

The Songmakers Story

Verbal tradition holds that *Songmakers* was started in the late 1940's as an informal jamming group. A newsletter article in 1963 revealed that the club was formally launched in 1953 as a "workshop" for songwriters. Over the years it has evolved into a mutual support group for songwriters, musicians and singers wanting to improve their craft, meet other like-minded folks, play lots of music, and generally have a lot of FUN! Songmakers was incorporated in 1964 as a California 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. At that time a set of by-laws was adopted, a board of directors was formed, and a more formal organizational structure was adopted. We **don't** let that interfere with our FUN, however!

Songmakers is somewhat like a folk music club, except that (we feel) we welcome a more eclectic mix of musical genres and styles, such as country, oldies (from the 20's through yesterday), bluegrass, gospel, blues, humorous songs, and of course folk. The only common thread is that everything we do is acoustic (with the exception of occasional concert performances) and FUN!

We currently have about 400 members, mostly musicians ranging from beginning to professional, but also folks that just love traditional and acoustic-style music. Everyone is welcome!

If you enjoy listening to and playing music with friendly people, you have hit the jackpot! There are *Songmakers* events on 4-5 days of most weeks: Hoots, Song Circles, concerts, and other musical get-togethers, including five wonderful weekend getaways each year. A Hoot is a *Songmakers* sanctioned, formal get-together, usually at a private home, of from 6 to 60 people.

Everyone gets two or more turns, depending on attendance, at which time they may Perform a song, Lead a sing-along song, Request a song or performance by someone else, or simply "PASS." There are 9 or 10 hoots each month in locations from Orange County to Ventura County, and another 10 similar but less formal Song Circles. Go to www.songmakers.org and click on **HOOTS** for detailed information.

SONGMAKERS

Enjoying Homemade Music For Over 60 Years

♪ **Acoustic Music:** Folk, Country, Old-Time, Bluegrass, Gospel, Blues, Originals, And More!

👥 Solo, Group and Harmony Singing

🏠 Weekly Hoots

🌲 Seasonal Get-A-Ways

☺ Make New Friends!

♪ Learn New Songs!



For more info: Visit our website...

www.Songmakers.org

or send an email: info@SONGMAKERS.org

or call:

Steve (310) 699-5755 David (949) 586-9607

T.J. (805) 626-0029 Ed (818) 365-7253

SONGMAKERS is a non-profit organization of singers and musicians devoted to the enjoyment and support of traditional and contemporary folk and other forms of homemade and acoustic music.

Songmakers Membership Application

Complete this form and mail it, along with a check payable to Songmakers, to: Ed Barnes, 10850 Arleta Ave., Mission Hills, CA 91345. **Even easier: Submit your application online at www.songmakers.org - PayPal/credit cards OK!**

Questions? Contact Ed Barnes at 818-365-7253 or membership@songmakers.org

<input type="checkbox"/> MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL <input type="checkbox"/> NEW MEMBERSHIP	12-month single or family (at the same address) membership: \$10 for electronic Bard Chord via email only ; \$25 for Bard Chord by US Mail (or both electronic and US Mail)
New members: 1. Have you ever been a member of Songmakers before? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No; 2. How did you hear about Songmakers?	

Directory Options: Songmakers periodically distributes a directory of members' addresses, phone numbers, email addresses and websites. The directory is distributed only to our members. YOUR PRIVACY IS IMPORTANT TO US! If you do NOT want your address, phone number and/or email address listed in the directory, please check the appropriate box(es) below. SONGMAKERS' PRIVACY POLICY: The membership directories are for the confidential use of Songmakers members only, and may not be used by or distributed to non-members or used by anyone for commercial purposes.

E-Chord: In addition to the Bard Chord (our monthly newsletter), we distribute a weekly email bulletin called the E-Chord. It includes reminders of upcoming events (including last-minute changes, additions and cancellations), announcements, services offered and items for sale by our members (which are listed free of charge). If you would prefer not to receive the E-Chord, please check the appropriate box(es) below.

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Address <input type="checkbox"/> Do NOT list <input type="checkbox"/> Change of address				
City, State, Zip				

GO GREEN! Please consider signing up for the electronic (PDF) edition of the Bard Chord in lieu of the print edition! The electronic edition reaches you sooner and has full-color, high-quality pictures (the print edition is black and white). You can help Songmakers save money and avoid dues increases, and help save the environment as well. PLUS get a 60% discount on your membership dues! Adobe Acrobat (free download) required.

Bard Chord delivery method (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> US Mail only - \$25 <input type="checkbox"/> PDF via email only - \$10 (60% dues discount) <input type="checkbox"/> Both - \$25	
Website address(es):	Please do not include any website addresses you do not want listed in the directory
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