

Bevy Band



“I’m so freakin’ sick of war – not only the current debacle, but wars within communities and families. I want an end to all violence, all abuse, all destruction. I want my daughter to grow up... just to grow up and exist in a world that doesn’t hate so damn much.”

Danielle - Trumpet & Vocals

Becky Liebman, percussion and keyboards
 Lorree Gardener, bass
 Nancy Curtis, baritone sax, flute, piccolo, soprano sax, vocals
 Danielle Westbrook, trumpet, vocals
 Lydia-Beth Leimbach, keyboard and percussion
 Sue Smiley, congas, bongos and percussion, vocals
 Lisa Seifert, clarinet
 Betsy Perkins, percussion, vocals

BIG DREAMS

Becky hopes the Cubs will win the World Series (Bevettes originate from all over the country, Chicago, New Hampshire, New York, Montana, Idaho, Minnesota, Spokane and we even have an Olympia local in the band!)

Lorree says her wildest dream would be to write the perfect protest song: one that is poignant, astute and beautiful, one that would bring every warmonger to his knees.

Sue and Betsy say, “Our wildest dream is to gig at every Eagles club in the region. We dream of doing a regional Eagle’s Club tour because they have great dance floors!”

Danielle’s wildest dream is to sing and play her trumpet on stage in front of hundreds of thousands of people and for those people to love her!

Nancy: “My wildest dream is that someone will discover that live music and dance is the best source of greenhouse-gas-free energy and that musicians will be hired to play everywhere as a source of heat for hotel lobbies, stores, restaurants, and the usual outlets where live music has been supplanted by recorded music.”

STYLE

Every band’s favorite question right? Our music is largely influenced by our rhythm section. We have no traditional trap player. Our rhythm section consists of keyboard, bass, hand drum, hand percussion and timbales, so we apply a Latin sensibility to American genres like swing, blues, and jazz standards. We tap into Brazilian and Cuban songbooks, as well. We also love to play compositions of local artists like Bert Wilson, Paul Hjelm, Steven Luceno, and our own Nancy Curtis.

Bassist Lorree says: “Besides playing jazz and blues, I love playing most styles of music—actually all styles of music and most tunes. African roots, Afro-Cuban styles still speak to me the loudest and deepest, but I’ve been digging deeper into classical music and loving it. It’s great to play with Bevy, as well as Stephen Luceno and other local talents, who are so open to playing all kinds of music.”

Danielle: “I was a classical player all my life – improvising scared the hell out of me! I was always afraid to try something new because that would involve making mistakes. I guess you could say that, while growing up, I had the textbook trumpet-player ego. I was better than everyone else and never made any mistakes. Well, I’m 13 years out of high school and my opinion has changed drastically! I love playing jazz, blues, Latin jazz, anything out of my comfort zone, really. Bevy has been fabulous for bringing me out of my shell!”

HIGH HURDLES WHEN GETTING STARTED

Danielle: “Honestly, trumpet playing really came naturally to me. I’ve been playing

trumpet for 22 years, and the biggest challenge has always been finding time to practice.”

Becky: “Listening.”

Betsy says breathing and relaxing has been the greatest challenge.

Bassist Lorree: “Either you’re born with it or every time you pick up your instrument there are challenges. That’s ongoing for me. But initially, as a skinny 8th grader (and presently), string bass is a large and unwieldy instrument.

Clarinetist Lisa says, “I had a hard time reading music when I joined the band in elementary school. This was probably because I couldn’t see it that well. Now I wear glasses to read. In any case, I learned to play by listening to what the other clarinets were doing. Playing by ear is a very helpful skill in playing with bands like BEVY.”

Percussionist Sue says, “Learning to feel the pulse against each rhythm I play has been difficult. Learning to spell rhythm was hard, too.”

Nancy: “Time has always been my greatest challenge. That includes tempo, meter and rhythm, of course—but my other time challenge has been dealing with the subjective and elastic sense of time in my life!”

REWARDING MOMENTS ON STAGE

Lifting up a beautiful horn solo via the keyboards was Becky’s most rewarding moment.

Clarinetist Lisa says: “Every time I get to perform is a best moment. This is from a

person who NEVER expected to be performing at all when I picked up a clarinet again after 20 years of not playing. It's a gas to play with BEVY and their horn harmony. Thanks gals for including me!"

Danielle: "When I was 16 years old, I played with the Capital Area Youth Symphony. Three of us brass players were graduating from high school and the youth music program. I wanted to do something nice for our wind coach/brass choir conductor, who was also my mentor, Greg Allison. I wrote a 3-piece arrangement - me on piano/voice, the others on a trumpet and trombone - to his wife and his wedding song, "Where is Love" from *Oliver*. After we were done, Mr. and Mrs. Allison came on-stage with tears streaming down their faces. It was so special for all of us... something I will always treasure."

Betsy says: "When the performance space feels like home, that's when I'm happiest. I am still figuring out how to work with the audience. I realize that they are an integral contributor to the feel of the performance. My favorite moments are when it feels like a house party: the band is locked and enjoying playing with each other, some of the audience is right there with you listening, some are talking with their friends and laughing, and some are dancing."

Sue recalls: "One of our very first gigs was at a dance studio for Olympia Artswalk. The children immediately started dancing on the first tune. By the end of the set, the parents were dancing too."

COLLISSIONS

Becky says, "Not being able to hear myself at all for three straight tunes was maddening."

Betsy says, "While playing a gig (well into the second set, mind you), an audience member asked us to play some rock or 'something with a guitar.' We politely indicated to her that we had no guitar in the band."

Performance train wrecks, SNAFUs and catastrophes can happen all too easily, says Lorree. It's all about the quickest and smoothest most intelligent recoveries! Danielle "dittos" that!

Nancy: "There was the time part of my flute fell off while I was playing it, and the reed player's curse is a squeaky reed! It's maddening every time it happens!"

REGIONAL BANDMATES

Lorree says: "I thought a headliner was on the ceiling of the car! But seriously, I've been fortunate enough to play with many local bandleaders such as Stephen Luceno, Lavon Hardison, Betsy Holt, Brad Gibson, Russ Hubley, Bert Wilson, Joe Bacque, Russ Gores, Alegra Ziffle, and Mike McQuigg. And then there is Bevy, where we kind of take turns being the bandleader."

Danielle: "Olympia has so many people that fit into these categories, I can't even begin to name them all. However, the best one I've played with is my dad, Phil Westbrook."

Nancy: "I play with Bert Wilson & Rebirth. Besides Bert, at various times I've played with Craig Hoyer, Syd Potter, Allen Youngblood, Jeff Johnson, Peter Vinikow, Stephen Luceno, Bob Meyer, and James Zitro."

NATIONAL CREDITS

Nancy: "Rebirth opened for Joe Lovano several years ago, and a couple of years before that, we opened for Bluesiana Triangle, David "Fathead" Newman, Dr. John—Art Blakey was ill that night so they got guitarist Kenny Burrell instead. I also played a bit with the folksinger Jim Page years ago."

SPECIAL MEMORIES FROM CHILDHOOD

Becky says, "Running through fields and barns."

Danielle: "Playing music with my dad - he was always so proud of me."

Betsy says, "Musically speaking, my fondest memories would be those of tap recitals. I took 10 years of tap dancing as a child, and our recitals were in an old theater in Concord NH. I would get a huge musical thrill from hearing 10-15 tappers in unison pounding out rhythms on the old wood stage. It was very powerful. I believe those experiences definitely led me to drumming and percussion later in life."

Lorree says, "One funny childhood memory was when Sister Reparata handed me a violin when I was expecting an accordion. My hand gestures, in trying to describe what I'd seen Myron Florin playing on Lawrence Welk, were totally misinterpreted by my mom."

Nancy says, "I was a Nature Girl, so my happiest moments in childhood were in trees and around animals."

BEST WISHES FOR THE WORLD

Sue says: "I'd like to live in a world where music and dance are a more common experience for more people, but my most urgent concern is that we find a way to restore ecological and social balance to the planet before it is too late."

Lisa says, "Don't take yourself too seriously, especially about music, or it won't be fun. And really, if you can't say anything nice, say it somewhere else."

Becky says, "My hope is that we will learn it is to our mutual advantage to be kind to each other."

"When is peace gonna break out?" Lorree wants to know.

Danielle: "I'm so freakin' sick of war - not only the current debacle, but wars within communities and families. I want an end to all violence, all abuse, all destruction. I want my daughter to grow up... just to grow up and exist in a world that doesn't hate so damn much."

Nancy's best wish is that we can somehow get through this period where the people in power are blinded by greed and that the human race will get behind what's important: the survival of the planet.

Contact Bevy at:

eperkins@nthurston.k12.wa.us
<http://www.bevytheband.net>

TACOMA NARROWS AIRPORT 253-853-4114

NARROWS LANDING
RESTAURANT & BAR

Fine Times In Gig Harbor, WA

My wife and I enjoyed a nice dinner at the Narrows Landing Restaurant & Bar this past Thursday and I have nothing but great things to say about it. There was plenty of parking there on the ramp right in front of the restaurant and even some outdoor seating so we could finally enjoy some of this much needed summer like weather and clear skies! The wait staff was very friendly and the portions were very generous. I had the French Dip and my wife ate the cheeseburger and both of us enjoyed them.

...Great atmosphere, nice people, and ramp full of gorgeous aircraft.

Josh Thompson, OLM

Live Music Friday & Saturday Night 6pm to 9pm

On The Tarmac Next to the Control Tower.

Watch The Aircraft Activity While Dining

1208 26th Ave. NW Gig Harbor, WA

STICKSHIFT ANNIE with
KIMBALL and the FUGITIVES



JAZZ & SWING
BLUES,

Performing Freddie King shuffles, slow grinders, Texas 2-beat blues, Latin, jazz, swing, rock & roll, and rhythm and blues.

CLUBS, SPECIAL EVENTS,
WEDDINGS & PARTIES
www.stickshiftannie.com

Annie Eastwood: 206/522-4935