

Guitar Slinger

A Newsletter from John Hanberry

January 2005

Happy New Year!

We're well into it by now. Most resolutions have been broken and will soon be forgotten. Such is life. It may be that Spring is a better time for resolutions. Winter is for consolidation and rest. Perseverance brings good fortune.

John

Playing Well With Others

One of the many benefits I have derived from playing music has been the opportunity to meet new people and do something with them that's interesting and fun. Old band-mates have become lifelong friends. Playing music is a social event for the players, even if they're not playing for an audience.

The guitar can be a "solo" instrument at times. It is used that way in classical music and occasionally in jazz. It is often the sole accompaniment for folk and blues singers. The way we most often hear guitar is as part of a group. This is true in rock, pop, blues, jazz, country and other genres.

I encourage students to play with others, even if it's just an informal jam with two guitars. I remember back in junior high school, getting together with a friend who played drums and just making noise. I'm sure it was awful but we had some fun and the next time it sounded better.

A band of any sort is about logistics and for younger students this falls on the parents. There will be driving involved and at least one household will have to put up with crashing and booming from the garage. Growth can be painful but in the long run it's a good thing. Encourage your children (or yourself) to get out and play with people. It's one of life's truly great experiences. Oh, and don't forget the pizza!

The Learning Curve

Here are a couple of resolutions that could make our enterprise run more smoothly.

Students: resolve to have everything you need at your lesson. Make sure you have your notebook, music books, sheet music and any other materials ready at the beginning of your lesson. Often I hear about "Mom put it somewhere" or "it didn't get in my bag". Hey, it's not Mom's job. You are the one who wants to be a guitar hero. Chose to have what you need when and where you need it. To be successful in this business (or any other), you have to do it yourself. No one is watching over you.

That being said, parents: please try to help your students get their stuff together before each lesson.

Parents: I hate to have to bring this up but we're all interested in our paychecks, right?

Tuition is due for the calendar month, in advance at the **first lesson of the month**. Most of you take care of business without being reminded. Thank you.

For those who need a reminder, here it is; look at your calendar and find the box with the big "1" in it. The very next time your student comes for a lesson is pay day.

Calendar

There will be no lessons the week of "midwinter" break Feb 21-25.

Remember:
Cancel 48 hrs in advance, no charge. 24-48 hrs 1/2 charge.
Less than 24 hrs full charge. **No exceptions**
Contact by my phone (206.725.0182) or email only.

January						
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27	28					

March						
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