

HOWDY,

Well, well, well how is your summer going? I hope that you are staying dry during this hurricane season. I want to thank everyone who came out to the Woman's Club in Eustis to watch Tom and I perform; we had a wonderful time and I hope that we'll get back there soon.

Things here on the home front are mellow and that's just how I like it. Jacob is just a little over 2 years old now so everything is "NO". Conversations are a little strange; "Jacob do you want some juice, NO, Jacob would you like to go outside, NO, Jacob do we need to change your diaper, NO" well you get the picture. People have asked me how I like being "Mr. Mom" and I can tell you truthfully that I wouldn't change a thing. Watching our little man grow is a real learning experience for the both of us.

The finishing touches are being put on the new CD and I will have it ready soon. I want to give a big, big, big thank you to Ron & Bari Litchauer for allowing me to into their home so I could get this recording under way. I was so very happy to finally get these songs down on tape and out of my head. When the smoke cleared and Ron and I listened to what was recorded we were very happy with it. I hope to have CD's ready for the big show at the Sarasota Sailing Squadron August 26, so until then I will be as busy as a beaver getting them done.

As some of you might know by now I have teamed up with a new picking partner, Tom Stephens. We met at one of Gloria Holloway's events in Tampa. Tom is a very good guitar picker who hails from the great state of Texas. Tom has been a boost and breath of fresh air for my writing so I know some very good things will come from us joining forces. Tom and I will be performing with "Joshua Creek" (Robin & Dan Leach) at the Sarasota Sailing Squadron and I think I might be able to persuade Mindy Simmons to help out on piano. I heard the Wings & Strings festival in Polk City has shut down and moved to Arcadia and will be called RiverHawk Music Festival so I'll try and keep you folks informed when I get more news.

At the writing of this newsletter I learned of the death of JU Lee, the banjo player and songwriter for Upsala. I am not going to tell you some story of how JU and I did this or that cause it wouldn't be true. I knew the man and we had talked and jammed a few times but that was about it. But I was truly a big fan of his music and a loss like this will be felt in the FOFF community for quite some time. It does comfort me to know that at the end his family surrounded him.

James

Alright now lets get down to the nitty gritty;

August 11th

In St Augustine at the St Francis Inn Tom and I will be performing from 5-8pm. And Carrie Hamby, the singing biscuit, will be along with her big bass. For info call 904-824-6068 or www.stfrancisinn.com

August 26th

This will be a big night at the Sarasota Sailing Squadron at 1717 Ken Thompson Pkwy. It will be thrilling to have not only Joshua Creek but also Tom Stephens and Mindy to help me sing and perform my songs. Open mic. starts 7:15, concert @ 8:30. For info call 941-377-9256 or orjvhewitt@pobox.com

September 21st

This will be our first appearance at the Yalaha Bakery. This is looking like a real fun time. From 10:00am - noon and don't forget your lawn chair. For info
edelwcissmusic@atlantic.com or www.edelweissmusic.net

October 11th 12th & 13th

This is Charley Groth's Sunshine State Acoustic Music Camp in St Petersburg. I will be a part of a songwriting workshop with Jak Kelly. This is a great camp for beginning or advanced musicians to attend. The best musicians in the state will hold workshops on just about every string instrument from guitars to dulcimers and I am deeply honored to be apart of it. It is held at Boyd Hill Park in St Petersburg. For further info call 727-585-5678 or check out the website @ wwTv.ssamc.cjb.net

That's all the info I have for now on upcoming events so I hope to see you soon and don't forget to walk up and say HOWDY!