



077 BEAT

January 2026

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Our January Show
“Grand Celebration”
50th Anniversary Year
SLO High School Band opening
for Monte Mills & the Lucky
Horseshoe Band at the
Pismo Vets Hall

by Rhonda Cardinal

Two legendary forces of the California Central Coast music scene are coming together to mark a historic milestone. In a rare alignment of musical legacies, both the Basin Street Regulars (BSR) and Monte Mills & The Lucky Horseshoe Band are celebrating their 50th Anniversary in 2026. To kick off this landmark year, a "Grand Celebration" will be held on Sunday, January 25, 2026, at the Pismo Beach Veterans Memorial Building, and the entire community is invited to join the festivities.

There will be a jam session starting at 11:00 a.m. Bring your instrument and join in. Jammers pay \$5.00 and must sign in at the door. The San Luis Obispo High School Honors Band will be opening the show after the jam session.

Admission is now \$10 members, \$15 Non-members. Buy memberships at the show and receive an immediate ticket discount!! Food and drinks and a BIG WOODEN DANCE FLOOR are available.

Tickets available now online at: <https://www.my805tix.com/e/jazzconcert-basinstreetregulars-montemills>

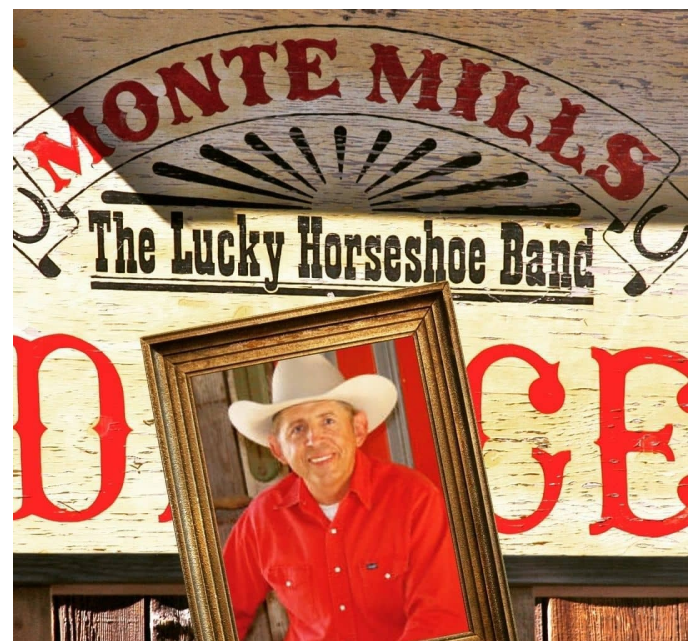
Featured Band - Monte Mills & the Lucky Horseshoe Band

Celebrating 50 Years
Monte Mills & the Lucky Horseshoe
Band 1976 to 2026

The year 2026 marks a monumental milestone, 50 years of unforgettable music, high-energy performances, and community spirit from Monte Mills and his Lucky Horseshoe Band. What began as a passion for classic country, Western swing and unforgettable rock and roll, has grown into a legacy that spans generations and continues to bring joy across California and beyond.

Over the past five decades, Monte and his talented band have graced stages big and small—from Valentine's Day weddings in Hawaii to sharing the spotlight with legends like Merle Haggard, Ronald Reagan, Kenny Rogers, Blake Shelton, and even PINK. Their ability to blend classic country, Western swing, rock 'n' roll, and even Big Band standards has made them a fan favorite at formal concerts, open air concert venues, weddings, rodeos, fundraisers, political rallies, and everything in between.

Their sound is timeless. While today's airwaves may echo with the new, Monte's



band continues to honor the greats—Merle Haggard, Johnny Cash, Bob Wills, Patsy Cline, and Hank Williams—keeping those classics alive for both old fans and new ears. They have entertained crowds at the Nevada/California Cattlemen’s Convention, Mule Days in Bishop (25 years), and Parkfield Rodeo (24 years) and were voted Best Band on the Central Coast five years running by New Times SLO. They held a 27-year run at McLintock’s Saloon in San Luis Obispo

Legacy Built on Music and Community: Monte Mills & the Lucky Horseshoe Band aren’t just musicians—they’re storytellers, tradition-keepers, and friends of the people. From barn dances to weddings, to fund raisers to concert appearances, the journey has been one of dedication, joy, and an unwavering love for music that brings people together.

The band will be a 7 piece that day. Musicians include:
 Monte Mills: lead vocals & rhythm guitar
 Glen Rathbone: vocals , rhythm & lead guitar
 Dorian Michael: Lead guitar
 Julie Beaver: Vocals & fiddle
 Gary Steinman: Vocals & Bass
 Eric Stever: Saxophone & Piano
 Art Dougall: Drums

Opening Band: San Luis Obispo High School Honors Band



Our opening band is the SLO HS Honors Jazz Band. This will be the third time this 17-piece band has played for us. They have a comprehensive music program and is SLO County’s largest band program with approximately 100 students involved each year. The impressive array of curricular and co-curricular ensembles is organized in a logical sequence of instruction, which helps each student develop his or her talent and ability while maintaining the highest standards of performance. Each of their performing ensembles and related groups has received superior ratings at festivals and competitions in all areas of band performance, i.e. concert band, jazz ensemble, and marching band. Their reputation for quality music performances is second only to the reputation enjoyed for the outstanding quality of young adults who pass through this ensemble.

The SLO HS Honors Jazz Band is an audition only group that features the top players in the school. This group goes to several festivals and clinics throughout the year. They also perform for the school and throughout the community.

Schedule for Sunday Jan. 25

(Subject to Change)

- 11:00 - 12:15- Jam Session**
- 12:30 - 1:30 – SLO HS Honors Band**
- 12:30 - 1:45 - change stage**
- 1:45 - 2:45 – Monte Mills & the Lucky Horseshoe Band**
- 2:45 - 3:00 - Break**
- 3:00 - 4:00 - Monte Mills & the Lucky Horseshoe Band**



Please LIKE our Facebook pages! We have three: Basin Street Regulars, Pismo Jazz Jubilee and Rhonda BSR Cardinal. Subscribe to our YouTube channel—Basin Street Regulars.

On Instagram we are #basinstreetregulars! Don’t miss out on photos and videos from our Sunday Sessions and from the Jazz Jubilee By the Sea.



Prez Says

It is the start of a new year and we have some great things for you in store for 2026. This year, we are celebrating 50 years since the formation of the Basin Street Regulars. You can look forward to articles and clips from old newsletters highlighting the history of our storied organization and its founding members. Internationally famed artist Priscilla Wilson will be creating a commemorative logo for us.

Our club was founded in 1976 through the efforts of K.O, Ecklund along with other dedicated enthusiasts. K.O. is also the artist who drew the original Jazzper, which Priscilla has faithfully recreated for us for updated logos and artwork. Below is K.O. Ecklund's obituary. As you can see, he was a real Renaissance Man and a Force Me Jure.

K.O. Eckland, 83, passed away Monday, May 4, 2009, at his home in Paradise, Calif. K.O. was born in Cleveland, Ohio, and grew up in Berkeley, Calif. While in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II, he met his future wife, Lucille Callison, a USO girl, in Spokane, Wash. They lived in Shell Beach for a few years where K.O. was a freelance commercial artist, then they moved to Los Angeles where he became a commercial artist for the Los Angeles Times. In 1976, K.O. returned to Pismo Beach, where he contributed articles to the Telegram-Tribune. He became active in the local traditional jazz community and helped establish the annual Pismo Beach Jazz Festival "Jubilee by the Sea," as well as produced the monthly jazz newsletter, Offbeat for the Central Coast Hot Jazz Society, also known as the Basin Street Regulars. K.O. Eckland left behind a large body of work - a favorite part of which was the Aerofiles.com website, as his greatest love was flying airplanes. He illustrated Richard Bach's book "A Gift of Wings," and contributed articles to aviation magazines over the years. K.O. was proud to be a member of the San

Luis Obispo Sheriff's Aero Squadron and had been active with the Paso Robles Estrella Warbird Museum. K.O.'s second greatest love was traditional jazz. After hearing Turk Murphy at Earthquake McGoon's in San Francisco and Lu Watters' Yerba Buena Jazz Band in Berkeley after the War, he wanted to play jazz piano. He played piano in several bands over the years, notably the Firehouse Five Plus 2, the Desolation Jazz Ensemble & Mess Kit Repair Battalion and the Pismo Experimental Jazz Band. K.O. produced two compendiums of jazz bands and musicians, Jazz West and Jazz West 2. He enjoyed writing tunes which have been recorded by contemporary traditional jazz bands. K.O. had moved to Paradise in 2004 to be close to family members, where he also shared the remainder of his life with Waldo, the cat. K.O. leaves his children Daniel and his wife Faye Eckland, who have adopted Waldo, Nancy Berkley and Taina Eckland; ex-wife, Lucille Eckland; and two grandsons Ryan and Beau Berkley. A memorial (took) place at the Pismo Beach "Jubilee by the Sea" in October 2009.

Rhonda Cardinal, President, Basin Street Regulars
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January Will be a Dry Month

We will not be running the bar in January. Non-alcoholic beverages and coffee will be available for sale through Burgers N More, who will also be providing our food that day. Please take whatever precautions are necessary to get you through the day.

Help Support Livestream or Videotaping (even if you watch later):

Donate on-line at:
<https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/basinstreetregulars>
 or you can mail a check directly to:
 Basin Street Regulars
 P.O. Box 356, Pismo Beach, CA, 93448



Paul Ingle

It is with great sadness that I learned of Paul Ingle's passing.

Paul Ingle first visited our festival in 2018 at the urging of John and Linda Shorb, who had encountered his warm personality at another Festival (possibly Fresno). We brought him in as a guest artist, and he immediately became very popular with all of the people he encountered here, including the Site Captains and volunteers.

He didn't want to just appear as a musician, he wanted to participate, and helped out wherever he could in whatever capacity. He did not charge us for his sets and he stayed with friends when he got here. He just wanted to BE HERE. He played at the Jubilee jam sessions, along with singer Ginger Pauley, whom we had never seen before. We brought her to BSR for a Sunday session sometime later and Paul came out to play in her band.

In 2019, we took it one step further and he put together a band called, "The Australian Jazz Connection", comprised of Paul and other Australians currently living in the U.S. Adrian Cunningham, himself an Aussie, guested on some of those sets. The band was well received, everyone had a blast.

Through the Covid years, Paul stayed in touch, checking in with his BSR friends. Anyone traveling to Australia was welcome in his house and a few of us took him up on it. Jeff and I never made it, unfortunately.

In 2023, Paul came out for our January



festival, bringing his teenage grandson with him. He was taking him on a tour of the U.S, including Jazz Jubilee by the Sea. They came out a few days early, and we put them to work on the set-up crew. Paul even ran sound for one set when we were in a bind. He performed as a guest artist on several sets. When the festival was over, they stayed for the breakdown. He and his grandson came to the Edgewater, where Jeff and I were breaking down Jeff's equipment and loading it in the truck. Paul helped carry everything to the elevator. Later, we all went out to dinner.

He visited us again in June of 2024 to play with Ginger Pauley & the Hoosier Daddies. He brought his grandson with him again. He played with us in the jam sets. After the show, he came to dinner at my house with all of our BSR friends and witnessed a rocket launch while there. He said he had an amazing time. He left the following day. That was the last time I saw him.

I am greatly saddened by his death because he was a true friend and jazz enthusiast. He loved music and sailing. He only recently retired and was able to pursue both of his passions full time. He will be missed by all that knew him.

Rhonda Cardinal

Video Recordings are Now Available:

Recordings are now available from our past BSR and Jubilee shows. The most recent shows uploaded are the Decomposing Brass Quintet and the BSR Jam Session featuring students from Orcutt Academy High School on June 29th. To view these, go to our website, <http://basinstreetregulars.com/> and scroll down until you see the link for the BasinStreetRegulars YouTube Channel. Or go directly to: <https://www.youtube.com/user/BasinStreetRegulars/>. You can also see it on our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/BasinStreetRegulars> and look under videos. And while you're at it, check out all of our videos, starting with the most recently uploaded.

MEMBERSHIP

We finished off the year in 2025 with **277** members, and **66** of them were Silver members. For those of you who have paid your dues, I thank you. If you have not paid your dues, we sent out an email notice to you. The sooner you pay, the easier it is on me and our door greeters. A big thank you goes out to Juliann Hemphill for helping with the notices. We could also use more volunteer helpers at the door. Please contact me if you are interested.

We currently have 92 Members, 31 of them are Silver Members. If you have any questions about membership or need to change your address, phone, or email, please reach out to me. I can be reached at 805-937-2419 or shamrockshonda59@gmail.com

shamrockshonda59@gmail.com

Thank you, Shonda Croly, Membership

Membership Rates: **Student** \$20, **Single** \$35, **Couple** \$60 (these memberships pay \$5 to get into the Sunday sessions), **Silver** \$150 (per person, you get into Sunday Sessions and the BBQ for free!)

2026 Silver Members

Alice Addison
Jim Borland
Paul Busciano
Eric & Shonda Croly
Linda Dutart
Judy & Pete Felthousen

Flemming Frederiksen
Marvin Gross
Ricard Harvey
Jack Macek
Sharon McCarthy
Gary Parkinson

Sue Prior
Nancy Ragsdale
Bill & Carol Reid
Bill & Carol Rust
Alan Sutterfield
LaDean Talcott

Jim & Cathy Trask
Craig Updegrove
Jason Vork & Vicki Pobor
Myra Wapner
Kathy Waxman

Linda & Priscilla Wilson

In the Wings - February show in March!

Feature Band- The Count Basie Orchestra at the Clark Center



For our next show, we will be at the Clark Center for the Performing Arts in Arroyo Grande. The date will be **Sunday March 1st**. (in lieu of February 22) The address is 487 Fair Oaks Avenue in Arroyo Grande. This is an afternoon show, starting at 3:00 p.m. BSR members get a 20% discount on all tickets. Look for an e-mail with the special discount code. Tickets now available at: <https://clarkcenter.org/shows/count-basie-orchestra/>

Winner of 18 Grammy Awards, the **Basie Orchestra** has performed at every major jazz festival and concert hall, swinging with unmatched energy, style, and soul. Among recent honors are a 2024 Grammy for Best Large Jazz Ensemble and the 2018 Downbeat Readers Poll Award as the #1 Jazz Orchestra in the world. For their 90th Anniversary Tour, jazz royalty Nnenna Freelon (a 7-time Grammy Award nominee) is featured guest vocalist, bringing her luminous voice and commanding presence to this powerhouse performance. From classic hits to modern interpretations, the Basie band honors its rich legacy while keeping the music fresh, alive, and full of joy.

During her career, Nneena Freelon has performed at The White House, headlined the Asia Pacific Economic Summit for three hundred Presidents and Heads of States, toured the United States as a spokesperson for the National Association of Partners in Education, and starred in the show Georgia on My Mind: Celebrating the Music of Ray Charles. She has toured with Charles and many other jazz greats such as

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Ellis Marsalis, Al Jarreau, George Benson, Earl Klugh, Take 6, and Dianne Reeves. As one of Nnenna's idols, Aretha Franklin, said of Nnenna, "If you're looking for great music and great entertainment, look no further than Nnenna Freelon."

Name Badges are Available

If you would like to purchase a BSR name badge, they are now available for \$15, paid in advance. Please see Shonda Croly or one of the other Board members at any Sunday session, give us your name and the payment and we will see that one gets ordered for you.

New Board was Elected

Congratulations to our new BSR Board members, elected at our Sunday session on December 14th, 2025. The new Board will assume their duties on February 1st, 2026.

The new Board is as follows:

PRESIDENT:

Rhonda Cardinal
Retired Environmental Engineer

VICE PRESIDENT:

Jon Mounts
Retired School Music Specialist

SECRETARY:

David Rosso
Retired University Facility Planner

TREASURER:

Rebecca Venturini
Correctional Case Records Analyst

TWO YEAR BOARD MEMBERS:

Shonda Croly Retired Crisis Counselor

Richard Harvey Software Engineer

Robert (Bob) McGhie Retired Physician

Edmund (Ed) Rush
Retired Newspaper Bureau Chief

Hear Jazz on the Central Coast - Stay on the Central Coast!

The Oxford Suites in Arroyo Grande is offering BSR special rates throughout the year. Click on this link to access the discounts:

[https://
reservations.oxfordsuitespismobeach.com/
book/dates-of-stay?](https://reservations.oxfordsuitespismobeach.com/book/dates-of-stay?Adults=x&Children=x&identifier=BSR)

[Adults=x&Children=x&identifier=BSR](https://reservations.oxfordsuitespismobeach.com/book/dates-of-stay?Adults=x&Children=x&identifier=BSR)

If there any problems accessing this special rate, please e-mail Brianna Alvarado at briannaa@oxfordsuites.com

2026 Will Be Dry

The cost for serving alcohol at the Vet's Hall every month is about \$400 and accounts for 40% of the rental fee of \$1050. We do not generate anything close to that income on the bar. We have therefore decided not to operate one in 2026 except for very special occasions such as the Holiday party. We hope that you will take whatever steps are necessary to adjust to this new paradigm.



December 2025 Holiday Party!





Fresno Dixieland Society *presents* Sounds of Mardi Gras 2026

Invited Bands

- Alpha Rhythm Kings / Bob Schulz Frisco Jazz Band
- Cheryl's Vintage Jazz Band
- Dave Bennett, Guest Artist
- Dave Stuckey & The Hot House Gang
- Gino and the Lone Gunmen
- Groovus! / Holland-Coots Quintet
- Okie Weiss and The Zydeco Playboys
- San Lyon - Swing Jazz
- Southern Comfort
- Tom Rigney and Flambeau
- We3 + Friends / CJ Sams' Open Jam Sessions

DoubleTree by Hilton
Feb 12 - 15, 2026
Fresno, CA

Special Events:

- Music & Dancing: Thursday Pre-Party
- Pirate Theme Friday Parade: Shiver Me Timbers
- Swing Dance: Friday Night
- Parasol Grand Parade: Saturday
- Costume & Masquerade Parade: Saturday Night
- Mardi Gras Dance Party: Saturday Night

Dance to more than 75 hrs of Live Music in 4 Dance Venues All Under One Roof

Lindy Hop - Charleston - Balboa - East Coast Swing - Zydeco - Cha Cha
 West Coast Swing - Night Club Two Step - Country Two Step - Rumba - Waltz

FOR MORE INFO: www.fresnodixie.com or Linda 209.534.1924

Basin Street Regulars, Inc.

a.k.a. "The Central Coast Hot Jazz Society"

P.O. Box 356

Pismo Beach, CA 93448

OFF BEAT



Basin Street Regulars Inc. Hot Swingin' Jazz Dance Concerts

(venue and dates subject to change) visit www.basinstreetregulars.com

Guest Pass free Non-Member Admission (1-2 guests/1 time only)

Name: _____

Email: _____

Sponsor: _____

Event: _____

Not valid at the BBQ, Holiday Party or Special Events

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Upcoming Events:

Basin Street Regulars is Turning 50 in 2026! Stay tuned for special events and features to celebrate our storied and unique history.

January 25th: Monty Mills and the Lucky Horseshoe Band, opens with **SLO HS Honors Band**, at the Pismo Vet's Hall

Special Show: March 1st: *BSR is Sponsoring The Count Basie Orchestra at the Clark Center! This will replace our regular February Show. Look for a members only email with a special a BSR discount code for 20% off all tickets to this show.*

March 29th: TBD at the Pismo Beach Veteran's Hall

April 26th: West Coast Gumbo, opens with the **Tevis Ranger Jazz Ensemble** at the Pismo Beach Veteran's Hall