

Songwriters'
Association
of Washington

SAW E-Notes



July 2007 Edition



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NOTE FROM THE SAW PRESIDENT

I can't believe it's July already! If you haven't sent in your entries for the Mid-Atlantic Song Contest, this is the perfect opportunity for you to polish up your songs and put your best material out there for consideration. Believe it or not, just the act of preparing your songs for submission to the contest can be a very helpful and educational step in the songwriting process.

I love hearing from you--how and what you are doing, how we are doing (both good and bad!), what's new, etc.--so please feel free to email me at president@saw.org. Enjoy the summer breezes!

Best regards,

Jean



SAW NEWS

DID YOU MISS THE MID-ATLANTIC SONG CONTEST EARLYBIRD DEADLINE?

NEW JULY INFORMATION: Don't worry if you missed the July 1 earlybird deadline for the Mid-Atlantic Song Contest (although that Taxi membership is pretty exciting, we must admit!). We'll be doing an additional special raffle for a One Year Membership to SAW for all songs entered by the end of the day 11:59 EST, July 15. If you renew your membership while entering songs and you win the special raffle then that amount will be credited back to you, or you can elect to have your current membership extended for a year. Each and every song entered qualifies for the raffle drawing. You can enter three ways: by mail, via Sonicbids, or via www.saw.org (it's working now!).

For regular mail entries go to www.saw.org to print out an application form or you can request a hard copy to be sent to you by mail by emailing masc@saw.org. Please note, if you are entering online at SAW and you've entered in the past on www.saw.org then you need to sign up again because each contest is a new blank slate. The big Grand Prize for the songwriting contest is \$1000, second prize is \$500, third is \$250. Young artist prize is \$200. Some great prizes and opportunities await you!!!---cash, performances at the awards gala, Taxi memberships, Master Writer software, SAW memberships, Songwriters' Market books, Mastering at Omega Studios, etc. You can't win if you don't enter. **Final postmark deadline: August 1, 2007**

We will announce the winner of the TAXI membership after we receive all the July 1 postmarked entries (in addition to the July 1 Sonicbids & SAW Online entries already received). Announcement will be posted online at www.SAW.org.

SAW NOTES PRINT NEWSLETTER/MAGAZINE

NEW DEADLINE: Friday, July 27, 2007

SAW would like the next print newsletter to be made up of items that YOU want to see. What questions do you have about songwriting? What type of tips do you seek--from songwriting basics to getting that first gig, we want to know what YOU would like to see in the first print edition of *SAW Notes* for 2007! Recommendations for interviews (or interviews you would like to conduct and write up) or any type of songwriting/music biz-related articles are welcome. This is YOUR newsletter.

If you have classifieds or member notes, please send your info in and it will be posted in both the e-newsletter and print version.

The print version of the newsletter will be published twice a year. Please email your ideas and requests to Aisha at sawnotes@saw.org



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.

JULY 2007

7/6 (Fri)—SAW/Focus Montgomery County Open Mike

7/9 (Mon)—SAW Westside Café Music Showcase

7/13 (Fri)—SAW/Focus Montgomery County Open Mike

7/16 (Mon)—SAW Westside Café Music Showcase
7/19 (Thurs)—SAW Bangkok Blues Music Night
7/20 (Fri)—SAW/Focus Montgomery County Open Mike
7/21 (Sat)—SAW “No Mic Acoustic” Showcase
7/23 (Mon)—SAW Westside Café Music Showcase
7/26 (Thurs)—SAW Greenbelt Open Mike
7/27 (Fri)—SAW/Focus Montgomery County Open Mike
7/28 (Sat)—SAW Songwriters Exchange
7/28 (Sat)—SAW Cameron Perks Open Mike
7/30 (Mon)—SAW Westside Café Music Showcase

AUGUST 2007

8/1 (Wed)—MID-ATLANTIC SONG CONTEST DEADLINE

8/3 (Fri)—SAW/Focus Montgomery County Open Mike
8/5 (Sun)—SAW West Market Showcase
8/6 (Mon)—SAW Westside Café Music Showcase
8/10 (Fri)—SAW/Focus Montgomery County Open Mike
8/13 (Mon)—SAW Westside Café Music Showcase
8/16 (Thurs)—SAW Bangkok Blues Music Night
8/17 (Fri)—SAW/Focus Montgomery County Open Mike
8/18 (Sat)—SAW “No Mic Acoustic” Showcase
8/20 (Mon)—SAW Westside Café Music Showcase
8/23 (Thurs)—SAW Greenbelt Open Mike
8/24 (Fri)—SAW/Focus Montgomery County Open Mike
8/25 (Sat)—SAW Songwriters Exchange
8/25 (Sat)—SAW Red Rocks Showcase
8/25 (Sat)—SAW Cameron Perks Open Mike
8/27 (Mon)—SAW Westside Café Music Showcase
8/31 (Fri)—SAW/Focus Montgomery County Open Mike

The SAW Springfield Open Mic, Oneness School Showcase, and Song Circle are on summer hiatus until September.



SAW EVENTS

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

SAW/Red Rocks Showcase

Every Last Saturday AFTERNOON, 12:30 – 4:30 p.m. (NO SHOW IN JULY)

Red Rocks Cafe & Tequila Bar; 13850 Braddock Road; Centreville, VA;
www.restaurant.com/redrocks. Hosted by Ron Goad. Sign up in advance via email to MisterGoad@aol.com. Use of music stands is encouraged and there are usually plenty of backup singers and/or players available! Check the SAW website (www.saw.org) for updates. For more information, email Ron Goad or call (703) 266-7060.

SAW-West Market Concert Series

Every FIRST Sunday, 7:30 p.m.)

West Market Club: 1901 Logan Manor Drive, Reston, VA 20190

Update:

-The August show features Miche Fambro & Sol Creech—Amazing Guitarists Night!

-There will not be a July show.

SAW "No Mic Acoustic" Showcase at Modern Times Coffeehouse

Every THIRD Saturday, 8 – 10:30 p.m.

Modern Times Café; 5015 Connecticut Avenue, NW; Washington, DC 20008

SAW members wishing to perform a 45 minute set should e-mail Michaelyugo@yahoo.com for booking information.

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, contact Mark Austin at mark@markaustinguitar.com BOOKING: Management is booking performances for live music on Friday and Saturday evenings from 7 to 9 p.m . If you or someone you know would like to be considered for a booking, contact Julie at Julie@cameronperks.com for details.

SAW/Focus Montgomery County Open Mike

Every Friday, 7 – 9:30 p.m.

Mario's House of Steak and Cheese; 15209 Frederick Rd.; Rockville, MD 20850.

(240) 314-0200 (Across from Comcast on Route 355, just south of Gude Drive)

Original material preferred. Original songs, poems, comedy, and improv are all welcome.

12 minutes or 3 songs per performance, whichever comes first. For more information, E-mail: michelle.murray6@verizon.net or openmics@focusmusic.org. It's free, but tips are greatly appreciated.

SAW Songwriter Exchange at Jammin' Java

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

227 Maple Ave. East ; Vienna , VA. Get feedback on your songs-in-progress from an audience of friendly peers. Hosted by Dan Grove and Paige Powell, with monthly guest artists providing their unique insight into the songwriting process. Bring your original song with 8 or 10 lyric sheets, or just come sit in with us. For directions or more info call Paige at (703) 671-4131 or email Dan at songxchange@comcast.net

Guest Artists:

July 2007—Doug Brouder (<http://dougrouder.com>)

WestSide Café/SAW Music Showcase

Every Monday, 8 – 10:30 p.m.

Currently being held upstairs at **Brewer's Alley Restaurant & Brewery**, 124 North Market Street Frederick, MD 21701, Telephone: 301-631-0089 Fax: 301-631-1874. www.brewers-alley.com

The Monday Showcase includes a featured act in the middle playing 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, which goes to 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.

SAW Bangkok Blues Music Night

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

Bangkok Blues Restaurant (under new management); 926 W. Broad St. (Rt. 7 East); Falls Church, VA 22046; (703) 534-0095. Third Thursday 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.

SAW Greenbelt Open Mike at New Deal Café

Every 4th Thursday, 7 – 9 p.m.

At the New Deal Café, 113 Centerway, Roosevelt Center, Greenbelt, MD. Sign up starts at 6:30 p.m. Originals strongly encouraged. For more information call (301) 474-5642. Hosts: Julie Kehrl & Keith Thorne.



OTHER NEWS/EVENTS

SAW Members: send your news for inclusion in this section to Aisha at sawnotes@saw.org.

FREE TICKETS!

We're giving away a pair of tickets that were generously donated by Sol Creech for a Sounds of Summer Concert Series show at Tarara Winery in Leesburg, VA on July 28 from 6 – 9:30 p.m. If you have not heard Sol before, you are in for an incredible treat—check out his website at www.solcreechband.com! To be in the running to win these tickets, just email president@saw.org by July 20, when the winner will be chosen by random drawing.

Mountain Stage NewSong Contest Call for Volunteers

Now in its sixth year, the NewSong Contest is one of the premier showcases of performing songwriters in North America. This year's Mid-Atlantic regional round finals takes place @ 7:00 PM on Sunday, July 15 at Jammin' Java in Vienna, and several volunteers are needed. Duties include artist merchandise, stage manager, photographer and artist hospitality. For more information, visit <http://www.newsongfestival.com> or email info@newsongfestival.com

NewSong Academy Offers Registration Discount to SAW Members!

All SAW members are eligible for \$50 off the registration price of this year's NewSong Academy, one of the nation's finest workshops on performance, songwriting and career development. Workshops, song critiques and song circles. Camping, hotel and B&B accommodations available. This year's faculty include Susan Werner, Devon Sproule, Paul Reisler, Jason Blume and Craig Bickhardt. For more information, and to register, visit <http://www.newsongacademy.org> or email academy@newsongfestival.com

Monthly Songwriter's Jam

Every third Saturday, in collaboration with Picker's Supply Music Store, there will be a monthly "Songwriter's Jam" from 2 – 5 p.m. Area songwriters are invited to attend. These are not critique sessions; they are simply song sharing events that can help songwriters network and to gain additional performing experience in a friendly atmosphere. Advance notice not required; just show up ready to share some songs.

Where: Picker's Supply Concert Hall
902 Caroline St
Fredericksburg, VA
540-371-4669

For more information contact:
Frank Dieter
www.frankdieter.com
540-580-8002

Volunteer Opportunities with Guitars Not Guns

The Virginia Chapter of Guitars Not Guns, a national organization dedicated to teaching guitar to at-risk youth, has volunteer opportunities available at various locations for teaching and non-teaching staff. They are in need of class monitors, teachers, teaching assistants, partners, mentors and personnel for program development, fundraising, facilities, and business liaisons on an ongoing basis. This is a very worthwhile cause and a great group of people to get involved with. For more information, go to their website www.guitarsnotguns.org/Virginia.html or contact GNG President, Skip Chaples at Fchaples@cox.net.

MusiCares for Music People

MusiCares assists music professionals in times of personal, medical, financial and /or addictions crisis. For more info, visit www.grammy.com/musicares or call the following regional toll-free numbers: West: 1-800-687-4227; East: 1-877-303-6962; South: 1-877-626-2748; Addiction Recovery Help: 1-888-627-6271

SAVE INTERNET RADIO!!!

SaveNetRadio is a broad based coalition of large and small webcasters, artists, labels and listeners that is opposing the recent Copyright Royalty Board's increase in webcasting royalties.

If you would like to learn more about our coalition please go to our website at www.savenetradio.org. If you would like to join, please click on the musician button and fill in the information. You can help make a difference!!

UPCOMING WORKSHOP OPPORTUNITY

Calling all songwriters! The first S.N.A.F.U. songwriters workshop will be happening July 16, 2007 preceding David Morreale's weekly showcase in Baltimore.

Sun., July 15, Waterfront Hotel, Baltimore MD

10 p.m. - 5 p.m. (one hour lunchbreak)

Workshops presented by Erik Balkey

Craft & business workshops presented by Erik Balkey w/ David Morreale

\$40.00 dollars. Pay in advance or at the door. Early reservations accepted and encouraged.

6 p.m.

SNAFU showcase plus invitational open mic

Participants are invited to play a song in a special, one-hour open mic by invitation only from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

S.N.A.F.U. Workshops -- presented by Erik Balkey w/ David Morreale

SongCraft: GETTING STARTED. Find song titles and hooks from stories or news articles. Write choruses with focus on melody, rhythm and hook. Jump start the creative process by generating material using some easy exercises to get the ball rolling. Then allow a chorus to develop from basic musical instincts -- rhythm, melody, rhyme, repetition -- leading the way. Be prepared to "walk" your song, and allow your intuition and musical instincts to guide you to merging melody with lyrics. **IMPORTANT:** Each participant should bring a short story, newspaper or magazine article that they find interesting and can read a passage from for the group.

SongBiz: CARVING YOUR OWN PATH. Merge your own personal artistic mission with a career as a songwriter. Define your mission, find your niche, find your audience, market your skills. No two artists have the same mission or "reason why." Be creative and open minded to discover your personal mission, then be creative to find a way to make it part of a personally rewarding life balance.

About Erik Balkey:

Erik Balkey writes too many songs -- twenty eight in the first half of 2007. He's gained recognition in song contests and has been called a "songwriter's songwriter" by SingOut! Magazine. Erik says: "I have studied songs as a part of my passion and desire to communicate and touch with lyrics and melody. I travel the country frequenting festivals and songwriter gatherings while seeking out places to perform on my own. I've co-written songs with a couple dozen of the best American songwriters that you probably don't know. And, I've recently started my own business writing custom songs on commission. I also paint houses and love baseball."

About David Morreale:

In 2005 David was a Finalist in The Kerrville Folk Festival's New Folk song contest, and won a Maryland State Arts Council grant in Composition. He was also a Recognized Finalist in The Plowshares Songwriting contest in 2004 and in 2002 David took second place honours at The Susquehanna Music and Arts Festival songwriting contest. Touring constantly for the last ten years has instilled in David a respect for the road, for songs, and for sensible approaches to figuring out what exactly a dream is, and how to apply practical considerations to making it happen. information. You can help make a difference!!



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. **Classified ads will be discontinued after three months. If you have a NEW ad, or new version of your ad, that you would like to run then please submit it at anytime to sawnotes@saw.org . If you want to rerun the same ad, there will be a two month waiting period, but it is up to you to resubmit.***

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Fine-tuning the grand design
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GUITAR FOR SALE

Takamine EG568C (serial # 2400915) for sale. Contact Grant Carrington by email at gccarrington@hotmail.com (note 2 c's) or (301) 490-6142.

Seeking artists to play Thursday night, and Sunday afternoon and evening events at the Electric Maid Community Living Room in Takoma, D.C. For further details please contact Joel Pomerantz at pomeranj@hotmail.com.



SAW'S MID-ATLANTIC SONG CONTEST SPONSORS

BMI: Music Licensing
www.bmi.com

Oasis Disc Manufacturing
www.oasiscd.com

Taxi: The World's Leading Independent A&R Company
www.taxi.com

Omega Recording Studios
www.omegastudios.com

Jammin' Java: Concert Venue
www.jamminjava.com

**DEADLINE FOR NEXT E-NEWSLETTER (and print
magazine): Friday, July 27th**

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