

# ConCertino 09

The Nineteenth Floating Northeast Filk Convention

## 19-21 June 2009

### *Progress Report*

**Bill & Gretchen Roper** GoH

**Kathleen Sloan** Toastmistress

**Harold Stein** Techno-Guest

**Brooke Lunderville &**

**John Caspell**

Interfilk Guests

**Lois Mangan** Ghost of Honor

Concerts, workshops, song contest, choir, open filks,  
food, friends, fun, and singing late into the night!

*brought to you by*



*M.A.S.S.*

*F.I.L.C.*

18 Cottage Avenue  
Arlington, MA 02474  
www.concertino.net

### OUR GUESTS

Guests of Honor **Bill & Gretchen Roper** have been active in recording, publishing, writing, and performing filk for over twenty years. Bill's songs and performances include strong original material, both serious and humorous. He has a tape of his own, "The Grim Roper," and one shared with Clif Flynt, "Liftoff to Landing". He received Pegasus Awards for his songs, "Wind From Rainbow's End," and "Kinda Mediocre, Actually". Gretchen has written or co-written lyrics for a large number of songs, including "Library Song", "Brain Sludge", and "My Husband the Filker," which won a Pegasus award in 2003. In her collaborations with Bill, she is responsible for far more insanity than her demeanor would have you believe. To see their interplay on these songs is to watch a pair of masters at work. It is less widely known that Gretchen is also a delightful performer in her own right. In 2000 Bill was inducted into the Filk Hall of Fame, and in 2006 Gretchen joined the Filk Hall of Fame ranks. You can learn more about them by checking the FHOF link on the FilKONtario website.. Their albums include *Seven Miles a Second*, *Crosstime Bus*, and *Falling Towards Orion*.

Toastmaster **Kathleen Sloan** entered fandom in 1975 and went to her first filk at a Marcon in 1976 (during a tornado warning, in a tornado shelter in a stair well; great acoustics!). For a long time she was mostly a listener, sitting quietly (ok, I agree, that is a little hard to imagine) in the back of the room crocheting and adding the occasional harmony. She went to mostly Ohio and midwestern conventions, and after finishing medical school and residency, she started playing in circles. A move to Denver and a job change allowed her to attend many more filk cons, and she began to dabble at song writing. In 1993 Kathleen was asked to become an Interfilk director. Since then she has been (in) famous for her antics wenching at Interfilk auctions, as well as for donating many a strange item along with the occasional beautiful beadwork piece. She was even crazy enough to help co-run filking at Denvention 3 in 2008 (and she has almost recovered from that experience).

Though not a prolific songwriter, Kathleen has written several notable songs including "Catalog Queen", "A Kind Of Magic", and "Take It Back". She loves to cover other writers' songs and enjoys learning filks to take around the country (and even Germany once in a while!) to share at multiple filk cons. You can often find Kathleen sitting just outside the circle working on some intricate bead project, waiting for the right moment to add a song to the evening's music. Kathleen is thrilled and honored to have been asked to be the toastmaster for Concertino, and is extra excited that she gets to come to the convention where Brooke Lunderville and John Caspell are the Interfilk guests. In 2007 Kathleen was inducted into the Filk Hall of Fame, and you can learn more about her by checking the link on the FilKONtario website, <http://www.fko.ca>.



Techno-Guest **Harold Stein** is an energetic figure at Northeastern conventions, recording concerts and open filks and getting people copies of their own performances as well as donating many to Interfilk. He was a member of the Denvention Art Show staff and art show and filk staff at Lunacon. He is running filk for I-Con in April. He has recorded and published seven CDs so far. Harold is currently working on Kathy Sands CD #3, tentatively titled "Do Hackers Dream of Electric Sheep?" (recorded and in the editing process), the Contata 2008 CD, and a special project for Concertino.

Our Interfilk Guests **Brooke Lunderville & John Caspell** are a filk duo from Vancouver, BC. Brooke sings & plays the mysterious banjola (what is that thing?), while John's prodigious guitar skill almost lends an air of credibility to their otherwise dangerously ridiculous act. Along with a selection of strange cover songs, they perform Brooke's compositions, which range from silly to touching and are disproportionately on the subject of the giant squid. Brooke & John will be releasing their very first album at Concertino this year! They are **awfully** excited about it and hope you like it! In the meantime, you can check out samples of their music at <http://catfish.dhs.org/~happyfish/filk/>.

Our Ghost of Honor is **Lois Mangan** (December 15, 1946 to May 10, 2008). Spouse, sister, Registered Nurse ("You only get *one* back!"), health care advocate for family, friends and patients, and fan of many things (the beauties of nature, music, dancing, history, reading, costuming, science fiction and fantasy) and, of course, filking (recruiter, club president, con chair, singer of classics and rounds, 2006 Filk Hall of Famer), died unexpectedly at home in Milford, MA, of respiratory failure secondary to Parkinson's Disease. She is free of pain and indignity, and of the frustrations of Parkinson's Disease. In 2006 Lois was inducted into the Filk Hall of Fame, and you can learn more about her by checking the link on the FilKONtario website, <http://www.fko.ca>. Her memorial page can be found here: <http://www.massfilc.org/loismangan.html>.

## DEALERS' ROOM

Yes, we will have one.

## HOW TO REACH US

Snail Mail to Ellen Kranzer,  
M.A.S.S. F.I.L.C.

18 Cottage Avenue, Arlington, MA 02474-5504

Phone: 781-646-3118

E-Mail: [concertino09@concertino.net](mailto:concertino09@concertino.net)

Web: <http://www.concertino.net>

## INTERFILK AUCTION

Once again, there will be a superlatively entertaining Auction to raise funds for our beloved Interfilk, featuring the infamous Interfilk Wenches. Said Auction will be held on Saturday, time TBD. Donations of items will be gratefully received by Persis Thorndike, and displayed in the Dealer's Room. Auction forms will be available at registration. Please tag your item with your name and suggested retail value, as well as a starting bid. The live auction will run for 1 hour; bidding for the silent auction will close at 1 pm on Sunday.

## MEMBERSHIPS

Pre-Reg Memberships are US\$55 until May 16, 2009. and will be US\$60 at the door. Premier Memberships are \$80, and will include special recognition and extras. Children 5 and under (in-tow) are free. Children 6-12 are \$10 (Youth rate) and do not receive publications. Supporting memberships: \$15, include progress report and program book, and can be converted to attending by paying the difference in price.

## OPPORTUNITIES TO PERFORM

In addition to open filking, there will be one-shots, 2x10's, and other participatory performance formats (say that ten times fast!) that give you the chance to perform on our main stage. Please sign up at registration as slots will be limited.

## PROGRAMMING

ConCertino '09 will feature a wide variety of fantastic filk programming, including concerts by our guests and others, performers' circles, workshops, theme circles, and lots and lots of open filking.

## SONG BOOK

Please submit your songs for the ConCertino '09 Song Book to [songbook@concertino.net](mailto:songbook@concertino.net) as soon as possible.

## SONG WRITING CONTEST

Theme: Take It Back

Entries will be judged by a panel. Entries do not have to be performed live by the songwriter—you may ask a friend to perform your song or submit it in a recorded form. Please remember to bring an extra hard copy of your lyrics for the judges. Songs must have been written after Contata '08.

## WORKSHOPS

A variety of workshops will be offered including a recording demo featuring our techno-guest, and more.

## VOLUNTEERS

Well, it worked the last time we asked for volunteers (3 years ago!) Thanks so much to them! We couldn't do it without them! Please come and do it again!

## HOTEL

The hotel for ConCertino '09 will be the Crowne Plaza Hotel, located in downtown Worcester at 50 Lincoln Square, Worcester, MA 01692 (For the purpose of GPS/Google Maps/Mapquest, the driveway is at 81 Major Taylor Blvd.) Phone: 508-791-1600.

The room rate is US\$89/night(plus tax) for 1 to 4 people. The deadline to receive the Con room rate is 3 pm on **May 26, 2006**. You will need to call the hotel directly during normal business hours and mention ConCertino to get the Con room rate. Do not use the hotel's web form; you will not get the Con rate. Please note that pets are not permitted in the hotel. If you have trouble with your reservations, please contact [hotel@concertino.net](mailto:hotel@concertino.net)

Our room block includes the rooms around the con suite on the first floor, and over the function space and the con suite on the second floor. Unfortunately, this hotel has chosen to allocate the first and second floor sleeping rooms as smoking rooms. As there is no sound proofing between the first floor function space and the second floor sleeping rooms, we would like to fill those rooms on the second floor with convention members (to avoid another incident like the one OVFF had with "March of Cambreadth.") Please let us know if you can take a room in our buffer zone. The con suite will be treated with an ionizer; our allergy prone members were not able to detect the fact that the rooms were designated smoking rooms. All other first and second floor rooms in our block will be aired out sufficiently.

There is the usual hotel restaurant with very acceptable hotel food, with the usual hotel pricing. A restaurant guide of area eateries will be available.

The hotel has an indoor/outdoor pool, and a hot tub. Pack suitable clothing. The hotel has an open roofed, 3 level parking garage just across from the main entrance. The \$5/day fee will be on your hotel bill, and allows for unlimited in and out. If by strange chance this garage is full, there is an open air overflow lot one block away.

## DRIVING DIRECTIONS

From North of Worcester (via Mass. Route 2) • In Leominster, take Exit 33 from Route 2 to I-190 South, which starts there. Go down I-190 a little over 19 miles until it ends at I-290 in Worcester. Bear right onto I-290 West. • Stay in the right lane of I-290 West and take the very first exit (Exit 18 - 0.7 miles from the start of the I-190 fork to the exit). See From North of Worcester (from I-495 South) below for local street directions. Alternately, you can take exit 40 from Route 2 to I-495 South and follow the *via I-495 South* directions.

From North of Worcester (via I-495 South) • Take I-495 South to Exit 25. Take I-290 West approximately 13 miles into Worcester. Immediately after the interchange with I-190, move to the right hand lane and take the very first exit (Exit 18 - less than half a mile). • **Local Street Directions:** At the light at the foot of the exit ramp, take the right onto Lincoln Street, and follow the signs for

right. The hotel's sign is visible on a brick wall at the far right corner of the intersection. • At the 2nd light, continue across the intersection in the right hand lane as Lincoln Street becomes Worcester Center Blvd. The Crowne Plaza's driveway is the first right. It has a pedestrian light.

From Eastern Massachusetts • Take your best route to the Massachusetts Turnpike westbound (I-90), a toll road. Take Exit 10 in Auburn onto I-290 East. After the toll booth, bear left 3 times to get to I-290. After approximately 7 miles, take Exit 17 in Worcester. It says Route 9, Ware/Framingham. See From All Other Directions below for local street directions.

From Rhode Island • Take State Route 146 North to the Massachusetts Turnpike westbound (I-90), a toll road. After 3 miles take the next exit (Exit 10) in Auburn onto I-290 East. After the toll booth, bear left 3 times to get to I-290. After approximately 7 miles, take Exit 17 in Worcester. It says Route 9 - Ware / Framingham. See From All Other Directions below for local street directions.

From Eastern Connecticut • Take I-395 North until it becomes I-290 East (at I-90). Continue on I-290. After approximately 7 miles, take Exit 17 in Worcester. The sign says Route 9 - Ware/Framingham. See From All Other Directions below for local street directions.

From All Other Directions • Take your best route to the Massachusetts Turnpike (I-90), a toll road. Take Exit 10 in Auburn onto I-290 East. After approximately 7 miles, take Exit 17 in Worcester. It says Route 9, Ware/Framingham. • **Local streets:** At the light at the end of the exit ramp, take the left on Mass. Route 9 West (Belmont Street). After a block or two you will see the hotel up ahead on the left. The hotel's sign is visible on a brick wall at the far left corner of that intersection. • Take the left at the second traffic light onto Worcester Center Blvd. The Crowne Plaza's driveway is the first right. It has a pedestrian light.

## ARRIVING VIA PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

It is fairly simple, albeit time consuming, to travel there by public transportation from Logan Airport. Alternatively, you can take Amtrak, Commuter Rail (MBTA) or long-distance bus. If you arrive at either the train station or the bus station, you should call a taxi from the payphones in the station. Please look at the Public Transportation directions on the [www.concertino.net](http://www.concertino.net) web site at <http://www.concertino.net/publicdirections.html> as they are fairly lengthy.

