

*Saving the world one song at a time.*

- Supporting songwriting, songwriters and music education.
- Conducting and sponsoring live performances of folk music and singer-songwriter works, including the Kerrville Folk Festival and related programs for the community.
- Conducting songwriting and music workshops, conferences and special events.

TFMF Newsletter Fall 2008

**Kerrville Music Camp**

The Kerrville Music Camp for Teens was held at Quiet Valley Ranch for its third consecutive year in July for youth ages 12-18. This year, sessions were offered to over 60 teens from very diverse backgrounds. Activities included song structure, rhyming, rhythm, writing lyric poetry, songwriting, open mic every night and canoeing with a twist.

Faculty for the camp were Kerrville Artists Tom Prasada-Rao, Roy Wooten, Still on the Hill and Annie Wenz leading songwriting and music instruction activities at Threadgill Theater and Kidsville; Jena Gessaman and Tim Mason leading lyrical poetry sessions; and Bill Oliver and Frank Meyers leading canoe trips with musical twists on the Guadalupe River.



**A Stretch to Meet Fund-raising Goals**

While many of the Texas Folk Music Foundation projects and programs benefit tremendously from volunteer efforts, funding is still required to pay for essential operating costs. Fund-raising efforts are therefore a necessary function of the Foundation.

Fund-raising has become even more critical with the pending acquisition of the Kerrville Folk Festival assets. Fund-raising efforts taking place at the 2008 Kerrville Folk Festival included the Silent Auction, Guitar Raffle, and direct contribution requests from the stage. Each of these efforts, and key individuals who deserve recognition for their efforts, are described briefly below.

**Silent Auction**

TFMF hosted its third annual Silent Auction this spring. Three separate auctions actually took place, one during each of the three weekends of the festival. Items included handcrafted jewelry, original artwork, airline tickets, certificates for various services, photos of performers, and much more. Funds raised during the auction totaled \$4,636.

TFMF extends a heartfelt thank-you the

volunteers, donors, and contributors who made this year's auction a success! First and foremost, a big thanks to Auction Coordinator, Cheryl Green, who did the lion's share of the work, and to Diana Payne who served as her able assistant throughout the festival. Thanks also to the many friends and supporters, both businesses and individuals, who donated items for the auction; including many of the festival booth vendors. The auction is a project of the Fundraising committee of the TFMF Board, chaired by Jon Charles; there would be no auction without the dedicated efforts of the members of the TFMF Board.

**Guitar Raffle**

A long-standing fundraiser of the Foundation, the Guitar Raffle featured 2 outstanding guitars this year; a T5-C1 Custom Guitar from Taylor Guitars, and a CA 8LV-E (Vintage) carbon fiber composite instrument from Composite Acoustics. TFMF sold raffle tickets throughout the three week Festival, resulting in donations of \$4,344.

TFMF thanks Taylor Guitars for its generous contribution; and is delighted to recognize new contributor Composite Acoustics. A big thanks also goes to Marghi Allen, Krew leader for the TFMF booth, and volunteers including Don and Karen McNatt, Jolynn Braswell, Kelli King, Tony Barker, Gary Williams, Jon Hogan, and Kim (Pinga) Pruneda for their enthusiastic and dedicated work.

Fiddler's Green, a new store in Austin that caters to acoustic musicians, has generously donated a Breedlove AC200SM guitar for this year's TFMF guitar raffle at the Wine and Music Festival. Come by the booth and get your tickets for this mighty fine instrument!

**Other Fundraising Efforts**

The TFMF Board has worked to inform folk music supporters, and the Kerrville Folk Music family of our fundraising needs; including a request for sponsors of the TFMF Youth Music Camp program. Also of particular urgency this year was our Capital Campaign - with funds going toward the purchase of Kerrville Folk Festival assets. The Board extended a plea from the main stage each weekend of the festival this spring; and Board Members visited well-established camps during the festival requesting

donations. Not surprisingly these efforts met with great success. Generous donors contributed over \$36,000 to support TFMF programs and activities, and \$5,000 to support the Youth Music Camp program. Through the contributions of many individuals, a total of nearly \$30,000 has been raised towards TFMF's Capital Campaign, exceeding the original goal of \$20,000. All contributions are greatly appreciated and are being put to good use!"

**Got Your 2008 TFMF T-Shirt Yet?**

Get your own by becoming a Friend of the Foundation at the \$78 level. Stop by the TFMF booth at the Wine and Music Fest for the latest and greatest!



**Threadgill Update**

Improvements continue at the Threadgill Theater. Two new tanks have been put in place near the expansive Threadgill roof which will be used to collect rainwater which will be used to water down the roads, etc.

The foundation sponsored a spring work weekend and numerous board members and friends built a new deck around the side and back of Threadgill, providing a much needed space for performers. - The handicap accessible toilets are almost completed.



## Kerrville Folk Festival Acquisition Update



As most of you know, the Foundation is in the final stages of completing the acquisition of the assets of the Kerrville Folk Festival.

This has been a long and detailed process, and is drawing to a close as we finalize legal and financial documents. We feel that it is important for all of our Friends to understand what has been happening and why.

We are pleased to confirm that a major donor has agreed to provide the majority of the funds needed for TFMF to purchase the assets of Festival and bring it under non-profit status. The total cost is over \$200,000, and with your help we have raised matching funds from festival-goers. To date we have raised about \$30,000, and we want to thank all of you who have helped achieve that milestone - and there is still time to help if you'd like to become a "Friend of the Foundation" (see below).

Of primary importance to all who attend the Festival, festival-goers will not notice any difference in the operation of the Festival after the acquisition, because we intend to utilize the same team; Dalis will still book the same type of acts, the volunteers will still make the Festival happen, and we will utilize the same Festival management to run operations day to day. This acquisition will allow us to drop from three to two Boards of Directors operating the Ranch and Festival, which will make us all more efficient and reduce bureaucracy. Once completed, with the festival owned by a non-profit 501(c)3 organization, donations to the festival will be tax deductible, which will offer new opportunities for fund-raising! TFMF is very excited about performing its tax exempt function of educating the public about the benefits of folk music by insuring the continued operation of the festivals.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact any of the Foundation or Festival board members. We anticipate closing on this transaction in the very near future!

**The Kerrville History Project** entered a new and exciting phase in 2008; one that explores the unique culture that is the Kerrville Folk Festival. Shannon Flattery of Touchable Stories and Harry Palmer of Friction Arts have been building on the staff history work of Ky Hote to add recorded oral histories and an interactive artistic flair to create an engaging and participatory project. Over 100 hours of stories have been collected from veteran staff, life time ticket holders and Kerrverts of all stripes.

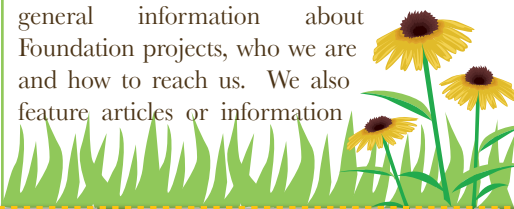
This work manifests itself in the KerrHistory Booth located in the upper reaches of the Crafts village at Big Folk this year. The booth featured a listening station with a variety of stories, including the Bell Brothers talking about building the bridge to Chapel Hill and an interview with Bruce Utah Phillips on loan from the Passim Archives. The work of staff photographers was displayed and a written version of the compiled staff history was available for review. A memorial wall was also begun honoring our departed friends. Visitors were invited to place their own special places on maps of the ranch and to add their voices to the catalog of interviews. They were also encouraged to give their input into the direction of the project and to help document and collect the wealth of memorabilia that currently exists.

As the history project develops we hope to make more stories accessible, create a place for reflection and remembering and find ways to engage as many in possible in telling the ongoing story of the Kerrville Folk Festival.

## Website News



Many of you may not yet have noticed that the Foundation website is up and running. Thanks to help from our webmaster and with hosting support from Nimbit, we have a solid start at providing you the information you need at [www.tfmf.org](http://www.tfmf.org). There you can find general information about Foundation projects, who we are and how to reach us. We also feature articles or information



on some of our key projects, such as a feature on a New Folk Winner, or about the 2008 Summer Music Youth Camp.

Of course, no self-respecting non-profit website would be complete without a way to support the Foundation online – So we have links to “Become a Friend” and to Volunteer with the Foundation. We will be adding to this to provide easy ways for you to support your favorite project, such as to sponsor a kid at Summer Youth Camp, or to support ongoing improvement of our facilities. Please check back at [www.tfmf.org](http://www.tfmf.org) often.

## TFMF Board of Directors and Officers:

**Thomas Chapmond**, Chairman  
**Michael D'Eath**, Vice-Chairman  
**Steve Carruthers**, Treasurer  
**Theresa Tod**, Secretary  
**Julie Davis**  
**Jon Charles**  
**Chuck Lesniak**  
**Therese Spina**

## Volunteer Staff:

**Peter Casey**, Chief Financial Officer  
**Mark Cohen**, General Counsel  
**Lee Green**, Goodwill Ambassador at Large  
**Marghi Allen**, Kerrleader

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## Get Involved! Volunteer for TFMF

The programs and services provided by the Texas Folk Music Foundation are volunteer-run. If you'd like to know the great personal satisfaction and pure enjoyment of getting involved, please complete the brief form below and we will contact you. Thanks in advance for your interest, and your service!

For more info, contact Theresa Tod, TFMF Personnel Committee Chair, at [ttod@tfoys.org](mailto:ttod@tfoys.org).

**Become a Friend of the Texas Folk Music Foundation and help us fulfill our mission to save the world one song at a time!**

**The Texas Folk Music Foundation** is a 501(c) (3) non-profit corporation which sponsors music education programs including the Grassy Hill-Kerrville New Folk Competition for Emerging Songwriters, Professional Development Program for Teachers, Roots/Blues Guitar Workshop, Kerrville Songwriters School, the Harmonica Academy, and our latest addition: Kerrville Music Camp for Teens. The Foundation continues to seek donations during our on-going fund-raising campaign to continue and improve our existing offerings and to develop to our fullest potential.

**We welcome your financial support and volunteer help. • You will receive a free TFMF 2008 Tee with a donation of \$78.00 or more.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apt.# \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ T-Shirt Size \_\_\_\_\_

May we contact you about Volunteering for TFMF programs and events?  Yes  No

To make a donation, please choose from the following denominations:  \$33  \$45  \$78  \$100  \$200  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to TFMF. Mail your tax-deductible donation and form to: Friends of TFMF, P.O. Box 290744, Kerrville TX 78029-0744.

Privacy statement: The Foundation does not sell its donor's information nor provide lists to unrelated entities. The information you provide may only be used to notify you about programs and events organized by the Foundation or in conjunction with Kerrville Folk Festivals, Inc.