

the HERALD

Entertainment

Get the blues beat at Night Crossing

By BELINDA SNELL
Herald Special

Guess who's coming to town May 13 and 14 in order to make a live appearance at Night Crossing? You guessed it. The Texas Lounge Lizards, having just recently changed their name to Texas so as not to be mistaken for a lounge band, will be bringing their four piece act to Georgetown's dance club for two nights of crazy, fun-filled adventure and wild entertainment.

Texas, a blues oriented band with a reputation for being somewhat different, is made up of Mark Brown and his hard-driving bass and vocals, Danny Colonello on drums, "Little Joe" Pinto singing lead vocals and playing harmonica and Earl "Fingers" Johnson equipped with his blues-drenched, wailing slide guitar and soaring lead vocals.

Texas is a unique assortment of musicians coming from various different musical backgrounds in pursuit of developing a deeper meaning for the word "blues". It was for this reason that Brown (former member of Q.T. Hush), Colonello (formerly with Moxie and Q.T. Hush), Pinto (once a member of Hardtimes), and Johnson (one time guitarist and lead singer for Moxie and King Biscuit Boy) got together approximately three months ago in order to pursue this idea for their new band in depth.

Many of you may remember back about 15 years ago when Canadian rock band Moxie first hit the music scene and was classified, along with Max Webster and Rush, as being one of the biggest and most influential bands to ever come out of Canada in the 1970s.

Earl "Fingers" Johnson, the man who was once responsible for the success of this band which has cut five albums and has performed live at such places as Massey Hall and Maple Leaf Gardens while touring across North America, seems determined to make Texas a band with a name just as reputable.

When Colonello's band opened up for Moxie many years ago at Massey Hall, Colonello got the chance to meet Earl Johnson. Having left

Johnson with a good impression of a drummer with potential, Colonello was asked to join Moxie when the band reformed six years ago. However, despite the fact that there was still large public demand for Moxie's music, the band did not last due to the band's desire to explore the deeper and more darker side of blues music.

Mark Brown and Danny Colonello had played in several different bands over a period of 10 years, including the band well known to Toronto residents, Q.T. Hush. When Brown and Colonello joined together with Earl Johnson in the hopes of forming a hard rocking blues band, Johnson decided to put an ad in the paper in search of another lead vocalist. When "Little Joe" Pinto read the ad, he called up Johnson for an audition.

Pinto, who made his debut at a fairly young age on the Uncle Bobby Show, used to sing for a band called Hardtimes almost three years ago; a band with a good name in the Mississauga, Brampton, Etobicoke and Halton Hills areas. The band liked his style and "Little Joe" was chosen as an official member of their new band Texas.

Texas has already composed six original songs and are currently in the midst of writing many more. The band seems very enthusiastic about doing an E.P. sometime in the near future, but first they are in desperate need of a solid record deal. Where would the band like to be in 10 years? Rather than many pop stars who have set their goals on the cover of the Rolling Stone Magazine, Texas is more concerned with being given the opportunity of showing the masses just what their band is all about.

So no matter what the age, if you're interested in seeing a band with a reputation for being heavily influenced by the works of artists such as Stevie Ray Vaughan, Fabulous Thunderbirds or Johnny Winter, be sure not to miss Texas when they come thundering through our town. Further dates for the El Mocambo and Hot Rocks have not yet been declared.

Choral group started small

By MARY JANE MCGINN
Herald Special

Anna Burke laughed when I questioned her about the early days in the Georgetown Choral Society. "Originally," she said, "we were more like a glee club. Not many of us could read music and it was a fair struggle for some of us to learn quite simple songs."

Anna was one of the 15 original members who responded to an ad in 1970, suggesting the formation of a community choir. The co-founders were Charlie Grimes and Ralph Ursel. Howard Weedmark followed Charlie as director and he, in turn was succeeded by Dale Wood. Over the years the group expanded and now averages between 50 and 60 members.

"We have performed works that in the early days we wouldn't have thought we could possibly do," Anna continued. "This year will probably be our greatest challenge yet. Personally, I feel I have progressed musically through my experience in the choir and I have really enjoyed singing with the group."

Anna's expressions of satisfaction were echoed by Lois Fraser, a newer member of the G.C.S. "It's such a lot of fun," she said. "If you love music and enjoy singing, it's a very worthwhile hobby. The time commitment of a Monday evening each week is not too demanding and that's an important factor for a lot of people."

"I also like the great variety of music we perform, ranging from the Broadway and 'nonsense' numbers of our February light concerts to the more difficult classical works performed with orchestra. Dale is nice to work with. He is a demanding conductor but I think that when expectations are high people try to achieve them."

"This is a friendly group," Lois added, "a lot of nice people, all ages and interests, but with that one thing in common; a love of music. Incidentally, we are always looking for new members and interested people could call me at 877-5545 for information."

When I questioned Joyce Hewson, another original member, about her continued interest, she commented: "I find a certain magnetism about choral singing; you have to listen so carefully while you're singing, hearing the other three or four (or more) parts in your head while you try to blend your own voice, it's total team work. Often we really have to struggle with difficult music. Dale is a talented teacher and finally when it all comes together it's just the greatest feeling to be part of a wonderful sound."

The Georgetown Choral Society will present their annual spring concert Sunday, May 1, 1988 at Holy Cross Church. Tickets are available from choir members or from Oxbow Books, 877-8861.

Legion ladies

By MID BRUNSKI
Herald Special

It is with great sorrow we extend our condolences to Winnie McPherson, whose grandson Jimmy, was killed in a highway accident last weekend.

April 9 will see district darts in Brampton. Your fun day has been changed from April 16 in Brampton to April 6 at 7:30 p.m. in Milton.

We hope you all had a wonderful Easter holiday.



Poor, poor Annie!

Life at the orphanage can be anything but glamorous, but these ragamuffins will be enjoying themselves when they take part in Stewarttown Public School's production of Little Orphan Annie. The role of Annie (unmistakable in her curls) is played by Tara Hamilton. The production will be staged April 12, 13 and 14, at 7:30 p.m. each evening, at the John Elliott Theatre. (Herald photo)

New faces breathe life into Little Theatre

It is always a pleasure to welcome new faces and talents to Georgetown Little Theatre. The diversity of personalities and their distinctive creative gifts is what breathes life into the theatrical body.

GLT is proud to introduce three brand new members in their last production of the season, Exit the Body:

Charlie Gibbs has been involved in high school theatricals, but this will be his first performance with GLT.

Pat Ball and Steve Prevost are GLT's present 'rookies'; not only are they new to GLT, but this will be their first time ever on stage! "Break a leg, folks!" (We don't mean literally, you understand...)

GLT also has Cathy Harris playing her first substantial role for them. Cathy previously played the small part of a policeman in Pack of Lies.

Adele Armstrong has ably expended her creativity on costumes for GLT before, but her role in Exit the Body will mark her debut onstage for them.

Greg Marsh, whose first role was in the award-winning "Lion in Winter", tackles his second performance for GLT in Exit the Body.

Larry Scott is back in the saddle again, too. Larry has enjoyed several bit parts in GLT productions, as well as assisted with props.

In contrast to the new, Exit the Body also includes three "good old vets" of the theatre: Frank McKie, Vera MacDonald and Shirley Scott. Their presence spells high expectations of excellence in performance.

Ron Hunt, whose talents are incredibly versatile and intuitive, will

be directing this comedy mystery. That means 'never a dull moment'!

The producer? Well... three guesses. He's been involved in practically everything at GLT, from set-building to props to acting to - shall we say it? - 'mental hygienic tasks.' Although this is his first time producing a show, his efficiency and experience guarantee a job well done.

We are referring, of course, to none other than David Clifton.

Tickets to see Exit the Body can be obtained in person at Royal LePage Real Estate Ltd., between office hours.

Remember, this is the last show of the season, so come on out and enjoy Exit the Body. You'll exit laughing, for sure!

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Restaurant-club changes its image

By DONNA KELL
Herald Special

Night Crossing reintroduces to Georgetown "Big" Ben Bourgoin, "Little Joe" Pinto, and Grant "Slider" Emerson as an old restaurant gets a facelift.

"It used to be called the Mountaintop Restaurant before... now it's called Night Crossing," said Little Joe.

Joe Pinto is promoting manager for the club located on Guelph Street. "People started calling it 'teencrossing. We want to get rid of that image,'" said Little Joe.

Ben Bourgoin is the expert chef cooking up a pot of surprises for the clientele at Night Crossing. "Big" Ben has 40 years of international culinary experience.

Grant "Slider" (or 'It's-Safe-to-Have-Fun-Again) Emerson is a 50-year Georgetown resident. The Slider was hired four weeks ago as manager of Night Crossing. "Grant's a character, a fun guy,"

said Little Joe. "Little Joe" Pinto says that he will only promote the best bands for Night Crossing.

"I've turned down jobs. I'm not going to promote anything I don't believe in." Watching the bands at Night Crossing, "you can get up, dance, hoot - whatever you want to do," said Little Joe.

Opening night for bands April 29, you can catch the Downchild Blues Band. April 30, it's Shaky Ground with lead vocalist Dorion Smith - "the best female vocalist I've heard anywhere," said Joe.

Other groups in the line-up include the Vettes, a fifties and sixties-style rock band, Mississauga's James Jones and the Heroes, and "Little Joe's" own band, Texas.

How does Joe enjoy promoting his own band? "It's great. I got as much money as I wanted and everything," he said.

"Mr. Flip, Flop and Fly", Hock Walsh, will sing at Night Crossing in June, said Joe.

In the hills

Spiderscapes

Celebrate the coming of Spring with the Friends of Halton Museum on April 13 at 7:30 p.m. in the Museum's Main Building.

Dynamic artist Cathie Belyea will present three audio visual shows entitled "Wildflowers", "Steam Fair" and "Spiderscapes". Ms. Belyea is sponsored by Olympus of Japan and is an expert in macro (close up) photography.

Admission is free and refreshments will be served. New members are always welcomed. For further information call the Museum at 875-2200.

"Y" art auction

The YMCA of Georgetown and district have a novel way to help you redecorate your home for spring.

It's art auction time and April 29 is the date of the annual fundraising event held at Holy Cross Church Auditorium. There will be a preview of the artwork, some by Canadian and international artists, beginning at 7 p.m. The auction begins at 8 p.m. and refreshments will be served. Tickets cost \$6 in advance and \$7 at the door.

Crime writer

Laural Wright, "Canada's Queen of Crime Fiction," will be coming to the Gallery of the Georgetown Library and Cultural Centre April 24 at 2 p.m. This acclaimed author has written such novels as the Edgar Award winning "The Suspect" and its sequel "Sleep While I Sing". This is a National Book Festival Author Reading, sponsored by Canada Council. There will be no charge. For more information call 873-2681.

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