

# SongWritersNotes

The Newsletter for San Diego Songwriters

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**The San Diego  
Songwriters Guild**

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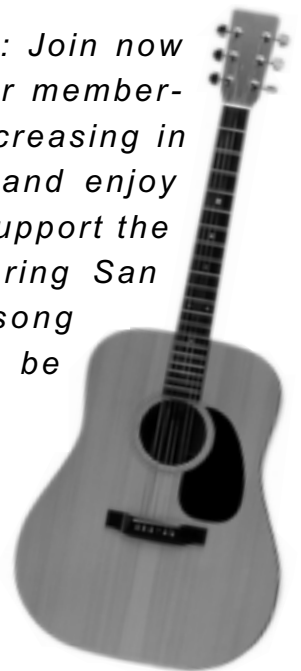
**Entry Form Enclosed... Submission Deadline: Nov 15**

## Song Contest 2000

*This year, the Guild opens its doors to songwriters around the world! Our mailbox is primed to receive. See the enclosed entry form for guidelines. The deadline for this exciting event is November 15, so grab your favorite demos and fire them off to SDSG today!*

*Guild Membership has its privileges: Join now with your contest entry and get your membership at a discount! Dues will be increasing in 2001, so please join SDSG today, and enjoy the benefits of membership as you support the only organization dedicated to offering San Diego songwriters professional song pitches and other opportunities to be heard in the music business.*

*We re scheduling events for 2001 right now... Join the San Diego Songwriters Guild today, and accelerate your songwriting success!*



**SDSG PRESENTS**

## REVIEW 2000

*Another great year for the San Diego Songwriters Guild and its members; a year in which the Guild was able to introduce outstanding publishers and industry heavyweights to San Diego writers, up close and personal, the SDSG way...*

**SEE PAGE 3 FOR MORE**

# From the President's Desk . . .

It has been my pleasure and an extreme honor to serve as President of the San Diego Songwriters Guild for the past three years. Things weren't always tranquil. God knows they weren't always easy. I have had to handle criticism, rejection, and disappointment. That's always part of being a leader; part of being a songwriter. It's been a growing experience. I've had the opportunity to meet and talk to some fascinating people in the music business and have learned a lot about how the business works. I've had songs picked up, and I've had songs rejected. I've been interviewed on the radio, and by newspapers. But my most treasured moments have been spent getting to know our members and watching them grow in their songwriting and performing.



We have instituted many changes in the Guild over the past few years. We branched out and played at coffee houses all over San Diego County. We performed at the Del Mar Fair. The Guild released its first ever compilation CD and our first member directory. We built a great web site. These changes are the hallmark of an organization that is growing. We will continue to serve our members in the best way possible.

My hat is off to Bob Duffy for the many projects that he has selflessly undertaken, including big-time work on the SDSG CD, to Margie Reese for her help with the membership directory, to Mark Hattersley for editing the news letter, and to John Dawes and Evan Wirt for running the web site. and managing our member records. John Pape has kept our finances in order, and Janine and Tamarra Westgate have faithfully served as meeting hosts week in and out. We all owe a great deal to Ellen Silverstein, Nairobi Sailcat, and Randy Fisher for getting us such wonderful guests over the years. The list could go on and on, but let me just say thanks to *everyone* on the board who has helped out over the years and special thanks and "good job" to all who participated in the compilation CD project.

I will continue to serve the Guild in the capacity of showcase coordinator, and I look forward to working with Guild members who are interested in performing live, whether they are seasoned performers or closet performers.

Three years ago, when I accepted this job, I wasn't sure if I could meet its demands. The years have passed very quickly. I have learned a lot, both about music and myself. Thank you for allowing me to serve you. -**Tony Taravella**

## What's Going On?

**PRODUCER KRISTOPHER STONE'S OPEN MIC SHOWCASE** is Sponsored by Seaside Church for the general public and benefits the Seaside Players Theatre Group. Come join us! **November 24 - General last Showcase of the year.** Location: Seaside Hall, 1010 Second Street, South of Encinitas Blvd., one block West of 101, corner of "I" and Second Street, West of St. Germaine's Cafe, Encinitas, CA. Thanks for playing out loud. [kwstone@aol.com](mailto:kwstone@aol.com)

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2000: NSAI SPECIAL EVENT with BRIAN AUSTIN WHITNEY** from Just Plain Folks (<http://www.jpfolks.com>). The day will include an afternoon workshop where Brian will share his touring experiences, and an evening showcase of NSAI, SDSG and JPF members. The Showcase will be at Mikey's Saturday beginning at 7pm. Check out this great FREE online community of songwriters and musicians and join today! It's a great networking opportunity. To join Just Plain Folks, visit the website.

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2000: NSAI SPECIAL EVENT**, 1:30pm-4pm at the home of Liz Axford. Come and meet **JOHN DAWES** of Taco Truffles Media. John will be doing a workshop based on his new book "The Complete Guide to Internet Promotion for Musicians, Artists and Songwriters." Check out the website at <http://www.TacoTruffles.com>. John will have his book for sale at the workshop. Following this will be our annual NSAI Holiday Potluck/Guitar Pull Party from 5pm whenever! Bring family, friends, food and guitars! Please email [EAxford@aol.com](mailto:EAxford@aol.com) or call (858) 481-5650 if you're interested in either of these events. SD NSAI Web Page: <http://hometown.aol.com/sdnsai/myhomepage/index.html> or <http://www.pianopress.com/songwriting>

**SAT. JAN 6, 200L- SAN DIEGO FOLK HERITAGE SONGWRITERS' SHOWCASE** will be held at Templars hall in Poway Park. Workshop 3:30 P.M. with Penny Nichols and Liz Axford, Concert 7:00 P.M. featuring Ken Graydon, Melissa McCracken, Mark Jackson (with Ken Wilcox), Randy Sterling and Dave Morgan, Severin Browne, and Penny Nichols. Ten Dollars gets you in either the workshop or the concert, \$15.00 earns you admission both events. Call (760) 931-6822 for more information.

### **TAXI HAS ANNOUNCED THE DATES FOR THEIR ANNUAL CONVENTION, ROAD RALLY 2000.**

This year's Rally will begin Friday evening, November 3rd, and conclude Sunday evening, November 5th. Road Rally 2000 will be held at the Renaissance Los Angeles Hotel near Los Angeles International Airport (LAX). The convention is only open to TAXI members. Each member is allowed to bring ONE guest. If you've been thinking about joining TAXI, you may want to join now so you can attend this year's Road Rally. SDSG's Randy Fischer, Deane Hawley and Mark Hattersley will be attending. Maybe they'll see you there!



# Review 2000

by Mark HC Markus Hattersley

**SPIN RECORDS ARTIST PITCH** On February 28, the Guild started the year with a great session with Spin Records. com. Spin sent us a panel of representatives who listened to great submissions, picking up several of the artists' work. Their comment: "We wish we heard this level of quality in the pitches we get on a daily basis."

**HARRIET SCHOCK SEMINAR** This Grammy-nominated writer ("Ain't No Way To Treat A Lady") joined us for a review of lyric cohesiveness and structure in March. Harriet always hits the mark with her comments.

**SDSG s INAUGURAL CD RELEASE LOVE NOTES**

Featuring cuts from SDSG members exclusively, with proceeds benefiting music programs at Children's Hospital, the CD is yet another facet of SDSG membership. Of course, we had a **CD RELEASE PARTY** in April, with entertainment by Bishop Jones, Chuck Schiele, Diamond in the Rough and Lisa Sanders and Dana LeeWood.

**We thank our industry guests for their generous support for SDSG.**

**MARCUS BARONE FILM SCORE PITCH** May 15 brought us together in a super educational/pitch opportunity. Marcus took our music and put it up against film footage with dialogue. What an eye-opener!

**JAI JOSEFS SEMINAR** "Jai is the only speaker I've ever heard who can objectively describe specific techniques to improve melodies." - SDSG board member Jeanine, commenting after our May 20 seminar.

**MONICA BENSON R&B AND POP PITCH** June 12 found us spending time with powerhouse publisher Monica Benson, who was impressed enough with material she heard to pick up several cuts. If you missed this session, you missed a rare opportunity.

SDSG was **LIVE AT THE DEL MAR FAIR** on June 25 and 26, supporting performances by Bob Duffy, Dana LeeWood, Doug Ingle, Jr, Tony Taravella, Melanie Ray Brown, Bishop Jones and Diamond in the Rough.

**TRACK STAR STUDIO SESSION WITH JOSQUIN DES PRES** Opening his studio to SDSG, and sharing some of the vast knowledge he has gained in years of experience working with tremendous artists and writers, among them Bernie Taupin, Josquin covered production to marketing in our discussion. Relaxed vibe, beautiful studio, great session.

**JOHN DAWES AND TIM SWEENEY** joined us for an Internet Seminar on July 10. Liz Axford was "...encouraged to put together my own marketing plan, with realistic goals and expectations" following this event. Tons of information here for independent artists and labels. John and Tim's book is available at [tacotruffles.com](http://tacotruffles.com)

**MARANATHA MUSIC PITCH** On August 14, Eli Thompson, Director of A&R at Maranatha let us know that the old rules of Praise and Worship songs don't apply. He was clearly looking for songs that appeal to young people. None of this is really surprising considering that 30 years ago Maranatha turned the Christian music industry upside down by putting Christian lyrics to contemporary music. The evening was interesting and informative. Eli picked up some songs where the production was less than stellar and turned down others where the production quality was great.

**REX BENSON COUNTRY PITCH** Publisher of Kenny Rogers' smash single "Buy Me A Rose" Rex took time from his busy schedule to join SDSG on September 18. Having just returned from Nashville, where he and his writers were guests of honor at a BMI-hosted party thrown to celebrate their hit song achieving platinum status, Rex carefully listened to all of the songs pitched, picking up several cuts for further consideration. Rex's critiques were right on. A top-notch pitch opportunity.

**SDSG s 10TH ANNUAL SONG CONTEST** Don't miss it! Deadline to submit: November 15. See the enclosed flyer for rules and details.

**We'll be back with more great events for 2001!**

Available now...

# Love Notes

...great tunes for a great cause

Order your copy of SDSG's first members-only CD. Check out the quality... could you make the cut next time? See "Newsmakers" page 5

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# SDSG SONG CONTEST 2000



*Enter Our 10th Annual  
Contest Now!*

It's once again time for the annual SDSG Song Contest. Due to the increasing number of entries, we have decided this year to make the contest mail-in only. The live contests were exciting, but kept running later and later. We think you'll agree that the new rules make it easier on everyone. Submissions must be post-marked no later than November 15, 2000.

Please see the insert in this newsletter for the entry form and our updated rules. Good Luck!

If I could take care of all my needs  
In stores owned by songwriters—  
I'd show my support  
While buying smart  
(And prob'ly wind up at  
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# SDSG News Makers

**SDSG members, please vote for the 2001 San Diego Songwriters Guild Board of Directors online.** Send us your email affirming the slate listed at our web site. Feel free to volunteer if you would like to become an active part of Guild planning. Website: [SDSongwriters.org](http://SDSongwriters.org) Email: [SDSongwriters@hotmail.com](mailto:SDSongwriters@hotmail.com)

On a related note, SDSG welcomes **Peter Mannion** as our newest board member. He will be handling member relations and database management with **Matthew Camp**. Say "Hello" to Peter and share your vision of SDSG with him when he calls.

**SDSG's "Love Notes" CD is still available.** Proceeds from sales go to **Children's Hospital**. If you'd like to hear this great CD for yourself, and support music for kids, please send your \$15.00 check or Money Order payable to SDSG to 3368 Governor Dr, Suite F-326, San Diego, 92122.

SDSG's **Jamie Reno** was the subject of a documentary on San Diego Insider, the Cox Cable TV newsmagazine on Cable Channel 4. The piece, which took an in-depth look at Jamie's journalism career, music, family and battle with cancer, was hosted by Jack Gates. Jamie's debut CD "**My Side of Paradise**" is available now, with proceeds benefiting lymphoma research. It makes a great listen with many personal insights and reflections of this cancer survivor. Mr. Reno is tracking his second CD, with an anticipated release date late this year. Congratulations Jamie!

On Tuesday evening, November 14, 2000 at 10PM Pacific Standard Time, **Josquin des Pres** and **Mark Landsman**, co-authors of **Creative Careers in Music**, will be the guests on the For The Record talk show on KPFC-FM (90.7 in Los Angeles). According to its host, veteran record producer Samm Brown (Michael Jackson, Maxine Nightingale), For the Record profiles celebrities and industry notables and provides a forum for in-depth discussions on issues within the music business. Guests include top industry executives, insiders, legends, and anybody who is or was anybody in this industry, talking about the how's and why's this business works. Please tune to KPFC 90.7, over the airwaves or the Internet, as Josquin and Mark join with Samm Brown and co-host John Braheny to discuss the music business. It's all live in the studio--there is no script, so don't hesitate to call in with your questions. **Creative Careers in Music** is "...great for anyone interested in pursuing an active music career" says Music Connection Magazine. "Important information that could make the difference in a successful career" say Bass Frontiers Mag. Creative Careers in Music sells for \$18.95 and is published by Allworth Press at 212-777-8395. Buy the book on-line at: [www.creativecareersinmusic.com](http://www.creativecareersinmusic.com) or [www.successinmusic.com](http://www.successinmusic.com) or call Track Star Entertainment at: 310-859-5581

Thanks to **Bob Duffy, Matthew Camp, Peter Mannion** and **Randy Fischer** for their help organizing and running **SLAMM's 2000 Acoustic Music Festival** on October 13 and 14. Over \$700 was raised to assist children's music programs in San Diego. Money for education = fertilizer for budding songwriters!

**John Shore**, Editor of **D-Town 92101** says "if any of you are WRITERS looking for freelance work, let me know. I'm the editor of "D-Town 92101," a new weekly newspaper downtown. We've only put out a few issues so far, and so I'm still hunting for my cadre of freelancers. So far, we're running about 5 pages of calendar events at the end of each issue. But, man, we're having a bear of a time getting in decent photos of bands or whatever--ANYBODY doing ANYTHING downtown. **If you're in a band or anything like this--if you or anybody you know EVER plays downtown, a photo would do us both a lot of good. And put us on every show/event broadcast fax known to man, too. Thanks.**"

John Shore-Editor *D-Town 92101*, 121 Broadway, Suite 536, San Diego, CA 92101 phone: (619) 234-7644 fax: 234-7093 [news92101@aol.com](mailto:news92101@aol.com)

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## Notes from Joel...

A few week ago I attended a one day concert in Morgan Hill, California produced by Toby and Nita Roodman at the Guglielmo Winery...

The spirit of the Napa Valley Music and Wine Festival lives on. Although this year's 3-day festival was canceled because of board reorganization and problems with the camping site, Toby Roodman, Songwriter Showcase director, and NVM&WF board member vowed to keep the tradition alive and honor commitments that had been made to some of the performers. He was 100 per cent successful. His yeoman efforts resulted in a mini festival transported to the lush vineyards of the Santa Clara Valley, some 80 miles to the south of Napa. About 500 persons attended the six hour event, under a cloudless, velvet blue sky and perfect 80 degree weather. Hard work and some 45 volunteers helped to make everything run seamlessly.

Surrounded by dusty brown hillsides, the lovingly tended Guglielmo Winery vineyards formed a tapestry framing the Villa Emile Event Center. Flower beds and tall Italian Cyprus trees flanked both sides of the elevated stage, reminding me of Tuscany. Booths serving the winery's estate bottled vintages and micro brewed beers added to the ambiance, along with vendors selling barbecued beef, Philippine foods, and sinful desserts. Everyone seemed blissful. But the music was the main attraction.

Main stage performers included Dave Carter & Tracy Grammer with their mythic Americana folk songs, singer-songwriter, storyteller and noted film actor Ronny Cox, Canadian Grand Masters Fiddle Champion and step dance virtuoso April Verch, blues and swing stars Cats & Jammers (Piper Heisig, Sylvia Herold, and Tony Marcus), the acoustic mayhem of The Waybacks (Wayne "Chojo" Jacques, Stevie Coyle, James Nash, Chris Kee and Peter Tucker), and hypnotic balladeer folk phenomenon Tom Russell accompanied by Andrew Hardin. Between setups, other performers gave shorter sets on the showcase stage, including Blah Blah Woof Woof (Steve Kritzer, Jay Howlett, Chuck McCabe), David Anderson, and Caren Armstrong.

The eclectic mix of music, the ambiance of the venue, combined with the food and wine in the early fall sunshine made for a memorable afternoon. There were more than enough smiles to go around for everyone. Toward 7 PM, I left, very happy for the incredible day, to make the drive back to San Jose and catch my return flight to San Diego. Hats off to Toby and Nita Roodman and their wonderful volunteers, for putting together such a memorable program.

Cheers,

**Joel Siegfried** Email: ecto@home.com Vox: 619-222-9236 Fax: 603-649-6355  
For photos please see: <http://darkthirty.com/vineyard/>

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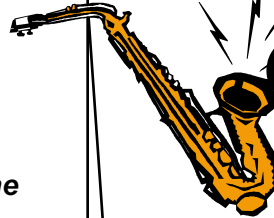
Every year the Guild brings music industry professionals to San Diego - just to hear your song! Members get a discount all year long - every time! Get your songs heard by pros who want to hear them. Join the Guild.

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**BEGIN or RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW!**

Get your member discount at this year's events! Join up before the New Year and get your 2001 membership at the 2000 price! Only \$45 all year! See the enclosed membership form for details!



S D S G 2 0 0 0

# Song Contest

mail in NOW until  
November 15

**Great Prizes!**

Of course I'm ambitious. What's wrong with that? Otherwise you sleep all day.  
-- Ringo Starr

Be ambitious - enter the contest.

Call (619) 225-2131 or  
check [sdsongwriters.org](http://sdsongwriters.org)

## SongWritersNotes

The San Diego Songwriters Guild  
3368 Governor Drive, Suite F-326  
San Diego, CA 92122

*Address Correction Requested*

Please check your membership expiration date below

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# San Diego Songwriters Guild (SDSG) SONG CONTEST 2000 ENTRY FORM

## Rules and information:

- All styles of music are eligible.
- Each song must be the contestant's original work. Entrants and their collaborators will retain full rights to all work submitted for the competition.
- Songs will be judged by a committee consisting of industry professionals and songwriters.
- Judges will use five criteria: melody, form, originality, lyrics (when applicable), and presentation.
- Winners are responsible for the division of the prizes.
- Contest is open to all amateur songwriters (one who has not been employed as a staff writer for a publishing company or being paid for such services, and/or receiving more than \$2,500 from royalties income within the past year). No song previously recorded and released through major national distribution in any country will be eligible.
- Winners will be notified by phone, and winner's names will also be posted on our web-site.
- Prizewinning songs from prior SDSG song contests are not eligible.
- Tapes/CD's/Lyric sheets will not be returned.
- As of the making of this entry form, the prizes for this year's contest have yet to be determined. In 1999, over \$5,000 in prizes were awarded, so check out last year's prize list as an example (available at our web-site). Note: some of the prizes are "San Diego" based and can only be redeemed in San Diego stores, offices, and studios.
- Entries that violate these rules may be disqualified, and submitted fees will not be returned. All judge's decisions are final.
- SDSG is not responsible for late, lost, damaged, misdirected, postage due, stolen, or misappropriated entries.
- Entries must be postmarked by November 15, 2000. Winners will be determined and notified by December 15, 2000.
- Enter as often as you like!

## Each entry must consist of:

- **Entry Form:** Completed and signed entry form (or photocopy). One form per song entered.
- **CD(s) or audio cassette(s):** Tapes must be cued to within 5 seconds of when the music starts. If you submit a tape and enter more than one song, each song must be submitted on its own individual tape.
- **Lyric Sheets:** 4 copies of lyric sheets (please include English translation if applicable). Sheets are not required for instrumental compositions. Please blacken out any performer's/songwriter's names on the lyric sheets.
- **Fees:** Check or money order for \$10 (SDSG member) or \$15 (non-SDSG member) per song (U.S. currency only) payable to SDSG. One check or money order for multiple entries is acceptable.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact us at:

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phone (619) 225-2131

web [www.sdsongwriters.org](http://www.sdsongwriters.org)

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Enter today!

Note: SDSG is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporation with no paid employees. It is operated on a break-even budget by a volunteer board of directors. Revenues are used to conduct seminars, rent meeting facilities, cover travel expenses for industry guests, maintain the web site, and publish and distribute the SDSG newsletter. The information gathered in this entry form (including names, addresses, e-mail, etc.) will not be sold to anyone and you will not be spammed.

Mail your entry to:

SDSG Song Contest 2000  
3368 Governor Drive  
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San Diego, CA 92122

Entries must be postmarked by November 15, 2000.



Entry Fees per Song (check one):

- SDSG Member. . . \$ 10
- Non-Member. . . . \$ 15

CD Track Number (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Song Type (check one):

- With Lyrics
- Instrumental

Song Title \_\_\_\_\_

Songwriter's Names \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

I have read the rules and accept the terms and conditions.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_