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Get The BEAT

MARCH - APRIL 2021

FOM MUSICIAN FEATURE

My Transition to FOM's Rock Band By Dan McKinnon

Long ago... (2016 ?)... I was just learning a musical instrument, a flute; handy and light to the touch. I searched out other FOM Music Society groups; though not to any genuine result as a long view, what I really sought was rock.

In the habit of previewing notions with the executive director, then as now, to Janet Pryer, I said something like; "You know Janet, do you suppose maybe FOM could have a rock band?" She had asked for ideas after all. If anywhere, I felt a hidden ability might be awakened there. ...uhmm is that a low groan I could hear from our exec direc? But the roadblocks; you know, a what do you call it, inertial barriers?... the 'how to', 'when to', 'where to'. I was at a crossroad; talking to myself, frustrated even.

"Dog gonit", I said to my flute, "I've had it with this confounded playing, give me Rock N'Roll or give me death!!! "Oh well, maybe not death so much as just a year or two away from it all.

Then all of a sudden, Salvation!... an FOM newsletter ...a new program this fall (this fall then was fall 2018). A rock band, as yet unnamed, open to all irrespective of musical ability. "I can answer to that," I said to my flute. She readily agreed; a little too quickly, as I remember. Somehow the critical mass had been attained; Rock 'N Roll beginning fall 2018! Ahaa! Well done Janet! I am on my way. But me and my transverse flute? Probably not. Clunk! I fell from the stellar height of the topmost clef. Well, what do you suppose is down at the bottom? I'll tell you, bass, yeah bass guitar!

For me a rock band is THE musical crossroad. Three years in, and the flute and I weren't getting on so well ("grrrr... this fluting makes me cross", I said to my flute, standing on her head at the furthest reaches of my room). So now I had use of an electric bass. Thank you FOM! And Janet who at early rehearsals called to us from the exec direc doorway; "that sounded 'so good!'" The exec direc, when we did perform was there; inside, outside, under rain, in shine and now masked and double arms lengths or more apart. There are others who came on board doing yeoman work with us; shuttling equipment especially.

Oh, I still play now and then with flute, along with radio and online with quartets, with combos or even on our own. My experience with the fabulous Recovery Rock Band has been graciously met from flute. No backward grimaces, no slighting comments. I must admit she has squeaked awfully, many a time. But not from any lingering animosity, it's just we're a bit rusty. And well, I've fallen in love with a bass guitar and can't spend the time with the old dear that she deserves.

The upshot of it all? ...if the grass looks greener take a chance and climb the fence! Just as an afterthought, I have a concert type instrument that I could possibly sell to the right person interested in taking up a woodwind in the near term!

DATES TO REMEMBER

EASTER LONG WEEKEND APRIL 2nd - 4th

A STAT HOLIDAY - NO GROUPS SCHEDULED

FOM MUSIC SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

APRIL 15, 2021!

7:00pm - Arrive (for slideshow)

7:30pm - AGM STARTS

THE EVENT WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY, OVER ZOOM
FEATURING LIVE PERFORMANCES BY FOM MUSICIANS

ELECTION OF OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS -
BE THERE TO CAST YOUR VOTE!




Photos: Dan McKinnon with his flute and bass guitar

SHARE YOUR STORY! INSPIRED BY DAN'S FEATURE? WE KNOW THERE'S A LOT OF TALENT IN THIS COMMUNITY AND WE'D LOVE TO FEATURE YOU IN A FUTURE ISSUE OF **GET THE BEAT NEWSLETTER**. TELL US ABOUT YOUR MUSICAL JOURNEY OR WRITE UP A STORY ABOUT YOUR PERFORMANCE GROUP. ALL IDEAS ARE WELCOME!

FRIENDS OF MUSIC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

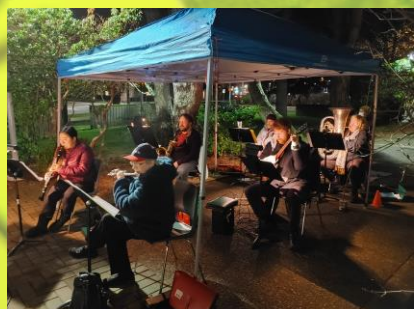
MARCH 2021

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
	1 MOODSWING ORCHESTRA @ Shelmarie 1pm	2 Learn Ukulele 4-5pm Ukulelians 5:00-6:30 pm Moodswing Chorus 7-9 pm	3 Beginner Band 11-11:55 Skills Band 12-12:55 Fundamentals 1-3 pm Eclectics 3:30-5:30 pm	4 Jazz Improv 1-2 pm Moodswing Orchestra Rehearsal 7:00-8:30 PM	5 Haywires 2-4 Minds at Work 4-6pm	6
7 Recovery Rock Band 2-4 pm Guitar 4:00-5:30 OPEN MIC 6-8 pm	8 BOARD MEETING 7pm	9 UKULELIANS 1pm @ Tillicum Apartments Learn Ukulele 4-5pm Ukulelians 5:00-6:30 pm Moodswing Chorus 7-9 pm	10 Beginner Band 11-11:55 Skills Band 12-12:55 Fundamentals 1-3 pm Eclectics 3:30-5:30 pm	11 Jazz Improv 1-2 pm Moodswing Orchestra Rehearsal 7:00-8:30 PM	12 Haywires 2-4 Minds at Work 4-6pm	13
14 Recovery Rock Band 2-4 pm Guitar 4:00-5:30 OPEN MIC 6-8 pm	15 HAYWIRES @ Rockland 1pm	16 Learn Ukulele 4-5pm Ukulelians 5:00-6:30 pm Moodswing Chorus 7-9 pm	17 Beginner Band 11-11:55 Skills Band 12-12:55 Fundamentals 1-3 pm Eclectics 3:30-5:30 pm	18 Jazz Improv 1-2 pm Moodswing Orchestra Rehearsal 7:00-8:30 PM	19 Haywires 2-4 Minds at Work 4-6pm	20
21 Recovery Rock Band 2-4pm Guitar 4:00-5:30pm OPEN MIC 6-8 pm	22 ECLECTICS @ Styles 1pm	23 Learn Ukulele 4-5 pm Ukulelians 5:00-6:30 pm Moodswing Chorus 7-9 pm	24 Beginner Band 11-11:55 Skills Band 12-12:55 Fundamentals 1-3pm Eclectics 3:30-5:30 pm	25 MOODSWING CHORUS @ Comerford 11:00 am Jazz Improv 1pm (on Zoom) Moodswing Orchestra Rehearsal 7:00-8:30 PM	26 Haywires 2-4 Minds at Work 4-6pm	27
28 Recovery Rock Band 2-4 pm Guitar 4:00-5:30 OPEN MIC 6-8 pm	29	30 Learn Ukulele 4-5 pm Ukulelians 5:00-6:30 pm Moodswing Chorus 7-9 pm	31 Beginner Band 11-11:55 Skills Band 12-12:55 Fundamentals 1-3 pm Eclectics 3:30-5:30 pm	<p>HAVE YOU VISITED OUR FACEBOOK PAGE? YOU CAN FIND US AT : </p> <p>'FOM MUSIC SOCIETY'</p>		

APRIL 2021

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
				1 Jazz Improv 1-2pm Moodswing Orchestra Rehearsal 7:00-8:30 PM	2 GOOD FRIDAY STAT HOLIDAY (No groups)	3
4  HAPPY EASTER! LONG WEEKEND NO GROUPS	5 EASTER MONDAY Office Closed	6 Learn Ukulele 4-5 pm Ukulelians 5:00-6:30 pm Moodswing Chorus 7-9 pm	7 Beginner Band 11-11:55 Skills Band 12-12:55 Fundamentals 1 - 3 Eclectics 3:30-5:30 pm	8 Jazz Improv 1-2pm Moodswing Orchestra Rehearsal 7:00-8:30 PM	9 Haywires 2-4 Minds at Work 4-6pm	10
11 Recovery Rock Band 2-4 pm Guitar 4:00-5:30pm OPEN MIC 6-8 pm	12 BOARD MEETING 7pm	13 Learn Ukulele 4-5 pm Ukulelians 5:00-6:30 pm Moodswing Chorus 7-9 pm	14 Beginner Band 11-11:55 Skills Band 12-12:55 Fundamentals 1 - 3 Eclectics 3:30-5:30 pm	15 Jazz Improv 1-2pm AGM! 7pm	16 Haywires 2-4 Minds at Work 4-6pm	17
18 Recovery Rock Band 2-4 pm Guitar 4:00-5:30pm OPEN MIC 6-8 pm	19 MINDS AT WORK @ Shelmarie 1pm	20 Learn Ukulele 4-5 pm Ukulelians 5:00-6:30 pm Moodswing Chorus 7-9 pm	21 Beginner Band 11-11:55 Skills Band 12-12:55 Fundamentals 1 - 3 Eclectics 3:30-5:30 pm	22 Jazz Improv 1-2pm Moodswing Orchestra Rehearsal 7:00-8:30 PM	23 MOODSWING CHORUS @Blackwood 1pm Haywires 2-4 Minds at Work 4-6pm	24
25 Recovery Rock Band 2-4 pm Guitar 4:00-5:30pm OPEN MIC 6-8 pm	26	27 UKULELIANS @ Wascana 1pm Learn Ukulele 4-5 pm Ukulelians 5:00-6:30 pm Moodswing Chorus 7-9 pm	28 Beginner Band 11-11:55 Skills Band 12-12:55 Fundamentals 1 - 3 Eclectics 3:30-5:30 pm	29 Jazz Improv 1-2pm Moodswing Orchestra Rehearsal 7:00-8:30 PM	30 RECOVERY ROCK BAND @Caribbean 12:30 pm Haywires 2-4 Minds at Work 4-6pm	

PHOTOS FROM THE JAN 28th NIGHT REHEARSAL WITH THE MOODSWING ORCHESTRA



DONATE TO FRIENDS OF MUSIC SOCIETY USING OUR VIRTUAL DONATION BOX:

Just point your cell phone at the QR Code to be connected to our donation page at CanadaHelps. FOM Music Society gratefully acknowledges the support of the Province of British Columbia, The Victoria Foundation Mary Elizabeth Hemeon Memorial Fund, Anonymous Donors, and all of our many friends.