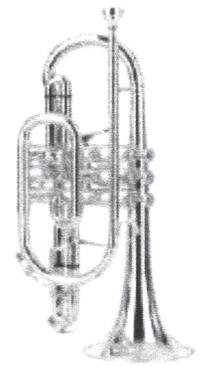


JAZZ SOUNDINGS

THE PUGET SOUND TRADITIONAL JAZZ SOCIETY



January 2018

Volume 43, Number 1

UPTOWN LOWDOWN KICKS OFF OUR NEW YEAR ON JANUARY 21!



left to right, Woltz, Johnston, Horgen, Barr, Barr and Hall.

by George Swinford

For the 11th consecutive year the Uptown Lowdown Jazz Band will provide January's musical entertainment. This will be our seventeenth Uptown Lowdown concert in January, as well as quite a few in other months of our long history. We'll hear the same Uptown sextet we heard a year ago, as pictured above. Left to right, they are Paul Woltz, reeds and vocals, Kevin Johnston, banjo, Art Horgen, tuba, Rose Barr, piano, Bert Barr cornet and leader, Andy Hall, trombone and vocals. Bert Barr organized the Uptown Lowdown band in 1971, a few years before he helped to organize our society. In the years since, Uptown Lowdown has been providing hot jazz, first to us Northwesterners, then to all North America and the world. They have played concerts, festivals, weddings, memorials and innumerable other private events, and they have recorded prolifically. This year they'll be pleasing listeners and

dancers at the Seaside, OR festival in February, and in San Diego next Thanksgiving. If our January session and those festivals don't provide enough of their music for you, there are 29 CDs and a DVD currently offered on their website.

Uptown Lowdown's yearly appearance has become one of our society's traditions. There's little need now to comment on the band's extensive book or the

high quality of their performance. Come on out to the Ballard Elks on January 21st to enjoy them once again.

WHERE:

Ballard Elks Lodge
6411 Seaview Ave. NW, Seattle

WHEN:

1 p.m. - 4:30 p.m January 21

ADMISSION:

\$12 PSTJS members
\$15 non-members. Pay only at door.

FURTHER INFO:

Carol Rippey 425-776-5072.
Or - website: www.pstjs.org. Plenty of free parking; great view & dance floor, snacks, coffee, and other beverages available.

NOTES FROM THE PREZ (JANUARY 2018)

If it was good enough for Judy, it's good enough for me. First I want to thank, and I want you to thank, Judy for the thirteen years she devoted herself to you and me by being the President of the Puget Sound Traditional Jazz Society. Having watched her in action on the concert Sundays, and in the Board meetings the past five years, there is no question but what this has been her passion the entire time. She did a superb job and we all owe her our heartfelt debt of gratitude.

It is now my privilege to be your president for a few years. Thank you. It is unusual to ask you to vote for someone virtually sight-unseen. Unbeknownst to you, I have been a lifetime member since April 1993, and a fairly good attender most of that time, and a Board member for the last five years. I will do everything I can to live up to the standard Judy has set. You helped make that easier for me by reconfirming the appointment of the incumbents on the December ballot. I wish you could know, as I do, what a wonderful, intelligent, knowledgeable, dedicated, opinionated, group they are. Intense trad jazz fans. And, behind the scenes, how hard the Officers, Membership Coordinator, and Webmaster work to make it all happen. Volunteer dedication to the preservation of traditional jazz. The Editor works very hard also, but that is a contracted service.

Thanks to Judy's recent appointment, and now your approval, we have a new Music Director, per our bylaws, John

Notes: continue on page 5

Puget Sound Traditional Jazz Society

19031 Ocean Avenue
Edmonds, WA 98020-2344
425-776-5072 www.pstjs.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

Elks Lodge, Ballard, 6411 Seaview Ave N.W., Seattle

Jan. 21	Uptown Lowdown Jazz Band
Feb. 18	Ain't No Heaven Seven
Mar. 18	Crescent City Jazzers
April 15	TBA
May 21	TBA
June 18	TBA

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Jazz Soundings

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Half Page	\$60.	7 1/2" wide by 4 1/4 " tall
Quarter Page	\$40.	3 5/8 wide by 4 1/4 " tall

Deadline is the 10th of the month for the next month's issue

Gigs for Local Bands

BELLINGHAM TRADITIONAL JAZZ SOCIETY

1st Saturday, 2-5 pm VFW Hall 625 N. State St., Bellingham, WA

Jan. 6 Clamdigger Jazz Band

Feb. 3 Bob Storms Dixieland All-Stars

March 3 Uptown Lowdown Jazz Band

DAVE HOLO TRIO

Salty's on Alki 1936 Harbor Avenue. SW Seattle, WA 98126

206-937-1600 <http://saltys.com/seattle>

Jan. 5. 5-8pm

Jan. 19 5-8pm

Feb. 2 5-8pm

OLYMPIA JAZZ SOCIETY

2nd Sundays 1-4:pm Elks Lodge. 1818 Fourth Ave E., Olympia, WA

Jan. 14 Black Swan Classic Jazz Band

Feb. 11 Dave Brown Combo

Mar. 11 Market Street

April 8 Clearbrook Dixieland Jazz Band

May 13 Mardi Gras Jazz Band

June 10 Dukes of Swing

PEARL DJANGO

Jan. 2,3,4 7:30 pm Jazz Alley Our special guest this time is none other than

Neil Andersson. Neil is a founding member of Pearl Django.

2033 Sixth Ave., Seattle, WA (206) 441-9729.

UPTOWN LOWDOWN JAZZ BAND

Jan. 21 1pm - 4:30pm PSTJS Elks Lodge, Ballard,
6411 Seaview Ave N.W., Seattle

JACOB ZIMMERMAN

Feb. 2 9pm Eastside Stomp (Redmond, WA) For
more info visit: <http://eastsidestomp.com/>

J THE PUGET SOUND TRADITIONAL JAZZ SOCIETY
JAZZ SOUNDINGS



On Your Dial.....

Sunday

3 -6 pm

Art of Jazz, Ken Wiley,

KPLU 88.5 FM



SEASIDE JAZZ FESTIVAL

Presented by Lighthouse Jazz Society

FEBRUARY 22—25, 2018

SEASIDE, OREGON



**Black Swan Jazz Band
Blue Street Jazz Band
Bob Draga with Friends
Tom Rigney & Flambeau
Gino & The Lone Gunmen
High Sierra Jazz Band
Ivory & Gold[®]
Dave Bennett and the Memphis Speed Kings
Dave Bennett Quartet
High Street Party Band
Stephanie & Paolo with Danny Coots
Uptown Lowdown Jazz Band
Rock Island Roustabouts**

Bands subject to change.

**Five venues: Three at the Convention Center and one each at the
Best Western Ocean View Resort, and Seaside Elks.
Thursday Night Warm Up at the Seaside Elks - 7 PM; 200 Pre-sale Tickets Only
Dance floors and free shuttle! Call 1-888-306-2326 for housing info.
More info at www.jazzseaside.com or 1-866-345-6257, Monday-Friday, 9 – 5 PM only.**

*A portion of this project was made possible from a grant from the
City of Seaside Tourism Advisory Committee, funded by room tax dollars.*

THE 2017 SOUTHERN OREGON MUSIC FESTIVAL

by Michael Shilley
Traditional jazz fan since 1953



Above: Bob Draga (middle) with two of the many dedicated sponsors of the 2017 SOMF

The Southern Oregon Music Festival (SOMF) in Medford, almost never materialized. This long running, annual event lost two of its main sponsors, which made a \$50,000 hole. An appeal to the membership saw the first "Above and Beyond" act when they somehow delivered the funds. The Red Lion "Commons" hotel supplied two sites, a downtown bar/club "Howie's" and the local TV station the other two. Once named "Traditional Jazz", then "Jazz," now called just "Music." This enables our festivals to accommodate all genres of music. To maintain our original, now historic music, we rely on our younger musicians, many taught by the now seniors, to keep the live music we love going.

On Saturday evening I booked dinner at the Commons, and sat at a bar seat, to hear one of my favorite clarinetists with his group "Bob Draga and Friends." The friends, Jason Wanner on piano, Shelley Denny on bass, and Ron Jones on drums were there playing some 'sweet' music as I took my seat. Bob's clarinet was lying on a stool near the piano. As the evening progressed, my dinner arrived, but no Bob Draga. I began to wonder, was he going to make a late but exciting entry? But later it was announced, Bob had had a painful flare up to his arthritic wrist that made it impossible to play.

The next day, Sunday morning at the Medford Presbyterian Church a "Celebration of Music and Life" took place. The old rough wooded, high pointed roof building was packed. The Midiri Brothers, from Philadelphia, one on horn, the other on vibraphone and Bob Draga were the musicians on the printed program, and to my surprise there was Bob. Knowing he was hurting, made the event all the more poignant. I could see him drop his arm, trying to get more blood into the hand. Play he did though, even did a couple of solos, and never missed a beat. To me, this was "above and beyond."

Finishing the service with a rousing rendition of "The Saints Go Marching In," Joe Midiri gave a wonderful impersonation of my all-time favorite musician, Louis Armstrong singing the Saints. Tears came to my eyes as memories came flooding back, of Louis with his All-Stars, on a revolving stage in the center of London's Albert Hall. I was 18 years old, and after hearing Louis, I 'graduated' from buying Benny Goodman twelve-inch vinyl recordings. From then on it would be Louis Armstrong.

Sunday at 2:30 pm. the SOMF Closing Ceremonies were held in the Commons,

grand ballroom. Four groups shared the stage for two hours. The Cocuzzi Courtet started off, great entertainers husband and wife John and Kristi, with the fantastic Danny Coots on drums and super Steve Pikal on bass. The Midiri Brothers with their fine rhythm section slowly moved on stage, the music never stopped. Then followed Bob Draga and Friends. After Bob had missed another set at 1pm, there he was again, beating the odds, and giving us a clarinet thrill, plus a few of his jokes, you could always expect that of Bob. Brian Casserly, guest artist on trumpet, and leader of his own band "Cornet Chop Suey" in St Louis, joined the group, showing us what a great entertainer he is. He had also gone "above and beyond" throughout the weekend substituting for Bob in several sets. Last group were Jacob Miller and The Bridge City Crooners, a group of young men keeping our old time music alive, it is wonderful to see these young musicians eager and willing to entertain our aging membership.

When we see artists like The Crooners; Dave Bennett; Brian Casserly; and the still young Jason Wanner performing our traditional jazz, we thank our lucky stars. Maybe to those attending, that are dedicated traditionalists, shiver in hearing these variations. We must, somehow adapt, to allow these younger musicians to advance their careers, while they are also willing to entertain us with our "old time music"

Having some time until my flight back to Seattle, later that day, I spent a couple of hours at Howie's. To the delight of the many fans that had gathered there, several band members dropped in to jam. The last "Above and Beyond" deed was when a SOMF volunteer offered, and then drove me to the airport.

Photographer Madeleine Landis of Camp Sherman. OR

Puget Sound Traditional Jazz Society
19031 Ocean Ave., Edmonds, WA 98020-2344

Please (enroll) (renew) (me) (us) as a member or members

Name _____

Address _____

City, State _____

Zip Code _____ E-Mail _____

Phone _____ Check when renewing if your address label is correct

Dues for 12 months: Single \$25 Couple \$40 Lifetime single \$200 Lifetime Couple \$350

Patron \$500 (One or two lifetime membership)

Please enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope. _____

The Puget Sound Traditional Jazz Society is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization dedicated to the performance and preservation of traditional jazz. Your membership and contributions are tax-deductible. Thank you.

Notes: continued from page 1

Ochs, who is going to mastermind our future concerts. We are going to be exploring some new ideas to keep traditional jazz a reality, rather than just a fond memory. But don't worry; our old-favorite bands will still be the hallmark of the Society. In order for you to appreciate our plans in advance of the performances, John Ochs and George Swinford will be cooperating in the writing of more extensive articles for Jazz Soundings, to help you better appreciate what will be on stage for your enjoyment. These will begin with the February publication.

Traditional jazz is the original music of America, emanating from the field hollers the Negro cotton-field workers created to communicate with each other during their excessively long workdays, which gradually morphed into what became Dixieland jazz. I was born in April 1931, to a father who worked his way through college (UW 1927-1930) with his own Dixieland jazz band, which, in part, kept us alive through the depression of the 1930s. I was immersed in Dixieland jazz for the first ten years of my life, since they practiced once each week in our tiny house, and played elsewhere every weekend. I am a committed devotee.

Enough for now. As we proceed I plan to share with you some concerns regarding the longevity of our Society, and to solicit your thoughts, from the membership at large, accordingly. I am looking forward to a fun 2018 for the PSTJS.

PS. The Seaside Jazz Festival has donated to us two free admission badges to be auctioned off at our January concert, with the proceeds to be deposited to our Youth Fund. If you plan to compete for them, please bring cash or check book to pay for them.

Faithfully, John.



We're looking for new
Members

YOU can help with little effort and that's by bringing just one of your friends or family members into our club. If WE ALL do that, our membership will double.

Red X on your Jazz Soundings mailing address label with **your name** on it - means it's time to renew your membership.

TWO red XX means last chance to **Renew Now!**

**Puget Sound
Traditional Jazz Society**
19031 Ocean Ave.
Edmonds, WA 98020-2344

Address service requested

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terryrrogers@comcast.net 206-465-6601
BARRELHOUSE GANG Leader: James Walls
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www.barrelhousegang.com
BOURBON STREET ALL STARS
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COAL CREEK JAZZ BAND Leader: Judy Logen, 425-641-1692
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www.combodeluxe.net jazzstrings@comcast.net 253-752-6525
CORNUCOPIA CONCERT BAND Leader: Allan Rustad
www.comband.org 425-744-4575
DAVE HOLO TRIO Leader: Dave Holo email: dave@daveholo.com
www.holotradband.com
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HOT CLUB SANDWICH Contact: James Schneider
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