Fassman ([lori.fassman@gmail.com](mailto:lori.fassman@gmail.com), 978-621-5814) by **January 17** to reserve a spot.

All the performers are donating their time and talents, so your admission money serves to benefit FSSGB. Much of that money will go to scholarships which enable young Boston-area musicians to attend folk music camps.

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## Traditional Song & Tune Swap

Sunday afternoon, January 19, 2025

Socializing/light snacks beginning at 1:00, singing 1:30 - 4:30

At the home of Art Weiss, 22 Madison St. in Somerville MA 02143

— first floor (indoors)

(617) 629-9639, [art720@gmail.com](mailto:art720@gmail.com)

All levels of singing/playing ability are welcome at this friendly, informal sing. Focus will be on singing/performing traditional songs and tunes - singalongs or solos are both ok. Bring something for the food table if you are so inspired. **People should contact Art by email or phone to RSVP; leave a message if you don't reach him. He'll need a contact number or email for everyone in case something changes and it has to be cancelled or postponed.**

Somerville permit parking is not in effect on Sundays, so you can park on the street.



The Folk Song Society of Greater Boston is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization of people who are actively interested in folk music: its traditional origins and sources, as well as its current expression. We are dedicated to providing opportunities for everyone to make, enjoy, and support this music. Membership in the Folk Song Society entitles you to reduced admission to FSSGB concerts, attendance to singing parties and special events, a free subscription to the Folk Letter, and regular announcements of FSSGB events.

To join or renew: send your name, address and phone number along with a check for \$10 student, \$20 single, \$30 double, \$35 family membership, or \$25 for organizations to FSSGB at PO Box 2941, Acton MA 01720. **You can also join or renew online** via our website. You can join or renew for up to 3 years at a time.

## Daytime Music Parties

FSSGB offers daytime music parties to sing, play accompaniment, socialize and have fun making music with others at private homes or other locations in eastern Massachusetts. Daytime Music Parties are hosted two Fridays a month from 11:30am until roughly 2:30pm (scheduled to help those who travel avoid heavy traffic and nighttime driving.)

Interested folks should contact our sing coordinator (Don MacLeod - phone/text 617-283-8532) for singing party dates, locations and other pertinent information.

Folks planning to attend are asked to please RSVP at the earliest to help our hosts plan. Those providing contact information to our coordinator will receive music party invitations a week in advance of the scheduled date.

Upcoming dates (these are all Fridays at 11:30am-2:30pm in Malden unless otherwise noted):

- January 10 and 24
- February 7 and 21
- March 7 and 21
- April 4 and 10
- May 2 and 16
- June 13 and 27

There is no charge for singing parties. Small snacks to share would be appreciated, but are optional.

Please contact Don if you would like to host in the future. Keep an eye on the website ([www.fssgb.org](http://www.fssgb.org)) for updates as music parties occasionally get rescheduled or cancelled.



## Folk Letter Deadlines

The deadline for getting articles and ads into the Folk Letter is always the 10th of the month preceding the month of publication:

### March 10 for the Apr-May-June issue

We will continue to have combined issues for the foreseeable future.

Thanks for helping us by observing the publication deadlines.

## Old-time Music with Janie Rothfield and Allan Carr

Sunday, April 6

Details TBD

We're still working out the details, but this event will likely feature a house concert with Janie and Allan, an old-time workshop (possibly with breakout sessions for different instruments) and/or a jam. \

Award winning fiddler Janie Rothfield and husband Scottish singer and guitarist Allan Carr have been playing and recording their unique blend of Celtic and Appalachian music for over 40 years! Janie and Allan play roots music that is directly from the source while expanding on that tradition with newly composed songs and tunes. They blend their love of traditional music as well as their own compositions to present a concert that weaves a musical story from both sides of the Atlantic and is always fun!

Great singing, hot instrumentals and with Allan's humor, always a whole lot of fun! They have over a dozen recordings to their credit and have a new Duo recording coming out in Summer of 2024, featuring their signature unique sound that blends the old with the new and back again!

## “Singing for Justice”

Viewing of Faith Petric documentary and Singalong  
 Sunday, March 16, 2025, 11am—*date changed!!*  
 Community Church of Boston  
 565 Boylston St., Boston  
 Free! (Donations to FSSGB gratefully accepted)



*This event is co-sponsored by the Community Church of Boston and FSSGB*

Learn about the musical and political history of Faith Petric and the role of folk music in progressive politics in 20th and 21st-century America. Faith Petric (1915-2013) proudly called herself a radical, and she chose folk music as her vehicle for creating a more just world.

A student peace activist in her 20s, she continued to protest war as a Raging Granny in her 80s. She aided migrant workers in California during the Great Depression, built Liberty Ships during World War II, faced Cold War-era FBI surveillance, and marched for racial justice in Selma, AL. A single working mother, Faith retired in 1970 at age 55 and reinvented herself as a traveling folk singer, performing nationally and internationally into her 90s.

Singing for Justice is produced and directed by award-winning Stanford historian Estelle Freedman and award-winning documentary filmmaker Christie Herring. Singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist John McCutcheon is the Composer and Musical Supervisor.

## Maggi Peirce

We're sad to inform you of the passing of singer and storyteller **Margaret (“Maggi”) Peirce**. Originally from Belfast, Northern Ireland, Maggi passed away in December 2024. She was the Director of the Tryworks Coffeehouse in New Bedford, Massachusetts, where she lived for many years, and performed in many folk festivals and shows including Christmas Revels in Boston. As a professional storyteller she won four awards over the years: SMU Eisteddfod, Massachusetts Arts & Humanities, and two from the National Assoc. for the Protection & Perpetuation of Storytelling.



# ARTFUL



## Open Mic, Poetry, Music & Storytelling

Artful Connections is a social justice lensed open mic-style event where artists offer music, poetry, readings, and spoken word that is more relevant to the monthly theme.

Each evening features a host who kicks off with a presentation, performance, and discussion relevant to that evening's theme and the host's work. Then, guests can add their words, music, and art to the conversation. We welcome all to RSVP, whether or not they will be performing. Refreshments are available.

This series is a collaboration between the Hopkinton Freedom Team and the Hopkinton Center for the Arts. Through the arts and conversations, we aim to build and promote love, inclusion, and trust within the surrounding communities and help create a more beautiful and just world.

**January 16, 2025 | 6:30 p.m.**

*"Let's Take Care of Each Other"*  
with host *Rev. Nathan Detering*

**February 20, 2025 | 6:30 p.m.**

*"Love As Justice"*  
with host *Junko Ogawa*

**March 20, 2025 | 6:30 p.m.**

*"Rising: Women's Voices"*  
with host *Deana Tavares*

**Free Events**  
**RSVP | [HopArtsCenter.org](https://HopArtsCenter.org)**

**98 Hayden Rowe Street | Hopkinton | 508.435.9222**

**THE FOLK SONG SOCIETY OF GREATER BOSTON**  
**P.O. Box 2941, Acton, MA 01720, fssgb@fssgb.org, info@fssgb.org**

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**2024-2025 Officers & Coordinators**

President	Ed Council, (508) 904-4539, <a href="mailto:elc@timberfield.com">elc@timberfield.com</a>
Treasurer	Lori Fassman, (978) 264-9710, <a href="mailto:lori@fassman.com">lori@fassman.com</a>
Secretary/Clerk	Lori Fassman, (978) 264-9710, <a href="mailto:lori@fassman.com">lori@fassman.com</a>
Folk Letter	Lori Fassman, (978) 264-9710, <a href="mailto:lori@fassman.com">lori@fassman.com</a>
Memb. Renewals	Sallie and Bill Satterthwaite, (978) 369-2365, <a href="mailto:salliesatt@comcast.net">salliesatt@comcast.net</a> , <a href="mailto:billsatt@icloud.com">billsatt@icloud.com</a>
Concert Food	Lori Fassman, (978) 264-9710, <a href="mailto:lori@fassman.com">lori@fassman.com</a>
Concert Sound	<a href="mailto:sound@fssgb.org">sound@fssgb.org</a> (Chair role vacant)
Fall Getaway	Lori Fassman, (978) 264-9710, <a href="mailto:lori@fassman.com">lori@fassman.com</a>
Publicity	Lynn Feingold, (781) 227-7500, <a href="mailto:lynnfeingold0@gmail.com">lynnfeingold0@gmail.com</a>
Membership	<a href="mailto:membership@fssgb.org">membership@fssgb.org</a>
Singing Parties	Don MacLeod, (617) 283-8532, <a href="mailto:don@oceanjams.com">don@oceanjams.com</a>
Recording Sec	Lori Fassman, (978) 264-9710, <a href="mailto:lori@fassman.com">lori@fassman.com</a>
Trad. Swaps	Lynn Feingold, (781) 227-7500, <a href="mailto:lynnfeingold0@gmail.com">lynnfeingold0@gmail.com</a>
Volunteers	<a href="mailto:volunteers@fssgb.org">volunteers@fssgb.org</a>
Webmaster	<a href="mailto:webmaster@fssgb.org">webmaster@fssgb.org</a>

**SEND NEWSLETTER ITEMS TO:**

Lori Fassman  
101 Charter Road  
Acton, MA 01720-4210  
[folkletter@fssgb.org](mailto:folkletter@fssgb.org)

**FOLK LETTER DEADLINES** are the seventh of the month for the following quarter's issue. Advertisements are \$15 for 1/4 page, \$20 for 1/3 page, \$40 for 2/3 page, \$30 for 1/2 page, and \$60 for a full page. Email us for more information ([folkletter@fssgb.org](mailto:folkletter@fssgb.org))

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

Ed Council, Lori Fassman, Lynn Feingold, Peter Hamlin, Mark Katz, Bill Lehrman, Suzanne Mrozak, Merle Roesler, John Shockey

**PROGRAM COMMITTEE:**

Chairs: Lynn Feingold, Ruth Perry, Lori Fassman.  
Members: Isobel Abelson, Bill Lehrman, Suzanne Mrozak, Merle Roesler

*FSSGB is a 501c(3) non-profit organization.  
Contributions are tax deductible to the extent  
allowed by law.*

## In Case of Snow!

It's that time of year! In case of inclement weather, please check with the host or hostess of any event to see if it's still going on and check our website ([www.fssgb.org](http://www.fssgb.org)) for updates. We try hard to "have the show go on" under any circumstances, but sometimes have to cancel if there's a big storm. If you don't have access to the website or prefer a human confirmation, you can call (978) 621-5814 (mobile) for information.



**FSSGB Library:** FSSGB's entire collection of printed materials and resides at the New England Conservatory Library at 255 St. Botolph St., Boston, where it is available to the public for perusing onsite. The collection is known as Folk Song Society of Greater Boston (FSSGB) Collection at New England Conservatory. See the FSSGB website for information on how to access the materials and make donations.

# The Folk Song Society of Greater Boston



**THE FOLK LETTER**  
c/o FSSGB, Inc.  
P.O. Box 2941  
Acton, MA 01720  
[www.fssgb.org](http://www.fssgb.org)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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

- Sat., Jan 25      **FSSGB Members' Concert** (*in person!*), 1pm (***note unusual start time!***), First Parish in Waltham, 50 Church St, Waltham, \$10 for all at the door
- Sun., March 16      **"Singing for Justice"** (viewing of Faith Petric documentary, and sing-along), 11am, Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St, Boston, free
- Sun., April 6      **Old-time workshop/jam and house concert with Jane Rothfield and Allan Carr**, details TBD
- Sun., June 1      **Bound for Glory** (Woody Guthrie tribute), 2-4pm, First Parish in Waltham, 50 Church St., Waltham, \$10 for all at the door
- Thurs., June 19      **Rob van Sante and Janie Meneely House Concert**, 7pm, location TBA, \$20 for all at the door

**See [www.fssgb.org](http://www.fssgb.org) for details about all events**