

Program

Second Annual

Suwannee RIVERKEEPER®

ongwriting ountest

1-5 PM, Saturday, August 24, 2019

M.C. and Headliners



Chris Beckham, M.C., lives in Tifton, GA, and broadcasts on Radio FM 105.9 WVGA.

Joe Smothers, from Reidsville, NC., lives in Valdosta, and often plays The Salty Snapper, with a second home in Cortez, FL, with his wife Murphy. Joe's mom Betty purchased a Stella guitar at the local pawn shop when he was thirteen. Joe was asked to be a performer at Doc Watson's funeral, and at every Merle Fest (26).

Laura D'Alisera, from Albuquerque, NM, lives in Jacksonville, where she manages the Jacksonville Songwriters Group and plays frequently. She loves the stylings of the Carter Family, EmmyLou Harris, and Linda Rondstadt. She won last year's contest and joined the organizing committee for this year.

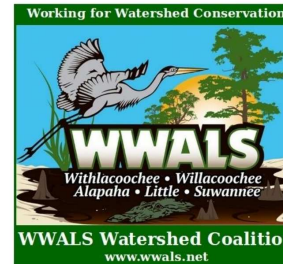
Judges



Tony Buzella lives in Lake City, and was raised in Miami, Florida. He studied under many great teachers, and he has performed with many great musicians over the years.

John Jeffery (J.J.) Rolle lives in Valdosta, and has fronted two bands, plus performing 5 years at the prestigious Guinness International Jazz Festival, and his own 6-pc. Soul/Funk/Disco band, JJ's Soul Funkshun.

Tim Teasley plays in several bands around Valdosta, and is the studio keyboardist for Soil Of The South Studio, owned by Mark Neill (Grammy Award-winning producer of The Black



Agenda

1 PM Welcome —Chris Beckham, M.C., of FM 105.9 WVGA
How raffles will work, kayak, swag, silent auction, and visit the membership table —Gretchen Quarterman, WWALS E.D.
Sign up to volunteer for water quality testing —Bobby McKenzie
A Word from our Host —Garrison Wood, The Salty Snapper

Headliner Joe Smothers plays

About WWALS —Dave Hetzel, WWALS Ambassador
Outings, Events, PR Committees

Our top level sponsor —Georgia Beer Company

Last Year's Winner Laura D'Alisera plays

The Contest: Introduce Judges —M.C.

Finalists Play —Scotti Jay and Garrison Wood
Judging (scoring), during which:

WWALS Advocacy —John S. Quarterman, Suwannee Riverkeeper
Science, Issues, Grants, Finance, Advisory Committees

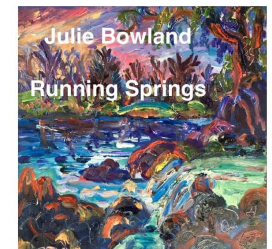
Award Prizes —M.C. and Laura D'Alisera

Announce Silent Auction —Gretchen Quarterman
Swag Raffle (must be present to win)

Contest Winners Play —M.C. and Laura D'Alisera

4:50 PM Farewell —M.C. and all

Thanks to all who helped —Scotti Jay, Committee Chair



Finalists

Scott Perkins of Smyrna, Georgia

Atlanta Native Scott Perkins has been writing songs since 1974, and performing (Silver Lining Band; The Donuts, Little Perks in Paradise) all along, mostly incognito—maintaining his secret identity as a mild-mannered Pension Consultant.

With *"Till the Waters of the Suwannee Bring You Home,"* Country/Folk, written May 20, 2019.

Crafted to sound traditional, a little old-fashioned, and to hit the heartstrings of Home, Love, Wanderlust, Sacrifice and Nostalgia. The structure of the contest encouraged me to explore the lyrical beauty of simply saying the names of some rivers and tributaries, then I simply tied in their very nature as waterways to bring someone home. It fit well on a theme of "no one decides where they're from, only where they're going" that I wanted to write about since hearing a similar line on "The Walking Dead" at the end of last season.

Dick Grillo of Live Oak, Florida, "Dear 'Ol Suwannee," Folk/Country, February 1, 1999.

Dick Grillo has served at Advent Christian Village in various capacities since 1982, currently as Senior Director of Community and Church Outreach. His degree in music and years of experience have allowed him the opportunity to uniquely blend career skills in service to those in and around Dowling Park. This project is truly a labor of love for the community. This particular song highlights specific historic, recorded facts related to transportation, commerce, and a way of life along the Suwannee River Valley Region. The chorus relates a sentiment shared by most people who have lived or now live at Dowling Park and along the Suwannee River.

Jadean Jourden, Ponte Vedra, FL, "Save our Suwannee," Newgrass Bluegrass, April 24, 2012.

It is with the greatest honor and humility that I share with my Global Music Family that I have been nominated in this year's Josie Awards as Vocalist of the Year in Jazz/Blues &

Rising Star of the Year! josiemusicawards.com

My passionate response to many of the wasteful and negligent actions by corporations and big cities throughout Florida and others that endanger the aquifer and the surrounding ecosystems that are essential to the preservation of wildlife and humans alike!

Kyle Chamberlain and David Rodock of Adel, GA, "Alapaha Laphogs," funk, July 8, 2017.

Dirty Bird Chamberlain—Valdosta-based singer songwriter and lead vocalist for the band Dirty Bird and the Flu.

A fun romp that uses the local river systems as inspiration for the chorus and hook.

Norene Olsen of Habira, Georgia, "Driftin Down the Suwannee," folk, May 5, 2019.

An Air Force retiree, I also was an English and science teacher at the high school and college levels. I published my first poem at 10, and subsequently published several in high school and college in local publications. Although I sing in the church choir, I have no formal

song@suwanneeriverkeeper.org www.wwals.net Program www.wwals.net Suwannee Riverkeeper Songwriting Contest 2019

music education beyond grade school and a college music appreciation class.

My song is about the peace and serenity that can be found on the river when you leave the city behind and just enjoy nature.

Sabrina Deets of Sparks, Georgia, "Take Me To Suwannee," roots rock, June 13, 2019.

I'm a one-woman-band, been traveling all thru the midwest and southern US, and found home in the beautiful south Georgia area. Music is the air I breathe. I love all types of genres, but 60s and 70s classic rock is definitely where my heart beats. I love life and aspire to learn and create as much as possible in the short time I have on this planet.

I was told about this contest by the local music store here in Adel, GA (String Theory Music). I just put out a 30 Day Songwriting Challenge on YouTube in which I wrote 30 songs in 30 days. "Take Me To Suwannee" was written during that challenge. I dove into research about the Suwannee; the history, the geology, the geography! So intriguing! This coupled with my recent visit to Spirit Of the Suwannee gave me more than enough inspiration to write this song! Honestly, probably the best song I've ever written, so thank YOU for making that possible!

Tom Hochschild, of Valdosta, Georgia, "Withlacoochee Watershed," folk, May 1, 2018.

Tom Hochschild is a singer, guitarist, and harmonica player who has entertained people throughout the eastern United States at weddings, restaurants, and festivals. Originally from Cleveland, Ohio, Tom grew up singing and playing guitar with his grandfather and uncles around the dinner table. He has been in numerous cover bands, and even received some interest in his original music from Universal Records. These days, Tom gives back to the community by playing music at festivals and fundraisers for social causes, such as homelessness and after school programs.

Tom's goal was to lyrically and melodically paint a picture that highlights the beautiful waterways, wildlife, and scenery of North Florida and South Georgia. The main character in the song is stressed out from everyday life and, remembering the good times he's had on the Withlacoochee, realizes that the watershed is a refuge he must return to in order to replenish his soul.

WWALS Watershed Coalition, Inc. (WWALS)

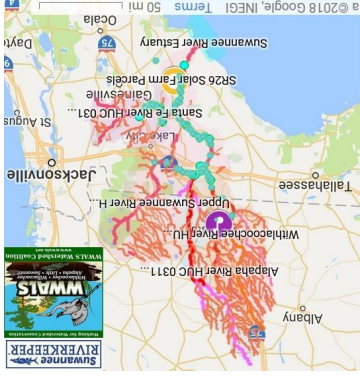
advocates for conservation and stewardship of the Withlacoochee, Willacoochee, Alapaha, Little, and Suwannee River watersheds in south Georgia and north Florida, through education, awareness, environmental monitoring, and citizen activities.

WWALS is a 501(c)(3) educational charity, est. June 2012.

John S. Quarterman is the **Suwannee Riverkeeper**®, since Dec. 2016, a staff position and a project of WWALS as the member of Waterkeeper® Alliance for the Suwannee River Basin.

contact@suwanneeriverkeeper.org
850-290-2350

PO Box 88, Habira, GA 31632



song@suwanneeriverkeeper.org www.wwals.net Program www.wwals.net Suwannee Riverkeeper Songwriting Contest 2019