

Halfway Home

Halfway Home is a band dedicated to having a good time playing, and bringing the audience along for the ride. Their lively musical mix of folk and country flavored songs has been entertaining audiences since 2003.

They have all performed in different bands over the years, with members having played everything from Celtic, bluegrass, traditional country, and folk, to full out rock & roll. All of these influences are evident every time Halfway Home takes the stage.

Patti, Renilda, Brian, Mike, and Pat are active in the “session” scene in Central Ohio. There is a vibrant community of musicians who meet regularly at various locations in the Columbus area for jam sessions. It was at one of these that the group members met and ultimately decided to get together as a working band.

All members of Halfway Home play a variety of instruments, including acoustic and electric guitars, mandolins, bass, percussion, accordion, bouzouki, banjo, and resonator guitar. Everyone in the group sings—and fortunately for everyone, nobody dances.

The band has performed at festivals and community concert series over the past ten years, as well as in coffeehouses and roadhouses of varying degrees of repute. Wherever they play, the emphasis is on thoughtfully crafted arrangements of the music, whether it be an old familiar song with which the audience can sing along, one their own originals, or their adaptation of a song written by any one of a number of contemporary songwriters. Throw in a good dose of spontaneity—musical or otherwise—and you’ve got the makings of a great evening!

Halfway Home released their first full length CD, “Better Days,” in 2007. The recording includes five tracks written by group members, and an assortment of songs by some of their favorite songwriters that have been crowd favorites over the years.

The members of Halfway Home are, in order of height, Renilda Marshall, Patti Ramsey, Pat Casey, Mike Hale, and Brian Szuch.

HALFWAY HOME

(614) 354-5586

HalfwayHome@Halfway-Home.com

www.Halfway-Home.com

Halfway Home

4th Friday Celebration (2007, 2009 & 2010)	Westerville, OH
Appalachian Mountain Music Festival (2007 - 2010)	Waynesville, OH
Areopagitica Books (2006 - 2010)	Columbus, OH
Breezy Point Park Concert Series (2008)	Aurora, OH
Cedarville Opera House (2008)	Cedarville, OH
Central Ohio Folk Festival (2005 - 2013)	Columbus, OH
Central Ohio Folk Festival Benefit (2005 - 2010, 2012, 2014)	Columbus, OH
Clifton Opera House (2009-2013)	Clifton, OH
Columbus Folk Music Society (The Otherside Coffeehouse)	Columbus, OH
Columbus Marathon (2005 - 2007, 2013)	Columbus, OH
Columbus Oktoberfest (2013)	Columbus, OH
Concert on the Green (2006 & 2009)	Worthington, OH
Delaware Arts Festival (2010-2014)	Delaware, OH
Delaware County Fair (2006)	Delaware, OH
Columbus Zoo	Powell, OH
Founder's Pavilion Concert (2010)	Evendale, OH
Governor's Mansion Garden Gatherings (2009 & 2010)	Columbus, OH
Grove City Summer Sizzle (2005 - 2008)	Grove City, OH
Hartford Village Day (2005 - 2014)	Croton, OH
Hayride & Hoedown - Slate Run Metro Park (2010)	Canal Winchester, OH
Honky Tonk House Concerts (2008 & 2009)	Streetsboro, OH
Mayor's Concert Series (2006, 2008, 2010 & 2014)	Newark, OH
Metamora Music Festival (2008 - 2013)	Metamora, IN
Music in the Park (2006)	Groveport, OH
Music in the Park (2010)	Whitehall, OH
Music on the Square (2004 - 2014)	Berlin, OH
Ohio State Fair (2010)	Columbus, OH
Oldtime Farming Festival (2010)	Centerburg, OH
Ole Tyme Music Festival (2005 & 2006)	Harveysburg, OH
Pataskala Street Fair (2004 & 2005)	Pataskala, OH
Rangeline Grass Festival (2009)	Troy, OH
Rocky River Summer Concert (2007)	Rocky River, OH
Shamrock Club of Columbus (2010 & 2012)	Columbus, OH
Sounds of Summer Concert (2006, 2009 & 2010)	Westerville, OH
Summer Concert Series (2006 & 2010)	Willard, OH
Summer Concert in the Park (2010)	Springboro, OH
Summer Friday's at the Statehouse (2010)	Columbus, OH
Three Cups Coffeehouse	Reynoldsburg, OH
Toe Tappin' Tuesdays (2010)	Wheeling, WV
Waynesville Summer Concert (2006)	Waynesville, OH
Westerville Music & Arts Festival (2010)	Westerville, OH

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Areopagitica Books
3510 N. High Street
Columbus, OH 43214

Hi!

I am the co-owner of a bookstore which features folk music on Saturday evenings. It is really exciting to be asked to endorse Halfway Home, since it is such a wonderful group. We can best describe this ensemble with the single word “energy.” In live performance, the members of Halfway Home have a dynamic vibe which makes it such fun to be in the room listening! Clearly every person on stage loves to be performing. Behind that drive is solid musicianship that can be heard in the group’s recordings. We have almost come to expect the awe in people’s voices when they remark that Brian Szuch seems to be able to play anything with strings or how well Mike Hale’s voice is suited to the songs he sings.

Another aspect of Halfway Home’s performance as a band is the fact that I have found them to be reliable and professional in their approach to performing. When they are booked to play here, I know they will be here well ahead of time, that they will have all their equipment set up and will later take it down and clean up after themselves, and best of all, that these are professional musicians who do not require hand-holding or babysitting. All of my attention can be devoted to any preparations I may have to make or to greeting audience members as they arrive. I am also certain that they have already publicized the event to their large local fan base, so that they contribute to the size of the audience I will have. Patti Ramsey, who is vivacious and warm, is especially good at that.

A less tangible aspect of booking Halfway Home is that each of the five members of this group is a pleasant person with whom to spend time. In addition to making wonderful music, Pat Casey and Renilda Marshall are interesting and genuine people to hold a conversation with. There is no scale to quantify “niceness,” but I believe it makes a difference in the quality of the music and atmosphere that this group helps my venue create. It is just as intangible to say that in the years I have been listening to Halfway Home perform, I have been able to hear the group grow in skill and the ability to reach out and touch the hearts of audience members. Three years ago, they gave a wonderful performance, and today they are able to give an even better performance. I cannot find the exact words to explain what they have gained, but it is a combination of increased skill as a result of steady practice and experience performing which makes this group more exciting and more fun to hear almost every time I ask them to play.

You won’t regret taking my advice to call Halfway Home to play your venue!

Rebecca Rutledge

HALFWAY HOME

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Music on the Square



January 5, 2005

Halfway Home,

Wanted to let you know how much I enjoyed your performances at our venue. You guys are absolutely tremendous and the audiences seem to love you as much as I do. Attested by the fact that during one performance it started raining, you kept performing and most of the audience stayed. I had never seen this before; usually at the first drizzle they up and leave.

I was looking for new talent that could hold a “free” audience and you guys definitely fit the bill. What a wonderful discovery: Halfway Home. You definitely have put together a unique, interesting, diverse and dynamic band.

Looking forward to having you back for more gigs this summer.

Del Schlabach

Director, Music on the Square

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THE CENTRAL OHIO FOLK FESTIVAL

PRESENTED BY

The Columbus Folk Music Society And The Metro Parks

To Whom It May Concern:

There is no question about the quality of musicianship in the acoustic group “Halfway Home.” While each member of the band is an accomplished musician in his/her own right, it is the symbiotic relationship among the five that is striking. Whether playing an old, traditional folk tune, a swing tune from the forties, or interpreting a work from one of our contemporary songwriters, the result clearly demonstrates that they all agree on the arrangement. The “pieces” all fit. It is evident that each member respects and appreciates the others’ work.

Their audiences certainly appreciate the music of Halfway Home. An evening with Halfway Home means fun, good music, camaraderie. If there is a joke, the audience is in on it. If there is a message, it is clear.

But there is something more about Halfway Home that needs to be recognized and applauded. Individually and collectively, they support and promote other local musicians who are new to the business or just becoming known. The respect they show for one another is equally evident in their approach to other musicians, at a “gig” or in an informal jam session.

Brian Szuch, Mike Hale, Pat Casey, Patti Ramsey and Renilda Marshall who are Halfway Home certainly have earned our support as well.

Sincerely,

Nancy Cline Bailey, Chairperson
(614) 267-4128

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**7524 East Main Street
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068
(614) 861-9210
(614) 861-9215 (Fax)**

Mike Hale
Halfway Home
PO Box 3434
Westerville, Ohio 43086

Dear Mike,

Just a note to thank you for playing Saturday. What an eclectic study in contrasts, you surprised me with your repertoire. Your band had a rollicking good time with your obvious joy and respect for both the music and each other and I personally was delighted you uncovered some rare gems not often heard in the musical selections of most performers. Your group plays with a virtuosic sense of style, interpretation, and nuance. You truly have a superb command of your instruments, the music and your rapport with the audience. Halfway Home's arrangements proved to be sublime and some are unusual. There is a thoughtful blending of genres, with a gradual progression in the theme and content of the music, giving rise to a complete and cohesive whole.

Be sure to contact me at your earliest convenience so that we may schedule more shows here at Three Cups Coffeehouse.

Thanks again, I really enjoyed the show.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "PJ Plas".

PJ Plas
Owner

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