

SEATTLE UKULELE PLAYERS ASSOCIATION

seattleukulele.org • info@seattleukulele.org

December 2008

Sunday, December 7: SUPA 6th Anniversary Celebration, Holiday Potluck, and Open Mic Extravaganza!

Join SUPA as we celebrate our 6th anniversary with a holiday potluck, open mic, and more. Bring your favorite dish to share at our annual Holiday Potluck. This event is a great time for fellowship, sharing ukulele secrets, and watching your fellow musicians perform. Time to prepare that song you've been working on for the open mic. Sign-ups will be available at the door. Doors open at 12:30, open mic begins at 1:00, and the song circle starts at 2:30. Only \$3 for this much fun! Save room for cake! West Seattle Senior Center.

Saturday, December 13: Pathway of Lights Festival

Seattle Parks and Recreation has invited us back for the annual Pathway of Lights festival to be held along the path around Green Lake on Saturday, December 13 from 6:15-7:00pm. Meet at the community center (north side of lake) about 30 minutes beforehand. Dress warmly! Wear gloves! This event is cold! Bring all your holiday music. Did we say it gets cold!?

Sunday, December 21: Ukulele Wikiwiki

Is the SUPA Song Circle too spookie first time out.. or even second time? A "Bbm" .. scares the willies out of ya? Then you need to come to the SUPA "Ukulele Wikiwiki" - beginners workshop - every third Sunday of the month at the Ballard NW Senior Center, from 1:30-3:30p. Ukulele Wikiwiki is designed to assist you with orientations to our SUPA song circles, books, etc. You will learn most, if not all, uke basics - ukulele overview, tuning, grabbing chords, and the ever popular Uncle Rod's "Disposable Chord Method." Recommended for beginning players or ukulele dreamers - all ages welcome. Don't have a uke? Borrow Pat's for the day. Doors open at 1:15. Priced for the recession at \$3.00. Email Pat (patk_206@yahoo.com) for more information. Ballard NW Senior Center from 1:30-3:30. Only \$3.

Sunday, January 4: Song Circle

Ring in the new year and join SUPA at the Ballard NW Senior Center for a monthly song circle from 2:30-4:30p. Doors open at 1:00p. Song Circle only \$3.

January 8: Beginning Ukulele with Susan Howell

Thursdays, Jan. 8, 15, 22, 29, 7:45-8:45 p.m., \$80. Learn fundamental skills to get you playing ukulele! We'll work on rhythm, strumming patterns, and some fingerpicking. With a few basic chords you can play along with others and accompany yourself on a multitude of songs. Learn to transpose songs into a good key for your voice, where the notes are on the fretboard, and how to pick out simple tunes. (Sign up at dustystrings.com)

Sunday, January 18: Ukulele Workshops @ Dusty Strings

Our own Uncle Gregg Porter and Uncle Rod Higuchi will present two workshops at Dusty Strings: Ukulele for Absolute Beginners (12:15p) and Hawaiian Songs for Ukulele and Voice (2:45p). In the first workshop, recommended for beginners only, you'll learn basic things about that new ukulele including strings, tuning, chords, and some songs. The second workshop will help with Hawaiian pronunciation and some classic songs for players already comfortable with a handful of chords and the ability to sing while playing. Visit Dusty String's web site for more information.

Sunday, February 1: Song Circle

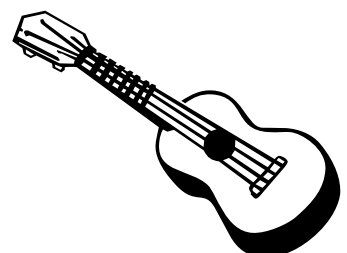
Join SUPA at the West Seattle Senior Center for a monthly song circle from 2:30-4:30p. Doors open at 1:00p. Song Circle only \$3.

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JANUARY 2009						
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FEBRUARY 2009						
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MARCH 2009						
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February 4: Starting Out With Your Uke with John Leder

Wednesdays, Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25, 6:30-7:30 p.m., \$80. Learn basic skills needed to begin enjoying music with your ukulele, including knowing instrument parts and care, holding and tuning your ukulele, and strumming techniques. We'll explore two new songs each session, and learn how to read chord charts and play the handful of chords you need to play hundreds of songs! Learn to transpose a song to fit your voice, and play familiar songs from simple scales. (Sign up at dustystings.com)

February 27: Lil' Rev Workshop & Concert

Join us for a workshop and concert with Lil' Rev at the West Seattle Senior Center (4217 SW Oregon St) for a workshop (6-7:30pm, \$20) and a concert (8:00pm, \$10). Workshops on this tour include Easy Solos, Blues II, Rock 'N' Roll Ukulele, Old Time & Country Styles, and much more. (Actual workshop TBD.) All playing levels welcome. Stay tuned to Yahoo Groups or the web site for ticket information.

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.

Future Workshops, Song Circles & Events

<i>Date</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Description</i>
Dec 13	Green Lake	Pathway of Lights
Jan 5	Ballard	Song Circle
Feb 1	West Seattle	Song Circle & Workshop
Feb 27	West Seattle	L'il Rev Workshop

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

Langley Ukulele ensemble releases CDs and celebrates 10 years. (Roxanne Hooper; Langley Advance - BC Canada, 12/5/2008) — Less than two months ago, Langley's beloved ukulele group released its 13th CD - Croonin' Ukuleles. This week, the Langley Ukulele Ensemble release another CD.

That has to be a record for any performers - two CDs in two months. But it might help that ensemble founder and music director Peter Luongo has a recording studio in his Willoughby home, and that this year's second CD is a compilation album.

The Langley Ukulele Ensemble Greatest Hits hit the streets this weekend, helping the group celebrate its 10-year recording anniversary with their 14th album.

"Heck, we couldn't stay on unlucky 13 for long," Luongo said.

Songs chosen for this greatest hits compilation come from eight of the group's past CDs, and are intended to highlight the variety of the ensemble's repertoire and the quality of its performance, he explained. Making the choice of which songs would be included wasn't an easy process, Luongo said.

The Langley Ukulele Ensemble's composition has changed quite dramatically during the past 27 years. In the early 1980s, it was a group of about 15 children aged 12 to 15 years.

During the mid-1990s, it grew to 30 members with members ranging in age from 13 to 25 years.

Between 2000 and the present the group has limited its membership between 20 and 25 members.

"The ensemble's evolution has seen constant improvement in the members' level of accomplishment with the ukulele, as well as with their vocal skills. There is no doubt that the group's improvement is directly connected to the talents and dedication of a number of individuals," Luongo said.

"You will hear some of these individuals throughout this greatest hits compilation," he added, noting the CD features performances by members dating back to 1998.

"There have been many outstanding performers throughout the ensemble's history and many have gone on to careers in either music or teaching, including teaching music," Luongo said.

"You will hear solos by some of our most talented members from the present and the past; most notably, James Hill, Kendra Croft, Mark Luongo, Paul Luongo and Kevin Hodak are all members whose work is featured on this recording."

Every group has to start somewhere. The Langley Ukulele Ensemble began with performances in its own community for seniors, schools, and clubs.

As their repertoire expanded and the skill-level developed, they received invitations to perform at music educators' conferences and in communities throughout Western Canada.

The ensemble's first big break came in 1984-85 when the a B.C. television news show reported a story about the Langley ensemble sharing their ukulele skills with the Hawaiians.