

Denver JAZZ Club NEWS

Volume 55,
Number 4



July/August 2010

Denver Jazz Club in operation for 56 continuous years

Established 1954

Close Enough for Jazz

Sunday, July 18

“Close enough for jazz” is a line Tony Pierce’s father used and who encouraged Tony to take up the trumpet at age 14, having done so himself. Tony first used the line as the name of a TV short he co-produced at Penn State featuring his band, “The Guided Seven.” In 1978, he used it in Denver as a name for the band he formed playing a weekly session at The Library Lounge in Larimer Square.

The band organized especially for this July Jazz Club session has taken up that favorite tag, “Close Enough For Jazz,” as its moniker and consists of top, well known local players. A traditional front line will be backed by a very hip rhythm section. The line, led by **Tony Pierce** on trumpet, will include **Bill Pontarelli**, clarinet, **Marti Henry**, trombone, **Scott Grove**, piano, **Dean Ross**, Bass, **Mark Klagstad**, guitar, and **Tony Pantelis**, drums.

You’ll hear lots of straight ahead swinging standards as

well as traditional favorites, all unrehearsed and truly interactive classic jazz. You’ll certainly want to dance.

Where, when, how much:

- Denver Jazz Club, 2:00–5:00 PM Sunday, July 18.
- Westminster Elks Club, 3850 Elk Drive.
- Admission is \$5 for members of any jazz club, \$7 for anyone who isn’t a jazz club member, free for age 12 and younger.

Amenities:

Cabaret-style seating, dance floor, cash bar, and food.

Performance by Denver Jazz Club Youth All-Stars during the second break (approximately 4:00 PM).

Denver Jazz Club Annual Potluck Picnic featuring The Leaders Band

Sunday, August 15

It’s the annual Denver Jazz Club Potluck Picnic, at the home of Decker and Ann Westerberg on Jackass Hill in Littleton. **The Denver Jazz Club furnishes brats, burgers, hot dogs and drinks.** Bring a dish to share – salad, appetizer, dessert or snack, and enjoy an afternoon of great music and socializing!

Featuring The Leaders Band:

Bob Cooke, trumpet (leader of the Poudre River Irregulars)
Roger Campbell, clarinet (leader of After Midnight Jazz Band)
Marti Henry, trombone (leader of the Marti Henry Swingtet)
Dennis Condrey, banjo (leader of Dennis Condrey and Friends)
Hank Troy, piano (leader of the Queen City Ragtime Ensemble)
Bill Clark, tuba (leader of the Queen City Jazz Band)
John Akal, drums (leader of the Ultraphonic Orchestra)

And it’s well worth the \$8 admission, which entitles you to a great cookout, soft drinks, and beer, in the backyard of the Westerbergs, longtime DJC members.

Where, when, how much:

- Denver Jazz Club,
2:00–5:00 Sunday, August 15.
- The Westerbergs,
310 Shadycroft Drive, Littleton
- Admission is \$8 per person.

Take the Santa Fe Drive exit north from C-470. Turn right (east) on Mineral Ave. Take the first left at Jackass Hill Rd. which turns into S. Prince St. Continue north. Turn right at Rangeview Dr. Take the 1st right onto Shadycroft Dr. Look for the Denver Jazz Club signs.



A little bit of this 'n' that

By Walt Hewitt

Denver Jazz Club Events Columnist

In recent weeks we've been privileged to go to the Casa Del Sol on West Sixth Avenue to hear Joni Janak and her Centerpiece Jazz. This is a great value for us po' folks—a good Mexican dinner for a nominal price, no cover or minimum charge, and friendly people that we see periodically. Usually there with the same bunch is Doreas Limberg, Vince's widow, and a nice, nice person. I talked with her and told her what a giant in the local music world Vince had been, and how much I always enjoyed his music. I first heard him, I think, at Shaner's downtown with Johnny Smith too long ago, and surely Neil Bridge. I've just got to start paying better attention.

We also got to dance to Joni's music at Lakewood Elks on Saturday night, again for a modest charge and nice evening out. People got sort of dressed up for this one, making it somewhat like the good old days. Back then when we were dating in the 1950 time frame, we went regularly to Yankee Lake in eastern Ohio to dance to a local 15-piece band in an open pavilion—and drink a little 3.2 beer. This was a poor man's version of Elitch's.

John Bunch, pianist, and Herb Ellis, guitarist, recently passed away at age 88. I listened to Herb many times at the Dick Gibson parties.

Our Denver Jazz Club Youth All-star Band really took over the Sacramento festival every set they played. Standing Os, unsolicited compliments, you name it. The band is presently structured to be composed of young people up through the twelfth grade, which means that Ed Cannava is already losing three musicians—and has at least three more standing in line to join up. I suggested at our board meeting that maybe an alumni band might now be indicated, but Ed quickly shot that down. He's worked so long and hard getting it up and running, but this is really nothing new to a teacher who sees children pass through his life. We are understandably proud of the progress these kids have made, and of the great job Ed has done and it's only the beginning!

The Great Colorado Jazz Party — once known as the Broadmoor Jazz — was held the first weekend of May at the Colorado Springs Country Club. The party keeps jumping around from venue to venue every few years as they find, probably, that they can't afford us. We left the Broadmoor Hotel a long time ago. Dr. Dick Donahue runs it and always comes up with a great lineup which he might not divulge till just days before the party starts. This year John Cocuzzi was the "Most Honored Guest" — well paid, but still a guest. Peter Appleyard came down from Toronto Canada. Dick found a second set of vibes somewhere in town, so we had twin vibe sets that were easily worth the price of admission. Those two have to be just the best in the business — all apologies to Red Norvo. Ed Polcer was his usual great self on cornet-trumpet and always sort of taken over and keeps the band going. His final set of

the week-end is usually a sensational Dixieland set that's the best you'll ever hear.

Donahue asked me to give Peter and Ed—we're on a first-name basis—a ride to DIA (that's our new airport for both of you readers from out of state). We left immediately after the last set at 3:00pm in a beautiful driving snow storm. And this is a true statement—we came to Greenland and I said I never saw Monument Hill. It was just a "typical" trip over that hill. We got them to DIA in plenty of time for their planes. As we were unloading the car, Peter presented Jo and me with a CD which he autographed with a nice personal note. I'll treasure that forever. Such nice people.

Ed recently established residency in New Orleans—he probably kept his place in New Jersey. He had to move closer to where the gigs are, and he's apparently getting enough work there. I thought these musicians thrived on living in the NYC area because of the work, but it's just not there. The times they are a-changing.

Peter's wife and old friend Barb Dorsey, Tom's widow, were on a trip to Spain and couldn't make the party. We sat Sunday with Cocuzzi's mother who usually attends the party. She lived recently in Durango, and now is in Salt Lake.

We had a note from Juanita reminding us of the tribute party for Alan Fredrickson September 30, the night before Summit Jazz in October, another one not to miss.

This doesn't apply to our Denver Jazz Club at all, because we're having a good time and good crowds every month, but Yogi Berra said it as no one else can; "Nobody goes there anymore, it's too crowded".

Denver JAZZ Club NEWS

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September, and November

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The CLAIMJUMPERS hit the Road

By Bill Clark

Denver Jazz Club
Vice President



Maintaining status as one of if not the finest collegiate classic jazz bands in the nation begins in August of each year for the UC Denver Claim Jumpers. Students who have completed one year in the band and who have shown themselves to be responsible and ambitious are eligible to become bandleaders. Each year with the approval of the band, I choose three leaders. These students have many duties including web site maintenance, generation of publicity materials, communicating by phone and email with the band, directing the band at performances and assisting me in planning and conducting rehearsals. (A number of students like Bridget Law and Scott Aller are currently professional bandleaders after practicing the craft with the Claim Jumpers.) Perhaps one of the most enjoyable activities they engage in, however, is serving with me on a committee called the Travel Team. In addition to meeting to plan rehearsals the Travel Team meets formally once a week for one hour. It is while serving on this committee that the members experience what it is like to plan a major jazz festival appearance from securing an invitation (extremely difficult), to raising the needed funds, to making the travel arrangements and finally to executing a successful appearance.

Securing an invitation begins with a web search and writing dozens of emails to directors of festivals. When a festival shows interest the next step is to send a video or CD and an impressive resume. These items involve many hours of planning and effort on behalf of the Travel Team and the band.

This year we were invited to appear at two excellent festivals. In June we performed at the Cedar Basin Jazz Festival in Cedar Rapids Iowa. (I will report on that in a later issue.) This festival made it easy for us by paying for our airfare. We were treated like a professional band in

that respect. The students will perform for free, but the festival will also provide most of the meals and our lodging. We will play on the same stages as the professional bands and from past experience I expect the fans will be thrilled to see young people playing jazz with skill and respect for the roots of jazz. We will, by the way, be wearing Denver Jazz Club shirts.

The second invitation came through connections with the Queen City Jazz Band and the University of Colorado Denver. Eric Staffeldt and some of the UC Denver professors have been playing at the Jazz en Vecours Festival in the Alps of France for several years.

This is not, however, a "good ol' boy network." The CJs had to compete via CD with bands from across the US. We will be joining a band from Nebraska and another from West Virginia as the only college bands. The other bands are not traditional jazz bands. Jazz en Vecours features all styles of jazz.

Our visit to France has been carefully planned by the University of Colorado Denver and by the festival organizers. One of the goals is a cultural experience. The members of the CJs will be assigned a host family. This host family will take the musicians from place to place, provide lodging and will welcome them to their dinner tables.

The young musicians from the CJs and from other student bands from the US will join aspiring French jazzers of all ages for a three-day clinic. I will be part of the faculty of professional jazz musicians who are all affiliated with major universities in the US. Each day the students and faculty will discuss jazz improvisation, jazz theory and jazz history. A major part of the sessions for the Claim Jumpers will be playing with other students, French musicians and the faculty. At the end of each day there will be a faculty concert in one of the small alpine villages.

On the fourth day of the trip, the festival begins. There will be public concerts in Vecours and in three of the surrounding villages. This festival is a delight for the locals who are very busy during ski season and welcome this cultural activity in the month of August. August is vacation time for Europeans and each year many spectators come to this region of the Alps to enjoy the open-air jazz concerts. Having performed in Europe I know that the students will be very well received, as they were last summer in Holland.

Look for a full report in the September issue of your new Denver Jazz Club Newsletter.

Evergreen Jazz Festival coming July 23, 24, 25



This year's Evergreen Jazz Festival will be held July 23, 24 and 25 in Evergreen, Colorado, the scenic mountain town just 25 minutes from downtown Denver. This year's festival, the largest ever for the nine-year old event, combines the best in trad jazz with both intimate listening and dancing venues.

The festival welcomes back a couple of old friends this year with the appearance of the Independence Hall Jazz Band and James Dapogny's Chicago Jazz Band. A new talent at the festival this year is Deeja Marie whose vocal style combines the best in jazz and blues.

The 2010 Evergreen Jazz Festival line-up of 14 bands, the most ever, includes:

After Midnight Jazz Band, Denver's small combo swing band that channels the Benny Goodman Sextet.

The Carl Sonny Leyland Trio features Carl's boogie woogie and blues piano, along with drummer Hal Smith and bassist Marty Eggers.

Celebration Jazz Band is led by Colorado legend Bob Cooke in a rare appearance by the band that inspired the birth of the festival.

Deeja Marie has a wonderful vocal range and a powerful delivery that commands audience attention. She draws inspiration from legends such as Ella, Sassy and Lady Day.

Festival Footwarmers with Anita Thomas. Anita hails from Australia and plays a mean sax and clarinet. Rounding out the 'Warmers are pianist John Royen, guitarist Katie Cavera, trumpeter Clint Baker and bassist Mike Earls.

Denver's own **Gypsy Swing Revue** will make you think you're at the Hot Club France as the band recalls the groundbreaking group that included violinist Stephane Grappelli and guitarist Django Reinhardt.

Hot Tomatoes Dance Orchestra, the popular Denver-based swing band, has performed with the nation's greatest jazz artists such as Tony Bennett, Clark Terry, Wynton Marsalis and Harry "Sweets" Edison.

Independence Hall Jazz Band returns to the Evergreen Jazz Festival. A classic Dixieland band with banjo and tuba as part of the rhythm section, the band features trombonist Doug Finke and trumpeter Charlie Caranicas.

The **International Sextet** offers a special treat. Hear Smith, Leyland, and Thomas team up with bassist Clint Baker, guitarist Katie Cavera & reed player Kim Cusack.

James Dapogny's Chicago Jazz Band: We missed them last year but they return in 2010 with their great range of music—from turn-of-the-century ragtime to 40's swing.

The **John Royen Quartet** includes Jim Snyder on clarinet, Mike Earls on bass and Charlie Fardella on trumpet. Prepare to be wowed by John's virtuosity at the piano that has earned him an international following, though he still calls New Orleans home.

Joni Janak and Centerpiece Jazz perform the standards from the Great American Songbook. Joni supplies the vocals backed by guitarist Ed Stephen, bassist Colin Gieg and drummer Ron Moewes, along with special guest saxophonist Rich Chiaraluce.

Marty Eggers' Ragtime Quintet. Marty may hail from Oakland, California, but this group will make you think you're in the heart of The Big Easy.

The **Queen City Jazz Band** is now in its sixth decade and features renowned vocalist Wende Harston, who again will lead a Sunday morning gospel service.

Find full information at <http://evergreenjazz.org>



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Denver Jazz Club

Local band appearances

Alan Frederickson Jazz Ensemble

Sunday, August 1

6:00 PM: Bull & Bush Pub, 4700 Cherry Creek South Drive, Glendale (no music July 4)

Centerpiece Jazz

www.centerpiecejazz.com

Wednesdays, July 14 and 28

6:00PM – 9:00 PM: Cafe del Sol, 6th and Garrison

Wednesday, July 21

7:00PM: Outside concert at the Littleton Museum,

Friday-Sunday, July 23, 24, and 25

Evergreen Jazz Festival, Evergreen, CO

Wednesdays, August 11 and 25

6:00PM – 9:00 PM: Cafe del Sol, 6th and Garrison

Denver Jazz Club Youth All-Stars

(www.bandresourcesunlimited.com) (www.denverjazzclub.com)

Sunday, July 18

4:00 PM: Westminster Elks Club, 3850 Elk Drive, Westminster

Sunday, August 15

4:00 PM: DJC Potluck Picnic, Westerberg's home

Hot Tomatoes Dance Orchestra

(website www.hottomatoes.com)

Wednesday, July 15

6:30PM - 8:00PM: Summer Park Concert, Utah Park, Peoria & Mexico, Aurora

Friday - Sunday, July 23, 24, 25

Evergreen Jazz Festival, Evergreen, CO

Wednesday, August 4

6:30PM - 8:00PM : Summer Park Concert, Anderson Park, 4355 Field Street, Wheat Ridge

Mile High Banjos

(website www.milehighbanjos.com)

Wednesday, July 14

7:00PM-8:30PM: Littleton Museum

Sunday, July 18

2:00PM-3:30PM: Aurora History Museum

Friday, July 30

5:30PM-7:10PM: Coors Field (Colorado Rockies game)

Thursday, August 5

10:30am-12:00noon: Adams County Fairgrounds

Wednesday, August 18

6:00PM-8:00PM: Riverpointe Retirement Center

Poudre River Irregulars

(website www.priib.com)

Fridays, July 2 and August 6

4:00 PM: Avogadro's Number, 605 S. Mason St., Fort Collins.

The Prohibition Six

Thursday July 8

6:30 PM: St. Julien Hotel and Spa, 900 Walnut, Boulder

Saturday August 7

12:00 noon – 4:00 PM: Center Stage at One Boulder Plaza, 13th St. between Canyon and Walnut, Boulder (303-449-1888)

Queen City Jazz Band

(website www.queencityjazzband.com)

Sundays, July 18 and August 15

6:00 PM: Bull & Bush Pub, 4700 Cherry Creek South Drive, Glendale.

Friday – Sunday, July 23, 24, 25

Evergreen Jazz Festival, Evergreen, CO

Your Father's Mustache Band

(website www.mustacheband.com)

Sundays, July 11 and July 18,
August 8 and August 22

6:00 PM: Bull & Bush Pub, 4700 Cherry Creek South Drive, Glendale.



New members are the lifeblood of any organization

Welcome to the new Denver Jazz Club members who have joined since January 1, 2010:

Lee & Jill Henton, Jim Borzym, John & Ann Klotz, Bonnie Rogers, Steve Hill, Rebecca Wakabayashi, Penny Renzelman, Judy Fester, Joseph Leger, Paul Sorakaly, Don & Jeri Wilson, Ron Blewitt, Maureen O'Shea-Stone, Jerry Greenwald, Thad Pyzdrowski, Carol Osborne, Daniel Mullan, Cara Osborn - DJC Youth Band, Kyle Meienberg - DJC Youth Band

Also The ClaimJumpers: Caitlin Campbell, Neil Lyons, Evan Clark, Colin Clark, Abi McGaha Miller, Zack Morris, Zack Antonio, Craig Finger

AZZ websites

Beginning with the next issue, this feature will move to the DJC Website, www.denverjazzclub.com

After Midnight Jazz Band website
www.aftermidnightjazzband.com

Joni Janak website
www.jonijanak.com

The American Rag website
www.americanrag.com

Longmont Jazz Association website
www.longmontjazz.com

Denver Jazz Club Youth All-Stars websites
www.bandresourcesunlimited.com or
www.dmamusic.org/denverjazzclub/allstars.html

Metropolitan Jazz Orchestra website
www.metropolitanjazzorchestra.com

Centerpiece Jazz website
www.centerpiecejazz.com

Mile High Banjo Society website
www.milehighbanjos.com

Crystal Swing Band website
www.crystalswingband.com

The Mississippi Rag website
www.mississippirag.com

Denver Jazz Club website
www.denverjazzclub.com

Your Father's Mustache Band website
www.mustacheband.com

Bill Pontarelli website
www.docjazz.net

The Polite Jazz Quartet website
www.thepolitejazzquartet.com

Pete Wernick website
www.drbanjo.com

Poudre River Irregulars website
www.prijb.com

Evergreen Jazz Festival website
www.evergreenjazz.org

Queen City Jazz Band website
www.queencityjazzband.com

Hot Tomatoes Dance Orchestra website
www.hottomatoes.com

Red Hot Jazz Archive website (free music downloads)
www.redhotjazz.com

Jazz Cookers website
www.jazzcookers.com

Jim Cullum Jazz Band websites
www.riverwalk.org or www.landing.com

JazzIZRadio website
www.jazzizradio.com

Summit Jazz Foundation website
www.summitjazz.org

Jude Hibler/Dale Bruning website
www.jazzlinkenterprises.com

Mike Johnson website
www.washboards.com

Jazz on the air



KEZW Radio 1430 AM Denver
Jazz, swing, standards from the 1940s and later

Saturdays, 12:00 Noon – 2:00 PM: Big Band Jump

KGNU Radio
1390 AM Denver/88.5 FM Boulder

Thursdays, 8:00–9:00 PM, Ragtime America or
Dixieland Marmalade

KRFC Radio
88.9 FM Fort Collins
www.krfcm.org (webcast/streaming audio)

Tuesdays, 10:00 AM–noon, Just Jazz with Jim Dailey
Fridays, midnight–6:00 AM, Overnight Jazz: The Soundz of
Surprise with Dr. Peter Poses

KUVO Radio
89.3 FM Denver/89.7 FM Breckenridge/88.5 FM Vail

Mondays, 6:00–7:00 PM: Riverwalk (Jim Cullum Jazz Band)
Saturdays, 3:00 – 5:00 PM: Ed Danielson



The 12th Annual **Longmont Jazz Festival** will take place in the Pavilion at Roosevelt Park, Longs Peak Avenue and Coffman St., Longmont, from noon until 7:00PM on Saturday, July 17th and from noon to 6:20PM on Sunday, July 18th.

The Saturday lineup includes the **Longmont Jazz All Stars**, **Roger Campbell and After Midnight**, **Manny Lopez Latin Jazz Project**, **Bob Montgomery Quintet**, and **The Wendy Fopeano Quartet with Marc Sabatella**. Bands on Sunday will be **Mark Sloniker and Friends**, **Gabe Mervine Quartet**, **Wil Swindler Elevenet**, and **The Crystal Swing Band**.

These performances are free and open to the public. Please bring a lawn chair for seating in the pavilion. Food and drinks will be available for sale. Additional information at the Longmont Jazz Association's Web site at www.longmontjazz.com

The /rez sez ...

By John Sobott

Denver Jazz Club President

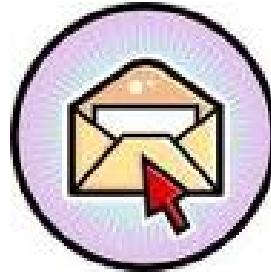
My wife, Dottie, and I had the recent opportunity to travel to the Sacramento Jazz Jubilee. We hooked up with Paul and Nona Chamberlin and heard a lot of good music over the weekend. Our main focus though was to support our Youth All Star Band during their many sets and the young folks were amazing. They played their prepared sets very well and were complimented by a number of bystanders. At the end of the weekend our conclusion was that the youth band program under the direction of Ed Cannava is a success and it will continue. We thank the many folks who contributed to the effort and can assure you that it is well worth it. When the kids sat in with the pros they made us feel proud and they put Denver on the map.

In addition to our club youth band we support the CU Denver "Claim Jumpers" under the direction of Professor Bill Clark. It is one of just a few college trad jazz programs in the whole country and Bill has seen his graduated

students obtain success in the music world. When the Denver Jazz Club supports young people in these efforts we can assure that our kind of music will continue. See you at the Elks Club and bring a friend!

The Denver Jazz Club has a new e-mail list!

We will use it to notify our members of special events, last minute cancellations and in the near future sending the newsletters. We have already sent several e-mails to our members. If you have an e-mail address and haven't received any messages, please e-mail a note to: flesher.kristi@gmail.com to be added to the list.



You should have been there... to see Dr. Ed Cannava herding our youth all stars from venue to venue to play at the Sacramento Jazz Jubilee over the Memorial Day weekend. What a job; but he pulled it off with flying colors and a big smile on his face all the while. It is amazing what Dr. C. has done with these young musicians in just a few months. Our congratulations to Ed for a wonderful job and do those people in Sacramento respect him. We are lucky to have him on our side.

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ther jazz clubs

Boulder Friends of Jazz

(phone 303-449-1888, website www.boulderfriendsofjazz.org)

2:00-5:00 PM, first Sunday of every month at American Legion Post 111, 1150 Pine St., Louisville.

\$5 for members of any jazz club, \$7 for non-members, \$2 for students, free for musicians who wish to play in jam session.

Sunday, July 4: No meeting; Happy Independence Day.

Sunday, August 1: Jam Session led by Derek Lucas, trumpet

Northern Colorado Traditional Jazz Society

(phone 1-970-498-8616, email tradjazz@fortnet.org)

4:00-7:00 PM, first Friday of every month at Avogadro's Number, 605 S. Mason St., Fort Collins.

\$7 for members of Northern Colorado Traditional Jazz Society, \$10 for non-members, \$3 for students, free for ages 18 and younger.

Fridays, July 2 and August 6: Poudre Valley Irregulars.

Peak View Jazz Club (phone 1-970-330-6663)

8:00-10:00 PM, Friday evenings at the Greeley Country Club, 4500 W. 10th St., Greeley. Reservations required!

\$10 for Peak View Jazz Club members, \$15 for non-members, \$5 for students, \$25 for buffet dinner (served at 6:30 PM). Information at 970-353-2267

Pikes Peak Jazz & Swing Society (phone 1-719-685-9451, website www.ppjass.org)

1:00-4:00 PM, second Sunday of every month at the Olympian Event Center, 975 S. Union Blvd., Colorado Springs.

\$5 for members of any jazz club, \$7 for non-members, \$3.50 for students, free for children age 12 or younger.

Sunday, July 11: Neil Bridge 7+

Sunday, August 8: Bruce Pennington Trio - Musician Jam

Denver Jazz Club officers and board members

Parentheses indicate year when term ends.

Officers:

- **President:** John Sobott (2011), 303-430-5606
- **Vice President:** Bill Clark (2012), 303-232-8350
- **Secretary:** Dottie Sobott (2011), 303-430-5606
- **Treasurer:** Walt Hewitt (2011), 303-366-1107
- **Corresponding Secretary:** Kristi Flesher (2010), 303-433-8891

Board members:

- Casey Hayes (2012), 303-288-5869
- Birch Musselman (2010), 303-693-6363
- Don Rieger (2010), 303-755-4972
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Denver Jazz Club Membership Application

Denver JAZZ Club NEWS



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