

The

Cotton Patch

Rag!



Official Newsletter of the Houston
Folklore and Music Society

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February 2025



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February 9, 2025 6:00 pm

**5308 Buffalo Speedway
Houston, TX 77005**

*In light of the Super Bowl being played on February 9th,
the Second Sunday concert for the Houston Folklore and
Music Society with Jack Motley and Butch Morgan has been
rescheduled for **September 14th**. Instead, HFMS will host a FREE*

Open Mic Night



SECOND SUNDAY CONCERT IS PRESENTED BY THE HOUSTON FOLKLORE AND MUSIC SOCIETY, A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION OF SINGER-SONGWRITERS WORKING IN THE FOLK MUSIC TRADITIONS. TICKETS ARE \$20 PER PERSON - SOLD AT THE DOOR (EXCEPT FOR OPEN MIC EVENTS). CHILDREN UNDER 12 ARE FREE (MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT). STUDENTS GET IN FREE WITH STUDENT ID! CONCERTS ARE HELD AT [ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN](https://www.standrewshouston.org). VISIT OUR WEBSITE, WWW.HOUSTONFOLKMUSIC.ORG OR CONTACT JIM GILL AT JIM@SAHOUSTON.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION.

COMING EVENTS



HFMS Song Circle
Tuesday, Feb. 4, 2025
(First Tuesday) 7:00 PM
Midtown Bar & Grill
Upstairs



Monthly Pickin' Party
February 16, 2025
(3rd Sunday every month!)
This month's artist — Peter Yarrow

Gary's Place
518 Fair Oaks Dr.
Stafford, TX

2:00 pm snack* and socialize
3:00 pm pick-n-play
***bring anything you like!**

SECOND SUNDAY CONCERTS		
March 2025	Ryan Biter	Grifters and Shills opens
April 2025	Dana Cooper	Ed Amash opens
May 2025	Daniel Neihoff	

The WWW

by Andy Longo

The “www.” in web addresses stands for world wide web. Somehow, I think one of those w’s should stand for “wonderful”. There is a wealth of knowledge and help available. You can find manuals for your household appliances, computers, cameras and such. There are tutorials for learning to play many musical instruments, and the lyrics and chords for countless songs. I think we have all come accustomed to its availability. This may not be the case with Paul McCartney, a most accomplished musician, who tells the story of how he and John Lennon learned the “B7” chord as youths in Liverpool.



See this 38 second video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XQfwW-oeh80>

Songs of the Cowboys

by Andy Longo

To write about the men who drove the cattle from Texas to the rail yards in Kansas, one could write volumes, and this has been done. These individuals were men who survived the American Civil War, and were willing to take on the hardships of the cattle trails to do the job. They referred to themselves as “punchers”, but “cowboys” is the name by which they were called and remembered. You can access a glossary of terms they used here:



<https://cowboyaccountant.com/cowboy-glossary/>

Therein you can find “nighthawk”. This cowboy tended the cattle during the night and often sang to them in order to maintain a calm atmosphere.

Songs such as “Home on the Range” and the “The Old Chisholm Trail” are readily associated with the cowboys. There is a wealth of cowboy music documented and easily accessed online. It is the “Cowboy Songs and Other Frontier Ballads” collected by John A. Lomax, M.A. One can purchase a Kindle version for a very nominal price, or access it by this link from Project Gunterberg.org: <https://www.gutenberg.org/files/21300/21300-h/21300-h.htm#page147>



FEBRUARY FEATURED SONG

by Paul Cooper

CAN'T TAKE A BATH ON SATURDAY NIGHT

This is a song of hard times, published in 1928 with the great depression approaching, and falling crop prices making agriculture less viable. Not everyone is experiencing hard times now, but many folks are, and maybe thinking of this old song will help us to remember them. Pete Seeger's version from his album, *American Industrial Ballads* can be heard here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wStbEx-Jino>

This recording can also be

heard on the HFMS Audio Archive page at <https://www.houstonfolkmusic.org/AudioArchives>

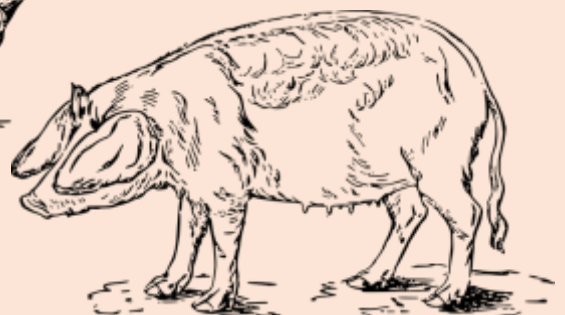
It sounds like Pete is playing in G chord shape, capoed at what would be the fourth fret on the guitar. If the key is a little high for you, just move the capo down.



SEVEN CENT COTTON

G C G
Seven cent cotton an' a forty cent meat
C G Am D
How in the world can a poor man eat?
G C G
Flour up high and cotton down low
G D G
How in the world can we raise the dough?
C G
Clothes worn out, shoes run down
A D
Ol' slouch hat with a hole in the crown
G C G
Back nearly broken and fingers all sore
G D G
Cotton gone down to rise no more

Seven cent cotton an' eight dollar pants
Who in the world has got a chance?
We can't buy clothes, we can't buy meat
Too much cotton and not enough to eat
Can't help each other, what'll we do?
I can't explain it so it's up to you
Seven cent cotton and two dollar hose
Guess we'll have to do without any clothes
Seven cotton an' a forty meat
How in the world can a poor man eat?
Mules in the barn no crop laid by
Corn crib's empty and the cow's gone dry
Well water low, nearly outta sight
Can't take a bath on a Saturday night
No use talkin', any man is beat
With seven cent cotton an' a forty cent meat



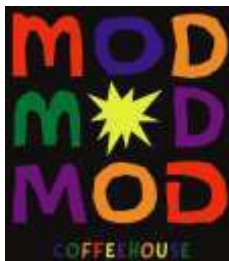
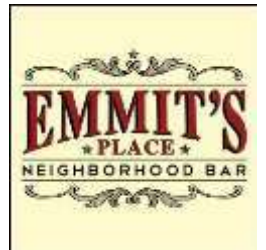
LOCAL FOLKIN'!

Community Folk Music Calendars, Venues and Other Concert Resources
in and around the Houston Metro Area— *Images are Live Links!*

- 🔗 Search by genre or your favorite band
- 🔗 Create your own schedule/calendar
- 🔗 Get email updates



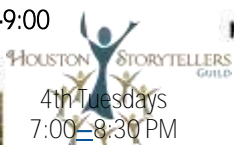
LIVE MUSIC VENUES



GET YOUR JAM ON!



Luka BBQ Steak House
Tuesdays 7:00–9:00



Every Wednesday, 6–8 pm



MONTHLY SUNDAY JAM



Wednesdays 12:30 pm
& Monthly Jams



Monthly Saturday Jam

TWINKLE YOUR TOES!



HOUSTON DISTRICT
Mondays & Tuesdays
[Scottish Country Dance](#)
Register Here!



Mondays & Fridays
Check for locations!



European Dance Guild
2nd & 4th [Thursdays](#), 6–8 pm



Select
Saturdays & Sundays
Check for times!

FOR THE KIDS!



LOCAL EVENTS



UPCOMING TEXAS EVENTS

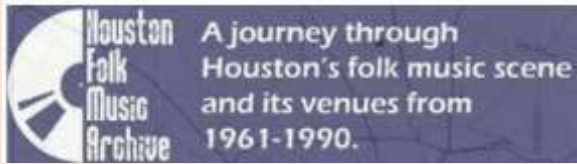
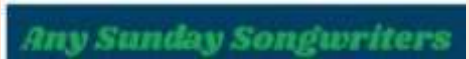


UPCOMING & UPDATED FOLKLORE AND MUSICAL
EVENTS AROUND THE US AND BEYOND



JUST FOLKIN' AROUND

Virtual resources for learnin', partakin', or just listenin'!



WANTED

NEW BOARD MEMBER – ALIVE!

HFMS IS SEEKING SOMEONE WHO IS PASSIONATE ABOUT CARRYING ON THE TRADITION AND HISTORY OF FOLK MUSIC FOR FUTURED GENERATIONS!

REWARD: THE SATISFACTION OF BEING PART OF SOMETHING BIGGER THAN YOURSELF, THE JOY OF WORKING WITH A GREAT GROUP OF FOLKS YOU HAVE SOMETHING IN COMMON WITH!

DUTIES: ATTEND BOARD MEETINGS, PROVIDE VALUABLE INPUT, ENCOURAGE OTHER BOARD MEMBERS!

IF INTERESTED, PLEASE CONTACT OUR PREZ:
NEELY ATKINSON NEELYATK@GMAIL.COM

**JOIN US, INVITE YOUR FRIENDS
OR BUY THEM A GIFT MEMBERSHIP!**

Started in June 1951, Houston Folklore and Music Society (HFMS) is a non-profit, membership organization dedicated to the preservation of folk music (*from the German word Volksmusik meaning “people's music”*), and promotion of singer-songwriters working in the folk music traditions. In 1980, HFMS started hosting concerts and 100% of concert proceeds have gone to the artists! We are a 100% volunteer organization presenting: traditional folk E bluegrass E country music E old time E blues E acoustic jazz E other Americana/Roots music E European and Celtic folk E Mexican and South American, and the list goes on... You never know who will turn up at a [Second Sunday Concert!](#)

Members receive our monthly digital newsletter, *The Cotton Patch Rag (with extensive local resources and worldwide events)* and the satisfaction of supporting and promoting live music in the greater Houston area. **Dues are \$20 (one email address) individual membership, and \$35 (two email addresses) joint membership.**

Join us online at [Online Memberships](#). Or if your preference is snail mail, print this form and mail it with a check payable to:

Houston Folklore and Music Society
P O Box 16013
Sugar Land, TX 77496

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

☐ New Membership ☐ Renewal ☐ Rejoining

Is this a new address? ☐ Yes ☐ No Today’s Date: _____

NAME(S): _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ ALT PHONE: _____

EMAIL (1): _____

EMAIL (2): _____

Enclosed is: ☐ \$20 Annual Dues ☐ \$35 Annual Dues

Thank you!

For information contact:

Second Sunday Concerts: [Jim Gill](#) or 832-453-4455

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Newsletter Content and General Organization Info: [Paul Cooper](#)

General Organization Info, Our Prez: [Neely Atkinson](#)