



Seaford's Ron Fetner to host free songwriter series starting Nov. 1 in Williamsburg



Ron Fetner will host a monthly *songwriters in the round* event in Williamsburg. (ronfetner.com)

By Sam McDonald

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Here's the schedule:

Nov. 1: Kerrville Winners: Julie Clark, Kim Person and Lana Puckett and Ron Fetner

Dec. 6: Blues Writers: Bobby "Black Hat" Walters, Seth Stainback, Jackie Merritt with Resa, Ron Fetner

Many of the area's most accomplished songwriters will share their stories and tunes as part of what's being called the Tuesday Songwriters in the Round Series. Hosted by Seaford's Ron Fetner, the monthly event will take place at JM Randalls in Williamsburg and begins Nov. 1.

"I want to showcase some of the high-quality songwriters from the Tidewater area," Fetner wrote in an email. He explained that the format puts three or four compatible songwriters on stage at the same time, seated in a semi-circle. Songwriters will take turns playing their tunes and backing each other on vocal harmonies, guitar parts or percussion.

"The format encourages conversation between the writers, which gives the audience an opportunity to hear these creative people talk almost as if in their own living rooms," a press release from Fetner said. "The writers perform the songs the way they were originally written, and talk about how they got the ideas, how the songs got cut, and about the creative process, and what it is like to be a songwriter."

Fetner is patterning the series after similar gatherings at venues such as Nashville's Bluebird Cafe.

The first session in the series, happening 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 1, will feature tunesmiths who have performed at the Kerrville Folk Festival, a large and influential event that takes place in Kerrville, Texas.

Jan. 3: New Winners: Scott Varney, Paul Norfleet, Nicole Belanus, Ryan Scarberry

Feb. 7: Established Writers: Bill Gurley, Mike Glass, Narissa Bond and Ron Fetner

Admission is free. JM Randalls is located at 4854 Longhill Road, Williamsburg. Call 259-0406.

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About the Author

Sam McDonald has covered popular music for the Daily Press since 1994. He grew up in Southern Pines, N.C., and earned a journalism degree from University of North Carolina in beautiful Chapel Hill, N.C. At local concerts and festivals, you'll often find him near the mixing board, soaking up the sounds. Contact him at smcdonald@dailypress.com.

