THE PUGET SOUND TRADITIONAL JAZZ SOCIETY AZZ SOUNDINGS



March 2019 Volume 44, Number 03

IT'S ANOTHER MARCH SESSION WITH THE CRESCENT CITY SHAKERS!

by George Swinford

The highlight of our meeting on the 17th will be our eighth consecutive March session with the Crescent City Shakers. Led by Canadian clarinetist Gerry Green, the Shakers are a sextet of veteran British Columbia and northwest US jazzmen who take their inspiration from the music of American pioneers of classic jazz.

This year's lineup duplicates the one we enjoyed last March. Leader Gerry Green will be playing clarinet and sax. As he comes south, Gerry will bring Canadian colleagues Bill Dixon on banjo and Jim Armstrong on trumpet and trombone. Look (and listen) for Jim to handle the vocal chores. Again, Ray Skjelbred will play piano. Gerry's comments about Ray from last year are too appropriate not to repeat here. Gerry said then "Having the unique talents of Ray Skjelbred, when I can get him, means I can pretty much play anything and Ray will bring that special magic, a real jazz feel." Dave Brown will bring his upright bass and his own version of jazz magic all the way from Spokane for the session. The Shakers' sound will be made complete by Mike Daugherty's stylish traditional drumming.

Each of these musicians has an extensive background in traditional jazz and each of them has long since become a familiar presence on our bandstand. There



Left to right: Ray Skjelbred, Jim Armstrong, Dave Brown, Gerry Green, and Bill Dixon

remains no question of what they can provide for listening and dancing. With the unfortunate but necessary cancellation of our February concert just behind us, the Shakers' traditional renditions will be extra welcome. As he sent this year's lineup Gerry added "Looking forward to my annual pilgrimage for the PSTJS session. Will be fun for sure." Join the fun! Bring a friend or two along and enjoy the Crescent City Shakers at the Ballard Elks, on March 17th!

WHERE:

Ballard Elks Lodge 6411 Seaview Ave. NW, Seattle

WHEN:

1 pm - 4:30 pm - March 17 **ADMISSION:** Pay only at door.

\$12 PSTJS members \$15 non-members.

Free admission for those under 21 who accompany a person paying admission.

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.

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

March 17 Gerry Green's Crescent City Shakers

April 28 Terry Rogers' Ain't No Heaven Seven and
Jahnvi's Hot 5 + Friends

May 19 Jonathan Doyle Band

June 16 Marc Caparone's Fewsicians

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JAZZ SOUNDINGS

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

Gigs for Local Bands

BELLINGHAM TRADITIONAL JAZZ SOCIETY

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

Mar. 9 Clearbrook Dixie Band Apr. 6 Market Street Jass Band

May 4 Leigh Smith's Maple Leaf Jazz Band

June 1 Evergreen Classic Jazz Band

DAVE HOLO TRIO

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

(206) 937-1600 http://saltys.com/seattle

Mar. 1 5 - 8pm Mar. 15 5 - 8pm

OLYMPIA JAZZ SOCIETY

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

Mar. 10 Ray Skjelbred's Yeti Chasers
 Apr. 14 Black Swan Classic Jazz Band
 May 5 Gerry Green's Crescent City Jazzers
 June 9 Evergreen Classic Jazz Band

PEARL DJANGO

Mar. 9 7:30pm Tim Noah Thumbnail Theater 1211 4th Street Snohomish, WA 98290 360-568-9412

Mar. 15 7pm Collective Visions Gallery This usually sells out so make reservations. 331 Pacific Avenue, Bremerton, WA 360-377-8327.

Mar. 16 8 to 11pm A Dance sposored by NW Dance Network at Leif Erikson Hall 2245 NW 57th St, Seattle, WA 98107

Mar. 22-23 7:30pm Traditions Café and World Folk Art This is a wonderful venue for 'listeners' 300 5th Avenue SW, Olympia WA 360-705-2819



Sunday

3 -6 pm Ken Wiley's Art of Jazz on KNKX - 88.5FM

DR. TERRY ROGERS - A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS

by John Ochs



Above: Dr. Rogers and his wife, Karin

To Puget Sound Traditional Jazz Society members, he is known as Terry Rogers, leader and saxophonist of the Ain't No Heaven Seven, but to his patients and colleagues in the medical profession, he is "Dr. Rogers," a distinguished internist specializing in pulmonary disease and critical care medicine. During his more than 45 years as a practicing physician and administrator, he has served as Director of Respiratory and Critical Care at Swedish Hospital (1975-1990); as senior medical officer, executive vice president, and chief operating officer of King County Medical/Blue Shield (1990 - 1998); as medical director of Providence ElderPlace in Seattle (1998-2008), and as CEO of the Foundation for Healthcare Quality (2008-2016).

Presently, Dr. Rogers serves as medical director for Lakeside-Milam Recovery Centers and as a board member of several non-profit healthcare organizations. A member of numerous medical societies, he was awarded "Physician of the Year" in 2001 by the Washington Home Care Association. Last April (2018), he was inducted into the

"Wall of Honor" by his high school in New Jersey as a tribute to his lifetime of public service as a physician.

Despite his busy schedule, Terry maintains a steadfast commitment to music. In addition to his jazz interests, he and his wife Karin are longtime members of the Cantare vocal chorus, a mixed-voice ensemble of 40-to-50 singers drawn from throughout the Greater Seattle area. Of particular benefit to our society were his two terms as president just prior to Judy Levy's 13-year tenure.

Dr. Terry Rogers grew up in Bernardsville, a small town located amidst the beautiful rolling hills of rural New Jersey. Although his father had been a saxophonist in his youth, Terry never saw him play, but he recalls that his mother loved to sing. He was the youngest of four children who were all involved with music. Brother Dick played tuba, older sister Sally the flute, younger sister Virginia the French horn, and Terry alto saxophone. Like their mother, they all sang in the church choir.

The Bernardsville school system had a strong music program, and by the time he was a sophomore at Bernards High School Terry was playing in a dance band. Particularly helpful was a friendship with Joe Ashworth (Hot Frogs Jumping Jazz Band), a boyhood pal who shared his late father's entire book of band arrangements with Terry. The extra experience came in handy his senior year when he was elected band president and was drafted into leading the band after the faculty bandleader died. He graduated from high school in 1957.

Terry was introduced to traditional jazz during his high school years when an older trumpet-playing friend, Bill Hobbie (who later married into the family), took him to New York City. One of the places they visited was the Central Plaza, a now-legendary dancehall hangout for jazz fans located on the second floor of a building in Greenwich Village. Among the well-known musicians he heard were drummer Cozy Cole and trombonist/actor Conrad Janis. Terry recalls that as soon as he heard the music, "I knew I was hooked."

Except for the occasional visit to the Central Plaza, Terry for the most part put music on hold in favor of academics during his college years. He graduated from Dartmouth in 1961 with a Bachelor's Degree in Pre-Med and Art and earned a medical degree at Cornell University in 1966. After an internship in Philadelphia, he moved to Seattle to begin post-graduate work in internal medicine at the University of Washington. Two years of service as a Flight Surgeon in the Air Force at a military air base south of Columbus, OH was followed by a return to Seattle in 1970 to complete a three-year residency in pulmonary disease and critical care medicine. After two years in Springfield MA, he returned to Seattle in 1975 when Swedish Hospital recruited him to be Director of Critical Care and Respiratory Services.

Not long after his return to the area, he joined the Puget Sound Traditional Jazz Society and began to participate in jam sessions between the main band's sets at the continued on page 4

Dr. Terry Rogers - continued from page 3 society's monthly concerts. At about this time, he ran into cardiologist Ward Kennedy while standing in line to attend a concert. Terry knew Dr. Kennedy as a result of his postgraduate work at the U of W, but had no idea Ward was interested in traditional jazz until he mentioned he played trombone as an undergraduate at Bowdoin College. This chance meeting planted a seed in Terry's mind that it would be fun to start an all-physician band.

This idea first saw the light of day in 1980 when Terry sailed to the San Juan Island Jazz Festival with another cardiologist colleague, John Mazzarella, who had been a drummer during high school in New York. After enjoying a weekend of great music, the two agreed, "We need to start a jazz band."

The band continued to grow when he learned Swedish Hospital surgeon Karl May played banjo. Another member was recruited during a job interview at Terry's office in The Polyclinic. Though he didn't realize it at first, the applicant, Dr. Dave Gilbert, was a classically trained pianist from Chicago who had played in a jazz band at Princeton. After Dr. Gilbert spotted a New Black Eagles Jazz Band poster on the office wall, the conversation turned to music. At the end of the interview, Terry told him, "I don't know how good a gastroenterologist you are, but if you can play piano, you're hired."

The group's intial effort was on Halloween in 1983 at Ward Kennedy's home. "We were awful," Terry recalls. "Part of the problem was that we needed an accomplished lead horn." After checking around, he learned that Dr. John Gibson, a neurosurgeon

affiliated with Swedish, played cornet. Dr. Gibson was uncertain about the venture, but with Terry's prodding he agreed to give it a try. "I told him that the only requirement was an unlimited supply of child-like enthusiasm."

The addition of Dr. Gibson proved to be just what the group needed. A jam set at a Christmas party hosted by banjoist May provided a venue for the band's debut. "The first tune we played was 'When You and I Were Young, Maggie,' chuckles Terry, "I still remember the audience's reaction, 'Oh my, you guys really can play!' That was the real beginning."

The name for the band came to Terry while he was battling traffic during a down-pour on the I-5 corridor. "Doctors of Jazz" was an obvious choice, but probably too obvious. Terry wanted a band of seven, so he thought, "What is it that rhymes with seven? Hmmm, how about Heaven? And then it just morphed into 'Ain't No Heaven Seven." No one objected, and the name stuck. "We have no opposition to the notion of heaven," he explains, "we just know that we are not it."

Dr. Rogers enlisted non-physician Allan Rustad to play tuba with the unsaintly seven, but even he had a connection to the medical profession. Terry had met Rustad through his wife Nancy, a nurse at The Polyclinic. Allan, a marine engineer, fit right in and shares the distinction, along with Terry and Dave Gilbert, of being one of three original members still with the band 35 years later.

"We've played lots of places," Terry says of his years as bandmaster. "For festivals and concerts at Bellingham, the Puget Sound Jazz Society, Olympia, Tri-Cities, Salem, West Seattle, Friday Harbor, Ocean Shores, and Whidbey Island; for weddings, funerals, parties, and bar mitzvahs; and at clubs like the Tractor Tavern, the Old Town Ale House, the New Orleans Restaurant, and the Royal Room. There've been a lot of benefits. Making music is a floating therapy session for all of us. Through all our work and personal issues, the band has served as an ongoing center. We still get together every week to play old tunes and learn new ones."

As the saying goes, "Time rolls its ceaseless course," and the band personnel has changed over the years. Cancer has claimed the lives of Drs. Ward Kennedy and Karl May. Dr. John Gibson has retired due to ill health, and Dr. John Mazzarella has moved to Orcas Island where he is thriving as an actor in community theater. In their places at our April concert, Andy Hall will fill in on trombone; Gene Silberberg on banjo, Jim Armstrong on trumpet, Zane Smith on a variety of reeds, and Mike Daugherty on drums. And Ron Rustad will add his unique vocals to the mix.

Near the end of the interview for this article, Terry was asked, as a past PSTJS president, if he had any advice to offer the club in its struggle for survival. Ever the doctor, he didn't hesitate to phrase his answer as if he were counseling one of his patients. "Keep showing up," he said, "Just keep showing up." Good advice, to be sure, for us to follow this month at our March concert featuring Gerry Green on St. Patrick's Day and for our appointment on April 28th with Dr. Rogers and his band. Don't be late!

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

We are excited to announce that Jahnvi's Hot Five will be featured along with the Ain't No Heaven Seven at our April 28th concert. Jahnvi Madan is a senior at Newport High School who has been leading a jazz combo for several years. To be clear, her band is not just another student band playing a standard high-school repertoire. This is Jahnvi's band playing the vintage music she likes best.

The Hot Five originally had been set to share the billet with the Jen Hodge All Stars at our February 17th meeting, but Jahnvi's appearance had to be rescheduled due to an invitation she received from the New England Conservatory for an audition, which we all hope will be a prelude to the acceptance of her application to study music there. In accepting our invitation, she writes:

"Yes, we're on for April 28th. My audition at the New England Conservatory is happening! So it's good that we decided on April.

:) "The name of my combo is Jahnvi's Hot 5, and the instrumentation will be Clarinet/Sax, Trombone, Sax, Drums, Bass, and Guitar. We are normally 5 people, but I am going to add a guitarist for this gig, so it'll be Jahnvi's Hot 5 + friends. "I can let you know personnel very soon, and I'll stay in touch about other details."

As you can imagine, this is an exciting time for Jahnvi, and we will be sure to ask her to share with us her experiences about the audition and the status of her application at the April concert. Our sincere thanks to the Ain't No Heaven Seven Jazz Band for agreeing to yield the stage for one set during our April concert. We will have more to say about Jahnvi's Hot 5 in the April issue of Jazz Soundings!

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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.		

PREZ SEZ

Mother Nature has a unforgiveable ability to keep us humble! Regarding the concert, scheduled for February 17, 2019, it was a classic example. When the first bout of snow fell, it prompted me to phone several Board members to determine whether we had a Plan B for emergencies. Standing in 20" of snow gave me concern for the safety in our plans. More snow fell and more was predicted in addition to rain and freezing temperatures. Consideration was:

- (1) The band driving down from Canada where the weather reports were even worse,
- (2) The members of PSTJS, many of which don't drive much even in good conditions,
- (3) Would the Elks Club even be open(?) and
- (4) Would the parking lot be cleared of snow that day?

It was agonizing to actually CANCEL the event and my next fear was that on Sunday, Mother Nature might turn around and give us a warm rain, clear skies and sunshine, which she did! Along the way, we even thought of rescheduling the concert, but we felt that too many participants had been informed of the cancellation and we didn't have a Plan B, because there has never been a need for one in the history of our Society!

The bottom line was the safety of all who were involved and the liability that could be ours if anyone got hurt in an accident. Think of it—we could be liable and subject to litigation!

Let's grab hold of our bootstraps and make good things happen.

Jim Blokzyl, President Puget Sound Traditional Jazz Society



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