



Songwriters' Association of Washington  
**SAW E-Notes**  
**JANUARY 2009**



### IN THIS ISSUE

1. **SAW Events: At a Glance**
2. **SAW Events: Updates & More**
3. **Other News/Events**
4. **Member Notes**
5. **Classifieds**
6. **Volunteer Opportunities**
7. **MASC Sponsors**



**Come to the 25<sup>th</sup> Mid-Atlantic Song Contest Awards Night Gala**

**THIS SUNDAY  
JANUARY 11, 2009 @ 4 P.M.  
JAMMIN' JAVA (Vienna, VA)**

Tickets are \$7 in advance and \$10 at the door. Advance ticket purchase strongly recommended. To purchase tickets, go to Jammin' Java's Web site at [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).



## SAW EVENTS: AT-A-GLANCE

Here is a quick list of upcoming SAW events. **Please check the Web site, [www.saw.org](http://www.saw.org), for detailed and up-to-date information.**

### **JANUARY 2009**

1/2 (Fri)—SAW Montgomery County Open Mike

1/5 (Mon)—Brewer's Alley/SAW Music Night (Frederick, MD)

**NEW→** 1/5 (Mon)—SAW Jammin' Java Open Mike (Vienna, VA)

1/8 (Thurs)—SAW Concert at the Athenaeum

1/9 (Fri)—SAW Montgomery County Open Mike

1/10 (Sat)—SAW Open Mike at The Lab

**1/11 (SUN)—25<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MID-ATLANTIC SONG CONTEST WINNERS' GALA**

1/11 (Sun)—SAW Serves at National Rehabilitation Hospital

1/12 (Mon)—Brewer's Alley/SAW Music Night (Frederick, MD)—Co-bill: Phyllis Tannerfrye and Jon Shain

**1/15 (Thurs)—SAW Music Night @ Bangkok Blues: A Night of Dog/Cat/Pet/Animal Songs! Featuring The Washington Post Pet Song Contest Winner (and SAW board member) Gary Jaffe and a pack, a flock, a herd, a gaggle, and a pride of performers.**

**NEW→** 1/16 (Fri)—SAW Young Artists Showcase COFFiHOUSE (Merrifield, VA)

**1/17—WORKSHOP: PRESS KITS—Promoting Yourself "Accurately and Awesomely" Through Your Press Kit** (see information below)

1/18 (Sun)—SAW Serves at National Rehabilitation Hospital

1/19 (Mon)—Brewer's Alley/SAW Music Night (Frederick, MD)—Transcendent Third (Matthew & Michael Polonchak)

**NEW→** 1/19 (Mon)—SAW Jammin' Java Open Mike (Vienna, VA)

1/22 (Thurs)—SAW New Deal Café Open Mike

1/23 (Fri)—SAW/SOUNDS OF HOPE Potter's House Open Mike

1/24 (Sat)—SAW Songwriters XChange—*Guest Artists: Dulcie Taylor and Jack Bond*

1/25(Sun)—SAW Serves at National Rehabilitation Hospital

1/26 (Mon)—Brewer's Alley/SAW Music Night (Frederick, MD)—Mark McKay

**NEW→** 1/26 (Mon)—SAW Jammin' Java Open Mike (Vienna, VA)

**1/26 (Mon)—1/26 (Mon) IMT Mid Atlantic Song Contest Winners' Acoustic Showcase**

1/28 (Tues)—SAW Bangkok Blues Music Night

**1/28 (Wed)—SAW Music Night @ Bangkok Blues: Members of the Board**

**SAW.org Board of Directors' Members & Contractors will put on quite a show!**

1/31(Sat)—SAW Cameron Perks Open Mike

*\*No Song Circle for January (starting back up 2/22)*

### **FEBRUARY 2009**

2/1 (Sun)—SAW Serves at National Rehabilitation Hospital

2/2 (Mon)—Brewer's Alley/SAW Music Night (Frederick, MD)—Mary Battiata (Rod Deacey's Birthday!)

2/6 (Fri)—SAW Montgomery County Open Mike

2/9 (Mon)—Brewer's Alley/SAW Music Night (Frederick, MD)—Todd Coyle

**NEW→** 2/9 (Mon)—SAW Jammin' Java Open Mike (Vienna, VA)

2/12 (Thurs)—SAW Concert at the Athenaeum

2/13 (Fri)—SAW Montgomery County Open Mike

2/14 (Sat)—SAW Open Mike at The Lab

2/15 (Sun)—SAW Serves at National Rehabilitation Hospital

2/16 (Mon)—Brewer's Alley/SAW Music Night (Frederick, MD)—ilyAIMY (Ron Hinkal & Heather Lloyd)  
**NEW→**2/16 (Mon)—SAW Jammin' Java Open Mike (Vienna, VA)  
2/19 (Thurs)—SAW Bangkok Blues Music Night: Eric Scott, Tom O'Connor, Patrice Moerman, The Big Cheese (extended set by Larry Rice, Shannon Rice & Lea Mae Rice), The Jim & Ashley Cash Band, and Annie Sidley  
2/21 (Sat)—Annual SAW Meetnig  
2/22 (Sun)—SAW Serves at National Rehabilitation Hospital  
2/22 (Sun)—SAW Song Circle @ Michelle Murray's Home (see [www.saw.org](http://www.saw.org) for details)  
2/23 (Mon)—Brewer's Alley/SAW Music Night (Frederick, MD)—Gina DeSimone & the Moaners  
**NEW→**2/23 (Mon)—SAW Jammin' Java Open Mike (Vienna, VA)  
2/25 (Wed)—SAW Bangkok Blues Music Night  
2/26 (Thurs)—SAW New Deal Café Open Mike  
2/28 (Sat)—SAW Songwriters XChange  
2/28 (Sat)—SAW Open Mike at Cameron Perks



## **SAW EVENTS: Updates, Workshops & More**

### **NEW SONGWRITER'S SHOWCASE PRESENTED BY SAW/BMI IN GAITHERSBURG, MD** **Second Wednesday Every Month @ 8 p.m.**

*JJ Muldoons; 16143 Shady Grove Rd; Gaithersburg, Maryland 20877*

Beginning Wed. February 11, 2009, the second Wed. of every month will be dedicated to showcase our areas best songwriting talent. The evening will begin with a short set by host Patty Reese followed by 1/2 hour to 45 min. sets by pre-scheduled artists. To sign up contact Patty Reese at [patty@pattyreese.com](mailto:patty@pattyreese.com).

### **NEW SAW OPEN MIKE AT JAMMIN' JAVA**

JamminJava.com; 227 Maple Ave East (route 123); Vienna, VA 22180

2008 City's Best Live Music Venue in the DC Area  
[aol.com/citybest](http://aol.com/citybest)  
"Best Open Mic in the DC Area" Washington Post

Owners Daniel, Luke, and Jonathan Brindley (check out [BrindleyBrothers.com](http://BrindleyBrothers.com)) have invited SAW to host music OM/showcases on some Mondays 7-10 pm when there is no concert is on the schedule.

If a Monday concert is added to the schedule, then that OM/showcase will be preempted, and host Ron Goad will email affected signups about the cancellation. Keep an eye on [JamminJava.com](http://JamminJava.com) and tell your fans to do the same.

Songwriters have signed up with me in advance at either [ron@jamminjava.com](mailto:ron@jamminjava.com) or [mistergoad@aol.com](mailto:mistergoad@aol.com).

### **THE SONG XCHANGE IS BACK IN THE NEW YEAR!**

**Saturday, January 24, 2009**

On Saturday, January 24, we'll have bluesy-tinged country icons Dulcie Taylor and Jack Bond as our guest artists, and we couldn't think of a better way to start it off.

Dulcie is a stellar songwriter and performer. She's played everywhere from the Bluebird in Nashville to the main stage at Kerrville, and can move a crowd through a story and back in time, up or down, starting with a room full of entirely different people and taking them all to the same place, together, in three minutes of magic. She'll also charm you with sweet and salty talk between songs, and impress you with her guitar and mountain dulcimer skills.

Then there's Jack, who is an absolutely killer guitarist. If you were around DC a while ago you remember Roy Buchanan, a rock guitar god often mentioned in the same context as Danny Gatton. Well, Jack has a song on one of his albums. Jack can write as well as he can play, and spent six years as a singer/songwriter in Nashville.

More at [www.dulcietaylor.com](http://www.dulcietaylor.com) and [www.myspace.com/jonesongsjackbond](http://www.myspace.com/jonesongsjackbond), but neither website captures their collaboration. You'll have to come and hear it.

Don't miss this Song Xchange, OK?

**WORKSHOP: PRESS KITS—Promoting Yourself "Accurately and Awesomely" Through Your Press Kit**

***www.pixidesign.net***

***www.ruthieandthewranglers.com***

***Date: Saturday, January 17, 2009 (11:00 a.m. - 2:00p.m.)***

***Place: Lab at Convergence, 1819 Crestwood Drive, Alexandria VA***

***Price: \$30***

Hosted by Ruthie Logsdon, graphic designer and partner in pixidesign specializing in promotion for the independent artist. Ruthie is lead singer and songwriter for Azalea City Recording Artists Ruthie and the Wranglers and has over 20 years of do-it-yourself promotion and design experience.

Whether you are starting your press kit from scratch or just want some feedback on your current promotional package, you will learn how to recognize and highlight your most important accolades and represent your best self. Get tips on how to help your press kit go from typical to tremendous with a few minor adjustments. See examples of other marketing ideas that won't break the bank!

Discussion Topics:

How to get a great photo, what to include in a kit, how to create a bio and how to stand out among other artists.

The workshop will include a press kit presentation, lively discussion, critique session (bring your presskits for feedback) and Q and A.

**WORKSHOP: SAW/Spook Handy Presents Simple Measures for Drastic Guitar Playing Improvement (Bring Your Guitar)**

***Saturday, February 14th, 2009 @ Noon***

***Takoma Park Presbyterian Church; 7500 Maple Avenue (On corner of Tulip and Maple- 3 blocks from the Takoma Metro!); Takoma Park, MD 20912***

***Cost: Pre-Registration-\$25 for SAW/WAMA Members, \$30 for Non-Members***

It's easy to drastically improve your guitar playing by learning a few simple techniques. Having MCed over 1200 open mics over a 20 year period - and hearing over 3000 performers of all ability levels - Spook has been astonished by how many guitar players do little more than strum their instruments and don't take advantage of simple tools that will make them stand out as accomplished players.

Fortunately, he picked up a few guitar concepts early on from some hot bluegrass players. The fact that he doesn't play bluegrass makes these techniques all the more better, because he applies them to genres where they are often overlooked. Now, he wants to share these techniques, so he put together this workshop for the beginner and intermediate level performer.

According to individual ability workshop participants will:

- \* Learn about bass lines, riff lines and chord embellishments
- \* Explore how to add these to songs they already play
- \* Learn and practice hammer-ons, pull offs, slides and bends
- \* Explore chord inversions and alternative chord structures on songs they already play
- \* Learn and practice simple and intermediate finger style techniques.
- \* Explore dynamics and contrast
- \* Learn why knowing a variety of tuning techniques can make your guitar stay better tuned.

This hands-on workshop is designed for the beginner and intermediate level guitar player. Bring your guitar, paper and pencil and the desire to drastically improve your guitar playing.

#### About the instructor:

Spook Handy has written hundreds of songs and performed over 2000 concerts in his 20 year career. His songs have been covered by dozens of other artists including Pete Seeger. He has won numerous awards and accolades including "Best Folk Artist" by Upstage Magazine in 2004 and "Best Folk Artist You've Never Heard Of" by About.com in 2006.

Spook has recorded four CDs with his most recent, "Whatcha Gonna Do?" topping out at #12 on the Folk Radio Charts in 2007. His song "Vote" was a top 10 hit on Folk Radio in October 2008. Spook has also written music for theatre and film.

Since 1985, Spook has organized and/or MCed over 1200 musical events including New Jersey's longest ever running open mic, "The Spook Handy Show" which ran from 1985 to 2005. He has MCed "Freehold Idol" in Freehold, NJ and "Idol Search" in Little Falls, NJ. In that time, he's seen over 3000 musicians perform and has developed quite an eye for effective stage presence.  
[www.spookhandy.com](http://www.spookhandy.com)

#### **WORKSHOP: Songwriting Workshop with Grammy Winners Cathy Fink & Marcy Marxer**

**Date: Saturday, March 7, 2009 (10:00am - 2:00pm)**

**Place: Lab at Convergence, 1819 Crestwood Drive, Alexandria VA**

**Price \$50 only 50 seats available**

**[www.cathymarcy.com](http://www.cathymarcy.com)**

Cathy Fink & Marcy Marxer will lead 2 concurrent sessions from 10-12pm, followed by a lunch break. They will then do a session together from 12:30-2pm.  
Bring paper and writing implements for "in workshop" exercises.

Cathy's session will focus on 3 topics:

- 1) The elements of a great song
- 2) Songwriting practice and exercises
- 3) The intention behind your songs-who/what are you writing for and how does that influence your approach.

Marcy's Session will focus on 3 topics:

- 1) Tools of rhyme and poetry
- 2) Writing with a specific purpose or theme
- 3) Inspiration: where and how it meets art & craft

The session with Cathy & Marcy together will cover co-writing, editing yourself, and getting help from others in editing.

Cathy Fink & Marcy Marxer have been nominated 13 consecutive times for GRAMMY Awards in folk and children's music. They have won 2 GRAMMY Awards for the original CD "Bon Appétit!: Musical Food Fun and "cELLAbration: a Tribute to Ella Jenkins". Their song "Scat Like That" took first place in both the John Lennon Songwriting Contest and the ISC (children's music). Cathy's song "Names" placed first in the Mid Atlantic Songwriting Contests "Folk" category. They collectively have nearly 50 WAMMY Awards. [www.cathymarcy.com](http://www.cathymarcy.com)



## **OTHER NEWS & EVENTS**

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

### **THE 23<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL WAMMIES KICKS OFF AND SAW BOARD MEMBERS ARE UP FOR AWARDS—DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!!!**

*Sunday, February 15, The State Theatre, Falls Church, VA*

The 23rd Annual Wammies Ballot has been announced and our SAW President, Jean Bayou, has been nominated for Executive of the Year, and SAW Board member Ron Goad has been nominated as Most Supportive of Washington Music. Numerous SAW members are also on the ballot in almost every music category. Congratulations to you all!

SAW will once again be a co-sponsor of the Wammie award for 2008 Songwriter of the Year, and will have a table at the Wammies. Here are the details:

The Board of Directors of the Washington Area Music Association and BMI present the 23rd Annual Wammie™ Awards

*Sunday, February 15  
The State Theatre  
Falls Church, VA*

If you're a WAMA member, you may vote by Jan. 15th at: <http://wamad.com/wama>. Tickets to the Wammies may be purchased there as well.

### **SAW BOARD MEMBER MICHELLE MURRAY HOSTS ONLINE RADIO SHOW FEATURING SAW SONGWRITERS AND PRESENTERS**

The Open Stage, an online radio show on BlogTalkRadio hosted by SAW Board Member Michelle Murray, features the best of the Washington D.C./Baltimore area singer/songwriters, including members of the Songwriter's Association of Washington. Each show will feature an interview and music from a different songwriter, and we'll talk about song inspiration, the songwriting process, and of course, tracks from artists' CDs and upcoming shows to attend.

In January, Michelle will interview three talented SAW members:

Ron Goad on Sunday, January 18th  
Dulcie Taylor on January 19th  
Laura Baron, on Thursday, January 22 .

Past shows have featured Jon Carroll, Andrew McKnight, Suzanne Ives, Joe Shade, Jean Bayou, and Tom Dews.

This live, online radio show is broadcast on [blogtalkradio.com](http://blogtalkradio.com) and all shows will be archived in a podcast library. You can listen to all archived shows and get updates on upcoming shows and show times by visiting Michelle's show page at: <http://www.blogtalkradio.com/The-Open-Stage>.



## 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](mailto:sawnotes@saw.org) ANY TIME before the end of the month for inclusion in the next month's newsletter.*

### **SINGER/SONGWRITER DON BRIDGES FEATURED IN NORTHERN VIRGINIA MAGAZINE**

Don Bridges was featured in the January issue of Northern Virginia Magazine, which was devoted entirely to "Kids' Favorites." Reporter Susan Anspach writes, "On every song, the children are doing something, shaking instruments, marching, dancing, singing along." The effect, it seems, is contagious. On a recent outdoor Springfield concert, Bridges was mid-performance when two young sisters rose and began ballet dancing. "Then an elderly couple, I'd say in their 70s, got up and started slow dancing. The juxtaposition just blew my mind, just broke and captivated my heart." Read the entire article online at [www.NorthernVirginiaMagazine.com](http://www.NorthernVirginiaMagazine.com).

### **IN MEMORY OF VIC HEYMAN**

Victor Heyman, who worked tirelessly to promote folk music in the Washington area for the last quarter century, died in Florida on Tuesday, January 6, 2009 of Parkinson's Disease.

Many Washington area musicians knew of his showcase that took place for a couple of decades at O'Brien's Pit Barqueque in Rockville, MD. The venue was taken over in the last several years by another Washington-area musical organization, FOCUS, who kept the name, "Vic's Music Corner" active once Vic retired from constant participation.

He was also involved in the World Folk Music Association, was a supporter of the Kerrville Folk Festival, and promoted many other organizations, and he assisted musicians in getting visibility in the area they would otherwise not achieve. His wife, Reba, who survives him, also worked by Vic's side for similar purposes.

There is some discussion at this time of a memorial service to take place sometime in the spring here in Washington.



## 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](mailto: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. 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.***

*No classified ads submitted for January.*



## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### SAW SERVES

SAW Serves, SAW's volunteer bureau, would like to invite you to sign up for volunteer performance opportunities, or let us know of any charities/events seeking performers. Send an email to [president@saw.org](mailto:president@saw.org).

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### CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL (DC)

Benefit concert/performance opportunities in the atrium or at many of the different outpatient centers. To play at the Atrium at the main Children's Hospital (in DC), contact: Dana Morgan, 202-484-1976, or by email at [damorgan@cnmc.org](mailto:damorgan@cnmc.org).

For outpatient centers (multiple centers in DC, VA, and MD), contact: Heather Stemas, 202-884-3255. Outpatient Centers are generally open M-F, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

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### SAW SERVES AT NATIONAL REHABILITATION HOSPITAL

On June 1, 2008, Jeff Silberberg of Olney, MD began hosting Live Music Sunday at NRH in the ground floor cafeteria of the National Rehabilitation Hospital, 102 Irving Street, NW, Washington, DC. Showcases are being scheduled for Sunday afternoons, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.. Musicians interested in performing are being asked to contact Jeff Silberberg at [jeffrey.silberberg@verizon.net](mailto:jeffrey.silberberg@verizon.net) or 301-775-6468. This activity is in conjunction with the Songwriter's Association of Washington (SAW) and SAW Serves.

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### GUITARS NOT GUNS

Guitars Not Guns has an ongoing need for volunteers. 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](mailto:fchaples@cox.net) for more details.

**The NEW DC Chapter of Guitars Not Guns is making progress in its establishment and will be welcoming volunteers. You will be helping to enrich the lives of many foster care children and at risk youth in the DC area. Donations will also be accepted. Contact Gregg Hammond at [greggsguitarlessons@yahoo.com](mailto:greggsguitarlessons@yahoo.com) to help make a difference.**



## SAW'S MASC SPONSORS

BMI: Music Licensing  
[www.bmi.com](http://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](http://www.folk.org)

Jammin' Java: Concert  
Venue  
[www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com)

Oasis CD Manufacturing  
[www.oasiscd.com](http://www.oasiscd.com)

Omega Recording Studios  
[www.omegastudios.com](http://www.omegastudios.com)

SONGWRITER'S  
MARKET 2007  
[www.songwritersmarket.com](http://www.songwritersmarket.com)

Taxi: The World's Leading  
Independent A&R  
Company  
[www.taxi.com](http://www.taxi.com)



**NEXT NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINE:**

**Friday, January 30, 2009 by 5 p.m.**

**SEND US YOUR NEWS!! This newsletter will be as good as SAW members want to make it. If you have something to share, please send it in!**

To make sure your item, event, member note, or classified is included in the next issue of *SAW Notes* send your information to me RIGHT AWAY. I will make sure that it gets in. But the absolute final deadline is the one listed above. Please e-mail your submissions for the next e-newsletter to Aisha Mahy at [sawnotes@saw.org](mailto:sawnotes@saw.org)

