

Join Poughkeepsie AAUW and the NEA Big Read for:



Hiking & Picking: Experiencing the Music & Terrain of the Appalachians

November 14, 2019

7 pm

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
67 South Randolph Ave.

Rich Keyes has been slowly hiking the Appalachian Trail, on and off, step by step, since 2014. He currently has covered 765 miles through 10 states. Rich will share his on the trail experiences and a little background on Bluegrass music. He and Kevin and Carol Becker will entertain us by playing Bluegrass-inspired music and showing some slides. This will add a very exciting aspect to the Big Read's month-long exploration of "Burning Bright" by Ron Rash.



Kevin & Carol Becker with Rich Keyes

Start with deep roots in traditional folk music, add musical versatility, mix in both historical and contemporary themes, all seasoned with a healthy dose of good-natured humor, and sit back and enjoy this evening's performance by Kevin & Carol Becker with Rich Keyes.

Performing together regularly for over twenty-five years, Kevin, Carol, and Rich have developed a unique sound that combines breathtaking vocals, instrumental dexterity, and a synergy that comes only from an intimate knowledge of each other's talents. That sound starts with Kevin's intricate finger picking on guitar, augmented by his impeccable harmonica playing. Carol's soaring vocals, clear, bright, and pure, stand out when solo and form compelling harmonies with Kevin's soothing, comforting voice. It's all anchored by Rich's solid rhythms on upright bass and his driving bluegrass-influenced banjo. They feature other instruments as well, notably mountain dulcimer, recorder, bodhran, Appalachian limber horse, and various whistles.

Their repertoire ranges from historical ballads to songs of social significance, from traditional folk songs to compositions by contemporary artists. Original material and instrumentals add to the variety. Their easy manner and relaxed stage presence encourages audience participation, and contribute to their uplifting and entertaining performances.

Besides appearances at coffeehouses and festivals, Kevin, Carol, and Rich perform at schools, libraries, and historic sites such as Phillipsburg Manor, Mount Gulian, and Eleanor Roosevelt's Val-Kill. Their latest CD, ***This Hudson River Valley***, is a collection of songs that tell the history, celebrate the people, and reflect the grandeur of the Hudson Valley.

***Directions:** Unitarian Fellowship can be accessed from Hooker Ave. **OR** take Route 9 to Sharon Dr. (near Holiday Inn). At the end of Sharon turn left onto Beechwood then the first right onto Ferris Lane, next an immediate left to S. Randolph. The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Poughkeepsie is on the right.

Questions: Monique Jones, 849-1692, myj712@aol.com OR Sandy Lash, 227-4650, splash@optonline.net