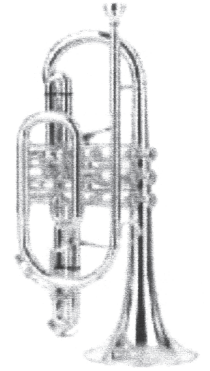


JAZZ SOUNDINGS

THE PUGET SOUND TRADITIONAL JAZZ SOCIETY



March 2024

Volume 49, Number 3

ST. PATRICK'S DAY: THE OLD GREY EAGLE JAZZBAND, AND A FOND SEND-OFF FOR DAVE LOOMIS!

By John Ochs

Prior to his most recent PSTJS appearance in September with the Simon Stribling–Lauri Lyster All-Stars, Dave Loomis told your music director that he had bought a condominium in Germany and planned to move there in June 2024. After that concert, he agreed to lead a band for us this month before he leaves. We will have more to say about Dave's move later, but first let's talk about the group of musicians he is putting together for us this St. Patrick's Day.



bands many times, are still active. Unfortunately, complications associated with Canadian border crossings have stymied our efforts to have them play for us since the pandemic.

As we have come to expect, Loomis has prepared charts detailed enough to insure the music remains true to the genre

(Continued on page 4)

The band, which Dave has christened the Old Grey Eagle Jazzband, will play music in the style of the British Trad bands of the 1950s, which were themselves inspired by the jazz revival launched in the U.S. during the 1940s by the appearances of Lu Watters in San Francisco and Bunk Johnson in New York.

Remarkably, "Trad Jazz" caught on to such an extent in the U.K. that it became the most popular music for young people until the Beatles arrived in 1963. Musicians like Humphrey Lyttelton, Chris Barber, Kenny Ball, Acker Bilk, Ken Colyer, and Monty Sunshine were household names throughout Great Britain.

The band's style should strike a familiar chord with members who have attended our concerts over the years. The Phoenix Jazzers, the Grand Dominion Jazz Band, and Gerry Green's Crescent City Shakers have all featured musicians who played with British Trad bands during the music's heyday. Clarinetist Gerry Green, trombonist Jim Armstrong, and banjoist Bill Dixon, each of whom have performed for us in those

WHERE:

Ballard Elks Lodge
6411 Seaview Ave. NW
Seattle, WA

WHEN: March 17
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.

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

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UPCOMING PSTJS EVENTS

April 21: Market Street Jazz Band
May 19: Seattle Trad Jazz Band

BELLINGHAM JAZZ

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

March 2: T.O.P. Jazz Band
April 6: Seattle Trad Jazz Band

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.

JAZZ IN OLYMPIA

Olympia Elks, 1818 E. 4th Ave., Olympia, 1–4 p.m.

March 10: Seattle Trad
April 14: Black Swan
May 12: Mud Bay

JAZZ SOUNDINGS

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Kathy Bruni, Editor: pstjs.editor@gmail.com

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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.

Mail checks *in advance*, payable to PSTJS to:

Gloria Kristovich
P.O. Box 373
Edmonds, WA 98020-0373

PREZ SEZ

By Terry Rogers

Do you dance? Do you like to dance? Do you know anyone who likes to dance?

I am still humming the "Arkansas Blues," the last tune played by Alex Guilbert's group at today's PSTJS monthly meeting. It was a group of stellar musicians playing some great music and it was very enjoyable.



What stood out to me was the number of people on the dance floor, even though it was late in the afternoon.

There were couples and even a group of six women in a circle having a lovely time swinging and swaying.

Where I am going with this is that I have a suspicion that there any number of other people in the community who would enjoy being part of our trad jazz gatherings, if only they knew about them. They would love to sit and tap their feet, get up and dance, and heavens, maybe even dance with someone that they hadn't previously met. How cool would that be?

For them to join us, however, means that they need to hear about us, which is where you come in. As members who read this monthly *Soundings*, how many of your friends and colleagues have you told about our organization? How many have you invited to our concerts? How many have you offered to drive to and from the meeting? How many have you offered to pay for a year's dues to whet their appetite to get them to be active members?

The point is that to sustain our organization, we need to have two things happen. One is to invite people who like to dance (and that is a lot of people) to come to the next Sunday concert. Your board is working on this issue, but it can do only so much by itself. Just think how robust and energetic a concert would be if everyone who regularly attends were to bring a new person or two next time, and maybe those new people would then invite someone that they might know.

The second thing that needs to happen is that current members, and that means *all current members*, need to send in their annual dues renewal now. Not tomorrow or the next day or next week, but now.

We can only sustain ourselves with deficit spending for so long. We need your help.

It was great to see some new faces today, and it will be even greater to see more next time. Let's reach out to some other new people, and of equal importance, please pay your membership dues now. This is great music and wonderful to be part of. Let's make sure that it not only keeps going but it keeps getting even better.

Thanks for your help!

Raffle Donation

Many thanks to Bill Roy, who won the 50/50 raffle and returned the money to the Youth Scholarship Fund.



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THANKS FOR THE DONATION!

PSTJS recently received a donation from the estate of Douglas Parker. Doug was a fan of jazz all his life. He lived in Lynnwood, Washington, for his last years, but traveled to jazz functions all over the West as long as he could. He named PSTJS in his will.

PSTJS is grateful to Doug for his contribution, which will assist us in providing opportunities for people to enjoy traditional jazz for a long time to come.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

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.

THE OLD GREY EAGLE JAZZBAND (Continued from page 1)

and at the same time loose enough to give his bandsmen freedom to improvise. The musicians are all familiar to us, though in some cases they may be new to each other. Along with Dave on trombone, the band features Jacob Zimmerman (reeds), Josh Roberts (banjo), Ray Skjelbred (piano), Mike Daugherty (drums), and Paul Hagglund (tuba). Ansgar Duemchen, leader of the Market Street Jazz Band, will complete the lineup on trumpet. His familiarity with jazz in Europe makes him a natural for the job.

Loomis' history with the PSTJS goes back to 1980 when, as a seemingly callow youth, he sat in at one of our jam sets in the room adjacent to the main stage of the Russian Center, which was the society's first regular venue. Dave laughs when he recalls the skeptical looks he received from some of the older musicians (including our society's first president, Barry Durkee) as they watched him haul his trombone up to the bandstand. Oddly enough, the session turned out to be an audition for his first traditional-jazz job when Uptown Lowdown leader Bert Barr hired him soon afterward to join the band.

That jam set wasn't Dave's first experience with live traditional jazz, however. "I miss a lot of people who gave me the opportunity to play when I was really young," he recalls. "I remember sitting in with the Great Excelsior Jazz Band at the Eastlake Tavern. Trumpet player Bob Jackson was so nice, as was trombonist Ken Wiley. Another early event was hearing Jeff Hughes play cornet with the Rainier Jazz Band at the San Juan Island Jazz Festival in 1980. I was amazed at how lyrically, rhythmically, and delicately he played, all while swinging like hell. Up to then all the cornet/trumpet players I'd paid attention to were in the 'bold' mold of Turk Murphy and Lu Watters. What a revelation!"

Dave's move to Germany isn't as unusual as it appears at first glance. Dave studied German for two years in junior high school and worked for Boeing from 1978 until his retirement a few years ago. During the course of his duties with the company, he spent a lot of time in Germany and became fluent enough in the language to conduct business. The connection was furthered when his son Sean moved to Hamburg and took a German wife. The final trigger was the birth of a new grandchild in September. In addition, traditional jazz has long been a staple of nightlife in Germany. The Cotton Club in downtown Hamburg has been operating nightly since 1959.

With his son's encouragement, Dave is in the process of connecting with musicians there, who undoubtedly will welcome him into their community.

It almost goes without saying that Dave's departure leaves a gaping hole in our jazz society and in the greater Seattle jazz community, as well. Nonetheless, the fact deserves emphasis. He has been a steady presence here as an instrumentalist, arranger, vocalist, and educator since 1976, when he graduated from Kent-Meridian High School as the star soloist in the school's award-winning high-school jazz band. Since then, he has anchored the trombone sections and written arrangements for the best traditional-jazz and swing bands in the region: the New Deal Rhythm Band, the Jon Holte Swing Band, the Uptown Lowdown Jazz Band, Portland's Castle Jazz Band, the Evergreen Classic Jazz Band, the holotradband, and recently, Mike Daugherty's Washboard Cutups and his own Good Herb Jazz Band.

So, you have more than ample reason to join us in celebrating St. Patrick's Day at the Ballard Elks. Spread the word, and don't miss the chance to wish Dave Loomis well before he embarks on his new adventure. It will be his last scheduled appearance at a PSTJS concert before he leaves. Bring a couple of friends along, and listen and dance to the sound of the Old Grey Eagle Jazzband. And remember, those under 21 are admitted free when accompanied by an adult paying admission.



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MATT WEINER & FRIENDS

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

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Thursdays, 8:30–11:30 p.m.

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

JAZZ MEMORIES

By Kathy Bruni

I first came to PSTJS in 1991, with my then-boyfriend, to dance. The club was meeting at the Mountaineers at that time, and the room was usually packed. We often couldn't find a place to sit, but that was OK; we were young and just wanted to be up and moving.

I later introduced my new boyfriend (now my husband, Roger) to jazz. He also was a dancer, and we spent many happy hours at PSTJS events. In those days, the sessions went from 12:30 to 5 p.m., and we danced during every minute of the music (which, if I recall correctly, was nearly non-stop, as a second band played when the first band took a break). When we had a spare minute, we talked to some of the older folks, most of whom have now passed away. One who sticks out in my memory is Dottie. The reason I specifically remember her name was that she wore a large button that said, "My name is Dottie. I don't remember your name either!"

We continued attending, and dancing, when PSTJS moved to the Ballard Elks. We eventually became acquainted with more people—dancers, mostly—although we knew most of them by first name only. Randy and Margaret, Verna, and Carol were early acquaintances. We also do German dancing (Schuhplattler), and because of that German connection, we later became friends with Busso and Janette, and Wolfgang and Marion.

We went to jazz festivals and met more people, who often also danced at PSTJS. We have so many fond memories of the various festivals, most of which don't exist anymore. The Vancouver, B.C. festival was one of our first, and favorite festivals. We enjoyed the San Juan Jazz Festival—we even camped in the field across from the main venue—and I bought a flapper dress from one of the vendors there. The West Seattle Jazz Festival was always fun, and close by (a big plus!). We loved the Seaside Jazz Festival and attended for many years until its demise. We went to the Olympia Jazz Festival several times.

With none of those festivals still happening, we have had to cast our nets further afield. Our current favorite is the Fresno Jazz Festival. It is not only great fun, with lots of parades and special events, but also convenient, since the entire affair is held in the hotel, which also includes a restaurant and bar. We

have also been to festivals in Penticton, B.C.; Sun Valley, Idaho; and Coos Bay, Oregon.

Several jazz cruises have enriched our friendships and broadened our experiences. Our honeymoon cruise in the Baltic, featuring Buck Creek and Grand Dominion, was the first.

Now, I edit the *Jazz Soundings* newsletter. We attend PSTJS concerts whenever we are in town, and we have started attending the concerts in Bellingham, as well. They hold events the first Saturday of the month, and it only takes us an hour and a half to get there.

PSTJS has been a steady and wonderful part of my life for the last 33 years, and I hope it continues for many more.

PSTJS HAS A YOUTUBE CHANNEL!

You can access the Puget Sound Traditional Jazz Society's YouTube channel as follows:

1. If you read *Jazz Soundings* online, click this link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCKrTj5vJuXGkztByAZzMXkw>
2. If you read the *Jazz Soundings* paper edition, either type the above link onto your browser's address line or go to the YouTube website and search "PSTJS." The PSTJS channel should appear at or near the top of the listings.

Presently, the channel offers four extended videos:

- Andrew Oliver and His Buddies' June 2022 Jelly Roll Morton concert
- A Day of Appreciation for Bert Barr, Parts 1 and 2
- Piano Jazz—Chicago Style

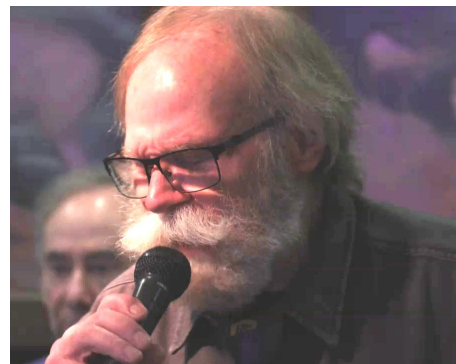
And 17 short videos:

- Market Street Jazz Band (2), May 2023
- Jacob Zimmerman's Pals (2), June 2023
- Bridgetown Sextet (3), October 2023
- Skjelbred's Yeti Chasers (10), January 2024

There will be more to come. Please subscribe (at no cost) and help us grow our channel!

Photo Review of Ain't No Heaven 7 Jazz Band, January 21, 2024

Photos courtesy of Bob Morgan



The band: Andy Hall, trombone, Zane Smith, reeds; Steve Wright, brass horns & tenor saxophone; Mike Daugherty, drums; Dr. Terry Rogers, saxophone and vocals; Tom Jacobus, tuba, Gene Silberberg, banjo; Ron Rustad, vocals; Dr. Dave Gilbert, piano & vocals. In right center photo, Dr. Gilbert raises his fist in a spontaneous show of satisfaction at the conclusion of the band's first number, Trog's Blues.

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*****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 to the extent provided by law. Thank you.

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Or phone: 425-776-5072.

THANK YOU.

PLEASE SHARE YOUR FAVORITE JAZZ MEMORY WITH US

We know that there are many, many jazz events and stories that have played an important part in your life. Our goal is to gather a collection of stories for our editor to use in the *Jazz Soundings*, when space is available. The topics could include such things as:

- When did you first listen to this kind of music?
- Where did you hear it?
- Who were you listening to?
- Is there a particular melody that brings back a flood of memories?

Did you ever have the opportunity to listen to or chat with the musicians, (or leader) of any bands that are no longer in existence? This invitation is not only extended to our listening and reading members, but also to our musicians. Don't worry about grammatical or spelling errors; we have an expert proofreader.

You may put your memories down on paper and mail them to PSTJS, 19031 Ocean Ave, Edmonds, WA 98020, or email your stories to pstjs.editor@gmail.com. We hope to be overwhelmed with stories and memories sharing the joy of loving this music.

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