

Next SVSA meeting

The next meeting of the SVSA will be held

Wed., Mar. 24

at Third Street Coffeehouse in Roanoke, VA. Doors will open at 7 p.m.; meeting begins promptly at 7:30 and will last until the last song critique is finished, or 10:30 p.m., whichever comes first. Members may submit one song for critique (on cassette or CD) and should provide at least 12 copies of the lyrics. Critiques are limited to members only but non-members and guests are encouraged to sit in on the discussions and exercises.

Feature Article: *Walkin' the Dog*

by *Larry Sakayama*

About 12 years ago I got a message from my friend Walt, proposing we get our college band together to see if we could still remember any of those old songs. We all thought it was a cool idea, especially since the last time we played together was 25 years earlier. Since we were scattered across the country (California, Florida, New Jersey, New York City) with real jobs and families, the earliest we could arrange was about a year away. We decided to meet in New York City.

We continued to correspond during the year, suggesting songs and testing each other's memories regarding who played and sang which part, etcetera. And then someone threw out the challenge: Since we had the better part of a year to go, each of us would write four new songs and bring them for the band to learn, arrange, and record. We would still play some old stuff but why just reminisce? We agreed.

We spent four days over a long weekend in May 1999 arranging and recording. The result was a CD of 10 songs – some new, some old – in various stages of completion. We called it “Works in Progress.”

One of my new contributions to this project was “Walkin' the Dog.” It's essentially a I-IV-V, 12-bar blues progression. I think the melody uses only 4 notes. The lyrics are about – guess what – walking the dog. In other words, it's a simple song. Since I was jamming with a trumpet player at the time, I imagined a medium tempo blues groove with a muted trumpet weaving in and out between the lines.

When the band finally got together, our arrangement mutated a blues tune into high-energy rockabilly. The chords and melody remained intact, the tempo was moved up a couple of notches, and our lead guy added a spectacular guitar part.

The transformation worked. When I played “Works in Progress” for friends, comments would vary about the songs but everyone mentioned “Walkin’ the Dog.” I attributed this to the up tempo and amazing lead guitar.

Since then, I’ve included this song whenever I perform. Since I can’t play the rockabilly lead, I have to do it differently. I’ve done this song in various styles – blues, folk, fingerstyle, and more recently jazzed up a bit by changing the opening chord from a seventh to a sixth.

Here’s the funny thing. I think I’ve written

• better songs – more interesting chord progressions and melodies, with better lyrics. But about 50% of the compliments I get on my performances come from this one song – independent of the musical genre in which it’s performed. Everyone seems to relate and has a story of their own to go with it. Maybe this is good but two things worry me. First, I may be forever branded with this song. Second, what if it’s my best song?

• I can’t worry about it now. I gotta go walk the dog. ●



FUN FUNDRAISER

On Thursday, March 4, several SVSA members manned the phones for the latest local public radio pledge drive at the WVTF 98.1 FM studios in Roanoke, Virginia. Not only did they do volunteer work for a worthy cause, but they also had a great time doing it. In between flurries of phone calls from contributors, they discussed everything from western movies to used-car sales. Plus, each participant got a free t-shirt and all the snacks they could consume. Later that evening, WVTF announced on the air that the goal for that evening had been nearly doubled, making this effort a big success all the way around.

Top photo, left to right: **Britt Mistele, Greg Traidlo**. Bottom right photo, right to left: **Kathy Acosta, David Simpkins, Jill Wickham, Marc Baskind**. Bottom left photo: **Mike Pearrell**.



Every Eight Years Whether I Want To Or Not

By Mike Pearrell

It was probably a cold January day. More than likely I was bemoaning my songwriting worthlessness. Why even bother with any of this crap? So what's the answer?

Make another CD. What? Where did that "let's put on a show" moment come from?

Don't know, but there it was. Before I could come to my senses, I called Harold Thompson at Blackwater Recording and scheduled the first session.

So what's the next step? I made a CD eight years ago and forgot that it was hard work.

I took David and Kathy out to dinner. I took Greg out to dinner. They refused to stop me. Because I respect their musical acumen I was glad to listen to their ideas on approaches and potential pitfalls. I will need their help in the studio for sure but believed I should plan this out myself.

Greg's words of wisdom: Do as much pre-planning as you can so you will have the overall vision – and it will save you studio time. Greg's right. I just haven't completely listened.

The last time we treated each song individually and so had a collection of songs. I'm proud of that project. This time I'm looking for a more overall cohesiveness. More like the Mike Pearrell Band if such a thing ever existed. I believe it will evolve as it goes along.

I picked 14 songs that I believe in and decided that there will be 12 songs in the final project.

I made a one-take demo of all the songs so people and players can take a listen to get a sense of where I'm trying to go.

I have been thinking of instrumentation but have not decided it for all songs.

Last Saturday I went to the studio for the

first session. Harold and I talked about what I was planning to do and discussed various players who would be appropriate.

Here's how the first session went. (I'll try to have updates as this moves along. I'm not planning on a long time – a couple of months.)

The goal for the day was to get a rhythm guitar track for several songs.

I had some tempos in mind, but I played the song through once or twice and we settled on a tempo for the click track. The click track is basically a metronome playing in your earphones as you play the song. If a full band was recording together you may or may not use the click, but here we'll be adding instrumentation mostly track by track. It's important then to have a reference point for everybody to follow.

We recorded me singing and playing the song at the same time. We repeated as necessary including some restarts and some spot tweaking. Then we made the first official track for each song. Harold played back the first recording and I played rhythm guitar. Some of these we did several times; sometimes we went back and overdubbed specific sections, measures or parts of measures. In a couple of instances Harold just moved some of the guitar parts that were rushed.

After seven songs I was getting a little punchy and the tougher guitar parts were coming up. We decided to call it a day. I've got seven tracks that others can follow.

We set up the next session. For that one we're going to get a drummer and bass player scheduled. I have to chart the songs for them – writing out the chords measure by measure.

This is going to be fun. ●

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I have got to say that I am blown away by this great organization!

Such great talent at the meetings in that room every month at Third Street Coffeehouse. This newsletter is SO informative and there is so much that I have learned already. Thanks, guys, for the hard work and enthusiasm that you offer. (\$20 a year -- you've got to be kidding me!) Thanks so much. You have my heartfelt gratitude.

~ new SVSA member Jill Wickham

Monthly meeting report

If February's monthly meeting is any indication, 2010 will be a banner year for meeting attendance and songs written!

As usual, we met at Third Street Coffeehouse in Roanoke, Virginia, on Wednesday, February 24. Fourteen SVSA members attended, along with three guests. Over the course of the three-hour meeting, we critiqued THIRTEEN songs – way more than normal. This is very encouraging; I just hope we didn't burn ourselves out for this month's meeting!

- David Simpkins

SVSA member Greg Traidlo will perform at The Bluebird; has song in upcoming movie

SVSA member Greg Traidlo has two pieces of exciting news to share about songs he's written.

First, Greg will be one of the performers at the USA Songwriting Competition's showcase at the world-renowned Bluebird Cafe in Nashville, Tennessee, on May 6. Greg will be performing his song "Starbucks of County Down," which won first prize in the Novelty/Comedy category of the recent USA Songwriting Competition. Greg co-wrote "Starbucks" with Neal Phillips and John Seay. Other first-prize winners of this year's contest will be performing at the Bluebird showcase as well.

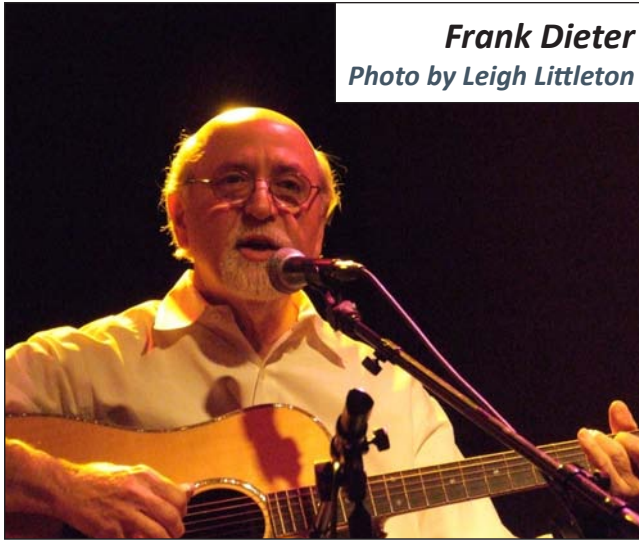
And in other news, Greg's song "Waiting for the Light to Change" will be used in an independent movie release called "Boxkicker."

The picture was shot by independent producer Frank O'Neil for Long Weekend Productions, in Burlington, Vermont.

"All I know at this time is that 'Waiting for the Light to Change' will be used in its entirety as atmosphere music in a 'rural bar scene,'" Greg says. "I've seen snippets from the movie on the Internet, but I'm not sure of the film's release date."

Congratulations to Greg on both accomplishments!

SVSA Songwriters at Kirk Avenue Music Hall



Frank Dieter
Photo by Leigh Littleton



Barbara Martin
Photo by Leigh Littleton



Josh Jones (left) and Randy Walker
Photo by Larry Sakayama

Photos from the second SVSA/Kirk Avenue Music Hall Songwriters Showcase, held March 15 in Roanoke, Virginia.

(See next page for more photos from the event.)



Mickey Nelson
Photo by Larry Sakayama

SVSA Songwriters at Kirk Avenue Music Hall



Britt Mistele
Photo by Leigh Littleton



Connie Sellers
Photo by Larry Sakayama



At sound check: Mickey Nelson (at right) with his son Taylor and his friend Valerie, who performed one of Mickey's songs

Photo by Larry Sakayama

Message From The President

The second SVSA/Kirk Avenue Music Hall Songwriters Showcase was held Monday, March 15, with nine SVSA members providing in two sets of fine original music.

The first set featured **Frank Dieter**, **Britt Mistele**, and **Barbara Martin**, with **Kathy Acosta** and **Greg Traftidlo** providing vocal and instrumental accompaniment. Theirs was a thoroughly professional set, interspersed with interplay on nearly every song. Their styles blended well and their strong set was well received by the audience. The second set had **Randy Walker**, **Josh Jones**, and **Mickey Nelson** on stage with Greg again on the backline. (Mickey brought along a couple of talented non-SVSA-ers as well.) Again, there was a lot of tasteful interplay between the musicians on stage and, again, their styles were complementary. They held the audience's attention and were relaxed and personable throughout. **Connie Sellers** ably bookended the final set with a couple of songs delivered as only Connie can deliver them, making the night a successful and memorable one all around.

The attendance at the second Songwriters Showcase was somewhat better than the previous month's. But it was still disappointing. In fact, it was disappointing enough that, combined with other factors, we're not going to continue this endeavor. It may well re-invent itself down the road but, for now, our Kirk Avenue Music Hall

partnership has ended.

All, however, is not lost. I don't look at this as a failure. We gained valuable knowledge and experience -- in many areas -- and our relationship with Kirk Avenue Music Hall remains strong. It's more that we might have aimed a little too high this first time out. First of all, we anticipated greater support from our paid membership; minus the 13 members who performed, less than 25% of our membership came out to this event. That won't get it done. That's not to say we didn't have some folks there to enjoy the shows; it was evident that we'd attracted some people who were unaware of the SVSA -- and the performers brought along some attendees along as well. In the end, though, most of the people in the audience were there because of who was on stage, not necessarily because it was an SVSA event.

We did score some publicity points. We were mentioned in most of the local media and thereby got our name out to a lot of people who might not have known otherwise that we even exist. We also made a positive connection with Kirk Avenue Music Hall, a venue that is growing in stature and respect among fans and musicians alike.

On a technical level, we learned a great deal about how to prepare for and how to present a professional show. True, we made some mistakes -- but we can use those as a basis for future discussions and workshops. Overall, however, the

shows were a success from a performance standpoint. We'll build on the positives and move forward on setting up a performance workshop in the months ahead.

Part of that will be a SVSA Songwriters Night to be held June 11 at Third Street Coffeehouse in Roanoke, Virginia. This event has taken place yearly in the past; we're thinking it might be a good idea to have it more often, if not at Third Street, then at other venues. But for now, we have a definite Third Street date -- and preference will be given to those SVSA performers who were not a part of the Kirk Avenue shows. A call for participation will be made in May.

So, as the door closes on our Kirk Avenue Music Hall adventure, others will open as a result. My thanks go out to all the talented performers and to those who supported the undertaking in other ways.

We're a strong organization growing stronger; I look forward to what we can accomplish down the road. In the end, though, I intend to keep in mind that the SVSA is, above all, a songwriting organization, not a performance-oriented one. However, by making sure we don't spread ourselves too thin, we can continue to be of beneficial support to all phases of the songwriting experience.

Lastly, and, as always, I encourage you to attend the monthly SVSA meetings and to keep up with our various activities via this newsletter -- and on-line. It's your newsletter and your web site -- and your contributions are always welcome. In fact, your input is vital. If something of a musical nature that may be of interest to SVSA-ers comes up, please let all of us in on it. Let us know what's going on in your musical world!

— David Simpkins

On the Music Scene in Roanoke

SVSA member Leigh Littleton contributed this photo of singer/songwriter John Gorka performing at Kirk Avenue Music Hall recently. Several SVSA members were in attendance at the show and report a great evening of music.



SVSA Performing Members' Gigs

Every Tuesday (with exceptions)

Marc Baskind with the Blu Spruce Band

J&J Social Hall, Burnt Chimney, Virginia
7-10:30 p.m. \$5 admission at the door includes buffet dinner. Country/bluegrass concert and dance in an alcohol-free, smoke-free environment. Open Mic session after dinner welcomes guest performers.

Friday, March 19

Frank Dieter

Third Street Coffeehouse, 8:30-10 p.m. Open Mic starts at 7 p.m. Free admission. Corner of Third Street and Mountain Ave., Roanoke, Virginia.

Friday, March 19

Mark Laperle

The Drowsy Poet, Candler Station, Lynchburg, 8-10 p.m.

Friday, March 19

Barbara Martin

"Community Cabaret," 7-9:30 p.m., Community Church of New York - Unitarian Universalist, 40 East 35th St., New York.

Wednesday, March 24

Barbara Martin and Mac Walter

"Women in Blues and Jazz," 7:30-8:30 p.m. Friendship Heights Community Center, Chevy Chase, Maryland.

Friday, March 26

Barbara Martin

"Girls in the Round" with Terri Allard and Paddy Dougherty, 8 p.m. Mockingbird 123, 123 W. Beverley St., Staunton, Virginia. \$13 in advance; \$15 at the door.

Saturday, March 27

Greg Trafidlo

Educational Design Research Conference. University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia.

Saturday, March 27

Mark Laperle

El Torito Mexican Grill, Moneta, Virginia, 7-10 p.m.

Friday, April 2

Marc Baskind with Caravan

Playing jazz/rock/blues at Annie Moore's Irish Pub, Roanoke, Virginia, 8-11 p.m.

Sunday, April 4

Robyn Dobyms and Marian McConnell

Blue Ridge Vineyard, Eagle Rock, Virginia, 1-4 p.m.

Saturday, April 10

Mark Laperle

El Torito Mexican Grill, Moneta, Virginia, 7-10 p.m.

Friday, April 16

Barbara Martin, Mac Walter, and Bill Vaughan

Crosskeys Vineyards, 6011 East Timber Ridge Rd., Mt. Crawford, VA 22481. 7-9 p.m.; \$10 cover

Saturday, April 17

David Simpkins

Earth Day Celebration, Grandin Court, Roanoke, Virginia

Saturday, April 17

Greg Trafidlo and Trifolkal

CD release party and concert, the Water Heater, 813 5th Street SW, Roanoke, 7:30-11 p.m. Featuring a number of SVSA members who appear on the CD. \$10 admission includes a copy of Trifolkal's new CD, "Winkin." RSVP to kirasongs@aol.com or 540/384-7770.

SVSA Performing Members' Gigs

Saturday, April 24

Mark Laperle

El Torito Mexican Grill,
Moneta, Virginia, 7-10 p.m.

Saturday, May 1

*Marc Baskind with the
Collegians*

Lincoln Theatre, Marion,
Virginia, 7 p.m.

Friday, May 14

*Marc Baskind with
Caravan*

Playing jazz/rock/blues at
Annie Moore's Irish Pub,
Roanoke, Virginia, 8-11 p.m.

Saturday, May 22

David Simpkins

Farmers Market, Radford,
Virginia

Friday, June 4

*Marc Baskind with the
Collegians*

Covered Bridge Festival,
Elizabethton, TN, 7 p.m.

Saturday, June 5

*Marc Baskind with The
Collegians*

Clinch River Days, St. Paul,
Virginia, 7 p.m.

Friday, June 11

SVSA songwriters

SVSA Songwriters Night
Third Street Coffeehouse,
Roanoke, Virginia

Friday, June 18

*David Simpkins with the
KGB*

Third Street Coffeehouse
Roanoke, Virginia

Saturday, June 19

David Simpkins

Farmers Market, Radford,
Virginia

Friday, June 25

*Marc Baskind with
Caravan*

Playing jazz/rock/blues at
Annie Moore's Irish Pub,
Roanoke, Virginia, 8-11 p.m.

Saturday, July 17

David Simpkins

Farmers Market, Radford,
Virginia

Saturday, August 7

*Marc Baskind with The
Collegians*

Pipestem State Park, West
Virginia, 7 p.m.

Friday, August 13

*Marc Baskind with The
Collegians*

Bluefield, West Virginia
"Lemonade Days," 7 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 14

*Marc Baskind with the
Collegians*

Tazewell County Fair,
Tazewell, Virginia, 8 p.m.

SVSA MEMBERSHIP

as of 03/012/10

Kathy Acosta

Marc Baskind

Aspen Black

Danny Cockram

Tim Davis

Frank Dieter

Mike DeGiorgi

Charlie Divers

Paddy Dougherty

Mike Franke

Pat Healy

Josh Jones

Mark Laperle

Leigh Littleton

Barbara Martin

Robert Matter

Britt Mistele

Mickey Nelson

Dianna Parks

Mike Pearrell

Phillip Raintree

Larry Sakayama

Chris Sargent

Connie Sellers

Kathy Shaver

David Simpkins

Sharaya Spears

Eddie Sutphin

Greg Trafidlo

Xanna Via

Randy Walker

Jill Wickham

Eddie Williams

SVSA Classifieds

SVSA Music News free classifieds may be submitted by paid members only. All classifieds must be music-related.

FOR SALE

1932 Gibson L50 acoustic archtop guitar with bridge pickup installed. A beautiful guitar in great condition with a gorgeous sound. Perfect for anyone who plays old blues, jazz or old time music. **Barbara Martin**, 540-886-2966, barbara@barbaramartinmusic.com.

DEMO RECORDING AND PRODUCTION

If you need to record a demo song, bring it to The Shop in Fincastle, Virginia. Not much to look at, but I offer clean, high quality multitrack recording and mixdown with an all-digital recording system. I can make MP3s and CDs from the mix. I'm a capable sessions player and can add guitars, keyboards, bass and percussion, as well as arranging and sweetening. \$25/hour for SVSA members. Contact **Josh Jones**, thejonesgroup@rbnet.com, (540) 473-3598 for more information.

Third Street Coffeehouse is located in Trinity United Methodist Church at the corner of Third St. and Mountain Avenue in Old Southwest Roanoke. The coffeehouse is open 7:00-10:00 every Friday night, offering live music and socializing in a smoke-free, alcohol-free environment. Open Mic starts at 7:00; performers sign up at the door. Main act starts around 8:00 until 10:00 pm. No cover charge. Drinks, snacks and desserts are sold.

Upcoming at Third Street Coffeehouse

- Mar. 19 Frank Dieter
- Mar. 26 Robert Craig
- Apr. 2 All Open Mic Night in memory of Karen Recknor
- Apr. 9 Ken Bonfield
- Apr. 16 David and Ann Ledgerwood
- Apr. 23 Steve and Lawanda
- Apr 30 Sherwood (Robyn and Marian)
- May 7 Mark Laperle
- May 14 TBA
- May 21 Simple Gifts of the Blue Ridge
- May 28 Chuck Schaeffer
- June 11 **SVSA Songwriters Night**
- June 18 David Simpkins and the KGB

SVSA Members' Recordings



kaleidoscope

Barbara Martin

KALEIDOSCOPE — Barbara's jazziest CD. All original songs, with co-writes with Joel Evans, Mac Walter, and Greg Trafidlo.

TOUCH THE SKY — Swinging jazz and acoustic blues. With Mac Walter.

A DIFFERENT VIEW — Classic blues of the 1920s, early jazz and "slice-of-life" songs.



winter's rage

Xanna Via

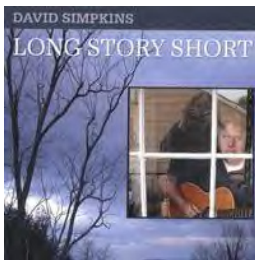
WINTER'S RAGE — A dedication to the veterans of World Wars I and II in a classically oriented setting. Features instrumental tributes to the battles of Stalingrad and Belleau Wood. Hear samples at cdbaby.com/cd/xanna.



dimstore detective

Mike Pearrell

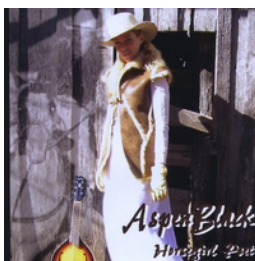
DIMSTORE DETECTIVE — Features 14 original compositions. Produced by Greg Trafidlo; with several guest SVSA musicians.



long story short

David Simpkins

LONG STORY SHORT — Offers 12 original Americana tunes blending rock, folk, blues, and country. "Long Story Short" has won critical praise.

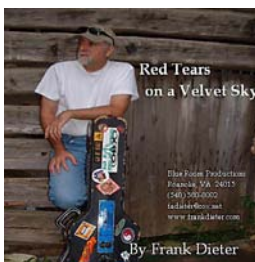


horsegirl poet

Aspen Black

HORSEGIRL POET — Songs and poems about horses, cowboys, and rural life.

A HUNDRED YEARS TOO LATE — All original music for horse lovers and those who yearn to preserve the spirit and lands of the last American frontier.



red tears on a velvet sky

Frank Dieter

RED TEARS ON A VELVET SKY — A new collection of home studio demos. All songs except one are new.

ROUGH CUTS FROM THE BLUE ROOM — Demos from the blues, jazz, folk, adult contemporary, New Age, and instrumental genres.

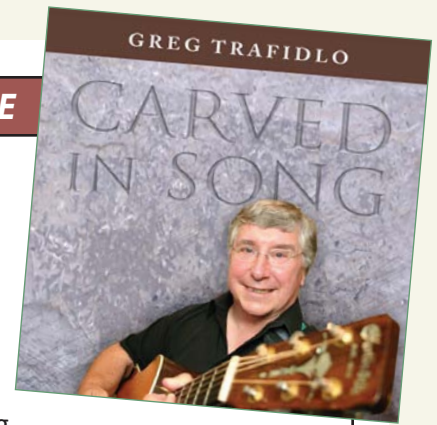
NEW RELEASE

Greg Trafidlo "Carved in Song"

"I'm really excited about this new release," says Greg.

"Most of the songs were co-written with some of my favorite songwriters. It also features a host of talented musicians and vocalists (you may be one of them!). Some of the songs are already getting airplay - "(Life is Like a) Grocery Coupon" has been played numerous times across the country."

"Carved in Song" is now available directly from Greg for \$10 (plus \$2 shipping) or at the Fret Mill in Roanoke. You can listen to audio clips and see the lyrics at gregtrafidlo.com. You can also purchase the CD (or MP3 downloads) from CDBaby.com.



Greg Trafidlo

FOLK SINGULAR — Reflects the diversity of Greg's songwriting and production skills. With several SVSA members.

CO-WRITERS IN DISGUISE — Contemporary folk/country with an emphasis on well-crafted lyrics and humor. With several SVSA members.

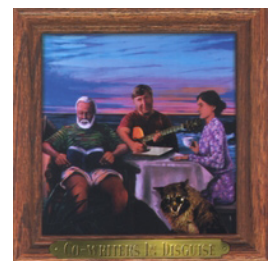
OLD DOG - NEW TRACKS — Songs that range from silly to sublime, drawing you in with warmth, wit, and humor.

Trifolkal

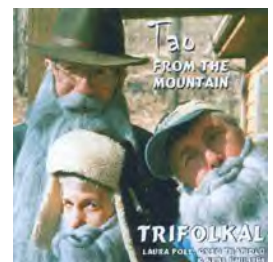
TAO FROM THE MOUNTAIN — Tight harmonies, warmth, and witty songwriting from Laura Pole, Neal Phillips, and Greg Trafidlo.



folksingular



co-writers in disguise



tao from the mountain

About Classifieds:

SVSA Music News free classifieds may be submitted by paid members only. All classifieds must be music-related.

Members, e-mail your classifieds to Kathy Acosta by the second Tuesday of the month or mail them to Kathy Acosta, 125 Polk St., Radford VA 24141 by the second Tuesday of the month.

About articles and other written contributions:

SVSA members write feature articles for the SVSA Music News throughout the year. Members can submit other articles and features at any time. Non-members may also submit articles and other written contributions but their inclusion will be subject to time and space constraints. All articles may be edited for space considerations and will be edited, as time allows, for spelling and grammar. Remember -- it'll have YOUR name on it, so do it up right before you submit it for publication. E-mail submissions by the second Tuesday of the month to svsa@davidsimpkins.com or mail to Kathy Acosta, 125 Polk St., Radford, VA 24141.

About Announcements:

SVSA members may list music-related announcements in the SVSA Music News. E-mail them to svsa@davidsimpkins.com by the second Tuesday of the month or mail them to Kathy Acosta, 125 Polk St., Radford, VA 24141 by the second Tuesday of the month. Announcements from members will be e-mailed to members as soon as they are received and, if still timely, published in an upcoming issue of the SVSA Music News. Announcements from non-members will be held for publication in an upcoming issue of the SVSA Music News.

About Members' Gig Listings:

SVSA members may submit their upcoming performance schedules for publication in the SVSA Music News. The submissions will be printed as submitted; the more information you provide, the more likely the response. Please follow this format:

Date of Gig
Member's Name
Name of Venue, Time
Additional Information

E-mail gig listings by the second Tuesday of the month to svsa@davidsimpkins.com, or mail to Kathy Acosta, 125 Polk St., Radford, VA 24141.

SVSA DISCLAIMER

The ideas and opinions contained in this newsletter are intended to be helpful to songwriters. The companies and organizations mentioned are believed to be legitimate; however, SVSA does not endorse any products or services and offers no guaranteed success based on the content. We are always looking for articles about SVSA members and articles of interest to the songwriting community. Send articles and information to the Editor, Kathy Acosta, at 125 Polk St., Radford, VA 24141, or svsa@davidsimpkins.com. SVSA is a non-profit organization.

SVSA Board Members:

David Simpkins – President
Britt Mistele - Vice President
Charlie Divers – Secretary
Greg Trafidlo – Treasurer
Kathy Acosta - Newsletter Editor



SVSA
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Salem, Virginia 24153

SVSA 2010 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ E-mail _____

\$_____ is enclosed for 2010 dues. (Annual dues are \$20.00.) Dues date begins on the first of January. Please enclose check or money order. Do not send cash through the mail.

What would you like to see your Association do in the coming year? (Please feel free to make suggestions; e.g., workshops, field trips, changes in the newsletter, contests, "writer's nights," etc.)

Give SVSA some information about you related to your songwriting (e.g., have some songs published; want to collaborate; need someone to do demos; have songs recorded; play an instrument; etc.).

We wish to add you the Member Links section of the SVSA website (www.svsasongs.com). Please send a very brief biography and a photo of yourself [subject to good taste] for inclusion on the website. You can e-mail your bio and a JPEG file of the photo to Kathy Acosta, kacosta@vt.edu.

Your support of SVSA is greatly appreciated.