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January 2009

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

Workshop at Dusty Strings: 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)

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.

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.

February 4: Starting Out With Your Uke with John Leder

Workshop at Dusty Strings: 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 dustystrings.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. Share news and events on FaceBook, too.

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.

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.

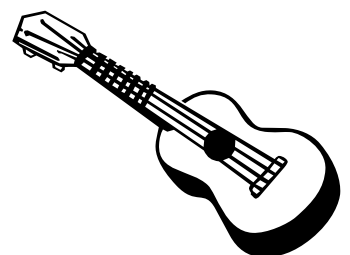
JANUARY 2009						
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FEBRUARY 2009						
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MARCH 2009						
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APRIL 2009						
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S-SUPA Sundays
W-Ukulele Wikiwiki



2009 Calendar: Song Circles & Ukulele Wikiwiki

<i>Date</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>SUPA Events</i>
Jan 5	Ballard	Song Circle
Jan 18	Ballard	Ukulele Wikiwiki
Feb 1	West Seattle	Song Circle
Feb 15	Ballard	Ukulele Wikiwiki
Mar 1	Ballard	Swap Meet & Song Circle
Mar 15	Ballard	Ukulele Wikiwiki
April 5	West Seattle	Song Circle
April 19	Ballard	Ukulele Wikiwiki
May 3	Ballard	Song Circle
May 17	Ballard	NW Folklife Rehearsal
June 7	Dusty Strings	Song Circle
June 21	Ballard	Ukulele Wikiwiki
July 12	Ballard	Song Circle
July 19	Ballard	Ukulele Wikiwiki
Aug 2	Woodland Park	SUPA Picnic
Aug 16	Ballard	Ukulele Wikiwiki
Sept 13	Ballard	Song Circle
Sept 20	Ballard	Ukulele Wikiwiki
Oct 4	West Seattle	Song Circle
Oct 18	Ballard	Ukulele Wikiwiki
Nov 1	Ballard	Song Circle
Nov 15	Ballard	Ukulele Wikiwiki
Dec 6	West Seattle	Holiday Potluck, Open Mic, Song Circle
Dec 20	Ballard	Ukulele Wikiwiki

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

2009 Save the Dates! Watch for more info!

Jan 8	Dusty Strings	Susan Howell Workshop
Jan 18	Dusty Strings	Gregg Porter/Rod Higuchi Workshop
Jan 24	Dusty Strings	Casey McGill Workshop
Feb 4	Dusty Strings	John Leder Workshop
Feb 27	West Seattle	L'il Rev Workshop
Mar/Apr	TBD	Wing Luke Museum Song Circle
May 22-25	Seattle Center	NW Folklife Festival
June 20	Fremont	Solstice Parade
Dec 12	Green Lake	Pathway of Lights Festival

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

Alfred Shaheen, Aloha Shirt Pioneer. (Claire Noland, 1/4/2009; Los Angeles Times) — Alfred Shaheen, garment industry pioneer, dies at 86

Alfred Shaheen, a textile manufacturer who revolutionized the garment industry in postwar Hawaii by designing, printing and producing aloha shirts and other ready-to-wear items under one roof, has died. He was 86.

After World War II, many servicemen and servicewomen returned to the United States from Asia and the Pacific islands with aloha shirts that had been made in Hawaii since the 1930s. Tourists began flocking to Hawaii in the 1950s as faster airplanes allowed for easier travel and the former U.S. territory became a state in 1959.

The tropical-print shirts for men and sundresses for women became standard and sometimes tacky souvenirs for travelers, but Shaheen raised the garments to the level of high fashion with artistic prints, high-grade materials and quality construction.

Even Elvis Presley wore a Shaheen-designed red aloha shirt featured on the album cover for the "Blue Hawaii" soundtrack in 1961.

Born into a family established in the textile business, Shaheen maintained high standards by controlling the process from start to finish at the factory he built in Honolulu.

He hired professional artists and silk-screened their designs on silk, rayon and cotton fabrics he imported to Hawaii. Then his seamstresses cut and pieced together garments that were sold at his own shops and other retail outlets in Hawaii or exported to the mainland and around the world.

"He was a genius," Dale Hope, art director for the Honolulu-based Kahala shirt maker and author of "The Aloha Shirt: Spirit of the Islands," told The Times. "He knew more about the inner workings of all of the elements of printing, the garment business and wholesaling and retailing and distribution. He was really a bright, sharp and smart man."

Linda Arthur, a professor of textiles and clothing at Washington State University who has written extensively about the Hawaiian fashion industry, said that "before Shaheen came along, there was no Hawaii garment industry. There were mom and pop stores but no real modern industry."

Most of the patterns featured three to five colors that laborers applied to silk screens by hand, saturating the fabric. Artists in the Shaheen studio had more than 1,000 dye colors to choose from, including innovative metallic shades, and they consulted rare books, libraries and museum collections. Sometimes Shaheen sent the designers on field trips to Tahiti and other exotic locales to soak up the culture for future work.

As Linda Arthur, the textile professor explained, a Shaheen garment "is like a piece of moving art."