



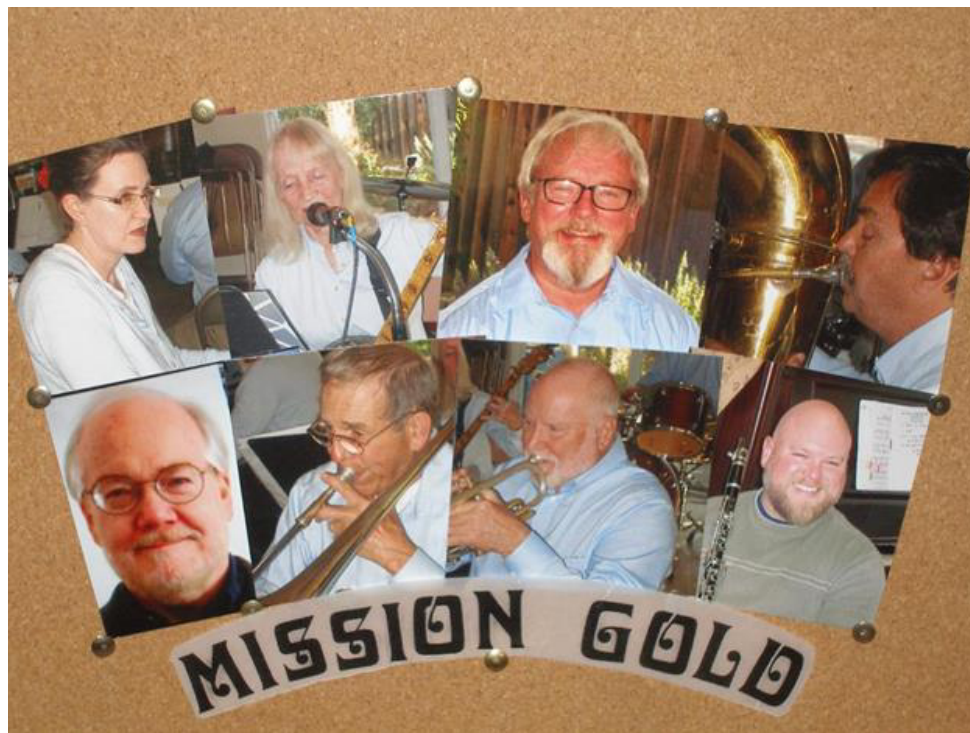
NVDJSNEWS

August 2023

The Napa Valley Dixieland Jazz Society

PRESENTS

The Mission Gold Jazz Band



Sunday, August 13, 2023

1:00 pm-4:00 pm

American Legion Hall, 1240 Pearl Street, Napa

Corner of Pearl Street & Franklin Street, 2 blocks South West of Main Street, downtown Napa, Parking lot at the Hall, free parking on street, plus free public parking structure across from the Hall, on Pearl St.

The Mission Gold Jazz Band is a two-cornet, eight piece band of multi-talented musicians. Our music is inspired by the music of Turk Murphy, Louis Armstrong, Joe “King” Oliver, Lu Watters, Jelly Roll Morton and other composers and leaders of this style of music. We offer a variety of traditional styles, including marches, blues, ragtime, stomps, gospel, swing and standards. We’ve also been known to play a waltz (which were very common in New Orleans), and a polka, plus even Western and Latin tunes mainly in response to audience requests. We encourage audience participation, and emphasize cakewalks (with the winner “taking the cake”), parasol strutting and joining the band in song. Our goal is to engage the listeners and dancers to become part of this infectious music, which leads to joy, uplifted spirits, and lots of fun. **The Mission of our band, *The Mission Gold Jazz Band*, is to play the Golden music of traditional West Coast Jazz, while sharing the happy feelings with our audience.**

The band includes the following musicians: **Virginia Tichenor**, Piano. Since childhood, Virginia has been immersed with ragtime genre, plus she’s had advanced training as a concert pianist; **Joyce Taylor**, Banjo. Joyce is a strong banjo player who is also the President of the South Bay Jazz Club, Her vocals are always kickers, too; **Bob Sterling**, Tuba. Bob is the band Director at John F. Kennedy High School in Fremont; **Hugh O’Donnel**, Drums. Hugh provides a solid beat with texture and imagination that encourages the rest of the section; **Noel Weidkamp**, Cornet and an assortment of other wind instruments. Noel has been the lead cornet player for the Devil Mountain Jazz Band since the year 2000; **Mack Horton**, Cornet. Both cornets share the lead roll as they play off each other, creating their own style; **Roberto Alfaro**, Reeds of all kinds and different shapes. He is a multi-talented woodwind player, as well as trumpet; **John Soulis**, Trombone, Euphonium, Leader and Vocals! He reports he's learned, starting in elementary school, from Firehouse 5 plus 2, Turk Murphy, Lu Watters, Louis Armstrong, Joe Oliver, and Jelly Roll Morton. Couldn't be better! **So Join Us As These Good Times Roll!**

John Soulis, Leader of the Mission Gold Jazz Band, will play some songs dedicated to the memory of Earl Scheelar, who played in this band for ten years.

The President's Message

By Co-Presidents, Linda Stevens & Marilee Jensen

Beginning Sunday, August 13, 2023, we will be having "our music" played at the American Legion Hall in downtown Napa. Besides plenty of parking, this is a good-sized room where we have tables, chairs, restrooms and a place for the band, with a dance floor in between the band and the tables. In the attached room, there is a bar, with a variety of beverages, is generally available, with a few tables and chairs in the same room. We have been very pleased with the facility and with the staff working with us on making these arrangements to schedule our music here on the second Sunday of each month. Below is listed the five bands scheduled for each month between now and the end of this year, December 2023. Next, we can start scheduling for the second Sunday of the month in the next year, 2024! This is a good-size room where we have tables & chairs, a piano which the musicians can use, and ample room for the dance floor. We made arrangements to have the piano tuned on August 3rd, to be ready for our first show on August 13th, with Virginia Tichenor, as part of the Mission Gold Jazz Band, presenting her wonderful performance on piano!

Our schedule for the remainder of 2023 is as follows:

Sunday, September 10, 1:00 to 4:00 pm, Experienced Trad Jazz Jammers,
Charles Newman, Coordinator

Sunday, October 8, 2023, 1:00 to 4:00 pm, Rhythm Aces Jazz Band, Don Neely,
Leader

Sunday, November 12, 2023, 1:00 TO 4:00 pm, Devil Mountain Jazz Band, Ken
Brock, Leader

Sunday, December 10, 2023, 1:00 to 4:00 pm, Gold Coast Jazz Band, Bill
Badstubner, Leader

The Mission Gold Jazz Band is known to emphasize "Cake Walking", an integral part of this music from the funerals in the "old days" in New Orleans. They have even been known to provide a "cake" to the "winner" of the cakewalk. Typically, many people hold on to an umbrella or parasol for this "cakewalking". For that reason, we'll encourage you to bring an umbrella or parasol, older is fine, to either use and/or to contribute to Napa Valley Dixieland Jazz Society, for future "cake walks" - a fun activity generally done alone, without a necessary partner.

Remembering Earl Scheelar (1929-2023)

(This information is taken from an article written by David Radlauer, published by the Syncopated Times, 7/31/23)

"Bay Area bandleader, clarinetist and cornet player, **Earl Scheelar**, (1929-2023) died peacefully on July 28, 2023. Few have shown greater leadership keeping Classic Jazz alive, though never receiving the full recognition he deserved for decades of leadership. Earl was resourceful, helpful and intelligent, following his own muses, crafting his life and music with originality."

An exceptional classic jazz cornet player, Scheelar stood out for expression, eloquence, and a distinctive personal instrumental style. Imitating no one, his forthright tone was passionate and deeply steeped in the Blues. Likewise, his robust clarinet parts were saturated in the Blues offering a powerful New Orleans-style counterpoint in the Johnny Dodds manner. Earl also played banjo, soprano and alto saxophones, tuba, baritone horn, country fiddle and he sang.

Never a full-time professional musician, Scheelar maintained a continuous series of Classic Jazz ensembles for more than a half a century; Earl's New Orleans House Jazz Band (1966-1972), Funky New Orleans Jazz Band (1972-97) and Zenith Jazz Band (1980-2020). Zenith Parade Band was heard often at Northern California jazz festivals and civic gatherings (1989-2020).

Scheelar produced his own first album, *Funky New Orleans Jazz Band* featuring Bob Helm in 1972...

Earl always looked to New Orleans for inspiration, *"I've always preferred the New Orleans style. That's what real jazz is as far as I'm concerned."* Yet he often welcomed key original players of the Frisco Jazz revival into his ensembles: reed player Bob Helm and pianist Burt Bales.

Besides his own groups, Scheelar was a sideman playing mostly clarinet in numerous Northern California ensembles, including Black Diamond (George Knoblauch), Silicon Gulch (Joe Bithell), Good Time Levee Stompers (Jerry Kaehele) and Mission Gold (John Soulis).

Drawn to New Orleans by its music, food and culture, Earl and his second wife, Alice, bought an apartment building in the French Quarter (1989-2005). Refurbishing a garret studio they stayed there several weeks each year, often joined by Bob Helm.

In New Orleans, Scheelar and Helm jammed with local musicians and sat-in at Jacques Gauthé's popular *Meridian Hotel* gig. Earl initiated the *New Orleans Jazz Educational Foundation* distributing musical instruments to deserving youngsters and avidly donated to 300 charitable causes worldwide.

He was a resourceful friend, skilled craftsman, mechanic, carpenter, avid camper and ran a successful Volkswagen repair shop and dealership in the 1960's. His numerous hobbies included restoring player pianos and automobiles, mostly vintage English. He is survived by an extended family including great-grandchildren. A large volume of his music, photos and ephemera have been donated to the Stanford Libraries in the Dave Radlauer Jazz Collection."

On a more personal note, I was so pleased that my husband, Joe Taddei, and I were at the 94th birthday party for Earl Scheelar on Wednesday, July 12, in Larkspur, where Marty Eggers, Virginia Tichenor and the Zenith Jazz Band (Earl Scheelar's personal band, being led by Tom Barnebey in recent years) were playing as they have done on the second Wednesday of each month for a number of years.) I have special admiration for Earl Scheelar, because he spent a lot of time, in 1990, playing the clarinet, individually, for my husband, Marshall Peterson, in the three months he was dying of cancer. Earl was able to make it a little better for all of us during this difficult time. So I'm so pleased we were there to sing "Happy Birthday" to Earl Scheelar, lovingly, on his final proud 94th birthday. Marilee Jensen Taddei

I should also add that I, as a student at UC Berkeley '52-'57 remember the Monkey Inn where Earl played at various times. Beer, sawdust and peanut shells on the floor and New Orleans jazz. I also had the privilege of playing bass drum in his marching band at a parade in the Piedmont section of Oakland in 2001. Don Robertson.

Jazz Club Information

Napa Valley Dixieland Jazz Society Jazz Information

The **Napa Valley Dixieland Jazz Society** is a non-profit organization founded to promote, preserve, and perpetuate Traditional, Dixieland, Ragtime and Swing Jazz, an integral part of Americana..

Officers: Co-Presidents, Linda Stevens & Marilee Jensen; Treasurer, Marilee Jensen; NVDJS Newsletter Co-Editor, Marilee Jensen;

Secretary, Lee Campbell; Monthly Jammers, Charles E. Newman;

NVDJS Membership, Don Robertson;

NVDJS Newsletter Co-Editor & Circulation Manager, Don Robertson;

Board of Directors: Linda Stevens, Marilee Jensen, Lee Campbell, Jack Harford, Marion Mills, Charles E. Newman, Don Robertson, Joy Waite and Candy Woodworth

Bay Area Traditional Jazz Club Information

• 1st Sunday

TRAD JASS of Santa Rosa meets at Druids Hall, 1011 College Ave. 1:00-5:00 PM

Members, \$12 Other Clubs, \$12 Public, \$15

September 3rd - TRAD JASS; Jammers; October 1st - The Mission Gold Jazz Band November 5-Devil Mountain Jazz Band; December 3rd- Rich Owens Thrown Together Jazz Band

• 2nd Sunday

The Napa Valley Dixieland Jazz Society will be meeting at the American Legion Hall, 1240 Pearl Street, Napa, CA, 1:00 to 4:00 pm.

Members and other jazz and dance club members, \$10.00: Public, \$15.00.

Sunday, August 13 – The Mission Gold Jazz Band, John Soulis, Leader;

Sunday, September 10 - NVDJS Experienced Jammers, Charles Newman, Coordinator;

Sunday, October 8 - The Rhythm Aces, Don Neely, Leader; November 12- Devil Mountain Jazz Band, Ken Brock, Leader

• 3rd Saturday

Friends of Jazz; Danville Grange Hall, 743 Diablo Road, Danville, CA, 1:00 - 4:00 pm, Saturday, August 19, Fog City Stompers

• 3rd Sunday

New Orleans Jazz Club of Northern California meets at the Elk's Lodge, 3931 San Pablo Dam Rd., El Sobrante, 1:00-5:00 pm Members, \$8.00; Other Clubs, \$10; public \$12

August 20th, Fog City Stompers; September 24th, Cell Block 7 Jazz Band; October 15, Flying Eagles

• 4th Sunday

South Bay Trad Jazz Society meets at the Elks Lodge, 375 N. Pastoria Ave., Sunnyvale. 1:00 -5:00 PM, August 27th, Zinfandel Stompers Vintage Jazz Band (Farewell Performance);

September 24, Katie & the Lost Boys; October 22, Bob Schulz, Frisco Jazz Band; November 19, Creole Jazz Kings;

Special Events:

Sept. 1-4, Hot Jazz Jubilee, Sacramento, CA hotjazzjubilee.com

October 5-8, Redwood Coast Music Festival, Eureka, CA admin@redwoodjazz.org

November 2-5, American Classic Jazz Festival, Chandler, AZ, AzClassicjazz.org

Membership

THE NAPA VALLEY DIXIELAND JAZZ SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

Standard Membership: Single -- \$40.00/year Couple -- \$70.00/year

Contributing Membership: Single -- \$125.00/year Couple -- \$200.00/year

Monthly Admission

NVDJS Members and members of other

Other Jazz and Dance Clubs: \$10.00 Public:

\$15,00

Contributing Members: Free

Name Address

City State Zip

Telephone: Email:

Make out check to NVDJS and mail to: NVDJS, 145 Merner Drive, Windsor,

CA 95492-9102

Please let us know your ideas.

Membership

THE NAPA VALLEY DIXIELAND JAZZ SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

Standard Membership: Single -- \$40.00/year Couple -- \$70.00/year

Contributing Membership: Single -- \$125.00/year Couple -- \$200.00/year

Monthly Admission

NVDJS Members and members of other

Other Jazz and Dance Clubs: \$10.00

Public: \$15,00

Contributing Members: Free

Name_____Address_____

_____City_____State_ Zip_

_____Telephone:_____Email:_____

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Please let us know your ideas.