Welcome Letter- B.U.G. Camp 2026

We are three weeks out, and the excitement is building. This letter has everything you need to arrive ready, relaxed, and tuned up. Please read it through — there is useful detail in every section. This letter and the Schedule are also on the camp website: UkeCamp.info.

Dates, Location & Arrival

- **Dates:** Friday, July 10 through Sunday, July 12, 2026.
- **Location:** Silver Lake Park, 9006 Silver Lake Rd, Maple Falls, WA 98266.
- **Check-in:** Friday from 2:00 pm onward. Please do not arrive before 2:00 — the group camp area will not be fully set up.
- **Volunteers Needed:** Uke Camp is entirely volunteer-run. Camp fees cover only the camp cost. Check the signup board at check-in and sign up for a task or two. Or if you are busting to help, email Judith Lewis at wyldbyrd@comcast.net. Volunteering is fun and a great way to get to know people.
- **Check-out:** Sunday by 11:00 am. Or, at least, have your tents down and all your stuff packed by 11:00 am. Help us leave the site clean and beautiful.

Schedule Overview

A full schedule will be emailed next week and posted in camp. Here is the general shape of the weekend:

- **FRIDAY evening:** Arrive and settle in, potluck dinner, opening circle, campfire jam.
- **SATURDAY:** Morning and afternoon workshops, open play time, group meals, evening concert and campfire.
- **SUNDAY:** Morning workshop, closing circle, farewell jam, cleanup and departure.
- **SWAP TABLE:** - Bring something, leave something, take something. If you have ukulele-related items (music books, CDs, clothing, jewelry, ukuleles, etc.) you no longer need or desire, bring them to the swap table to share. All items on the table will be considered free for the taking. Open all weekend.
- **RAFFLE:** You will get two free tickets upon arriving. Additional tickets will be available to buy at camp, enormously increasing your chances to win more fabulous treasures. This is a fundraiser to help defray camp costs. Bring Cash, ones and fives. Venmo available.

Workshops & Guest Artists

This year's guest artists are **Avery Hill** and **Larry Wyatt**, joined by several guest workshop leaders throughout the weekend. Workshops span all levels — from beginner-friendly through advanced — so you don't need to be an experienced player to get tremendous value from the weekend. Have something you'd love to share? We welcome participant-led breakout workshops. Email GregAanes@gmail.com.

Food & Potluck / BUG will grill Hot Dogs (Meat and Veggie)

- Coffee, tea, and drinking water will be available throughout camp.
- Personal alcohol use is permitted at the Silver Lake Park group area and campsites in our group area rental. Please use discretion.
- Friday and Saturday dinners are a group potluck. If you have a fave item, bring it to put on our grill. Please bring a dish to share that serves 4–6 people based on the *first letter of your last name*:

Friday Night Potluck, if your last name starts with:

- A-C Salad
- D-L Side Dish
- M-R Appetizer/snack
- S-Z Dessert

Saturday Night Potluck, if your last name starts with:

- A-F Side Dish
- G-L Appetizer Snack
- M-V Dessert
- X-Z Salad

Leftovers will roll over into the next day's meals — the table stays diverse and generous.

Breakfast/Lunch: Campers will provide their own. Communal meal sharing in picnic shelters is encouraged.

Sunday Morning: The infamous BUG Pancake breakfast and song. Beverages supplied.

Lodging & Camping

- Tent camping, van parking, or RV hookups abound. Bring everything you need for two nights.
- Cabins and Lodge Rooms are available for those who reserved them.
- After you check in, you will choose your camp site.
- Restrooms are available on-site. Bring your own toiletries.
- Maple Falls has a gas station, coffee stand, and Hair Salon. Nearest off campus eats are 17 miles away.

Community Agreements that hold us together

- **All skill levels are welcome and respected.** Nobody is here to perform, unless on stage. We are here to play together, laugh and have fun.

- **This is a consent-aware space.** Ask before recording, photographing, or posting images of other participants.
- **We share the space with families and other park users.** Keep late-night volume considerate. Some of the public campsites are only a stone's throw through the woods.
- **Leave No Trace.** Pack out what you pack in. We want to be welcomed back.
- **Bring your best self — we're better together.** Smile, introduce yourself to someone new, and leave no one on the edge of the circle. They came for the same reason you did, and the more you put in, the more everyone gets back.
- **This weekend runs entirely on volunteer energy — including yours.** Grab a task at the check-in signup board — even an hour of your time makes a real difference.

Connectivity & Phones

Cell service at Silver Lake Park is on and off. This is a feature, not a bug. We encourage you to be present to the weekend. There is no WiFi onsite. If you need to be reachable for family emergencies, let someone at home know you will check messages only at specific times.

Health & Safety

- A first aid kit will be onsite. The urgent care nearest Silver Lake Park is in either Sumas or Bellingham. Both are a 40- to 50-minute drive away.
- If you are feeling unwell before the event, please stay home. We will genuinely miss you!
- Fire: campfires in designated rings only. We will post current fire status at check-in.

Registration & Payment

- If you have not yet completed your registration or payment, please do so before July 3 at: ukecamp.info.
- Silver Lake Park is our venue only. For anything camp-related, contact us directly.
- **Late to the party? We just make the tent bigger.** Register at ukecamp.info. Or, if it's after July 3, drop us a quick email so we know you're coming: GregAanes@gmail.com or text 360.224.6166

Three weeks out. Start getting excited. We are.

See you around the campfire! — The B.U.G. Camp 2026 Team

Notes about lodging, contact these people directly if interested: *cont'd next page*

Bob & I have two double beds available in our shared cabin — any gender, solo or couple welcome. Cost split by beds used; shared bathhouse nearby. Reach out if interested! Barb Brunius- barbbrunius@gmail.com or 360.622.8267
Joe Friend- Willing to share a room with another guy who wants to split the cost. Your cost would be $80. 206-355-6221