

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.



July 2006
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Issue #319

Combining Arts,
Education, and
Community Outreach

1979 - 2006 : 27 Years of Combining Arts, Education, and Community Outreach

**Tuesday July 11: The Creative Process and Collaboration
Wesleyan University, Middletown**

**Sunday August 27 - CSA Summer Picnic/Showcase
J.B. Willams Park, Glastonbury**

The Creative Process and Collaboration

The CSA meeting for July will be held on Tuesday July 11 7:15pm at Wesleyan University in Middletown (directions on page 2).

Our guests will be two very successful songwriters, collaborators, and creative people, Joe Manning and Steve Vozzolo.

Joe is the author of three successful books of photographs, poetry and historical accounts. As a songwriter, he has the usual catalog of typical mainstream songs, several of which have been published, but along with songwriting partner Steve Vozzolo, he has written many songs on a variety of specific topics touching in different facets of American nostalgia, and it is through this avenue that the duo has found a good deal of success. The pair have a CD of original baseball songs enshrined in the Baseball Hall of Fame. Their song about great American artist Norman Rockwell "Norman Always Knew" was recorded by Arlo Guthrie ("Alice's Restaurant"). Joe and Steve met through CSA many years ago and have forged one of the most successful partnerships to come from the Association. Joe has been a past President of CSA and is one of the best critiquers the group has produced. Steve has been busy in the studio and has just released a new CD.

Come and learn from these multi-dimensional artists and you may find new ways to move forward along your own creative journey.

www.sevensteeples.com www.stevevozzolo.com

CSA CRITIQUE SESSIONS: At regular monthly meetings, following the presentation, as time permits, there will be a song critique session. To participate, bring a song on cassette or CD, or do it live, with 20 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.. Do NOT state what the song is "about").** For non-members, \$5 of your registration fee is 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 EVENTS CALENDAR

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

July 11	CSA Monthly Meeting -- The Creative Process with Joe Manning and Steve Vozzolo - Middletown
Aug 27	CSA Picnic and Showcase
Sep 07	CSA Monthly Meeting - Glastonbury
Oct 14	CSA Monthly Meeting
Nov 7	CSA Monthly Meeting
Dec 02	- LUNCH Holiday Show - many CSA artists.
Dec 04	- CSA Holiday Showcase and Potluck - Glastonbury

More on our speakers inside !

COMBINING ARTS, EDUCATION, AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH FOR 26 YEARS

Guiding Songs Along the Path from Creation to Realization to Proliferation

DIRECTIONS TO MEETING LOCATIONS

How to
Get There!

Directions to Wesleyan University:

The meeting room at Wesleyan is B2B, South College near the Chapel in the core of the campus.
-- **From New Haven** take I 91 north to Exit 18 which is Route 66 which becomes Washington St in Middletown. Go right onto High St. after Memorial Green. The chapel and South College are on High St. See Wesleyan Univ. sign at the corner of Washington and High St.
-- **From the Merritt / Wilbur Cross Parkway** (Route 15) to Route 66 east to Middletown.
-- **From Hartford or from New London**, take Route 9 to Exit 15 in Middletown. This is Route 66 which becomes Washington St. High St is a left just before the Green.
-- **From Waterbury**, take I 691 past Meriden. 691 becomes Route 66. See above.
-- For automated travel directions call 860-685-3390.

SUNDAY AUGUST 27 CSA PICNIC SHOWCASE 1pm-6pm, JB Williams Park, Glastonbury.
See Directions on page 4. To perform, contact info@ctsongwriting.com

NEW COMPILATIONS FOR 2006 -- CSA is now accepting songs for TWO new compilations! The 4th **Holiday Compilation**. is seeking songs relating to the Christmas/Chanukah holiday season. The second "Share the Journey" CD is looking for spiritual/inspirational songs. The submission guidelines are posted at the CSA website, and can also be found elsewhere in this issue. Check the guidelines and get your songs in as soon as possible! The last compilation was a tremendous success. Be part of this great CSA outreach.

Small World -- This month we said goodbye to Brian Booth as he relocates to a new position in Seattle. Brian had been a mainstay of CSA for many years, and we will miss his artistic and administrative contributions to the Association. Just as Brian is getting settled, Bill and Kay Pere will be off on August 13 to present a songwriting workshop and performance in --- Seattle! at Seattle Unity church. Hopefully, paths will cross...

THE CURRENT CSA Spiritual/Inspirational Compilation CD, "Share the Journey" is a great collection of CSA work. We feature 19 artists with styles including folk, pop, country, symphonic, and classical. The CD is available for sale at \$10 each. You can order through the CSA website (www.ctsongs.com) or by mail (PO Box 511, Mystic CT 06355) CSA Thanks Lani Peck for contributing the CD cover artwork.

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.

GET A TAX DEDUCTION FOR YOUR OLD STUFF !

If you have any old music or office equipment lying around or just old "stuff" that you don't need, consider donating it to CSA and you'll get a generous tax deduction !

CSA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and all items donated to us can be deducted at their maximum fair market value. We have helped many folks get nice deductions for their old items, which certainly can be useful to us either in our regular CSA programs or our community outreach programs through LUNCH.

We can use any office equipment and supplies, old computers, any type of music and studio equipment, and any type of item that could be used for auction or raffle. If you're thinking of putting things on consignment or e-bay, consider that after the commissions and fees are taken, what you actually receive might not be as much as you might get from a tax deduction at maximum market value.

If you have anything that you might like to donate, contact Bill Pere at bill@billpere.com, or call 860-572-9285.

CALLING ALL WRITERS

SONGS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE NEXT CSA COMPILATIONS

The next 2 CSA compilations will be a Holiday CD, and another Spiritual/Inspirational to be released around December 2006. This will be CSA's 4th Holiday CD, and 2nd Spiritual/Inspirational CD

GET THOSE HOLIDAY SONGS READY TO SUBMIT. SUBMISSIONS ARE BEING ACCEPTED NOW UNTIL OCTOBER 31

GUIDELINES:

- At least one writer must be a current CSA member
- Songs for the Holiday collection must be appropriate for the December Holiday Season (Christmas, Chanukah, Thanksgiving, New Year, etc), and for the Spiritual/Inspirational collection, songs must fit the theme. please specify for which CD you are submitting.
- Any musical style is okay
- Submission is NOT a guarantee of acceptance. Songs will be selected based on :
 - Appropriateness to the theme
 - Song Crafting
 - Production Quality (must be professionally recorded and radio-ready)
 - Available space on the CD (if there are more acceptable submissions than can fit on the CD, those submitted earlier and those of shorter length will be given greater consideration.
- Songs must not violate the terms of any third-party agreement (e.g. with a publisher). Unsigned songs are preferred. If a song is under contract to a publisher, a signed release from the publisher must be provided.
- Songs may not have been included on any previous CSA Compilation
- Submissions will not be returned.

TO SUBMIT, PLEASE SEND THE FOLLOWING:

- A recording of the song on CD, suitable for duplication (put your name and contact info on the CD)
- A lyric sheet (put your name and contact info on the lyric sheet)
- A signed release form, printed out from the CSA web site (www.ctsongs.com)
- A non-refundable one-time \$10 processing fee payable to CSA
(there are no additional costs, whether a song is accepted for inclusion or not)

Send your recording, lyric sheet, release form, and \$10 to CSA, PO Box 511, Mystic CT 06355.

IF YOU HAVE A SONG which is not yet fully produced and you want to know if it acceptable for consideration before doing the production, you may bring it to a CSA critique session, OR send the rough recording to CSA, PO Box 511, Mystic CT 06355. Include your e-mail address.



RAIN OR SHINE

Hot Fun in the Summertime

RAIN OR SHINE!

Sunday, August 27 from 1pm to 6pm at J.B. Williams Memorial Park, on Neipsic Rd, Glastonbury. **RAIN OR SHINE!** CSA returns to this gorgeous facility for our popular annual event. There is a large covered pavilion with electricity, picnic tables, grills, volleyball, playground, hiking trails, pond, and convenient parking. We will host an all-day showcase, from 1pm to 6pm with sound systems provided. CSA members and friends may reserve up to a 1/2 hour slot to showcase original songs. Don Donegan is booking the slots on a first call basis. If you'd like to perform, call Don at 860-659-8992 or e-mail at DDCSA@aol.com.

Please bring your own food for the grill, a non-alcoholic beverage, a dish to share and some picnic items like plates, cups, and napkins. The event is free, so bring family and friends.

Directions:

From New London/Norwich : Take Rt 12 west to Exit 8 in Glastonbury. Go right, and right again onto Hebron Ave. Go 2 miles and turn right onto Wickham Rd. Go to end of Wickham and turn left on Neipsic. The park is one block on the left.
>>> **From New Haven:** Take I-91 North to Exit 25, Glastonbury. Cross CT River on Rt 3 and bear right on Rt 2 towards Norwich. Take Exit 9 off Rt 2 and go left on Neipsic Rd under Rt 2. Go 3/4 mile to park on the left. **From Hartford:** Take I-91 South to Exit 25 (Glastonbury) and proceed as above. **From I-84 East or West:** Take Rt 2 to Glastonbury to Exit 9 (Neipsic Rd) and proceed as above.

EACH YEAR DOZENS OF SONGWRITERS AND FRIENDS COME AND GO THROUGHOUT THE DAY.

COME RELAX, SCHMOOZE, SHARE A SONG, AND ENJOY THE COMPANY OF CREATIVE PEOPLE

**It's a Picnic, so please bring food for yourself and stuff to share,
including paper goods, napkins, utensils, etc.**

Previous editions of this event have received good press coverage with performers photos appearing in the newspaper

COMING IN THE FALL

We're working on the Fall programs, but you can expect to see presentations by some exceptional industry pros.

The September 23 Mystic River Folk Concert at Union Baptist Church will feature CSA's own Les Julian. If you've never seen Les perform before (or even if you have), this is a great opportunity to see a very successful, accomplished, and nationally recognized artist.

MEET OUR GUEST SPEAKERS

JOE MANNING BIO

Joe Manning has been a member of CSA since 1981, served as President from 1984 to 1986, and served on the Board of Directors for nearly 15 years, and helped develop the CSA Critique process.

With collaborator Steve Vozzolo, he wrote and produced *I Love Baseball*, an album of new songs about the game. It is included in the collection of baseball music at the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York. Their song about painter Norman Rockwell, "Norman Always Knew," was recorded by Arlo Guthrie and performed by Mr. Guthrie at Tanglewood in Lenox, Massachusetts.

In addition to being a composer and lyricist, Joe is a freelance journalist, poet and photographer. He has written and published three books: *Steeple: Sketches of North Adams* (Flatiron Press 1997), *Disappearing Into North Adams* (Flatiron Press 2001), and *Gig At The Amtrak* (Flatiron Press 2005), a collection of his poetry. The two North Adams books have been required reading for several courses at Williams College and Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts.

In June 2002, Manning contributed a lengthy essay about the social history of the River Street neighborhood in North Adams for *Porches: Art and Renewal on River Street*, a book edited by the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art. His poetry has been published frequently in *The Berkshire Review*. He has written many newspaper and magazine articles, ranging from travel essays to social commentary. Joe lives in Florence, Massachusetts. Visit www.sevensteeples.com

STEVE VOZZOLO BIO

Steve Vozzolo is a critically acclaimed singer/songwriter. Steve has recently released a new CD entitled *All the Colors of the World: Music Inspired by the Paintings of Norman Rockwell*. It is a collection of 18 songs in the Adult Contemporary/AAA/Americana genre. The CD includes a beautifully designed, full-color 12-page booklet with song lyrics and licensed images of 21 Norman Rockwell paintings. Most of the songs on the CD were co-written with Joe Manning.

World-class studio musicians are featured on the CD: Jeff Pevar (CPR, Crosby, Stills & Nash/James Taylor/Ray Charles), Bill Holloman (Nile Rogers/The Gatlin Brothers), and Leah Kunkel (James Taylor/Art Garfunkel). Arlo Guthrie recorded one of the songs, "Norman Always Knew," on Rising Son Records, and later performed the song in concert at Tanglewood in Lenox, Massachusetts.

Steve has had numerous feature articles written about his music and career in newspapers and magazines such as the *Hartford Courant*, *Connecticut Life Magazine*, the *Waterbury Republican* and *Art Is Magazine*. He has been a guest on radio programs such as *American Songbook* (WGBH/NPR in Boston), the nationally syndicated *Joey Reynolds Show* (WOR in New York City), and *Acoustic Connections with Walt Graham* (WSHU/NPR in Fairfield, Connecticut).

He recently took part in a video being produced by *Tourism Massachusetts* at the Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge, Massachusetts. On July 7, he will be performing at the museum, and participating in a question and answer program following the performance.

Steve is currently recording a new CD entitled, *An Edward Hopper Dream: Music Inspired by the Paintings of Edward Hopper*, which is scheduled for release this summer. He is also recording four solo acoustic, guitar/vocal CDs: *Forgotten Photographs*, *Dreamers and Believers*, *Give Someone Your Heart*, and *Get Out of This Life Alive*, all of which are scheduled for release in the fall.

He has also recorded a unique CD of songs about baseball, *I Love Baseball*, which is part of the audio collection at the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown. The songs on *I Love Baseball* were co-written by Joe Manning. This music has been featured on NPR, as well on various ESPN broadcasts and sports programs. One of the songs on this CD, "Black Diamond Days," was featured in a Negro League tribute broadcast live from Birmingham, Alabama on ESPN last February.

Steve resides in Glastonbury, Connecticut . visit www.stevevozzolo.com

A Collection of Spiritual and Inspirational Songs from
the CONNECTICUT SONGWRITERS ASSOCIATION



CSA is proud to announce our 14th Compilation album and our first on the specific theme of Spiritual and Inspirational music. This collection represents several different musical styles, united by a common theme..

"Share the Journey" is the result of the CSA "Day of Praise" events that began in 2004.

To order your copy, you may print out an order form from the CSA website or you can send a check for \$10 per copy to CSA PO Box 511, Mystic CT.

The initial response has been overwhelming. We are already into our second printing. This has quickly become CSA's best-selling CD ever !

TRACK LIST

- *1. If Jesus Had a Credit Card 4:20 (Brian Booth) ©2005 Brian Booth.
- *2. New Day Coming Tomorrow 4:08 (Bill Pere) ©2005 Bill Pere - www.billpere.com
- *3. Blessings 3:15 (Kay Pere) ©2005 Kay Pere - www.kaypere.com
- *4. Tale of the Trail 3:01 (Peg D'Amato) ©2005 PeggyD Music - www.pegdamato.com
5. Through His Eyes 3:20 (Jack Kavanaugh/Lisa Maloney) ©2005 Kavanaugh/Maloney
- *6. Lord Give Me Strength 4:20 (Nicole Sullivan) © 2005 Nicole Sullivan
- *7. Of Words, Thoughts and Deeds 4:26 (Joe Frawley) © 2005 Joe Frawley Music (vocal by Kay Pere)
- *8. Gather 'Round the Baby Grand 3:45 (Paul McCarron/Joyce Josephson) ©2005 McCarron/Josephson
9. Somewhere Beyond the Stars 3:27 (Wendell Radke/George LaFlame) ©2005 Radke/LaFlame
- *10. Lullaby For Peace 3:15 (Bob Smith) ©2005 Bob Smith
11. Fruits of the Spirit 4:16 (Laura Principato) ©2005 Laura Principato
12. Let Go 3:35 (Lani Peck) ©2000 Lani Peck
13. Shhh...Listen 4:05 (Marcia Reinhard/Terri Goldsmith) ©2005 Reinhard/Goldsmith
14. Texas Night 4:00 (George Tift) ©2005 George Tift
15. One Day 3:20 (Gale Gardiner) ©2005 Gale Gardiner
16. Symphony No. 1 "Remembrance" 3rd Movement 15:06 (Albert Hurwit)
Bulgarian National Radio Symphony Orchestra Conducted by Michael Lankester
©2005 Albert Hurwit

SONG CRITIQUES. Members may bring a song or lyric on cassette to the monthly meeting for critiquing by fellow members. Please bring 30 copies of typed lyric sheet. Out-of-State members may have their songs or lyrics critiqued by sending one submission with 30 typed copies of lyrics to: CSA, PO Box 511, Mystic CT 06355. Include a stamped return envelope. Comments by the group will be summarized in writing and sent back to the writer.

Please note that since critiquing is designed to give constructive feedback and suggestions for improvement, songs which are meant only to be shared for self expression (as opposed to critiqued for improvement) should not be submitted. These can be presented in song-sharing opportunities.

FREE ACCESS to CT SONGS CAFE -- The CSA online area for posting notices, getting your electronic newsletter, and other features.

Questions about CSA Programs? Need To check your Membership status? Have a news item to submit? Want to volunteer for a project? Seeking a collaborator? Change of Address? It's easy to contact CSA.
General Info: www.ctsongs.com E-mail: info@ctsongs.com
Change of Address, Newsletter, Membership, Special Projects:
CSA membership PO Box 511 Mystic CT 06355
E-Mail: info@ctsongwriters.com
CSA on the Web: www.ctsongs.com

• COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITIES AND NETWORKING
CSA provides opportunities to meet collaborators, industry pros, and providers of various music services. Come to CSA events!

• SONG SCREENING : CSA helps its members get well-crafted songs targeted to their best potential market. Songs are screened periodically at meetings or by mail. Selected songs are eligible for inclusion on compilation CD's which may be given to industry pros. and used as a promotion vehicle by the writers. Songs submitted for screening must have been presented at a prior critique session. (exceptions on a case-by-case basis)

• PARTICIPATION IN CSA RETAIL OUTLETS AND DISTRIBUTION : Recordings by CSA members may be made available to retail outlets or through on-line sales vehicles.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES: The LUNCH Program offers opportunities to be involved in the production and performance of benefit shows to address hunger and poverty in Connecticut. Contact Bill Pere, bill@billpere.com for details.

PERFORMING OPPORTUNITIES: CSA often has showcase, concert, and songshare events with preference for performance slots given to CSA members.



CSA REGISTRATION FORM FOR NEW MEMBERS (This form not valid for membership renewals)

NAME _____
ADDRESS: _____
E_MAIL (required for newsletter) _____
TODAY'S DATE: _____ BIRTH DATE _____
PHONE: (____) _____ OCCUPATION: _____
CHECK WHERE APPROPRIATE __Songwriter __Lyricist __Vocalist
__Composer __Musician __Patron Other: _____

Membership Categories

(outside the U.S., please add \$10 to all categories)

(All memberships include free electronic Newsletter Subscription. For a paper copy by mail, add \$7 per year)

- 1 year New Membership \$40
- 2 year New Membership \$70 (save \$10)
- 3 year New Membership \$99 (save \$21)
- Full Time Student (under 18) \$30/yr
- Senior Citizen \$30/yr
- Lifetime \$400 one time total
- e-Newsletter Subscription only (\$25/yr. 12 issues)

Members receive a free 1 year subscription to the monthly e-newsletter *Connecticut Songsmith*, free admission to monthly meetings and critique sessions, participation in the Song Share Sessions, Song Screening Services, eligibility for inclusion on Cassette albums, free classified ads in the Newsletter, and discounts on goods and services.

Enclosed is my check or money order to CSA for \$ _____.



Mail to:
CSA Membership
PO Box 511
Mystic CT 06355

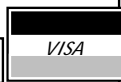
E-Mail: info@ctsongs.com

Name on Credit Card: _____

Credit Card Number : __ Visa __ Mastercard Expiration

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PO Box 511., Mystic, CT 06355
Serving Music's Artisans
and Craftsmen Since 1979