

# street talk

*the kathy mattea fan club newsletter*

<http://www.mattea.com> • Issue #59 / Winter 2005



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# LETTER From Kathy



WINTER 2005

## street talk

*the kathy mattea fan club newsletter*

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To Subscribe to Kathy's Clowns  
(email distribution list)

Visit [www.groups.yahoo.com/group/kathys-clowns](http://www.groups.yahoo.com/group/kathys-clowns).

Click on "join this group" and follow the instructions. Soon you will be a clown!

We appreciate your help in making the newsletter the best it can be by sending in your photos, local newspaper reviews and Kathy stories (Please don't send your only copy). We will use as many as we can and pass the rest on to Kathy.

### ADDRESS CHANGES

If you have moved, please notify us immediately of your new address and phone number. We don't want you to miss any of the fan club materials!

### MEMBERSHIP DUES & RENEWALS

Our dues for new members are \$15 U.S. and Canada —\$20 foreign. The renewal dues are \$12 U.S. and Canada — \$16 foreign. Please send U.S. funds only!

### CORRESPONDENCE

Please send all correspondence for Kathy to the fan club office. Although Kathy gets a large amount of mail, she makes time to read as many letters as she can and Kathy wants you to know that she truly appreciates her mail! It's impossible for her to respond to each letter, so we handle that part!

### ITINERARIES

You may receive an updated itinerary as often as you wish, by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope. We provide the most up to date schedules available to us. Please call the venue for ticket information—sorry, we don't have access to tickets or special seating. As always, check with the venue before traveling long distances!

### PEN PALS & E-MAIL

If you would like to be a pen pal or an e-mail pen pal with other members, please send us your name, address (regular or e-mail), on a postcard. Please send it to the attention of Kathy's Pen Pals.

DESIGN BY JENESIS DESIGN



**H**i everyone! Well, it's the first of a new year, and I'm sitting at my desk, trying to get over the holidays and get all the Christmas stuff packed up. Always, around late February, I run into some red bow, or little elf or something that I've left up in a corner of the dining room. I can never seem to get it done in one fell swoop!

The Christmas tour was amazing this year. I think we all enjoyed it so much because we were more familiar with the material than we were last year. The songs felt like old friends, and we had such a great string of theaters to play them in. Lots of folks came out, and we really put the miles on. We hit some iffy weather along the way, but it always fell on a day without a heavy deadline to meet. We lucked out, and have commented many times over the years that the Christmas tour seems to have angels following us around, getting us from place to place. We also got the opportunity to play the Christmas show with symphonies on a few nights. It was just amazing. Our friend Carl Marsh wrote all the arrangements, and he is really a genius. It was like floating on a cloud. There were times when I could hardly keep it together....

Now, it's back to the record. We have a few dates this winter, but will be holed up in the studio for most of the season. As I write this, we have about half the record done. Many of the tracks were cut sitting in a circle in the studio, ala the acoustic set. Such fun. Lots of spontaneity and laughs. Carson has joined us for the basic tracks... we're calling him the Fifth Beatle. It's great to have so many versatile musicians around, just picking up different instruments. We get to experiment a lot. Just like one big ole jam session.

This summer we had a reunion of a bunch of college buddies on a farm in the Greenbrier Valley of West Virginia (one of my favorite places on the planet). We all brought our guitars, and had a reunion of our little bluegrass band from so long ago. It was great to revisit those old songs, and to feel the harmonies just fall into place. There were moments when none of us could remember all the words to the songs, but lines would just come out, one by one, and you didn't know who was going to be singing the next one. It was like we all shared one brain, but none of us had all of

Photo credit: Rene Scheiderer



**Kathy and Randall Craig Fleischer, principal conductor of the Flagstaff Symphony Orchestra**

it!! I was happy to find that most everyone has kept playing music over the years, some professionally, some just for fun. It was great to see that thread keep going....and to realize what a special and influential time that was. These guys pointed my compass, musically. They opened up a whole new world for me. I walked away full of gratitude.

Our drummer, Jim, went through quite a struggle this fall with a kidney stone. His friends in Charlotte decided to organize a benefit to help with medical costs, and some of us drove over to hang and jam. They called the benefit "Stone Free"..... There's a wonderful music community in Charlotte, very talented folks there, and generous as well. We all enjoyed being a part of it. You could see how much Jim is loved among his peers there, and it was really touching. Thanks to all of you in the Fan Club that contributed. It was really above and beyond, and really made a difference in the life of our friend.

Well, I've spent enough time here at the computer. Back to music. Thanks to all who came out and supported us this last year. You have blessed us more than you know. I am so thankful to still be playing music, and moreover to still be EXCITED about playing music. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to keep doing this thing I love so much.

With all good wishes for a happy, healthy New Year....

PS. The doggie update: Sammy was sick while I was gone for the Christmas tour. Jon really had his hands full. But he's back to his old self now, doing great. I'm still working on keeping Lucky from jumping on folks — Border Collies are like kids with A-D-D! But he's starting to settle down out of his puppy phase and he's one great dog. Maybe Sammy & Lucky can make a guest appearance at the Blunch. We'll look into that.

# FAN CLUB BIZ & News



Happy New Year everyone!

Just a note to let you all know why your Street Talk is a month late. I was chosen Utah Mother of the Year and have had to deal with many public appearances. Don't buy that? Or, I was that genius from Utah on Jeopardy who won 2.5 million dollars!! How about...I went snowboarding with my son and broke my body? I guess that's closer to a plausible explanation than the others...Here's the real deal. Last year I was gone from home from the 2nd of December till the 16th on tour with Kathy. I killed myself off doing the tour, Christmas shopping and getting Street Talk out. This year, with an equally demanding schedule, I decided to delay the publication one month in an attempt to save my sanity and report on the Christmas shows we'd just experienced. In this issue, I hope you'll enjoy the Photo Essay (courtesy of Rene Hilliard...oops, Scheiderer.)

You will still receive 3 issues of Street Talk in 2005! Those issues will be sent in April, August, and December (assuming Kathy does not tour during the Christmas season). Thanks for your patience, and maybe the report on the December concerts will make up for the delay!

The Fan Club had a real scare recently with the news that one of our favorite people, Stephen Briggs (Hull, England) sustained a serious brain injury in a fall. After two surgeries, a brief coma, rehab, and lots of loving care from doctors and family, Stephen is doing much better and is on the road to recovery. Stephen, if you are reading this...I'm told that road leads right thru Nashville, so come see us during Fan Fair. :)



photo credit: Rene Scheiderer

**Stephen Briggs**

Also, please continue to keep the Sullivan family in your thoughts and prayers as Pat (Kent, WA) fights the good fight. We love you Pat and Ron!!

It may sound trite, but we really do think of our fan club as extended family. Please feel free to let us know of the events of your life...happy or sad. Kathy has an amazing capacity to remember names and faces. It won't surprise you to learn that she cares about you and your individual circumstances.

Also...please send your best concert shots or photos of yourself with Kathy for use in Street Talk. I can't use them if you don't send them! Please keep me current with new addresses, phone numbers and email addresses. I know, I know...I sound like a broken record.

Let me extend to you all wishes for a very safe, happy and healthy New Year! I hope your plans include lots of gigs, a trip to Fan Fair (or at least the Fan Club Party) and continued support of the most talented and awesome entertainer in any genre of music... We'll keep you updated on plans for the new CD!

Hugs,

Sve

# NEW Members



Adams, Sam WA  
Almond, Sandy OH  
Andrix, Clinton OH  
Arnold, Diane VA  
Badesch, Megan IL  
Bagley, Angie FL  
Barnett, Collin IL  
Beeman, Andrea WI  
Bianco, Chris MN  
Black, Tammy OH  
Blakeley, Drew IL  
Blus, Marty IL  
Bouchard, Gregory NY  
Bruner, Debbie GA  
Cafcules, Cheryl IL  
Childress, Val VA  
Clark, Elmer TN  
Clement, Kari WA  
Cline, Gerry WI  
Conklin, Faith CA  
Contopulos, Belinda CA  
Corley, Judy WA  
Crowel, Kay Jo GA  
Davis, Larry NC  
Dawn, Janice CA  
De Rosa, Phyllis GA  
Delgado, April CA  
DesVoigne, Matt NC  
Fouts, Jeri OR  
Georgoulis, Cindy IL  
Glunt, David VA  
Grigoletti, David IL  
Hastey, Holdyn OR  
Hauser, Kathleen VA  
Havlovitz, Paulette WI  
Hendrickson, Theresa WI  
Hooston, Scott VA  
Huch, Patricia MI  
Karns, Chelle OK  
Kay, Daniel OR  
Kelly, Kayla WA  
Killian, Tanya CA  
Kincaid, Dawna NC  
Layton, Rose M. SC  
Legg, Matt IL  
Legg, Toni OR  
Lemons, Diana CA  
Leung, Amy CA  
Litteral, Carolyn OH  
Loysen, Stephanie CA  
Lubinski, Karen AZ  
Lugo, Victoria CA  
Luker, Ron GA  
Lusty, Audrey WI  
Mackey, Marilyn WA  
Markham, Marsha OR  
Marsh, Connor MI  
Marshall, Gwen NC  
McGuire, Bob CA  
Mercer, Linda OH  
Merritt, Carol AZ  
Miller, Tricia AZ  
Mills, Terry NY  
Mink, Donna TN  
Minton, Yvonne IA  
Montgomery, Robert IN  
Morris, Jan MI  
Morris, Kenneth TN  
Mullin, Sandy WA  
Munson, Linda WA  
Needleman, Andora NJ  
O'Connor, Dannie WI  
Ortega, Paul WA  
Pankey, Beverly WA  
Philpott, Bobby AZ  
Piepkorn, Diane WI  
Poling, Chastity OH  
Pope, Linda M. CA  
Ramirez, Ellen-Ann CA  
Rogers, Toni IA  
Samimi, Anna GA  
Schneider, Beth OH  
Schneider, Joan OH  
Schwantes, Wendy R. OH  
Shafer, Timothy PA  
Shoopman, Juanita CA  
Sickels, Peter IA  
Sivinski, Michelle OH  
Sizemore, Christine NC  
Smith, Gregory OH  
Smith, Mickie CA  
Sousa, Rebekah MN  
Speck, Sara CA  
Spires, Tina OH  
Stanton, David MN  
Stenstrom, Megan WI  
Sykes, Kimberly KY  
Tarter, Patricia IL  
Thompson, Robert PA  
Thorp, Bob CA  
Tolen, Ashley IL  
Tomhave, Carole VA  
Tomita, Steve WA  
Tubbsville, Jimmy WA  
Vaughan, Ruby OH  
Wahl, Jack VA  
Warner, Willie WI  
Webb, Cheri WA  
Webster, Sally MI  
Wenter, Pam WA  
Wilson, Adria GA  
Wooddell, Beverly VA  
Zommers, Angela WI  
Zuidema, Mark IL



# SONGS & The Season



## A Photo Essay by Rene Scheiderer

### 1st Half Set List: (Green Bay)

Hark the Herald Angels Sing  
That's All the Lumber  
Goin' Gone  
Standing Knee Deep  
Untold Stories  
455 Rocket  
18 Wheels and a Dozen Roses  
Burnin' Old Memories  
Gimme Shelter  
Harley  
Where've You Been  
Come From the Heart

### 2nd half set list: (Green Bay)

Rick's Solo  
What a Wonderful Beginning  
Straw Against the Chill  
Do You Hear What I Hear  
When the Baby Grew Up  
Altar Piece/Collage  
Unto Us  
Christ Child Lullaby  
Angels We Have Heard on High  
All Because of Him  
Mary Did You Know  
Adeste Fidelis  
There's Still My Joy



photo credit: Rene Scheiderer

*Beautiful old marquis at the Temple Theatre in Saginaw, MI*



photo credit: Rene Scheiderer

photo credit: Rene Scheiderer



*Kicking the Morganton show off with Hark the Herald Angels Sing*

*"At the risk of seeming overconfident, I did have one (or two) selections prepared...."*

# SONGS & The Season



photo credit: Rene Scheiderer



*Sign at the beautiful CoMMA (City of Morganton Municipal Auditorium)*



photo credit: Rene Scheiderer

photo credit: Rene Scheiderer



*Wonder what she said to get Bill laughing??*



*Kathy modeling her new Christmas present*

photo credit: Rene Scheiderer



*Entire band and crew (L to R): Rick Blackwell, Randy Leago, Eamonn O'Rourke, Terry Wilson, KM, Jim Brock, Joe Foster, Mark Thomas, Bill Cooley, Mick Conley, Don London*

photo credit: Rene Scheiderer

# SONGS & The Season



photo credit: Rene Scheiderer



**Randy and his new toy.... Kathy names it a "sax-ette"**

photo credit: Rene Scheiderer



**Kathy enjoys soundcheck prior to the Cedarburg show**



**The band takes a bow in Decorah, IA**

photo credit: Rene Scheiderer



**Terry Wilson and Eamonn O'Rourke add wonderful harmony**

photo credit: Rene Scheiderer



**Kathy receives a well-deserved standing ovation!**

photo credit: Rene Scheiderer

# SONGS & The Season



photo credit: Rene Scheiderer



**Santa makes a guest appearance at the Lollipop Concert in Flagstaff.**

photo credit: Rene Scheiderer



**Kathy takes center stage in Green Bay, WI**

photo credit: Rene Scheiderer



**Rick Blackwell opens the Christmas show with a dramatic solo**

photo credit: Rene Scheiderer



**Kathy reads *The Night Before Christmas* to a symphonic background**

# STONE FREE



## - A Tribute to Jim Brock -

On September 12, 2004 a benefit concert was held in Charlotte, NC for Jim Brock, Kathy's drummer. The fan club raised approximately \$1000 to help defray the costs he incurred when he had surgery to remove kidney stones. <Ouch> Along with Kathy, Jim's wife, Beth Chorneau and Janis Ian, there were several local bands providing some great music. Former boss, Hootie, of Hootie & the Blowfish, was not able to make the trip. :)

photo credit: Rene Schreider



***"Clearly, you came through it  
scott-free...you now can pee pain-  
free, 'cuz you're STONE FREE!!!"***

### **Stone Free (sung to the tune of Born Free**

Stone free, we're glad you are stone free

You're out of your misery,

you're thru with your agony

Bravely, you went thru the surgery

You're back to your sagely,  
wisely, witty, worldly self

Plainly, you're here and you're healthy

You're here to play Stone free, 'cause

You're.....Stone Free

Simply, we're here to raise money

For this drum-beating hippie

We love so much, you'll agree

Frankly, we know you're not wealthy

We're here to make cash, and checks, for  
bills, so you're debt-free

Shortly, we'll bring out a roadie

To check on your kidney, cause  
You're.....Stone Free

Strangely, we're all here  
but Hootie

So where the hell is he

Too busy to play Stone Free?

Actually, I hear he's a sweetie

I am just kidding, really, truly,  
honestly, I am!

Maybe, our music's too country

Too twangy for Hootie  
to play.....Stone Free

Happily, you're here and  
you're healthy

You're no longer woozy

You can even drink some caf-  
feine

Plainly you're out of your misery

You can lay down the groove,  
the swamp, the beat, the feel,  
the deal

Clearly, you came through it  
scott-free

You now can pee pain-free

Cause you're.....stone free!

photo credit: Rene Scheideler



"Strangely, we're all here  
but Hootie....so where  
the hell is he? Too busy  
to play Stone Free?"

photo credit: Rene Scheideler



"Simply, we're here to  
raise money for this  
drum-beating hippie."



"Maybe our music's too  
country...too twangy for  
Hootie to play....Stone  
Free!!

photo credit: Rene Scheideler



" I want to thank each  
and every one of you  
for coming. You've  
made me feel very spe-  
cial. Maybe some-  
where down the line I  
did something that  
meant something to  
you."

photo credit: Rene Scheideler

# “CAPTION Contest”

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**Winner of this Caption Contest will receive.....**

Choose any two: (kinda like a Chinese menu)

1. Fleece throw
2. Cherry wood, piano finish 4x6 slot frame
3. Short sleeve denim Fan Club shirt
4. Good News sweatshirt

*Winner will be chosen by a committee of judges specially chosen for this contest. Send captions by mail or email. Must be received by March 1st. Winning entry will be published in the April Street Talk.*



—  
**Have  
fun,  
and  
as  
always,  
keep  
it  
clean!**  
—

# FAN Speak

**NAME:**

Paula Lisewski

**HOMETOWN:**

Seymour, Connecticut

**AGE:**

50

**A LITTLE ABOUT YOURSELF:**

I work for Bic Pen Corporation as a machine operator. Music is a big part of my life. I sing with other members of the Episcopal Church.

**YEARS IN THE FAN CLUB:**

3

**HOW YOU "FOUND" KATHY:**

My friend Kathy let me borrow a cassette tape, *The Collection of Hits*. I was instantly hooked! Kathy and I went to Kathy's concert and met her after the show. She is such a sincere person and she shows her fans that they are important to her.

**FAVORITE SONG AND WHY:**

*Guns of Love!* When I heard this song played live I felt the power behind the message. I envisioned people of all races joining hands and putting an end to war.

**FAVORITE ALBUM:**

*Roses*

**FAVORITE CONCERT:**

The *Roses* Tour

**FAVORITE CONCERT MOMENT:**

I love when Kathy introduces her band to the audience.

**FAVORITE DREAM DUET PARTNER:**

I'd like her to sing with Mary Chapin Carpenter. She also has a gift of song and talent. I think her voice would compliment Kathy's.

**FAVORITE DINNER TOPIC OF CONVERSATION:**

Music, of course.



photo credit: Rene Scheiderer

**Paula Lisewski**

**WHAT YOU COULD SEE KATHY DOING IF SHE WAS NOT A SINGER:**

I think she'd make a great aerobics instructor!

**ASK KATHY A QUESTION:**

What was your very first concert like?

**FAVES OTHER THAN KATHY:**

Mary Chapin Carpenter and Trisha Yearwood.

# The Matteahead Journal



by Sue Phelps

I have always been fascinated by the passage of time. I'm caught off guard at how quickly my children have grown older (and taller than me). I can't remember not being married. What did we do before the Internet?? I know I was young once...I've seen the photos. Why do the years melt into one another, leaving us with vague memories and hopefully many more smiles than regrets?

\*\*\*\*\*

So..... I was sitting at Kathy's Christmas concert at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. a couple weeks ago. My mind wandered back to the first Christmas show I attended in Battle Creek, Michigan. The year was 1995. Good News had been released

in 1993, won its Grammy and developed a sort of cult following. It was (and is) an amazing recording and will always be associated with Kathy's definitive version of Mary Did You Know. There was the introduction of the Christmas Coat.

There were complicated, multi-layered and absolutely fabulous vocal arrangements of all the gems on that CD. It stunned audiences and critics alike with its simplicity and beauty. It was unquestionably Kathy and her band at their very best.

The next year, 1996, Kathy took her show to California. I'll never forget going to the mall in 70 degree weather and sunshine, seeing a Santa dressed in his usual red and white coat with the Santa hat. Unfortunately, he had on green Hawaiian shorts and basketball shoes and was cruising through the mall on his skateboard. I was emotionally stunted at the sight. Some things are just sick and wrong. :)

Taking 1997 and 1998 off, Kathy came blazing back in '99 with an 11 city tour, starting in Franklin, KY and ending in Jackson, Michigan. It was a whirlwind tour, complete with icy roads and bitter winter weather... The country was in a deep freeze, but somehow it all seemed right. The little town of Fish Creek, WI looked as if it had been ripped off a

Norman Rockwell Christmas calendar. It was cold, but by gosh there were no Santas on skateboards!

The year 2000 was no slouch either, even though it had an itinerary that looked as if it'd been booked by a drunken tour manager throwing darts at a map of the U.S. It was a tour that started out in the east (CT, MA, PA) moved to the heartland (OK), darted up to Kalamazoo, and finished up in the Northeast (ME, NJ, NY). My "driver" was exhausted and whined so much I thought I'd have to fire her. :)

Kathy took the next two years off at Christmas, no doubt to kick back and enjoy the holidays in her own home. With her own tree. With her own husband and family. Selfish woman...selfish, selfish, selfish.

2003 ushered in JoyRide, an official fan club excursion! Eight cities were treated to a "new" and enhanced Christmas concert. You see, there was a new kid in town. A follow-up Christmas CD by the name of Joy For Christmas Day edged itself into the set list and the result was a Christmas gig substantially changed from the original. It would also mark a first – the show in Atlanta was performed with symphony!

Which brings us current with the 11 shows we just finished in 2004. Battle Creek to the Kennedy Center. 52 Christmas concerts in 47 cities.... TV specials with the likes of Kathie Lee Gifford, Robert Schuller, Thomas More, Riders in the Sky, the U.S. Army Band, Marvin Hamlisch, the folks at Mountain Stage, a PBS Special of her own...she sang at the lighting of the National Christmas Tree, and performed for the President of the United States several times. All in the short span of 10 years.

With the possible exception of Bing Crosby, Kathy is the voice of Christmas. To me, at least. It's been one of the greatest blessings of my life to have attended all but a handful of these amazing shows. With each new band member to bring on board and a brand new Christmas CD to integrate, I'd wonder aloud, "How in the world can she improve on what I thought was perfection?" But that's the essence of what makes Kathy special...that and surrounding herself with the likes of Bill Cooley. As many of you know, Bill is the one who arranged most of the traditional tunes they've adapted for their show. The backing vocals supplied by Terry, Randy, Eamonn and Rick are beyond my ability to describe. They make 4 people sound like 40. But don't take my word for it. Here's what others say:

photo credit: Rene Scheidegger



"I went to the Kennedy Center concert on 12/26/04 and became her newest fan. What a beautiful voice and a beautiful person. She signed autographs — after the concert and took time with each person in line. She's just GREAT! —Linda Weiland, Woodbridge, VA

"The best Christmas album ever...Good News is so inspiring it makes me weep." —Joan McGowan, Weymouth, MA

"I know you are probably used to hearing this all the time, but truly your concert here was beyond outstanding...it was 24k gold. I have been presenting for almost 20 years, and your Christmas concert brought us true meaning. Thank you again." —Bill Wilson, director of the CoMMA, Morganton, NC

"Your spiritual center and balance shone as bright as the star in the East on the night of Christ's birth. Still, you went further and addressed through the sharing of your own story/journey....Thanks for giving us the true gift of Christmas, your heart through music — an essential gift of God! May you and yours have a joyous Christmas and a wondrous New Year! Please pass the same to the equally gifted members of your band. Your collaboration with them is a benchmark for creativity and cooperation in community today. Blessings!" —Chaplain Bob Evans

"I'm not inclined to be a groupie, but last evening my guests and I enjoyed a concert of music I would like to support." —Richard Cumow, Morganton, NC

"As I was listening to the pure sounds and artistry last night of your great '93 CD - Good News — I just had to let you know how much joy it has brought me over the many Christmases. It is so beautifully engineered and your voice and passion comes through so clearly. It never fails to bring a tear to my eye. Thank you, thank you, thank you for this wonderful music experience. It will forever be my favorite. A fan of excellent music wishing you the most wonderful of all holidays. —Shelley Durden

"My wife and I sat front row(!!) for the Cedarburg concert, my third Kathy concert, but who's counting?? and it was a wonderful night. Her version of "Do you hear what I hear?" was a nice surprise, and meeting Kathy after the show topped off a beautiful evening. She is just as natural and friendly as she appears, instead of meeting a celeb, its like greeting a friend, I am proud to say the smile hasn't left my face yet. Yes, I was BEAMING. Thank you Kathy, and your great band, for making a Christmas tradition." —Larry Speener, Milwaukee, WI

"I saw Kathy Mattea two nights ago at the Weidner Center in Green Bay, WI. It was my third KM concert. Each concert has been just fabulous. Her performance was at times breathtaking. My gosh, that voice is simply amazing. Her band is just fantastic and they compliment her musical skills to the T. My family was just thrilled to have attended the concert. Ms. Mattea and her band reached out to the audience and brought them into their party and their celebration of Christmas. Thank you Kathy Mattea, your concert is part of our holiday season. —Mike Seidl, Appleton, WI

\*\*\*\*\*

One final observation: It is entirely conceivable that in 20 years when we look back on Kathy's career, *Mary Did You Know* will be the Christmas song most closely associated with her. It is without a doubt one of the great songs ever recorded. But, there's a new kid on the block and he is one to be reckoned with! Kathy's performance of "There's Still My Joy" has stolen some serious thunder these past two years. As the show's closer, Kathy introduces it as the song that helped her through the grief of losing her father. It is an emotional tour de force that leaves her cemented in the hearts of every audience member who ever felt a loss or experienced sadness at this joyous time of year.

In Saginaw, Michigan, a lady stopped by the merchandise desk to ask if we could please relay a message to Kathy since she couldn't deliver it herself. (When there are two shows in one day, Kathy only meets with folks after the second show due to time constraints). She was struggling to keep her composure, but it was clear that she was losing the battle. Sobbing, she told us that she had just buried her mother the day before the concert. She wanted Kathy to know how much that song meant to her...and how truly healing the evening had been. How I wish she could have told that story to Kathy in person and been able to receive the knowing hug of someone that understood completely how she felt.

And that's what it's all about. All the rehearsals, all the travel, the band's sacrificing time with their families, being on the road at the busiest and most festive time of year..... sure, it's a paycheck, but it's much, much more than that to this group. And it certainly blesses the lives of the people who come to the shows. You'll have to trust me on this. I get the mail. :)

Sue

# LOOKING Ahead

## Here are some things to watch for!!

\***NEW CD....**there hasn't been an announcement as to the date or title of this new recording. Kathy has said that it's half done. We're probably looking at a "summer-ish" release date, but those dates are always subject to all kinds of decisions which make pinning down a date impossible. Just know that like Tax Day and Christmas, it's coming!!

\***Fan Fair....**this year Fan Fair is scheduled for Thursday, the 9th of June through Sunday, the 12th. Traditionally we've had our party on Wednesday, but plans are still in a very tentative state. Full details will be posted to the web site @ mattea.com, Kathy's Clowns @ yahoo.com and the next Street Talk. Circle those Fan Fair dates on your calendars.

\***Fan club membership/renewal mini-hike.....** I did a little checking to find out that the last fan club membership/renewal fee hike was in January 1996. I've resisted raising this fee, but postage and the publishing costs of the expanded Street Talk have risen a lot since 1996. I'm proposing a \$3 increase across the board. New memberships, \$18/23 (international); renewals, \$15/19 (international). Canadians are the same rate as U.S. residents. I'm hoping this won't cause too much stress...if so, please get in touch with me.

\***Next issue: The final chapter of Twenty Years of Great Music, 1983-1003: A Photo Essay, Chapter 5 : 2001-2003, You Ain't Heard Nothin' Yet!**



photo credit: Rene Scheideler

## UPCOMING SHOWS



### MARCH 2005

- 30 Macomb, IL .....Western Hall
- 31 Whitewater, WI .....Young Auditorium

### APRIL 2005

- 1 Rochester, MN .....Riverside Park
- 7 Athens, OH.....Blackburn Memorial Auditorium
- 9 Mason City, IA.....North Iowa Community Auditorium

### MAY 2005

- 4 Henderson, NV .....Henderson Pavilion

DATES CHANGE FROM TIME TO TIME. PLEASE CHECK WITH VENUES BEFORE TRAVELING LONG DISTANCES!!