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Higher Ground Australia



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HIGHER GROUND NEWSLETTER – July/August2007

Welcome

Welcome to our newsletter for July and August, 2007. A number of our members will be travelling to Aspen Colorado for the 10th celebration of the life and music of John Denver. Max Moore, John's Australian tour manager will be travelling to Aspen this year. Max is a very affable gentleman and is only too happy to chat with anyone who has an ear to lend him. He has some great stories to tell about his life in the Australian entertainment industry. Please come along and say hello to him. January was the 50th anniversary of the first Rock 'n Roll concert in Australia, and Max was there to witness that special event.

Our Condolences

It has come to our attention that a couple of people on our member list have passed away recently. On behalf of all the members of Higher Ground Australia, we extend out deepest sympathy to their friends and families.

Happy Birthday to Erma

Higher Ground Australia would like to wish Erma Deuschendorf a very happy birthday. We hope that your day is very special.



Update from Boonah

Since our last newsletter, there have been some really positive outcomes in regard to the missing plaque. The council have taken on board the challenge of placing theft-prevention methods in place and will be incorporating all the plaques, including John's. The township of Boonah has embraced Higher Ground Australia and has invited us to celebrate our next John Denver weekend in 2008, in their beautiful town.

We will keep you posted when the plaques are ready to be replaced and I am sure that Margaret, Maureen and Max will accompany Helen to attend this special occasion.

Max's Australian Story

Max Moore was interviewed for a story last Saturday. As well as being freelance, the

journalist also works for the ABC's Australian Story. After three hours chatting, she was dispatched with copies of videos, photos and other material for a magazine story about Max's association with John Denver. She was most interested in Max's previous trip to Aspen when he and Meryl stayed with John in 1994. She is also interested in the 10th anniversary events in Aspen in October and has requested photos from Aspen 2007. It looks as if Max will be featuring in most photos taken around Aspen this year.

We will keep you posted on the publication when it happens.

Peace Cloth Panel - 2007

Jan has been working on a panel of the Peace Cloth that will be presented to the John Denver Memorial Peace Cloth committee members in Aspen. If you live in the Newcastle area and you would like to sign the cloth, please contact Jan to arrange a meeting with her.

If you would like to email a message for Jan to include on the cloth, her email address is barian2@tadaust.org.au. Jan has kindly offered to write your message on the cloth.

For people going to Aspen, you will be able to sign it there.

John Denver Weekend 2008

We will be holding our John Denver weekend in Boonah in 2008. We will be booking the Outlook Centre again as the venue is perfect for us.

The theme will be **Christmas for Cowboys**. There will be a full traditional Christmas dinner in lieu of the annual BBQ and all will be expected to join in the Christmas spirit.

Aspen 2007

There will be a number of Aussies in Aspen between the 10th and 16th October. We will be very busy attending many events, but we would love to meet as many of you as possible. Eight of us will be staying in a house near the centre of Aspen, and I know of a few more who will be staying at the Mountain Chalet. I would love to put some faces to the people I have been corresponding with over the years, so please make yourselves known to us if you see strangers

walking around looking lost!!! If you would like some contact (mobile number, accommodation, etc) details, please email me privately on jefrawley@optusnet.com.au and I will pass those details on – if I know who you are!

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and happy trip to Aspen. I know of many people who are taking holidays and combining their trip to Aspen with other sightseeing tours around America.

We are taking a cruise to Alaska as well as taking a road trip in the Colorado, Utah, Montana, Wyoming areas, whilst others are touring Canada, California (particularly Monterey) and Colorado. Durango seems to be the destination of choice.

YouTube?

There does not seem to be any end to the videos on YouTube. Open the YouTube website and type in John Denver. A long list of videos will be available to be viewed.

<http://youtube.com>

Beverly Sills Died, aged 78

Beverly Sills, who performed with John in the Music of the Mountains died on July 2nd at the age of 78.

Linda's Page

From the Back Home Again Album, I thought this song of John's would be just the thing we all needed as a little relief from all the blistering heat we've been experiencing here in the USA this summer.

Had some fun with this one! Hope you enjoy this newest song page for John...

<http://www.sweetdreamsplace.com/coolngreennshady.html>

Sweet Dreams & Try And Stay Cool, Linda

New Video Clip – Dutch Site

New clips have been added to the Dutch website by Michiel Ten Brug.

<http://www.higherground.nl/tenbrug/JohnDenver/>

Keep checking the Dutch site each Wednesday, as new ones are put up each week.

Baltimore's Seventh-Inning Tradition Within a Tradition

By Mike Gibbons

Well, life on the farm is kinda laid back, ain't much an old country boy like me can't hack...

Legend has it that baseball's seventh-inning stretch tradition goes all the way back to Cincinnati in 1869. That's when pockets of fans (or "cranks," as they were

called back then) reportedly first rose, perhaps to sweep off the dust, shake out the splinters or maybe to reenergize their baseball juices for roughly the last third of the old ballgame.

Roughly a half-century later, during the "war to end all wars," the "stretch" tradition was more formally adopted when, during the seventh inning of Game 1 of the 1918 World Series (Boston Red Sox at Chicago Cubs), the band offered a rousing rendition of "The Star Spangled Banner" to honor America's fighting men.

As Red Sox pitcher Babe Ruth warmed up on the mound, fans rose in unison, standing at attention. So did the players. And everyone sang along, enjoying the musical interlude so much that they tried it again in Game 2 and then for the rest of the Series.

The tradition became so well ensconced that every major league ballpark now plays music to help fans stretch away, game in and game out. And that, of course, includes Baltimore, where we have enjoyed a seventh-inning tradition within a tradition for 32 years and counting. It's early to rise, early in the sack, Thank God I'm a country boy.

"Thank God I'm A Country Boy" was composed by young songwriter John Sommers on Dec. 31, 1973, as the guitar/fiddle player in John Denver's backup band was driving from his home in Aspen to Los Angeles. Sommers recalls that at the time he was feeling "peaceful, happy and content" with his lot in life, and started scribbling some notes about his blissful state along the way. They served as the inspiration for "Thank God I'm A Country Boy," which Sommers wrote and John



Denver recorded as part of his "Back Home Again" album in 1974.

In the summer of '74, Denver performed the song live at the Universal Amphitheatre in Los Angeles as part of a set that was recorded and released in 1975 as the two-record album, "An Evening With John Denver." Fans liked the live version of "Country Boy" enough that the song was released as a single that February. By June it reached No. 1 on the charts where it stayed for the next 22 weeks.

Coincidentally, 1975 was the year the Orioles, at the suggestion of general manager Frank Cashen, began playing pop music to reach out to younger fans. Throughout the '50s, '60s and early '70s the Orioles played "old folks" and organ music, and Cashen felt it was time for a change. So that season, public relations director Bob Brown began playing pop tunes during the seventh-inning stretch to see if anything would "take."

Late that season, shortstop Mark Belanger and his wife, Dee, went to Brown and suggested he try "Country Boy." The Belangers were fans and friends of Denver; they felt the song might catch on.

A simple kind of life never did me no harm, raisin' me a family and workin' on the farm...

And catch on it did. Fans seemed to like its peppy, toe-tapping attitude, and so did the players. Orioles' current general manager Mike Flanagan, a Cy Young Award winner for Baltimore in 1979, said his teammates liked the song because it served as a daily wakeup call. It reminded them that if they were down, they still had nine outs and plenty of time to come back.

Flanagan remembered the song as inspirational. "The guys felt like, 'We can do this,' and a lot of times we did," he said.

The fans seemed to sense their team was responding to "Country Boy" as well, and that added to its allure, enough to make it a resident seventh-inning stretch fixture at Orioles games from then on. On several occasions, the Orioles felt their fans might be growing tired of their popular foot-stomper, and suggested changing it. On Opening Day in 1980, they played "Oriole Magic," a popular jingle the team had produced during the '79 campaign.

"We got booed; I mean we really got booed," Brown said. "People had been waiting all winter to hear their 'Country Boy.' It was very humbling."

In 1994, the team offered baseball's anthem, "Take Me Out to the Ballgame," only to generate a similarly negative response. Today, the team plays "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" as a

warmup to "Country Boy," and the fans seem accepting.

So for more than three decades, Orioles fans and players alike have been inspired by the odd-fellow marriage of baseball, Baltimore and "Thank God I'm A Country Boy." It gives the Birds a home-field advantage that, as Dee Belanger puts it, "still has a long, long way to go."

My days are filled with an easy country charm, thank God I'm a country boy. Issue 2.27: July 5, 2007

Jim Curry's JD Tribute

I.E. singer pays tribute to John Denver

Michel Nolan, Staff Writer
San Bernardino County Sun

[Article Launched:08/12/2007 12:00:00 AM PDT](#)

In October, it will be a decade since John Denver's experimental aircraft crashed into Monterey Bay.

The singer-songwriter's vast legacy lives on in his music - much of which was inspired by nature.

For singer/guitarist Jim Curry, Denver's timeless music captures the spirit of the frontier and of freedom.

On Friday, Jim will perform a tribute concert to "Celebrate the Timeless Music of John Denver" at the Big Bear Lake Performing Arts Center.

"John's music is very uplifting," says Jim, who lives in Upland with Anne, his wife of 27 years.

"When Bob Dylan and Joan Baez were writing about the political situation, John would write about the positive aspect - what we could do about it."

Jim's voice and his musical talents (as well as his physical appearance) have an uncanny resemblance to the late folk legend. And every year, Jim has been invited to sing at John Denver tributes.

He's so good, in fact, that he landed the part of singing the voice of John Denver in the CBS movie, "Take Me Home: The John Denver Story."

These days, Jim and Anne perform onboard Holland America cruise lines - from the Caribbean to Alaska.

Together with their band, they've become a popular attraction. In addition to Jim, the band includes Anne on vocals, guitar and mandolin, Chris Wills on keyboards and vocals, Gene Wagner on drums and percussion, and Bob Byrne on bass.

"Our good friend, Diane Ireland, is flying in from Colorado to join us for the Big Bear concert," Jim



says. "Diane is an incredible flute player; she adds grace and beauty to John's music. Diane usually performs with us in Aspen and in our Las Vegas shows, and we know you will agree that she is a dynamic addition to this very special concert."

For Jim, performing at sea is the best job on the ship - much better than the captain's. He says that performances at sea help fill in the void of performance dates on land.

"A couple of times we were doing a show onboard ship but had to leave to do a bigger show on land. We just took one of those puddle-jumpers to the concert venue," he says.

Each year, Jim joins other musicians for the Aspen Jam, trying new music.

"John was about new music as well," he says.

And every year, Jim performs a tribute concert to John Denver in Aspen. This year is no exception.

"Windstar: A Voice for the Future," on Oct. 13, will feature Jim and musicians (including some from John Denver's band) John Stewart, James Burton, Jim Connor, Steve Weisberg, Jeff Burton and Dick Kniss.

"This year, I will be performing with some of the icons of John's career because this is the 10th anniversary of his death."

Adds Jim, "It's not a sad event. It's a celebration of John's music, his life and all his philanthropic works."

John, who wanted to use his success to be an advocate for nature, in 1976 co-founded the Windstar Foundation, a non-profit wildlife preservation agency, and in 1977, founded the World Hunger Project.

As an environmentalist and humanitarian, his memberships also included the Cousteau Society, Save the Children Foundation, the National Space Institute and Friends of the Earth.

John Denver is one of RCA's top five recording artists of all time. According to Jim, the singer's untimely death in 1997 was a tragedy that was felt the world over.

Such a void in the musical world left John's ardent fans demanding that the music survive, Jim says.

The local singer has emerged as the top performer of John's legacy of popular music.

"We're looking forward to the concert in Big Bear," he says. "It's a great venue to perform in, and we're finally going to be there."

Both Jim and Anne will appear on Channel 6 TV in the Big Bear Lake area. The show will air at 2 and 8 p.m. Tuesday and 2 and 8:30 p.m. Thursday.

You can also view it on the Web site www.bigbeartv.net/cam/cam.htm.

The evening promises to be a Rocky Mountain High.

Reader's Digest Collection with JD

The latest to come out: "80 Country Classics by 16 Hit-making Superstars!: and John's songs are: Take Me Home, Country Roads, Sunshine On My Shoulders, Rocky Mountain High, Calypso, and Annie's Song." A four-hour celebration of the music that made Country what it is today! Plus a bonus booklet. The songs may be familiar, but some of the stories you'll discover in the 24-page guide won't be! You'll find out fascinating facts about your favourite country music performers and the songs they made into instant classics. It's the perfect way to get to know some old country music friends even better -- and it's yours at no additional charge! They are songs that can be tough to find on the radio nowadays, but will live forever in our hearts."

(Isn't amazing that they include him in "country", when only the first song comes close to being in that category? But I'm happy to have his music anywhere it shows up. I would be interested to see the commentary on John, but I'm not going to buy the whole set, just to find out.) From Jean

Dawn Publishing

There are 3 awards listed on the inside of the front page of the newest "Dawn Publishing" company catalog, featuring John's "Feather Bed" book/song on their cover!

The Benjamin Franklin Gold Award for "Sunshine On My Shoulders" book.

The National Parenting Publications Award for "Take Me Home, Country Roads & Sunshine On My Shoulders" books.

The American Booksellers Assoc. Book Sense Selection Award for "Sunshine On My Shoulders" book.

Really, I can't imagine why all of Christopher Canyon's book (so far 4 of them) don't ALL get awards, since in my estimation, they are all equally deserving! (I have just ordered several sets again, including the Grandma's Feather Bed one, to give away as gifts, to friends with little children, our public library, and several of our local primary grade schools.) What fun! wFrom Jean

John Denver – An Appreciation

This is a wonderful article.

http://www.madisonavenuejournal.com/2007/05/10/john_denver_an_appreciation/index.php



JD Plaque Dedication – Pacific Grove

The JD Plaque Dedication in Pacific Grove, next to Monterey, CA, will be held on **Sunday September 23**. People interested in coming to the plaque dedication, should get hotel/motel rooms as soon as possible because that weekend, is the Monterey Jazz Festival's 50th anniversary weekend and thousands will be in town.

Little Mulchatna

I am assuming that most all of you addressed here know the significance of the Little Mulchatna Lodge in Alaska. If not, it is the place that John often visited to "get away". According to Stu Ramstadt, who owned it during John's lifetime, John made 26 trips to the lodge in a span of about 20 years. Last August, Jeff Schendel, the new owner, gave a number of us the opportunity to make a trip to this special place. Jeff would like to give others the chance to also experience this beauty and has arranged to donate a trip for four to our "Let This Be A Voice" auction. Mary and I discussed how to offer this to give the most people a chance to win. We decided to make the trip a raffle instead of an auction item thus giving those who are unable to attend the Aspen festivities an opportunity to participate.

The particulars of the trip:

This is a trip for 4 people and is scheduled from June 19 through June 24, 2008---these dates are firm. I should note that this will put you at LML during the summer solstice.... the ultimate date for viewing the midnight sun. You will arrive at the lodge on Thursday, June 19th then on Monday afternoon, June 23rd, you will be flown back to Port Alsworth where you will spend one night at The Farm. The return flight to Anchorage would be on Tuesday, June 24th. The four people making the trip will need to be willing and able to share one cabin with two king size beds. It should also be noted that the transportation from Anchorage to Port Alsworth will be provided on a small 10 -seater plane and from there to the Lodge provided by float plane.

The trip includes:

*Round trip air fare from Anchorage to LML

*5 days, 4 nights at LML with all meals

*One night at The Farm in Port Allsworth with meals

The retail value of the above for four people would be from \$9,000 to \$10,000. But it can be yours for as little as \$10!!!!!!

You must provide the following:

*Air fare from your location to Anchorage

*Lodgings and meals in Anchorage. I suggest you plan to be in Anchorage at least the day before leaving for the lodge.

*The cost of temporary Alaska fishing licence (this was a cost of \$35 for three days in 2006). Fishing licences can be purchased in Port Alsworth or at the lodge. Trust me....you will want to do this!

*Any additional days you may wish to add to your trip to see other Alaska sights or any extended time at LML.

PLEASE NOTE: There is a weight limit per person including your weight and luggage which is around 300lb/person. Everything is weighed prior to the flight from Anchorage and if the limit is exceeded, the cost last year was .80/pound.

Any additional fly-outs from the Lodge would be around \$250/person for 4 people. There are opportunities to go to other locations if you are interested.

We will begin accepting requests for raffle tickets beginning now at a cost of \$10 each or 4 for \$35. The tickets will also be available at our "Let This Be a Voice" concert /auction on October 13 in Aspen. For those of you unable to attend, please send your request made payable to Pamela Beasley and send to her: 721 Ravencroft Dr., Garland, Tx 75043. Please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your payment. Your request for tickets must be received by October 1st and all proceeds from the sale of the tickets will be added to the auction dollars for the Aspen Camp School for the Deaf. Since the drawing will be held during the event, we ask those who do not plan to be present at the time of the drawing to provide a phone number where you can be reached so that we may contact the winner.

A Peace Beyond All Fear: A Tribute to John Denver's Vision

Written by: Hank Bruce, Published by Petals & Pages Press 234 pages, 6 x 9" trade paperback Retail Price: \$19.95, Release date: September, 2007 ISBN 978-0-9797057-3-1

A Peace Beyond All Fear:
A Tribute to John Denver's Vision
a collection of 15 short stories inspired by his life and songs

About the book:

John Denver was a singer, song writer, poet and dreamer. He was an environmentalist, humanitarian, activist for peace and food security. He was an inspiration for a generation, calling us to be more, care more, be involved more. He continues to be an inspiration, as his music still speaks to the need for nature and humanity to cooperate, calls to us to find the courage to



embrace peace and the wisdom to think of tomorrow's children.

He was born Henry John Deutschendorf, Jr. in Roswell New Mexico on the last day of 1943. While we can claim John Denver as a son of the Southwest, while he is called America's troubadour, he became truly a man of the world, the voice of great causes, an inspiration and a gift to the universe. John earned the Carl Sandburg People's Poet Award in 1982, and in 1993 he received the Albert Schweitzer Music Award. He was the first recipient of the World Ecology Medal awarded by the International Center for Tropical Ecology. He served on presidential commissions on hunger, and in 1985 received the NASA Medal for Public Service and President Reagan honored his work with the presentation of the "World Without Hunger Award

Hank Bruce worked with fifteen of John Denver's songs, songs that spoke to him and inspired this collection of short stories. These are fictional essays inspired by the words and music of John Denver's creative and compassionate nature. These aren't the stories behind the songs; they are messages inspired by the music. They also explore the human spirit with fifteen very different journeys. Most of these are positive in nature, and each is a gift, as were the songs John Denver gave us.

In Listen to the Children, inspired by the song, *I Want to Live*, a grandfather called "The Dreamer," and his granddaughter build an AIDS Orphanage in Kenya where they are visited by a lady with the gift of hope.

A Bucket of Homegrown Tomatoes inspired by the song, *Homegrown Tomatoes*, shows the human side of an elderly Alzheimer's patient as she shares a story from her childhood. Mr. Bruce is a horticultural therapist and much of his work has been with Alzheimer's and dementia clients. This true story shows us that these are people deserving of our compassion, respect and above all attention. These are people with gifts to give and precious moments to share.

Whose Garden Was This? is an environmental statement inspired by the song of the same name, written by Tom Paxton. It poses some valid questions for all of us as we confront the issues of global warming, pollution, survival, our place in the overall scheme of things, and the only real gift we have to give to our children.

A Peace Beyond All Fear was inspired by *Falling Leaves* a song John wrote about refugees. Hank takes us to Darfur and a small medical team working with the victims of this desert conflict, but we also look over the shoulder of a homeless Viet Nam veteran as his dream becomes a reality in

Pittsburgh's inner city. The gift of peace is one each of us can both give and receive.

Coming Home was inspired by the song *Whispering Jesse*. This is a story of cowardice, courage, old flames and the gift of senior love.

In the story ***On the Wings of an Eagle*** the reader walks with an alcoholic Native American as a wounded eagle guides his healing. The eagle and the man give the gift of healing to each other. This is an insightful story well crafted and positive. Perhaps the best story in the book.

Other stories treat contemplated suicide, the tragic lost love of a scientist in Alaska, a group of school children planting flowers on a former bombing range, a veteran returning from war with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, and another explores the relationship between a captured Iraqi insurgent and a Quaker who befriends him. Drugs, oil and arms dealers are also the focus of one of the stories, and another explores the health issues of the Native Americans who worked with and live near the uranium mines in New Mexico. It seems that each of these stories is a call to action, an open door through which each reader can walk in the quest for a better tomorrow, and each one of us can be a gift.

About the author:

Hank Bruce is a writer, horticultural therapist, hunger activist, teacher and speaker. He is the former president of the Florida Chapter of the American Horticultural Therapy Association. Hank has conducted research on the use of plants, flowers and gardening activities as therapeutic tools with stroke and Alzheimer's patients, and the value of gardening activities in the treatment of victims of domestic violence and substance abuse. In April 2007 he was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Florida Chapter of the American Horticultural Therapy Association and in 2001 he was given the Humanitarian of the Year Award by the American Horticultural Therapy Association. He has also done research on micro-intensive vegetable gardening systems that can be adaptable for use by gardeners with limitations, and for those living where there is limited water, space, soil or other resources. He is the program director of a non-profit food security organization, Hunger Grow Away, and the proceeds from this book will be donated to that organization to help support their work

Almost Heaven Comes to Grand Rapids

For anyone in or around Grand Rapids, Michigan, you'll have a two-day opportunity to attend the "Almost Heaven" Songs of John Denver" show that's being presented on Jan. 31- Feb.1. This is the six-person musical ensemble that sings the songs and tells the musical stories of John Denver.



Van Singel Season Includes Tribute to John Denver

Sunday, July 22, 2007

By Sue Merrell

The Grand Rapids Press

BYRON CENTER -- Van Singel Fine Arts Center will celebrate its 10th anniversary season with its most diverse season ever.

The 796-seat theater, which is attached to Byron Center High School, has been offering a season of five shows each year, with two performances of each show. For the 2007-08 anniversary season, the centre is cutting back its mainstage season to four shows, with two performances each, and adding a bonus season of three one-performance concerts by The Lettermen, The Grass Roots and the Cool Jazz group with Wessel Anderson.

"We're looking to expand our audience and attract new people," said Kathy Richards, house operations manager. "Eventually we'd like to expand the jazz into an annual jazz festival."

"We've learned the kind of show our audience likes," Richards said. "We have to be very careful with the content and keep them family friendly."

Subscriptions are on sale now; individual tickets go on sale in August. A season ticket for all four mainstage shows and all three bonus shows is \$170.60 (students 18 and younger, \$106.70). A season ticket for four mainstage shows is \$98.60 (students \$62.60). Individual tickets to mainstage series shows are \$27.50 (students \$17.50). Individual tickets to The Lettermen or The Grass Roots are \$36.50 (students \$22.50). Tickets to Cool Jazz are \$11.50 (students \$8.50). Tickets are available at the box office, 878-6800 (\$1.50 per ticket discount if cash or check). Performances are 7:30 p.m. at the centre, 8500 Burlingame Ave. SW, Byron Township.

The season

Oct. 18-19: "Beehive, The '60s Musical" -- Eight women perform 40 hits made popular by girl groups such as The Chiffons and The Supremes.

Jan. 31-Feb. 1: "Almost Heaven: Songs of John Denver" -- Six-person ensemble performs 28 hits, including "Country Roads" and "Rocky Mountain High."

April 17-18: "Little Women: The Broadway Musical" -- Beloved story of the March family during the Civil War.

June 12-13: "The Young Americans" -- Dozens of young singers and dancers perform patriotic tunes.

Oct. 5: The Lettermen -- Romantic harmony trio singing such hits of a bygone era as "When I Fall in Love" and "The Way You Look Tonight."

Jan. 12: The Grass Roots -- With original lead singer Rob Grill, perform such hits as "Temptation Eyes" and "Let's Live for Today."

May 2: Cool Jazz with Wessel "Warmdaddy" Anderson -- Alto saxophonist who toured with The Wynton Marsalis Sextet. Benefit

Sept. 13: Brian Vander Ark -- Former frontman for the chart-topping band Verve Pipe performs to benefit Byron Center Fine Arts Foundation. (\$20; students \$15) Send e-mail to: smerrrell@grpress.com

T-Shirts for Sale

The following information comes from our friend Carol Blevins, who supplies beautiful tee-shirts, bags and calendars each year -- any queries should be addressed to her at blevins@epix.net. **2007 JOHN DENVER SHIRTS & MORE**

WE ARE TAKING PRE-ORDERS FOR THE NEW 2007 DESIGN UNTIL SEPTEMBER 1st! Time is limited because we are going to Aspen in October. This year's design will feature a quote from "What One Man Can Do" with a Dream Catcher, white snow covered mountains and lots of colors in the design. Once again, the long and short sleeve shirts are 100% pre-shrunk authentic pigment dyed weathered cotton. The sweat shirts and totes are not pigment dyed. The Aspen, Colorado can be left off if desired. Please be sure to mark the appropriate line below. **Although we will be taking several dozen items to Aspen the sizes and amounts will be very limited and they will only be available at the Mt. Chalet "Let This Be A Voice" event held on October 13th from 9:30am to 2:30pm. To ensure getting what you want your best bet is to order it NOW! These prices include shipping in the USA and Canada - other countries please add \$5.00 per item (USA Funds only). If we are unable to get your 1st selection we will contact you about a substitute if you have provided a phone number or email address. Be sure to mark the space below if an alternate color or size is unacceptable.**

Please contact Carol for the order form for the items mentioned at blevins@epix.net.

Pete, Chris and Mollie Concert 29th September
TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE!!!

Come and join us on **Saturday evening, September 29, 2007 at 7:30 pm** for what promises to be a brilliant concert, featuring Vocalist Mollie Weaver, guitarist Pete Huttlinger and pianist Chris Nole! Weaver, Huttlinger and



Nole recently brought their collective style to an enthusiastic full house at the world renowned Carnegie Hall in March of 2007 and will come together once again this September for an intimate concert at The Little Theater at Hunterdon Central Regional High School on Rt 31 in Flemington, NJ.

Rarely do three artists with very different musical histories fit together so impeccably. Here are three artists, multiple talents, and exponential ways Mollie Weaver, Pete Huttlinger and Chris Nole come together in perfect fashion to grace the stage with powerful vocals, exquisite instrumentation and sophisticated style. This is a show you won't want to miss!

Tickets are Now on Sale for \$30.00 each and may be purchased by mailing a check or money order (made out to Cindy Donaldson) to:

Cindy Donaldson 281 Fairview Ave.

Long Valley, NJ 07853

(Please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope)

Please call or email Cindy at 908-619-1738 or cjd1002@aol.com with any questions.

All seats are \$30.00 each and Best Available Seats will be filled on a first come first serve basis. All ticket purchasers will receive directions to the theater in the envelope with their tickets. Please forward this email to anyone whom you think might be interested in this terrific evening of music! Thank you for helping us to spread the word. It is a rare and wonderful opportunity for us to be able to attend a concert with talent such as this all under one roof! For more information about the artists, please visit their websites at:

www.chrisnole.com; www.petehuttlinger.com
www.mollieweaver.com

Peace Cloth Event

From Inner Peace to Outer Space

So much more than just a concert. This year we will be featuring some of the finest performers in Aspen. The intention of our event this year will be to focus on how we can create a peaceful environment by starting with ourselves and working outward. Our performers will be using the music of John Denver to emphasize the difference that each one of us can make.

We will be entertained and enlightened by some great performers who are carrying on Johns music and message in their own ways. Jeff Pine has performed on many national stages and will be sharing what he has learned, through his participation with successful environmental groups, about how a healthy natural environment effects peace. Ellen Stapenhorst will share her music and some of what she has learned from Tom Crum through her close participation as an instructor for Akai Works. Denny Brooks, former

John Denver band member will present some of his music and few stories. Two time Kerrville New Folk finalist, Derek Arambaru will join us to share his passion for Johns's music and message. Mark Cormican will also be joining us to sing a few songs and talk about Plant It 2020. Chris Westfall will close out the show with some poignant songs by John Denver. Chris Collins, award winning radio show host on KPFT Houston and producer of the Windstar radio PSA's, will emcee the show and perform some special John Denver songs.

Please join us for an afternoon that promises to entertain and reconnect you to the power of John Denver's music.

Where: Mountain Chalet Ballroom, Aspen, CO

When: Friday, October 12, 2007

Time: 12:30 PM

Price: \$20

For tickets and more information, email

Eve@Johndenverpeacecloth.com.

Additionally, please email Eve if you have auction items to donate or would like to volunteer.

James Burton and Jim Curry

Two shows not to be missed!!! Awesome lineup in Aspen:

<http://www.spotlightheroes.com/ASPEN>

Gonna be some great music at the Harris Concert Hall on **October 13th.**

Hard to top that lineup - be there or miss out! You're just gonna love it. THANKS JD FANS!!!

WINDSTAR
A Voice for the Future
Celebrate the Timeless Music of John Denver

An All Star Lineup of Talent
Starring **Jim Curry**
The voice of John Denver as heard in the CBS Movie "Take Me Home: The John Denver Story" and host of the Las Vegas hit radio show "An acoustic night with..."

With special assistance by former member of "The Kingston Trio" Author of hit song "Rocky Mountain High" by the Mashed Potatoes, "Rumors" from the Beach Boys and his new hit "Gold".

World Famous Guitarist **James Burton**
Collaborator for John Denver spanning 20 years of tours, recordings and TV specials. His playing has added to the magic of Blue Prairie, Back Mountain, Smoky Mountain and many other icons of our time.

Former member of **Jim Connor** Former John Denver band member (The Christmas Album) "Christmas: A Family Affair"

Former member of **Steve Weisberg** Former John Denver band member (The Christmas Album) "Christmas: A Family Affair"

Special Guest **Jeff Burton** Band member

Former member of **Dick Kniss** Band member

band members: Anne Curry, Gene Wagner, Diane Ireland, Mark Gulek, Tom & Cathy Perring, Chris Will

Saturday October 13th
Matinee show 1:00pm Evening show 7:00 pm
Harris Concert Hall, 2 Multischool Rd, Aspen, CO 81611
ORDER TICKETS AT
www.spotlightheroes.com/ASPEN
A concert to benefit
Windstar Foundation and the Aspen Camp for the Deaf
Hosted by Windstar Colorado Connection Produced by Spotlight Heroes

Wheeler Concert Tickets went on Sale June 1st

Hello fans of John Denver,

The 10th Annual Musical Tribute to John Denver will take place at The Wheeler Opera House in Aspen Colorado this year on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday October 11th, 12th and 13th.

Tickets went on sale Friday June 1st @ 10:00am Mountain time. You can purchase you tickets on

line @ <http://www.wheeleroperahouse.com/> or call the Wheeler @ 970.920.5770.

For additional information go to <http://www.challengeaspen.com/special-events.cfm>

Please forward this to everyone you think would be interested.

Chris Westfall in Concert – Aspen 14th October

October 14, Sunday; in Aspen, in the downstairs Mt. Chalet Ballroom, 8pm: Christopher Westfall presents A JOHN DENVER MUSICAL RETROSPECTIVE, featuring John Denver's music through the years. This special concert will include the rare and very rare JD gems. (\$15 each donation) For tickets: Please send a Self-Addressed- Stamped-Envelope to "Tickets, CRW concert to Judy Therrien, 12 Dunecrest Avenue, Monterey, CA 93940". For more information: jht@spamarrest.com. For interesting info about Chris, see www.chriswestfall.com

Aspen in October

Here is the link for all the activities in Aspen in October: <http://www.john-denver.org/default.asp?nc=196&id=6>

September/October Newsletter

I will taking a break from the HGA Newsletters for two months, whilst I travel to Canada and America. We are just over one week away from leaving on a jet plane. Our November newsletter will be jam-packed with stories and photos from Aspen, so stay tuned.

Where-ever you are on the 12th October, say a little prayer for John and his family, play your favourite song and remember a man who has influenced so many people across the world.

"What One Man Can Do"

Travelling to Aspen

To all those people travelling to Aspen in October, I would like to wish you a very happy and safe trip. Take a moment to soak in your surroundings and try to absorb the wonderful scenery that was so close to the hearts of John and his family.

I hope to see many of you there.

Some material included in this newsletter has been derived from the public domain, such as the internet and printed media. Articles and reviews are the opinion of the individual writer and as long as the content is of a reasonable nature and it is appropriate, it will be included. Organisations mentioned or featured in this newsletter are included to educate and inform people of their role and purpose. HGA does not profit from including the names of any organisation in this newsletter. This newsletter is only emailed to those people who have individually contacted HGA and expressed a wish to receive it. Please do not hesitate to let me know if you no longer wish to receive the HGA newsletter.





**The Late John Denver, a Voice for the Planet.
31.12.1943 – 12.10.1997.**

**It's ten years since John Denver 's Spirit soared,
Up beyond the Heavens, which he adored.
He saw the climate changes looming our way
And regardless of cynics, to his beliefs held sway.**

**If his words of "It's About Time" had been acted on by Governments
There wouldn't be so much healing needed for the environment.
He worked & gave to the hungry children of the World,
And cared for all forms of life, as his own life unfurled.**

**He worked for a sustainable future for *all* living things
And now his work, by others, has been lifted up & given wings.
However, let us not forget his & other voices crying in the wilderness
About a life sustaining Earth, & about mankind using much less.**

**His music filled out lives and hearts, & still bring joy today
As we choose from all the songs he wrote, special ones to play.
Songs of love, heartbreak, joy, elation in Nature, of being alone,
about the environment, children, & days of diamonds and stone.**

Gloria Donnelly – Australia.



October 2007.



Leaving on a Jet Plane

All my bags are packed I'm ready to go.
I'm standing here outside your door.
I hate to wake you up to say goodbye.
But the dawn is breaking it's early morn.
The taxi's waitin' he's blowin' his horn.
Already I'm so lonesome I could die.

So kiss me and smile for me.
Tell me that you'll wait for me.
Hold me like you'll never let me go.
Cause I'm leavin' on a jet plane.
Don't know when I'll be back again.
Oh, babe I hate to go.

There's many times I've let you down
So many time I've played around.
I tell you now they don't mean a thing.
Every place I go I'll think of you.
Ev'ry song I sing I'll sing for you.
When I come back I'll bring your wedding ring.

So kiss me and smile for me.
Tell me that you'll wait for me.
Hold me like you'll never let me go.
Cause I'm leavin' on a jet plane.
Don't know when I'll be back again.
Oh, babe I hate to go.

Now the time come to leave you.
One more time let me kiss you.
Then close your eyes I'll be on my way.
Dream about the days to come.
When I won't have to leave alone.
About the times I won't have to say

So kiss me and smile for me.
Tell me that you'll wait for me.
Hold me like you'll never let me go.
Cause I'm leavin' on a jet plane.
Don't know when I'll be back again.
Oh, babe I hate to go.
I'm leavin' on a jet plane.
Don't know when I'll be back again.
Oh, babe, I hate to go.

