



DELTA RAG

June 2014

Number 415

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

THE BLACK DIAMOND BLUE FIVE JUNE FIRST AT SJDJS



Many of our members will be excited about June first. The Black Diamond Blue Five jazz band has a solid place in the hearts of those who have been around the jazz festivals for a number of years. (Notice how cleverly I avoided saying, “some of our older members?” Some of our older members aren’t that old.) I don’t think I’m the only one who will see the ghost of George Knoblauch on the stage.

Don’t forget to bring your parasol, but don’t worry, if you don’t have one you can join the parade anyway. When they play a “parasol” number, you will recognize it and you’ll want to be part of it.

Don’t bother shining your dance shoes, they will just get dusty from the dance floor. If you don’t dance, better exercise your ankle so you won’t get too tired from tapping your foot.

What will you hear from the BDBF? There will be many of Clarence Williams’

compositions – and you’ll be surprised how many jazz standards he was responsible for. “Cakewalkin’ Babies from Home,” the best known, best loved marching song for all the dancers and paraders, is but one of them. You will hear the stomping rhythms and bluesey pop-jazz sound so typical of the Clarence Williams Blue Five.

The Band was founded by George Knoblauch in the early 1990’s. Despite George’s passing, the band has decided to continue performing to pay tribute to their friend and honor his memory.

Leon Oakley, Cornet
Robert Young Saxes/vocals
Bill Reinhart, Tuba
Marty Eggers, Piano
Clint Baker, Banjo

Special guest,
Isabelle Fontaine, washboard.



Live Dixieland in Stockton
The first Sunday of the month, noon until 5:00 pm, Elks Lodge, 8900 Thornton Road

SJDJS 2014 OFFICERS

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Delores Moreira, Edie Sanchez, Elizabeth
Gunter, Alice Hannan, Judy Griffiths.
Raffle chairman.....Dave Tygett
Webmistress.....Kerry Lockwood

The DELTA RAG is published monthly by
the San Joaquin Dixieland Jazz Society.
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the day of the session preceding the issue date.

EDITOR'S SPOT



I apologize for missing the May business meeting during the session. However, I am certain that if it included suggestions for improving the Delta Rag, somebody would have let me know. There could be a few different reasons for the lack of suggestions. Reason #1: *The newsletter is perfect and cannot possibly be improved.* Nope, not in my wildest dreams would I believe that one. Reason #2: *Nobody reads it.* Hey, tell me that one and it will save me a lot of work. But I don't think that's it; somebody caught a misspelling last month. Reason #3: *You think I am just fishing for compliments.* No thanks, March was "Be kind to Billie" month. You have another 10 months to think up a compliment.

So, seriously, do you think the print is too small, not enough photos, too many photos, it comes out too early, too late? Give me some help here, will you?



Thanks for the donation
to our Youth Fund
Elinor Hackett

ADVERTISING RATES

Full page..... \$50
Half page.....\$25
Business card size.....\$10
Business card size is \$100 for 1 year

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Frank Lindskoog

Hello Fellow Music lovers. "It's busting out all over," proclaimed

Mr. Hammerstein. That song-writer's and honeymoon's boon. Lowell wrote; "What is so rare as a day in June. For then if ever come perfect noons." Very soon on some dune I want to croon, or write a tune, or laugh like a loon, or spoon 'neath that silvery old devil moon. OMG someone stop me before I go loony tunes.

Tha..tha..tha..that's all folks ! Whew, Thanks Porky.

Some items on club affairs this month. Sad to say our recruiting efforts described in previous newsletters have not been fruitful. Consequently, we shall discontinue some ads as planned. Our destiny seems to be that of a small social club. We are fortunate to have retained a core of musicians in the variety necessary to perform as bands or ensembles. If that is to be I hope that the musician/audience/dancer core will carry on.

Finances and contractual matters are in order. The board has under consideration the discontinuation of the pool-side venue, the purpose being to conserve funds. Bar service would remain available there but sans band performance. Of course this would eliminate a second choice for the audience and an opportunity for musicians, beyond the main room. Failing more robust attendance it is likely to happen. Also, we plan to have somewhat more Jammers-only sessions, probably increasing the ratio from



1 in 5 to one in 2. Y'all seem to respond well to the home-body musicians and we find that gratifying.

We have voted to support a promising young banjo player in his desire to attend jazz camp at Mammoth. He will attend the STJS camp in Sly Park as well, under its sponsorship. Our treasurer is making that happen as you read.

Also, Elinor Hackett kindly made a donation to our youth fund just this past session. Our thanks and appreciation go out to her.

The board has offered to provide volunteer house musicians to senior's apartments where someone would like to host a small Birthday party. We work for cake.

URT [useless random thought] of the month: It is a rare individual who is not afflicted with garden-variety acrophobia—discomfort when looking down from a great height. Yet that does not happen when one's support is not connected to the ground, as in an aircraft or balloon basket, despite infinitely less real stability. What's up, or down, with that?

Till next we meet, musical best wishes.

Your Prez.

**PLEASE HAVE YOUR
MEMBERSHIP CARD READY TO
SHOW AT THE DOOR.**

RAFFLE RAMBLE

By Dave Tygett



ELINOR HACKETT HAVING A SLUG OF BLACK & TAN BEER FROM HER RAFFLE WINNINGS.



NIKKI CROWL



Larry Tyrell did his usual outstanding job of selecting raffle prizes. The wine winners were Betty Thrasher, Nikki Crowl, Mary Jane Gill, Ginger Devaney, and two bottles by Kathy Williams.

The orchid went to new member Bill Relf and the herb garden to Carol Babb.

Larry Tyrell took the blackberries and Jim Packard the cinnamon coffee cake. Elinor Hackett liked the Black and Tan beer. An unknown guest donated a beautiful umbrella which was won by Connie Sandoval.

Even though the crowd was small, you raised \$118—Thanks.

Next month Marlena and I are off to Sydney Australia for the Rotary International Convention. I believe Larry Tyrell will run the raffle.



KATHY WILLIAMS, 2 TIME WINNER



JESSE & CONNIE SANDOVAL



JUDY GRIFFITHS



MARY JANE GILL



BEV MARTIN



CECIL RENDON & JOYCE GARLOUGH



GINGER DEVANEY



PAT DEVANEY



IAN MYERS



BILL RELF



CAROL BABB



WILT FERNANDEZ & BARBARA BAUGHMAN

It was a musical feast day for me, I heard so many of the seldom heard tunes

HEARD BETWEEN SETS

By Billie Ricker

that I love. **Bill Sharp** sang *Breeze*, which I haven't heard for years. **Dick Lockwood** played a lovely rendition of *Louisiana Fairytale*. And I also heard *Mecca Flat Blues*, a tune that Cliff liked to play, so I took that home sealed in my heart.

I am really looking forward to the June session. The musicians in the Black Diamond Blue Five band are all prominently listed in the *Who's Who in Dixieland Music*, (If there is one.) and personal favorites of mine. Well, okay I haven't heard Isabelle, but if she was chosen by **Clint Baker** she's okay with me. Did you notice **Bill Reinhart** will be on tuba? He is our only living Founding Father. (And the leader of the Port City jazz band.) So thank him for the work he put in 35 years ago to get this great club going for us to enjoy every month.

One of the treats at our May session was the sight of **Betty Thrasher**, **Norma**

Lindner, and **Nikki Crowl**. It has been ages since I last saw them, and they are looking better than ever. It must be the Modesto climate. And the music they hear at the Modesto Trad Jazz club.

I made sure to put in a photo of **Bev Martin**. She used to joke about **Audrey Gulick** getting her picture in so often. Remember when **Audry** won a raffle prize every month for about 7 months in a row? Her system? She bought lots of tickets.

Can you believe **Loren Iversen**? He says there will be a "UKE-O-RAMA" on Pacific Ave June 18. Five different Uke acts. What, no mandolins?

Isn't **Elinor Hacktt** looking great? She is being honored in Sacramento with her photo on the "Wall of Fame" for 35 years of volunteering. She'll be in the festival parade too.



THE JAZZ JUMPERS

MINUS BOB SAKOI.

I KINDLY LEFT BOB OUT. HE NOT ONLY WASN'T SHOWING TEETH, HE WASN'T SHOWING EYEBALLS EITHER.

CLINE

WINE & DIXIELAND JAZZ FESTIVAL

July 12th, 2014 | 11:00am - 6:30pm

BANDS

Black Diamond Blue Five
Devil Mountain Jazz Band
Golden Gate Rhythm Machine
with Pat Yankee
Jambalaya Big Swing Band
Natural Gas Jazz Band
The Ragtime Skedaddlers
Ray Skjelbred and his Cubs
Royal Society Jazz Orchestra

OTHER ENTERTAINERS

Frederick Hodges, Bob Hirsch,
Virginia Tichenor

**Wine, beer and food available for
purchase, or bring a picnic.**

Don't miss event day wine specials and more!

Admission: \$30 advance (before July 10), \$35 at the gate

Wine Club Price: \$25 in advance (before July 10), \$30 at the gate

Buy Tickets: 707-940-4025 or www.clinecellars.com/jazzfestival or www.jazznut.com

Cline Cellars · 24737 Arnold Drive, Sonoma, CA 95476

What was it like to have been at the Sunday May 4th meeting of the Stockton Jazz Society?

MUSIC DIRECTOR'S REPORT
BY BILL SHARP

Well, there was a guest band, and jammers, people, dancing, people dancing, a raffle. You know, all the usual stuff. And socializing too. It's a fun, comfortable place to be, instead of at home in front of the tv, or out on the streets and freeways, just waiting for someone to run you over. The worst thing that can happen is that someone might step on your toe while dancing, and I don't think that's happened in years. (Except to the ladies I dance with—but I make them sign a non-disclosure agreement, promising not to tell, before we even go out on the floor)



I can't make any remarks about the quality of the guest band, because I was in it, and my prejudice would overshadow anything I'd have to say. I can however compliment my band mates, Bob Sakoi on trumpet, Ian Stanbaugh on drums, Keith Baltz on tuba, and Kurt Abell on banjo for their excellent musicianship, and for playing flawlessly as I came up with tune after tune they'd never played before. I made up the song list and pulled up moldy figs I'd wanted to play for years, like "Floatin' down the River" (not to be confused with Cruising Down the River), etc. One of the very special treats was Kurt Abell and his unique vocal renditions of a couple of songs. I know that we have one of the kindest bunch of people on the planet – I announced that: "I can't sing, but will anyway," and although I croaked

out many numbers, no one threw anything. That's how you end up with a debt of gratitude.

Jammers were once again in top form, led by the expert in leading jammers, Dick Williams. The Jammers were Dick Lockwood, Larry Tyrell, Carl Warmdahl, Steven Lee, Carl Kaiser, Frank Lindskoog, Loren Iversen, Don Rees, Dave Radmore, Geri Eckert, and Jan Buhlert.

Next month it's the *Black Diamond Blue Five*. I was playing at the Farmer's Market in Modesto, and people whom I haven't seen at our society in like forever, stopped by and told me they will be at Stockton next month because Clint Baker and his crew were going to be there. That, in the proverbial nutshell, tells you that they know something about what to expect, so you'd better be there too, or you're really gonna miss something. Getting *BDBF* JB is a BFD.

You know how this club really works? It's the tremendous volunteers. That stage equipment that you see all set up takes about an hour to do, and 40 minutes to tear down, dragging the equipment on a cart from a storage trailer far from the building. This time it was done by Larry Tyrell, Frank Lindskoog, Wilt Fernandez and myself. Then there's Dave Tygett and his wife, Marlena, who run the raffle. Collecting money at the door are Mary Jane Gill, Beverly Martin, Tony & Delores Moreira, Edie Sanchez, Elizabeth Gunter, Alice Hannan, and Judy Griffiths. Very big kudos to them all.

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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DICK HUNGERFORD
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SUPPORT LIVE DIXIELAND

1st Sunday: **San Joaquin Dixieland Jazz Soc.** Elks Lodge, 8900 Thornton Rd., Stockton. June 1, **Black Diamond Blue Five.**

2nd Sunday: **Sacramento Traditional Jazz Soc.** Dante Club.

3rd Sunday: **Modesto Traditional Jazz Soc.** Clarion Inn, 1612 Sisk Rd.

1st & 3rd Tuesday evening 6:30 to 8:30:
Cell Block 7 playing at Royce's Bar BQ, just off Hwy 99 @ Eight Mile.



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BETTY THRASHER

PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Dick Lockwood

We had a very small turnout for our May Session. The folks that were present were treated to an afternoon of really good music and dance. We had more than enough musicians to keep both rooms full of music for the entire day. I don't know what it is going to take to keep Dick Williams coming from the Bay Area, but his leadership of our jam sets is outstanding. Whatever it takes, Dick, "Come on Down."



In the coming weeks, we have some events underway that should help increase our attendance. Not the least of which is the STJS Festival. It seems like folks get in the "swing" of things during the Sacramento Club's Music Festival. In past years, we have seen an increase in attendance at our session which usually follows within a week of their Festival, formerly known as the Jubilee. Another event on our schedule is an outreach at the residence complex in Lodi where Madam Editor now resides. Several of us will go there on a morning before our Session to play for an hour or two. We hope to recruit a busload of people to trek to our digs afterward.

Speaking of busloads of people, I remember back in the day when the Tuleburg Jazz Band would have more than one busload of their groupies arrive with them wherever they played. As you know, many of the Tuleburg alums are frequently, if not always, seen at our Sessions. Dannie Balsler, Loren Iversen, Bob Edson and Bill Sharp to name some. I probably forgot to

name someone, but I am sure to be reminded.

I long for the days when there were so many musicians in attendance that a jammer might get to play one set during the day...in either room. The audience? You had to dance extra close...there was no room on the dance floor. The line at the bar was so long you could spend 15 minutes trying to get "libated." I don't know if that is a word or not. My laptop didn't like it but I figured from the root "Libation" it might be OK? Back in those days, each jammer musician got two drink tickets for playing a set. Since some musicians didn't indulge (or libate) others were the recipients of those freebies. None went to waste, but they often went to waist. Let's all renew our search for new members. Your opportunities for recruitment are unlimited. Talk about our Society when you visit friends, your church group, social clubs, neighbors and relatives to name just few. Bring someone...our future depends on it!



JIM & ANNA PACKARD

**SAN JOAQUIN
DIXIELAND
JAZZ SOCIETY**

**P.O. BOX 4746
STOCKTON, CA 95204**



www.stocktondixielandjazz.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

2014 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership includes the Delta Rag and a reduced admission* at our monthly sessions. Send check payable to SJDJS to P.O. Box 4746, Stockton, CA 95204-0746.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

- _____ **\$25** Single annual membership
- _____ **\$40** Couple (2 cards 1 address)
- _____ **\$100** each Sustaining membership
- _____ Delta Rag only (No membership) \$8.00

***ADMISSION**

Member = \$8.00, Non-Member = \$12.00
Sustaining Member = Free
Gold Card/Musician and Spouse = No charge
Student with current Student Body card = \$4.



2014 CALENDAR

- June 1: **Black Diamond Blue Five**
- July 6: **Cell Block 7**
- Aug. 3: **Art Bregante & his Orch.**
- Sep. 7 **Jammers**
- Oct. 5: **Black Tuesday Jazz Band**
- Nov. 2: **Cell Block 7**
- Dec 7: **Mission Gold J B**