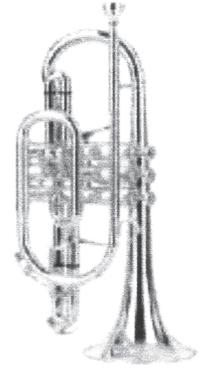


# JAZZ SOUNDINGS

THE PUGET SOUND TRADITIONAL JAZZ SOCIETY



September 2025

Volume 50, Number 7

## FLASH ALERT! RETURN OF THE NOONATICS JUMPSTARTS A NEW SEASON!

By John Ochs



*L to r: Matt Weiner,  
Paul Woltz, Jacob  
Zimmerman, Ray  
Skjelbred, Jonathan  
Doyle, Christian  
Pincock.*

joining Jacob and Paul on the front line, and Ray Skjelbred will be replacing Andrew Oliver on piano.

While we'll hear some of Noone's signature tunes (which may include such titles as Blues My Naughty Sweetie Gives to Me, Apex Blues, Ready for the River, and Sweet Sue) bandleader Weiner says not to expect a slavish adherence to the Apex

*(Continued on page 3)*

### WHERE:

**Ballard Elks Lodge**  
6411 Seaview Ave. NW  
Seattle, WA

WHEN: September 21  
1–4 p.m.

ADMISSION: Pay only at door  
PSTJS members, \$15  
Nonmembers, \$20  
**Cash or check only**

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

FURTHER INFO: Carol Rippey,  
425-776-5072, or [www.pstjs.org](http://www.pstjs.org).

Plenty of free parking; great view  
& dance floor; snacks, coffee,  
and other beverages available.

Our inaugural show for the 2025–26 season features Matt Weiner's Noonatics, a combination that debuted on our stage in March 2023 as a tip of the hat to the great New Orleans clarinetist Jimmie Noone. While Noone played and recorded in various groups in his 31 years as a professional reed man, the Noonatics are reminiscent of one band in particular: the Apex Club Orchestra, a quintet that played at the Apex Club on Chicago's South Side from 1926 to 1929. That band featured Earl Hines on piano, with Noone and Joe Poston on clarinet and alto sax. The combination of two reeds playing in the front line without the benefit of at least one brass instrument was an innovation at the time, and the band's records are now recognized as jazz classics.

The Noonatics' 2025 personnel is similar to that of 2023, except for two changes. As before, Matt will be playing tenor banjo, Paul Woltz alto saxophone, Jacob Zimmerman clarinet and alto sax, and Jonathan Doyle bass sax. The differences are that trombonist Christian Pincock will be

## PUGET SOUND TRADITIONAL JAZZ SOCIETY

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### PSTJS UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct 19: Black Swan Classic Jazz Band  
Nov 16: Bridgetown Sextet  
Dec 14: Ray Skjelbred's Yeti Chasers

### BELLINGHAM JAZZ

**Jazz at the VFW First Saturdays, 2–5 p.m.**

Sep 13 Little Jazz Friends, Oak Harbor 8-piece

Fine acoustics and line of sight. Large wooden dance floor. Reasonable bar prices. Snacks & beverages by donation. Members, \$15; nonmembers, \$20; students with card, \$5. VFW Post 1585, 625 N State St., Bellingham. Info: [www.bellinghamjazz.com](http://www.bellinghamjazz.com).

### OLYMPIA JAZZ

On the second Sunday of each month, the greater Olympia Dixie/Swing society holds a *free* dance open to all ages. All dances are 1–4 p.m. at the Olympia Elks Club, 1818 4th Ave E, Olympia.

Info: Dave McCrary, [mccrarydavid@hotmail.com](mailto:mccrarydavid@hotmail.com).



### JAZZ SOUNDINGS

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**The advertising deadline is the 10th of the month for the next month's issue.**

Ads must be submitted in a JPG or PDF format.

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Gloria Kristovich  
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## PREZ SEZ

By Terry Rogers

Well, here we go again, and it will be a wonderful trip.

As you can read in this issue, we have a terrific band lined up for September 21. The three reed men playing are all the best in the business, and they are surrounded by excellent musicians all. It will be a terrific afternoon of music, dancing, and simply enjoying America's music. Yay!



I am very excited and humbled to report that my invitation to assist in the financial support of the work on the new website for the organization has been answered in a resoundingly positive way. Wow! At the time of this writing, we have received donations that just about cover the entire cost of the project, with an expectation of more donations to arrive. That is just awesome, and to me reflects the desire of our members to not only continue the support of our organization, but also to foresee the expectation that improving our marketing and promotion is likely to attract new members. I am very hopeful that increasing exposure in the music and dancing communities will reach those interested folks who may not have known about us.

I neglected to mention in my summer letter that the Puget Sound Traditional Jazz Society is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, which means that any donations given to it are fully tax deductible, because no goods or services were received by the person donating.

The board and I are grateful for the generous support, and we are excited about this surge of energy and engagement. I am looking forward to a great year of music and friendship, and I hope that you are excited, as well. I know that the year is going to start really well, and I look forward to seeing you all on the 21st.

We're looking for new members

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

## FESTIVALS AND CRUISES 2025

- Sep 5–7 Pentastic Hot Jazz & Music Fest, Penticton, BC
- Sep 18–21 Ragtime & American Music Fest, Orbisonia, PA
- Sep 26–27 Great Northeast Jug Band Fest, Arlington, MA
- Nov 21–23 Suncoast Jazz Festival, Clearwater, FL

NOONATICS

(Continued from page 1)

Club recordings: “We love Noone’s music for its solid rhythm and beautiful two-horn clarinet and alto sax arrangements, but we’re more interested in using this approach to create something new rather than recreating what he already did.

“The idea of copying his recordings never gets discussed in our band, and it’s not our goal. What we want to retain as much as anything is a love for the songs we play. There’s something natural about the Apex recordings which sounds folksy—and I use the term in the best sense—just five folks sitting around playing the way they like. You can tell they really loved playing the music. You can tell this from the care they took to begin each song with the verse, to sing the lyrics as written, and to follow the original chord changes from the sheet music.

“One of the best things about jazz is that when you change a musician or add a player, you get a different sound. The addition of Christian Pincock’s trombone brings to the band another harmonic voice, as well as a new set of tonal effects, since he plays both slide and valve trombone. As far as having Ray playing piano instead of Andrew, we love either one. Andrew is more of a Jelly Roll Morton player, while Ray can sound more like Earl Hines, the original pianist in Noone’s band.”

A couple of things we can be sure of. We’ve heard all of these musicians before, and they’ve never failed to please. We also know the music will be a particular delight to dancers, because the Apex band was famous for its danceable rhythms. So come see, listen, and feel the rhythm of the band at the Ballard Elks lodge on September 21. And please bring a friend or two. Remember, those under 21 are admitted free when accompanied by an adult paying admission.

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## IN MEMORIAM: BOB RANN



Robert “Bob” Rann, renowned tubaist and a foundational figure in the traditional jazz revival movement, passed away peacefully on August 1, 2025, at the age of 88. A gifted musician, tireless performer, and joyful presence onstage and off, Rann’s career spanned more than six decades, touching audiences around the world.

Born in 1936, Bob’s journey in jazz began during his college years at Purdue University, where he joined the Original Salty Dogs Jazz Band. Formed in the mid-1950s, the band quickly gained a reputation as one of the premier collegiate traditional jazz ensembles in the country. Bob’s tuba work provided the band’s booming heartbeat, and he played alongside respected names like Frank Chace, Jim Snyder, Jack Lord, Birch Smith, and Dick Karner.

In 1956, Bob was invited to join the iconic Turk Murphy Jazz Band in San Francisco. Performing with Murphy—a central figure in the West Coast Dixieland revival—placed Bob among the genre’s elite. He shared the stage with jazz greats such as Bob Helm, Don Ewell, Dick Lammi, and Don Kinch, performing in some of the city’s most storied venues and helping carry on the New Orleans tradition through the post-war years.

Perhaps Bob’s longest and most beloved musical role was with the South Frisco Jazz Band, which he joined in 1966. Over the next five decades, Bob became the rhythmic foundation of the ensemble, performing weekly at the famed Pizza Palace in Huntington Beach and appearing on more than a dozen albums. His tuba lines underpinned fan-favorite recordings like *Hot Tamale Man*, *Jones Law Blues* (featuring Bob Helm), *Broken Promises*, and *Got Everything*. South Frisco also appeared on video in *Live from the Crazy Horse Saloon*, further documenting the band’s onstage energy and Bob’s driving tuba.

With South Frisco, Bob performed at major traditional jazz festivals across the United States—from Sacramento to Seaside, Del Mar to Spokane—and took part in world tours that included performances in Europe and Japan, as well as a memorable nine-day jazz cruise from Seattle to Acapulco in 1995. Whether on stage at a world-class venue or jamming in a pizza parlor, Bob brought boundless heart and impeccable swing to every performance.

Known for his humor as much as his musicianship, Bob once stole the show—literally—during a live TV appearance on the Howard Miller Show in Chicago. A wardrobe malfunction during rehearsal (and his quick-witted excuse: “Some woman took my pants and didn’t bring them back.”) had the audience in stitches, and became part of family lore.

In honor of Bob Rann, jazz fans everywhere are encouraged to turn up a favorite South Frisco record, raise a glass, and remember the man who kept the beat swinging for generations.



*South Frisco Jazz Band, a cornerstone of the West Coast traditional jazz scene. Pictured left to right: Leon Oakley, Jim Snyder, Dan Comins, Mike Baird, Lloyd Byassee, Vince Saunders, Robbie Rhodes, and Robert “Bob” Rann on tuba. Photo by Paige Byassee.*

# DANCERS AT THE PUDDLETOWN STOMPERS CONCERT, JUNE 15

*Photos courtesy of Cilla Trush*



# PHOTO REVIEW OF PUDDLETOWN STOMPERS

*Photos courtesy of Cilla Trush*



*Cyrus Nabipoor (trumpet/leader), Chris Shuttleworth (tuba), David Evans (clarinet & tenor saxophone), Tom Sandahl (banjo), and Tyson Stubelek (drums).*

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Or phone: 425-776-5072.

**THANK YOU.**

## **GIGS FOR LOCAL BANDS**

### **MATT WEINER & FRIENDS**

**Wednesdays**, 7–10 p.m.

The Pink Door, 1919 Post Alley, Seattle  
206-443-3241; <http://thepinkdoor.net>

### **JACOB ZIMMERMAN 3**

Jacob Zimmerman, alto sax and clarinet; Chris  
Spencer, guitar; Matt Weiner, bass

**Every other Sunday**, 8–10:30 p.m.

Zig Zag Café, 1501 Western Ave Ste 202, Seattle  
206-625-1146; [www.jacobrezimmerman.com](http://www.jacobrezimmerman.com)

**Thursdays**, 8:30–11:30 p.m.

Il Bistro, 93 Pike St. Suite A., Seattle  
206-682-3049; [www.ilbistro.net](http://www.ilbistro.net)

### **ALEX GUILBERT**

Solo stride, blues, and ragtime piano

**Second Thursday**, 7:30 to 10 p.m.

Jules Maes Saloon in Georgetown

**September 17:** "Piano Starts Here" at the Royal Room

The music of Shirley Horn/Nat King Cole, with  
pianist/vocalists Darrius Willrich, Carolyn Graye, Tim  
Kennedy and Alex with accompaniment by D'Vonne  
Lewis and Greg Feingold on drums and bass.

### **TRAVIS PALMER'S Emerald City Ragtime Band**

Traditional jazz, **second Thursday**, 7:30–9:30 p.m.  
Sea Monster Lounge in Wallingford, 2202 No. 45th St.

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**JIM ARMSTRONG GROUP**  
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**BOURBON STREET ALL STARS** Leader: Jeff Winslow  
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**COAL CREEK JAZZ BAND** Bookings: Judy Logen  
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**CORNUCOPIA CONCERT BAND** Leader: Allan Rustad  
aprustad@comcast.net; 425-744-4575; www.comband.org

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

**FOGGY BOTTOM JAZZ BAND** Leader: Bruce Cosacchi  
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**HOT CLUB SANDWICH**  
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www.hotclubsandwich.com

**JAZZ UNLIMITED BAND** Leader: Duane Wright  
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206-437-1568

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rayskjelbred@gmail.com; 206-420-8535

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dinablade@dinablade.com; 206-524-8283  
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