

*Paige Powell Music Blog for January 30, 2020:*

## *The Story Behind the Song, "Groundhog Day"*

In 2017, my Christmas present from my mother and my cousin, Joel was a beautiful new mahogany Fender acoustic guitar! I needed a "Florida guitar" to play whenever I came to visit. The first song I wrote using it was a "seasonal" song about Groundhog Day. To make it extra "folky" I played it using the Travis pick, well known in songs from the '60s like "Blowin' in the Wind" and "Puff the Magic Dragon".



Of course, I had to refer to Bill Murray's movie, "Groundhog Day" since it is so popular and well-known. Besides, the song is about a "do over" which is what that movie was about. In the chorus, I use the golfing term, "mulligan" which is not familiar to some listeners, so when performing the song, I often explain that a mulligan is a "do it over without penalty" shot in playing golf.

I played "Groundhog Day" at several open mic and concert events. One was actually ON February 2nd with fellow singer/songwriter and great friend, Jim Thorne. There are some videos both on YouTube and Facebook of my performances of the song, but you can listen to "Groundhog Day" on my website and download it for free for a limited time (just click on the song title). If you would like to play it for your friends, here's a Lead Sheet, which I've also included on the website.

The following year, in January 2019, I knew Groundhog Day was coming up and I had recorded the song at Alan Harrington's studio, but I really wanted more people singing in the recording. I only had a few days left in the month of January, so I racked my brain: "How can I get a bunch of people to sing the chorus at the end of my song?" Then, I remembered that most of my songwriter and musician friends have their own studios and we live in an electronic age. I sent out 12 emails with an .mp3 file of "Groundhog Day" and asked my friends to sing on it. Everyone who replied is now on the recording: Robert Dale Klein (who also contributed harmonies), Alex Alavi, Spence Burton, Gracious Me, and Jim Thorne, who also sings on the other two choruses. I hope hearing all these singers encourages YOU to sing along as well! Hear it [HERE!](#)