August 2013



An All-Volunteer Organization - Since 1986 -

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Jazz at the Zoo is not over yet! We have two more free concerts in August before our summer season ends. More information is included in this issue as well as recaps from some of our July concerts and the Musician of the Year Banquet.

Also inside, you'll find a listing of live jazz shows around West Michigan and the schedule for the second GRandJazzFest on August 17 & 18.

So much jazz, so little time...

Upcoming Jazz at the Zoo Concerts

Can you believe it's August already? Summer sure has flown by, as it always does. The West Michigan Jazz Society is pleased to present two more Jazz at the Zoo concerts in August. Like the nine concerts before these, the bands play from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the John Ball Zoo Band Shell.

Jazz at the Zoo is free — with donations appreciated — and everyone is welcome. (Jazz-loving dogs may attend as long as they're well behaved.) The concerts happen light rain or shine, but in case of a bad weather cancellation, we'll announce it on our Facebook page and let the local television stations know.

See you at the Zoo!



Photo credit: Heidi Stukkie

August 5: Michelle Covington and Company

Michelle Covington and Company will perform "all things jazz" — a mix of jazz standards, with a few twists. Vocal stylist Michelle Covington sings with Robert Pace on bass, John Gist on sax, JR Simmons on piano, Benny Keys on drums, and Walt Gutowski on lead guitar.

August 12: Grand Rapids Jazz Orchestra with Edye Evans Hyde

Closing out our 2013 Jazz at the Zoo concert season is the Grand Rapids Jazz Orchestra with guest vocalist Edye Evans Hyde. Led by Bob Nixon, GRJO is one of



West Michigan's premiere big band jazz ensembles and for more than 35 years, they've been entertaining audiences with swinging originals and traditional jazz favorites.

Photo credit: Heidi Stukkie This concert is generously sponsored by MapleCreek.



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Photo credit: Heidi Stukkie

Hello!

While the West Michigan Jazz Society is busy planning our fall/winter concerts and our holiday party, we still have two more Jazz at the Zoo concerts. And what an enjoyable summer concert series it's been! We are always thrilled to see the Zoo grounds packed with jazz fans each week.

We are also grateful for the generous donations we receive every week. Jazz at the Zoo has always been free so that everyone can attend, but since we pay the Zoo, the bands, and Kurt Ehinger (our sound man extraordinaire), it's nice when our costs are covered. If you're one of the people who pitched in this summer, THANK YOU! We appreciate you.

In our next issue, we'll share the dates and bands for our fall/winter series, which starts in October, and announce the date for our annual holiday party. Stay tuned — we think you'll like the lineup.

Jazz is alive and kicking in West Michigan and we are happy to be a part of it. Thank you for supporting WMJS and live jazz. Be sure to become a fan of ours on Facebook, too.

> Heidi Stukkie, Jazz Notes Editor





The 2013 Musician of the Year Banquet Honoring Randy Marsh

Written by Heidi Stukkie

The sheer amount of musical talent present at the B.O.B. on the evening of July 2 impressed every one of the 100 or so guests in attendance. Most of us will remember this night and its unforgettable musical performances for many years to come.

Each year, the West Michigan Jazz Society selects an exemplary musician who demonstrates talent and skill, while helping to promote jazz in our region. For 2013, we chose percussionist and harmonica player, Randy Marsh.

Marsh selected the band to play at the banquet honoring him, beginning with his 85-year-old father, legendary saxophonist Arno Marsh. He then chose five other incredible musicians to round out the band – Dr. Paul Brewer on trombone, Tim Froncek on drums, Paul Keller on bass, Chris Lawrence on trumpet, and Terry Lower on keyboard. And that was only the beginning.

Throughout the evening, many of Michigan's most gifted musicians joined in for a song or two. Vocalists Mary





Rademacher Reed and Libby York each sang a few songs, and musicians such as Elgin Vines, Greg Sergo, Tom Stansell, Dick Reynolds, Mark Kahny, Tom Lockwood, and more grabbed their instrument of choice and played as well. (I'm sure I'm missing quite a few names, but I had too much fun that night to take any notes; my apologies.)

Kurt Ehinger handled the sound system for the event and all night, we heard countless compliments about how superb the music sounded, from every corner of the room. Not only does Ehinger "know his stuff," he generously donated his fee to our jazz student scholarship fund. (Thank you, Kurt!)

Marsh — who wore a giant smile all evening — received an award recognizing him as the Musician of the Year, a poster of the Jazz Notes article written about him, and he and his father were given lifetime memberships in the West Michigan Jazz Society.

All in all, the banquet was a remarkable evening of outstanding music and fun. Congratulations again, Randy!

Thank you to Christopher Wilson for taking these photos.











July 1: The Ides of Marsh

Written by Stephen M. Paulsen

This special evening paid tribute to Arno Marsh, the father of the 2013 WMJS Musician of the Year, Randy Marsh. Arno turned 85 this year and during the course of the concert, spoke about the turns of his career during that time.

He spoke fondly of his time touring with some of the big band era giants: Woody Herman, Stan Kenton, Buddy Rich, and others. Arno went on to tell of his time settling in to the Las Vegas scene where he has played in, or led, several of the bands that used to reside in the hotels.

This "Ides of Marsh" quintet had only been together for a week even though they all know each other and had played together previously. Prior to the Jazz at the Zoo event, they played up north for several nights as part of the annual World Class Jazz tour.

The band kicked off the first set with "Centerpiece" as the opener, then transitioned easily into the Ellington classic, "In A Mellow Tone." Next, Dr. Paul Brewer treated the audience to his vocal rendition of "These Foolish Things (Remind Me Of You)." Afterward, Dr. Robin Connell sang a bright and clear version of "So Many Stars."

Late in the first set and into the second set, the band showed off their versatility by attacking standards such as



Photo credit: Dianne Carroll Burdick

Gershwin's "Summertime" with new fresh interpretations, and also brought lesser known tunes to bear with grace and talent.

During the second set, a student of Randy Marsh's, Madison George, sat in on the trap set for Sonny Rollins' standard "Doxy" in B-flat. Next, Marsh's friend, Paul Smith, sat in for "Running at the Mouth," an original piece by Randy Marsh, dedicated to and written for his father Arno.

Judging by the crowd and the playful fun the band had together that night, the "Ides of Marsh" concert was a true success.



July 8: The Fred Knapp Quartet

Written by Noelle Frost

Jazz at the Zoo sound man and emcee, Kurt Ehinger, began the concert on July 8 by commenting about the nice weather, despite earlier threats of rain — "Proving once again, Mother Nature is a jazz fan."

Right from the start, The Fred Knapp Quartet took us all away from any potential weather woes to a great night of live jazz. The bandleader, local Grand Rapids drummer Fred Knapp, pulled in his two favorite trio players, Dave Proulx on keyboard and vocals and Dave Rosin on acoustic bass. This trio has played together consistently for over 10 years and it was immediately noticeable how much they enjoy their camaraderie.



Photo credit: Bruce Robey

Add to that mix Chicago transplant, sax player Mike Frost, and the band brought an especially diverse night of full band playing and wonderful improv solos. The toetapping opener was an original with no official name, but "affectionately referred to as 'Dave's Bounce'" according to the bandleader.

Proulx, in town for this performance from his new digs in North Texas, showed why his vocals are so popular when he deftly played and sang "I Get A Kick Outta You," followed by the lovely "So Danco Samba" featuring Frost on a festive solo. Next, a Count Basie tune was amazingly introduced with bass and sax bantering between each other before the full band kicked in.

The Beatles classic "Blackbird" was then beautifully arranged and played by Proulx. "Straighten Up And Fly Right" and the Hank Mobley tune "This I Dig Of You" followed, the latter featuring the first drum solo of the evening by Knapp. A "quiet pin-drop moment" came over the crowd as the band played a stunning version of Oscar Peterson's "Love Ballade," which featured some amazing bow work by Rosin.

Favorites "Witchcraft" and "Honeysuckle Rose" rounded out the first set. "All the Things You Are," "Just Squeeze Me," "Sway," and "Cheek to Cheek" kicked off the second set with lots of Proulx's delightful vocals. A contemporary touch was given to the Monk fave "Round Midnight." Nat King Cole's popular "Sweet Lorraine" was next.

Afterward, Frost shared a story with the audience of his "jazz cat" Dexter. A hip tune inspired by him called

"Vicious Dex-a-lic-ous" followed to the crowd's delight. Ending the night, the classic "Stompin' at the Savoy" brought the appreciative crowd to its feet, earning the quartet a standing ovation.

July 15: The Evan Hyde Group

Written by Andy Szumowski and Jason Lester

The sound hot sand makes, when you slowly pour five gallons of it onto a cold linoleum floor — that's what Evan Hyde's smooth, sizzling cymbals sounded like. Then, suddenly, the rest of the kit came rushing in like the roar of a powerful waterfall.

Hyde's masterful smith work on the drum set enveloped the dense mugginess of the John Ball Zoo Band Shell the night of July 15. The humidity seemed to like the sound, and gave way to flourishes of something close to a breeze. Hyde's explosive Kalashnikov rim clicks and deep Los Angeles bass drum vibed up the patio rockers and fold-up rollers on a deft, hip-ly stoic take of Kurt Rosenwinkel's "Survival."

"Moonlight in Vermont" seemed to drift the crowd away on a downy daydream carpet ride. The toe tapping rhythms by guitarist Matt Landon and bassist Jordan Richards had everyone grooving in the tropical heat. Pianist Keaton Royer, traded in his ivory for a funkier, chunkier vintage Fender Rhodes electric piano tone as he keyed in his focused dynamic comping on his elusive musical target: trumpeter Chris Lawrence.

Lawrence leapt leopard-like into long lavish lines, while Landon's groove oriented comping ducked deceptively around Royer's Rhodes. Jordan Richards held down trancelike grooves built around Hyde's bottomless pocket. While some consider the potential conflicts of carrying both keys and guitar in a rhythm section a risk, Hyde gambled and won as these young rising stars weaved an intricate soundscape tapestry.

There was an ominous sense that the band was just burgeoning on the precipice of their true sonic identity when the skies opened up in protest and doused the crowd with relentless raindrops as colossal as Sonny Rollins' saxophone sound on "Sonnymoon for Two," another fine tune the quintet managed to squeeze in before the squall. Sometimes it pours, but this night, Evan Hyde and company undoubtedly reigned.



Photo credit: Bruce Robey

AUGUST 2013 Live Jazz Calendar

THURSDAY, August 1

- Mark Kahny on piano at the Lumber Baron Bar, Amway Grand Plaza, 5:30-8:30 pm
- Kathy Lamar and friends at the Lowell Showboat, 7-9 pm
- World Class Jazz tour with The Planet D Nonet at the Rotary Arts Pavilion in Cadillac, 7-9:15 pm

FRIDAY, August 2

- Libby York with Mark Kahny at Restaurant Toulouse in Saugatuck, 7-10 pm
- John Shea Trio at Zing in Saugatuck, 7-10:30 pm
- World Class Jazz Tour with The Planet D Nonet at Rambadt Park in Reed City, 7-9:15 pm
- Robin Connell at the Traverse City Film Festival, Milliken Auditorium, 6 & 9 pm
- Lansing JazzFest jazzlansing.com, 4:30 pm-12:30 am

SATURDAY, August 3

- Lansing JazzFest jazzlansing.com, 1 pm-12:30 am
- Dave Rosin Quartet (w/ Terry Lower, Fred Knapp, Chris Lawrence), Lansing JazzFest, 4-5:30 pm
- Paschke Trio at LaFontsee Gallery in Douglas, 6-8 pm
- Robin Connell Jazz Trio at Cambria Suites, Traverse City, 7-9 pm
- Diana VandeWater with Steve Talaga at Restaurant Toulouse in Saugatuck, 7-10 pm
- Edye Evans Hyde at the What Not Inn in Fennville, 7-11 pm
- World Class Jazz Tour with The Planet D Nonet at Wenger Pavilion in Baldwin, 7-9:15 pm
- John Shea Trio at the JW Marriott, 7-10 pm

SUNDAY, August 4

- Jordan VanHemert Trio at Boatwerks in Holland, 4-7 pm
- John Shea Trio at New Holland Brewing Co., 5-8 pm
- Grand Rapids Jazz Orchestra at Founders Brewing Co., 5:30-7:30 pm
- Randy Marsh's Jazz Jam at SpeakEZ Lounge, 7-10 pm
- World Class Jazz Tour with The Planet D Nonet at Gull Landing in Pentwater, 7-11 pm

MONDAY, August 5

- JAZZ AT THE ZOO! Vocalist Michelle Covington with Robert Pace on bass, John Gist on sax, JR Simmons on piano, Benny Keys on drums, and Walt Gutowski on lead guitar, 6:30-8:30 pm
- Jazz Jam at the What Not Inn in Fennville, 6-10 pm
- Brad Fritcher + trois at the Skeetown Tavern in Muskegon, 6-10 pm
- John Shea Trio at Republic, 8-11 pm

TUESDAY, August 6

- Preservation Lounge Jazz at Billy's, 7-11 pm
- World Class Jazz Tour with Jeannie Lambert and Russ Philipps with the Steve Sandner Band at the Douglas Park First Street Beach Gazebo in Manistee, 7-9:15 pm
- Michael Drost's Jam Session at The Grand in Grand Haven, 8-10:30 pm
- Chris Lawrence and Friends Jazz Jam Session at the Winchester, 9 pm-12 am

WEDNESDAY, August 7

- Tom Hagen Trio with Rick Reuther at Noto's, 6:30 pm
- World Class Jazz Tour with Jeannie Lambert and Russ Philipps with the Steve Sandner Band at Gull Landing in Pentwater, 7-11 pm
- Boogie Woogie Babies at the Kentwood Summer Concert Series (Kentwood Library), 7:30-9 pm

THURSDAY, August 8

- Robin Connell on piano at the Lumber Baron Bar, Amway Grand Plaza, 5:30-8:30 pm
- World Class Jazz Tour with Jeannie Lambert and Russ Philipps with the Steve Sandner Band at the Rotary Arts Pavilion in Cadillac, 7-9:15 pm

FRIDAY, August 9

- Libby York with Dave Hay at Restaurant Toulouse in Saugatuck, 7-10 pm
- John Shea Trio at Zing in Saugatuck, 7-10:30 pm
- World Class Jazz Tour with Jeannie Lambert and Russ Philipps with the Steve Sandner Band at Rambadt Park in Reed City, 7-9:15 pm
- Blue Lake's Summer Arts Festival Big Band Jazz at Stewart Band Shell, 7:30 pm
- Robin Connell Jazz Quartet at LeLu Café in Northport, 9-11 pm

SATURDAY, August 10

- TrioJazz at Grill One Eleven, 6:30 pm
- World Class Jazz Tour with Jeannie Lambert and Russ Philipps with the Steve Sandner Band at Wenger Pavilion in Baldwin, 7-9:15 pm
- John Shea Trio at the JW Marriott, 7-10 pm
- Blue Lake's Summer Arts Festival Big Band Jazz at Stewart Band Shell, 7:30 pm

SUNDAY, August 11

- Jordan VanHemert Trio at Boatwerks in Holland, 4-7 pm
- World Class Jazz Tour with Jeannie Lambert and Russ Philipps with the Steve Sandner Band at Gull Landing in Pentwater, 7-11 pm
- John Shea Trio at SpeakEZ Lounge, 7-10 pm

MONDAY, August 12

- JAZZ AT THE ZOO! Grand Rapids Jazz Orchestra with vocalist Edye Evans Hyde, 6:30-8:30 pm
- Jazz Jam at the What Not Inn in Fennville, 6-10 pm
- Brad Fritcher + trois at the Skeetown Tavern in Muskegon, 6-10 pm
- John Gist at Circle Theatre (\$17), 7-10 pm
- John Shea Trio at Republic, 8-11 pm

TUESDAY, August 13

- Robin Connell opens for the Grand Rapids Jazz Orchestra at the Meijer Gardens (free with admission), 7 pm
- Preservation Lounge Jazz at Billy's, 7-11 pm
- Brad Fritcher + trois at the Montague Band Shell, 7 pm
- World Class Jazz Tour with The Bill Heid Trio featuring Perry Hughes at the Douglas Park First Street Beach Gazebo in Manistee, 7-9:15 pm
- Michael Drost's Jam Session at The Grand in Grand Haven, 8-10:30 pm
- Chris Lawrence and Friends Jazz Jam Session at the Winchester, 9 pm-12 am

WEDNESDAY, August 14

- Tom Hagen Trio with Rick Reuther at Noto's, 6:30 pm
- World Class Jazz Tour with The Bill Heid Trio featuring Perry Hughes at Gull Landing in Pentwater, 7-11 pm

THURSDAY, August 15

- Robin Connell on piano at the Lumber Baron Bar, Amway Grand Plaza, 5:30-8:30 pm
- World Class Jazz Tour with The Bill Heid Trio featuring Perry Hughes at the Rotary Arts Pavilion in Cadillac, 7-9:15 pm

FRIDAY, August 16

- Randy Marsh/Ron Getz Trio at GRAM on the Green, 6:15 pm
- Libby York with Mark Kahny at Restaurant Toulouse in Saugatuck, 7-10 pm
- John Shea Trio at Zing in Saugatuck, 7-10:30 pm
- Kathy Lamar and friends at Malarky's, 7-10 pm
- World Class Jazz Tour with The Bill Heid Trio featuring Perry Hughes at Rambadt Park in Reed City, 7-9:15 pm
- John Gist at SpeakEZ Lounge, 8-11 pm
- Jordan VanHemert Trio at Our Brewing Company in Holland, 8-11 pm
- Grupo Aye at the Paella in the Park Festival in Traverse City, 9 pm

SATURDAY, August 17

- GRandJazzFest at Rosa Parks Circle, downtown Grand Rapids, 12-10 pm
- Libby York with Carlos Melendez at Mangiamo, 7-10 pm
- John Shea Trio at the JW Marriott, 7-10 pm

SATURDAY, August 17 (continued)

- World Class Jazz Tour with The Bill Heid Trio featuring Perry Hughes at Gull Landing in at Wenger Pavilion in Baldwin, 7-9:15 pm
- Mark Kahny Trio at the What Not Inn in Fennville, 7-11 pm
- Brad Fritcher + trois at the Book Nook and Java Shop, 7:30-9:30 pm
- Grupo Aye at the Paella in the Park Festival in Traverse City, 9 pm

SUNDAY, August 18

- GRandJazzFest at Rosa Parks Circle, downtown Grand Rapids, 12-7 pm
- Jordan VanHemert Trio at Boatwerks in Holland, 4-7 pm
- John Shea Trio at New Holland Brewing Co., 5-8 pm
- Randy Marsh's Jazz Jam at SpeakEZ Lounge, 7-10 pm
- World Class Jazz Tour with The Bill Heid Trio featuring Perry Hughes at Gull Landing, Pentwater, 7-11 pm

MONDAY, August 19

- Jazz Jam at the What Not Inn in Fennville, 6-10 pm
- Brad Fritcher + trois at the Skeetown Tavern in Muskegon, 6-10 pm
- John Shea Trio at Republic, 8-11 pm

TUESDAY, August 20

- Preservation Lounge Jazz at Billy's, 7-11 pm
- World Class Jazz Tour with Mary Rademacher Reed with the Mark Kahny Band at the Douglas Park First Street Beach Gazebo in Manistee, 7-9:15 pm
- Michael Drost's Jam Session at The Grand in Grand Haven, 8-10:30 pm
- Chris Lawrence and Friends Jazz Jam Session at the Winchester, 9 pm-12 am

WEDNESDAY, August 21

- Tom Hagen Trio with Rick Reuther at Noto's, 6:30 pm
- World Class Jazz Tour with Mary Rademacher Reed with the Mark Kahny Band at Gull Landing in Pentwater, 7-11 pm
- Kathy Lamar and Jimmie Stagger at SpeakEZ Lounge, 8:30-11 pm

THURSDAY, August 22

- Robin Connell on piano at the Lumber Baron Bar, Amway Grand Plaza, 5:30-8:30 pm
- World Class Jazz Tour with Mary Rademacher Reed with the Mark Kahny Band at the Rotary Arts Pavilion in Cadillac, 7-9:15 pm

FRIDAY, August 23

- Libby York with Jeff Kressler at Restaurant Toulouse in Saugatuck, 7-10 pm
- John Shea Trio at Zing in Saugatuck, 7-10:30 pm
- World Class Jazz Tour with Mary Rademacher Reed with the Mark Kahny Band at Rambadt Park in Reed City, 7-9:15 pm

SATURDAY, August 24

- John Gist at Saugatuck Brewing Co., 6:30-9:30 pm
- World Class Jazz Tour with Mary Rademacher Reed with the Mark Kahny Band at Wenger Pavilion in Baldwin, 7-9:15 pm
- Diana VandeWater with Steve Talaga at Restaurant Toulouse in Saugatuck, 7-10 pm
- Gayle Kolb at the What Not Inn in Fennville, 7-11 pm
- John Shea Trio at the JW Marriott, 7-10 pm

SUNDAY, August 25

- Jordan VanHemert Trio at Boatwerks in Holland, 4-7 pm
- John Shea Trio at New Holland Brewing Co., 5-8 pm
- Mary Rademacher Reed with Tom & Cherie Hagen at the What Not Inn in Fennville, 6-10 pm
- Randy Marsh's Jazz Jam at SpeakEZ Lounge, 7-10 pm
- World Class Jazz Tour with the Mark Kahny Band at Gull Landing in Pentwater, 7-11 pm

8 🎜 Jazz Notes

MONDAY, August 26

- Jazz Jam at the What Not Inn in Fennville, 6-10 pm
- Brad Fritcher + trois at the Skeetown Tavern in Muskegon, 6-10 pm
- John Shea Trio at Republic, 8-11 pm

TUESDAY, August 27

- Preservation Lounge Jazz at Billy's, 7-11 pm
- Michael Drost's Jam Session at The Grand in Grand Haven, 8-10:30 pm
- Chris Lawrence and Friends Jazz Jam Session at the Winchester, 9 pm-12 am

WEDNESDAY, August 28

• Tom Hagen Trio with Rick Reuther at Noto's, 6:30 pm

THURSDAY, August 29

- Robin Connell on piano at the Lumber Baron Bar, Amway Grand Plaza, 5:30-8:30 pm
- Libby York with Jeff Kressler at Mangiamo, 7-10 pm

FRIDAY, August 30

- Libby York with Jeff Kressler at Restaurant Toulouse in Saugatuck, 7-10 pm
- John Shea Trio at Zing in Saugatuck, 7-10:30 pm

SATURDAY, August 31

- World Class Jazz Tour with the General Assembly Big Band at Wenger Pavilion in Baldwin, 7-9:15 pm
- Diana VandeWater with Steve Talaga at Restaurant Toulouse in Saugatuck, 7-10 pm
- Robin Connell and Paul Brewer at Bluewater Grill, 7-10 pm
- Mark Kahny Trio at the What Not Inn in Fennville, 7-11 pm
- John Shea Trio at the JW Marriott, 7:30-10:30 pm
- *** As schedules often change, please confirm with the venue or musician before heading out to one of these shows. We will also post updates on our Facebook page.

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GRandJazzFest August 17 & 18

GRandJazzFest is back again for its second year and this time, it happens over two full days at Rosa Parks Circle in downtown Grand Rapids. The event is free and open to everyone so grab your sunglasses, lawn chair, and dancing shoes and enjoy some live jazz!

Saturday, August 17, 2013 • Noon - 10 p.m.

12:30 p.m.	Grand Rapids Jazz Orchestra with
	Edye Evans Hyde
2:00 p.m.	The Paul Keller AT SUNDOWN Quintet
3:30 p.m.	Sheila Landis & Brazilian Love Affair
5:00 p.m.	The Kinsey Report
6:30 p.m.	Deon Yates
8:00 p.m.	Nick Colionne

Sunday, August 18, 2013 • Noon - 7 p.m.

12:00 p.m.	Jazz Students Jam Session
1:30 p.m.	Randy Marsh Organ Trio
3:00 p.m.	Mind's Eye
4:30 p.m.	Edye Evans Hyde
6:00 p.m.	Phil Denny



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August 2013

Jazz Notes is the newsletter for members of the West Michigan Jazz Society. We appreciate your support and please know that any contributions made to our nonprofit organization are tax deductible.

If you would like to submit your event to our calendar listing, please email update to WMJSJazzNotes@gmail. com by the 15th of the month. Ideas and suggestions for future newsletters may be sent to this address as well.

West Michigan Jazz Society Board of Directors

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* Please note: there will not be a public board meeting in August.

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