

Songwriters'
Association
of Washington

SAW E-Notes



February 2008 Edition



IN THIS ISSUE

1. SAW News & Special Events
2. SAW Events at a Glance
3. SAW Events
4. Other News/Events
5. Member Notes
6. Classifieds
7. MASC Sponsors



SAW NEWS & SPECIAL EVENTS

SAW WORKSHOP: Bernie's Performance Workshop

Need Pointers on Stage Presence? Come out THIS SATURDAY to Gain Pro Knowledge on What to Do When the Spotlight's on You!

Have you determined who you are on stage? What led you to perform or whether performance is your thing? You've got questions, we've got more questions, and some answers to boot! Please come out on Feb. 9th to pick the brain of Bernie Muller-Thym, formerly of the national performance-driven act, *Da Vinci's Notebook*. He has also been artist-in-residence at the Kennedy Center, made appearances on Comedy Central, The Today Show, PBS, and has been heard on countless other radio stations and stages across America—and even YouTube!

Bernie has 20-plus years experience in all levels of performing and he'll ask you the questions that will lead you to a better performance. So, if you're looking to shake your performance jitters or would like some expert input on what you can do on stage besides play and sing, this workshop is for you! Bring yourself, your guitar, a song, some gumption and the willingness to fail (and eventually succeed!), to this workshop. Expect to have some fun!

Date: Saturday, February 9, 2008

Time: 12:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Place: The Lab at Convergence, 1819 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria VA. (Take the Shirlington exit off of I-395 and follow the signs to Quaker Lane, then take the second left on Crestwood

Drive. The Lab is the first building on the left (large brick building), with the entrance facing Crestwood Drive)

Cost: \$30 (SAW/WAMA/BSA/NSAI members) in advance; \$35 at the door

\$40 non-members in advance; \$45 at the door

Special offer for non-SAW members: Become a new SAW member with your workshop registration and pay only \$60 for a one year SAW membership and your workshop registration (new members only).

There is an online workshop registration form at www.saw.org. Or you can email berndaddie@yahoo.com for more information or to reserve your slot. Walk-in registrations will be accepted, but space is limited and we would love to hear from you in advance if at all possible!

MID-ATLANTIC SONG CONTEST (MASC) NEWS

There was a tremendous turnout for the January 21 Institute of Musical Traditions (IMT)/ MASC Winners' Showcase! We had a near full house for the first ever IMT & SAW sponsored acoustic MASC Winners' Showcase, there to see Rick & Audrey Engdahl and their band, Sense of Wonder, Gretchen Witt, Rupert Wates (our Second Place Overall winner), Laura Baron & co-writer Pat Quinn, and Patty Reese. SAW President Jean Bayou kicked off the night as a special guest and Contest Director Siobhan Quinn hosted what was an exciting and enriching evening for everyone, thanks to the excellent writing and diverse performance styles of the artists. Many, many thanks to all who made this happen, especially SAW Treasurer Lorilyn Coles, who initiated the idea with Bernard Argent of IMT.

Because of the support this event received, making it such a success for the writers, we're working on presenting another showcase within the first half of the year. We'd like to make sure every winner in future years who would like to do a showcase has the chance. If you have connections with presenting organizations and you feel your organization would welcome such an event, please contact us!

The IMT/MASC Winners' Showcase was most certainly an exciting way to kick off the New Year and the 25th anniversary of the Mid Atlantic Song Contest. As always, if you have any questions about the contest, please contact us at masc-at-saw-dot-org.

SAW VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES: Guitars Not Guns

Guitars Not Guns is starting up their winter guitar class sessions and are in need of volunteers at three locations; the Sacramento Center near Fort Belvoir, the Boys & Girls Club in Old Town Alexandria and the Boys & Girls Club near Landmark Shopping Center. These classes normally run on weekdays for an hour some time between 4 & 6 pm. Not all volunteer positions require teaching guitar. If you or someone you know is able to volunteer for this very worthy cause, please contact Skip Chaples, President of the Virginia Chapter of Guitars Not Guns, at fchaples@cox.net for more details.

SAW Serves, which is SAW's volunteer bureau, would like to invite you to sign up for volunteer performance opportunities. Send an email to sawserves@saw.org if you would like to sign up.



SAW EVENTS AT A GLANCE

Take out your calendars and jot down these dates! Go to www.saw.org for updates and more

information on any of the following events. ***Always be sure to check the SAW website for any updates or date changes for these events.***

FEBRUARY 2008

2/1 (Fri)—SAW Montgomery County Open Mike
2/4 (Mon)—Brewer's Alley/SAW Music Showcase
2/5 (Tues)—Tuesday Troubadours at Silver Spring Austin Grill
2/8 (Fri)—SAW Montgomery County Open Mike
2/9 (Sat)--PERFORMANCE WORKSHOP with Bernie Muller-Thym at the Lab (daytime)
2/9 (Sat)—Open Mike at the Lab (evening)
2/11 (Mon)—Brewer's Alley/SAW Music Showcase
2/12 (Tues)—Tuesday Troubadours at Silver Spring Austin Grill
2/14 (Thurs)—SAW Concert at the Athenaeum
2/15 (Fri)—SAW Montgomery County Open Mike
2/17 (Sun) —SAW Song Circle - Jim Johnson's home
2/18 (Mon)—Brewer's Alley/SAW Music Showcase
2/19 (Tues)—Tuesday Troubadours at Silver Spring Austin Grill
2/20 (Wed)—SAW Studio Sessions
2/21 (Thurs)—SAW Bangkok Blues Music Night
2/23 (Sat)—SAW/Red Rocks Showcase
2/23 (Sat)—SAW Songwriters Xchange – Guest Host: Patty Reese
2/23 (Sat)—SAW Cameron Perks Open Mike
2/25 (Mon)—Brewer's Alley/SAW Music Showcase
2/26 (Tues)—Tuesday Troubadours at Silver Spring Austin Grill
2/28 (Thurs)—SAW Greenbelt Open Mike
2/29 (Fri)—SAW/Oneness School Songwriter Showcase

MARCH 2008

3/3 (Mon)—Brewer's Alley/SAW Music Showcase
3/4 (Tues)—Tuesday Troubadours at Silver Spring Austin Grill
3/7 (Fri)—SAW Montgomery County Open Mike
3/8 (Sat)—Open Mike at the Lab
3/10 (Mon)—Brewer's Alley/SAW Music Showcase
3/11 (Tues)—Tuesday Troubadours at Silver Spring Austin Grill
3/13 (Thurs)—SAW Concert at the Athenaeum - Siobhan Quinn and Michael Bowers
3/14 (Fri)—SAW Montgomery County Open Mike
3/17 (Mon)—Brewer's Alley/SAW Music Showcase
3/18 (Tues)—Tuesday Troubadours at Silver Spring Austin Grill
3/19 (Wed)—SAW Studio Sessions
3/20 (Thurs)—SAW Bangkok Blues Music Night
3/21 (Fri)—SAW Montgomery County Open Mike
3/22 (Sat)—SAW Songwriters Xchange – Guest Host: Lisa Taylor
3/24 (Mon)—Brewer's Alley/SAW Music Showcase
3/25 (Tues)—Tuesday Troubadours at Silver Spring Austin Grill
3/25 (Tues)—SAW Bangkok Blues Music Night
3/27 (Thurs)—SAW Greenbelt Open Mike
3/29 (Sat)—SAW/Red Rocks Showcase
3/29 (Sat)—SAW Cameron Perks Open Mike



SAW EVENTS

The information provided below is a brief synopsis of selected SAW events. For more detailed information please visit our Web site at www.saw.org

SAW OPEN MIKES

SAW Cameron Perks Open Mike in Alexandria , VA

Every LAST Saturday, 7 – 9:30 p.m.

Sign-up begins at 6:45 for 15 minute slots. For questions, or to reserve a time slot for an upcoming open mike at this intimate, comfortable venue, contact Mark Austin at mark@markaustinguitar.com

SAW Greenbelt Open Mike at New Deal Café

Every 4th Thursday, 7 – 9 p.m.

At the New Deal Café (www.newdealcafe.com), 113 Centerway, Roosevelt Center, Greenbelt, MD. Sign up starts at 6:30 p.m. Originals strongly encouraged. For more information call (301) 474-5642. The New Deal Cafe has a good sound system and a stage to showcase your material. Serving beer, wine and a selection of entrees and snacks, it offers everything you and your friends need for a great evening of music and fun. Your SAW hosts, Julie Kehrli and Keith Thorne do everything they can to ensure you have a fun and fulfilling evening.

UPDATE:

Please email Julie & Keith at kthorne11@cox.net to reserve a date/time.

SAW Montgomery County Open Mike

Every FIRST, SECOND & THIRD Friday, 6 – 9:30 p.m.

Caribou Coffee; Olney Village Mart Center; 18101 Olney Village Mart Drive; Olney, MD 20832 Signups begin at 7 p.m., open mike starts at 7:30 pm. **Your original songs only!** Hosts: Michelle Murray/Jeff Silberberg, (first Fridays) AtThisPoint (second Fridays), TomyWright (third Fridays). For more information, e-mail: michelle.murray6@verizon.net. It's free, but tips are greatly appreciated.

SAW Open Mike at the Lab

Every SECOND Saturday, 7:30 – 10:45 p.m.

The Springfield Open Mike has now moved to Alexandria! Our new location, the Lab at Convergence is a large, beautiful, acoustically-pleasing room with plenty of chairs and tables, a piano, a stage and a great sound system! The Lab at Convergence, 1819 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria VA. (Take the Shirlington exit off of I-395 and follow the signs to Quaker Lane, then take the second left on Crestwood Drive. The Lab is the first building on the left (large brick building), with the entrance facing Crestwood Drive)

SAW SHOWCASES

SAW Bangkok Blues Music Night

Every 3rd Thursday 7:30 – 11 p.m. (times may vary)

Every 4th Tuesday 7:30 – 11 p.m. (times may vary)

Bangkok Blues Restaurant, 926 W. Broad St. (Rt. 7 East); Falls Church, VA 22046; (703) 534-0095. Third Thursday and fourth Tuesday of each month, with varying start times and musical

acts. For more information, or to be considered for future music slots, contact Ron Goad at Mistergoad@aol.com or go to www.saw.org.

Brewer's Alley/SAW Music Showcase

Every Monday, 8 – 10:30 p.m.

Upstairs at Brewer's Alley Restaurant & Brewery, 124 N. Market Street, Frederick, MD 21701
Telephone: 301-631-0089 Fax: 301-631-1874. www.brewers-alley.com

The Monday Showcase includes a featured act who plays a 45-minute set, and up to 7 others playing 3-song guest sets. There is no cover charge, but a tip basket is passed for the featured act. Interested performers may sign up in advance for guest sets by contacting Ron Goad at Mistergoad@aol.com or by calling (703) 266-7060. This is a great room, great crowd—if you're in the Frederick area on a Monday night, stop by!

SAW Concerts at the Athenaeum (ath-en-NAY-yum)

Every SECOND Thursday, 7 p.m.

Cost: \$10

The Northern Virginia Fine Arts Association (nvfaa.org); 201 Prince Street; Alexandria, VA 22314. A newly-refurbished, beautiful old building and great music that SAW will be filling it with! Hosted by Ron Goad.

Update:

February 14 – Siobhan Quinn & Michael Bowers; with opening acts: Rick and Audrey Engdahl of Sense of Wonder and Harpist Patricia Cooper.

SAW/Oneness School Songwriter Showcase

Friday, February 29, 2008 , 7:30 p.m.

St. John's Episcopal Church, 6701 Wisconsin Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD 20815

Cost: Suggested donation of \$10; Contact: Joel Pomerantz, pomeranj@hotmail.com

Located at the Oneness School at the rear of St. John's Episcopal Church (West Street Side).

This is diagonal from the Fire Station and next to Pier One Imports. Parking available near Writer's Center, two blocks north, at the corner of Bradley Lane (Bradley Blvd). Relaxed coffeehouse atmosphere, with a wonderful Bose sound system--Come and enjoy! As the date approaches, check www.saw.org under "SAW Events" for a listing of who will be playing.

UPDATE:

Friday, February 29, 2008—

730 p.m.-Sam Grow

800-David LaFleur

830-Peter and Alex

900-Alex Kim

930-Tommy Ray

10-Eric Weinberg

SAW/Red Rocks Showcase

Every Last Saturday, 12:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Red Rocks Cafe & Tequila Bar; 13850 Braddock Road; Centreville, VA;

www.restaurant.com/redrocks. Hosted by Ron Goad. Sign up in advance via e-mail to

MisterGoad@aol.com. Use of music stands is encouraged and there are usually plenty of backup

singers and/or players available upon request! Check the SAW Web site (www.saw.org) for

updates. For more information, e-mail Ron Goad or call (703) 266-7060.

Tuesday Troubadours

EVERY Tuesday night, 8:30 p.m.

Austin Grill; 36 Maryland Avenue, Unit A; Rockville, MD 20850; 301-838-4281. Hosted by Bob Sima and modeled after the classic Nashville "Singer Songwriters in the Round" format. Each Tuesday, Bob brings in 2 guest singer-songwriters to join him on stage for an evening of all original singer-songwriter material. The newest Austin Grill www.austingrill.com in Rockville has a \$50,000 sound system and a great lighted stage. It is one of the nicest venues in the area all set within the walls of a great Tex Mex restaurant with free parking all around.

The old saying goes, it ain't a good song unless you can successfully move the audience without a back-up band, studio wizardry and smoke and mirrors. So Bob hand picks the best of the best local and national/international talent to demonstrate that concept each week. They share songs, stories and sometimes a guitar lick in what turns out to be an often magical display of songcraft and entertainment. Some nights, there is a cameo set-which is a 3 song set for selected up and comers! You can email Bob at info@bobsima.com for more information.

SAW-West Market Concert Series

First Sunday, every third month

NEXT SHOW: Sunday, April 6, 2008, 7:15 p.m.

West Market Club

1901 Logan Manor Drive

Reston, VA 20190

Come early to have your own indoor/outdoor picnic BYOB and food. Kitchen and BBQ grill facilities too (in season)! Donations up to \$10 per person requested/encouraged

The SAW–West Market Concert Series was founded to provide performance opportunities for SAW's best artists and monthly entertainment offerings for West Market residents. SAW-WM Concert Series will usually be on the first Sundays every third month (on a quarterly basis.) For more information contact: SAW coordinator: Greg Vickers, vickershome@comcast.net SAW Sound & Booking Agent: Ron Goad: mistergoad@aol.com West Market Activities Committee: Karen Fegani: karen@residentialadvisers.com

OTHER SAW EVENTS

SAW Song Circle

Sunday, February 17, 2008, 2-6 p.m. @ Jim Johnson's home

Jim Clark: 2910 Swanee Lane, Fairfax, VA 22031 (703) 272-7676

Jim Johnson: 6424 Wainfleet Ct., Springfield, VA (703) 913-7408

Andrew Coupe: 14 Middlebridge Ct., Silver Spring, MD 20906 (301) 871-6305

Light refreshments are provided. Bring your instrument and songs to share. Bringing food/beverage is always appreciated, but not mandatory! This event is held monthly and the location rotates between the homes of Jim Johnson in Springfield, VA and Jim Clark in Vienna, VA, and Andrew Coupe in Silver Spring, MD.

There is a yahoo list for the Song Circle, which is used primarily for announcements. Members can either add their name to the list by sending e-mail to SAWSongCircle-subscribe@yahoogroups.com or remove their name from the list by sending e-mail to SAWSongCircle-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com

SAW Songwriter Xchange

Every FOURTH Saturday, 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

The Lab at Convergence, 1819 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria VA. (Take the Shirlington exit off of I-395 and follow the signs to Quaker Lane, then take the second left on Crestwood Drive. The Lab is the first building on the left (big brick building), with the entrance facing Crestwood Drive)

Participants bring a song-in-the-works to share with the group for friendly, constructive feedback. Songwriters can either play their songs live (a piano is available, and there are always guitars around), or bring a recording to play on a boom box. You are encouraged to bring lyric sheets to distribute, too, which will be returned to you, often with helpful comments. Even if you get substantial co-writer-quality input on your song from the group, the copyright remains exclusively yours!

Each month a different guest artist hosts the first hour of the Xchange. The guest can lead a discussion about the songwriting process, offer a lesson, or actually write a song on the spot. Guest artists usually play three or four songs during their portion of the Xchange, and then help critique your songs-in-progress. There is no fee, but we pass a tip jar around for the guest artist.

The coordinators for the Xchange are Dan Grove and Paige Powell and can be contacted at songxchange@comcast.net or melodiesbypaige@earhtlink.net.

UPDATE: Guest Artists...

February 23 - Patty Reese

March 22 - Lisa Taylor

April 26 - Rick & Audrey Engdahl of Sense of Wonder

SAW Studio Sessions

Wednesday, February 20, 2008

Wednesday, March 19, 2008

Golden Sound Studio, 3843 Farragut Avenue, Kensington, MD 20895; 301-962-1119

Hosted by Scott Harlan and Eric Weinberg, this event offers SAW members a new outlet for elevating their songwriting. Rather than playing for an audience, come share songs with your peers and with a producer/engineer in a professional recording studio environment. Four or five performers who sign up in advance will convene in the big tracking room, where there will be a combination of room mics set up to capture conversation, and performance-position microphones set up to capture the individual performer. We'll do two "rounds," where each person performs one song followed by an optional critique by the attendees. You will also have the option of taking a recording of the evening home with you if you provide a blank CD.

THE RULES:

- 1) No bands, and no extra/unnecessary accompaniment.
 - 2) Original songs only!!
 - 3) Performers will be scheduled on a first-come, first-serve basis.
 - 4) There will be NO "punch-ins"/edits/re-takes. This is the equivalent of a live recording!
- You can email Scott at ScottHarlan@verizon.net to SIGN UP, and for more information.

UPDATE:

March SAW Studio Session will be held on Wednesday, March 19, 2008 from 7-9pm at Golden Sound Studio, 3843 Farragut Avenue, Kensington MD 20895. Email ScottHarlan@verizon.net to SIGN UP for March SAW Studio Session.



OTHER NEWS & EVENTS

SAW Members: send your news for inclusion in this section to Aisha at sawnotes@saw.org.
Must be submitted on a MONTHLY BASIS for inclusion.

New Local Music Web Radio Show

Listen up, local singer/songwriters/musicians! Every Saturday from 4-5 p.m., SAW Board member Michelle Murray will be hosting a web radio show, called "Open Stage," on WLOY-AM (1620) the Loyola College Radio Station. Each week Michelle will play primarily acoustic-based local music, exposing the listener to the best of the areas singer/songwriters. Her show will feature a variety of musical genres including folk, blues, country, bluegrass, and Celtic music. You can listen online, and they offer three different streams to choose from, at <http://www.wloy.org/listen.html>

Michelle is looking to play as many local musicians as possible. If you would like to send your CD to play, just mail a copy (preferably 2 copies, that way Michelle can put the extra copy in the station library) to:

Michelle Murray (you need to put the name on there!)
WLOY-AM (make sure you put the station name)
Loyola College
4501 North Charles Street
Baltimore, MD 21201

Also, here's a link to Michelle's show page on the site:
<http://www.wloy.com/shows/openstage.html>

So take a listen and support the local music community!



MEMBER NOTES

This section is open to any type of music announcement SAW members would like to make. Just send your message to sawnotes@saw.org a week before the end of the month for inclusion in the next newsletter.

Quinn and Bowers Do Valentine's Day

Siobhan Quinn & Michael Bowers will perform at the SAW Athenaeum Concert Series on Valentine's Night, Thursday February 14. Rick and Audrey of Sense of Wonder, and Patricia Cooper (Harpist) will open the show.

The music will not be all about love and relationships (although there is sure to be some of that!)... there will be other facets explored--Every Cobblestone Has A Story was a special project for Alexandria, VA in which Siobhan and Michael (and others) wrote songs about the city... and they'll probably sneak a song or two from the project into the show. They're likely to put in a few heavy-hitting heart-breaking blues numbers, a few a capella Irish numbers, and if their past is any indicator, pleasant surprises are always in store! At a past Valentine's Day concert, Michael & Siobhan invited the audience to nominate: Worst Love Lyrics ever written, Best Pick Up Lines,

Worst Pick Up Lines. The audience voted and winners got actual prizes (Wine, Whipped Cream and Cookies from Bittersweet). Expect to have some fun at this concert!

Valentines Day, February 14, 2008 @ 7 p.m.
The Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street, Alexandria, VA 22314
(703-548-0035) <http://www.nvfaa.org/> Refreshments available.
\$10 Admission



CLASSIFIEDS

*Classified Ads are charged PER WORD. They are **FREE TO SAW MEMBERS** and \$0.25/word for non-members. Please send your classified ad to sawnotes@saw.org for inclusion in the next e-newsletter. **Classifieds MUST be submitted on a monthly basis for inclusion AND WILL ONLY BE ALLOWED TO RUN TWO MONTHS IN A ROW AT MAX. If you have a print-ready ad, send it right away to make sure you are in the very next newsletter. It is your responsibility to resend the ad each month, for as long as you need it.***

SAW Members Special!

SAW Members receive 25% off their first session. For more information and to schedule a studio tour, please contact: Scott Harlan, Golden Sound Studio, (301) 962-1119, GoldenSoundStudio@gmail.com, www.GoldenSoundStudio.com

Music Recording Workshop

Golden Sound Studio (www.GoldenSoundStudio.com) is now registering for its Spring Music Recording Workshop. This course is geared towards home studio owners, amateur live sound engineers, and musicians/producers who would simply like to improve their knowledge of and effectiveness using modern studio & sound electronics. It is not a scholastically accredited course; just hands-on training in a small group where you choose your level of involvement. The course consists of 6 classes, each 3 ½ to 4 hours long, held on Sunday afternoons from Noon to 4 p.m. The cost of enrollment is \$300.00, and you will also receive a textbook. Dates TBD for upcoming Spring class series. Maximum 5 students per workshop.

To receive a curriculum & registration packet, please contact: Scott Harlan, Golden Sound Studio, (301) 962-1119, GoldenSoundStudio@gmail.com, www.GoldenSoundStudio.com



SAW'S MASC SPONSORS

BMI: Music Licensing
www.bmi.com

CF MARTIN & COMPANY (The Martin Guitar Company)
<http://www.martinguitar.com>

MARY CLIFF & Traditions radio show on WAMU
<http://marycliff.net>

FOLK ALLIANCE

www.folk.org

Jammin' Java: Concert Venue

www.jamminjava.com

MASTERWRITER: computer software for songwriters

www.masterwriter.com

Oasis CD Manufacturing

www.oasiscd.com

Omega Recording Studios

www.omegastudios.com

SONGWRITER'S MARKET 2007

www.songwritersmarket.com

Taxi: The World's Leading Independent A&R Company

www.taxi.com

NEXT NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

Friday, February 29, 2008 @ 5 p.m.

Please e-mail your submissions for the next e-newsletter to Aisha Mahy at sawnotes@saw.org