

## **Jerry Pothier Guitar League Profile**



### ***GL - What do you do for a living?***

**JP** - I am self employed and started Pennylane Marketing over 30 years ago. I am a marketing and promotional agency that helps a client bring their products or services to the marketplace through advertising programs.

### ***GL - When not playing guitar, what else do you do for recreation?***

**JP** - I grew up playing baseball/softball, hiking, and being a father to four wonderful human beings. Just like my music I have a passion about coaching softball, currently I am JV head coach at Andover High School. This will be my 17th year coaching softball.

### ***GL - What got you interested in playing guitar?***

**JP** - I'm definitely showing my age but it was February 9, 1964 at 8:23 pm on the Ed Sullivan show. The Beatles were born to the US. It was like seeing my life from black and white to full technicolor. It changed my life and I fell in love. Music became my passion!

### ***GL - What music gets you excited and why?***

**JP** - Most music gets me excited, I can see and feel the emotions of the songs. I feel each song tells a story and wants you to demonstrate your emotions: uplifted, sad, wishful, passion, hatred, or joyous!! I love music from the 60's and 70's, I love Psychedelic, Motown, Folk, Classic, Xmas songs and even the beautiful songs from Yanni. I also love guitar soloists.

### ***GL - Are you playing guitar as much as you would like to?***

**JP** - Of course not, life gets in the way, responsibility, making a living, raising 4 kids and a 30 year journey with my third son!

**GL** - *When was the last time you heard a new artist?*

**JP** - Aaron Lewis, he's a passionate straight forward songwriter that cares about what he sings - "Am I the only One"

**GL** - *What are you practicing and Why?*

**JP** - I'm practicing some Beatles songs with my friends from Guitar League. We will be presenting our best to all on Monday Oct. 9th at the next Guitar league meeting.

**GL** - *Top 3 musical influences and why?*

**JP** - This is not easy, but there is only One number 1: The Beatles. Their music, style and arrangements stand the test of time. Even as I listen closely now, I hear things that still amaze me. There really is no other than the Beatles!!! Next on my list would be Jimi Hendrix, a guitar genius. He changed the style of the guitar, and that has been copied for decades. I saw him in person 7 times and for one concert I had the incredible opportunity of sitting on stage next to him and his amp! It wasn't his antics or tricks with the guitar, it was his brilliance playing the guitar. He made it sing, he made it scream and he made it cry. An incredible artist.

Finally, I choose the Allman Brothers. I was not a fan of Southern Rock but after seeing the Allman Brothers Band play live, I was set for life. I first heard and saw them at my college in 1970. I ended up going to 17 concerts, each one was different and each one was brilliant. Their main guitarists Duane Allman, Dicky Betts, Warren Haynes and Derek Trucks performed better than any other band and were able to keep it going for decades. The blues singing of Greg Allman was enchanting. The percussion, two drummers and percussionist, held the band together as well as Allen Paul on bass.

**GL** - *What's your greatest guitar challenge?*

**JP** - To perform a blues solo that brings out the passion in me and my audience.

**GL** - *What musical accomplishments are you most proud of?*

**JP** - I'm very proud to be performing with every person that I had the honor to share a practice session, stage or a campfire with. I have been very lucky to be able to bring together many musicians and enjoyed their passion, expertise and talent as a whole.

Oh, when I was 10 yrs old, I played the violin in a children's orchestra at Symphony Hall! I can't remember most of it.

**GL** - *How would you describe yourself as a musician?*

**JP** - Well, as a very average guitar and keyboard player.

**GL** - *Do you keep your guitar playing to yourself or do you play for audiences?*

**JP** - I do both, I will pick up the guitar and just play for at least 30 minutes but I prefer playing with others. It's cool to listen to others.

***GL - Do you have any ambitions to play in a band or Duo.***

**JP** - I have been in a number of bands and loved them all! I had a trio in the 80's and did the club/ restaurant thing for over 7 yrs. Right now, I'm fortunate to be playing with my new best friend Jeanne! We are trying to put some sets together and at some point go out and perform. I think I'm holding her back, I am the old man in the Duo.

***GL - What style do you mostly play?***

**JP** - When I was younger, it was all top 40 songs: Young Rascals, Zombies, Procol Harum etc. Then went psychedelic: Hendrix, Vanilla Fudge, Cream and the Animals. Then came the softer side in the 80's: CSN, Seals and Croft, and John Denver. I was all over the place