



Island Songwriters
Showcase Newsletter

www.islandsongwriters.org

2002

January

WOODY GUTHRIE BENEFIT CONCERT

The 2nd **Woody Guthrie Benefit Concert** created by **Sonny Meadows** featured music, poetry, and prose celebrating the life of an American Folk Legend. Proceeds went to the **Woody and Marjorie Guthrie Research Fund** and the **Huntington Disease Society of America**. This fabulous event took place on **January 5** at the **Congregational Church of Huntington** in Centerport. The line-up was incredible! Performers **Amy Tuttle, Bob Westcott, Brian Sendrowitz, Candy Barinello, The Defibrillators, Dick Morrison, Ian Wilder, James O'Malley, Jane Ross, Jim Dexter, Judith Zweiman, Kate Kelly, Little Toby Walker, Martha P. Trachtenberg, Paulette Boucher, Rich Stein, Scott MacDonald, Shari Diamond, Sonny Meadows, Sonny Speed, Stuart Markus, Phil Jiminez and Will Angelero** gave it their all! The event was sponsored by: **Folk Music Society of Huntington, Nortport Arts Coalition, Huntington Disease Society of America, Island Songwriter's Showcase, and Long Island Music Coalition**. A CD of the event will be created special thanks to **George Trapani** who taped the event.

WHPC LOOKING FOR LOCAL ARTISTS

ISS'er **Tania** is a co-host of this radio show that plays and supports local original music. The show air's **Monday Nights 7:00 on WHPC 90.3 FM**. It's free airtime so send your CD's. Please include a little about yourself and your music along with your CD.

Mail CD's to:

WHPC

1 Education Drive

Garden City, NY 11530

Attn: Billy Mac Long Island Music Showcase

BMI SONGWRITERS WORKSHOP

BMI is accepting applications for their "Winter 2002 Contemporary Professional Songwriting Workshop"! It's open to any and all songwriters! You can get an application emailed to you from bprimont@bmi.com, or you can call **Brooke Primont** at 212-830-8305. Applications will also be available at the ISS workshop and you can email me at shari@kidtestedtunes.com. The workshop meets on Thursday nights from 6:30 to 8:30pm for 6 consecutive weeks starting January 26th. Applications must be in by January 18th.

RADIO PROGRAM

The Saturday Light Brigade is a radio program featuring acoustic music and family fun. Broadcast since 1978, it is one of the longest-running public radio programs in the U.S. Quality music, on-air telephone calls from kids and adults, innovative participatory puzzles and games, and interesting guests have made *The Saturday Light Brigade* a family radio tradition for tens of thousands of people. Kids listen with adults, adults listen with kids, and everyone has fun listening to the radio together! *The Saturday Light Brigade* is broadcast live from 6 to 10 a.m. EST on Saturday mornings and originates live from WYEP-Pittsburgh whose signal can be heard in southwestern Pennsylvania as well as parts of Maryland, West Virginia, and Ohio. You can also hear live broadcasts, encore broadcasts and a 24/7 "best of" stream at www.slbradio.com.

In essence, they play a pretty broad range of acoustic-based traditional and contemporary folk, bluegrass, standards, novelty songs,

and children's music that also can be enjoyed by adults. Highly-produced stuff (lots of overdubs, synthetic drum kits, formal children's choruses, etc.) usually won't fit well, even if it's of good quality.

They'd love to hear music from our group and actually *do* listen to what people send them! Their address is:

Larry Berger
The Saturday Light Brigade
P.O. Box 100092
Pittsburgh, PA 15233

DECEMBER WORKSHOP WRITER'S CHOICE

Bill Ryan for "Can't Stop the Tears"

It is obvious that the year 2001 has been a tough year for everyone. In addition to the horrible attack on the World Trade Center and the war in Afghanistan, there has been quite a bit of personal turmoil for a number of ISS members. In particular we have all been concerned about Vin Crici's recent illness. His absence from meetings deprives the ISS not only from hearing his wonderful trademark melodies but also from experiencing his trademark uplifting demeanor. We hope he is well on the way to recovery.

Besides Vin's illness, other ISSers have been under the weather at times, and others have experienced personal losses as well. This writer can be included in both categories. So appropriately, and probably involuntarily, in this troubled time Bill Ryan has written a song that resonated with many in attendance. As a tribute to his late mother who passed away in September, Bill presented "Can't Stop the Tears," and its sincerity could not be denied. He wrote, "Thank you for all the love you gave me/For how you tried to save me/From living your hard life". What more could one say about a dedicated parent? The song ended on a painful note asking the question "Why did you choose smoking/Over all of us". A good question that we hope keeps cigarette company executives up at night.

Gerry Dantone does not smoke or drink, but then again, he also has no life.

UPCOMING ISS EVENTS

WORKSHOP MEETING: **Jan 7 Feb 4**

OPEN MIKE @ BORDERS SYOSSET: **Jan 3 Feb 7**

SONGWRITERS IN THE ROUND:

@ BARNES & NOBLE, COMMACK: **Jan 10 Feb 14**

@ BORDERS, WESTBURY: **Jan 18 Feb 15**

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS at FIVE TOWNS COLLEGE

(Dix Hills) ~ The Island Songwriters Showcase (ISS) is a no fee organization. Group efforts include monthly meetings at Five Towns College, located on Burr's Lane in Dix Hills, Huntington, NY, generally on the first Monday of the month. **IT'S FREE.** Songs are often premiered at the meetings, and so much material is presented that there is limit of one song per writer. Writers may bring an acoustic guitar, CD, or cassette tape (no Dolby n/r reduction is best), and a piano is available for keyboardists. Lyric sheets are encouraged and ensuing discussions regarding presented songs can range from passionate to hilarious to instructive. To become a member, simply come to a meeting. That's it! Really!

**Come join us on the first Monday of the month at 7:30 P.M. on the following dates: January 7
February 4**

Wishing you all a very happy holiday season and a wonderful New Year!

Becoming an ISS member also entitles you to participate in our open mike night at any of our showcases (see highlighted below). Sign ups are at 7:30 P.M. All artists are able to play 2 original songs. Also, you can become eligible to be invited to perform at one of our Songwriters in the Round. No critiquing – just fun! Original bands are also welcome – please call Sonny in advance. Make friends. Make contacts. Get heard!

For more information call our director Sonny Speed at (631) 462-3300 or email him at mcspeed@aol.com.

Open Mikes:

Thursdays

- **BORDERS** Syosset ~ 425 Jericho Tpk, Syosset, 7:00 p.m. sign-up, 7:30 p.m. start on the 1st Thursday of the month, ISS exclusive showcase hosted by Bill Ryan.

Songwriters In The Round:

- 2nd Thursday of the month @ Barnes & Noble, Commack, hosted by Sonny Meadows
- 3rd Friday of the month @ Borders, Westbury, hosted by Rich Stein.

Weekly Venue:

- **Sundays at Seven Series** – The Northport Historical Society Museum, Main St., Northport on the north side of the street opposite the police station. 7 PM. Contact hosted by Kate Kelly at 757-1111 for listing of scheduled performers. The Sunday At Seven Arts in Concert Series is supported by funds from the NYC Council of the Arts, distributed in Suffolk County through the Huntington Arts Council. They request a \$2 donation for the evening.

Director's Blurb

ISS workshops have become increasingly popular and we want to ensure that all members get enough time for comments. If you want your song heard but you're not looking for critique, please save the debut for the showcase. If you want feedback, **please remember to bring 25 copies of the lyric sheet** (or be prepared to pay a hefty fine – just kidding!)

ISS Postcard Mailer

If you didn't receive the postcard mailer that was sent out recently, or want to receive future updates on ISS events via mail or email, please provide Sonny Speed with a completed membership form available at meetings or gigs.

ISS Address

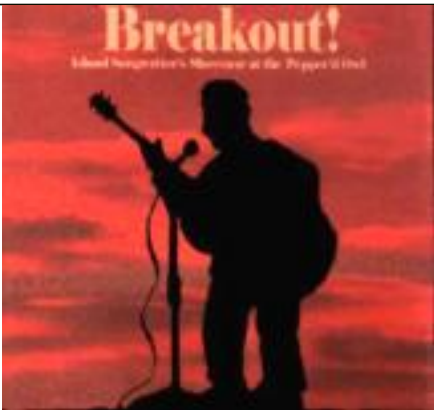
ISS
P.O. Box 430
East Northport, N.Y. 11731-0430
Phone: 631-462-3300 (Sonny Speed)
E-mail: mcspeed@aol.com

ISS Staff

- Ø **Director:** Sonny Speed
- Ø **Press Secretary:** Bob Catrano
- Ø **Newsletter Writing Staff:** Gerry Dantone, Bill "Scoop" Ryan, Walter Sargent, Michael Clark, Sonny Meadows, Mike Mattel, Frank Gambino, Vince Crici, Andrew Kirschner, Rich Stein, and James Yarsky
- Ø **Website Coordinator:** Bill "Scoop" Ryan

Newsletter Editor/Publisher: Shari Diamond (soon to be someone else)

If you would like to have a newsletter emailed to you, please send your request to Shari Diamond at shari@kidtestedtunes.com.



Don't forget to get your copy of the first ISS compilation CD featuring 14 ISS members recorded Live at the ISS Showcase at the Pepper'd Owl in 1996. This is a lot of talent crammed into this one CD and this is only volume 1! George Trapani

made this release possible and he continues to record performances at ISS events. The Cost is \$12 per CD and you can get yours from George when you see him at ISS events, or email him at gtrapani@optonline.net.

Visit our website

www.islandsongwriters.org