

Denver JAZZ Club NEWS



Volume 63,
Number 5

May/June 2019

Denver Jazz Club in operation for 64 continuous years

Established 1954

Poudre River Irregulars

Sunday, May 19



The Poudre River Irregulars are a colorful New Orleans and Dixieland jazz ensemble noted for their exuberant energy and sound musicianship. Drawing much of their inspiration from Louis Armstrong and Jelly Roll Morton, they play a wide variety of traditional jazz, from ragtime through the classics of the twenties and thirties up to early swing. Whatever they play, their music is always upbeat and joyful. Based in Fort Collins, Colorado, this popular band plays for concerts, dances, and private engagements all over the Northern Colorado region. The

band's current "regular irregulars" include leader **Len Kellogg**, trombone; **Charlie Smith**, trumpet; **Clark Burnside**, clarinet; **Ray Leake**, piano; **Rory Thomas**, banjo; **David Dale**, bass; and **Oscar DeZoto**, drums.

Where, when, how much:

- Denver Jazz Club, 1:00-5:00 PM Sunday, May 19
- 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:

- UCD Claim Jumpers perform beginning at 1:00 PM
- Cabaret-style seating, dance floor, cash bar.
- Denver Jazz Club Youth All-Stars perform between the second and third sets.

Vern Baumer and the Mile High Jazz Gathering

Sunday, June 16



Clarinetist and vocalist **Vern Baumer** has been active on the Denver jazz scene since 1970, when he formed his band the New Orleans Jazz Gathering. Over the years since, the band has played regular gigs at various bars, restaurants and jazz festivals.

Vern himself has worked with Big Tiny Little, the Summit Ridge Jazz Band, the High Sierra Jazz Band and the Wild Bill Davidson

Legacy Band, with Tom Saunders. He has even played in the famous Washboard Spasm at Monterey's Jazz Bash by the Bay. It promises to be a fun afternoon!

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Great news about the King Soopers fundraising program!



King Soopers Gift Cards are no longer the way for the Denver Jazz Club to receive funding. The gift cards can still be used to use up

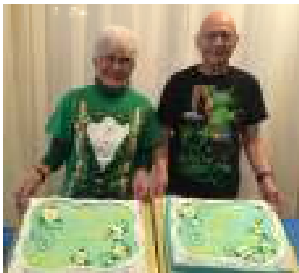
your available balances, but you now simply need to enroll in the Store Rewards Program using the following link: <http://www.kingsoopers.com>. The beauty of this change will be the fact that you can now use your own credit card or cash at the check-out counter. As long as you also swipe your rewards card, or enter your registered phone number, before paying, we will be credited a profit. If you don't as of yet have a King

Soopers or City Market rewards card, please realize that they are available for free at the customer service desk at any King Soopers or City Market. That means you can also earn points on your personal credit card, while helping our organization profit from your purchases!

At the Sunday, May 19th and June 16th Denver Jazz Club sessions, assistance will be available to enroll any of our attendees needing help. Please bring your King Soopers Rewards Card (SooperCard), as we will need the number to enroll you in the program. We will also have applications and reward cards available. Please realize that you must have an email address in order to get enrolled in our fundraiser.

Sincerely,

The Denver Jazz Club Board



Congratulations to Paul and Nona Chamberlin

They celebrated their 68th Wedding anniversary at the March Denver Jazz Club session. Thanks for all you contribute to our organization!

Neil Bridge Turns 90!



Prominent Denver pianist, composer, arranger, bandleader and jazz educator Neil Bridge will be celebrating his 90th birthday in August! There will be special performance events at the Bull and Bush on the third Sunday in August (the 18th -- Neil's actual birthday), and at Dazzle on August 24th. And a generous anonymous benefactor suggested and helped set up a GOFUNDME campaign to produce a new CD, which will be matched

dollar for dollar up to \$5,000, and a documentary honoring Neil's ninetieth. Watch for more details in the next newsletter.

Denver JAZZ Club NEWS

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Ed Danielson, Editor

Phone 720-683-1256

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

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



Peter's Place

By Peter Robinson
Denver Jazz Club Guest Columnist

A MUSICAL MISCELLANY

One feature of recuperating at home is the relaxing periods listening to CDs. Digging out those not listened to for ages gave me a chance to test the value of what I thought was excellent those years ago. So far no disappointments.



One compilation I made concerned the modern pianist Thelonious Monk during his early period in the 1950s. Readers may now think "Oh dear, he's going into modern music!" At that time Monk was maybe termed "way out" or "weird" due to his outlandish chords, dress and compositions. Present day, my CD confirms that some of his melodies are now standard compositions played by many bands – "Blue Monk" and "Round Midnight" being prime examples. Although this isn't New Orleans music I guess that a front line has tapped the Monk repertoire. The band pianist could do a "Monk", leave the piano after his solo and dance around!

Please read on -- I'm not keeping to a modern aspect!

Perfect Small Group Jazz

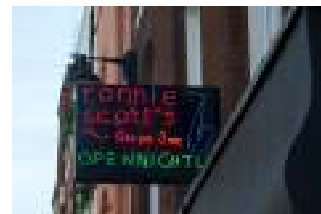
A group of musicians and a vocalist recorded some perfect versions of pleasant tunes in the 1930's. Under the leadership of the wonderful pianist Teddy Wilson came a small group consisting of a variety of famous jazzmen, and backed by the Count Basie rhythm section, all for the dulcet sounds of vocalist Billie Holiday. The recordings have a relaxed approach with the early improvisations of tenor player Lester Young predominant. The accompanists read like a Who's Who of jazz stars -- Roy Eldridge, Buck Clayton, Artie Shaw, Benny Goodman,



Benny Carter, and Ben Webster. To find a CD of this timeless music may take some searching under the names of Wilson or Holiday.

Ronnie Scott's Club, 40th Birthday

Coming into my hands not long ago was a double CD celebrating the Club's 40th. Consequently I thought that many of the tracks would be mainly modern. Although I knew that this policy wavered



at Christmas when vocalist George Melly backed by John Chilton's Footwarmers did their annual thing (now discontinued), I was pleasantly surprised to find so many tracks of historic jazz artists, perhaps all of them have played at the club over the years. Amongst say 40 tracks were Coleman Hawkins, Benny Carter, Stan Getz, Diane Krall, Ella, Tommy Flanagan, Stephan Grappelli and many more. Ronnie's humour was always prominent, e.g. "We have the best food in town - 100 flies can't be wrong!"

Another Move!

Recently the excellent, swinging mainstream quintet "Jazz Over Easy" under the leadership of trombonist Marti Henry was given the push from a Lakewood venue. No reason was given, after months of playing to a full room, with a good bar -- and only once a month! I now hear from Marti that a new venue has been secured at Winston's (formerly Baker St.) in Belmar, Lakewood. Marti has been offered a third Sunday each month gig commencing May 19th from 3 to 6 p.m. The third Sunday seems to clash with another gig I know! The group consists of Marti, trombone and vocals; Carlos Chavez on tenor, giving a touch of modern phrasing; happy and talented Mark Klagstad on guitar; Scott Grove on keyboard and colourful bass pedal socks and brother Don Grove, thankfully recovered from a serious illness, on drums.

New Jazz Venue in Belmar

The former Baker Street Pub will be presenting jazz on Sunday afternoons! The schedule calls for the **Poudre River Irregulars** to play on the first Sunday, **Joe Smith and the Spicy Pickles** on the second Sunday, **Jazz over Easy** on the third Sunday, and a group to be put together by father and son cornetists **Rick and Colton Crandall** (formerly of the Jazz Cookers) on the fourth Sunday. Winston's is at 7260 W Alaska Dr. in Lakewood. The phone number is (303) 953-5510.



YOUTH ALL-STARS

The Denver Jazz Club Youth All-Stars may be continuing auditions for a high school bass, tuba or low brass player, if we were not able to fill the vacancy on April 28th. If that's the case, auditions will take place for the 2019-20 DJC Youth All-Star Band on Sundays, until the position is filled. 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.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY SELECTED 2019-20 DENVER JAZZ CLUB YOUTH ALL-STARS:

*Owen Metz – piano – freshman, Mountain Vista High School
Isaiah Kim – drums – freshman, Grandview High School*

RETURNING FROM OUR 2018-19 DJC YOUTH ALL-STARS:

*Ivan Martin, clarinet, junior, Chatfield High School
Nathan Bailey, tenor sax, junior, Chatfield High School
Abby Husted, trumpet, freshman, Chatfield High School
Thomas Neal, trombone, junior, Douglas County High School
Ben Jablonski, banjo, junior, Chatfield High School*

This will be a great DJC Youth All-Star Band!! Congratulations to all of you!

The 2018-19 DJC Youth All-Stars will perform at two European jazz festivals this summer – this is a first for our youth band!! Congratulations!

- Music in the Parks Stage, Montreux, Switzerland – 4-5:15pm on June 30 and July 1
- Various Venues & Stages, Kongsberg, Norway Jazz Festival – (TBA) July 3-6

THE DJC YOUTH ALL-STARS CONTINUE TO NEED YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT - THE KING SOOPERS REWARDS CARD FUNDRAISER CERTAINLY HELPS, BUT ONLY COVERS A PORTION OF OUR FINANCIAL NEEDS.

Please go to: <http://youthallstars.denverjazzclub.com/donate/> to make a donation or purchase any of our 9 CD's!! Our most recent CD, "Playin' the Blues," is now available for purchase!

A special thanks to all of you in the Denver Jazz Club for your unending support! THANKS TO ALL OF YOU WHO PARTICIPATE IN THE KING SOOPERS REWARDS CARD FUNDRAISER – THIS PROGRAM CONTINUOUSLY HELPS OUR YOUTH ALL-STARS! You can also mail donations to: Denver Jazz Club Youth All-Stars, Ed Cannava, Director, 6388 S. Dexter St, Centennial, CO 80121.

Hot Jazz, Pop Jazz, Hokum, Hilarity and History

By Ed Danielson

I suppose something interesting can be associated with any date you might choose, but for our club dates in May and June of this year, here's what occurred.



On May 19, 1919, Georgie Auld was born (as John Altwerger) in Toronto; his family moved to New York City in 1929. Largely self-taught on the saxophone, he became a prominent figure in the bands of Bunny Berigan, Artie Shaw and Benny Goodman before

leading his own band. He also played alongside Erroll Garner, Dizzy Gillespie, Billy Eckstine and others. He dabbled in acting, appearing on Broadway and in a few movies. Auld is the man who coached Robert De Niro in playing the saxophone for De Niro's starring role in the film "New York New York." (Whether De Niro could actually play is unknown, but he looked pretty convincing in the movie.) Auld died in 1990.

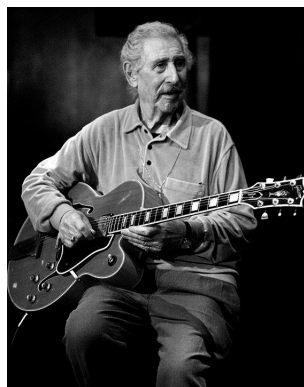
And Trumpeter Henry "Hot Lips" Busse was born May 19, 1894, in Magdeburg, Germany. He played violin as a child, but a broken finger wasn't set properly, making it difficult to finger the strings, so he switched to trumpet. The story is that he was forced to play the



trumpet in an uncle's Oom-Pah band, and rebelled by running away from the family farm, stowing away on a ship to New York, and then taking a job on a ship sailing around South America to California. (Some references posit the less romantic storyline of his entire family emigrating to New York and settling in Ohio, but that's too dull to be believed.) Busse started a band in California – "Busse's Buzzards" – which was eventually incorporated into Paul Whiteman's orchestra, with Busse as the concertmaster. While with Whiteman, he was the co-composer of "Hot Lips" (giving him his nickname) and

"Wang Wang Blues." He later started his own band, Henry Busse and the Shuffle Rhythm Band, which had a string of hits in the 1930s. Busse made the gossip columns when he woke up one morning married to a woman he had met at a bar called the Hotsy Totsy Club; it took a year and a half to have the marriage annulled. Conveniently, Busse and his band were playing at a convention of undertakers in Memphis when he died, in 1955.

Count Basie recorded "Pound Cake," with classic solos by tenor saxophonist Lester Young and trumpeter Harry "Sweets" Edison, on May 19, 1939.



On June 16, 1919, guitarist Al Viola was born in Brooklyn, New York. He learned guitar and mandolin in his teens, worked in an army jazz band during World War II, and formed a trio with his army buddy Page Cavanaugh in 1946 which had some success, even appearing in a Doris Day movie. Viola – with a name that suggested he belonged in

the most obscure section of a symphony orchestra – is best remembered as an in-demand studio musician in Los Angeles. His guitar could be heard in plenty of commercial jingles; he played the mandolin part for the Godfather movies, and was a frequent accompanist to Frank Sinatra. He also worked with Jimmy Witherspoon, Helen Humes, June Christy, Natalie Cole, Neil Diamond, Ella Fitzgerald, Marvin Gaye, Steve Lawrence, Julie London, Anita O'Day, Nelson Riddle, Linda Ronstadt and Joe Williams, in addition to playing with some of the great West Coast jazzmen of the 1950s and 60s. Viola died in 2007.

And, on June 16, 1960, pianist and impresario George Wein put together a band he called The Storyville Sextet: Shorty Baker, trumpet; Tyree Glenn, trombone; Pee Wee Russell, clarinet; George Wein, piano; Bill Crow, bass; Mickey Sheen, drums. They recorded an album at the Museum of Modern Art in New York.

So yes, apparently every day has something interesting associated with it!

local band appearances

Musicians frequently lead complicated lives. It's always a good idea to check the band website – or the venue's website – to update scheduled appearances.

After Midnight

aftermidnightjazzband.com

Saturday, May 18 1:30 PM – Five Points Jazz Festival, Rossonian, 2650 Welton Street, Denver
 Friday, June 14 7:00 PM – Caffè Sole, 637 S Broadway, Boulder

Denver Jazz Club Youth All-Stars

www.youthallstars.denverjazzclub.com

Sunday, May 5 3:00 PM - Q's Pub & Grille, 10133 W. Chatfield Ave, Littleton
 Sunday, May 19 3:50-4:15 PM - Monthly DJC Session, Westminster Elks Lodge (3850 Elk Dr)
 Friday, June 7 3:00 PM - Avogadro's Number, 605 S. Mason St, Ft. Collins
 Tuesday, June 11 7:00 PM - Live Jazz Radio Show - KUVU Radio Studio, 2900 Welton St, Denver (Guests welcome)
 Thursday, June 13 7:00 PM - Heather Gardens Retirement Community, 2888 S. Heather Gardens Way, Aurora
 Saturday, June 15 2:30 PM - Brookdale Meridian Westland, 10695 W. 17th Ave, Lakewood
 Sunday, June 16 3:50-4:15 PM - Monthly DJC Session, Westminster Elks Lodge, 3850 Elk Dr.
 Sunday, June 23 4:00 PM - City Park Jazz City Park, 2001 Colorado Blvd, Denver
 Monday, June 24 4:00 pm - European Concert Tour Preview Pearl St. Mall, 1242 Pearl St, Boulder
 Wednesday, June 26 4:00 PM - Final European Concert Tour Preview 16th Street Mall, Between Glenarm & Welton

Gypsy Swing Revue

gyppyswingrevue.com

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

Hot Tomatoes Dance Orchestra

hottomatoes.com

Saturday, June 15 4:00 PM – 1940s World War II Ball, Boulder Airport, 3327 Airport Rd, Boulder
 Sunday, June 16 8:00 PM – Mercury Café, 2199 California, Denver

La Pompe Jazz

www.lapompejazz.com

Every Tuesday in May 7:00 PM – Union Station, 17th and Wynkoop, Denver
 Thursday, May 2 8:00 PM – Mercury Café, 2199 California, Denver

Marti Henry's Jazz Over Easy

Every third Sunday 3:00 PM – Winston's Pub & Grill – Belmar, 7260 W Alaska Dr., Lakewood
 Every third Wednesday 6:00 PM – Bent Noodle, 3055 S. Parker Rd.

Neil Bridge 7 with Karen Lee

www.neilbridgemusic.com

Every third Sunday 6:00 PM – Bull and Bush Brewpub, 4700 Cherry Creek Dr. South, Glendale
 Friday, May 31 7:00 PM – La Cour Artbar, 1643 S Broadway, Denver
 Saturday, June 29 8:00 PM – American Vernacular Dance, Avalon Ballroom, 6185 Arapahoe Rd, Boulder

Poudre River Irregulars

www.prijb.com

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

Queen City Jazz Band

www.queencityjazzband.com

Every second Sunday 8:00 PM – Mercury Café, 2199 California, Denver
 Saturday, May 4 12:00 PM – Denver Derby (Kentucky Derby party), Denver Performing Arts Center, 1400 Curtis, Denver
 Saturday, May 25 6:00 PM – Crown Hill Cemetery, 7777 W 29th Ave, Wheat Ridge (Memorial Day concert)
 Monday, May 27 7:00 PM – El Rancho, 29260 US Hwy 40, Evergreen

Note: The QCJB will not be at El Rancho the fourth Sunday in May, June or July.

Something Doin' -- the Big Little Ragtime Band

Monday, May 6 7:00 PM – My Brother's Bar, 2376 15th Street at Platte Street, Denver

Summit Hot Seven

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

UCD Claim Jumpers

Every fourth Saturday 9:30 PM – Mercury Café Jungle Room, 2199 California St., Denver (except October 28)

Your Father's Mustache Band

www.mustacheband.com

Every 2nd and 4th Sunday 6:00 PM – Bull and Bush Brewpub, 4700 Cherry Creek Dr. South, Glendale

Jazz at the Windsor

By Casey Hayes



It was the summer of 1950 that we went to the Windsor Hotel to hear a trombone and piano duet. The trombone player was quite elderly, and loved to play Tommy

Dorsey favorites, one being "Marie." His partner was about 23 years old and could have been his son. They would feature Tommy Dorsey's recording of "T.D.'s Boogie Woogie" with the repetitive bass of the left hand on the piano.

As the evening progressed, the old man would shout out "whiskey." He would become annoyed that no one would buy him a drink, much to the embarrassment of the young piano player. The piano player eventually took a break and escorted him from the stage. Upon returning, the old man had a coffee cup full of whiskey, but wanted more. His remarks became insulting and his music slurred. Some regarded him as a Larimer Street alcoholic with derision and scorn, while others felt pity and sympathy for his behavior.

We went upstairs to the grand ballroom. The dance floor was constructed of two maple boards and two walnut boards and was quite beautiful. It was mounted on steel cables attached to coil springs to make it more restful on the dancers' feet. Unfortunately, the walnut boards wore down faster than the maple boards, creating a corrugated effect, hindering dancing. Another room was quite large, pictured with decorative trim of burro-pack animals, all

facing one direction; but if you looked closely, one was facing the opposite direction – an example of western humor. Another was a painting of a team of horses pulling a stagecoach. One horse had an eye that would follow you, and as you walked by, it would seem to turn its head.

Placed at the landing of the "Devil's Staircase" was a mirror about 30 inches wide and seven feet tall, where the lady could adjust her gown. The mirror was coated with diamond chips along with the silvering on the reverse side.

In its glory days, the bar had silver dollars fastened to it, but these were missing. Above the elevator was a picture of a Rock Island open vestibule train near Pikes Peak. What made this picture so valuable was the pearls on the reverse side, mounted to the picture. It was about ten inches by five feet. About 10 years ago I saw the picture in an antique shop priced at \$2,000. The owner was quite evasive as to how he acquired it.

The rooms were quite small by today's standards. Each contained a walnut bed, a fireplace with mantle, a dresser with marble top and mirror.

A couple of weeks after our visit, I wrote to Colorado Governor Ed Johnson, suggesting that the building be used for state functions, issuing driver's licenses, vehicle plates, the storage of files in the basement. He replied that the building was not suitable, and that new buildings of pre-stressed concrete slabs were a better expenditure of taxpayers' money.



Today we recognize that alcoholism is a disease for which there are treatments. Also, we recognize the benefits of historic preservation. The times, "they are a-changin'."

2019 Evergreen Jazz Festival July 26, 27 and 28

Evergreen, Colorado



World-class talent, intimate venues, and beautiful mountain surroundings make the Evergreen Jazz Festival unique.

The lineup for 2019 includes:

The Lance Acker-Andrew Vogt Jazztet, After Midnight, Carl Sonny Leyland Trio, Hal Smith's On The Levee Band, The Holland-Coots Jazz Quintet, Hot Tomatoes Dance Orchestra, Joe Smith and The Spicy Pickles, lapompe Jazz Band, The Poudre River Irregulars, The Queen City Jazz Band with Wende Harston and the Wolverine Jazz Band

Order tickets by June 30 and save up to 25%!

Information: 303-697-5467

evergreenjazz.org

**Denver Jazz Club News, published every two months by the Denver Jazz Club
P O Box 760, Byers, CO. 80103**

Denver Jazz Club officers and board members

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- Dottie Sobott, Treasurer, 303-430-5606
- Kristi Flesher, Corresponding Secretary, 303-748-9498

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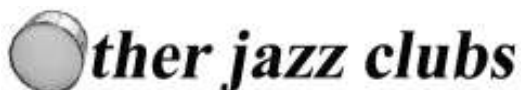
- Are you a musician? Yes No
- Individual \$20/year Student \$10/year
- Musician \$15/year Family \$30/year
- Patron \$80/year (get 2 free jam session passes!)

Denver Jazz Club Membership Application

**Denver JAZZ Club
NEWS**

P O Box 760, Byers, CO. 80103

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, May 5: **Derek Lucas**

Sunday, June 2: **Kristin Anderson-Bohan**

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, May 3 and June 7:

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, May 12: **JoRiCa + 1**

Sunday, June 9: **New Vintage Jazz Band**