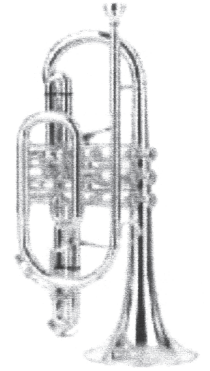


JAZZ SOUNDINGS

THE PUGET SOUND TRADITIONAL JAZZ SOCIETY



May 2024

Volume 49, Number 5

IT'S RED HOT JAZZ WITH "SEATTLE TRAD" ON MAY 19!

By John Ochs



*Back row: Tom Jacobus, tuba; Karla West, piano; Dianne Guenther, vocals; Dave Brown, banjo
Front row: Rod Hilliard, reeds; Steve Wright, trumpet; Andy Hall, trombone, vocals
Not pictured: Paul Woltz, reeds*

The first paragraph of our May band's press release pretty much describes the type of music we can expect to listen and dance to at our next session:

"Introducing **Seattle Trad**—a traditional-jazz band whose purpose is to honor the memory of the musicians who were past members of one or more of these great Pacific Northwest bands: **Uptown Lowdown, Hume Street Preservation Jazz Band, and Evergreen Classic Jazz Band.**"

Bandleader Karla West has long championed traditional jazz, not only as a musician and band organizer, but also as a founding director of the annual Glacier Jazz Stampede festival in Kalispell, MT, as well as the Heebie Jeebies Band Camp at Lake Crescent, WA. The death in July

2022 of her husband John Goodrich, longtime Uptown Lowdown reed player, motivated Karla to form Seattle Trad in late 2023 as a tribute to him and to other past members of the core Pacific Northwest bands listed above.

The other musicians so honored include George Oelrich, Dave Holo, Kevin Johnston, Bert Barr, Al LaTourette, Craig Wellington,

(Continued on page 4)

WHERE:

Ballard Elks Lodge
6411 Seaview Ave. NW
Seattle, WA

WHEN: May 19
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

May 19: Seattle Trad
June 16: The Jonathan Doyle Band



BELLINGHAM JAZZ

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

April 27: Clearbrook Dixie Band
June 1: Market Street 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. Info: www.bellinghamjazz.com.

JAZZ IN OLYMPIA

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

May 5: Mud Bay
June 9: Seattle Trad

JAZZ SOUNDINGS

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

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Quarter Page, \$40; 3 5/8" wide by 4 1/4" tall

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

I just happened to be listening to one of my favorite band's CDs in my car the other day. The band is the Golden Eagle Jazz Band from California, and the CD is titled "Morocco Blues." It was recorded in September 1988. It features the terrific vocals of Chris Norris, a very talented vocalist who sadly left this world way too soon, not long after this recording was completed.



The reason to mention this recording is not because of Chris (or the band's wonderful reed player, Walter Sereth), but to mention another musician who is part of this recording, who actually was a Seattle resident, and that is Steve Joseph.

You might remember that I wrote last month about some of the people who were instrumental in the formation of this society. My article was not meant to be comprehensive, but it has been pointed out to me that I neglected to mention a couple of people who were part of the pioneers of our society. George and Pat Swinford were there at the beginning and were constant attendees on Sunday afternoons. George wrote many articles for the *Jazz Soundings*, and he admits that the society has been an important part of their lives for many years. Thank you, George and Pat, for your foresight in getting us started and for your many contributions.

And then there was Steve Joseph. I knew of him and was impressed with his obvious love for this music and his unabashed enthusiasm for its performance, particularly if he was involved on the drums or on the washboard. He was engaged and always active with his presence and energy.

And thus back to "Morocco Blues." As I read about the musicians on the CD, I was struck by the description of the members of the band on that hot day in September 1988. In addition to the regular members, all from California, there was Steve. The description reads: "...we had our own motley crew. Steve Joseph, drummer and self-confessed madman, who had traveled to us all the way from Seattle "just for the fun of it..."

Just for the fun of it. How cool is that? So, once again, as we enjoy the pleasure of band members who play

for us, or the smiles of the dancers and listeners at our meetings, think of those who got us here, and of those who keep it going, just for the fun of it.

GIGS FOR LOCAL BANDS

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.jacobrexzimmerman.com

MATT WEINER & FRIENDS

Wednesdays, 7–10 p.m.

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

JACOB ZIMMERMAN 3

Thursdays, 8:30–11:30 p.m.

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

ALEX GUILBERT

Saturdays, 7:30–9:30 p.m., solo piano

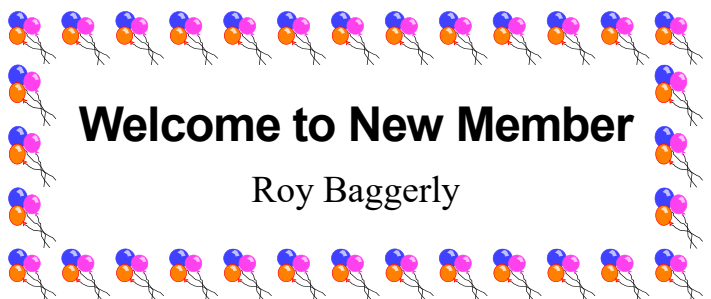
1611 Everett (restaurant), 1611 Everett Ave., Everett (425) 374-7046; website: www.1611everett.com

RAY SKJELBRED TRIO, Royal Room, Saturday, **May 11, 3:30–5:30 p.m.** With Jacob Zimmerman and Matt Weiner. Reservations advised.

www.theroyalroomseattle.com

PIANO STARTS HERE, Royal Room, Wednesday **May 15, 7:30 p.m.**, featuring compositions by local composer/pianists Wayne Horvitz and Robin Holcomb. Hosted by Alex Guilbert. Performing pianists include Horvitz, Holcomb, Guilbert, Matt Williams, Kate Malloy, Bill Anschell, and Ryan Burns. Reservations advised. www.theroyalroomseattle.com

T·O·P JAZZ BAND "Prohibition Tour" at the Seattle Jazz Fellowship, in conjunction with Beneath the Streets, **May 22**. The performance will be part of a package, with an underground tour and then a performance of authentic prohibition era music at the Jazz Fellowship. The music performance will be open to the public and tour participants.



Welcome to New Member

Roy Baggerly

SEATTLE TRAD (Continued from page 1)

Don Abrahamson, Greg Jones, Myron Hinkle, Don Murphie, Dan Grinstead, Garry Noel, Sal Smith, Steve Joseph, Ed Krenz, George Goldsberry, and any other musicians whose names may have been accidentally omitted from this list.

Fittingly, Karla's recruits for Seattle Trad are musicians selected from the still-active alumni of the bands she is honoring. The following roster is based on information from her press release:

Steve Wright, a Seattle resident, played trumpet with both the Hume Street Preservation Jazz Band and Uptown Lowdown Jazz Band; he also played reeds with the Evergreen Classic Jazz Band. He now plays with several groups around the Seattle area. Before moving to the Pacific Northwest, Steve played with the Paramount Jazz Band in Boston.

Paul Woltz, a Mountlake Terrace resident and longtime member of the Uptown Lowdown band, plays reeds with many groups at local parties and other functions. Paul and John Goodrich made their famous bass sax duets a highly sought-after component in the Uptown Lowdown performances around the country.

Andy Hall, an Aberdeen resident, played trombone, tuba, and second cornet in the Uptown Lowdown band. He was a regular member of the Hume Street Preservation Jazz Band for many years, playing tuba, trombone, sax, and/or piano, as needed. His vocal renditions of early jazz tunes have become fan favorites wherever he performs.

Rob Hilliard, a Bellevue resident, played reeds with the Hume Street band at festivals and jazz functions in the Pacific Northwest. Rob has also been the band leader for Hume Street for several years. He often plays with various groups in the Seattle area.

Dave Brown, who hails from Spokane, was the regular banjo player for the Uptown Lowdown Jazz Band for many years. After leaving Uptown Lowdown, he took up string bass and played in numerous smaller groups, including Combo deLuxe, the Yeti Chasers, and the Crescent City Shakers.

Karla West, who comes from Kalispell, MT, was the regular piano player for Hume Street Band for many years, performing at festivals around the Pacific Northwest. She was the founder and festival director of the Glacier Jazz Stampede for 21 years and was also the director of Camp Heebie Jeebies, a traditional-jazz camp that originated in Montana, and later moved to

Lake Crescent, WA. She currently leads the country-western band Cowboy Country in Northwest Montana.

Tom Jacobus, a Kent resident, played trombone and tuba with the Uptown Lowdown band, as well as playing string bass in several subsequent bands. He later created and led the Evergreen Classic Jazz Band for many years. Tom was a faculty member at Camp Heebie Jeebies and also a longtime teacher and music director in the Kent and Federal Way public school systems.

These musicians have played together many times in numerous settings during the past 30-plus years and are intimately acquainted with the music that Seattle Trad is presenting. We also can be sure that the band will be well rehearsed, having performed in Monterey, CA, at the Jazz Bash by the Bay festival in March and at subsequent gatherings for the Olympia, Bellingham, and Portland jazz societies, as well. In addition, the band is booked to play a jazz cruise to Alaska on the Westerdam the week of July 14–21.

Karla's companion on the drive from Montana will be her longtime friend **Dianne Guenther**, a vocalist who specializes in interpreting songs from the early jazz era. Dianne was featured on vocals with Seattle Trad at the Monterey Jazz Bash and has also performed with the Hume Street Preservation Jazz Band. In addition, she sings with the popular vocal group Shady Ladies at venues near Kalispell.

Please join us this month for Karla West's tribute to some of our region's great traditional-jazz bands. Seattle Trad is comprised of eight (that's right, count 'em—eight!) premier jazz musicians who will be performing together on our stage. Whether you are a longtime fan yearning for "the good old days," a post-COVID-era member interested in learning some local jazz history for the first time, or a swing dancer seeking a spot to spin your cares away, come join us on May 19. Everyone is welcome!



Karla West

And please, bring a friend or two. Remember, those under 21 are admitted free when accompanied by an adult paying admission.

Dancers and parasol parade at the March 17 concert with Dave Loomis' Old Grey Eagle Jazzband

Photos courtesy of Cilla Trush.



**NOTHING
COMPARES
TO LIVE MUSIC**

We're looking for new members
YOU can help with little effort by bring-
ing just one of your friends
or family members into our club.
If WE ALL do that, our
membership will double.

Photo Review: Dave Loomis' Old Grey Eagle Jazzband, March 17

Photos courtesy of Bob Morgan



The Band: Mike Daugherty, drums; Paul Hagglund, tuba; Dave Loomis, trombone; Josh Roberts, banjo & guitar; Ansgar Duemchen, cornet; Jacob Zimmerman, clarinet & alto saxophone; Ray Skjelbred, piano.

Puget Sound Traditional Jazz Society
19031 Ocean Ave., Edmonds, WA 98020-2344

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Patron, \$500 (One or two lifetime memberships)

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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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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.

Puget Sound Traditional Jazz Society

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www.barrelhousegang.com

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