

Wild Hog in the Woods Coffeehouse

953 Jenifer Street Madison, WI 53703 www.wildhoginthewoods.org

Press Release

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LOCAL FOLK MUSIC ORGANIZATION CELEBRATES 30 YEARS

MADISON, WISCONSIN, OCTOBER 29, 2008: The Wild Hog in the Woods, Inc. is celebrating its 30th anniversary with a special concert at 7:30pm at the Wild Hog in the Woods Coffeehouse located at the Wil-Mar Neighborhood Center at 953 Jenifer Street on Friday, November 7th. The "Hog" will also host a barn dance the next evening at the Grace Episcopal Church on the Square at West Washington Avenue at 7:00pm. Admission to Friday's concert is \$12. Barn Dance is \$5.00. Details are at www.wildhoginthewoods.org and our November-December Newsletter is attached to the email as a PDF.

THE HOG'S 30 YEAR HISTORY IN MADISON

The Wild Hog in the Woods is a membership organization, a not for profit based on cooperative principles.

The Wild Hog operates a 70's style coffeehouse with live folk music and other special events, workshops, dances from time to time or in cooperation with other organizations.

Members play a big role in the Wild Hog, volunteering their time to host the coffeehouse and other events, including promotion, booking performers, running sound, baking, newsletter and web site, and much more. We welcome new members!

A good way of getting involved with the Coffeehouse is by volunteering some of your time. We always need help with setup, take-down, and the like. There are many behind the scenes jobs such as baking and postering, which can be done on a more flexible schedule.

If you're interested in performing at the coffeehouse, playing or calling at a barn dance, becoming a member, or would like to get involved with the Coffeehouse in any way, you can simply talk to the MC or person at the admission table or contact our scheduler listed on the web site, www.wildhoginthewoods.org.

Performers play for tips placed in our ceramic wild hog, Phillup-the-Pig. Staff are all volunteers. That's what allows us to keep the admission low, just to pay the rent.

Often the Wild Hog in the Woods Coffeehouse joins forces with other organizations in the area to accomplish common goals that neither group could bring about as well (if at all) alone.

The reasons for this are to foster an atmosphere of community, and of mutual support, as well as to expose a vast range of ideas, musical styles, and cultural and ethnic flavors to a more diverse cross section of people. We really think cooperation is a good idea and we love to do it.

OUR 30 YEAR HISTORY

In the spring of 1978, several folk enthusiasts began talking about possible outlets for folk music beyond their living rooms and record players. In particular, they wondered about finding a location which would be permanent and open to the public, a place where folks could go to hear or play folk music even if they did not know anyone in town.

Kiosks and store fronts were postered around town to find other interested people. The consensus at the early meetings was that the place should be a coffeehouse.

Later meetings led to our incorporation as a non-profit, non-stock organization and also to organize as a cooperative. With Madison's strong cooperative community and with a healthy concern against 'going in over our heads' as a commercial venture, we determined that a cooperative would be the way to go, the safest economically, and the fairest socially.

Our friendly relationship with the Green Lantern Cooperative allowed us to survive and develop our coffeehouse without too much worry about overhead.

It's been determined over and over again that a broad base of ideas and personal support is important for the operation and long life of the Wild Hog.