

Grab that mike and let it all hang out

With a song in your heart (and a little bit of guts), you can seize your fifteen minutes of fame

FRANK JORDAN

Sports Editor

Are you one of those people who likes to sing in the car, blaring out tunes in perfect time to the radio or CD? Do you like to sing in the shower with the rustling of the water drowning out any mistakes? Have you wondered what it would be like to perform in front of others? There just might be an outlet

for you.

Karaoke is for all those wannabe singers who don't think they have what it takes to be a professional.

As soon as children are able to form complete sentences, there's a natural tendency to want to sing. We are exposed to song from an early age in life and the ability to sing has intrigued us all. Karaoke is the means to satisfy the natural urge to belt out tunes in front of

others.

I first sang Karaoke about nine years ago; it was an exhilarating experience. I sang in swing choir in high school but this was a chance to get in front of a live audience, just me and the words on the screen, to sing to my heart's content.

I sometimes sing a song that I have no business singing, but that's part of the fun. Whatever you think you can sing, most places will have a song for you.

I tried to sing *Unchain My Heart* by Joe Cocker the other night. I don't know if I'll sing that one again except with a little liquid encouragement.

Karaoke has really taken off in our neck of the woods in the last few years. With more places to go than ever before, the prospective singer has many more options to choose from.

While there are not any places to go to for the under-21 set as of yet, many bars and lounges in our local area offer Karaoke to those who want to act out their fantasies



to anyone who will listen.

As an active participant in the art of Karaoke, I have sampled a few local establishments that offer the chance to sing your heart out and not get booed off the stage like a modern-day version of *The Gong Show*.

One of the best places in the area is the Farmhouse Restaurant and Lounge on 82nd Avenue near Powell Boulevard. This lounge offers pretty good food and a full bar selection, but also offers the singer a large selection of songs, probably the largest selection around; everything from Elvis to Eminem, Sinatra to Snoop Doggy Dogg.

Many of the selections at this bar, as well as other Karaoke bars, tend to cater to the female voice. Women seem to have better range than most guys, but many of the guys that get up to sing do more than a credible job.

Another fine establishment a little closer to CCC is the Porterhouse Restaurant and Lounge, located on McLoughlin Boulevard next to IHOP restaurant and across from Oak Grove Fred Meyer. The Porterhouse also has good food and a full bar selection along with pool tables and a big-screen TV to watch the Blazers take another nose-dive. Bobby, Steve and Tony

are the Karaoke DJ's on duty during different portions of the week. The Porterhouse offers Karaoke seven nights a week, although the place gets a little crowded on Friday and Saturday nights.

In Oregon City, Tacho's has Karaoke on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Angie and Ryan are the Karaoke DJ's and do a terrific job in keeping the night moving. Tacho's has a full menu selection as well as a full bar.

Tacho's tends to draw a diverse, younger crowd, so the place does get a bit rowdy on the weekends, but this adds to the excitement of the evening.

Many other lounges offer Karaoke locally. Some of those include the Alibi Restaurant and Lounge on Interstate Avenue in North Portland, the Ambassador Restaurant and Lounge on Sandy Boulevard in Northeast Portland, Jin's Mongolian Kitchen in Oregon City on Beaver Creek Road and Rodder's Tavern in Oregon City on Tuesday nights with Allyson as your Karaoke host.

Hopefully, those with the urge to sing will get out of their showers and out of their cars and join many others and me in the art of Karaoke. A good time will surely be had by all, and many may become, like me, a Karaoke addict.

Clackamas Literary Review Reading

April 29, 3 p.m.
United Methodist Church
475 S.E. Main Street
Estacada

Area poets and writers that contributed to the spring/summer 2001 issue of Clackamas Community College's national literary journal will read from their works.

Following the reading, editors Tim Schell and Brad Stiles will answer questions about the five-year history of the publication.

Symposium features life and works of Arthur Miller

TAM OLIVER
A&E editor

Jeffrey Meyers will lecture on the life and works of playwright Arthur Miller tomorrow night at 7 p.m. in the Gregory Forum. Joining him will be Jane Unger, artistic director of Profile Theatre Company, whose season is dedicated to Miller.

Best known for his Pulitzer

Prize winning tragedy *Death of a Salesman*, Miller also wrote *The Crucible* in 1953. In an introduction to the 1953 play, Miller wrote, "I believe that the reader will discover here the essential nature of one of the strangest and most awful chapters in human history." His drama about the Salem witch-hunts and trials was a veiled criticism of Joseph

McCarthy's 'witch-hunts' that occurred during the 50's to root out communism.

Meyers has authored 39 books, including the biographies of numerous writers such as George Orwell, Joseph Conrad, Katherine Mansfield and Robert Frost. He will be signing copies of his book *Privileged Moments: Encounters with Writers*.

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Hrs: Mon. - Thurs. 7 a.m. - 8 p.m. Fri. 7 a.m. - 3 p.m. Sat. 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 25

Breakfast: Hobo Breakfast
Grill special: Chicken Chimichanga
Entree: Stuffed Tomatoes
Budget Entree: Veggie Lasagna

Monday, April 30

Breakfast: Corned Beef Hash
Grill Special: Eggplant Foccacia Sand.
Entree: Hot Turkey Sand.
Budget Entree: Enchilada

Thursday, April 26

Breakfast: Hobo Breakfast
Grill special: Chicken Chimichanga
Entree: Veggie Calzone
Budget Entree: Rice Salad Provencal

Tuesday, May 1

Breakfast: Corned Beef Hash
Grill Special: Eggplant Foccacia Sand.
Entree: Chicken and Dumplings
Budget Entree: Roasted Veggies

Friday, April 27

Breakfast: Hobo Breakfast
Grill special: Chicken Chimichanga
Entree: Baked Sole with Green Onions and Mushrooms



FINE HOST
CORPORATION

'Do Jump!' to leap into action

JENNY CHAVEZ
Copy Editor

The CCC Cultural Arts Committee is presenting the physical theatre production *Do Jump!* Saturday, May 5 at 5 p.m. in the Randall Hall gym.

Tickets are available at the door. General admission is \$5; students and senior citizens \$3; and children under 12 are free. For reservations, call 503/657-6958, x 2356.

Do Jump! has performed since 1977 throughout the US and

Canada with a talented cast of acrobats, musicians, designers and technicians forming a new style of theatre.

They are the resident company at Portland's Echo Theatre, a silent movie house renovated in 1984. They also founded a school for both children and adults teaching their unique performance style.

According to the New York Times, *Do Jump!* is a "fusion of mischievous comedy, circus, dance and movement."