THE DELTA RAG

A non- profit organization dedicated to the education, preservation and promotion of Traditional Jazz.

MAY 2016 **ISSUE NUMBER 438**

Sunday May 1, 2016 - Noon to 5 PM

Location: ELKS LODGE 8900 Thornton Avenue, Stockton, CA

Map/Directions? See our web site: http://www.stocktondixielandjazz.org

ANNOUNCING A LAST MINUTE CHANGE IN THE FEATURED BAND FOR MAY 2016

Just as this issue of the Delta Rag was about to go to press, we were given some very sad news. **Art Bregante**, the leader of the **Art Bregante Orchestra**, has passed away. He was taken to the hospital on Saturday, April 16, 2016, and passed away on the evening of April 18th. Art was 94 years young. We learned from his family that services for Art will be held on Tuesday, April 26, 2016. A reception will be held at the Stockton Elks Club immediately thereafter. We realize that many of you may not hear this news in time to make plans to attend. So, more information about the services for Art will be posted on our website as soon as we know more details.

The articles in this month's issue of the Delta Rag were written before we learned that Art had passed away. Of particular note are the praises offered by Vice President Carl Kaiser. In Carl's article (*see page 8*) he wrote of the dedication and service that **Art Bregante** has brought to the SJDJS. Here are his praises for Art:

"As many of you know, Art's dedication to SJDJS is legendary. For ten years, Art was a SJDJS board member, including two stints as President and three stints as Vice President. These days, Art arrives to our sessions at 10:00 to help with the setup and is generally available to help with the cleanup at the end of each session. In his spare time, he has led the Art Bregante Orchestra and played drums."

Out of respect for their Leader, **Art Bregante**, his orchestra has understandably cancelled their May 1st guest band engagement at the San Joaquin Dixieland Jazz Society monthly Session.

The **Seldom Herd Band** has volunteered their services and will donate their time to the SJDJS to fill this May 1st vacancy and loss. The members of the Seldom Herd Band are all members of the SJDJS. We will bring you that big band sound for listening and dancing that you were looking forward to with Art's Orchestra. We are inviting all musicians to come to the May 1st 2016 Session of the SJDJS to join in the jam sessions. We need **YOU!**

The Stockton Dixieland Jazz Society offers our sincerest prayers and condolences to the Art Bregante Family.

The San Joaquin Dixieland Jazz Society

SJDJS 2016 OFFICERS

President.....Frank Lindskoog
Past President.....Dick Lockwood
VP/Music Director.....Carl Kaiser
(Carl's email: **keybonekaiser@hotmail.com**)
Secretary……..Barbara Baughman
Treasurer.....Geri Eckert
Promotional Mgr.....(Vacant)
Equipment Mgr.....Larry Tyrell
Member at Large……..Judith Griffiths
Member at Large.....Kerry Lockwood
Historian.....Larry Tyrell
Delta Rag Editor …… .Dick Lockwood
Delta Rag email: **editor@stocktondixielandjazz.org**
Delta Rag contributors..... Frank Lindskoog, Carl Kaiser, Dick Lockwood, Geri Eckert, Dave Tygett, Ruth Grijalva,, Larry Tyrell Billie Ricker
Photos: Kerry Lockwood

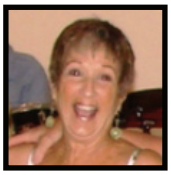
VOLUNTEERS

Admission desk coordinator - Judy Griffiths
Admission desk volunteers - Audrey Gulick, Beverly Martin, Reva Williams, Julie Schumacher, Edith Sanchez, Elizabeth Gunter, Alice Hannan, Judy Griffiths Subs are: Gladys Duncan, Virginia Weins, Mary Doherty, Larry Tyrell, Ellie Buhlert and Tony Morreira
Raffle .....Dave & Marlena Tygett
Web Administrator.....Kerry Lockwood

Website. http://www.stocktondixielandjazz.org
Equipment Crew: Larry Tyrell, Mark Kramer, Carl Kaiser
Frank Lindskoog, Dick Lockwood, Carl Warmdahl & Frank's ***"Utes"***
Nomination Committee**:** Jan & Ellie Buhlert

The DELTA RAG is published monthly by the San Joaquin Dixieland Jazz Society.
The submission deadline for material to publish is the day of the session preceding the desired issue date.

For more information, including ad prices and directions on placing your Ad, go to our web site and click on the owl at the bottom of our front page.
Or, you can click this link to go there now:
http://www.stocktondixielandjazz.org/



MONEY MATTERS:
May 2016 - Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report for the April session is not gonna win any great prizes I'm sorry to say. But we won't give up the ship just yet. We're making some much needed changes in our "spending" category which will make the numbers look a little better and our bank account won't suffer as much. Look for more information on these changes in the Splinters From The Board column (on page 7).

I encourage you to invite your family, friends, neighbors, professional people ie: accountant, doctor, dentist, mechanic, gardener, plumber, etc. to our jazz sessions. That will help too.

SPREAD THE WORD!

Our (one time) "get in free cards" are available from most board members for you to give out. Just ask.

INCOME: $390.50
door .....132.
membership.....115.
donations.....0.
raffle.....115.
kitty jars/CD sales.....28.50

EXPENSES: $1,081.79
rent.....550.
band..... 500.
rag printing.....26.16
ASCAP..... 5.63

Bank Balance as of April 1: $6,567.10

Ger~ Make today a beautiful day!

WIDOWED PERSONS ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA, INC.
Stockton Chapter #3
Call for meeting times

Kathy Wilson 209-951-8656
Peggy Barde 209-474-9592
P O Box 7153
Stockton, CA 95267

Bob Romans
Cell Block 7 Leader, Cornet, Double Bell Euphonium
1617 Lakeshore Drive
Lodi, California, 95242
cellblk7@comcast.net
Cell 209-747-1148

OUR FEATURED BAND FOR THE APRIL 2016 SESSION: THE FOG CITY STOMPERS

PRESIDENT'S REPORT
May 2016 - Frank Lindskoog

Merry-month-of-May greetings [sorry Lucille, no more Oldsmobiles]
Well, tax-due day has *passed;* music alone gives me greater pleasure.
I always have been curious as to the format-origin of the preponderance of American popular tunes, because it is so pervasive. Composers almost by rote divide the poetic theme or lyrical message of their tunes into four equal parts. The melody lines of the first two are similar, the third-called a bridge-is entirely different, and the fourth is somewhat similar to the first two w/an appropriate ending. Is it not surprising that this format traces back to Steven Foster, our first well known popular-music composer? Considering the huge evolution of music styles/types since the civil war I would have expected format evolution as well. Evidently it is utterly natural.

Club attendance is not what has been hoped for and not what is necessary to pay the rent on the two venues, main room and bar lounge. In regrettable response we must abandon the Poolside Lounge as a band site, commencing in Jan. 2017. As I have said before I look upon our monthly gatherings as a cozy aggregation of friends, no matter how few. I hope you do as well.

URT of the month: Our magnificent constitution is succinct, plain-written and brief. In normal type it is contained w/in a thin booklet 3&1/2 x 5 x less than 1/8 inches thick!! Yet it is treated by lawyers as if it were "War and Peace" plus the complexity of physics. Court decisions take years, arguments over meaning and intent go on for decades. In my view a law education is not necessary to interpret both meaning and intent. Rather, intelligence combined with sound logic disclose both, and provide all the guidance necessary.

He had one job: In high school just after WWII, I had a friend who was an ardent drama club member. He could well memorize his lines but just could not keep track of the cues for them. Because of the war and the preceding depression neither of us had been exposed to a live band with a bass drum. His teacher agreed to give him one last chance, a single line in the whole play, to redeem himself. ***"Hark I hear a cannon yonder"*** was it, to be cued when the drummer, hidden very nearby behind a curtain, whacked that drum with a heavy foot. When the time came, taken aback by the unfamiliar sound and intensity my friend blurted out: "***holy mackerel what the heck was that".*** **No board meeting is scheduled for May. Til next time, your Prez.**

HERE ARE SOME OF OUR APRIL 2016 JAMMER MUSICIANS

SEEN AT THE SCENE IN APRIL 2016

By Billie Ricker Editor Emeritus The Delta Rag

Wasn't that great music from the Fog City Stompers? When I got home I found my old dancing shoes had jumped out of their box and pointed toward SJDJS. Those shoes can hear dance music from miles away. I'll have to chain them down May 1st when Art Bregante and his Orchestra will be on stage. They play that Big Band dance music that doesn't care if you have 2 left feet. Just tap one of them if you can't dance.

Christina Aasen brought a lovely guest. Her name is Vi Nestler, and she had her 100th birthday in January. She is a real sweetheart; charming and cheerful. An inspiration. I do hope she will come again. She made a big hit with Audrey Gulick and Bev Martin. I know I mention those two often, but they are the first people I see, as they are manning (excuse me, personning) the Admissions desk when I arrive. Elizabeth Gunter is another door volunteer who greets folks with a smile when they arrive.

I had a chat with Mike Kaelin, who had a tale to tell. While attending a conference in Nevada, he fell in a parking lot, and hit his head really hard. He woke up in the ambulance on his way to get his head doctored. BIG headache! He is supposed to be getting a lot of rest, but I'm not quite sure that is happening. I'm glad he was at the session so we could see that he was okay, and his usual smile was in place.

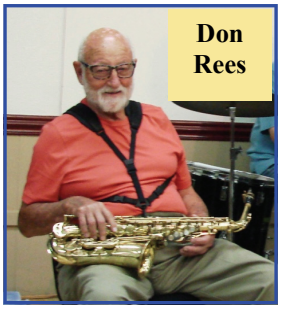
It was a treat to see Bob and Judy Noren. This must be their annual visit from their home in South America. Bob was once our Music Director, and always a welcome reed man. The irrepressible Bill Sharp remarked from the bandstand that the formerly popular phrase, "We shall Overcome," has been modified in Mr. Trump's case to, "We shall Over Comb."

Marty Hofheinz is taking his lady-love, Serena (pronounced Serenna) Zanussi with him on his trip to the Middle East. She has more gumption than I do, for sure. Marty says it is significant that his last name ends in a Z and Serena's begins with a Z. A definite sign that they were meant to be together.

Thanks Larry Tyrell, for schlepping the Historian books in for perusal. They are always fun to look at. I notice that even people who weren't here at the time enjoy going through them.

While still reeling from the loss of Honorary Life Member Wilt Fernandez, We heard of 3 more treasured members who passed away in April.

The much loved and admired **Don Rees** left this world to go to his reward. He will be so missed, as a wonderful man, and magical musician. There is a warm spot in my heart that will always be reserved for Don. You will read more of him elsewhere in this issue.



Don Rees

Bob Breckenridge

It was a great shock to learn of the death of **Bob Breckenridge**. He was such a great addition to our club. It was his love of the Cell Block 7 jazz band that brought him to SJDJS, and he was a faithful and much admired member from his first visit. He was a quiet man, rarely seen without a smile. His innate dignity and charm drew people to him. He never bothered with his title, "Dr." Breckenridge at the jazz. He didn't need that to bring him respect, it came to him automatically. He appeared to be far too young to be found on the obituary page.

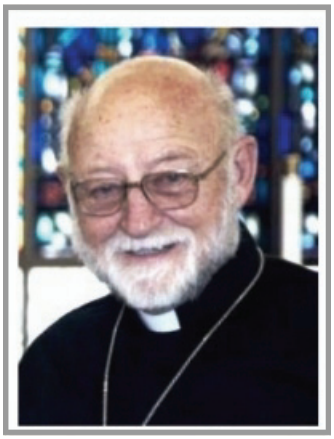
Another surprising loss, was **Cecil Rendon**. I always enjoyed watching him dancing with Joyce Garlough. Their unique style was such a pleasure to watch. We offer sympathy to Joyce. I'll miss Cecil's smile. There are still a few members who can remember a long ago birthday party for Porte Alameda held at the Moose Lodge, when Cecil came riding in on a motorcycle, with Virginia Jackson standing up behind him wearing black leather and holding a whip. Cecil drove in one door, drove through the hall, and out the other door, keeping his face expressionless, while Virginia brandished the whip and shouted, "Where's Porte Alameda," and the rest of the "jazz gang" just howled with laughter.

Cecil Rendon

These three men were all very faithful members of SJDJS, and will truly be missed. We offer our most sincere sympathy to their families.

PEE PEE (*PAST PRESIDENT*) SEZ - May, 2016

It is April of my 76th year, 2016. Spring has sprung and the flowers, leaves and fruit are forming or are already here. For those of us reading this, life goes on. Sadly, one of our dear friends in music has passed on. Don Rees was a very good musician and one of the finest people I have ever known. He was a big supporter of OKOM, both here in Stockton at the SJDJS and even more often in Modesto at the Modesto Traditional Jazz Society.



I knew Don through our mutual love of music. Specifically, those tunes from Traditional Jazz and the Standards from the 40s and 50s (OKOM). We first met the early 1980s when he was playing with Deck Hogin and Hogin's Heroes. Don was always at the Modesto Jazz Club and very often was also at the San Joaquin Dixieland Jazz Society sessions in Stockton. Deck Hogin's group played the first set at our Stockton Sunday sessions for many years.

Don was a wonderful man. He always had such a great smile, and had an attitude that matched the smile. He had great musical talent and was easy to follow. I learned a lot from him. As we were both reed players, we did not often play the same jobs. Though, whenever possible, we always played the jam sessions together.

I remember some of the last times that Don came to Stockton to play. He was obviously in pain and probably should have stayed home. But he came to play and entertain us. He was such a Trooper ... For him, I think "The Show Must Go On" had special meaning.

<<<< ***This picture is from our September 2014 session***.

I encourage you to visit the web site for Don's Obituary. There you can read more about this great guy and sign his guest book if you wish. **http://obits.dignitymemorial.com/dignity-memorial/obituary.aspx?n=Donald-Rees&lc=7044&pid=179598823&mid=6886628**

And now, here's your homework assignment for the month of May. I think you will really like this tune You might even hear the Seldom Herd Band take a whack at it in the near future. Be sure to look at the nostalgic pictures that roll by as the music is playing. What a wonderful bygone era. **Davenport Blues -** Composed by Bix Beiderbecke. Performed by Adrian Rollini and His Orchestra, October 23, 1934. "Davenport Blues" is a song originally recorded by Bix Beiderbecke and His Rhythm Jugglers on January 26, 1925. The title derives from the name of Bix Beiderbecke's hometown of Davenport, Iowa. **Cut & Paste this link in your browser:**
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UcXdWNZGznU

Wow! How about the personnel in that band? **Manny Klein** and **Dave Klein** (trumpets), **Jack Teagarden** (trombone), **Benny Goodman** (clarinet), **Arthur Rollini** (tenor sax), **Adrian Rollini** (bass sax), **Howard Smith** (piano), **George Van Eps** (guitar), **Artie Bernstein** (string bass), **Stan King** (drums). You couldn't find anyone better for any of those chairs back in the day (***nor among today's musicians either!***)

That's 30 for May of 2016 - Thank You To All!

Dick Lockwood, AKA: Pee Pee (Past Prez) - Registered Sax Defender - Editor of The Delta Rag

Board Member At Large
Judy Griffiths
Thank You to All Our
Admission Desk Volunteers!
Remember your 2016 Dues are due. Please show your Card at the door.

Equipment Manager Larry Tyrell

Frank Lindskoog, Art Bregante, Bill Sharp, Mark Kramer, and Carl Kaiser, Thank you for your help and expertise in setting up the equipment.

A Prayer For Peace by Ruth Grijalva

God bless America, we pray.
Let us have world peace, but there is much more we must say.
Please, let this war cease.
There's so much pain in our world, It makes you want to cry.
Many young soldiers and marines, who didn't want to die.
Why did it happen, we have to know?
Our dear ones thought that they'd come home.
When will it end, will it ever go?
We feel so sad, we cry all alone.
These are questions, Unanswered, not yet.
Lord let us know, we're not alone.
Let us have peace, and no regret

SPLINTERS FROM YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Worth Repeating: At our March 2016 Board Meeting, we decided that, beginning in January of 2017, we will only operate one venue...the Main Ballroom. That will result in a rent reduction from the present day $550 per month to $300 per month (quick math = $3,000 annual savings.)

More from the minutes of that meeting:

Lots of discussion about how to save/make money to avoid or at least postpone the inevitable end of our club. Rich made a motion that was seconded by Larry and unanimously *passed. Motion was: When we negotiate with the Elks next month, we tell them that beginning in January of 2017, we will only want the one room for $300.00 and beginning in 2017, we will only hire 6 bands and use jammers the other months.*

Though the back room is often under-utilized, your Board certainly hopes the one room venue concept will not negatively affect our really great jammer attendance.

As our Treasurer Geri Eckert says in her column (Page 2), "we need new members in our Society". Membership is the life-blood of this Society. Diminishing numbers in attendance will only have one ultimate result...and we do not want to see that day." -Editor

DA VEEP SEZ: For May 2016

If you were not present at the April session, you missed a real treat. After a 16 year absence, the Fog City Stompers returned to Stockton. Tom Belmessieri led a fabulous ensemble of top-notch musicians playing in the style of Bix Beiderbecke. If you love the trad jazz style, and were not present… shame on you. Don't let it happen again!!! Thank you, Fog City!

The jammers were once again in fine form. The were led by the trumpet trio of Charlie Gehlbach, Bill Sharp and Dick Williams. Where do you get three better trumpeters leading jammers? Only in Stockton! The other jammers were Pat Bradley, Geri Eckert, Bob Edson, Bill Hoffman, Carl Kaiser, Mark Kramer, Stephen Lee, Frank Lindskoog, Dick Lockwood, Bob Noren, Larry Tyrell, Carl Warmdahl, and the young-un on clarinet and sax, Parker Weiss. Joining Parker in the teen age group, 14 year old Sarah Krudler wowed the crowd with her inaugural vocal performance in Stockton. Since Sarah and Parker have virtually no past, the future looks very bright for these two youngsters!

Our May session will feature the return of the Art Bregante Orchestra. We will switch gears from the small ensemble sound to the big band sound. As many of you know, Art's dedication to SJDJS is legendary. For ten years, Art was a SJDJS board member, including two stints as President and three stints as Vice President. These days, Art arrives to our sessions at 10:00 to help with the setup and is generally available to help with the cleanup at the end of each session. In his spare time, he has led the Art Bregante Orchestra and played drums. Bring your dancing shoes, dance and enjoy to the sounds of the big bands!

Thank you all for your continued support of the San Joaquin Dixieland Jazz Society over the years. See you around the club!

You can reach me at: keybonekaiser@hotmail.com Carl Kaiser VP/MD

SUPPORT LIVE DIXIELAND

First Sunday of the month - Noon to 5:00 pm: **San Joaquin Dixieland Jazz Society** See our Web page **http://www.stocktondixielandjazz.org/** for more information on time, bands and directions to the Elks Club at 8900 Thornton Rd., Stockton. **On May 1st.** Substituting for **Art Bregante's Orchestra** it is **The Seldom Herd - Big Band Music** Plus Jammers all day. **So You Musicians** — Bring Your Ax! We will put you to work. Contact our VP/Music Director, Carl Kaiser to schedule a time slot. Email: **keybonekaiser@hotmail.com**

Second Sunday of the month - Noon to 5:00 pm: **Sacramento Traditional Jazz Society**. Elks Lodge, Riverside Drive - Sacramento. Web: **http://www.sacjazz.org/**
May 8th - Todd Morgan Jazz Band

Third Sunday of the month **- May 15th** - Noon to 5:00 pm: **Modesto Traditional Jazz Society** – Clarion Inn, East side of Highway 99 @ Sisk Rd. - Modesto.
Web**: http://www.modestojazz.com/wp/ May 15: Ernie Bucio's Little Big Band**

Fourth Sundays - 1 to 5 pm: **South Bay Traditional Jazz Society** - Sunnyvale Elks Lodge.
Web**: http://www.sbtjs.org/ Sunday May 22 - Mission Gold**

Basin Street Regulars Jazz Club (Pismo Beach) - May 22nd, 2016 - Midnight Rose Jazz Band and the Tevis Junior High Jazz Band from Bakersfield Web: **http://www.pismojazz.com/index.html**

1st & 3rd Tuesdays - 6:30 to 8:30 pm: **Cell Block 7** – Royce's BBQ, East side of Highway 99 @ Eight Mile Road - Stockton. Web: **http://www.cellblock7.net/**

Weds Nights - 6 to 9 pm: You can catch the **Creole Jazz Kings** at the Clarion Inn, Modesto. (209) 521-1612 Facebook: **https://www.facebook.com/creolejk**

Wednesday Night Music – April, May & June @ Straw Hat Pizza **916-363-5050** .in **Rancho Cordova, CA**

Raffle Rabble
April 2016

By Dave Tygett

Audrey Gulik donated a beautiful blue flower pot that was won by Lee Giroux who also got the blue hyacinth- a perfect match. The donated magnetic jewelry clasps were won by Reid Johnson and Janice Belmessieri who also got a wood clock. The apple pie went to Kathy Williams and the blueberry pie to Brent Berkebile. Jack Karrow got the cinnamon coffee cake.
Wine was won by Ava Jones and Charmaine Lazzereschi. The IPA beer went to Larry Tyrell. Edie Schanchez got the olive oil. Serena Zanussi won the hand vacuum and alarm clock. The two watches were won by Audrey Gulik and Billie Ricker. Kathy Williams won the crystal bowl donated by Reva Williams. Reid Johnson got the orchid and donated three CD's won by Sarah Krulder, Pat Anderson, and Klarise Davis. The raffle brought in $135.
Thanks to all supporters.

We Won! (*When <u>you</u> win, the SJDJS wins too!*)
Support the SJDJS...buy raffle tickets!
Bid high and often!

Every month Dave and Marlena Tygett are here to run the raffle for our Society Thank You Both!!!

ATTENTION FRIENDS: If you know of someone who is ill, or in need of cheering up, and would like their name on the Sunshine List.
Please phone Marlena Tygett at: [redacted]

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(Color or Black and White)

SIZE	RATE	ORIENTATION Portrait	Landscape
Full Page	$ 75	7.5" x 10" (vertical)	
Half Page	$ 50	3.5" x 10" (vertical)	7.5" x 4.8" (horiz.)
Quarter Page	$ 25	3.6' x 4.8" (vertical)	5.5" x 2.5" (horiz.)
Business Card	$ 15	3.6" x 2.3" (vertical)	
Website Event*	$ 35	1 standard-sized web page (with max of 2 links)	

* See Details on our web site:
http://www.stocktondixielandjazz.org/

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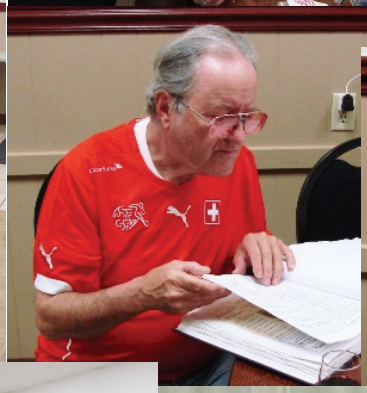
US Postal Mail (slower) to:
SJDJS, P.O. BOX 4746, Stockton, CA 95204

We presently distribute this publication online and via the U.S. Mail. Our web site gets thousands of "Hits" every month. Deadline for submission of your Ad is the 1st of the Month preceding the desired issue.

MORE JAMMER MUSICIANS FROM OUR APRIL 2016 SESSION

We Were Here for the April 3, 2016 - SJDJS Session!



SAN JOAQUIN DIXIELAND JAZZ SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 4746
STOCKTON, CA 95204

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

www.stocktondixielandjazz.org

2016 SJDJS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership includes the Delta Rag Newsletter plus reduced admission to our monthly sessions

Mail Check payable to SJDJS to:
PO Box 4746, Stockton, CA 95204-0746

Name(s):

_____

Address / City / State / Zip:

_____

Phone _____

Email _____

___ $ 25 Single Membership ___ $40 Couple (2 cards, 1 address)
___ $100 Each Sustaining Member ___ $ 8 Delta Rag only (non member)

ADMISSION PRICES for MONTHLY "DIXIELAND JAZZ" SUNDAY EVENTS
Member = $8 Non-Member = $12 Sustaining Member = $ Free
Student = $4 Gold Card Musician & Spouse = $ Free

Your Membership Dues are Important! ~ They help keep SJDJS Dancing!