From Katie Williams
AMP Board Member

September 2022

Last month we completed our first AMP Rock Camp and it was a huge success for both the attendees and the instructors. After many months of planning, meetings, and fundraising, we successfully filled 22 spots, offered six scholarships, and even offered a few behind-the-scenes volunteer opportunities. Our instructors were all seasoned musicians and our students ranged in age from 12-18. The generosity of Anacortes Women’s Giving Circle, The Anacortes Noon Kiwanis Club, and Billy Kennelly all helped make our vision a reality.

After the first day of breaking the ice was over, we had many wonderful moments seeing kids take a leap, do some scary stuff (like sing on stage!) and just jump in and go for it. One moment that was particularly memorable was looking over the balcony onto the stage of Buxton’s and seeing the kids during some down time. They were all wailing on guitars, singing on microphones, plinking the piano, and plucking basses. Within that chaos and noise there was joy and laughter, there were new bonds and friendships and there was an incredible amount of support for each other that literally brought some of us to tears.

This was a glimpse into what an indoor space for AMP could bring to our community. The vibe that happened was hard to explain but I know we all left the final performance on top of the world and ready to do it all over again. Till next year! Rock on.

Katie Williams
The AMP Camp Experience

by Gabe Sodl

When I started learning guitar I was about 10 years old, I had tried a couple times before but never stuck to it, but even once I really “committed” to learning it I was still sometimes inconsistent. I was self taught and mostly worked on music by myself, not really ever having a community of musicians to bounce off of for a few years. Fast forward to July 2022 and I’m at Buxton’s volunteering at AMP Camp, which is a completely opposite atmosphere. Rather than learning an instrument by yourself, students practiced and worked together but still at their own pace, with a community of instructors, volunteers, and peers to learn from at all times. Watching the immediate progress and determination from these kids was incredible, especially in comparison to how I started. I was supposed to be helping with the sound and tech side of things but ended up mostly helping out teaching guitar and helping with the student bands (sorry Doug). Teaching guitar is tough because of the varied playing styles and sonic variety it has compared to other instruments. For example, one might want to learn to play really fast and shred insane solos, while the person next to them just wants to learn fingerstyle and focus on more acoustic based playing. This type of variety and community is what made AMP Camp so great to volunteer at. While one kid might come in on day one wanting to learn the drums, they might see a bass and feel more inclined to pick that up instead or vice versa. What’s even better is that this was highly encouraged behavior, which is how I feel it should be. Some kids who are forced into something like music lessons may grow to hate what they do, but in an open and encouraging atmosphere like the one at AMP Camp, they are welcome to follow whatever musical path they want and focus on what they want to do.

Once the student bands were formed and everyone settled into an instrument, everyone got to work. Each band had to write and perform a song by the end of the camp on Friday. This gave a common goal between everyone, despite gaps in skill level, age or music taste. What’s cool about the way this went is that the students who were beginners were focused on getting better and honing performing basics, while the responsibility of writing and communicating ideas fell on the more experienced students. This dynamic was really cool and allowed all kinds of growth considering the wide variety of skill levels in each group.

Daily lessons included instrument practice, songwriting workshops (with Karl Blau and The Lonely Forest), and classes on stage presence and performing. Rarely do music lessons come with the full experience of being a musician, and by that I mean not just learning an instrument, but playing and communicating with others, performing, and working with what you have when you have it. Everyone had to share amps, guitars, cables, drums, you name it. Which is a great way to introduce the idea of being in a band or a local music scene because sharing happens quite a bit. The feeling was completely community over competition. Nothing taught was about being better than someone else or being the best, everything was for you, and about learning and practicing how you want to play music. Playing in front of others is scary and AMP Camp definitely fought to make it a normal and comfortable experience for those there. The fact that after only just five days these kids were performing in front of their peers and parents says a lot about the camp considering some students hadn’t even touched an instrument before on Monday morning.
**AMP Fest 2022: Band Previews**

**Shi Daa**
Master drummer Saeed Abbas leads his collective, energetic drumming group with roots from Africa. This multi-talented group shares the music of west Africa with fiery enthusiasm!

**Despairplane**
Ben Goe, Keith Boller, Anders Rodin, and Robin Miller make Northwest sad-sack grunge, now with slightly less sadness.

**The Enthusiasts**
Feet stomping, homemade and heart-full rock and roll. Based and placed right here in Anacortes.

**Metanoia**
An alt-rock band from Anacortes founded in 2021 for Rock the Island, Metanoia features Hailey Clairidge, Kellen Murphy, Kendal Spurgeon, and Henry Ermi.

**Jacob Navarro**
Multi-instrumentalist, world-class touring and recording artist, composer, producer, recording engineer. Jacob is a homegrown Anacortes guitar slinger.

**Pearl Tottenham**
Writer and singer of true songs. Pearl Tottenham is an Olympia-based, Anacortes-born-and-raised indie pop singer songwriter.

**Neesha Blanchett**
Neesha Blanchett is the Anacortes duo Sarah Wight and Mia Starner. Their sound pulls from 90’s grunge, southern whimsy, and vintage acid rock.

**Randy Weeks**
Lucinda Williams once said “Randy Weeks writes amazingly well crafted, beautifully melodic songs and delivers them with his own brand of laid back vocals and surfboard cool, very hip approach.”

**Wren the Juggler**
Game show champion, member of the Bellingham Circus Guild, and Anacortes native, Wren is everyone’s favorite juggler.

**Collins Beach**
Representing multiple generations of Anacortes musicians, Collins Beach creates their own sound through guitar lead melodies and soaring vocals.

**Desolation Sound**
Desolation Sound is an original rock band from Friday Harbor. The island way of life manifests itself in the music.

**Savanna Woods**
A lifelong musician from Stanwood, Savanna Woods creates lyrical music for the beautiful people of planet earth and beyond.

**Grant Fairbrother**
Energetic mainstay behind Whidbey Island-based Memory Boys, Grant Fairbrother’s solo music is calmer though threads equal passion with an engaging sense of groove.

**Pretty Much Nothing**
A powerful funk rock trio from Concrete playing a variety of music — hard rock, dance, funk, country, metal, pop, blues and soul.

**Your Heart Breaks**
Your Heart Breaks is a queer band originally founded by Clyde Petersen in Bellingham in 1999. Your Heart Breaks has toured the world for 20 years as both a solo performer and a large ensemble.

**The Young Hunks**
A catchy mix of indie rock and pop. Mason Bakke, Brendan Hodgerson, and Jonah Umayam are high school friends with a fan club who started making music together during quarantine.

**The Sun//Aram**

**Chris Aiken Band**
Chris Aiken (also of The Fieldboats) has been rocking the barns and beaches of Lopez Island and Bellingham for 10 years.
Live Music Calendar
September 2022

Thursday, September 1
Farmstrong Brewery
The Dream Goats
Folk Duo All Ages
Brown Lantern
Open-Mic
Local Talent 21+

Friday, September 2
Brown Lantern
Min Far
Psychedelic 21+

Saturday, September 3
Seafarers Memorial Park
AMP Fest 2022
Local Music Showcase
18 Local Bands All Ages
Guemes General Store
Clinton Fearon & The Boogie Brown Band
Original Reggae All Ages
Rockfish Grill
Children Of The Blues
Psychedelic Fusion All Ages

Sunday, September 4
Guemes General Store
Up Up Up Inc.
Crane Truck Circus All Ages

Wednesday, September 7
Rockfish Grill
Whistle Lake Jazz Quartet
Jazz All Ages

Thursday, September 8
Brown Lantern
Open-Mic
Local Talent 21+

Friday, September 9
Lincoln Theater
David and Kan Improv
Rock Comedy All Ages

Saturday, September 10
Rockfish Grill
The Naughty Blokes
Rock n Roll All Ages
The Brown Lantern
Three for Silver
Original Doomfolk 21+

Sunday, September 11
Heart of Anacortes
Manieri Second Sunday Jazz
Greta Matassa
Jazz Vocals All Ages

Wednesday, September 14
Rockfish Grill
Norris and Nicely
Electric Blues Duo All Ages

Thursday, September 15
Brown Lantern
Open-Mic
Local Talent 21+

Friday, September 16
Guemes General Store
Tapwater
Americana All Ages

Saturday, September 17
Rockfish Grill
Stevie and the Blue Flames
Blues All Ages
The Brown Lantern
Cozmic Sauce
Horn-driven Grooves 21+

Wednesday, September 21
Rockfish Grill
Andre Feriante
Fusion Guitar All Ages

Thursday, September 22
Brown Lantern
Open-Mic
Local Talent 21+

Friday, September 23
Lincoln Theater
Iona Fyfe
Ballad Singer All Ages
McIntyre Hall
The Small Smories
Roots Duo All Ages

Saturday, September 24
Guemes General Store
Groovebot
Soulful Funk All Ages
Rockfish Grill
Billy Appleton Band
High Energy Rock All Ages
Swinomish Casino
Hell's Belles
All Female AC/DC Tribute 18+
The Brown Lantern
Desolation Sound
Original Rock 21+

Thursday, September 29
Brown Lantern
Open-Mic
Local Talent 21+

AMP Fest Schedule
Saturday, September 3
12:30 Shi Daa
12:30 Desolation Sound
1:05 Savanna Woods
1:35 Randy Weeks
2:05 Grant Fairbrother
2:35 Pretty Much Nothing
3:05 Your Heart Breaks
3:35 Despairplane
4:00 Wren the Juggler
4:35 Neesh Blanchett
5:05 Jacob Navarro
5:35 Chris Aiken Band
6:05 Pearl Tottenham
6:35 The Enthusiasts
7:05 The Sun/Arum
7:35 Metanoia
8:05 The Young Hunks
8:35 Collins Beach
Sponsor Spotlight:
The Brown Lantern

Cheryl and Hal Rogers, longtime owners of the landmark Brown Lantern Ale House, recently chatted with local drummer Andy Brown about live music, the history and future of the Brown, and what it’s like to own and operate one of Anacortes’ premier eating and drinking establishments.

Andy: So, you both have been such big supporters of music and the Anacortes Music Project, and the cultural scene of Anacortes. Talk to me about that a little bit. Why has that been an important thing for you guys?

Cheryl: Well, it’s just that the whole ambiance of the Brown Lantern is the music crowd. But I have to say, it’s because of Erik Meinhardt. He’s the one who’s been so involved with the music. He is doing an amazing job bringing bands in, and many new bands.

Andy: I agree, I mean most of the bands I’ve never heard of. I come see them, and I’m like, “Where have these guys been?” And if they weren’t playing here I never would have known. And then I start following them around.

Cheryl: Erik doesn’t work anymore for us but he still does the bands and he’s doing an amazing job.

Andy: And before Erik, wasn’t Mike Rothmeyer kind of the beginning of it?

Cheryl: Yes, Mike Rothmeyer started this whole thing.

Andy: Yes, he got it kinda on the map, in a way. I remember the Open Mics used to be huge. They’re still slowly coming back, I think, but that used to be a highlight of the week.[HAL AND CHERYL CHUCKLE]

Cheryl: Yeah...we still have them. And Trivia, we still have Trivia on Tuesday nights.

Andy: Yeah, that pulls people in, doesn’t it? Speaking of regularly scheduled events, would you anticipate music to continue for the most part, periodically? Semi-regularly?

Cheryl: Well, it’s different, because it doesn’t draw the crowds in like before. And I don’t know whether that’s a carryover from the pandemic or it’s just not drawing in like it used to.

Andy: I’ve noticed that, too, in other venues. People just aren’t quite storming back yet, it might likely be pandemic related. It’s not just here, I’ve noticed personally, it’s kind of slowly starting to come back, but it’s been a long time since I’ve been in a venue to see a band where it’s been really packed.

Andy: Tell me about the structure of running the Brown Lantern these days. I understand you two are going to bow out somewhat?

Cheryl: Yes, Jaime Kauffman is going to be running everything, we are sort of trying to bow out. And our son Casey Rogers, we’ve turned over 49% to him. Jamie’s already taken over literally everything, even the kitchen. And I’m glad The Brown is going to stay in the family.

Andy: Yes, I hope so. I like it just the way it is.

Hal: It’s a good living! You can make money here. We’ve got the reputation, we’ve got all the good things going.

Cheryl: [I remember when we] added the kids’ side. People said, “I don’t want kids in here!” I remember when we just had beer and wine, we didn’t have liquor. When we got liquor everyone said, “You’re going to ruin The Brown, it won’t be the same!”[ANDY AND HAL CHUCKLE]

Andy: It’s all worked out.

Hal: It sure has, I agree. You must be looking forward to spending more time in Arizona? You’ve certainly earned it!

Cheryl: Well, Hal’s 82 now, and we can’t really work on the floor anymore. I mean, we used to be behind the bar all the time, serving.

Andy: Yeah, that’s harder than it looks, for sure. Well I’m glad you guys have the place down in Arizona, I didn’t realize that. You’ve been going down there for awhile now?

Cheryl: We have a house down there, so we try to, every spring January thru May.

Andy: So this is probably a question I should ask Jaime, but maybe you know. Is The Brown going to sort of remain status quo, or is Jaime looking to make any additions or changes?

Cheryl: As all things because of the pandemic, it’s hard to find cooks. And we are debating maybe closing one day a week, or reducing the menu. I mean, it’s because we can’t find help in the kitchen.

Andy: Of course, The Brown is considered by everybody to be the main pub and very historic kind of bar, compared to everything else on the drag. So what’s it like owning something like this, like you have for so long? What are some of the good things, and the challenges?

Cheryl: We’re so proud, because it is the bar when you come in, everybody knows your name! We have so many regulars. And, the decorations are really something to be so proud of.

Hal: Thank you!

Andy: So Hal is responsible for the decorations?

Cheryl: Yes, that’s all thanks to Hal and Dave [a previous owner.]

Hal: I’m a baseball fanatic.

Andy: Wow, sure, before you guys came down, I was just checking out some of these pictures on the walls. I don’t get a chance to see these on this wall because there are usually people sitting here, so I was just enjoying these.

Cheryl: I mean, most of these are Dave’s, but Hal has his First Knights Mariners.

Andy: Such a classic!

Hal: And this Seahawks one of the first football game in the Kingdome.

Andy: Oh, wow...nice.

Cheryl: I mean, it’s...and people bring in their banners and their shirts.

Andy: Yeah...I remember the Croatian flag got put up over there.

Andy: Well, thanks you guys, I really appreciate your time. Good to see you again

Hal: Thank you!

Interview Ends ■

The Brown Lantern hosts Trivia Night every Tuesday at 8:30 pm and Open Mic Night every Thursday at 8:30 pm. Check their website for live music events throughout the month.
Verse/Chorus/Verse

Sunlight Is Breakin’ Out
Lyrics by Karl Blau, Chet DelCampo, and John Howkins

To say the least nothing’s ever come around
That glows like you
To dig a well inside another nerve
I forfeit it slow - whoa - whoa
To feel the pulse that has taken this moment with you
And sat it right down
And the walls stand thick like underground
Sunlight is breaking out whether I like it or not
Deep in the field - some are faking the shot
Sunlight is breaking out
Why wouldn’t you take it when it comes around
There better be something on this day
To feel the pulse that has taken this moment with you
To feel the pulse that has taken this moment with you
Is the purpose to defy the angle
Release the answer
Then send regards and sing the harms
And slowly slip away?
There’s a focus of the sly triangle
Calming of the bay
So I can see you more...
Sunlight is breakin out whether I like it or not
Deep within your wheelhouse are you forming the plot?
Sunlight is breaking out
Why won’t you take it when it comes around
There better be something in my way
You keep on - keep on pushin’ it away
You keep on - you keep on pushin’ it away
Sunlight is breakin’ out whether I like it or not
Sunlight is breakin’ out
Why wouldn’t you take it when it comes around?

From September Cover Artist
Cathy Schoenberg
by Laurie Racicot

Mixed media artist Cathy Schoenberg has lived on Guemes Island for more than twenty years and has a studio in Anacortes. She has been involved in the Skagit Valley art community since the early 80’s, taking part in the many events, shows and art happenings that have come and gone throughout the years. We spoke with her about her long career as an artist and her new adventures in music.

Tell us a little bit about yourself as an artist.

I grew up in Spokane and got a scholarship for art at a small college there. Even in conservative Spokane the culture was shifting in the late sixties. I was a pretty serious student of art and meant to stick with it hell or high water and there was certainly a lot of that in my life.

I came to Skagit Valley in 1981 with a little (a lot) of help from my friends. I lived a number of places and came to Guemes Island in 2000. While working at the Skagit Food Co-op I painted the windows facing west for years. I was more famous for that than all my (real) paintings

When I retired from the Co-op in 2014 I got a studio above Scott Milo Gallery and have been there since. I am open during First Friday Artwalk , the 98221 Studio Tour, and have small classes in painting there.

You’ve been in the Anacortes art scene for many years now, how have you seen things change and shift?

I have shown in a number of venues and galleries over the years. MUCH has changed in the art scene everywhere. The biggest is self promotion on social media. I am still painting (at 74 years) but not as many hours and I’m not so ambitious at trying to show in many places. I prefer close to home.

I love the support the Anacortes community gives to artists , there are so many opportunities for the arts in all the various branches... painting, music, dance, drama. It really is amazing for such a small community.

Where do you turn for inspiration?

I get inspiration from all of the artwork done all over the world. I never tire of looking at what people come up with. If I was to give my younger self advice I’d say “broaden the scope , look outside the box, art has many avenues.”

Tell us a little bit about this piece on the cover.

The painting on the cover is one of a group using my flower motif, but in this one used a dark watery background in a part of it. I like the indigo with the feathery white flowers mocking the sinister pool

Does music play a part in your life or creative process?

Music? I can’t believe I play in a band (the Haulouts) and never in my whole life would have thought I would sing in front of people. We are tight knit group, friends as well as music mates. We have been playing music every week for four or five years. I play the ukulele, there is a keyboard player, electric guitar, bass guitar, drums, cello another uke and many singers. We play a variety of songs. ●

See more of Cathy’s work in her studio during First Friday Artwalk or by visiting guemesislandart.org.
New Releases

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Released August 5, 2022

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 generous community donors: Don Bird, Paul Sherman, Henry Rose, Peter Delaney, Victoria McNeil, Sarah Sibley, Derek Eisel, James and Martha Harper, Steve and Stella Clarke, Patti Pattee, Eric Hinton, 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 for putting us in print. Thank you to our September cover artist Cathy Schoenberg. Thank you to Laurie Racicot for editing and design. This September 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.

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