

Songwriters'
Association
of Washington

SAW E-Notes



November 2007 Edition



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Letter from the Prez

Dear SAW Members,

Things have been hopping in SAWland these days! Come check out our brand new venue for two of our ongoing SAW events—the Songwriters' Exchange and the Springfield Open Mic (out of love and habit, we will continue to call it the Springfield Open Mic, even though it has now moved to Alexandria!) We feel very fortunate to have found our new space and would like to thank Lisa Hawkins for making us feel welcome. The Lab at Convergence is a very inviting and comfortable performance venue, with a piano, sound system, great acoustics and a stage, as well as workshop and studio rooms.

We have added several new SAW-sponsored events to our listing—superb songwriter Bob Sima is currently hosting a weekly showcase at the newest Austin Grill in Rockville (you can read more about these events below). Ron Goad, SAW's intrepid impresario who already hosts numerous wonderful showcases in the area, will also begin a monthly concert series at the Athenaeum in Alexandria. And the talented Michelle Murray, along with co-hosts Jeff Silberberg, AtThisPoint, and Tomy Wright, will make you feel right at home at our new Montgomery County Open Mike at Caribou Coffee in Olney. For all of these events, you can make arrangements to play, or just come to listen and mingle with other songwriters, see what it's all about, and support SAW and your fellow songwriters. Without an audience, these opportunities could shrivel up and blow away---so get up, get out, and get involved—and bring your friends!

The SAW PRO (Performing Rights Organization) Seminar on November 10 promises to be a very interesting and informative session—we have gathered reps from all three PROs (not a common occurrence!) to discuss topics that we, as songwriters, need to know about. Bring your questions!

Our Mid-Atlantic Song Contest Gala, which will be on Sunday, December 2, at Jammin' Java will be a fun and memorable event. Siobhan Quinn is working very hard to finalize judging results and is planning a wonderful bash to celebrate the contest winners. Get your tickets early—we will send out more details as the time approaches.

Many thanks to our Mid-Atlantic Song Contest judges for their valuable time, effort and input. And as always, I would like to thank our Board members, who do so much to help make SAW the dynamic songwriting community that it is. What a dream team!

My best regards,
Jean Bayou
Email: president@saw.org



SAW NEWS & WORKSHOPS

SAW SEMINAR: "Making Music Our Profession—Can We Quit our Day Job Yet?"

Co-Sponsors - WAMA, NSAI, BSA, and DC Cabaret Network

Saturday, November 10, 2007, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Don't miss this opportunity to join the experts from the PRO's - Performing Rights Organizations: ASCAP's Michael Kerker (VP Musical Theatre) and Jason Silberman (Membership/Creative Affairs); BMI's Fred Cannon (Sr. VP Government Affairs); and SESAC's Linda Lorence Critelli (VP Writer Publisher Relations), will present a lively panel discussion on becoming a professional in the music biz. Come and meet the experts, ask your questions, and hear all the hot issues of the day— Topics may include:

- ♪ How to promote yourself
- ♪ How to pitch your music to the 'already famous'
- ♪ Do you need an agent; do you need a manager; do you need anybody or can you do it all yourself?
- ♪ How NOT to get ripped off (protecting your rights).
- ♪ Should I start my own publishing company?
- ♪ Is a tour right for you?
- ♪ Do independents have a chance to get on the radio?
- ♪ What about pitching your songs to the movies and TV?
- ♪ How has the internet changed everything? (there could be a month-long seminar on this topic alone!)
- ♪ How can the PROs help you? Why are there 3 PROs? Which to join?
- ♪ What is the state of the recording industry and what are the issues that will affect songwriters and artists?

Date: Saturday, November 10, 2007

Time: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Place: DC Bar Association, 1250 H Street NW, Washington, DC
Metro Center; street and lot parking nearby

Fee: \$30 Members (SAW, WAMA, NSAI, DC Cabaret Network)
\$20 Students
\$40 Non-members

RSVP: ASAP to Lynne Revo-Cohen at lrevocohen@aol.com or (703) 405-7133; to prepay, download registration form from www.saw.org and pay by credit card on-line or send in your check to SAW, 4200 Wisconsin Ave., NW, PMB 106-137, Washington, DC, 20016. Walk-in registrations will be accepted on a space-available basis.

How to Present Yourself As a Musician: Creating a Basic Promo Kit

Saturday, November 3, 2007, 1 – 5 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, with the entrance facing Crestwood Drive)

If you want good gigs, you need a good promo kit. With that in mind, SAW will be offering the workshop, "How to Present Yourself As a Musician: Creating a Basic Promo Kit," on a continuing basis. If you are interested in attending, e-mail Lorilyn Coles at loralyn@mindspring.com, and once a minimum of 5-6 people have signed up, we will confirm the time, date, and location. This is a 4 hour, hands-on workshop, so you'll be working on your promo kit in the class. The cost is \$40 for SAW, WAMA, NSAI, or BSA Members, \$45 for non-members. For a detailed description of the workshop as it was offered in July, 2006, go to: <http://loralyn.net/lc/html/workshops.html>. For more details or to register, contact: Lorilyn Coles at loralyn@mindspring.com

The Flexible Voice Class

Saturday, November 3, 2007, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

The Lab at Convergence, 1819 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria VA.

We'll hit the ground running! A refresher (and lots of things you might not have known!) for those who know how to sing, and a great introduction to voice for those who don't. The class will cover both vocal and performance technique including 1) vocal/breath warm-ups, 2) physiology of the voice--knowledge crucial to getting the most out of your instrument, 3) performance skills to really NAIL a song, 4) exploring & enhancing your voice, and add strengthening exercises to shake out the unsteady parts. You'll learn a personal basic regimen to maintain skills learned and work on specific issues & exercises for musicians with other instrumental and songwriting skills. Siobhan Quinn has presented this master class from New York to North Carolina, and Washington DC to Colorado to rave reviews. For more details or to register, contact Siobhan@roundhousemusic.com. There will be a limited number of slots available in this class, so register early!

The 24th Annual Mid-Atlantic Song Contest Awards Gala

Sunday, December 2, 2007, 7:30 p.m.

Get an earful of excellent songwriting December 2!

Please join us December 2, 2007 at 7:30pm for the 24th Annual Awards Gala at Jammin' Java in Vienna, Virginia honoring winners of the Mid-Atlantic Songwriting Contest. Join us in honoring excellent songwriting and enjoy the fine Gold winning writers who will be performing that night.

CONTEST UPDATE: The Contest is in the home stretch right now! Each panel is getting their final decisions to us as we go to press with this newsletter (we have five panel results in now). We will notify winners of categories in mid November, so watch your voice mails and e-mail boxes. The next part of the contest process is the Grand Prize Panel which will be later in November. Announcements will be made as to what songs have "placed" in the contest around November 15. We do not release the grand prize winner, or the 2nd & 3rd overall until the night of the Gala.

ADVERTISE IN THE GALA PROGRAM: Interested in putting an ad in the program that will be distributed at the Gala? Contact Aisha Mahy at sawnotes@saw.org for sizes and pricing. Deadline for CAMERA READY submissions is Wednesday, November 21, 2007.



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.***

NOVEMBER 2007

11/2 (Fri)—SAW Montgomery County Open Mike (**NEW LOCATION!!** See details below)
11/3 (Sat)—Promo Kit Workshop
11/3 (Sat)—Flexible Voice Workshops
11/4 (Sun)—SAW West Market Showcase
11/5 (Mon)—SAW/BSA Brewer's Alley Music Showcase
11/5 (Tues)—Tuesday Troubadors at Austin Grill Rockville (**NEW SAW EVENT!** details below)
11/8 (Thurs)—SAW Concerts at the Athenaeum (**NEW SAW EVENT!**)
11/10 (Sat)—SAW PRO Seminar—Can We Quit Our Day Job?
11/10 (Sat)—SAW Springfield Open Mike (**NEW LOCATION!!**)
11/12 (Mon)—SAW/BSA Brewer's Alley Music Showcase
11/13 (Tues)—Tuesday Troubadors at Austin Grill Rockville (**NEW SAW EVENT!**)
11/15 (Thurs)—SAW Bangkok Blues Music Night
11/16 (Fri)—SAW Montgomery County Open Mike (**NEW LOCATION!!**)
11/17 (Sat)—SAW "No Mic Acoustic" Showcase
11/19 (Mon)—SAW/BSA Brewer's Alley Music Showcase
11/20 (Tues)—Tuesday Troubadors at Austin Grill Rockville (**NEW SAW EVENT!**)
11/24 (Sat)—SAW Red Rocks Showcase
11/24 (Sat)—SAW Songwriters Xchange (**NEW LOCATION!!**)
11/24 (Sat)—SAW Cameron Perks Open Mike
11/26 (Mon)—SAW/BSA Brewer's Alley Music Showcase
11/27 (Tues)—Tuesday Troubadors at Austin Grill Rockville (**NEW SAW EVENT!**)
11/29 (Thurs)—SAW Greenbelt Open Mike
11/30 (Fri)—DECEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

DECEMBER 2007

12/2 (Sun)—MID-ATLANTIC SONG CONTEST AWARDS GALA at Jammin' Java
12/3 (Mon)—SAW/BSA Brewer's Alley Music Showcase
12/4 (Tues)—Tuesday Troubadors at Austin Grill Rockville (**NEW SAW EVENT!**)
12/7 (Fri)—SAW Montgomery County Open Mike (**NEW LOCATION!!**)
12/8 (Sat)—SAW Springfield Open Mike (**NEW LOCATION!!**)
12/10 (Mon)—SAW/BSA Brewer's Alley Music Showcase
12/11 (Tues)—Tuesday Troubadors at Austin Grill Rockville (**NEW SAW EVENT!**)
12/13 (Thurs)—SAW Concerts at the Athenaeum (**NEW SAW EVENT!**)
12/15 (Sat)—SAW "No Mic Acoustic" Showcase
12/17 (Mon)—SAW/BSA Brewer's Alley Music Showcase
12/18 (Tues)—Tuesday Troubadors at Austin Grill Rockville (**NEW SAW EVENT!**)
12/20 (Thurs)—SAW Bangkok Blues Music Night
12/21 (Fri)—SAW Montgomery County Open Mike (**NEW LOCATION!!**)
12/27 (Thurs)—SAW Greenbelt Open Mike
12/28 (Fri)—JANUARY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
12/29 (Sat)—SAW Red Rocks Showcase
12/29 (Sat)—SAW Cameron Perks Open Mike
12/31 (Mon)—SAW/BSA Brewer's Alley Music Showcase



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.

November Open Mike will be on the 29th, due to Thanksgiving)

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. Hosts: Julie Kehrlí & Keith Thorne. 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 Kehrlí and Keith Thorne do everything they can to ensure you have a fun and fulfilling evening.

GREENBELT UPDATE:

The November 29 and December 27 events are completely booked.

Please email Julie & Keith at kthorne11@cox.net to reserve a time for the January 24 Open Mike.

NEW LOCATION: 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.

NEW LOCATION: SAW Springfield Open Mike

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

Starting November 10, the Springfield Open Mike will become the Springfield Open Mike in Alexandria! Our new location, the Lab at Convergence is a large, beautiful, acoustically-pleasing room with plenty of chairs and tables, a piano, and a stage. Come check it out! 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, with the entrance facing Crestwood Drive)

SAW SHOWCASES

SAW Bangkok Blues Music Night

Every 3rd Thursday 7:30 – 11 p.m. (times my 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.

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 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. Great room, great crowd—come check it out!

BREWER'S ALLEY UPDATE:

Upcoming featured performers:

Nov 5—Bernice Lewis

Nov 12—David Glaser & Karen Mal

Nov 19—Rod & Ron

Nov 26—Erik Balkey

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. Come check out this beautiful old building and the great music SAW will be filling it with! Hosted by Ron Goad.

ATHENAEUM UPDATE:

Nov 8—Lea in concert ThisIsLea.com

Opening acts: Tom Dews and The Harley String Band

Dec 13—Susan Greenbaum

Opening acts: Jean Bayou and TBA

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 30 minute set should e-mail Michaelyugo@yahoo.com for booking information. No PA so be prepared to sing LOUD and proud!

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! Check the SAW Web site (www.saw.org) for updates. For more information, e-mail Ron Goad or call (703) 266-7060.

NEW EVENT: 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
NO DECEMBER SHOW

West Market Club: 1901 Logan Manor Drive, Reston, VA 20190
Don't miss our next show:
Sunday, Nov. 4—Lori Kelley and Cletus Kennelly
Sunday, Jan. 6—Rebecca Hall and Ken Anderson

OTHER SAW EVENTS

SAW Song Circle

Sunday, November 18, 2007 2-6 p.m. @ Jim Clark's home

NO DECEMBER SONG CIRCLE

Sunday, January 20, 2008 2-6 p.m. @ Andrew Coupe'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 will be provided. Bring your instrument and songs to share. Bringing food 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@yahogroups.com or remove their name from the list by sending e-mail to SAWSongCircle-unsubscribe@yahogroups.com

SAW Songwriter Xchange

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

NO DECEMBER MEETING

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, with the entrance facing Crestwood Drive)

Participants bring a song-in-the-works to share with the group for friendly, constructive criticism. 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@earthlink.net.

UPCOMING ARTIST:

November 24—Mary Battiata

SAW/Oneness School Songwriter Showcase

November date TBD

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.



OTHER NEWS/EVENTS

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

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, at 540-580-8002



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.

Fiddler Larry Rice Releases Debut Solo CD, *Little House*

Fiddler Larry Rice has released his debut solo CD, *Little House*. It features local standouts Larry Tapper on harmonica and Andrew Acosta on guitar and mandolin. Please check it out at CD Baby: <http://cdbaby.com/cd/larryrice> "... an impressive collection of country tunes! The instrumentation on this CD is awesome..." - Xavier P., RadioIndy.com



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. **UPDATE: Classifieds MUST be submitted on a monthly basis for inclusion. 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.**

There are no new classified ads for November.



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

NEXT NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

Friday, November 30th

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