

Denver JAZZ Club NEWS

Volume 62,
Number 4

March/April 2018

Denver Jazz Club in operation for 62 continuous years

Established 1954

Crystal Swing Band

Sunday, March 18



The Crystal Swing Band celebrates its 30th anniversary this year. The band was formed in 1988, and since then it has become an established fixture on the local scene with a

loyal following of fans that appreciate big band 1930s and 1940s swing music. The band has been featured at the Avalon Ballroom, Cherry Creek Arts Festival, Louisville Fourth of July, Boulder County Fair and the Longmont Jazz Festival, as well as numerous private events. Eminently danceable, their repertoire features music by the likes of Glenn Miller, Benny Goodman, Duke Ellington, Count

Basie, and Harry James. Current band members include **Kristin Anderson-Bohan**, drums; **Eric Leonard**, piano; **Jenny Schulte**, bass; **Rex Spease**, alto sax; **Eric McGregor**, tenor sax; and **Chaz Bowles**, trumpet and vocals.

Our March jam will feature an Easter bonnet contest... so gals, wear your prettiest hats to the jam and maybe win a prize!

Where, when, how much:

- Denver Jazz Club, 1:30–5:00 PM Sunday, January 21
- Westminster Elks Club, 3850 Elk Drive
- Admission is \$8 for members of any jazz club, \$10 for anyone who isn't a jazz club member, free for age 12 and younger.

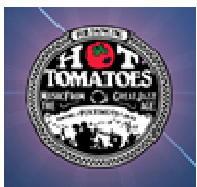
Amenities:

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

Annual Ron Cope Rent Party Fundraiser

with the Hot Tomatoes, the DJC Youth All-Stars and the UCD Claimjumper

Sunday, April 15



An annual event, this concert and raffle raises money for the Ron Cope Scholarship Fund, which benefits a deserving young player to further his or her jazz aspirations. Named for the late

pianist and founder of the Hot Tomatoes, Ron Cope (who also led the UCD Claim Jumpers), the Denver Jazz Club is happy to continue this tradition each year with one of Denver's most popular bands and two of the country's best student bands – **ALL DONATING THEIR PERFORMANCE!** Thank you very much!

We need your help!

Many of the funds raised at this Rent Party are through raffle ticket sales, and we are looking for more raffle

items. Please ask a merchant you do business with to contribute something – a gift certificate, a car detail, a perm or haircut, theatre tickets, or what-have-you. All proceeds go to an outstanding young jazz player. Please help make this a big success!

Where, when, how much:

- Denver Jazz Club, 1:30–5:00 PM Sunday, April 15
- Westminster Elks Club, 3850 Elk Drive
- Admission is \$10 for this event, free for age 12 and younger.

Amenities:

- Cabaret-style seating, dance floor and cash bar
- Denver Jazz Club Youth All-Stars perform

Many thanks to Walt Hewitt!

Walt Hewitt, who has been the Denver Jazz Club treasurer for many years, has decided it is time to retire from that duty. He has also decided to end his run as columnist for the newsletter.

Walt has dedicated much of his life to the support of traditional jazz, having been active in local jazz clubs. He was a member of the Boulder Friends of Jazz in the past, and, as an avid photographer, took many pictures of music activity in Denver. A long time club and board member of the Denver Jazz Club, he handled the treasurer position on the board with professional skill – his expertise is a big reason that our club is financially stable and “in the black.” Walt was a successful businessman for years and was a true leader, and he was instrumental in making the Denver Jazz Club a great club over these many years. People like Walt help keep traditional jazz alive, and his efforts are appreciated by us all.

Walt made many road trips with jazz friends to Sun Valley; Chandler, AZ; Del Mar, CA; Colorado Springs and more. He and Joanne hosted a great jazz party at Jo's house. In addition to his many years of service, Walt has donated several thousand of his own dollars to the club. And he helped for several years to assemble, label and mail the newsletter.

Our club members have enjoyed his chatty columns for several years now, but Walt feels he's had his run, saying that he has nothing new to offer as he doesn't get around much any more (surely there's a long lyric in that notion).



Walt Hewitt was honored with the presentation of a plaque at our February club event.

His newsletter input is always welcome, however, if he should get the notion to contribute some of his witty insights.

Thanks, Walt, for all you continue to do to keep traditional jazz and swing music alive and thriving!

Scenes from our February Mardi Gras session

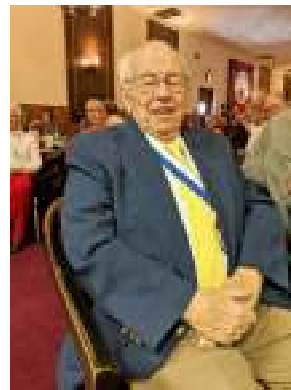
Photos by Susie Reisser



Wende Harston and Eddie Erickson



The Parasol Parade in full swing!



Celebrating Casey Hayes 90th birthday



Paul and Nona Chamberlin – the lives of the party!



Peter's Place

By Peter Robinson
Denver Jazz Club Guest Columnist

INTRIGUING VOCALS REMAIN IN THE BRAIN

It is surprising how the brain works, retaining the most absurd words that contain excellent jazz. My thoughts go back years from listening to many recordings containing not only silly words but some catchy instrumental solos. Readers may recognize some of the tracks in a short list I have thrown together. Most feature well-known artists and vocalists.

Going back to a 78 played so many times by Jack Bland and his Orchestra setting the scene in 1939 to record "Who Stole the Lock from the Hen House Door." The famous Henry "Red" Allen and chorus are the vocalists. It said on the label that this tune was "traditional!" I experienced Allen with a session of the British Alex Welsh Band. He appeared with his trumpet carried in a shopping bag. He waited until he felt the rhythm section ready then joyfully shouted out "Nice," his familiar cry.

"At the Fat Man's" features a vocal by trumpeter Charlie Shavers, who happened to be in the Tommy Dorsey group at the time. After the vocal comes a demonstration of how a musician could wind up the number with a flourishing ending.

The immaculate, under-rated Jimmy Lunceford Orchestra in 1939 happened to have trombonist Trummy Young as vocalist on "T'aint What Ya Do." The line "When I was a kid about half past three my Daddy said 'son come here to me...'" always has me grinning! I also wait for Jimmy Crawford's drum solo on tom toms. Wonderful stuff!

There are so many excellent tracks by Fats Waller -- "The Cheerful Little Earful." I had to choose something out the ordinary -- Fat's Orchestra playing "Rump Steak Serenade." He tells us to "stick your fork in the gravy."

The Orchestra of Cab Calloway provides the backing for the fast-moving version of "Nagasaki --" an ideal number to show off the vocal skills of Cab. What I always waited for afterwards happened to be another skillful trombone solo by Claude Jones.

The 1947 New York Town Hall concert given by Louis Armstrong's All Stars gave us some great repartee between Louis and trombonist Jack Teagarden in "Back 'O Town Blues." I can recommend the whole concert, which also includes Bobby Hackett on trumpet.

Slim Gaillard was the chief "macvouty" of scat singing in his own inimitable style, not to be confused with Louis Armstrong originals. He was an original pianist, guitarist and vocalist. I once saw a clip of him playing the piano with the back of his hands! A fine and popular number of his was "Cement Mixer, Puttee, Puttee."

Someone I met on his U.K. trip was trumpeter Wingy Manone. His undisputed hit was "Isle of Capri," made in 1935 with a large contingent that then formed the Bob Crosby Bobcats -- Matty Matlock, Eddie Miller and Ray Bauduc. I loved his brash singing somewhat in the style of Louis Prima - or maybe Wingy came first.

One of my early influences happened to be drummer Gene Krupa. For example the recordings of "Drummin' Man" and "Drum Boogie" by his orchestra, with vocalist Anita O'Day. Outstanding also the recordings with Krupa and the Benny Goodman Trios and Quartets in the 1930s

Can't miss out the exquisite sounds of Louis and Ella Fitzgerald recorded in the 50s by Norman Granz. I've often said that whoever put these two together deserves a medal! Oscar Peterson and the trio puts the finishing touch to the atmosphere. Sample some of the tracks and sit back and enjoy.

I could go on but (you may think fortunately), I won't!

Denver JAZZ Club NEWS

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Ed Danielson, Editor

Phone 720-683-1266

Advertising rates:

Half page (7.5" width x 4.75" depth)	\$50.00
Quarter page (3.625" width x 4.75" depth)	\$25.00

Our March club date is the birthday of trumpeter Langston Curl (1899-?), who played with McKinney's Cotton Pickers and others. And bandleader Jean Goldkette (1899-1962), a transplanted Frenchman whose best band included Tommy and Jimmy Dorsey, Joe Venuti and Bix Beiderbecke. April 15 marks the birthday of the great Bessie Smith (1894-1937), and Casper Reardon (1907-1941), the first jazz harpist.



The 2017-18 DJC Youth All-Stars will be going on a performance tour to perform in Seton Hall University's Jazz 'N The Hall Concert Series (March 18-21). The concert will take place on Tuesday, March 20th, at 7:30 PM, in the South Orange Performing Arts Center (South Orange, NJ). The concert promoter will also be treating our band to an evening in Manhattan to enjoy the Vanguard Jazz Orchestra on March 19th!

Our exciting New York City concert tour will be taking place from July 7th through 13th!



DJC Youth All Stars performing with Your Father's Mustache Band at the Bull & Bush Pub on January 28th

The 2017-2018 Denver Jazz Club Youth All-Stars:

Charles Gamble, Tenor Sax, Junior, East High School; **Kiyah Vizzi**, Trumpet, Junior, Thornton High School; **Benj Wilkin**, Trombone, Senior, Kennedy High School; **Steve Pitchford**, Banjo, Sophomore, Bear Creek High School; **Antonio Giovanetti**, Piano, Sophomore, Bear Creek High School; **Benji Robinson**, Drums, Junior, Centaurus High School; **Ellington Jenkins**, Clarinet, Senior, DPS Online High School; **Ben Husted**, Bass, Junior, Chatfield High School

The DJC Youth All-Stars continue to need your financial support.

A special thanks to all of you in the Denver Jazz Club who participate in the King Soopers Gift Card fundraiser – that certainly helps, but only covers a small portion of our financial needs.

Please go to: <http://youthallstars.denverjazzclub.com/donate/> to make a donation or purchase any of our 8 CDs, or you can mail donations to: **Denver Jazz Club Youth All-Stars, Ed Cannava, Director, 6388 S. Dexter St, Centennial, CO 80121**. Our new CD, 'A Ticket to Mardi Gras,' is now available for purchase, and will be available at the Club sessions.

AUDITIONS FOR HIGH SCHOOL CLARINET, TENOR SAX, TRUMPET, TROMBONE, PIANO, AND BANJO OR GUITAR PLAYERS WILL BE TAKING PLACE FOR THE 2018-19 DJC YOUTH ALL-STAR BAND ON MARCH 25TH & APRIL 8TH (and possibly additional Sundays after April 8th).

Please go to: www.bandresourcesunlimited.com for further information and to download the audition materials.

Please contact Ed at: ecan11@msn.com to schedule an audition date and time.

A very loud "THANK YOU!" to everyone who has supported our Denver Jazz Club Youth All-Stars over the past 9 years.

Premier Plus (\$1750+)

- Anonymous Contributor in honor of Walt Hewitt & Joanne Bagg
- Tom & Betsy Smith

Premier (\$750-\$1749)

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- Northern Colorado Traditional Jazz Society

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- Marty Krebs in honor of Dr. Rachel Paull

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- In memory of Annette Walvatne

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- William & Carole Gartrell

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- Eddie Erickson

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- Decker Westerberg

- Bob Draga

- Sterling Nelson

- Your Fathers Mustache Band

- Rodney Sauer

- Queen City Jazz Band



ocal band appearances

After Midnightaftermidnightjazzband.com

Saturday, April 14 7:00 PM - Caffe Sole, 637R S Broadway, Boulder

Denver Jazz Club Youth All-Starswww.youthallstars.denverjazzclub.com

Sunday, March 11 1:00 PM - Meridian Westland Retirement Community, 10695 W. 17th Ave

Saturday, March 24 3:30 PM - Lakewood Estates Retirement Community, 8585 W. Dakota Ave

Sunday, April 15 3:50 PM - Denver Jazz Club Monthly Session, Westminster Elks Lodge, 3850 Elk Dr

Gypsy Swing Revuegypsyswingrevue.com

Every Wednesday 8:00 PM – The Irish Snug, 1201 East Colfax Avenue, Denver

Joe Smith and the Spicy Pickles Jazz Bandjoesmithandthespicypickles.com

Sunday, March 25 8:00 PM – Mercury Café, 2199 California, Denver

Thursday, April 19 8:00 PM – Mercury Café, 2199 California, Denver

La Pompe Jazzwww.lapompejazz.com

Saturday, April 21 4:00 PM - Swallow Hill Music, 71 E Yale Ave, Denver

Marti Henry's Jazz Over Easy

Every third

Wednesday 6:00 PM – Bent Noodle, 3055 S. Parker Rd.

Neil Bridge 7 with Karen Leewww.neilbridgemusic.com

Every third Sunday 6:00 PM – Bull and Bush Pub, 4700 Cherry Creek Dr. South, Glendale

Thursday, March 29 11:30 AM – Dazzle Senior Luncheon, Dazzle at Baur's, 1512 Curtis, Denver

Poudre River Irregularswww.prijb.com

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

Queen City Jazz Bandwww.queencityjazzband.com

Every second Sunday 8:00 PM – Mercury Cafe, 2199 California, Denver

Every fourth Sunday 2:00 PM – El Rancho Brewing Co, I-70 & Evergreen Parkway

Saturday, April 21 7:00 PM – Jefferson Unitarian Church, 14350 W 32nd Ave, Golden

Summit Hot Seven

Every first Sunday 6:00 PM – Bull and Bush Pub, 4700 Cherry Creek Dr. South, Glendale

UCD Claim Jumpers

Every fourth Saturday 9:30 PM – Mercury Café Jungle Room, 2199 California St., Denver.

Your Father's Mustache Bandwww.mustacheband.com

Every 2nd and 4th

Sunday 6:00 PM – Bull and Bush Pub, 4700 Cherry Creek Dr. South, Glendale

Note: Musicians often lead complicated lives. It's best to check with the venue or the band website before making plans.

The /rez sez ...

By John Sobott
Denver Jazz Club President

Brrrrr! It sure was cold and snowy on January 21st, the day of our January jam event at the Elks Club. We couldn't fault anybody for staying home that day. But if you were in the audience that day -- and there weren't many of you -- you heard **Joe Smith and the Spicy Pickles** band. These young folks are taking the trad circuit by storm and every time we hear them they get better and better. They tour the country and are appearing at many of the trad festivals with rave reviews.

However, we do live in Colorado and the weather doesn't always cooperate with our jazz schedule; and, as they say, "the show must go on." We thank everyone who showed up that day!

Our February session was quite a different story -- more people showed up to enjoy the **Queen City Jazz Band** with **Eddie Erickson** than we have seen in many years. What a great time it was!

In the months ahead we have some of the best musicians scheduled to entertain us, so we ask that you come and support our club. Also, thank you for supporting the King Soopers benefit fund with your grocery purchases. Those funds have helped our club tremendously and we appreciate your support.

Check the upcoming schedule -- we'll see you at the Elks Club and bring a friend!

Mardi Gras 1959 Remembered

By Casey Hayes

In February of 1959, my friend and I drove his 1956 Chevrolet 1,300 miles nonstop to New Orleans in 26 hours. We did the usual tourist places -- took a streetcar to the St. Charles neighborhood to see the old mansions and tried out the food -- soft-shelled crab (ugh!), poor boy sandwiches (okay), raw oysters on the half-shell (loved 'em!). Fats Domino's recording of Blueberry Hill was playing in the clubs at the French Quarter.

We found a club featuring Louis Prima. The orchestra was sitting at tables, and upon our entrance they started playing. We decided to leave, as the place was empty. Then they returned to the tables to visit. This was before singer Keely Smith sparked the group into success and fame.

Pat O'Brian's was a club that featured a drink called "The Hurricane," which is made with light and dark rum, orange juice, lime juice and grenadine. You got to keep the glass. A lively local jazz band kept the crowd entertained.

We found Al Hirt's club, and shared a table about 24 inches square with a couple. The room was jammed with people and smoke. Drop cords, extension cords and taped connections were everywhere in this wooden building. I spent more time watching for short circuits than listening to the music. Al had paintings of famous trumpet players painted on the wall, such as Harry James and Louis Armstrong. He would put the spotlight on them

and play a tribute. After an hour and fifteen minutes of this I had my fill of trumpet playing.

The Dukes of Dixieland were a local band that was making recordings for Audio-Fidelity record company. They were the first to record in stereo, and the recordings were quite expensive. Their group was SRO.

The colorful floats were still pulled by mules, and the "krewes" gave out beads and trinkets.

The U.S. Navy docked an aircraft carrier and gave public tours. I was impressed by the large elevators that lowered the planes for servicing, and the steam catapults that assisted their takeoff from the deck. The navy had a marching band in the parade, and was playing Sousa favorites, like "Washington Post," "Semper Fidelis," and especially "Stars and Stripes Forever." The folks along the route had their hands on their hearts as the flag passed, and were keeping time with the music. A favorite part in "Stars and Stripes Forever" is where the piccolo plays an octave above the flute. About this time a girl burst from the crowd and ran into the middle of the band, put her arms around the trombone player and marched with them. Her facial expression seemed to say "By God, this is my navy, and this is my band, and this is my flag, and no one is going to mess with it." The audience gave an extra shout of approval. It was an era of "My country -- love it or leave it."

The times, as Bob Dylan said, they are a-changing.

**Denver Jazz Club News, published every two months by the Denver Jazz Club
7898 Applewood Lane, Denver CO 80221-3204**

Denver Jazz Club officers and board members

Officers:

- **President:** John Sobott (2018), 303-430-5606
- **Vice President:** Bill Clark (2018), 303-726-4101
- **Secretary:** Paul Chamberlin (2021) 303-237-4619
- **Treasurer:** Dottie Sobott (2018), 303-430-5606
- **Corresponding Secretary:** Kristi Flesher (2018), 303-748-9498

Board members:

- Casey Hayes (2018), 303-288-5869
- Walt Hewitt (2018) 303-791-3337
- Ed Cannava (2018), 303-328-7277
- Eric Staffeldt (2018), 303-394-4552

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Denver Jazz Club Membership Application

**Denver JAZZ Club
NEWS**

7898 Applewood Lane, Denver CO 80221-3204

Return service requested



Boulder Friends of Jazz

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

1:00-4:00 PM, first Sunday of every month at the Avalon Ballroom, 6185 Arapahoe Rd, Boulder.

\$8 for members of any jazz club, \$10 for non-members, \$3 for students, free for musicians who wish to play in jam session.

Sunday, March 4 - To be announced
Sunday, April 1 - To be announced

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.

\$8 for members of Northern Colorado Traditional Jazz Society, \$12 for non-members, \$4 for students, free for ages 18 and younger.

Fridays, March 2 and April 6 -
Poudre River Irregulars.

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.

\$10 for members of any jazz club, \$15 for non-members, \$3.50 for students, free for children age 12 or younger.

Sunday, March 11 - **Buddy Gordon** Septet
Sunday, April 8 - **Wayne Wilkinson** Quartet