FROM ANDREW VELIN
AMP TREASURER

February 2022

The light returns ever so slightly each day in the NW. Not unlike the hope that we are crawling towards the light at the end of this Covid tunnel. Its been almost two years and some of us have lost loved ones. Lately, more and more people in our circles are getting Omicron, but thank goodness this latest strain is more contagious than it is viral, and the combination of vaccination and natural antibodies is the greatest weapon we have against this pandemic. Don’t give up hope, we will have some semblance of the public social life we took for granted!

AMP has been hard at work planning and budgeting the next evolution of our mission to amplify all things musical in Anacortes. Having a physical space wherein we can host all-ages shows, rock camps, and a variety of educational and mentoring programs will exponentially increase our impact. This physical space is starting to become a reality as we figure out exactly what is needed in terms of support (financial and volunteers) from all stakeholders in the community. We are asking not only private citizens and businesses for their support, but also the city of Anacortes and other local nonprofit partners.

It’s happening folks! And we need each and every one of you to contribute your unique gifts and resources to enrich our community. Now more than ever we need to create a living culture, and this requires participation at all levels of involvement. Please join us.

Warm Regards,

[Signature]
Five AHS Bands Battle It Out at Rock the Island

by Kayla Strandberg and Keily Zuniga

This year’s Rock the Island was truly amazing. With a total of 5 bands competing it made for an entertaining evening. Although it was held in Brodniak Hall instead of Baxtons (formally Kennelly Keys), the energy brought by the crowd and bands did not waver from previous years. The crowd made the most of the seating arrangement by dancing in place and waving phone flashlights, they did not lack creativity in showing their support. The bands also enjoyed the lighting and sound system the venue had to offer.

The bands were very diverse, ranging from electronic rap to hard-core punk and metal, you heard it all. Each of the bands got to play two songs of their liking. What was really remarkable was that every band played at least one original. After each set, the judges would give their feedback and at the end of the night they decided who would be the winner. The winner this year won a performance on The NeXt Show, hosted by Todd Young of Anacortes Music Project. Also, a feature in Show Chime.

With all the bands being so talented it was hard for the judges to pick just one winner, so they didn’t. Both Shame and Metanoia were declared the winners of the night and Kaisson was the runner-up. Shame got to play the encore because they won the audience vote. But, alas the audience wasn’t pleased; they also wanted Metanoia to have a, rightly earned, encore as well. These bands played their hearts out and gave the audience a satisfactory ending to the night. The MCs for the night were Keily Zuniga, AHS broadcast club president, and Kayla Strandberg, AHS broadcast club secretary. Zuniga says, “Being backstage and conversing with each band before they went on was very insightful and it was fun seeing the bands perform from a different perspective.” But above all her favorite part was seeing people she has known forever come together and perform on stage. She says it was “a memorable night.” Strandberg says, “It was great to be a part of Rock the Island, I’ve never done anything like this before. There was so much talent and it was just great to see all the performers put their heart and soul into their music. Also, the camaraderie between the bands was inspirational, they were competitive but at the same time supportive.”

A special mention to Young Hunks, an AHS Alumni band, who played a set during intermission. They didn’t get to perform last year due to Covid so it was touching to see them out there even though they didn’t get to compete. The crowd went crazy for Young Hunks and even crazier when they did a cover of a Kesha song.

Also a big thanks to the AHS broadcast club, it couldn’t have been done without them. Producer, Tenzin Stewart, and club advisor, Jim Thompson, were the backbone of the production. Not only did they organize the event but they were also always on their toes. They made sure everything was running smoothly throughout the night. Also, the director of the live stream, Kai Wallis, did a brilliant job at ensuring that the people at home got to experience the music as well.

Facing Left: Young Hunks played a well-received set during intermission. Facing Right: The lead singer of Metanoia wowed the crowd. Below: The crowd in Brodniak Hall was energetic and supportive.

Photos courtesy of Will McCracken.
2022 Rock the Island Bands

**Judges’ Choice & Audience Choice Winner**

**Shame**

Shame is a five piece that makes any type of music they feel inclined to. They formed a couple of months ago, solely provoked by the announcement that Rock The Island was happening. Musically, they have a wide range of experience, the same can be said for performing. Shame’s inspiration comes from everywhere and everything, except people. So don’t enjoy them.

**Judges’ Choice Winner**

**Metanoia**

Metanoia is a Pop Alt-Rock band that is composed of Hailey Claridge, Henry Ermi, Kellen Murphy, and Kendal Spurgeon. Formed during the summer of 2021, Metanoia has been writing songs from the get go, with strong influences from bands like Jimmy Eat World, the Lonely Forest, Coldplay, and Queen.

**Judges’ Choice Runner Up**

**Kaisson**

Riley Thomas (Kaisson) is a producer, songwriter and vocalist. Despite functioning primarily as a “shock rap” artist for the better part of her career, she has recently proven herself capable in exceeding the limits of genre by blending together elements of electronic, grunge, classical and rap music into conceptual stories, frequently revolving around ideas of identity and escapism into idealist fantasies.

**Shameless**

Jonah Jeter and Henry Ermi formed the band Shameless about two weeks after the first posters for Rock The Island went up. Inspirations are pretty much all Hardcore Punk and Metal including Megadeth, Cannibal Corpse, Carcass, Slayer, Death, The Dead Kennedys, T.S.O.L, Black Flag, and Morbid Angel to name a few. Jonah plays guitar and sings and Henry is the drummer.

**Tripping Upstairs**

Tripping Upstairs is a rock trio comprised of drummer Jacob Fry, guitarist and singer Rylan Yonkman, and bassist and singer Kellen Murphy. They decided to start a band after attending Band Camp, as they are all in Marching Band and Percussion Ensemble. At the moment they play primarily covers of classic rock songs but some members have been working on writing original material.

An Interview with February Cover Artist Jacques Moitoret

by Andrew Velin

Jacques Moitoret is a master in fine art. His portraits are exquisite. I can’t believe such an artist needs an introduction, yet you may not have seen his name. Jacques has been painting for 50 years, moved to Anacortes 20 years ago, and has been part of the local art scene ever since.

Many of his pieces are commissioned work, including “Alchemy” which covers this issue. The lifelong patron is a chemist, and asked Jacques to bring his treatment to the concept. After considerable prying, Jacques offered some description of his approach: a kind of antique reconstruction, a neo-baroque fantasy scape. “I paint entirely to participate and communicate, I don’t live in a vacuum.” He also assures us there is nothing intentionally revelatory or profound about the painting, but rather more superficial, playing with the light fantasy of turning salt water into gold—on a colossal scale. Mercury on one side and an earth goddess playing the lyre on the other are playful cliches, the significance of which is only meant to be visual. Creating depth through a balance of forms.

As a student Jacques remembers growing quickly tired of modern art with its false assumption that representational art was fundamentally less sophisticated. He had and has no interest in manipulating flat forms. Thank goodness for that. His work is rich with the human. •

You can check out more of his work on his Facebook page or google his name: www.facebook.com/jacquesmoitoret
Live Music Calendar
February 2022

Wednesday, February 2
Rockfish Grill
Whistle Lake Quartet
(formerly Time3Jazz)
Eclectic Jazz     All Ages
6:00 PM

Thursday, February 3
Brown Lantern
Open Mic
Local Talent     21+
Brown Lantern
8:30 PM

Saturday, February 5
Rockfish Grill
CD Woodbury Trio
Contemporary Blues     All Ages
7:30 PM

Wednesday, February 9
Rockfish Grill
Joan Penney
Jazz Vocals     All Ages
6:00 PM

Saturday, February 12
Rockfish Grill
Low-Pass Trio
Original Funk     All Ages
6:00 PM
Brown Lantern
Ebb, Slack & Flood
Funky Reggae     21+
9:00 PM

Thursday, February 10
Brown Lantern
Open Mic
Local Talent     21+
Brown Lantern
8:30 PM

Saturday, February 16
Rockfish Grill
Heron And Crow
Old-time Bluegrass     All Ages
6:00 PM

Wednesday, February 17
Brown Lantern
Open Mic
Local Talent     21+
Brown Lantern
7:30 PM

Friday, February 25
Lincoln Theater
Carsie Blanton and her Handsome Band
Sultry Pop     All Ages
9:00 PM
McIntyre Hall
Barber of Seville
Opera     All Ages
7:30 PM

Saturday, February 26
Rockfish Grill
Queen’s Bluegrass
Traditional Bluegrass     All Ages
9:00 PM
Brown Lantern
Three For Silver
Gypsy Jazz     21+
7:30 PM

Sunday, February 27
McIntyre Hall
Barber of Seville
Opera     All Ages
7:30 PM

Sunday, February 6
McIntyre Hall
Mariachi Herencia de Mexico
Plus Local Mariachi Bands
Mariachi     All Ages
3:00 PM

Saturday, February 19
Rockfish Grill
Pacific Twang
Twang     All Ages
7:30 PM

Wednesday, February 23
Rockfish Grill
Free Harmony
Vocal Mix     All Ages
6:00 PM

Thursday, February 24
Brown Lantern
Open Mic
Local Talent     21+
9:00 PM
Brown Lantern
7:30 PM

Saturday, February 12
Rockfish Grill
Low-Pass Trio
Original Funk     All Ages
6:00 PM
Brown Lantern
Ebb, Slack & Flood
Funky Reggae     21+
9:00 PM

Saturday, February 26
Rockfish Grill
Queen’s Bluegrass
Traditional Bluegrass     All Ages
9:00 PM
Brown Lantern
Three For Silver
Gypsy Jazz     21+
7:30 PM

Sunday, February 27
McIntyre Hall
Barber of Seville
Opera     All Ages
7:30 PM

Thursday, February 24
Brown Lantern
Open Mic
Local Talent     21+
9:00 PM
Brown Lantern
7:30 PM

Saturday, February 26
Rockfish Grill
Queen’s Bluegrass
Traditional Bluegrass     All Ages
9:00 PM
Brown Lantern
Three For Silver
Gypsy Jazz     21+
7:30 PM

Sunday, February 27
McIntyre Hall
Barber of Seville
Opera     All Ages
7:30 PM
From the Archives:
Department of Safety

by Clarity Miller

The Department of Safety was started in 2002 in the former police/fire station on 12th street. It quickly became a mecca for bands, both local and touring, artists, travelers, and people of all ages. It featured a venue for music performances, an art gallery, a hostel, a zine library, a darkroom, a recording studio, plus living space for the residents who ran it.

Full disclosure: I lived there from 2003 to 2005 and was a part of the programming and art curation.

The DoS, as it came to be known, was a space like no other. Anacortes had never had a cultural center that welcomed people of all ages. Entire families often attended performances. It became something of a legend, and bands that would generally not have played such a small town sought it out. The DoS hosted some incredible music, from local wonders The Microphones, Karl Blau, Woelv, Laura Views, D+, The Gift Machine, The Lonely Forest, and tons more. We also brought in traveling bands p:ano, The Mountain Goats, TV On the Radio, Dirty Projectors, Little Wings, Lucky Dragons, and dozens more.

It was also a constant struggle, as the entire budget for DoS came from the rent paid by its residents. We had no public funding. We often had no heat, and the building leaked. It was a passion project on the highest level, but most of the founders and residents would move on after a few years.

My personal opinion is that, as miraculous and as incredible a project it was, it was not sustainable. Art/music spaces are vital to the community and need public and private funding to remain viable.

The Department of Safety shut down in 2010 for a number of reasons. It remains legendary, and deeply nostalgic for anyone who helped create it, attended shows there, had their art displayed, or got an impromptu haircut before their performance (true story). It was utopian in many ways, and my hope for Anacortes is that we can create something like this again.

Beautiful and experimental show poster artwork was part of the DoS culture.
Top: An rendering of the Department of Safety graces the poster for an art opening by Little Friends of Printmaking and Seripop.
Bottom: Jessica Lynch, now of Slow Loris, created the poster art for a show by the Brooklyn band TV on the Radio, who performed at the DoS while on tour.
Posters courtesy of Clarity Miller.
Verse/Chorus/Verse

Anyone who has ever gotten lost in the liner notes knows that reading the lyrics of a song can give you a whole new perspective on a band or musician. Here we highlight the words of one song. Each piece of writing featured here has a unique Ana-cortes connection.

This month we have a song from the recent Creampuff Cowboys release by Guemes musician Art Petersen. In his words:

“The song “Red Bird” was inspired by my mother’s stories about growing up in Muhlenberg County, Kentucky, not far from the “Paradise” John Prine wrote a song about. Her stories invariably brought out a regional cast of unique characters. One afternoon we got into a conversation about children’s rhymes and she recited a song from her early schooldays that was part of the genre of jump roping songs.

“Somewhere I never forgot the rhyme and it came back to me in the form of a song with guitar accompaniment when she was quite elderly. I was happy to get to play a recording of the Red Bird song to her before she passed on.”

Red Bird
by Art Petersen

Well that Red Bird sings such a pretty old song
I hope he won’t be gone too long
Now the Red Birds back and he caught my eye
Said he came back just to say goodbye

But where does he go when he flies away
Does he fly all night, does he fly all day
Or does he hide out of sight in the red gum tree
Only Red Bird knows where the Red Bird goes

My Mother told me bout the Red Bird ways
She sang me a rhyme that the children say
Now I sing it too when I’m feeling gay
There’s truth in the air where the Red Bird wings

Where the children play, the children play
They all sing about what the Red Birds say
Not a crow, not a buzzard, nor a turtle dove
Only the Red Bird sings about Love

Well the Red Birds flown, he’s gone away
I’m wondering will he come back some day
I can hear my Mothers voice back in the day
Tell me what the Red Birds say

Well tell me what the Red Bird has to say
Will he fly away or will he stay all day
I can hear my Mothers voice back in the day
“Tell me what the Red Bird has to say!”

New Releases

Microphones Box Set:
Completely Everything 1996–2021
Phil Elverum has announced a massive Microphones box set. “This is final. To commemorate and tombstone 25 years of this intermittently-awake recording project, we made this chunk. It’s a 10 pounder, lift with your legs.”
A heavy duty full color foil stamped slip case includes seven albums across ten LPs, digital downloads, song stems, and a 107-page booklet.
Released in January 2022
Sold Out

Heron & Crow to play at Rockfish Grill
Heron & Crow is a bluegrass/old time music band that relies on original tunes, brother harmonies and chestnuts from the classic recordings of the 1920’s through the 1960’s, and originals from band songwriter Steven Dolmatz. Their first album, The Big Sky, was released in 2014, and their latest album, Bird in the Hand, was released in December of 2018. The band consists of Steven Dolmatz on guitar and vocals, Mark Ingham on mandolin, banjo and vocals, Julie Campbell on fiddle and vocals, and Angus McLane on string bass.
Catch them at the Rockfish Grill on Wednesday, February 16th at 6:00 pm.

Artwork by Luuk Honey.
Chime Chat with Cherry

In the tradition of the great personal advice column, Show Chime presents Chime Chat with Cherry. Cherry doesn’t just dish out advice, she peers deeply into your soul to find the answers within you. She also specializes in naming bands, boats, and babies. Write to Cherry at theshowchime@gmail.com.

DEAR CHERRY:
I am a distressed college student living in a dorm. Whenever it rains in my city, hordes of tiny ants come flooding into my room. I tried to be zen and get rid of them with poisoned bait, but these ants cannot be deterred. I hate to kill them outright, but I am at the end of my rope. Please help! —Distressed

DEAR DISTRESSED:
I advise you to just give up trying to fight the ants and instead watch a bunch of funny anteater videos on YouTube. Do you even understand what a hilarious animal the anteater is?

HEY CHERRY:
My band mates are slackers. It’s really a shame because we’re so amazingly talented and I know that if they would just apply themselves and show up to band practice we could make it big! How can I convince them to be more dedicated? —Fed Up

DEAR FED UP:
Geez, slackers really ruin it for the rest of us. My advice is to get a long, sharp, pointy stick. No one likes to be poked with a pointy stick.

HI CHERRY:
My girlfriend wants to start a band. I need to learn how to play the guitar, post haste! How can I get started? —True Beginner

DEAR BEGINNER:
You borrow a guitar from the AMP instrument library (for free, of course) and then find yourself an amazing teacher who can get you proficient. If that doesn’t work, I suggest you learn to play the triangle, because no one has ever failed at that.

Share the Local Music Love!

Call for Contributors
Show Chime is looking for volunteer contributors to help us cover the local music scene. Cover one show or become a regular contributor. Contact us at THESHOWCHIME@GMAIL.COM to start the conversation.

Get in Touch!
Want your music projects or shows mentioned in the Show Chime? Want to submit a piece of art or an article? Have ideas for Show Chime you’d like to share? Show Chime only happens because of people like you. We would love to hear from you! THESHOWCHIME@GMAIL.COM

Anacortes Music Channel
Do you know about the Anacortes Music Channel? One great pool of Anacortes music just churning away—24/7! Tune in day and night at anacortesmusicproject.org.

Call for Band Bios
The AMP archive of Bands, Venues, Shows, Compilations, Events, and Players is just getting started! We are compiling photos, videos, and music, along with details of each artist/band. We need help from the community to build out this amazing resource. If you want to have your band included, just fill out our Archive Questionnaire!

Represent!

Here at AMP we have big plans for the future. In addition to the promotion, publication, and distribution of the SHOW CHIME music calendar, AMP is committed to creating events that feature local musicians, developing a scholarship and mentoring program, continuing the development and collection of archives past and present, and shaping exciting visions for the future, such as a physical space for our community’s very own radio station and music space. Your support amplifies the music and musicians of Anacortes.

GO TO ANACORTESMUSICPROJECT.ORG AND CLICK ON THE SPONSORSHIP BUTTON.

Become an Amplifier!
Becoming a monthly donor is easy, you can scan this code with your phone and choose the amount you would like to contribute to AMP each month. Your donation helps us pay our musicians and artists, fund our events and festivals, offer AMP music camps, and move into an amazing new venue space for all to enjoy!

Stay in Anacortes
Coming to Anacortes for a show? Stay the night! Check out the range of options at Anacortes.org/stay

Thank You!
Thank you to our monthly donors: Jessica Redman, Brenda Treadwell, Jenn White, Camie Velin, Lisa Jackson, and Jensen Lovelett! Thank you to our sponsoring businesses: Mugsy at The Red Snapper, Hal and Sheryl at The Brown Lantern, Nick and Carolyn at Bikespot, Mark and Willie at Guemes Island General Store, Clay Christofferson at Farmstrong Brewing Company, Rick Star at Rockfish Bar and Grill, Barrett Community Caring Project, and the good folks at the Anacortes Food Coop. Thank you Manieri board, Chris Terrell, and Keith Eyer at How It Works. Thank you to Laurie Racicot for editing and design. This February issue of Show Chime was printed by How It Works and made possible by a grant from the Anacortes Public Library Manieri Endowment. Getting the Show Chime to you each month is a community effort! This issue was written, edited, printed, distributed, and probably read on the traditional lands of Samish, Skagit, Swinomish, and Puget Sound Salish people.