



## *What to expect from Ukulele Classes with Jeff Hanna*

Anyone can learn to have some fun playing the uke. In 2012 we discovered that, as with hand drums, we can get people making music together in the first hour.

People learn in different ways, so I present multiple approaches. If you're open to learning, I won't leave you behind. After the first 2 month series you'll feel comfortable with the instrument, have a small vocabulary of essential chords and strums, and will understand that you now know how to learn anything that interests you. Your class will continue, and the adventurous will try other classes available to all members.

In the early months we choose a strum rhythm for a song and play it steadily throughout. As our rhythm vocabulary grows, we become better able to express ourselves and find that different sections of a song benefit from other rhythms. We learn to strum rhythms straight, then swung, and eventually add dynamics within the rhythm patterns.

From the start, I'll be presenting my RPS Strategies (Roll, Pivot, and Slide) to move between chord shapes, for those with short, clumsy fingers like mine. If you have long, slender, agile fingers, you may soon run around the fingerboard like a spider. We'll watch in awe as we enjoy our own slick styles.

I slip in a little basic music theory when appropriate. It helps you feel like you know what's going on, taking away the mystery, and opening more doors you may peer into or pass through. We use song sheets with lyrics and chords, so we won't be "reading music".

Know that you don't HAVE to do anything. You come to have FUN. You don't have to make your chord shapes the same way I do, or play the strum rhythm I'm using. I often demonstrate options. You don't have to sing. I'm a strong singer and the ukulele is an easy way to accompany myself. Do what YOU are feeling. Each of us naturally makes a wonderful contribution to the music.

I encourage you to experience as many teachers as you encounter. You'll pick up gems from each one. The UKULELE PLACE hosts instructors - locally and from away - presenting various styles of picking, melody and chord melody, in their Classes, Playshops and Concerts.