

# Connecticut Songsmith

Newsletter of the Connecticut  
Songwriters Association



CSA is an educational, non-profit organization dedicated to  
improving the art and craft of original musical and lyrical composition.  
Serving music's artisans and craftsmen since 1979.



April 2005  
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Combining Arts,  
Education, and  
Community Outreach

1979 - 2005 : 26 Years of Combining Arts, Education, and Community Outreach

## APRIL 16 -- COLLABORATION WORKSHOP including:

- The 8 Keys to Success in the Music Business
- Hands-on collaboration
- CSA Success Stories

AND An evening concert by IMC Indie Artist of the Year, Nancy Tucker!

The CSA meeting for April, our Spring special event, will be held on **Saturday, April 16, 1-5pm**, at the **Mystic Chamber of Commerce Conference Room**. . (directions on page 2)

This meeting will include a presentation of last month's snowed-out program, "The 8 Keys to Success in the Music Business", a workshop that Bill Pere presented at the national Independent Music Conference in Philadelphia last Fall. The music industry is first and foremost a people-driven business, Success is based on networking and personal relationships. In taking a song from creation to realization, there are many roles that must be filled, and skills which must be brought to bear. Understanding how a person prefers to take in information, make decisions, and communicate with others gives you an immeasurable advantage in negotiation, selling, collaborating, and working as part of a group.

Also, today's markets require that any writer or performer wear many hats. Knowing which hats you can wear successfully and those for which you may need help will keep your energy focused and keep you moving ahead. Most songs are written by more than one person. Writers collaborate with artists, arrangers, producers, managers, and so many others. How do find the right collaborator to fill in the gaps in your wardrobe of hats?

Come and learn -- and enjoy an evening concert with an amazing artist, Nancy Tucker.

Registration required. Registration includes concert admission. See registration info inside.

IF TIME PERMITS, there will be a critique session. To participate, bring a song on cassette or CD, or do it live, with 30 copies of typed lyric sheets, and receive constructive feedback. Critique sessions are a good forum for works in progress or rough demos. **For best feedback, note on your lyric sheets the intended genre and audience for your song, and what your goals are (i.e. picked up by a commercial artist, self-produce, etc).** The programs at regular CSA monthly meetings are **free to members, \$5 to non-members**, applicable toward membership if you join within 30 days. Members are encouraged to bring a friend who might be interested in what CSA offers. .

### CSA EVENT CALENDAR

(for complete listing see <http://www.ctsongs.com>)

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| Apr 16  | - CSA Collaboration Workshop - Mystic (1-5pm)<br>"The 8 Keys to Success in the Music Business"              |
| Apr 16  | - Mystic River Folk with Concert with Nancy Tucker  |
| May 07  | - CSA Special Event - " Day of Praise III", Wethersfield  |
| May 10  | - CSA monthly meeting - The Music Business from the Inside Out., with Corey Shea                            |
| May 14  | - Mystic River Folk - CD Release Concert, "Kay Pere's "Even Better than Chocolate", with guest CSA artists. |
| Jun 14  | - Indie Artist, Promotion with Noel Ramos, Glastonbury  |
| Jul 12  | - CSA monthly meeting - Wesleyan Univ w/ Leslie Berry   |
| Aug 09  | - CSA monthly meeting - Sacred Heart  |
| Sept 13 | - CSA monthly meeting - Glastonbury   |
| Oct 15  | - CSA PRO Workshop w/ Steve Gillette - Mystic   |
| Nov 08  | - CSA monthly meeting, Wesleyan Univ - Amy Gallatin   |
| Dec 03  | - LUNCH Holiday Show - many CSA artists.  |
| Dec 12  | - CSA Holiday Showcase and Potluck - Glastonbury  |

**Coming May 14** to Mystic River Folk:

CD Release Concert with Kay Pere's "Heart and Spiral Trio" with Nashville producer and Grammy Award winning engineer, Michael Hopkins on bass.

COMBINING ARTS, EDUCATION, AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH FOR 26 YEARS

Guiding Songs Along the Path from Creation to Realization to Proliferation

How to  
Get There!

## DIRECTIONS TO MEETING LOCATIONS

**Directions to Mystic Chamber of Commerce Conference Room (14 Holmes St) : Coming North on I-95, take Exit 89.** Go right off the Exit onto Allyn St. Go about 2 miles and come to a light and the intersection of Rt 1. Turn left onto Rt 1 and go a short way to the 5-way intersection overlooking Main St, Mystic. Proceed down the Main Street of Mystic, across the drawbridge, to the flagpole (Holmes St). Turn left at the flagpole onto Holmes. Pass a few storefronts and you'll see a red brick building, #14 Holmes St. To park, turn right just before the brick building onto Church St, and park in the lot behind the brick building. The entrance for the Chamber of Commerce is at the far right as you face the rear of the building. Go down the corridor. The room is on the right. Free Coffee and Snacks available !

**Directions to Mystic Union Baptist Church for Mystic River Folk:** Coming North on I-95, take Exit 89. Go right off the Exit onto Allyn St. Go about 2 miles and come to a light and the intersection of Rt 1. Turn left onto Rt 1 and go a short way to the 5-way intersection. Church is on the left. Make a hairpin left to get to the parking lot.

**FRIDAY APRIL 8 --** University of Hartford "Music For a Change Series" presents "A Tribute to Harry Chapin", with five CSA artists plus the LUNCH Ensemble. Proceeds benefit social services in Connecticut. Come join Bill Pere, Kay Pere, Larry Batter, Scott Sivakoff, Kat Wyand, and the full ensemble in their third appearance at this great concert series. Tickets are \$15. Info: [www.musicforachange.com](http://www.musicforachange.com).

**CTSONGS.COM --** Have you visited the CSA website lately and really looked around ? we are always adding new stuff. The website has come a long way in the last year. Come visit and check it out.

## IMPRESARIOS WANTED!

**Don't limit your creativity to writing and performing. Become an IMPRESARIO - organize and promote a CSA entertainment event!** CSA has had some exciting recent success with targeted events such as our 25th Anniversary Songwriting and Performance Conference and the Day of Praise songshare and dinner/concert. We know there is opportunity to do more, but we need your help. We want to create *involvement opportunities* for the membership and *performance opportunities* for as many folks as possible. Specifically, we want to sponsor a series of genre-specific events. The categories we have agreed upon are **ROCK, R & B / JAZZ, FOLK / BLUEGRASS, COUNTRY, POP / INSTRUMENTAL, SPIRITUAL / INSPIRATIONAL, and ALTERNATIVE.**

Each event should be presented at a public venue and be self-funding (concert tickets and registration fees should cover all costs and hopefully generate a net profit) The event format would be along the lines of the recent Day of Praise program, which included a songshare / discussion session, supper, and concert. CSA will provide guidance, promotional support, and some general coordination of the schedule for the several events. But the creation and management of the event will be up to you.

How do you get started? You can be a committee of one or a larger working group. The first step is to say "yes" I want to be involved with this, and pick the genre you want to participate on. Contact either Program Coordinator Roy O'Neil ([gotsongs@cs.com](mailto:gotsongs@cs.com)) or CSA President Bill Pere ([info@ctsongs.com](mailto:info@ctsongs.com)) and let us know your area of interest and how you would like to be involved, and we will assemble a list of aspiring impresarios for each genre. We will return a list of similarly interested folks, and we will provide you with the guidelines you need for organizing a successful event. This is a great way to promote your music, to the public, get experience in producing events, and benefit CSA as well. Together, we can make great things happen and bring in new fans and supporters of original music.

# Mystic River Folk Concerts

LUNCH brings you a great series of National and Regional acts

All shows at Union Baptist Church, corner of Route 1 and High Street, Mystic. (just up the hill from Mystic Pizza). Exit 89 off I-95. All proceeds benefit social service agencies in Connecticut through LUNCH (Local United Network to Combat Hunger) Snacks and beverages available .

*Did you know that Connecticut ranks #1 in per capita income, but #44 in charitable giving? Did you know that at any given time, there are 33,000 people sleeping on the streets in Connecticut and 40% of them are children? In our state, more than 16,000 people are turned away from homeless shelters every year. There are 100,000 children under the age of 12 in Connecticut who do not have enough food to eat. Music can make a difference in the lives of others! Your support of these events make that possible. **Please post this schedule by your calendar.***

**April 16 7:30 pm BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND! Family Music and Comedy with nationally known artist with a #3 hit and Connecticut's #1 Comedienne, CSA's own NANCY TUCKER \$10 - (860) 572-9285 [www.ctsongwriters.com](http://www.ctsongwriters.com)**

**May 14 7:30 pm "Even Better Than Chocolate" CD Release Concert - Kay Pere with full band. \$10 - (860) 572-9285 [www.ctsongwriters.com](http://www.ctsongwriters.com) Hear a live presentation of the songs from Kay's great new CD! COME AND SUPPORT KAY in this SIGNIFICANT EVENT!**

**September 17 7:30 pm The CONNECTICUT HISTORY CONCERT Bill Pere, Kay Pere, Guest Artists, and the LUNCH Ensemble. Songs about important people, places, and events in our local history. (check website)\$10 - (860) 572-9285 [www.ctsongwriters.com](http://www.ctsongwriters.com)**

**October 15 7:30 From Vermont, Songwriting Legend Steve Gillette w/ Cindy Mangsen \$10 - (860) 572-9285 [www.ctsongwriters.com](http://www.ctsongwriters.com). You'll know the songs -- you just didn't know who wrote them!**

**November 19 7:30 pm -- from New York, it's A TRIBUTE TO WOODY GUTHRIE with the Hope Machine, \$10 - (860) 572-9285 [www.ctsongwriters.com](http://www.ctsongwriters.com)**

**Saturday, December 3 -- The 9th Annual LUNCH Holiday Show Featuring Bill Pere, Kay Pere Scott Sivakoff, more CSA guests, and the LUNCH Ensemble with songs of the season, new original songs, and an original stage play. This year's show is "A Mall and the Night Visitors". Show starts at 7pm with live pre-show music beginning at 6:15. Tickets in advance: \$10 (adults) \$8 (kids under 12); At the door: \$12 (adults), \$10 (kids under 12) \$10 (CSA members). Proceeds benefit social service agencies and provide holiday food baskets for those in need. . Come support this important community outreach effort.. Tickets and Info: 860-572-9285 or e-mail [bill@billpere.com](mailto:bill@billpere.com)**

NOTE: CSA Marketplace/Classified Ads, and Member Happenings are now online 24/7 at the CSA website. You can go there any time at [www.ctsongs.com](http://www.ctsongs.com).

**COMING APRIL 16 --** Back by popular demand! Connecticut's #1 comedienne, hit songwriter (#3 on the Dr. Demento charts), and one of the best guitarists in the Northeast, NANCY TUCKER Nancy brings her panorama of creativity and her unique brand of family comedy and song to Mystic River Folk. Bring the kids! 7:30pm, Tickets: \$10 Proceeds benefit social services in Connecticut.

**COMING MAY 14 --** CD Release concert for Kay Pere's "Even Better than Chocolate" featuring the Heart and Spiral Trio. Many of the songs went through CSA's critique process, and the CD was recorded in Nashville. 7:30pm, Union Baptist Church. Tickets: \$10. Proceeds benefit social services in Connecticut.

# COMING APRIL 16

# CSA COLLABORATION

# WORKSHOP

**1:00pm - 5:00pm at the Mystic Chamber of Commerce  
Conference Room. 14 Holmes St, Mystic.**

When you look at the credits for a song on almost any CD you often see more than one name listed as the writer. Why is this ?

It takes multiple dimensions to write an effective song. Some folks can do it by themselves, but for many, working with a collaborator is a great way to create songs that are better than either could produce alone. These multiple dimensions, and techniques for collaboration will be discussed in the March 8 CSA meeting on "The 8 Keys to Success in the Music Business", which is a presentation of the workshop given by Bill Pere at the national Indie Music Conference in Philadelphia.

To turn this into actual practice, Bill and Kay Pere will host an afternoon Collaboration Workshop in April, preceding the evening Concert by CSA's Nancy Tucker (see below). the workshop will include a presentation of "The 8 Keys to Success in the Music Business" and also look at:

- Determining if you would benefit from collaboration
- Considerations for finding and working with collaborators
- The differences between creative and performance collaboration
- Examples of successful results from collaborations within and outside of CSA

**And then will actually do some hands-on collaborative writing**

Following the workshop, we'll break for supper and then we'll be joined by Nancy Tucker who will present an outstanding multi-dimensional performance. Nancy is the 2004 National Indie Artist of the Year, Connecticut's #1 Comedienne, and one of the top guitarists in the Northeast. Nancy has also had a #3 hit, toured nationally, written a full stage show, and she holds a music device patent. Nancy is a rare example of a self-contained artist who is a panorama of diverse creativity and technical excellence.

**Your participation in the workshop includes FREE concert admission.**

Workshop space is limited, so advance registration is recommended. The workshop registration, which includes free concert admission, is \$12. You can register in advance by sending \$12 payable to CSA to **CSA, PO Box 511, Mystic CT 06355.**

**Directions to Mystic Chamber of Commerce Conference Room (14 Holmes St) for the COLLABORATION WORKSHOP: Coming North on I-95, take Exit 89. Go right off the Exit onto Allyn St Go about 2 miles and come to a light and the intersection of Rt 1. Turn left onto Rt 1 and go a short way to the 5-way intersection overlooking Main St, Mystic. Proceed down the Main Street of Mystic, across the drawbridge, to the flagpole (Holmes St). Turn left at the flagpole onto Holmes. Pass a few storefronts and you'll see a red brick building, #14 Holmes St. To park, turn right just before the brick building onto Church St, and park in the lot behind the brick building. The entrance for the Chamber of Commerce is at the far right as you face the rear of the building. Go down the corridor. The room is on the right. FREE Coffee and snacks.**

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO PERFORM AT HIS EVENT ?**  
**Do you know a friend who might like to perform ? Do NOT delay --**  
**Contact us NOW !**



**Connecticut  
Songwriters  
Association**



**Local  
United  
Network to  
Combat  
Hunger**

**SATURDAY May 7**  
**Griswoldville Chapel, Wethersfield CT**

# **A DAY OF PRAISE #3**

**An encore program of Spiritual and Inspirational Music**

- 2pm - 2:30pm: Gathering and greeting
- 2:30 - 3:00pm Open discussion time
- 3 - 5pm: Songwriting techniques for getting your message across, and songwriting exercises
- 5 - 6 pm: Fellowship dinner (bring a dish to share - kitchen facilities available)
- 6 - 6:30pm: Prep and sound check for concert
- 6:30pm: Doors open for concert
- 7 - 9 pm: Concert, open to the public. (Will be locally advertised)

Registration in advance is only \$10 for the entire program (\$15 for non-CSA members).

**If you would like to perform at the concert:** Contact Peg D'Amato at [pegdamato@earthlink.net](mailto:pegdamato@earthlink.net)

Submit a recording of 1-2 songs that you would perform. Songs must be inspirational, spiritual or gospel related and appropriate for being performed for a family audience in a church setting. Only original songs, please.

This event will be announced to area coffeehouses encouraging a representative to attend the concert to hear and meet with performing artists.

**CONCERT PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT SOCIAL SERVICES in CONNECTICUT**  
**All registrants may have a spot on the merchandise table to display and sell CD's. It is requested that \$1 of each item sold be donated to CSA**

**Directions to Griswoldville Chapel in Wethersfield, CT for "Day of Praise II "**

**From 91 South:** Take the Route 3, Wethersfield, exit. At 4th stop light, take a right onto Prospect. At 2nd stop light take a left onto Griswold. Chapel is less than a mile on the left (just before the fire station).

**From 91 North:** Take the Rte. 99 (Silas Deane Highway) exit, Rocky Hill. Bear right at the end of the exit. At the 6th stop light take a left onto Route 3. At the first stop light, take a right onto Prospect. At 2nd stop light take a left onto Griswold. Chapel is less than a mile on the left (just before the fire station).

# Mystic River Folk Concerts



Honoring Groton's 300th Anniversary

Featuring Performers of National and Regional Prominence



**Great Family Entertainment!**

**Saturday, April 16, 7:30 PM**

*Union Baptist Church, 119 High Street, Mystic, CT (the church on the hill)*

*DIRECTIONS: Hwy 95 to Exit 89, Allyn St. South to Downtown Mystic, Left on Pt 1, Church on Left, 2 Blocks*



Featuring Musical Comedienne  
**Nancy Tucker**

First place winner of 2002 Connecticut Comedy Festival, Nancy Tucker is a sought-after entertainer who has opened for and appeared with many musical greats including Joan Baez, Tom Paxton and Holly Near, and comedians Stephen Wright, Rob Bartlett and Ed Helms.

Nancy blends outrageous squeaky clean comedy, spirited guitar instrumentals and moving songs of human experience in her shows for people of all ages

Nancy, the 2004 National Indie Artist of the Year, is the writer of the #3 Dr. Demento hit, "Everything Reminds Me of My Therapist"

Her music and comedy center around a passion for life and laughter.

Please bring non-perishable food for our local Food Pantry



**TICKETS \$10**

Proceeds benefit LUNCH and support the efforts of MASH to provide a permanent facility for housing families in need of shelter.

Available at the door or in advance by calling 860-572-9285

See the full 2005 Concert Schedule at [www.ctsongwriters.com](http://www.ctsongwriters.com)



Celebrating: 300 Years of Groton

*Produced with the assistance of the Connecticut Songwriters Association and Heart & Spiral Music*

# Mystic River Folk Concerts



**Honoring Groton's 300th Anniversary**

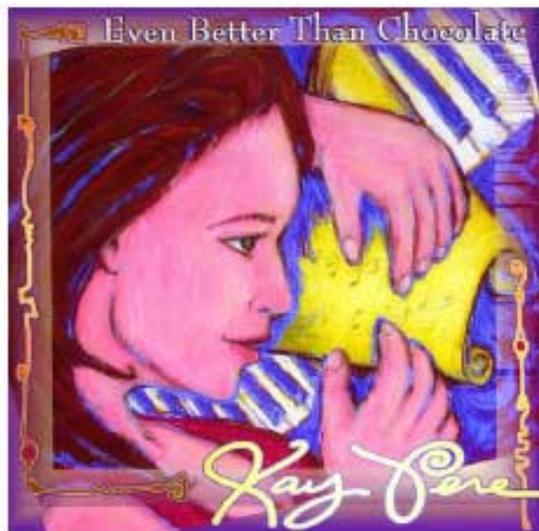
**Featuring Performers of National and Regional Prominence**



**Saturday, May 14, 7:30 PM**

**Union Baptist Church, 119 High Street, Mystic, CT (the church on the hill)**

*DIRECTIONS: Hwy 95 to Exit 89, Allyn St. South to Downtown Mystic, Left on Pt 1, Church on Left, 2 Blocks*



## The official CD Release Concert!

Award-winning songwriter **KAY PERE** and her band present the East Coast release concert for the the CD "Even Better Than Chocolate, recorded in Nashville with Grammy-Award Winning engineer and producer, Michael Hopkins

Kay, an accomplished performer, writer and vocalist has performed internationally and from coast to coast, as a soloist, and as part of the LUNCH Ensemble. Her piano-driven music fills the heart and mind with rich harmonies, eloquent lyrics, and the comforting feeling of hot cocoa.

## **EVEN BETTER THAN CHOCOLATE**

Please bring non-perishable food for our local Food Pantry

**TICKETS \$10**



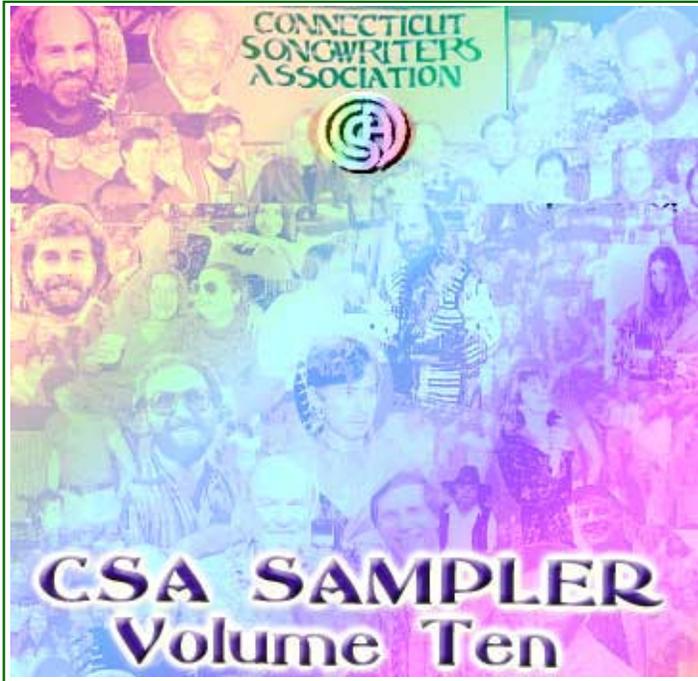
Proceeds benefit LUNCH and support the efforts of MASH to provide a permanent facility for housing families in need of shelter.  
**Available at the door or in advance by calling 860-572-9285**  
*See the full 2005 Concert Schedule at [www.ctsongwriters.com](http://www.ctsongwriters.com)*



**Celebrating: 300 Years of Groton**

*Produced with the assistance of the Connecticut Songwriters Association and Heart & Spiral Music*

# JUST RELEASED !



The 10th CSA compilation recording. Since 1989, CSA has made 10 compilation albums of songs that have passed the CSA screening process, plus 3 special holiday recordings.

This new CD is very special in that it is really TWO CD's in one !. It contains nine new songs from the last year of screening, PLUS, for the first time ever on CD, the original 11 songs that were on the very first CSA compilation in 1989. Of the 16 writers on that first collection, 11 are still members of CSA.

This is a great side-by-side look at two snapshots in time. The recording and production technology had changed dramatically over the years, but a good song remains timeless.

NOW (2005) -----AND-----THEN (1989)

1. The Widow Mrs. West 4:01 (Roy O'Neil) ©2005 Roy O'Neil.
2. Renegade 3:11 (Tony Susi) ©2005 Tony Susi
3. Tornado Love 3:15 (Patricia Reynolds) ©2005 Patricia Reynolds
4. Mars to Earth 5:05 (Chris Cole) ©2005 Chris Cole
5. Let's Go Cruisin' Tonight 2:44 (W. Gamache/P. Chapin) ©2005 Gamache/Chapin.
6. I Am Not My Job 3:48 (Robert Steven Williams) ©2005 Robert Steven Williams
7. Stand Tall America 5:17 (Jane Russell Bate/Kim Yannon-Stock) ©2005 Bate/Stock
8. Bittersweet 2:13 (John Hutchinson) ©2005 John Hutchinson.
9. Little Nicky 4:41 (Brian Booth /Paul Chapin) ©2005 Booth/Chapin.

10. Down on Easy Street 4:00 (Les Julian) ©1988 L.G. Julian
11. Wrought Iron Ring (5:34) (Bill Pere) © 1989 Mystic Music/KidThink Music
12. Only the Wind 3:10 (Nancy Tucker) ©1986 Franeva Music
13. Night Time Music 3:00 (Bob Smith) ©1984 Smith-Patton Music
14. Once We Were One 4:01 (C. Henry/G. Gidman) ©1988 C. Henry/G. Gidman
15. So Long Main Street 3:05 (Joe Manning/Steve Vozzolo) ©1987 Vozz-Mann Music .
16. Trash on Tour 5:15 (Tom Callinan) ©1987 Cannu Yusic Ltd
17. You're a Dance Away (Larry Batter) ©1984 Batter Bits Music
18. Clean Break 2:30 (D. Salling/M. Stacie) ©1988 Salling/Stacie
19. Learnin' To Sing the Blues 3:00 (Bruce Prescott) ©1982 Bruce Prescott
20. You Don't Have to Be Everything 2:25 (D. Donegan, W. Ewing, B. Pere)  
©1988 Mystic Music/Rainbow Music

**The new CD is only \$10, and will be available at CSA meetings,  
or you can order yours right here.  
FREE SHIPPING !**

**PLEASE SEND \_\_\_\_\_ copies of CSA SAMPLER #10, at \$10 each to:**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E\_MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

**SEND CHECK or MONEY ORDER to CSA, PO Box 511, Mystic CT 06355**

