

# *Celebrating Thirty Years in the Folk Tradition!*

*November 2008*



30

**1978 - 2008**

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*The Wild Hog in the Woods*

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*Madison, Wisconsin*

*Special Anniversary Edition Newsletter!*



# Newsletter

## Wild Hog in the Woods Coffeehouse



Volume 30, Issue 6

[www.wildhoginthewoods.org](http://www.wildhoginthewoods.org)

November-December 2008

### WILD HOG TURNS 30

#### 30TH BIRTHDAY EVENTS!

- **Monday**  
November 3rd:  
WORT 89.9 FM  
7 - 8pm
- **Friday**  
November 7th:  
Birthday Concert
- **Saturday**  
November 8th:  
Brunch and  
Barn Dance
- **Friday**  
November 21st:  
Birthday Party  
potluck dinner,  
music jam, sing-  
along and cake

This month is special to Madison area folkies, the Wild Hog in the Woods celebrates 30 years of evenings at the coffeehouse and other special events. This month has three special events, a concert, a barn dance and a Birthday Party! Check out the calendar in this newsletter for the dates and all the details.

"It's awesome to know the Hog is still going strong!" exclaimed Eric Feigenson who moved away from Madison ten years ago and is now in the Boston area. He still has his Wild Hog 20<sup>th</sup> Birthday commemorative mug. Eric is returning to Madison for the Wild Hog Birthday the weekend of November 7th - 9th. Also returning to celebrate 30 years of the Wild Hog in the Woods all the way from Maine is Keith Fletcher.

Jamie Hascall, now of

Santa Fe, New Mexico, recalled, "The October Barn Dance was the first really major event we held (in 1978) and formed an anchor for the coffeehouse through the many moves and changes. I'm looking forward to playing the dance again and seeing all the folks we worked with on the Hog. It truly is one of my homes." Jamie, along with Peter Houser, now of Seattle, was back in town for the Wild Hog Birthday Barn Dance in the Park in August.

"Who would have ever thought that the Hog would be still existing 30 years later?" We can credit that quote to any one person, for just about every Hog member past and present has asked that question. Yet, three decades, three locations and three mixing boards later, the Wild

Hog in the Woods still provides a stage for local and regional folk musicians, singers and story tellers, open mike for those just beginning and an occasional barn dance.

Inside this special commemorative collector's edition newsletter, you will find our regular concert schedule for November and December. In addition, we have been collecting memories from Wild Hog members past and present and are publishing some of them here. Also watch for the old Hog photos collected from several members. There are many more on the web site at [wildhoginthewoods.org](http://wildhoginthewoods.org)

Enjoy your trip down memory lane and don't forget to mark your calendar to attend concerts and special events at Madison's premiere folk music stage!



Peter and Lou Berryman on the Folk Stage, Festival of the Lakes, 1986

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**  
SEE DETAILS INSIDE NEWSLETTER



*30 stars for 30 years!*

**November**

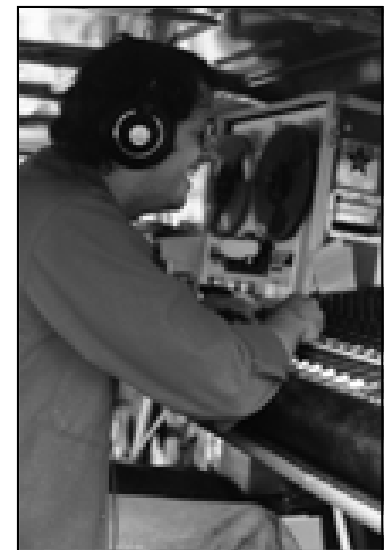
- 3rd - Monday**  
**7:00 - 8:00pm**      **Wild Hog Hour on WORT Radio, 89.9 FM.**  
Members will talk about the Wild Hog.
- 7th, Friday**  
**7:30 - 10:30pm**      **Special Birthday Concert**  
Performers include Peter and Lou Berryman, Ken Longuist, Jim Schwall.
- 8th, Saturday**  
Time to be determined      **Brunch With the Hog**  
Check the web site or send email to wildhog30@charter.net for location and time.
- 8th, Saturday**  
**7:00 - 11:00pm**      **Birthday Barn Dance**  
At Grace Church on the Capital Square.
- 14th, Friday**  
**8:30 - 11:00pm**      **November 21, Friday**  
Luther the Jet, (Luther Gotte)
- 21st, Friday**  
**6:30 - 10:00pm**      **Birthday Party**  
Potluck Dinner, Birthday Cake, music jam and sing-along at the Coffeehouse.
- 28th, Friday**      **Closed for Thanksgiving**

**30TH BIRTHDAY  
EVENTS IN  
NOVEMBER**

- Wild Hog on WORT
- Special Concert
- Barn Dance
- Wild Hog Brunch
- Potluck & Party

**December**

- 1st, Monday**  
**7:30pm**      **Coordinators Meeting**  
At Wil-Mar. Members are always welcome.
- 5th, Friday**  
**8:30 - 11:00pm**      **Lil' Rev**
- 12th, Friday**  
**8:30 - 11:00pm**      **Erin O'Brien, Doug Brown**
- 19th, Friday**  
**8:30 - 11:00pm**      **50% Folk**
- 26th, Friday**  
**8:30 - 11:00pm**      **Closed for Christmas**



Ken Rineer running sound at Festival of the Lakes, 1986

**Booked so far in January**

9th, Skip Jones      16th Tom Kastle  
Details in January Newsletter and on the web.



Audience at the Coffeehouse

## WHAT IS WILD HOG IN THE WOODS?



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 poster, 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](http://www.wildhoginthewoods.org).

Performers play for tips placed in our ceramic wild hog, Phillip-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 poster'd 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.



*Roxanne Neat and Deb Kmetz on stage at the Coffeehouse*

# BARN DANCE

In the hall at  
**Grace  
Church**  
(West Washington  
on the Square)



Admission:  
**\$5**  
at the door

**7:00 to  
11:00pm**

## Saturday, November 8th

**Live musicians and callers**

**All dances are taught**

**Callers: Jane Sekulski, Mike Mossman, & Bill Miller**

**Bands include "Bygone Days"**

**"Rattletrap" "Heywired"**

**and short sets by additional local performers!**

**1978**

**2008**



Sponsored by

**The Wild Hog in the Woods Coffeehouse**

located Fridays at 8pm at the Wil-Mar Neighborhood Center

953 Jenifer St , Madison, WI

*Celebrating 30 years of folk music and dance!*

Visit [www.wildhoginthewoods.org](http://www.wildhoginthewoods.org) for the latest concert and dance information

# *Special Concert*

Celebrating 30 years  
of folk music at the  
Wild Hog in the Woods Coffeehouse

Live music  
starts at  
7:30pm  
Admission:  
**\$12**



1978-2008  
Coffee, tea,  
juices and  
desserts

**Friday, November 7th**

**Lou and Peter Berryman,  
Ken Lonnquist,  
and Jim Schwall**

Come celebrate the Wild Hog's Birthday!

**Wild Hog in the Woods Coffeehouse**  
at the Wil-Mar Neighborhood Center  
953 Jenifer St , Madison, WI

Visit [www.wildhoginthewoods.org](http://www.wildhoginthewoods.org) for the latest information

# *Early Days at the Wild Hog in the Woods*



*Top two photos: Jamming and planning the future Wild Hog  
Remaining four photos: At the Wild Hog, 604 University Avenue, circa 1978/9*

*Photos provided by Peter Houser  
Other photos in this newsletter courtesy of:  
Eric Feigensen, Michele Jacques, Jamie Poindexter*

## NOVEMBER SCHEDULE DETAILS

### Nov. 7th at 7:30pm: Special Concert

See details on the next page.

### Nov. 8th: We have two events today!

#### Brunch With the Hog

As of press time, we are still checking out restaurants. Expect this to start around 11am. Location and time will be posted on the web site, or no later than the day before the brunch you can send an email to wildhog30@charter.net or call Kim Genich at 233-5687.

#### Barn Dance at Grace Episcopal Church

7 - 11pm, admission \$5 at the door. Join the celebration of the Hog's 30<sup>th</sup> birthday at this traditional barn dance. Live bands and lively callers await. Don't be late. The entrance is on W. Washington just off the Square.

Callers are Jane Sekulski, Mike Mossman and Bill Miller. Bands include Bygone Days (Sally Bennett, Colleen Foley, Bill Foley and Bill Obermeyer), Rattletrap String Band (Steve Holmes, Ken Rineer, Mike Mossman, Dave Sample, Bill Miller, and Debbie Kmetz) and Heywired (Keith Fletcher, Roger Diggie and Mike Bell). Plus we plan to have two short sets of additional local musicians. See poster on Page 5.

### Nov. 14 at 8pm: Luther the Jet

Luther Gette is a Madison-based storyteller and singer-songwriter who is returning to the Hog after a long absence. Whether this is because he was out riding the rails or not we'll have to find out. Maybe he'll hop off a freight on the Wisconsin Southern line at Brearly St. and walk up to Wil-Mar for the show. Perhaps he'll have some travel tips for hard times. Don't miss this opportunity!

### Nov. 21 Birthday Party at 6:30pm

Celebrate the Wild Hog's 30th birthday at this potluck dinner, followed by birthday cake, music jam and sing-along. Bring your favorite hot or cold dish to share. Admission is free.

### Nov. 28 Closed for Thanksgiving

Thank you for your continued support!!

### Volunteers and Coordinators

Volunteer at the coffeehouse by calling Kim Genich at 233-5687.

**The Hog on WORT Radio,  
89.9 FM, Nov. 3rd, 7 - 8pm**

Members of the Wild Hog will talk about the volunteer ran organization, its history and what it is 30 years later.



## DECEMBER SCHEDULE DETAILS

### Dec. 5 @ 8:00 Li'l Rev

Marc Revenson slides over from Milwaukee for another evening at the Hog. He plays guitar, mandolin, ukulele, harmonica and banjo and has won awards for his songwriting and harmonica playing. He has been called the Jewish Pete Seeger and you can count Pete among his fans, along with the likes of Art Thieme and Joe Hickerson. Come see what they all find so enjoyable about listening to Li'l Rev.

### Dec. 12 @ 8:00 Erin O'Brien

Erin O'Brien performs story-driven roots-folk music. Her dynamic voice and passionate performances have captured audience and critics attention throughout the Midwest, and earned her several awards including the Madison Songwriters Group's "2004 Performing Songwriter of the Year." In 2006 O'Brien launched the *Rhythms of Our Rivers Project*, an effort to craft songs highlighting the strong

emotional and ethical connections Wisconsin residents feel to local rivers, lakes and wetlands, and to raise awareness about the many threats to the health of those waters. Multi-instrumentalist Doug Brown will join O'Brien on stage lending his melodically agile accompaniment to her songs about water, life and everything in between.

### Dec. 19th at 8pm: 50% Folk

What happened at that 40<sup>th</sup> high school reunion? Ask Tanya, Barb or Wayne between sets. They are 60% of 50% Folk, a string quintet that plays traditional folk, bluegrass, gospel, oldtime country with some Ian and Sylvia and Tom Paxton thrown in. The three of them sing, Wayne plays guitar and add to the mix Mark on vocals and mandolin or banjo and Dean on washtub base. Be there!

### Dec. 26th Closed for the holidays.

We will reopen January 9th, 2009



# SPECIAL CONCERT

**Lou and Peter Berryman, Ken Lonquist, and Jim Schwall**

**Friday, November 7th at 7:30pm**

**Admission \$12**

The Hog opened its doors 30 years ago this month, so we are bringing back some more old favorites for a really big show. During this eclectic concert, each performer will do 20 minutes in the first set and then they will round-robin for the second set. We hear there will be lots of songs about anniversaries and longevity. Note the early start and special admission price.

Lou and Peter Berryman are known throughout the Midwest and the East Coast, especially New England. They specialize in songs that make humorous observations about the human condition and have an uncanny ability to make plays on words and sounds. Lou and Peter started playing together in their first folk band in high school in 1964. Wikipedia says, "Mostly, Peter writes the lyrics and Lou writes the music, but all their songs are collaborations."

Ken Lonquist is a funny, enjoyable songwriter from Madison, he has a repertoire of serious and humorous songs he has written, both for adults and children, including many environmental songs. Ken has written several children's musicals produced by the Children's Theatre of Madison. He began writing songs at seven and took up the guitar at twelve. Back in the 80's, he toured widely as the Minstrel for the Environment. His charm and energy as a live performer remain the heart of his work.

Jim Schwall, a past candidate for Madison Mayor, was a member of the Chicago-based Siegal-Schwall blues band back in the 1960'-70s and has continued to write songs and record albums. The band was a staple on WFMT's long-running folk show in Chicago, "The Midnight Special." He earned his doctoral degree in music at UW Madison, plays the Mandolin and is an excellent guitarist.

## FROM 1985

From the Daily Cardinal, Thursday, January 30, 1985, Story by Rick Vorndran

Hog Wild Coffeehouse offers comfortable, easy atmosphere. From the outside looking in, somebody would wonder. The astonishment begins once you actually find The Wild Hog in the Woods Coffeehouse, partially because it seems to be one of Madison's best kept secrets.

It doesn't look like a coffeehouse. It doesn't even look like a restaurant. Restaurants have fancy light fixtures on the wall and legitimate counters that let you know that financial transactions are expected. But the Hog doesn't feel like money. It feels comfortable. But to say that the Hog is merely a coffeehouse is to call the Capitol merely a fancy marble building.

For some, the Hog is the opportunity to attempt something different. Sandy, a graduate student from Oregon, had never even heard of the Hog until she was coaxed into managing the pastry table. Eric, in his short tenure with the Hog, has learned to handle the sound system and has entirely produced a major concert.

Ultimately, the Hog represents a social gathering for those who are heavily involved with its activities. Ted, who had been with the Hog for years, called it a "feeling of community. Music does that, there's a community. We just don't see it all at once."

The name Wild Hog in the Woods is drawn from an old fiddle tune. To this end, they have carried the pig motif to its satiric extremes. Dancing pigs adorn the bumper stickers, the leader is called the "High Hog" and information in the newsletter is labeled "Bacon Bits", Even performers can't escape the specter of the hog... "Give to the pig," if you will. (NOTE: The pig's name is Phillip, so as the saying goes, Fill up the Pig")



*KG and the Ranger  
on stage*

## MEMORIES AT THE WILD HOG

**Tom Gross** - Thinking back on my 26 years of Hogly experience brings a flood of memories; good and bad, poignant and goofy. I remember long meetings with a focus on the philosophy of the Coffeehouse followed by a gathering at a local watering hole. I remember breaking the original Phill-up. He was piled atop the speakers and I was moving them into the closet at the Brooks St. location. Too late I realized the door was too short. I remember moving equipment for barn dances and over the course of many years it never rained hard when we were moving out or back into the Coffeehouse. I still find that amazing.

The memory I wish to share is of Jim Pfeiffer. Jim was the only person I have met who was intentionally homeless. He was quite intelligent and probably could have gotten his degree (in physics) and found work. Instead he walked around in worn out shoes, yelled at the TV at the Brooks St. Y or at the Union when they talked politics, and often left IOUs in the Hog money box. He always redeemed them when he got his check from somewhere on the first of the month. One fine June day, his clothes and worldly possessions were found on the shore of Lake Mendota and his body was found several days later. He had apparently been caught in the weeds while taking a swim. I still miss his great spirit and his affection for the Hog.

**Fred Newmann** - Sometime in the early 1980's I had my first performance as a fiddler in a band, the "Oh Gosh String Band," when the Hog was at the Green Lantern Coop on University Ave. Sally Bennett, then a teenager, had fun playing fiddle. I really enjoyed meeting her parents. Just recently (over 20 years later) it was great to see Sally and her mom at the Wilmar St. venue.

**Chris Rademacher** - I have good memories of Hog dances at the lovely Olin Park barn with all the energy and music pouring from the open windows into the summer night. One time I helped Tom Gross haul sound equipment there before the dance. We found a large group of people partying in the barn. Although they weren't as scary as Hell's Angels, I secretly thought that Tom and I might be flung into the lake when he told them we had reserved the building for a barn dance. But they cleared out, not even arguing with us mighty folk aficionados.



*Above: 1978 at 604 University - Below: July 4, 2008 potluck*



**Phillip Wissbeck** - My favorite memory of the Hog is at the 29th anniversary party. Kim was sitting around playing his guitar while others were singing. It was a very small group but it didn't feel exclusionary if you know what I mean. Anybody could have come and joined in the small circle. When someone wanted to leave it was alright. There was no closed feeling. Memorable!

**Karen Gogolick** - The Hog's 30th Birthday is a grand accomplishment and an occasion to spark lots of great memories. As a few of us met to toss around ideas for the birthday party, conversation naturally went back to wonderful and sometimes hilarious tales of "the early days". I was privileged to perform on the very first Friday night, widely publicized as November 31, 1978! Take a look at that date - anything strike you as odd? It wasn't until the posters were printed (and laboriously hand-lettered) that someone finally realized November only has 30 days! People turned out anyway, whatever the date was, and the Hog was off and running for it's first season of providing a warm friendly venue for local folk musicians. For me personally it was the starting point of many of the very best things in my life, including my marriage and a full-time career as a performer! So Happy 30th, Wild Hog - and thank you for being such an important part of my life.

**Michael Sussman** - My most memorable memory from my days as a sound engineer at WHITW was when during open mike, someone read a long poem all about shit. It was actually very well done. Oh yes, the music that night was also excellent.

**Phillup the Pig** - I was at the very first concert and have been through at least three reincarnations. The floor at 604 University was hard on me when I took a gleeful leap one evening and again at the Brooks Street location. My current reincarnation has worked well as money easily finds it way into my belly.

**Jamie Hascall, Santa Fe, New Mexico** - It's really going to be a treat to get to Madison for this event (Barn Dance in September). The October Barn Dance was the first really major event we held and formed and anchor for the coffeehouse through the many moves and changes. I'm looking forward to playing the dance again and seeing all the folks we worked with on the Hog. It truly is one of my homes.

# Wild Hog in the Woods 2009 Membership Form

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Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

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Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please check here if you do not want your name given out for other mailings.

The Wild Hog is a volunteer-run cooperative and all members are encouraged to volunteer. We ask working members to commit to volunteering at least three times per year. Are you interested in helping with any of the following?

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Set-up/clean-up  | <input type="checkbox"/> Poster distribution | <input type="checkbox"/> Sound mixing        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bulk mailing   | <input type="checkbox"/> Graphics/art        | <input type="checkbox"/> Concert coordinator |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter   | <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity           | <input type="checkbox"/> Baking for concerts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I am interested in performing on stage at the Coffeehouse. Please call me! |  |  |

Please indicate which type of membership you prefer.

- Working Member (volunteer at least 3 times a year)**
- \$10 Individual
  - \$15 Family
  - (Optional) Donation \_\_\_\_\_ Thanks!

- Subscribing Member**
- \$13 Individual
  - \$18 Family

Please make check payable to "Wild Hog in the Woods"

Mail this form with check to:  
 Wild Hog in the Woods  
 953 Jenifer Street  
 Madison, WI 53703

\* \* \* \* \* ✂ \* \* \* \* \*

*"Over the last several years the Hog has kindly offered a great venue for our band, Round the Bend, to try out new material for folks who really appreciate the music.", Fred Newmann*

### Email Notices

To receive e-mail notices of Wild Hog events, visit [www.eventsgalore.net](http://www.eventsgalore.net)

- Using the drop-down menu on the right side of the screen, select Wild Hog in the Woods.
- On the Wild Hog calendar page, enter your e-mail address and click on "Subscribe."

You'll receive a confirmation from the Wild Hog webmaster and timely notices of all Wild Hog events.

### Handy Hog Volunteer Phone List

Musician Booking - Ramona Johannes  
 608-246-0436(H), 608-244-5403(W)

Volunteer Coordinator - Kim Genich, 233-5687

Concert Coordinators - Kim Genich, Tom Gross

Sound - Ron Dennis, Tom Dettinger, Kim Genich, Tom Gross, Ron McCabe, Joanne Seckman, Jamie Poindexter

Baking - Erika Kretzmer

Treasurer - Tom Gross

Webmaster - Ron McCabe, hogwebmaster6@tds.net

Publicity - Tim Hoger, 244-8373

Newsletter Editor - Johanna Fabke, 838-3112 or jbfabke@aol.com

November Editor - Jamie Poindexter, 271-6150 or jamiepoindexter@charter.net

Mailing - Christina Rose

Mailing List - Johanna Fabke

Postering - new volunteer welcome

New volunteers are always welcome.  
 Call Kim Genich at 233-5687 to get started.



At left - David Eagan and Mac Robertson on stage, September 19, 2008

## Wild Hog in the Woods

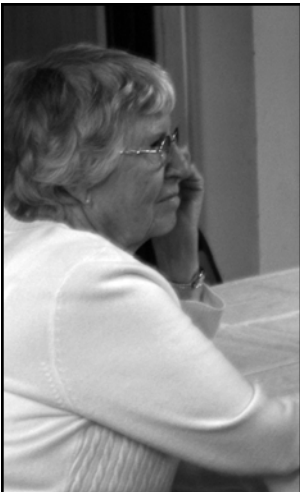
%Wilmar Neighborhood Center  
953 Jenifer St  
Madison, WI 53704



Metro Bus routes 3 and 4

Address label here

Special 30th Birthday Edition Newsletter



Agnes Bennett listening to live music at the Hog. September 19, 2008

## BACON BITS THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS

It takes a lot of people to keep an organization running for thirty years. To keep an all volunteer run organization going requires many special people who have a deep commitment to the foundations and ideas behind the organization.

In the organized mayhem of running a special event or a weekly coffeehouse or a barn dance, it's sometimes easy to forget the simple "thank you" for all the dedication and hard work people have put in to make The Wild Hog in the Woods happen. Trying to keep track of all the people who have in some form or another contributed to the Coffeehouse is an almost impossible task, but in celebrating our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we thought it was worth a try. So to the over one thousand **members, volunteers and performers** over the years, we'd like to say: *"THANK YOU! We couldn't have done it without you."*

Volunteers in September and October include: Tom Gross, Lisa Johnson, Ron Dennis, Rick Lewis, Ben Doran, Ramona Johannes, Ken Rineer, Sally Bennett, Steve Pike, Deb Kmetz, Michele Jacques, Christina Rose, David Eagan, Ron McCabe, Jane Sekulski, Jamie Poindexter and Kim Genich.

Below, Hogs share their memories at the Hog and remembered those who have passed on at the Olin Park Barn, August 2008

