# THE PUGET SOUND TRADITIONAL JAZZ SOCIETY AZZ SOUNDINGS



April 2022 Volume 47, Number 4

# JACOB ZIMMERMAN AND FRIENDS—A HOT BAND FOR APRIL 24!

By George Swinford

Jacob Zimmerman often appears as a sideman with the bands at our monthly concerts, playing alto sax and clarinet. He will do so as he leads his own band this month. It will be the fourth time he has assembled a quintet for our enjoyment. Jacob's choice of musical companions for sessions he leads has been pretty consistent. Ray Skjelbred has been the pianist each time, and Matt Weiner the bassist. Ray and Jacob often work together as a duo, and the three together have recently played a couple of well-received early evening sessions at the Royal Room, Seattle's great jazz venue on Rainier Avenue South. Canadian guitarist Josh Roberts will be making his third appearance with Jacob's group of friends. He is also frequently heard as a sideman at our concerts.

The final member of Jacob's quintet comes as a welcome surprise. Emily Asher will play trombone! Long-time PSTJS members may remember Emily as a member of the young all-female jazz band Mighty Aphrodite, along with Canadian trumpeter Bria Skonberg and our own Claire McKenna on clarinet.

Since this was way back in the days when we were meeting in the Mountaineers Ballroom, a few words from Emily's online bio are in order: She is from Seattle and she obtained three bachelor's degrees from the University of Washington. With degrees in hand, she spent three years as the band teacher at Ballou Junior High School in Puyallup. She then spent twelve years on the New York scene, where she established a reputation as a jazz trombonist and leader. She has released five CDs and led tours of the U.S. and Israel with her band. Emily Asher's Garden Party. She also gained a master's degree in Music Performance from CUNY Oueens College.

As the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted jazz life, Emily returned to the Northwest and a teaching career. She is Elementary Music Specialist for Bellingham's public schools and is a member of the jazz faculty at Western Washington University.

This is the first gig for this combination. They are all good friends and great musicians. April 24th happens also to be the birthday

(Continued on page 3)

The Elks club has had difficulty hiring a chef for Sunday afternoons, which means that hot food has not been available the last few months. Prior to heading to the Elks, check for updates at www.pstjs.org.

The bar will be open.

The PSTJS food and coffee table will be available.

WHERE:

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

WHEN:

April 24, 1–4 p.m.

ADMISSION: Pay only at door PSTJS members, \$12 Nonmembers, \$15 Free admission for those under 21

who accompany a person paying admission.

FURTHER INFO: Carol Rippey, 425-776-5072, or www.pstjs.org.

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

### **PUGET SOUND TRADITIONAL JAZZ SOCIETY**

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#### **UPCOMING PSTJS EVENTS**

April 24: Jacob Zimmerman and His Pals

May 15: Ain't No Heaven Seven Jazz Band

June 19: Andrew Oliver and His Buddies

#### GIGS FOR LOCAL BANDS

#### RAY SKJELBRED TRIO

Saturday, May 21, 7-9 p.m., Yeti Chasers, Third

Place Commons, Lake Forest Park

Saturday, June 11, 7:30–9:30 p.m., Ray Skjelbred

Trio, Kenyon Hall, 7904 - 35th Ave. S. W., Seattle

#### **MATT WEINER & FRIENDS**

Wednesdays, 7–10 p.m.

The Pink Door, 1919 Post Alley, Seattle

(206) 443-3241; website: http//thepinkdoor.net

#### **JACOB ZIMMERMAN 3**

Thursdays, 9–12 p.m.

Il Bistro, 93 Pike St. Suite A., Seattle

(206) 682-3049; website: ilbistro.net

#### **JAZZ SOUNDINGS**

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#### **PREZ SEZ**

By Terry Rogers

#### Of Fat Tuesday and Piano Tipping

For the first time in two years, there was live music on Fat Tuesday. Yay!

In the afternoon, I joined a quartet called The Birdwatchers to play some Dixie Swing for a number of enthusiasts at a retirement home in Bothell. We were so pleased to be playing again, and the residents were



really involved and enthusiastic, clapping and sometimes singing along. We will be back there again, I am sure.

In the evening, our band, The Ain't No Heaven Seven, played at a retirement home in Madison Park. This is a gig that we have done on this date at this facility for many years, so we were delighted to be back in action. And the residents really got into it, as if they were drinking water after a period of drought. The staff members, bless them, moved from resident to resident and got them on their feet, moving as they were able. It was a great time for us, and I am pretty sure, for them. There is something about the whole experience of live music, and that evening was a great example of its impact.

Piano tipping? What is that all about?

Here are the details: Our piano at the Ballard Elks has motored on for many years, but its mobility has been hindered recently because the caster on the right rear of the instrument has come off. It is hard to move such a beast with only three wheels. The conundrum was how to gain access to the bottom of the piano to see if the caster could be reattached. I contacted a moving company to see if they would use muscle to tip the piano on its back, but they declined to participate.

So, I called an old friend who works at Prosser Piano and asked for his advice. Lo and behold, he said that I didn't need muscle, I needed to use his piano tipper. What? Well, this device is like a hand truck that has curved rockers on its back, so when you start to tip the piano, those rockers carry the weight of the instrument and gently lay it on its back! Voila!

With the piano resting on this device, it became clear that the caster could be reattached by rotating the base 1/8th of a turn, drilling new pilot holes and placing new, longer screws. We tipped the piano back up, and it is ready to go! Thanks to my wife and our good friends for their assistance. I should mention that the male friend is from Wisconsin, and when I asked if he would assist, he answered that if it were anything like tipping a sleeping cow, he was in.

But that is a story for another time.

Come and hear some great music on the 24th. I will see you then.



JACOB ZIMMERMAN AND FRIENDS (Continued from page 1)

of pianist and composer Rube Bloom. He is responsible for several novelty piano numbers, as well as such classics as "Don't Worry About Me" and "Fools Rush In," and he played and recorded with top jazzmen of the '20s and '30s. Jacob means to put together a small tribute to him and to play at least a couple of his songs.

This promises to be a most interesting session. It will be a real treat to hear Emily Asher, playing as the mature jazz artist she now is. Jacob and the rest are players who never fail to light up our afternoons. Our slightly revised sets still start at 1 p.m. As said in "The Darktown Strutter's Ball," you'll "Want to be there when the band starts playing." See you there!



# Photo Review of New Woodchoppers Concert, February 20, 2022

Photos courtesy of Lynn Graves



(Left to right): Bandleader Kevin Johnston, Andy Hall, Kit Johnson, Dave Loomis, Steve Wright, & Paul Woltz



Dancers parade Mardi Gras-style to the tune of "Cakewalking Babies from Home."







Special guest Roy Hill of Ontario, Canada (back left), sat in with the full band on banjo and vocals.

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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.

## PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE

If any of you are thinking about moving,
NOTIFY US PROMPTLY
OF YOUR NEW ADDRESS.

**Email to**: trianglejazz@comcast.net Or phone: 425-776-5072.
THANK YOU.



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www.barrelhousegang.com

BOURBON STREET ALL STARS Leader: Jeff Winslow

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COAL CREEK JAZZ BAND Leader: Judy Logen

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GRAND DOMINION JAZZ BAND

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HOT CLUB SANDWICH

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www.hotclubsandwich.com

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