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September 2008

Today: Song Circle & Brook Adams Workshop

Join us at the Ballard Northwest Senior Center for an exciting workshop. Brook Adams is a ukulele madman with a strong voice and guitar chops too. He describes his collection of novelty songs, tv themes, modern pop and swing-era classics as a musical cartoon of the 20th century.

His latest gimmick is playing the Beatles' *Abbey Road* album start to finish on ukulele. Workshop from 1:15-2:15p, \$15 (includes song circle). Song circle 2:30-4:30p, only \$3. Doors open at 1:00.

Sunday, October 5: Song Circle

Join SUPA at the West Seattle Senior Center for their monthly song circle from 2:30-4:30p. Doors open at 1:00p for informal practice and fellowship. Only \$3.

Dusty Strings Workshops

Ukulele: The Next Step with Mike Bristow. Wednesdays, September 3, 10, 17, 24, October 1, 8, 7:00-8:00 p.m., \$120. In this course we will look at ways to enhance basic "ukulele sing-along" pop and folk songs. Learn how to add moving voices and easy chord substitutions, and throw in some minor chords. The new subtleties in your playing will have everyone exclaiming, "Show me what you have just played!" Advanced-beginning level; knowledge of open-position ukulele (or guitar) chord shapes required. (You can still start the series on September 10!)

Sophisticated Uke with Mike Bristow. Wednesdays, October 15, 22, 29, November 5, 12, 19, 7:00-8:00 p.m., \$120. The ukulele's four strings make it a natural for concise and easily-fingered voicings of four-note "jazz" chords. These moveable chords will allow movement from key to key easily and add new sounds to anything in your repertoire. Learn 6ths, 9ths, minor 7ths, diminished and augmented chords, and more importantly, where they go! Intermediate level; knowledge of open position ukulele (or guitar) chord shapes required.

Photos!

After a short hiatus (!), photos are back and available on the SUPA web site. Using the latest in online technology (read: easier to post), photos are available through SUPA's account on Google's Picasa Web photo site. Similar to Flickr, but simpler and easier to use (and less constraints on uploading, etc.), all photos from the last half of 2007 and all of 2008 have been migrated to this site. You can even download any pictures you like in full-resolution, or purchase pictures directly from Google. There is a link from the SUPA web site, so no difficult web addresses to remember. All photos prior to mid-2007 are still available exclusively on the SUPA web site. Thanks to all the photo contributors including Pam Mandel and Lori Yoshinaga.

Yahoo! Groups, Music, Events, Library

For the most current happenings along with message boards and forums, join the SeattleUkulele group at Yahoo. The link is available from the SUPA web site.

The "members only" (for copyright reasons) section of the website is available for PDF and MP3 music downloads for playing along at home! Check regularly for updates and new music. (<http://www.seattleukulele.org/members/>)

See Susan Howell to check out information for the library. Song books, DVDs, CDs, and more are available for review.

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Future Workshops, Song Circles & Events

<i>Date</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Description</i>
Oct 5	West Seattle	Song Circle
Nov 2	Ballard	Song Circle & Workshop
Dec 7	West Seattle	Holiday Potluck & Open Mic
Jan 5	Ballard	Song Circle
Feb 1	West Seattle	Song Circle & Workshop
Feb 7	TBA	SUPA-sponsored Concert

Senior Center of West Seattle, 4217 SW Oregon St, Seattle
 Ballard Northwest Senior Center, 5429 32nd Ave NW, Seattle
 Dusty Strings, 3406 Fremont Ave N, Seattle, (206) 634-1662

SUPA Song Books

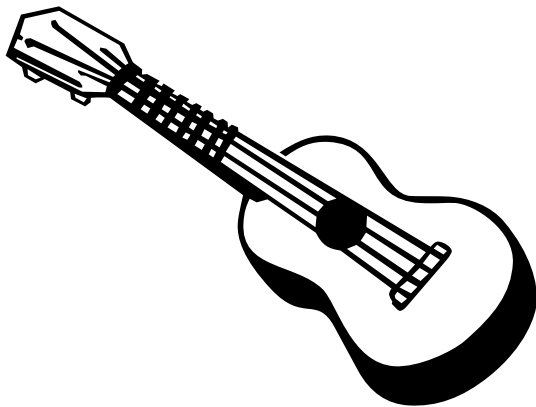
Song books (Fall 2004, Combined 2005/2007) are available at the Ave Copy Center (4141 University, Seattle, 206-663-1837), where you can also buy the Santa Cruz song book.

Committees

Board. As required by WA law for a nonprofit corporation, the following members are filed annually as officers: Tobin Hess, President; Peter Palisbo, Vice President; John Leder, Secretary, and Carel Neffenger, Treasurer.

Steering Committee: A *loose* volunteer group running the monthly operations of SUPA that consists of the Executive Committee, Rod Higuchi, Gregg Porter, and Pat Klopich. (Suggestions, comments, participation, and ideas are always welcome!)

Door Corps: Pat Klopich & gang



Uke Tid Bits

Ukulele Changes World - Seriously (Vue Weekly - Edmonton, Alberta, CA)

When Burning Hell's frontman Mathias Kom decided to pick up a \$30 ukulele about a decade ago, he couldn't have known where this purchase would take him.

"I can be convinced to buy just about anything for \$30, so I bought it and I just didn't stop playing it for days," Kom tells. "I played and played and played. I still play guitar as well, but ever since, the ukulele has taken over."

It might even be safe to say that the ukulele has changed his life. Not only has it afforded him the opportunity to lead his variable band across continents with a brand of music that is as disarming as it is witty, but it has also given him a chance to see a side of Israel that most of us can't get to by headlines.

If you were to say the phrase "ukuleles for peace," chances are you'd elicit some giggles. But what if you were to discover that the phrase is the name of an actual organization, one that puts ukuleles and kazoos into the hands of Israeli children?

"That's one of the strengths of it, is that it sounds kind of goofy at first and it intrigues people. And it is silly, there is a silly element to it," Kom says. "The ukulele is a silly thing, especially when you get 30 of them in the hands of a bunch of 10-year-olds. It gets pretty silly, and that's the magic of it, because it's not really about the music, the professionalism of the music or anything like that. Although the kids do try very, very hard to play well and sing well, it's just about how much fun they have together and play."

Ukuleles for Peace, started by Paul Moore, forms orchestras of Arab and Jewish children, outfitting them with fun instruments to perform concerts. After Kom discovered the organization, he was eventually asked to visit Israel to help record an album with the kids.

"I think that because it's children, people go into it maybe with the expectation that they're just going to see a cute show and see adorable kids playing the ukulele, but they come away from it with a totally different thing," Kom says. "And as clichéd as it is, it's really one of those moments when you say, these kids actually, not just in the future are they going to make a difference, but now. They have the power, they have the capability as ten-year-olds to make something happen, which is unbelievable. Totally inspiring."

It's an inspiration that has pulled Kom in. Kom has just finished a documentary about the project and is in the midst of planning a summer camp

No, when Kom bought that ukulele, he couldn't have known that he'd be playing the city's first-ever ukulele festival.