



## For this issue, we've set up new USA & Canada news pages.

Not intended as comprehensive coverage of US & Canada! - but we have invited news items from some folks we mostly met whilst out a-Zooming.

So, simply including some enthusiasm that we thought would be of interest to our readers!

**Our new US & Canada news webpage is [folklife.uk/usa-canada.html](http://folklife.uk/usa-canada.html)**

**Below:** during this closedown, **news** items from US & Canada subscribers to our free Folklife Newsletter e-mailing list

- We welcome news items for this page from real & virtual sessions, performers, festivals, organisations
- up to 200 words, not counting: heading/Zoom joining details; contact/website info at end.
- Free: all that we ask is that you are on our Folklife Newsletter mailing list, join by form at foot of this webpage.
- We follow our usual principle of arranging by area, whilst being aware of our digital future . . .

### International & National [for US, & for Canada]

**#FutureOfFolk: LYNN NOEL OF DIGITAL HERITAGE CONSULTING LOOKS AHEAD** see **FOLKLIFE TRADITIONS PAGES** in this issue

#### ARCHIVE Aug 6th INTERNATIONAL CONCERT: HIROSHIMA NEVER AGAIN

Thursday, August 6th, 2020 was the 75th Anniversary of the U.S. Bombing of Hiroshima in 1945, followed by the bombing of Nagasaki on August, 9th.

*The world must never forget.*

**People's Music Network for Songs of Freedom and Struggle** produced a historic event **International Concert: Hiroshima Never Again**, featuring music, poetry, and spoken word by members and invited artists from **Australia, Canada, England, Georgia, Scotland, and the USA:** Raging Grannies, USA • Mike Marker, Canada • Charlie King, USA • David Rovics, USA • Foty Fusion, USA • David Bernz, USA • Bob Bossin, Canada • Miles Megaciph, USA • Storm, USA • Tayo Aluko, UK/Nigeria • Jim Page, USA • Klee Benally, USA • Ted Warmbrand, USA • Penny Stone, Scotland • Irakli Kakabadze, Georgia • Russ Chandler, UK • Courtney Dowe, USA • Peggy Seeger, UK • Pat Decou & Tex Lamountain USA • Margaret Walters, Australia • Luci Murphy, USA • Molly Scott, USA • Fred Small, USA •

The People's Music Network has always believed in international solidarity and cultural exchange.

The dramatic turn toward online video conferencing since the pandemic provides a unique impetus to put these beliefs into action.

**Please view and share link to this event** archived on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/events/70520782004196>

### California



Riggy Rackin

Simple

#### RIGGY RACKIN: SIMPLE

A fine singer that we've "met" on Zoom; his website [www.riggy.com](http://www.riggy.com) contains some interesting and thoughtful writings, as well as details of his recordings etc. His latest album is "Simple" - simple, well-chosen and relatively unfamiliar folksongs, with sparse concertina accompaniment. Here's the tracks:

**Up in the Morning Early.** Scots parlor song, from Nancy Koch.  
**Drown it in the Bowl.** Art song (W. D. Biggs, 1802), good advice: if you're sick or sad, get drunk. **Erin Grá Mo Chroí.** I love this Irish emigration song set in New York. **NY Mining Disaster.** Barry Gibb never told us why his song was called that. **My Resting Place.** "Mayn Rue Plats", Morris Rosenfeld (1862-1923), translated by June Tabor, now synonymous with the 1911 Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire deaths of 146 textile workers. **Lassie with the Yellow Coatie.** The Elliots of Birtley. Not a girl wearing a yellow coat; she had blonde hair! **English Ale.** Harvey Andrews hit the target square in the middle. **Do Li A.** A well-known and loved Newcastle camp-follower. Louie Killen. **Drink Puppy Drink** from Bill Crawford, I thank him heartily! **The Bohemian Dreams.** Marla Fibish: Robert Service poem (a lazy life in 1920s Paris) with a Quebecois waltz clog. **Storms Out on the Ocean.** Eternal love that lasts in spite of it all. The Carter Family. **We Shall Overcome.** A gospel song became a protest song. **All the Good People.** Ken Hicks, then beautifully re-written by Carol Holdstock.

Download available by PayPal, details see website [www.riggy.com](http://www.riggy.com)

### Massachusetts

**LIVE FROM THE MERMAID'S TAVERN ONLINE EVENTS**, Boston, numerous events, *Day varies.*

For details see

[sites.google.com/view/lynnoel/music/mermaidstavern](https://sites.google.com/view/lynnoel/music/mermaidstavern)

Weekly series of ballad sings and chantey sings Sundays 2-5 EDT [= UK 7pm-10pm] -- More details listed under **Sunday**, below

- Weekly houseconcerts Thursdays 7:30 EDT [= UK 12.30 at night ....]
- Special events (ballad workshop, MayDay sing, masterclass)
- Cosponsorship of livestream events for **Folk Song Society of Greater Boston**

**20 live events in the first 3 months of the COVID-19 pandemic!**

Transparent tech so we don't waste valuable singing time. Zoom meetings for participants livestreamed to Facebook audience. Zoom links emailed to mailing list for security. Newsletter/blog links to other online sings and session calendars.

Watch live events, and view recordings of live events, on

[facebook.com/digitalheritageconsulting/live](https://facebook.com/digitalheritageconsulting/live)

**SEPTEMBER** Sunday, Sept 6: Tavern Sing. Thursday, Sept 10: Houseconcert TBD. Sunday, Sept 13: Ballad Sing. Sunday, Sept 20: Chantey Sing. Thursday, Sept 24: Houseconcert TBD. Sunday, Sept 27: Ballad Sing.

**OCTOBER** Sunday, Oct 4: Tavern Sing. Thursday, Oct 8: Houseconcert TBD. Sunday, Oct 11: Ballad Sing. Sunday, Oct 18: Chantey Sing. Thursday, Oct 22: Houseconcert TBD. Sunday, Oct 25: Ballad Sing.

Lynn Noel

**LIVE FROM THE MERMAID'S TAVERN ONLINE BALLAD SING or CHANTEY SING**, Boston. *Sundays, weekly, 2-5 EDT [= UK 7pm-10pm]*, for details see

[sites.google.com/view/lynnoel/music/mermaidstavern](https://sites.google.com/view/lynnoel/music/mermaidstavern)

**Ballad sing:** a ballad is a song that tells a story. Bring us your ballads from renowned collections, local history, family tradition, or just ripping good yarns.

**Chantey sing:** sadly, latency limits harmony, so we will gather in a song circle for solo chanteys, sea songs, maritime poetry, and entertainments at least faintly damp and salty.

*Transparent tech so we don't waste valuable singing time. Zoom meetings for participants livestreamed to Facebook audience. Zoom links emailed to mailing list for security. Newsletter/blog links to other online sings and session calendars.*

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### New Hampshire

**PORTSMOUTH MARITIME FOLK FESTIVAL ONLINE, Saturday 26 September**

Bad news - the 2020 PMFF is canceled.

Good news - we can give you a small taste of what was lost. We will host a one-day online concert and sing in lieu of the festival, and we hope that better times will bring us all together, healthy and safe, next year.

On **Saturday September 26th**, **Portsmouth Maritime Folk Festival presents "Anchored Apart," a community sing featuring 2020 invited performers and the winners of the 2020 maritime songwriting competition.** Details at our web site, [pmffest.org](http://pmffest.org), and our Facebook page, [fb.com/PMFFNH](https://fb.com/PMFFNH)

We miss singing together with all lovers of traditional maritime music, but the science seems clear: this is just not safe.

**We'll practice our community singing with a monthly online chantey sing. The 2nd Saturday sings**, which once brought people to The Press Room in Portsmouth, is reborn online. Details also on our web site and Facebook page.

So we will sing together, while anchored safely apart, and look forward to singing together in person at the 21st annual Festival, September, 2021.

Fair winds and following seas,

*The Board of the Portsmouth Maritime Folk Festival*



### New Hampshire

**PMFF CHANTEY SING**, Portsmouth. *2nd Saturdays, 8-10 PM London time*

An open chantey & maritime zoom-based sing with organizers and regulars of the **Portsmouth Maritime Folk Festival**.

Shortly before each sing, we'll post zoom info on our website (<http://www.pmfest.org/>) and in the corresponding calendar entry at <https://www.bostonsongsessions.org/virtual-sessions>

### New York

**Virtual SOUTH STREET SEAPORT MUSEUM's monthly SEA CHANTEYS AND MARITIME MUSIC**, New York City.

*1st Sundays, 2pm - 4pm EST, this is 7pm- 8pm UK time.*

From our living rooms and kitchens, and even from the deck of Wavertree, join us for our round-robin of shared sea songs, featuring members of The New York Packet and friends. Listen in, lead or request a song, and belt out the choruses for your neighbors to hear. Hosted by singers from the New York Packet. **The event is FREE. Sign up on [southstreetseaportmuseum.org/chanteysing](http://southstreetseaportmuseum.org/chanteysing) to receive the Zoom link 24 hours prior.** The song-leader's list fills up in advance, but of course you are still welcome to register and enjoy singing along. If you'd like to lead a song, be sure to register at least a week before the sing.

**SYRACUSE PUB SING**, Syracuse. *Saturday, monthly, week varies*

Pub Sing: happens once a month on Zoom on a Saturday from 3-6 PM NYC time. For exact dates and details on registering email Karin Howe at [syracusepubsing@gmail.com](mailto:syracusepubsing@gmail.com)

### New York

**VIRTUAL VALLEY FOLK MUSIC TRANSATLANTIC ZOOM SINGS**, Corning. *Mondays, Weekly, 3-5:30 pm (or 6 at the latest) EST. This is 8 - 10:30 pm UK time or 11 at the latest.*

**About:** We host a Trans-Atlantic Virtual Valley Folk Sing on Zoom for singers in our folk community, (Corning, NY) since our pub-sings, concerts and jams are all cancelled for now.

Our aim is to bring some US and UK singers together to sing for each other. One can mute your mics and sing and play along at home while your fellow musicians share their favorite songs. It's not quite the same as being in the room, but for this trans-Atlantic bunch, it may be a perk of the lockdown to be able to see each other in this way (and one heck of a lot cheaper than a real visit). We chose the 3pm NY / 8pm UK time to suit some people who are not working long hours in the US, while not keeping the UK singers up too late. It is ok to arrive late or leave early. We use a numbering system so you know when your time to sing is coming.

We welcome any type of folk song, traditional or newly composed "in the tradition" (- think Jez Lowe, Bill Staines). Unlike in person, we are not insisting on a chorus or refrain. Sing unaccompanied or use an instrument.

**Joining Sing:** Before you arrive, please find the Virtual Sing Zoom settings for your device on this website (compiled by our good friends at US & UK Zoom sessions) [focsle.org/virtual\\_index.php](http://focsle.org/virtual_index.php) Scroll down to the Zoom settings. Especially if using an instrument, this is **\*essential\***. Any questions? Please contact us for help preferably the day before the Sing. **To request the link to the Zoom sing, contact us at: [info <at> valleyfolk.org](mailto:info@valleyfolk.org)**