

JAZZ SOUNDINGS

THE PUGET SOUND TRADITIONAL JAZZ SOCIETY



October 2019

Volume 44, Number 08

JEN HODGE ALL STARS TO PERFORM ON OCTOBER 20 AS JEN PREPARES TO LEAVE THE NORTHWEST!

by George Swinford

Canadian bassist Jen Hodge and her All Stars were scheduled to play for our February concert which was cancelled in anticipation of inclement weather. Jen and a somewhat different group of outstanding musicians will be featured when we assemble at the Ballard Elks on October 20th. Meantime we've had a chance to appreciate Jen's musical chops, as she appeared with Jonathan Doyle's group last May.

Jen, of course, will be leading her All Stars, playing both string bass and sousaphone which is a new addition to her repertoire. Mike Daugherty will play drums and both he and Jen will handle the vocals. On trumpet we'll hear Michael Van Bember who played alongside Jen in Jonathan Doyle's group last May. Michael was raised

in Seattle, graduated from the UW, acquired two MA degrees from Truman University and holds a DMA from the Eastman School of Music. He played for many years with the renowned Eastman Jazz Ensemble and has shared the stage with many noted jazz artists. He is currently on the faculty of Northwest School. Thomas Harris, another distinguished musician, will be playing reeds. A native of Bellingham, he attended Berklee College of Music on full scholarship. In addition to playing with a wide variety of artists and bands, he is an accomplished vocalist. He is now a jazz instructor at Western Washington University and at Whatcom Music Arts Center. Jen intends to add guitar/banjo or piano, and possibly trombone. She is on the road as this is being written and players

of those instruments remain to be identified.

For most of us, the October session will be our last chance to hear Jen, as she will move to New York in November. In doing so, she will be following a number of Northwest jazz musicians who are making their mark in the Big Apple. Those include Roosevelt High trumpet alum Mike Davis, Shoreline High trombonist Emily Asher, and from Canada trumpet star Bria Skonberg and the Arntzen brothers, Evan on reeds and Arnt on banjo.

Join us all at the Ballard on October 20th to hear Jen and her All Stars and to wish her success in her move to New York and the "big leagues" of jazz.



Left - Jen Hodge

WHERE:

Ballard Elks Lodge
6411 Seaview Ave. NW, Seattle

WHEN:

1 pm - 4:30 pm - October 20

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

Oct. 20	Jen Hodge All Stars
Nov. 17	Jacob Zimmerman and His Pals
Dec. 15	Dave Loomis' Good Herb Jazz Band
Jan. 19, 2020	Ray Skjelbred's Yeti Chasers

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JAZZ SOUNDINGS

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Ads must be submitted in a jpeg or PDF format

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

Oct. 5 Uptown Lowdown Jazz Band

Nov. 2 Bonnie Northgraves & Friends

Dec. 7 Crescent City Shakers

DAVE HOLO TRIO

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

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

Oct. 4 5 - 8pm

Oct. 18 5 - 8pm

OLYMPIA JAZZ SOCIETY

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

www.olyjazz.com

Oct. 13 Dave McCrary's Mud Bay Little Big Band

Nov. 10 Uptown Swing & Jazz

Dec. 8 Tom Jacobus & Friends

REBECCA KILGORE W/ RAY SKJELBRED TRIO

Nov. 8 & 9 7:30pm Kenyon Hall 7904 -35th Ave. S. W., Seattle

Information: kenyonhall.org

PEARL DJANGO

Oct. 4 6:30 pm North Olympic Library System We will
perform in Sequim at the library. This is part of the
October Art Walk so come earlier. Refreshments will be
served. 630 North Sequim Avenue in Sequim. email
Discover@nols.org, or call 360.683.1161

Oct. 6 4:40 - 6:00 pm Issaquah Salmon Days Front Street
Stage - near W Sunset Way, Issaquah, WA

Oct. 16 7:30 pm The Sapphire Room in the Riverside Hotel,
2900 Chinden Boulevard, Boise, Idaho 83714
208-331-4930 music@riversideboise.com

Oct. 17-20 Sun Valley, ID; 10 performances over 4 days. Pearl
Django will be back at Sun Valley Jazz for the jazz festival



On Your Dial.....

Sunday

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

Grand Dominion Jazz Band 1982 - 2000

by Michael Shilley - Board Member

When I immigrated to Vancouver B. C. in 1967, I was more concerned with finding a job and a home for my family than finding a traditional jazz band. Consequently, it was a few years before I found a band that sounded like the British bands I had left behind.

Those early years in North America were a far cry from the scene back home. On a typical evening back in Eastleigh, County Hampshire, England, a workmate and I would drive out to a hotel lounge bar and stand shoulder to shoulder with so many jazz and beer drinking fans that we had to hold our drinks up close for fear of spilling. Back in the day, England was full of great touring bands, like those of Kenny Ball, Acker Bilk, Chris Barber and more.

When I moved to Seattle I heard the Rainier Jazz Band, and after that the Phoenix Jazzers on their visits from Vancouver. These were bands I identified with, and I tried to attend as many of their performances as possible. Then out of the blue in 1982, the Grand Dominion Jazz Band emerged, engaging musicians from four different bands. Trumpeter Bob Jackson from the Great Excelsior Jazz Band was a tall and strong leader of the front line. His trumpet thrilled me like nothing since seeing Louis Armstrong back in 1954 London. Three members came from the Phoenix Jazzers: leader Mike Cox on tenor banjo was an immigrant from Wales; Jim Armstrong, a trombonist with a warm and charismatic singing voice, came from Northern Ireland; and Gerry Green, a product of Feltham, Middlesex near London, played New Orleans style clarinet. To complete the lineup, the rhythm section featured the Rainier's Bob Pelland on piano, the Great Excelsior's Mike Duffy on string bass and the Uptown Lowdown Jazz Band's Steve Joseph on drums.

Their first-ever gig was put together by Mike Cox when he was asked to provide a band for a July 1982 weekend for the "Hot Jazz Club" in Vancouver. Mike thought it would be fun to invite some of his musician friends from the Pacific Northwest for a laid-back jam session. But what happened instead was a special performance and an instant chemistry which all the musicians felt and wished to preserve. The Grand Domin-

ion Jazz Band was about to be born. A year later, the band members all chipped in to make their first recording, and since then their star has shone brightly, travelling Europe several times, playing festivals all over the United States, not to mention over 30 cruises, and making many LP and CD recordings.

Hal Smith was the drummer for that first gig, but for the following nine years Steve Joseph served as the band's drummer and business manager. Another Englishman, Mike McCombe, from Ken Colyer's Merseysippi Jazz Band took over on drums in 1994, and Bob Pelland has assumed the role of manager ever since.

We are lucky to have such a great band in our neighborhood, and since it is well past time for the band to make a return trip to our Sun-



Above: Grand Dominion Jazz Band - 1990

day afternoon sessions, we are inviting them back as a highlight for our coming season. Mark your calendar now for March 15, 2020.

Stay tuned to these pages for our next article on the band's development and its changes in personnel over the years.

A BRIEF BIOGRAPHY OF JEN HODGE

by John Ochs

(Many of you will remember that Jen Hodge's appearance in February was canceled due to snow. Below is an abbreviated version of the article which appeared in advance of that scheduled concert.)

You may remember Jen Hodge as the bass player in Claire McKenna's Mighty Aphrodite, but now she is as much in demand as a leader as well as a side musician. She has fond memories of her past appearances here and has agreed to bring her band down from Vancouver to play for us this month.

Hodge was born in Courtenay, B. C. in the Comox Valley region of Vancouver Island. She played electric bass in junior high school, and by age 15 was leading her own rock band and working as a pit musician in a community theatre group. She switched to upright bass

for her high school's concert band and also played in a combo where she experienced the freedom of small-group jazz for the first time.

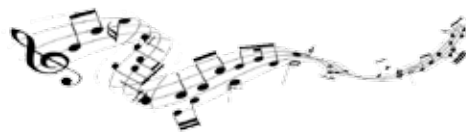
Jen enrolled at Capilano College in 2002. She had never played traditional jazz, but on her first day she met older students, Bria Skonberg and Evan Arntzen. Right away, she hung out with them both at school and at their off-campus gigs. Eventually, she began subbing on bass when their tuba player left. This led other leaders to hire her, and soon she was in demand as an established bass player. Jen excelled as a student musician, performed in the school's top ensembles, and received the prestigious Linton Garner Jazz Award before graduating in 2007 with a Bachelor of Music degree in Jazz Studies. *continued on page 4*

Dear PS+JS members
I would like to thank
each of you who give
so much to our youth
music fund.

We sent two to the
Shoreline Jazz Camp -
on scholarships to learn
and play with the Pros!

Here are their letters -
again thank you

Thank You!



Thank you so much for the opportunity for me to be apart of
this great jazz camp. It's been wonderful playing with other
people around my age who share the same love of the
unique art of jazz. I've met many talented instructors
who give lots of inspiration to me. They have so much to share
I've learned lots of ideas and unique ways to play the drums,
such as certain ways to play rudiments on the actual kit
and improving my improvisational skill set. My time here has
given me a great start for music in the new school year and I
want to thank you again for supporting me and jazz in the
community! I hope to be back next year!

-Lander Day

Dear Puget Sound traditional Jazz Society:

My name is Ian Sloch. I first heard about this
camp last year when both of my friends decided to
go. Not having enough information, I decided not to
enroll. But this year, my mom wanted me to,
and was able to find your sponsorship opportunity.
Because of this, I have learned much about chords
changes, stylistic approaches and a more serious view of
jazz. It was also much of a reality check for me.
I wasn't practicing as much as I should, but after
seeing so many good players and being part of a better
group, I have been motivated to learn and practice more.
So, thank you for this opportunity, and I will be planning
on coming back next year.

Thank you,

Ian Sloch
IAN SLOCH

Jen continued from page 3

Hodge teamed with some student colleagues to form the
Company B Jazz Band in 2006. The band began as a vocal-
oriented group featuring three-part harmony sung in the swing
style of the Andrews Sisters, but soon its repertoire expanded
to include arrangements rooted in the hotter, more jazzy style
of the Boswell Sisters. The band's core roster features the
vocal front line of Shannon Scott, Juhli Conlinn, and Bonnie
Northgraves with an instrumental trio anchored by Jen on bass.

Jen's debut as a solo band leader came about at a swing
dance in November 2010 when the scheduled band cancelled at
the last minute. The job led to a weekly gig at the Guilt & Co.,
the premier nightclub in Vancouver's historic Gastown district.
Today, almost nine years later, "Jen Hodge All Stars" remain
one of the club's leading attractions while continuing to hold
down a Wednesday-night slot.

Equally busy as a side musician as she is as a leader,
Jen has played with the Milk Crate Bandits, Diane Lines, the
Brothers Arntzen, Blackstick, Solomon Douglas, Rebecca
Kilgore, Casey MacGill, Glenn Crytzer, Dal Richards, and
rock producer Garth Richardson. She also has performed and
directed bands for the CBC radio and CTV television networks
and is a regular at swing-dances around the Northwest.

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.

PREZ SEZ

by Jim Blokzyl

We got our fall phase of music presentation off with the inspired performance of the EVERGREEN CLASSIC J-B last Sunday. The new members have given them a renewed vigor in their playing, which made the afternoon go by too fast.

Suddenly the thought of nominations for election to the Board looms over us. There is quite a cross-section of talent in our membership and these positions need that talent on the Board of Directors, in order for us to find ways to operate as a business. Several suggestions have been made, relative to the fact that we are deficit spending and we must find ways to intervene and come up with ways to implement those ideas and make us successful. We only have four regularly scheduled meetings each year, so it doesn't demand a lot of your time – meantime, we need those wonderful ideas that are just waiting to get loose and help us. Give it a try; offer your name for a start. Even if it's only for two years!

WELCOME NEW
MEMBERS:
GERRY AND CAROLYN
SMITH



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

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BANDS, CONTACTS

AIN'T NO HEAVEN SEVEN Leader: Terry Rogers

terry.rogers@mac.com 206-465-6601

JIM ARMSTRONG GROUP - armsjv@shaw.ca 604-560-9664

BARRELHOUSE GANG Leader: James Walls

206-280-1581 email: barrelhousegang@gmail.com

www.barrelhousegang.com

BOURBON STREET ALL STARS

Leader: Jeff Winslow (360) 731 0322 drjw jazz@gmail.com

COAL CREEK JAZZ BAND Leader: Judy Logen, 425-641-1692

Bookings: judy@coalcreekjazzband.com

CORNUCOPIA CONCERT BAND Leader: Allan Rustad

www.comband.org 425-744-4575

CRESCENT CITY SHAKERS - gfgreen12@icloud.com 604-291-2486

DAVE HOLO TRIO Leader: Dave Holo email: dave@daveholo.com

www.holotradband.com

DUKES OF DABOB Bookings: Mark Holman, 360-779-6357,
seaclar7@embarqmail.com.

DUWAMISH DIXIELAND JAZZ BAND Bookings:

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www.duwamishdixielandjazzband.com

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FOGGY BOTTOM JAZZ BAND Leader: Bruce Cosacchi

206-819-7079 email: pbc200606@yahoo.com

GRAND DOMINION JAZZ BAND Bookings: Bob Pelland

bob@gdjb.com 360-387-2500

HOT CLUB SANDWICH Contact: James Schneider

www.hotclubswich.com 206-561-1137

HUME STREET PRESERVATION JAZZ BAND

Bookings: Karla West 406-862-3814

JAZZ UNLIMITED BAND Leader: Duane Wright

duane.janw@frontier.com 206-930-9998

JAZZ STRINGS Bookings: Dave Brown

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LOUISIANA JOYMAKERS Leader: Mike Hobbs

mikehobbs1924@gmail.com

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THE YETI CHASERS Leader: Ray Skjelbred

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<http://www.rayskjelbred.com/calendar.html>