

Folk fete offers varied fare of music and much more

Mosh pits don't do it for you? There's always the Old Pool Farm, the venerable venue in Schwenksville for one of the nation's oldest and most respected folk festivals. It was there well before Woodstock (the first one), and attracts big-name talent from across the country, year after year. The three-day Philadelphia Folk Festival offers more than just music — it also provides an excellent camping experience, workshops, crafts, dancing and children's events. And the music itself ranges from straight American folk to bluegrass, the blues, Cajun, gospel, klezmer and Celtic rhythms, along with storytelling and dancing.

The festival opens Friday afternoon, Aug. 25, with a sampling of up-and-comers on the folk scene, such as Big Blow & the Bushwackers, Amy & Jennie, Joseph Parsons and Les Sampou. Among the headliners that night are Michelle Shocked, Janis Ian, Fred Small and Tempest. The rest of the weekend (Aug. 26-27) features Bo Diddley, the Dixie Hummingbirds, Moxy Fruvous, the Klezmatics, Koko Taylor & Her Blues Machine, Susan Werner, Magpie and Four Men and a Dog, among others.

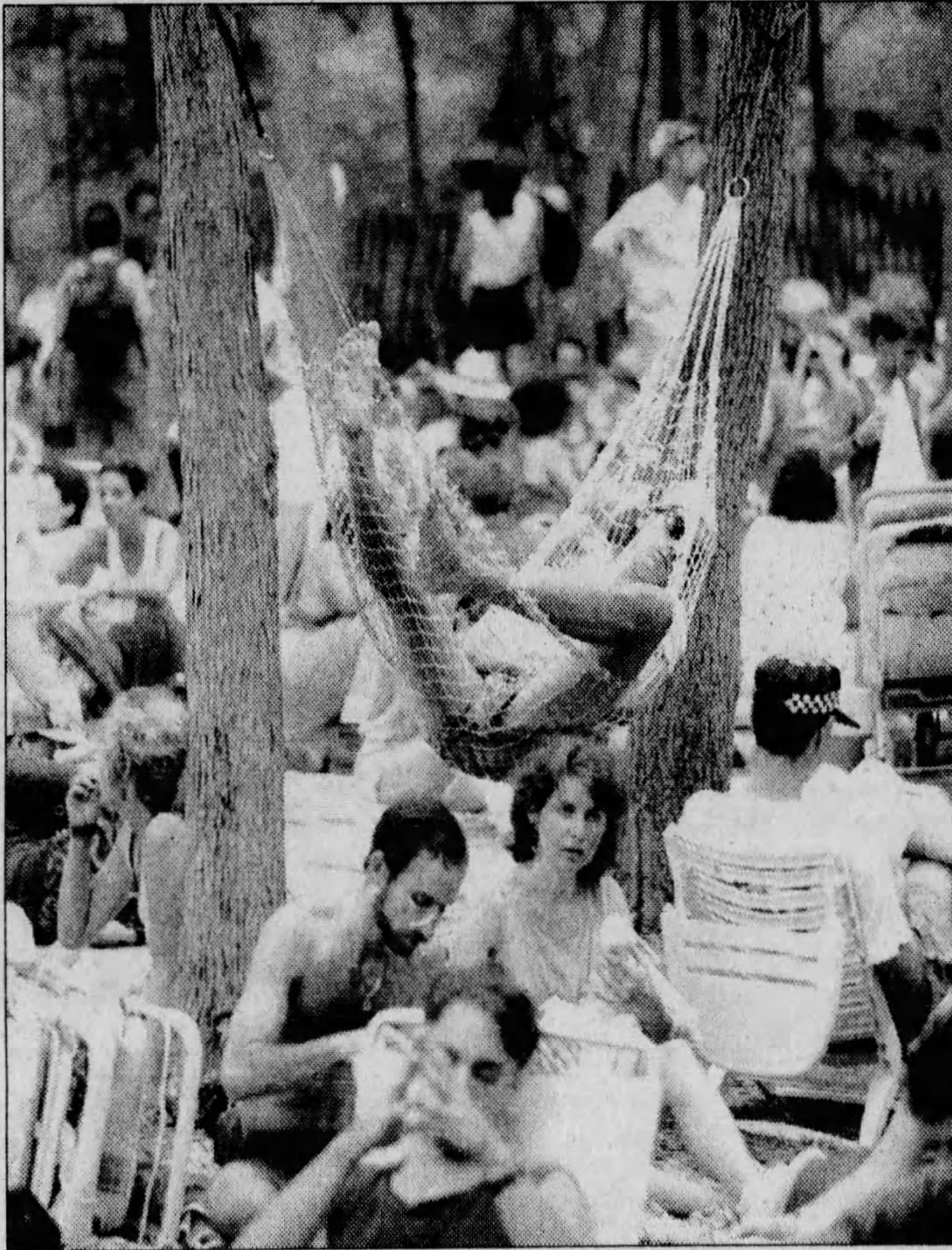
Songwriting, singing and dancing workshops will run through the weekend, including one called "Didgeridoos and Don'ts."

There are various ticket options, ranging from a single evening to a full weekend with camping; advance purchases are available at a discount through August 23, and children younger than 12 are admitted free. Phone: 800-556-3655.

Wildwood Rock & Music Expo. Looking for that special 45? Perhaps a copy of the first piece of vinyl you ever owned as a 15-year-old? You might find it at the Wildwood Convention Center (on the Boardwalk at Burk Avenue) Aug. 5 and 6. Music collectors will find a huge selection of CDs, records (all sizes), cassettes, videos, posters, sheet music and other musical memorabilia, from Elvis and the Beatles to Pearl Jam. Admission is \$3, and children younger than 10 get in free. Phone: 609-448-7585.

People Festival '95. There aren't many events at which one can hear poetry readings and get your face painted, too, but that's the case with the People Festival in Germantown's Vernon Park, Aug. 5 and 6. There will also be lots of jazz and gospel bands, arts & crafts, theater, clowns, pony rides, health screenings, and photography exhibits. Something for everyone, in other words, and an admission price to match: free. It runs from noon to 9 p.m. both days. Phone: 215-848-7039.

Jesus Christ Superstar. With music by Andrew Lloyd Webber and lyrics by Tim Rice, the highly successful and enduring rock-and-roll version of the Passion Play returns to Philadelphia with an



The Philadelphia Inquirer / VICKI VALERIO

The Philadelphia Folk Festival at Old Pool Farm in Schwenksville has been drawing crowds and big-name acts since pre-Woodstock days. It will run Aug. 25-27.

uncommon outdoor staging at the Mann Music Center, Aug. 16. The life of Jesus, with screaming guitars and roaring vocals, stars Ted Neeley as Jesus and Carl Anderson as Judas.

Tickets, \$12.50, \$19.50 and \$25, are available at the Mann and through Ticketmaster. Phone: 215-336-2000.

Popular music

CORESTATES SPECTRUM 215-336-3600.

• **Eric Clapton** With Clarence "Gatemouth" Brown. \$32.50. 8 p.m. 9/13-14.

• **REM** With Grant Lee Buffalo. \$25 & \$35. 8 p.m. 10/12-14.

DELL EAST 215-477-8611 or 215-336-

2000. & \$9 & \$15; \$6 lawn seats.

Concerts at 8 p.m. unless noted.

FREE • Caribbean Festival 8/4.

• **The Dells** With Ray, Goodman & Brown. 8/8.

FREE • Latin Festival 8/11.

• **Mikki Howard** With Christopher Williams, Men-At-Large. 8/14.

KESWICK THEATRE Glenside; 215-572-7650.

• **Bela Fleck & the Flecktones** \$18.50. 8 p.m. 8/4.

• **Joan Baez** With Dar Williams. \$21. 8 p.m. 8/9.

• **Spyro Gyra** \$25. 8 p.m. 8/11.

• **Lorie Line** \$20. 8 p.m. 8/18.

• **The Yellowjackets** \$25. 8 p.m. 8/25.

MANN MUSIC CENTER 215-878-7707.

• **Santana & Jeff Beck** With Keb' Mo. \$14.50-\$35. 7:30 p.m. 8/4.

• **Earth, Wind & Fire** With George Duke, Rachele Ferrell. \$12.50-\$22.50. 8 p.m. 8/12.

• **Foreigner** With Firehouse. \$19.50; \$7.50 lawn. 8 p.m. 8/26.

• **Soul Asylum** With the Jayhawks, Victoria Williams, Matthew Sweet. \$15. 7:30 p.m. 8/31.

• **John Tesh** \$25. 8 p.m. 9/9.

TIN ANGEL 215-928-0978. (nw)

• **Richard Shindell** With Lucy Kaplansky. \$7. 9 p.m. 8/5.

• **Sojourn** With Susan Piper. \$8. 9 p.m. 8/11.

• **Laura Mann** With Honey West, Sarah Nagourney. \$6. 9 p.m. 8/12.

• **Four Men and a Dog** With Separate Reality. \$10. 8 p.m. 8/25.

TOWER THEATRE Upper Darby; 610-352-0313.

• **Primus** With Helmet. \$19.50. 8 p.m. 8/5.

• **Bob Weir & Rob Wasserman** From Good Homes. \$22.50. 8 p.m. 8/15.

VALLEY FORGE MUSIC FAIR Devon; 610-644-5000.

• **Johnny Cash** featuring June Carter & the Carter Family with John Carter Cash, Kris Kristofferson. \$25. 8 p.m. 8/4.

• **The Statler Brothers** \$27.50. 8 p.m. 8/5, 7 p.m. 8/6.

• **Jim Bailey** Sings an evening of Judy Garland. \$20. 8 p.m. 8/8.

• **Rite of Strings** Featuring Stanley Clarke, Al DiMeola and Jean-Luc Ponty. \$25. 8 p.m. 8/11.

• **Huey Lewis & the News** \$27.50. 8 p.m. 8/15.

• **The Everly Brothers & Chet Atkins** \$30. 8 p.m. 8/16.

• **Willie Nelson & the Family** With Asleep at the Wheel. \$30. 8 p.m. 8/18.

• **Raffi** \$15. 7 p.m. 8/21-22.

• **Roger Whittaker** \$25. 8 p.m. 8/24.

WATERFRONT ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE Camden; 609-635-1445 or 800-833-0000.

• **Van Halen** With Skid Row and Our Lady Peace. \$22.50-\$38. 8 p.m. 8/5.

• **The Cranberries** With Toad the Wet Sprocket and Willy Porter. \$17.50 & \$25. 7:30 p.m. 8/8.

• **Barry Manilow** \$17.50-\$40. 8 p.m. 8/10.

• **Elton John** \$22.50 & \$42.50. 7:30 p.m. 8/11-12.

• **Diana Ross** \$20-\$45. 8 p.m. 8/16.

• **Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers** With Pete Drobe. \$30 & \$40; \$22.50 lawn. 8 p.m. 8/21.

• **Clint Black** With Johnny Berry, Martina McBride. \$9.50-\$35. 7 p.m. 8/23.

• **George Benson** \$20-\$30. 8 p.m. 8/26.

• **Blues Music Festival** Featuring B B King, Jimmie Vaughan, Etta James, J Geils & Magic Dick and Elvin Bishop. \$15-\$35. 6 p.m. 8/27.

• **Alabama** With Kenny Chesney. \$17.50-\$35. 8 p.m. 9/17.

Holmes Brothers Warmdaddy's; 215-627-2500. \$8 cover. 8:30, 10 & 11:30 p.m. 8/4-5.

Village People With the Trammms and Evelyn "Champagne" King. Trump Taj Mahal, Atlantic City; 609-449-1000. & \$25. 8 p.m. 8/19.

Theater

Change at Jamaica Musical drama presented by Humbucker Productions. Fergie's Pub; 215-552-8802. \$7; \$5 students & the unemployed; plus two-drink minimum. 8/24-26.

Dance

Philadelphia Ballet Theatre With guests from the Bolshoi Ballet. Philadelphia Arts Bank; 215-893-1145. \$15; \$10 seniors & children. 4 p.m. 8/5.

Special events

FREE German Summerfest Penn's Landing; 215-629-3237. Traditional food, music, dancing, sing-alongs. 2-9 p.m. 8/4, noon-9 p.m. 8/5-6.

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