The UkeQUESTors

The UkeQUESTors is a SIG (Special Interest Group) of the LearningQUEST program at the Huntsville-Madison County Public Library, 915 Monroe St SW, Huntsville, AL 35801. We meet every Sunday in the Special Events room on the Second Floor from 2 to 3:30 pm. The Library website is <http://hmcpl.org/>.

LearningQUEST is open to adults ages 19 and older. Membership is $20 per year (January-December); there are additional fees of you wish to take a class ($30 per term) or a sponsored trip. A membership card is issued which should be worn during any LearningQUEST activity, including any appearances we make during the year (Rally Day, the annual LQ summer picnic, and the annual LQ business meeting in November); a lanyard is available from the LearningQUEST office (which is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays). A catalog of activities is published twice per year and is available at the LearningQUEST website, <https://lquest.org/>. Activities are both in person and on-line.

A couple of times a year, LearningQUEST conducts an event called “Rally Day,” which is an opportunity for members to pick up the Term Catalog and registration forms, meet the instructors, and “learn what this lifelong learning organization has to offer.” The next Rally Day is Tuesday, July 13th, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm, First Baptist Church, Huntsville, AL; use Entrance #7 on St. Claire Ave., across the street from the Library; Doug and Theresa will do the setup on Monday, July 12, 3 – 4:30 pm.

LearningQUEST activities follow the Library’s policies. If the Library is closed due to a threat of severe weather, LearningQUEST activities are canceled. I will post a note on Facebook and email members with the news as quickly as possible.

The Library does not require proof of COVID immunization. At this time, neither does LearningQUEST. That may change because of the Delta Variant.



LearningQUEST

Do-Re-Mi: Music Theory is the Key

Instructor: Pat Long

Date: Tuesdays, Jul. 20 – Aug. 17 (7 Sessions)

Time: 10 – 11:30

Location: Online

For many self-taught/beginning musicians, the idea of music theory seems daunting and even a little self defeating. This course will remedy those fears by identifying the building blocks of music: note-reading, scales, timing, chord composition, and more, with examples of how the theory is applied to different genres and forms. Practical audio and video examples will be used throughout the course to improve aural recognition. Level of class is aimed toward beginning musicians, self-taught musicians, or those music students who have drifted away over time. Theory can be applied to all musical instruments as well as voice.

Pat Long is a local musician and multi-instrumentalist who loves teaching as much as she loves playing music. She is new to LearningQUEST but has over the years taught beginning and intermediate ukulele, music theory, and classes on The Beatles at UAH's OLLI. New adventures are ahead as she looks forward to joining the LearningQUEST family!

Pat has conducted several beginners and intermediate ukulele classes through the University of Alabama-Huntsville. I took her beginners class at UAH in January 2018. I would have taken the Beatles class she co-taught but my wife’s knee replacement surgery happened at the same time.



LearningQUEST

The Truth Behind "Grandma"

Instructor: Patsy Trigg

Date: Wednesday, Dec. 8

Time: 1 – 2:30

Location: Auditorium

In this “A Conversation With” program, narrator Bill Nunn will ask probing questions of Patsy Trigg, the prettier half of the Patsy and Elmo duo who recorded the #1 Golden and Platinum hit song “Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer.” Hear firsthand the true story behind the tragedy of Grandma’s “hit and run” during the Christmas holidays with a possible first-hand declaration from one of Santa’s reindeers. Hear how Patsy’s musical career first began with her taking guitar lessons and how she and Elmo came to record “Grandma.” Listen to her intriguing stories about famous entertainers she has encountered and worked with during her musical career. Patsy will also explain the process for how songwriters get their songs published, recorded and distributed, how royalties are paid, etc.—basically the in’s and out’s of the recording industry.

Remember: if you hear sleigh bells—DUCK!

Keith told me that Patsy is frequently at the Senior Center and that she gave a talk to the Senior Center Ukelele class about this song but this was before my time with the Seniors (Feb. 2018).