THE PUGET SOUND TRADITIONAL JAZZ SOCIETY AZZ SOUNDINGS



February 2020 Volume 45, Number 2

WE'LL ENJOY JONATHAN DOYLE'S HOT SEVEN ON FEBRUARY 16!

by George Swinford



Above: Jerome Smith

In Jonathan Doyle's second appearance as leader, he brings us his Hot Seven, a group of seasoned jazz musicians. Like his Linger Longer Orchestra which we heard last May, the Hot Seven is a two-reed band, without drums. Jonathan will lead this septet on tenor and soprano saxes, plus clarinet. He knows what he's doing, jazzwise. Along with leading a variety of combos under his own name, Jonathan has appeared with the Jim Cullum Jazz Band of Riverwalk fame, with the New Orleans band Tuba Skinny (on 3 CDs), and in Chicago,

where he spent 14 months as a member of the wonderful Fat Babies. Locally, he's played with Casey MacGill, among others.

The Hot Seven's second reed player is Jacob Zimmerman, on alto sax and clarinet. Lately Jacob has become a familiar figure on our bandstand. Local favorite Dave Holo will play trumpet. Jerome Smith will be the trombonist, as he was with Jonathan's band last May. Jerome is not so well-known to us, although his twenty-plus years in music have taken him all over the world. It will be good to hear him again. Not exactly on our bandstand, but close enough for all practical purposes, Ray Skjelbred will play piano. Josh Roberts on banjo and guitar and Matt Weiner on bass complete the lineup. Jonathan doesn't plan any fancy arrangements for this group, so expect them to be mostly improvising off lead sheets as jazz bands used to, back when everyone knew everyone else and they all knew the tunes. (And don't we miss those days!)

Given the players that Jonathan has selected, the possibilities within the traditional jazz framework are almost limitless. With these guys on the stand the show can't go wrong! Join us at the Ballard Elks on February 16th for an afternoon of hot jazz, as we listen and dance to Jonathan Doyle's Hot Seven!



Above: Jonathan Doyle

WHERE:

Ballard Elks Lodge 6411 Seaview Ave. NW, Seattle

WHEN:

1 pm - 4:30 pm - February 16 **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

Feb. 16	Jonathan Doyle's Hot Seven
March 15	Grand Dominion Jazz Band
April 19	Ain't No Heaven Seven
May 17	TBA

May 17 TBA June 21 TBA

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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

Feb. 1 Josh Roberts and Friends

March 7 Yeti Chasers

April 4 Bellingham Dixieland All Stars

May 9 Market Street Jass Band

June 6 Evergreen Classic Jazz Band

PEARL DJANGO

Feb. 7 7:30pm Upstairs Lounge of Oak Bay Recreation Centre, 1975 Bee Street; Victoria, B.C. (Canada)

Feb. 15 7pm A Collective Visions Gallery Event 270 4th St. Bremerton, WA 360-377-8327.

GRAND DOMINION JAZZ BAND

Appearing at the Fresno Sounds of Mardi Gras.

Double Tree by Hilton Fresno, CA www.fresnodixie.com

BOB SCHULZ FRISCO JAZZ BAND

Feb. 6-9 Various times - every day Fresno Sounds of Mardi Gras
Double Tree by Hilton Fresno, CA www.fresnodixie.com

RAY SKJELBRED'S YETI CHASERS

Feb. 22 7:30-9:30pm Third Place Commons, 17171 Bothell Way NE, Lake Forest Park, Washington 98155, http://thirdplacecommons.org/

MATT WEINER AND RAY SKJELBRED

Feb. 26 7-10pm Pink Door, 1919 Post Alley Seattle, WA 98101

JACOB ZIMMERMAN AND RAY SKJELBRED

Feb. 14 9-Midnight Eastside Stomp, Redmond, Aria Ballroom 15300 NE 95th St. Redmond, WA 98052



On Your Dial.....

Sunday

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

GRAND DOMINION JAZZ BAND, 2000 - 2020

(In the October 2019 Jazz Soundings, Mike Shilley told the story of the Grand Dominion Jazz Band's formation in 1982 and its first 18 years of existence. This month, he discusses the changes which have occurred during the past 20 years and gives us an idea of what to expect at our concert on March 15th.

This July will mark the Grand Dominion's (GD) 38th anniversary as a working band. As those who attended the 2019 San Diego Jazz Festival can attest, the GD had the best rhythm section of any jazz band in attendance. The fact that so many young swing dancers chose to attend the GD's final set rather than their own special swing-dance set on Saturday

old. His history with our society goes back to the 1970s when he was a member of the Rainier Jazz Band. Both clarinetist Gerry Green and trombonist Jim Armstrong began playing in the British Isles during the "British Trad" boom of the late 1950s and early '60s before moving to Canada in the mid-1960s.

Of the newer band members, three play rhythm instruments, and one plays lead horn. Banjoist Bill Dixon, born in London, became a full-time musician after leaving school in 1959. Like Green and Armstrong, Bill was busy playing six or seven nights a week with several jazz bands, including Dick Charlesworth's City Gents and Kenny



(top, left to right) Bob Pelland, Gerry Green, Clint Baker, Jim Armstrong (lower) Bill Dixon, Bill Reinhart, Jeff Hamilton

night should give us renewed hope about our own survival. Since 2000, the band has played at festivals all around North America plus taking in jazz cruises to Alaska, the Panama Canal, the Caribbean, and the Mexican Riviera. The band has also cruised the Mediterranean and the Baltic Sea, stopping off in England to renew its past popularity at several locations.

Today, three members remain from the original seven-piece band formed in 1982. Band manager Bob Pelland, born and raised in Mount Vernon, WA, has been playing jazz piano since he was 13 years Ball and His Jazzmen. After brief spells with trumpeter Nat Gonella and trombonist Mac Duncan, Bill emigrated in 1971 to Canada where he worked in pharmaceutical sales and gigged with many Vancouver-area musicians until the GD permanently recruited him in 2009.

Jeff Hamilton, who took over on drums after Mike McCombe left the band, has an extensive musical history, beginning with drum lessons at age nine and classical piano studies at eleven. Originally from Newport Beach, CA, he moved in 1974 to New Orleans where he worked with

many of the local greats and studied with legendary drummer Josiah "Cie" Frazier. Having traveled the world playing festivals, cruises, and special events, Jeff expresses gratitude for the privilege of working with so many remarkably talented musicians. Bandleader Dan Barrett has written, "Jeff has a beautiful, beautiful, sense of time. Since he also plays piano, he understands the structure of tunes and is a very responsive drummer." The list of performers and countries on Jeff's resume is long and a visit to his website (see jeffhamiltonjazz.com) should be enough to convince anyone to come and listen on March 15.

Bassist Bill Reinhart rounds out the rhythm section. He is the band's newest member and follows in the footsteps of the two very talented Mikes, Fay and Duffy. Hailing from Stockton, CA, Bill also leads the Port City Jazz Band, and is a founding member of the San Joaquin Jazz Society, established in 1979. Along with a propulsive, high-energy style, he brings a rich texture heavily influenced by his mentor Mike Fay. Also skilled at guitar, banjo, tuba, and piano, Bill is always in demand.

The only change in the GD's front line since its founding came in 2009 when Clint Baker took over on trumpet after Bob Jackson's retirement. Baker, from San Bruno, CA, is a self-taught musician, having mastered 10 instruments on his own. He played clarinet in his school band until the music director needed a trombonist, a request which Clint quickly obliged. He formed his first band, Greasy Kid Stuff, in 1984 when he was 13 years old. In 1988, the band was invited to the Sacramento Traditional Jazz Jubilee (now "Sacramento Music Festival") where Clint has appeared with many different bands every year since. He first performed for our society on trumpet with Clint Baker's New Orleans

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Grand Dominion - continued from page 3



The Grand Dominion's talented California trio - Clint Baker, Jeff Hamilton, and Bill Reinhart - at the Cafe Borrone in Menlo Park. Each is playing a different instrument than we will see them playing on March 15.

Jazz Band in the early 1990s. Barely 20 years old at the time, he already played and led the band like a veteran. Since then, he has become universally recognized as one of the most talented, versatile, and dedicated traditional jazz musician/educators in the world.

Baker fell in love with the GD as a teenager and was often asked to join the band at festivals for a set or two, so when Jackson retired, Clint was his natural replacement. Today, he performs regularly in the San Francisco area, both as a leader and as a muchin-demand sideman. Worthy of particular mention is his longstanding relationship with Cafe Borrone in Menlo Park, CA, where his band (now called the Cafe Borrone All-Stars) has held forth for the past 29 years. Additional information about Baker is available online (see wikipedia.org/wiki/Clint_Baker or clintbakerjazz.com).

Each of these "newcomers" has enabled the Grand Dominion to maintain the high standard and energy that the band brought to the stage at that initial gig at Vancouver in 1982 when the first version of the band came together as an experiment. Please be sure to mark your calendar and join us when they and the original band members gather again to thrill and entertain us on the 15th of March.

~ PREZ SEZ ~

We just weathered my first year as your President and it was exciting at times, but you must know that you have an excellent Board that helps me manage the operation.

This year, we are hosting new bands, but also bringing in the GRAND DOMINION JB, which poses somewhat of a problem with three of the members located in California. This makes for added expenses for air travel and overnight accommodations, but we committed to do it. Several Boardmembers have

donated to the cause but we could always use more help in that regard.

Our Society has diminished over the past few years, mostly because we didn't replace those that we lost. We need to grow by ONE ~~~ that's YOUR one and MY one. At our regular meetings, I look forward to the 'umbrella/parasol parade' that we haven't experienced since early last year. This is such a crazy way to have fun, but it helps to enjoy the Sunday afternoon meeting, even tho' the Seahawks are playing!

A reminder to those who have not mailed in their pledges, please do so NOW.

Puget Sound Traditional Jazz Society 19031 Ocean Ave., Edmonds, WA 98020-2344		
Please (enroll) (renew) (me) (us) as a member or members		
Name		
Address		
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.		

We are excited to announce we are sending two young musicians (ages 12-19) to the Blaine Harbor Music Camp July 5th through the 11th, 2020.

Are there any members who might know of a young musician interested in going to music camp? If so, please let us know by March 15, 2020.

Sincerely, Joanne Hargrave, Board Member

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

TEBBY LAVERY . PAULA WALTERS . CYD SMITH



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!



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.

Puget Sound Traditional Jazz Society

19031 Ocean Ave. Edmonds, WA 98020-2344

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www.barrelhousegang.com

BOURBON STREET ALL STARS

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