



Submitted photo by Carrie Veals

Woodland will perform at 7 p.m. Saturday, June 27 in Cape Disappointment State Park as part of the Waikiki Beach Concert Series.

Five Minutes With ... WOODLAND

Q&A by RYAN HUME

Get to know Woodland, a six-piece folk-rock combo from Seattle, before they take to the stage at Cape Disappointment as part of the Waikiki Beach Concert Series at 7 p.m. Saturday, June 27. You can find more info on the band and stream a few tracks at woodlandband.com

Woodland seems to be comprised almost entirely of accomplished musical transplants to Seattle. How do your various regional musical backgrounds affect Woodland's sound?

Having come from different parts of the country, each member brings something unique to the table and makes our sound richer and more eclectic. It starts with every member of the band being receptive to each other's musical styles, embracing those differences and combining them into something we can all get behind.

You dip into a lot of different subgenres that are often referred to as roots or folk music. You cite blue-

grass, gypsy or Romani folk and zydeco, New Orleans' own mash-up of blues, jazz and Caribbean rhythms, as influences. What commonalities do you see between these disparate and often regionally bound genres? And is it what they have in common or their more singular aspects that makes you want to throw them in the blender, hit the switch and see what happens?

Americana (from North America to South America) music is improv-based, fun and very interactive with the musicians and the crowd. So it's not surprising that these genres go well together. Their commonalities make blending them together appealing,

as well as the challenge of combining them to create something unique musically. As players, where we all come from and the cultures and experiences we bring always have a way of bleeding into our parts, which creates a broader sense of fusion than say, just writing a traditional bluegrass song.

Even with your range of influences and experiences, the name Woodland evokes the Pacific Northwest. How has the Seattle music scene, helped forge your sound?

The Northwest is definitely an incubator for good people and good music! It's difficult to say that the Seattle scene has to a very large, conscious extent forged our sound — despite all of us being fans of “the Seattle sound” at some point. The current state of music allows us to listen to anything, from anywhere. However, the vibrant scene and sheer number of musicians in the city continues to influence each of us on a daily basis. It's rare to play a show in Seattle where at least a handful of people in the audience are not also musicians. The music scene here was definitely a huge factor in all of our individual decisions to move here, and we feel fortunate to live in a place that offers so many avenues to reach so many people.

You will be playing at Cape Disappointment State Park on Saturday, June 27 as part of the Waikiki Beach Concert Series. What is the biggest challenge and the most distinctive pleasure of playing outdoors?

Being able to play outdoors is simply liberating, so much so that we often practice outside (weather permitting, of course). The biggest challenge would be keeping our instruments in tune.

You have a handful of live recordings on your website. I know you only formed last year, but when can we expect an album? Or

is this less of a priority right now than playing live?

Playing live is certainly a priority, but we are striving to release our first album in 2015. Our main focus is on refining our songs and adding details to make them richer. We see this type of work as a way to tighten and enhance our live performances but also as preparation for a studio session that we're planning before the end of the year. We intend on keeping our fans in the loop through our website and Facebook page.

NW word nerd

By RYAN HUME

Neacoxie

[nē•kāk•sē]

noun

1. *Neacoxie Creek*: this stream that drains the Clatsop Plains has undergone a major change over the years due in part to drifting sand. Where it once flowed

north to empty into Cullaby Lake, since the completion of Clatsop Canal Project, the creek now spills into the Necanicum River as the last tributary before that river dumps into the Pacific

2. *Neacoxie Lake*: Also known as Sunset Lake due to its proximity to Sunset Beach just west of U.S. Highway 101, this 107-acre lake is stocked with rainbow trout but also has natural populations of black crappie, bluegill and perch

Origin:

From the Clatsop (Chinook). Derived from *Neahcuxie* by way of *niak-ák-wi* or *ni-a-kok-si*, which means “where the little pines are.” The creek takes its name from the Indian village that sat on the mouth of the creek.

“Columbia Beach will have two roomy and well-equipped boat-houses, one on Neacoxie Creek and the other on Smith's lake. The former will house the new row-boats and canoes placed there by the company and the latter will make a home for the new 24-foot launch.”

— advertisement, Columbia Trust Company, “We Are Doing Great Things,” *The Morning Oregonian*, Friday, May 28, 1909. P. 15

“G. B. Johnson, of Astoria, has become a frequent visitor at Columbia Beach, the chief attraction being the finny tribe in Neacoxie Creek. Mr. Johnson is a great angler and succeeds at getting a fine string of bass at each visit.”

—“Ocean Resort Grows,” *The Sunday Oregonian*, July 11, 1909, P. 8

Crossword Answer

I	S	I	S	T	E	S	T	S	O	T	O	H	S	T	A	M	P
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