

THE

WHISKEY WEDNESDAY

WRAP-UP

Edition 11- November, 2022

Weekly Highlights

Episode 44-Wednesday, November 2nd

Tonight was the big night, will technology cooperate? It did wonderfully and we were able to enjoy Ken's movie, Back To The Rock. As usual, I have a detailed overview coming up. The movie was divided into three segments and was just under an hour.

We enjoyed a few tunes and lots of band banter between segments, felt like intermissions. I'm going to focus on the songs played this evening. They started off with St John's Waltz which was the perfect set up for the movie. Then it was an evening of originals: This Town Of Mine, with "Steve's patented sound of rust;" Old Dog, for me this is becoming a classic; Dollar A Day, starting to become familiar with this song, did sound great acoustically on his Martin; and End Of The World, always groovy.

Ken mentioned on the Show that we are watching The Good Place actually for our second time. It really is fantastic, both humorous and philosophical. Ken explained that in The Good Place you can't curse. If you have watched the Whiskey Wednesday Show even once you know that Ken loves to curse. When writing the newsletter, as you can imagine there is often colorful language used, and I just don't like including them. Not because I don't swear, I definitely can drop the appropriate swearword at the appropriate time. I just don't like how it looks in print but now I have alternative words. You will soon see.

The last song of the evening, One Too Many Mornings, Ken, "This was the Whiskey Wednesday song that ended the night, for over 11 years." I love this as a closing song, I'm going to encourage Ken to do it more often.

Episode 45-Wednesday, November 9th

All request night is always a lot of fun. Barry took notes which was very helpful. Regulars will know when it is left to Ken it can be very confusing. Barry is our sound mixer, switcher connoisseur (trying out different transitions lately), and now Ken's personal assistant. I have also been known to text him once or twice a Show with reminders.

The viewers really put together a stellar setlist this evening. I've decided I'm going to have fun and write this as a music critic with zero musical abilities. The night started with Kiss An Angel Good Morning, this is just such a happy song. Other Side Of Wrong is not played often. The Gretch sounded great and back up vocals were well done. I like how the band comes in during Weight Of The World and Judgement. I loved the musical journey of Cherokee into the King Is Gone. You hear Ken chuckle at the end of this song, "Oh man, there's such a groovy sound in here." I agree. You can tell they are all in sync and in the moment. Ken singing any Dylan song is always a highlight for me. Tonight it was Don't Think Twice, the Gretch sounded like it was singing. Ken is becoming really comfortable moving and grooving through his guitar solos. Or as he puts it, "I got lost on that little journey." So fun to watch. Next up was the very nostalgic Home written about St. John's. I always close my eyes; he describes the feeling of being back home wherever you call home.



Ken, "Ron used to wear one. I met Ron's manager and when Ron passed he had the same one made for me as a reminder of Ron. I have had it on ever since."



Then it was time to pull out the banjitar for You Are My Sunshine. This was my request so you know that I liked it. I do a recap in Gear Talk. Dollar A Day is their newest song. For me musically it is so interesting and again enjoying Ken's solos. I'm starting to connect to the lyrics. Waste Your Time, the song Ken wrote for me. I know I am biased, it's just so pretty lyrically and musically. Even though he did mess up and there was a bit of mumbling, it was still beautiful. The last song of the evening was This Town Of Mine written about Campbellford. Lots of giggling at the beginning because of Ken's wonky sounding guitar pedal effect. Listen for it! I think we can all agree this was a great night of music.



We had two updates. First as Ken said, I put together "a storyboard presentation" on the changes to the Broadcast Studio. Ken, "Then we're going to share Allison's power wheels video, I won't say anything, I will keep it a surprise." I will let you all in on the surprise soon. Both updates coming up in the newsletter.

There was a lot of interaction between Ken and the viewers during the Show. I like when he has the iPad out. A very laid-back feel tonight with lots of music and stories.

Episode 46-Wednesday, November 16th

Starting the recap of tonight's Show with Ken's welcome to new viewers tuning in for the first time, "If you are new to the fold, we do this every Wednesday night. We hang out, we play music, we talk to people, we talk to each other. We pass the time for an hour and a bit and it gives you a chance to get away from the world. So pour yourself a drink or a cup of tea or something and hang out." That about sums up The Whiskey Wednesday Show.

The set list was made up of mainly originals from their upcoming new album. Ken had a couple of good one liners this evening. Steve tried a new ending to Dollar A Day, Ken responded, "Oh the

finger tap, there you go, that's what happens to drummers when you take away all their drums and leave them with a cymbal. Suddenly, they start to make up new ways to make sound... a cymbal, a suitcase and a snare drum, it is a pretty awesome contraption... How are you feeling these days?" Steve, "Amazing, I feel like normal." What a year, diagnosed with cancer last Sept., started chemo Nov. 30th. Steve shared, "Sleeping good, eating well, gained my weight back, it's amazing, love it."

Tonight's guest was Bob Izumi, Canadian professional angler and host of Bob Izumi's Real Fishing Show. You are thinking isn't this a music show. It is, Bob is an old friend and Ken had the pleasure of being on his show. Lots of stories and a couple young photos of Ken. The interview was spread over two episodes. Full recap in the "Whatta ya at?" section.

We had visitors to the house this week, Joe (Murray) and Heather, regular viewers dropped in for a visit and to purchase some merch. For the regulars, Joe is the one that always asks Ken about sending him a shirt. Ken can be quite forgetful. So they decided to come get themselves. Ken enjoyed, "Joe has one of those Canadian made Gibsons. You know the only ones made in Canada, in Newfoundland." Ken then shared the history of Garrison guitars. You never know what you will learn on a Wednesday night. For locals, a small world. After visiting us they headed to Hastings (15 min.) to their friends, the Mayor's daughter. And Ken gave away a little secret tonight, the Studio is quite small. It really does look larger on TV.

I love that dogs are part of the show. Almost every episode Stanley is curled up at Neil's feet. On this Show, Jack came in for a quick visit. If you listen carefully you can hear his nails clicking, Ken, "Hey Jackie how are you doing buddy... Jack we're about to start a tune so we'll have a cuddle after this song. How about that?" Jack thought that was a good idea and you can see him leave the room. Steve often brings Charlie with him to join the party, he especially loves the kitchen after party. All the dogs do, lots of options to get a treat. And of course we can't forget about Bella next door.



Did you notice our holiday themed fireplace mantle?



Episode 47-Wednesday, November 23rd

Interesting start to the Show this evening. It was a total gossip session. You'll have to watch. A big police incident in town, near Mr. Grant's house. Ken, "I read the Facebook information as it was unfolding." Lots of excited chatter between them.

When putting together tonight's setlist Ken asked me to look back and choose some songs they have not played in a while. I thought they did a great job with my suggestions. For The USA, a fantastic song by Ron Hynes. Ken always does a great job explaining the historical significance. Very appropriate for American Thanksgiving. Boys Don't Cry, they always nail it! I loved the new ending. Old Dog, they do this one quite often, it's becoming one of my favorites. I'm not

Not déjà vu Ken is wearing the same striped shirt from two weeks ago. I looked back, different hats. Remember when he suggested not wearing white or stripes because they are not good for TV.



sure about the "goats cheering" pedal effect, even with Ken's defense, "It sort of ushered Mr. Grants solo in and out, that's a beautiful thing, I should do that every time there is a transition (giggling)." You can watch at 23:49, it's worth it. Barry had up the perfect screen, you can see everyone's reactions. Darkness Has Fallen, both heartbreaking and beautiful. And Dance Again, which was a request from two weeks ago. I know I use this word a lot, this song is very groovy.

Ken forgot the iPad so not a lot of viewer interaction this evening. This just meant Ken had lots of time for his second favorite thing to do, talk. Ken announced the first Whiskey Wednesday Show live and in person on Wed., Dec. 28th right here at Be My Guest restaurant. He's working on broadcasting parts live from the venue.

Ken shared words of wisdom that he saw posted online, "If you have snow and it makes you sad, you'll still have snow." A few minutes

later, still talking about snow, "I was like fork, I forgot to do all this yard work, it will have to wait till spring. But now it's raining and it's getting warmer, now I'm like shirt I got to do it all in the wet sloppy mud." Neil's genitalia is fine. I bet you're interested now. I won't end the recap here.

I am running out of space so here are some key phrases... Barbies summer camper; Butler's Pantry on Roncesvalles Avenue; introducing "Bareil"; Nashville memories; Nanny Angel; and to end the evening, Steve's drumming NFT.

Episode 48-Wednesday, November 30th

What an amazing Show. Ken and the Goats invited a musician to sit in for the evening. I'm going to use Ken's words the next day, "Last night on The Whiskey Wednesday Show we had a very special in studio visit with Steve Piticco. Steve sat in for the entire show and added such a wonderful element to the evening. One of the worlds top tele players and an amazing person... lots to unpack with this show."

I like Ken's choice of words there is a lot to unpack. I am not going to even attempt to explain "musically" the magic that happened. Coming up I can describe what I saw, heard and felt.



Music is to the soul what words are to the mind!

Balancing Music & Words



We have one more iPhone camera to use. Ken is going to try it in different spots. I thought this angle was fresh and fun.

THE WHISKEY WEDNESDAY

SHOW *whatta ya at???*

Episode 44-Wednesday, November 2nd

This week's guest was Newfoundland. In October's newsletter I included a collage of photos from their trip back to the Rock. Tonight we enjoyed Ken's movie which he started filming as soon as he woke up Friday morning until he returned on Sunday night. This documentary is fantastic, it is just under an hour. So grab some popcorn and sit down to enjoy beautiful scenery, laugh a lot and listen to some music. I thought I would highlight a few things from the video.



Steve grabbed this footage singing Sonny's Dream

We are all there, Jack and Jasper too



Ken really loves making these movies and of course he uses humour. Barry picked Ken up first, then Steve and Mr. Grant. It was time to say goodbye to family and hit the road.



Steve's family



← Ken loves to build drama.



Here is the gang that's heading Back To The Rock. Ken asked the Goats, "9 hours into our travel how are you doing?" A Ken exaggeration, it's been 4 hours, lol.



Steve, "Feeling good, feeling good!"



Ken, "There's Neil and the family over there. That's what happens when you bring family on the road. You get excommunicated from the band table and sent over there. What is Oliver doing?" We're still not sure, lol



Mr. Grant, "Are we there yet?"

Barry, "10-4 we're ready!"

They settled in to Geoff and Allison's where Ken has gratefully stayed many times. He takes us on a tour of the apartment.



Ken, "Mr. Grant is getting settled in on his phone. No he's not, who am I kidding (said with a chuckle, Mr. G has never owned a cell phone). He's playing with, I'm not sure what that is." Mr. G, "I'm just sitting here playing with my clock." Ken, "Well then, he knows what time it is."



They then headed downtown. All through the movie Ken does a wonderful job showing us the streets of St. John's while reminiscing. On this walk he talked a lot about Bannerman Park.



They then met up with Geoff at the Duke of Duckworth for a good old fashion Newfoundland meal. You will also learn a lot about Ken's dislike for ciders.



After they had an entertaining stroll along infamous George Street. The highlights are: an insider's look at Ron Hynes' statue with a secret or two; being heckled by a busker; Ken's infectious laugh; hearing St. John's Waltz bellowing out of a bar; drooling in the window of Vinland Skateboards; and Neil did go back to his Airbnb not to the place that Ken "inferred" in the movie. You'll have to watch to find out where.

During the Show viewers had great comments, I am going to include a few.



Neil, "I am a little on the happy side I wouldn't go as far to say I am drunk." You be the judge, I heard a bit of slurring from all the Goats.



Viewers-"I have a picture of myself in front of that statue" & "I've never seen that statue! Amazing!"



Ken always has interesting stories, "These bars used to have fire escapes between them connected. You could be on the third floor hit the fire escape and come out the second floor."



Lots of walking down memory lane with Ken



Neil went his own way and the roommates Ken, Mr. Grant and Barry started the climb back to the apartment. Ken, "How are your boys legs holding out?" Barry, "I'm all right, but the climb has just begun." Mr. Grant. "Ask me after the next 10 stairs." Remember these words.

Then Ken was surprised, "We're headed up to the Ship here, oh they got a deck now, Jesus, I didn't know nothin about that. I don't know what that's all about, I'll have to find out. The Ship Inn having a deck that seems weird."

More walking with a bit of dead air, your can only hear breathing and foot stomping. Let's remember Ken films this all on his iPhone.

Day one ends with Ken reflecting. I will point out all three boys are sleeping in one large room in single beds. It looks like a slumber party camp out.



Ken got a rundown of what everyone had for dinner, they ate in two groups. In case you were wondering, Barry and Mr. Grant had fish and chips. Mr. G, "The cod just melts in your mouth, I got to have it two more times before we leave town." The boys are all tucked in for bed. It did sort of feel like it was an episode of the Waltons. Good night, Mr. Grant. Good night, Barry. Good night, Ken.

Day two starts very early at 6:30am, but really feeling like 5:00am (in Ontario), Ken and Neil as his chauffeur are headed to CBC for a live Broadcast. Neil captured footage of Ken performing "Old Dog."



Then it was time to eat again, this time at Classic Cafe. Ken did his best Homer Simpson interpretation when describing his breakfast, "Mmmm breakfast is served, deep fried bread, look at that, awww some good, mmmm."

After breakfast a quick stop to CHMR radio to play some tunes and then to Long & McQuade to pick up the back line for the show. On the way to the Ship Ken pointed out landmarks while driving and shared a story that I have actually never heard before. And I've heard his stories many, many, many times.



Viewer-"Ahhh...the classic café...many late night breakfasts there!"



"There's the Avalon mall over there where I had my first job working at Woolco. Paul Guitard's dad used to own it. Me and Paul would go in when we were kids. He would let us go around the store and pick up all the empty cardboard boxes and we would bring them into the massive crusher. We would push it down and crush them into small little cubes. Fun job for a 12 year old I suppose, dangerous as hell but you know I didn't fall in more than once anyways, not while it was on."

They made it to the Ship with all the gear. Ken takes viewers on a tour of a quiet afternoon at the Ship.



It was than time to walk back up the hill to the apartment. Let's check in with Mr. Grant. Ken, "How are your calves doing with all this walking?" Mr. G, "The knees are starting to give out, calves are just like rocks." A few minutes later while still walking. Mr. G, "We'll soon be on top of the world I'm sure." Ken, "We have been going uphill long enough. We're almost up to Geoff's, just another 500m of hill climbing." Mr. G, "At a 30% grade." Ken, "Are you going to make it?" Mr. G, "I'm going to take a break."



They did make it back for a band dinner courtesy of Allison and Geoff. They made Mexican lasagna with fresh homemade tortillas.

Ken took us on a tour of their very interesting home. So much to see.



"This is the staircase to the second level at Geoff's house. If you want to go upstairs you have to climb the wall and if you want to come down you have to come down the pole."



Tortilla press all the way from Amarillo, Texas



Ken, "Amazing representation of art and Newfoundland culture... these old Newfie houses go on and on." As always Ken does a wonderful job describing what he sees. Their home looks fascinating, I could probably share 10 more photos, just watch the video.



"Spider Ollie, spider Ollie, he does whatever spider Ollie can"

Not the best photo, it's tricky to capture photos from videos. The Mexican lasagna does look yummy.



I really liked this banter... Ken, "Steve has found a good spot. How are you doing Steve?" Steve, "Oh man I saw you in this and I was like as soon you're up, I'm in." Ken, "It's a delicious chair, it really is."

With their bellies full, it was time for their first night at The Ship...



Ken put together a montage of a few songs from their first evening at the Ship. Footage is courtesy of Barry. It's great, you hear the audience, it feels like you are at the show.



First show complete and you know what that means, they need to walk back to the house. Ken, "These friggin Newfoundland hills got the three of us killed here. How are you doing Mr. Grant after that one." Mr. Grant, "Great" Ken, "Oh man the incline on some of those blocks, it's just nuts and I'm from here. I know better. Safe and sound almost back at Geoff's. Great night at the Ship."

I love seeing our viewers interact... "Why don't you cab it home?" one viewer wrote. Another viewer responded, "Cause the cabbies aren't happy if you're just going "up da hill" walking backwards was my go to so I couldn't see how far and how steep the rest of the journey would be lol."





Up bright and early, showered and ready to walk again, this time to breakfast. They did luck out, the weather in St. John's was absolutely beautiful all weekend. These walks would be a lot more challenging in rain or snow.

Again Ken reminisced as they walked down streets pointing out childhood friends homes.



Ken nonchalantly mentions as he walks by, "Ah there we go, sure what do they got in there. They got everything you needs." Only in Newfoundland, I did actually laugh out loud.

After breakfast the entourage all went sightseeing and Ken stayed in town. It was wonderful it felt like we were on our own personal intimate tour of Ken's youth. He covered so much. And I love when he talks into the camera. You know what I'm going to suggest, watch the movie.

Some highlights...

"This is the War Memorial... a lovely piece of kit, gorgeous, just gorgeous."



Viewer-"Dean told me so many stories about Bannerman Street."



Ken, "That big ole chain-linked fence surrounding everything." The inspiration for the song Home written about St. John's.



As always Ken loves to talk about his skateboarding days. "That's another little skate park down there too. See the little piece of concrete that goes out onto the dock. Another favorite."



Ken, "There's always been graffiti in Newfoundland... I know the punk rockers used to do a little bit of it growing up."

Another viewer chat. A viewer commented "Making me homesick!" Barry responded, "Smelling the saltwater triggered me."

Ken, "If lucky enough to find this little row of houses here, it's called the four sisters. It's been there forever.... gorgeous little houses looking right out at the harbor at the bottom of Signal Hill."





This was in the dressing room a.k.a. kitchen. I love this cover song.



Sadly we lost Jacky on November 28th, 2022 On Wednesday, Dec. 7th, Ken in his own style, will remember his friend Jacky Cook through the only ways he knows how... stories, music and bringing a community together.



Did any viewers notice? Ken pointed out his brown shirt and tie were different each night. Neil and Mr. Grant did not change outfits. Mr. G did wear a coordinated red baseball cap the second night.



Viewer-"Even though it was just snippets of the songs you did in the Ship, I can tell you guys must've put on a really good show. Well done!"



How magical, singing Sonny's Dream at the Ship, Ron Hynes' bar of choice, with Newfoundlanders singing along.



It was getting hot, time for the vest and shirt to come off.



A little correction Colleen has two "I's." Aww Ken and spellchecking. Allison is often spelled with one "I", so I can relate.

Ken, "I'm just going to ask a question, whadda (yes he changed it from whatta) ya at Colleen, it's been too long, how are ya?" Colleen, "Alright, doing alright."



Ken, "That's excellent, the most comprehensive whatta ya at ever."

They did chat a little longer. Colleen is the news director at CHMR-FM radio at Memorial University. Colleen, "I direct the news, I train students and I try to promote local music as much as I can." Ken, "It's an amazing station for that. I've been doing it since I was a kid there."



When I was looking up the correct spelling

of her name, I discovered she is an award-winning Newfoundland and Labrador singer/songwriter. Which is a good thing because...

Ken, "You're a musician as well. And you said to me at the station you did Powderfinger on that All Together record and I said yeah. And you said I can sing every word of that. So I decided to quiz ya on it... I often mess the words up, just harmonize with whatever mess I make. It's so nice to see you, oh my gosh, it's awesome."

I laughed when a viewer commented, "Sonny and Cher!!!" I agree, they did sound great together.

Ken shared their whole performance in the movie.



Colleen was a wonderful unexpected Whiskey Wednesday guest. Ken is going to arrange for her to be an actual future guest on the Show.

It's the end of the night so you know what this means.
I am going to take an excessively long time explaining their walk home.
It was very entertaining, I couldn't leave anything out.
Plus, Ken is so creative with his captions.



Yes that's Mr. Grant taking a little rest on the telephone pole

Ken, "How are you doing G? I'm going to take a forking (thanks The Good Place) break."

Ken continues walking, a few minutes later, "I find this incredibly challenging. Forking steepness." You then hear Mr. Grant in the background, "Next time we are going to rent a car." A viewer aptly pointed out, "Yes Mr. G but who's going to be the DD?" I wonder who would volunteer, I know it won't be Ken.

Ken, "They're really steep, oh my God. I think we may have made a bad choice on this turn. There has to be other ways that are not as steep. I used to know all them. But we only got about 30 more feet, 10 more minutes to get there." You can hear Mr. Grant trying to laugh in the background. Apparently Barry had no issues.



I think viewers like me felt their anguish. I did chuckle when Gillian, Neil's daughter, a part of the St. John's entourage commented, "The hills were amazing! My favorite part." You may remember in my last newsletter I mentioned she ran these hills every day. Very impressive!

Ken took a moment to talk to the camera while hand gesturing, "Hey everybody, our last night in St. John's. Hanging out in the whole of the street, everything here is so steep. It's pretty great but we're tired walking home after playing all night."

Ken continues reflecting. He always amazes me, he can be very drunk and he never slurs his words. Or am I just used to it and I can't tell anymore, lol "What a fun time. Thanks to everybody who was at the Ship for the last two nights, man it was sum good to see family. What an awesome time. Hope you are all well."



Ken, "I don't think press button for entry means go in. What it means is, it is closed. What happened St. John's, Venice is closed, Needs is closed. We "needs" you to be open." It always amazes me how he comes up with these one-liners so quickly.

A viewer commented, "Covid killed nf late night food industry." Apparently so!

Then all you can hear is the three of them mumbling away, very sad, very hungry, very tired.





I don't know about you, after their busy evening, I wasn't expecting such a bright and alert Ken. I do like his hair up! Their final day on the Rock. We get to enjoy some classic Ken and Neil banter which is always entertaining. Ken is both witty and irritating at the same time.



Let's get started. Ken, "Oh, the boys are outside waiting. How long have they been waiting for me. Am I late. I'm not late am I. How are you Mr. Grant?" Mr. G., "You're not late." Ken, "Is Mr. Grant good today?" Mr. G., "Ahh nice and sunny man."

Ken, "It is, it is beautiful. How about Mr. Neil?" Neil, "I'm just as cranky as always." Ken, "Just as cranky as always." Neil, "Yes sir." Ken, "You're never cranky." Neil, "Yeah I know, that's what I meant by it." Ken, "Oh I see, I see. Barry, how are you doing today?" Barry, "I'm doing fine, great day, love this weather." Ken, "It's forking gorgeous down here boy... So we're going down to get the gear at the Ship." Neil, "No, we're going to sit here and play Tiddlywinks." Ken, "Oh my, Neil is grumpy as always. Ok, well." This led to laughter when figuring out who brought the "wink" and who bought the "tiddly."



In the next scene we go inside the dimly lit Ship. You will understand when you watch, we go from the bright sun to a dark bar. I could not grab a photo because Ken quickly pans around the room. It was only a couple minutes of footage but it felt bittersweet. Ken, "And just like that another show is wrapped up. The stage is empty again. The room is empty, it is Sunday morning. Take her easy. Heading back out into the beautiful, beautiful Sunday morning... Heading up the stairs, more stairs, oh more stairs, oh fork there's still more stairs and there's still more stairs. That's it, all the stairs are done now."



Ken unknowingly foreshadowing an exciting event to come

Then we get back to the Ken and Neil comedy duo. Ken, "How are you now Neil?" Neil, "I'm good." Ken, "Did you move some gear or did you watch the car?" Neil, "I just stayed and watched the car. I'm too old and lazy for that." Ken, "Good for you."

Then we get to the first interesting car scene of the day. Worth the price of admission, that's of course if you had to pay for this movie. Ken even uses his "narrator" voice. A little background. They were crossing Rawlins Cross intersection. I asked Ken and he explained in detail. Imagine a naturally made roundabout. Nine streets feeding into this one crossing. All the roads going one way. And to complicate it, pedestrians everywhere.



The infamous alley stairs of St. Johns



Google confirms Rawlins Cross is one of the riskiest intersections for collisions.

Let's see how Neil navigated this crossing with Ken's guidance.



Ken, "Neil is navigating Rawlins Cross. You have to be in the far right lane Neil. Far right lane. You have to cross over three lanes." Neil, "I can't get over there just yet. Calm down." A beeping sound starts in the car. Ken, "There you go, don't freak out Neil. Oh my God that beeping Neil, what are you doing? You're making the car go crazy." Ken really does know exactly what Neil buttons to push and always does it with a smile and always with good intentions.

Back to the fun. Neil, "It's not what I'm doing, it's what you're not doing. Is put your dam seatbelt on." Oh Ken, you instigator. We all know that irritating beeping sound when your seatbelt is not buckled. Ken, "All the sensors are going off saying driving error, driving error." Then you hear Ken's evil chuckle. He is moving the camera around the car frantically building the drama. It appears Neil has made a wrong turn. Ken, "Turn right here on the right, there is a cul-de-sac where you can turn around. I don't know if you can make a turn around with this truck down there. This truck was not made for Newfoundland parking." Neil, "That's OK I was." A very impressive three point turn in a really big SUV.

Ken, "Look at Neil going. Oh my God he is like Speedy Gonzalez. Who knows Speedy Gonzalez?" Neil, "No, I'm not that small." Ken, "Oh well, I've heard different. There you go, look at him, look at how much concentration he has." At this point Neil gives him "the look" and we hear another Ken chuckle.



The look says it all

These two have the most amazing friendship. I have been able to watch it blossom over the past three years. Neil and his dog Stanley, often pictured on the Whiskey Wednesday Show join us for dinner every evening. It started during Covid and never stopped. And now we would not have it any other way. I love that viewers can get a glimpse into their unique friendship.



I was able to capture this smirk right after the well-deserved irritated look. They really do like this banter back-and-forth.

Neil dropped the boys back to Geoff's with the gear and then he went sightseeing with his family. Ken, Mr. Grant and Barry went for breakfast.



Now we get to enjoy a unique restaurant review. Ken, "Here at a lovely little restaurant, a place called Zachary's. Zachary's has been around forever, Dawn runs it, an old friend... There's Dawn there now, say hi Dawn. We are going to have a good ole feed."

Fishcake with fresh fruit



Then the food comes out, ready to get hungry. Ken, "Good Lord look at this. Now that's a bowl of fish chowder. Oh my God Dawn I'm so excited, you have no idea, thank you. I have my fish cake with some fruit which I will probably give away. Fresh made bread with some fish chowder. And now look at that touton. Now that's a different kind of touton then what we had at Classic. This is more what I am looking for, this is a good one."



Fish chowder with fresh bread

Touton

Ken, "And for the win, Zachary's right across from the Newfoundland hotel. Oh my Jesus, Dawn's place. The forking fish cakes are delicious. Touton's I don't know what they're doing but there sum good. And that bowl of fish chowder was awesome. For the win, for the win, Zachary's, thanks Dawn."

That's quite the restaurant review.



Before heading to the airport Ken hung out with Geoff's cat Lafayette and reflected on the weekend. As always he is so amazing speaking from the heart. A huge thank you shout out to MusicNL for their support. I didn't realize how much they do for musicians. Ken, "MusicNL is your portal..." And to Pam Pardy Promotions. Ken, "If you're back home and you're doing some promoting on shows I would recommend reaching out to her." Again Ken did two detailed, personal reviews. Guess what, the band OFF! (the T-shirt) liked one of his posts. He was thrilled, lol!





Now it's time for our second quick car ride. This time to St. John's airport. Ken, "We're all packed in here now. Everybody got something on their lap. You all good in the back there..... Neil how are you?" Neil, "I'm well thank you. We are driving in what I am going to call the Ford capelin because we are packed in here like a school of capelin." BTW a capelin or caplin is a small forage fish of the smelt family.

Ken, "And just like that we're back at the airport to go home... we got the whole gang, all eight of us, musicians, kids, grandkids." Uneventful flight.



Third car ride, this time they're back in Toronto. Ken, screen is in darkness, "Our long weekend away, beautiful night, Sunday night, almost 10 o'clock leaving the airport. There shouldn't be any traffic.... Fork, it's 10 o'clock on a Sunday night Toronto, oh my God."

They decided to make a pitstop. Ken, "Now we are off the highway, this is so exciting. We are in Scarborough I guess. McDonald's was an option but it's not a good option. So we came to a place where we can get food that has been sourced simply, great tasting. You know ingredients that have been farmed with care. It's really important we put that kind of love in our food."

In reality they stopped at A&W. Mr. Grant had a teen burger, Barry a mama burger, Steve a papa burger and Ken rounded out the family with an uncle burger. Neil was driving with his family so there was no one there for a grandpa burger.



Viewer-"A&W! I'm jonesing."



I wonder what the gentleman behind Steve thought was being videotaped



Thanks to everyBody who came out to the show, Geoff and Allison, Tony Murray Pam Parady Ghent, Chmr, Greg at Vocm, NTV, Tony Murray, Jill, Bill and the SHip Staff, Fred's Records, Long and McQuade, Tyler Chard, Don, The Duke Zachary's, The Classic Cafe, Music NI, Rhonda Tulk, Zach Znow, Coleen Power Darryl Cooper (made us sound incredible), and everybody who said hello while walking around town... Love Y'all...

Special Thanks to Jeremy Berger at Traynor/Yorkville

Extra Special Thanks to Music NI...

Ken once told me that he likes placing his hat on the dashboard just like Ron Hynes did when they were touring together.

Episode 45-Wednesday, November 9th

Ken announced this evening the fantastic news that I received my new power wheelchair. Ken's introduction... "As you know my wife Allison has been sick for a long time, being a part of her journey has become a big part of everything we do including the Whiskey Wednesday Show. She helps to produce this and writes the newsletter. We often do updates on her health and recently she got her new wheels."



Ken put together a cute little video of my new wheels and a little adventure we went on. In the video I shared the cost, \$24,000. Yes you are reading the price correctly I didn't by accident add a zero. So let's start with the cost. I am not sure why it costs so much, I will say it is measured to me and the order form was multiple pages. Gratefully the total cost was covered \$15, 210 by the Ontario ADP (Assistive Devices Program) and \$8 995 by private insurance.

I often refer to my wheelchairs as cars, they cost the same, lol. Yes we insured it. And you will laugh my physiotherapist who approved the ADP application made me do a "driving test" in my trial chair. I had to do reversing and parallel parking. It makes sense, it's a powerful machine which is often used in narrow nursing home hallways. I passed the test! To say I love my power wheelchair is an understatement. It really has been life-changing. The video explains it all.



Every year our little Aron theater here in town brings in a few TIFF movies and have a little film festival. Goes on for a month or so, one movie a week on Wednesdays, a matinee and an evening showing. It's funny when I was working I often said I can't wait until I retire and I can go to Wednesday matinees. Who needs to wait until they're officially retired.

My new wheels are ready to go, the weather looked promising (it ended up being 17° and sunny) and a movie I wanted to see. I did

my due diligence in planning, ordered tickets online, called about disabled seating (this is all new to me). The manager is going to put a reserved sign on the companion seats. Which at this theater there are two, it was meant to be, we sat Me, Ken and Neil.



Wednesday, November 2nd came together perfectly. My Dahlia May subscription arrived at 10, PSW at 11, actually got me dressed in clothes, lunch and Neil arrived around 1:30 and we were off. Uneventful going through the park, the sidewalks are really, really uneven. BTW Neil tried the playground swings unsuccessfully, lol. I had no problem maneuvering in the theater and getting to my seat.



By the way, the Leonard Cohen documentary was fantastic so was the theater popcorn and we shared a big bag of red licorice.

I will say I am very proud that I accomplished this mini goal I set for myself. Now I'll do some reflecting. That night and the next day I felt very sad and I was confused because I should be feeling really happy about this accomplishment.



In case you didn't catch it, when Ken was videoing me while I was eating popcorn I said, "You can stop filming me now."

While en route and at the theater we saw quite a few people I know, more acquaintances than friends. Everyone was thrilled to see me, lovely things to say, etc, etc. I just “felt” like people were looking at me with pity and that’s an awful feeling. I know that’s my interpretation of their feelings. I was also sad because going to the movies before was just a regular normal thing, now it’s a production. I guess the reality of my situation really hit me.

We have gone to great lengths to make my home environment nourishing, comfortable and a secure haven. A bubble you could say, lol. When I go out into the world it really hits me how not a part of society I am. I have built a community of friends and family where I share my “vision boards” and Ken is building the Whiskey Wednesday community which I very much feel a part of. As they say it’s a work in progress.

Later in the episode Ken shared, “I get up and help her into her chair these days as opposed to get her in her chair. And then I go in and have a pee and I come out of the bathroom and she’s gone. Where the fork has she gone, Allison (yelling). She’s like out going around the bedroom, checking in on what I have been up to, spying on all my stuff.” I will clarify I don’t sneak around but I do love my freedom of being able to do stuff for myself.



Our three spots were ready. I had the most comfortable seat in the house, I even reclined. I love Neil’s shirt that Gillian bought him.

Episode 46-Wednesday, November 16th & Episode 47-Wednesday, November 23rd

For two Episodes the guest was Bob Izumi. Are you ready for a different kind of Whatta ya at? From remembering the first time they met, to Russia, to fishing stories, to even a Whiskey Wednesday viewer connection. There was definitely some talk about music. Lots of reflecting. Two great story tellers, it felt like we were watching a tennis match, going back-and-forth between them. What fun! Let’s get started with Ken’s introduction...

“I don’t really need to introduce this guy, for those of you who do not know who Bob Izumi is, he is a fisherman. He is a tournament fisherman who was looking for a way to pay for his tournament fishing and decided to make a TV show, a magazine, an entire brand that spanned a 38+ year period of fishing, fishing gear and fishing living. He is a Canadian legend who I have got to become friends with over the years. I asked if he would have a chat with me for y’all.”

Ken and Bob jumped right in and started talking about the time period they first met. Ken, “It’s Whiskey Wednesday and I get to hang out with my old friend Bob Izumi. We were just chatting before we started, his son Darren was a bass player learning to play bass when he was still in high school, that was when I met him. And you were saying Darren is now mid 30s, married and all grown up. It’s been a quick 20 years.” Bob, “Yes it has. He’s not quite married... It’s funny it has been a quick 20 years. I was thinking about it earlier, it was around 2000, 2001 that we met. I will never forget I miss that spiked hair you used to have. It must’ve been hard to wear a hat?”



Ken, “Well actually there was so much stuff in it, even if I woke up or wore a hat it would kind of spring back into shape. It was a weird mess of chemicals.” I do remember those days. They then had a few laughs about both of them having a lot less hair now and even Viagra was mentioned. You’ll have to watch the episode to see why.



This was around the same time we moved to Campbellford. I still can’t believe Ken used to go grocery shopping at Sharpe’s sometimes with a full mowhawk. I would often get strange looks when people found out who I was married to. How lucky was Ken he was able to relive his punk years in his early 30s. Believe me he would relive it again in his 50s if he could.

Bob, "It's funny when I think of your career Ken, when I met you you were still doing some Watchmen gigs but for the most part you were doing Thornley... and how the last 20 years you have transformed more into country and folk type music."



Ken responded, "It's been a weird transition. Well it hasn't really been for me. Even in the Thornley days at the end of the show there would be the really big rock 'n' roll party at the front of the bus and I would host the back lounge party which would be listening to Nick Drake, Bob Dylan and Leonard Cohen smoking pot. I have always been a fan of the stuff that I am doing now... When we met I had just met Robin from Nobis and that's how we hooked up."

Robin Yates - Nobis Co-Founder



Bob completed the story, "We came to a concert in Hamilton if I remember. We came back stage after the gig and we hit it off."

They then reminisced about their friendship with Robin who has a fascinating journey of his own. Google-"Canadian,

Robin Yates, is a man who knows his way around a down parka. He took the Canada Goose from gosling to global brand, established his own, hugely successful outerwear brand, Nobis." A future Whiskey Wednesday guest in the making.

Bob, "Darren always loved playing the bass so when we met you it was like wow this is as good as it gets. I got in his good books when he was just a teenager... When he met you all of a sudden it made me one of the cool dads." Bob had a few philosophical thoughts during the interview, "That's what life is all about isn't it, it's memories. When I think back at all the fishing we did over the years."



Yes this is the sweaty after show look that I remember lol. What an image from 20 years ago. Ken definitely has more tattoos which I love. His arm looks so bare. I do not miss the big silver earrings and I'm glad he is over his piercing habit or what I would call an obsession.

Ken, "I was trying to piece it together with Allison, there was four times that we shot shows. There was the first time when it was me and you and Bobby Orr's dad Doug and his doctor friend." Bob continued the memory, "When they met us at Lake Simcoe, I'm going to say they were both in their 80s. I remember Robin Yates set that up with Bobby Orr... He said don't screw up, you make sure my dad and his buddy are safe out there."

Bob's next philosophical thoughts were around friendship, "As far as I'm concerned if you stay out of touch with people and all of a sudden they come back into your life and it's just like yesterday that's what real friends are... As you and I know being road warriors for many, many years you make a lot of friends and acquaintances. You have bonds at all different levels. Some of them it's a big laugh when you're together, with others it's more serious talks. All walks of life, that's what I like about people, no two are the same."

Bob, "When did you start professionally as a musician?" Yes it does seem like they were interviewing each other, lol. Ken, "My first official adult tour would have been in 1991, 92 when I went to Russia for five weeks with a band from Toronto. That is what actually lead me to joining the Watchmen six months later. And at that point the touring started and I guess I was a professional musician at that point." This lead to an unexpected and very interesting discussion about Russia and their coincidental visits just a year apart.



Bob, "When you went to Russia was it just after the wall came down?" Ken, "The year the White House was bombed and the parliament was dissolved. The White House was bombed the evening we arrived." Bob, "It was about a year later I believe that I was over there filming a show." They then went back-and-forth sharing stories about their time in Russia. I'm going to highlight a few.

Bob, "I'll never forget driving hours in a bus not seeing a convenience store, a gas station, nothing except little villages, farms and then all of a sudden you come across a field of MiG jets, hundreds of them."



Ken, "We had a Russian translator with us who made sure we got where we needed to be. I experienced everything from him walking us out to the sidewalk with all of our equipment and flagging down a bus. When the bus stopped he would pay the driver two bucks US and the driver would throw everybody off the bus and drive us where we needed to be. And also going to the corner to make a sandwich and there were kiosks, a bread



kiosk, a meat kiosk and if you wanted butter and milk you had to go to another kiosk."



Ken continues, "I have a really fond romanticized version of my five weeks in Russia. But I also have to remember it was tempered with I had guns pointed in my face. I had near death experiences. I ate food that I probably shouldn't have... You get on the train and there is no food, you're doing an overnight or two day trip. Every time the train stops at a station you run off the train to try and buy something and there are these ladies with baskets of eggs that have been boiled so hard they are black."



Bob then shared his experiences, "We traveled by bus for part of our trip... They put myself, the crew and some other folks from Canada on this trip. This guy was trying to get a company going called Russian Waters. We were the guinea pig group going on his first fishing outing. It wasn't really planned, it was planning while we went... at one point we stopped at a roadside stand and got some green tomatoes and that was our lunch. They bought a pike... it wasn't refrigerated or anything... my brother took a case of Canadian beer with him... we had this guide who was all dressed up in army fatigue, he looked like Rambo 2.0... he drank that whole case one night by the campfire... got really drunk with my two cameramen and took that pike that had been unrefrigerated for a couple of days



"About this big, 2 or 3 pound pike."

sitting at room temperature... he threw it on the open fire... my one guy from Montreal cameraman was laughing thinking he was just throwing it away... he pulls it out and starts eating it like a hotdog or a corn on a cob and then he offers it to the boys, he grunts and so they had to eat some."



Bob then moved the interview in a different direction, "So when you came back to Canada you got involved with the Watchmen?" Ken responded, "I met Allison the spring before and we were living together... came back from Russia beginning of November, we did Breakfast Television the week after. Jake Gold who I was sharing an office with because I was working at a magazine (Music Express). Jake was the Watchmen's manager and he saw me on Breakfast Television and that's how I managed to meet up with the Watchmen through that connection. A month later I went out, met the guys, joined the band, we wrote the record. The record came out in May and the first single (Boneyard Tree) went top 10 and that was it I never stopped, the road has kept me going for two decades plus."



They covered so much in the interview, I thought it would be best to present this part as back-and-forth conversations as they reflected on their Past, Present and Future.

Past

We learn about their road warrior years. Bob, "You put a lot of miles on." Ken, "I think the busiest year that I did was about 280 days away. What was your usual count for being away?"

Bob, "Pushing 300 a year. My most was 320 because I added it up. I was really burned out, it was December a couple of weeks before Christmas and I was really tired. This was going back maybe 30 years ago. I'm like why am I so tired... so I looked at my DayTimer and started adding up... I realized in the first 90 days I think I did seminars or appearances in 65 cities... then I got really busy in the spring because that's when I start filming my show... and then I start my bass tournaments at the end of June which I'm fishing one every week. Then in the fall I am filming again and fishing any last season tournaments." I am not surprised, who wouldn't be tired.



I love Bob's honesty, "I have only one regret of some of those earlier years...I averaged 280 to 300 days for the better part of 35, 37 years of my career. I missed a lot of the kids growing up. I really didn't have a choice because I was building up the business. Doing the radio show, magazine, TV shows, appearances, seminars, charity work...you would come home for a day maybe every week."

More reflecting, Bob, "Truth been known I'm a kinda competitive guy that's why I still fish tournaments. That's the only reason I started the TV show in the early 80s was to pay for my addiction of tournament fishing. I've fished in tournaments since the 70s when my dad ran the first bass tournament in Canada...in Rondeau Bay in southwestern Ontario. I remember winning my first bass tournament in 1977... now in six decades I have won more than 80 of these tournaments."

Ken did ask some fun questions like what is the weirdest thing that you have pulled out of the water. Bob had a wonderfully elaborate story to share. I will share one hint, "I had that thing hooked by the strap and it gave me a heck of a fight in the current." Tune in to find out what it was. This led to Bob describing other fishing adventures he has had, so fun to watch his excitement as he is reminiscing. If you love fishing you will enjoy these stories. I like how Bob summed it up, "I like the adrenaline rush of tournament fishing. You have a lot of lows too... you have a long drive home. But when you do well in one it's like you won a lottery."





This led to the boys talking about another fishing trip they had together. Bob, "I like that adrenaline rush of running down the lake at 60 mph, it's fun." Ken, "I've been in a boat with you, it's terrifying." Bob, "I remember Lake Ontario, we were bass fishing, I think you caught a big pike, over on the New York side... that's the time I got a speeding ticket on shore." Ken remembered and added, "I was going to say to the cop if you think he's going fast here you should've seen him when he had the boat in the water."

These photos of Ken are not from the Lake Ontario trip. These are from the ice fishing trip they did with Doug Orr. This is Ken's "flattened" mohawk hair. He loved this knitted Newfoundland sweater, I think he still has it.



Winding down the "Real Fishing" empire...

Bob, "About a year before Covid I was driving home I thought I think I want to finish the show. I kinda surprised Sandy and Darren and said I think we should wind the show down in 2021. This was before Covid hit of course. A lot of people think I wound it down more because of travel restrictions but that had nothing to do with it. I had already made my mind up. It was a bit of a shock...I just thought the timing was right. I didn't have anything to prove, any milestones I wanted to make or hit. I have been in the business pushing 41, 42 years, 38 years on TV, not a bad run." I would say so, I know we're proud.

Present

Bob, "After 30+ years in the fishing industry I am back to my roots. I'm doing promotional work and tournaments full-time and I'm finding it a full-time job. There's social media to do, talking on this podcast with you, there are so many venues you can do now that are available on the internet... I'm probably having more fun Ken now in this last year than in the last 38 because I got a little bit more breathing time. I can finally schedule things that I want to do in amongst the work that I am still doing... in our heyday we had 18 full-time staff, I would just be running... you never turn it off... now that I'm finally here and starting to smell the roses. I feel guilty a little bit if you want to know the truth, I feel like I need to be going wide open all the time."



I loved Ken's thoughtful response, "I think you're absolutely right, it's something that I've been learning too. What in essence makes me happy? It's the authenticity of music and for you it's fishing. You built a business, an empire around it for a long time but now you are doing what you want to do and you are probably finding that you are choosing your time more wisely... for so many years we were in hotels and traveling... there are cities that I have been to I couldn't tell you one thing about the city, all I know is there is a Walmart by the gas station where the hotel was."

Bob contributes his thoughts, "It's sad because if there was time to take it in but I'm there to do a job... just like when you are at concerts and gigs all over, you are there to do a job and it's hard to just unwind unless you're done your work and have no other commitments."

I loved this next tributary in their conversation. Bob, "My little grandson just turned a year old this past week. I spent more time with him this past year than what I did with my two kids when they were little. But I see my kids more often now which is awesome and we have a great relationship. You know what I can't complain... I'm very very blessed with the life I've lead." Ken, "I 100% feel the same way." Bob, "You are a creative guy, when I hear your music I say to myself there is a guy that is doing it from the heart because you love what you do right."



Ken had his own tributary, "A fan of the show (Whiskey Wednesday) Joe and Heather dropped by... they own the marina in Waupoos. You were there a couple of weeks ago." Bob absolutely remembered, "That's a special part of the world." Joe and Heather were watching and posted, "The boat ramp is still open in Waupoos Bob. Lets go fishing!"

Future (with some present)



Bob, "I wanted to pursue tournaments a little more in depth. I have always fished about 12 to 18 a year. I would like to increase that to 15 to 20 a year... so I aired the series last year for the final year but I also approached nine companies that I wanted to keep working with like Mercury Marine. I have been with Mercury Outboards for my entire career... nobody said no to me...that was a big relief. I'm shifting gears, it's a different business model. I'm doing promotional work like I started doing in the early 80s before the TV show and tournaments. Some social media which was not back in those early formative years. It was a big change and shift in my direction. But everyone said yes and it's been a phenomenal year. Coming into the winter months, I'm working with a bunch of companies I just love working with... products I really do believe in using and like using for my tournament fishing... it's been a different shift in gears for me... it's like being on the autobahn, just cruise control on, feeling really good and safe."

Ken, "Are you home more?" Bob, "A little bit more, more than I have been in the last four decades. I still get antsy... I was gone a lot during the tournament season. I just got back from South Carolina, we fished in the Black Bass World Championship... that was 25 countries from around the world. I was captain of team Canada. We took four 2 person teams down... we ended up winning a silver in the Americas competition. In the worlds we got ninth out of 25 countries, we slipped a little bit. It was an experience that will last a lifetime."



This lead to a really interesting future hope. Bob, "There are a few different organizations out of Italy that are trying to make fishing an Olympic sport. I think it was around 1908, fishing was an unofficial sport at the Paris games and that was the last time it was a part of the Olympics. They are trying to resurrect that and make it an official sport. Kayak fishing, bass fishing, predator fishing, carp, saltwater... will it happen I don't know the jury's out... they are getting countries from all over the world to participate in events... in Canada we had the Pan America in 2019 that Canada won over the USA by .01 of a pound which is nothing, that's a drop of water... team Canada has a pretty strong group of anglers."

Bob reflects. "One thing that I have done for my entire career is you never know what's around the corner. I've been asked to speak on Parliament hill... which is so bizarre because I am the most unpolitical that you can get... coming together to promote fishing and hunting... I've been exposed to a lot of weird things for a country kid from a little hick town called Blenheim (Ontario-population 4,487)."



Reflecting with Ken and Bob

It was refreshing to watch both of them talk so honestly and openly about their passions, music and fishing. Many parallels in their journeys. I'm going to share a few conversations.



Ken, "You're 64. Man you spent a lifetime doing what you love. You are so blessed." Bob, "I started fishing full-time when I was 21, I use this term loosely, Canada's first full time fishing professional. Another reason I thought let's wind the show down, I still feel really good... I didn't do the show for notoriety, I did it to support my tournament fishing addiction. I needed to figure out how to make a little more income so I didn't have to sleep in the back of the car... fish to dark, eat a sandwich, roll up in your vehicle, call it a night, you get up in the morning, jump back in the boat, that's not fun."

This led to a deeper discussion. Ken, "I have done that for a lot of my life. That's the price that we pay to do what we love. People with money who want the experience can never truly get the lifestyle. The

lifestyle comes, as you say, with the willingness to sleep in your car in order to make it happen. And when that turns into, it's actually happening, what an amazing accomplishment." Bob added, "What you have done for the better part of your life and what I have done, even though we are completely different worlds, music and fishing. We are paying our dues but we don't know we are paying our dues. You're not thinking of some pot of gold at the end of the rainbow, you're just doing it because you feel it is what you were meant to do." Ken responded "What we get paid for as musicians is the travel and the dead time when you are not on stage. Nobody is paying me to be on stage I'm loving that, it's purely my enjoyment... there's been times it's felt like work and at that point I made changes."

This then led to another insight. Bob, "The few times I came to see you guys play... so out of my element... I know it was so different from what I did but I also know the commitment, hard work to get to that level... That's one thing I have been very lucky to see, is all these different walks of life, people that do something at a fairly high level... I've always said this for my entire career, my friends are all walks of life... if they are good people and we get along... some of them don't even fish."

Many times during the Whatta ya at? I felt like I was eavesdropping on two friends catching up. There were so many more stories I could probably write five more pages. Some key phrases to pique your interest: ZZ Top; Covid and the effects on anglers and musicians; win every argument lose every sale; are they getting Long in the Tooth; and is their peak over?

I have given a pretty detailed overview but it really does not cover all the insights that were shared between two amazing storytellers with interesting journeys.





Ken wrapped it up, “Well listen Bob thanks for spending so much time hanging out with us we have about three minutes left on the counter... what's the main link for Bob Izumi?” All the usual social media, Bob did add, “I'm trying to get more involved and engaged in them (social media) but I find when I'm fishing I kind of drift away from it.” Bob that is what should happen. Fishing is and should be all about living in the moment.

I thought the interview was coming to an end, they had one more thoughtful exchange for us. Bob, “I just want to say Ken it's been so wonderful catching up with you... I love the fact that our friendship is such a unique one because we come from such different worlds of what we do.” Ken agreed, Bob continued, “We've had a lot of laughs over the years. I know we haven't spent a lot of time together in the last few. But hey that doesn't mean anything in your world and my world because we are always going to be friends and you know that.” How special!

The boys finally did wrap it up with this, Ken, “After such a successful career Bob and now you're getting to the next part where it is all stuff that you really enjoy, that's so inspiring.”

Let's end with Bob's words, “I'm excited...I literally just had one of the neatest years of my life this year just because I could take a lot of it in and realize how damn lucky I have been... You take a couple of deep breath's outside, look around and say hey this is a pretty good life. It's been a great one and hopefully there will be a few more days left to keep at it. That's what I am looking forward to, the future.”



Episode 48-Wednesday, November 30th



Ken and the Goats welcomed Steve Piticco to sit in and jam with them for the evening. I am not quite sure how to approach this one. It really was a master class in tele guitar playing. And I will remind viewers I am not musical at all so I will not be giving any opinions on the actual guitar playing. Here is what I saw, heard and felt.

First, how did this come together you ask? On Thanksgiving weekend Ken and the Goats played the Norwood Fair and Steve was playing in the band just before them. Ken learned he lives in neighboring Brighton, 30 minutes away. He extended the invitation to come play and Steve graciously accepted.

I must say Ken is getting more and more creative with his weekly advertisements. He was so excited he figured out how to add a live performance to the ad.

I will start with Ken's introduction, “I don't know what to say about someone like Steve... I think I can sum it up by saying he's lived his life playing guitar, would that be correct and accurate?” Steve, “Yes, 47 years.” Ken continues, “You have worked with everybody and you continue to do it on your own terms. I saw an interview where you said you're at that lucky point of being a musician where you don't have to make calls. You kind of wait and the phone rings.” We are sure glad he answered Ken's call.



Ken was correct, Steve has the greatest infectious smile



Fare Thee Well

The Show started off with their original song, Fare Thee Well. I could hear Steve's guitar instantly when the band came in. A little story. Steve was super prompt and arrived just as we were enjoying currylicious from local Antonia's restaurant. Highly recommend! Perfect timing, he enjoyed a plate of Indian food. It was wonderful to get to know him.

I am going to share some of Ken's banter between songs. Only band photos since this was not a traditional interview video.

Getting back to the song. Ken wrote Fare Thee Well for Ellie Kelly from her husband Joe. Steve had high praises for Ellie. On the record Ellie plays her accordion. I'm positive she would've loved Steve's interpretation.



Ken, "Wow that's what a guitar player would do in a song like that... this is going to be such an interesting night to sit back and have somebody who really knows the instrument inside out the way I have such great respect for, to hear what you would do with the songs. That's brilliant, thank you very much." Steve, "I appreciate it. It's great being here doing this." They then had a very interesting talk about the pedal steel. And if you don't know what instrument this is, tune in and you'll find out.



Waste Your Time

Interesting start to this song. Ken quite quickly figured out something was wrong, stopped playing and said, "That wasn't even close to the way it was supposed to go. Interesting, it had nothing to do with Steve." I don't know about that. Then with his next strum we were off to the races. How lucky am I, the song Ken wrote for me now has the beautiful sound of Steve Piticco. I really thought the Gretch and the telly sounded beautiful together. A viewer wrote, "You guys have already taken it to the next level tonight... and its only the second song!"



Ken, "Oh that's interesting. That kinda answers the question. Once I figured out what I was doing. That's some really neat stuff. It's interesting how you add an element to a structure and it changes things, you just kind of step aside, around." They then really broke down the song using terms way out of my league. I found it fascinating and I am sure guitar players appreciated the wonderful insights.



Steve shared, "If we played this again, it would totally be different. I don't know how we'd do it. Nothing like I did last time." How does one improvise like this? Ken, "I'm actually very fluid with my approach depending on what I hear and what other people are doing if there is a slight feel change it just changes everything that I am doing as well." Then more technical guitar talk. Steve generously shares his knowledge. Ken masterfully uses humor to keep the banter going.

One Way Rider

Before we get to the song Ken introduces us to Steve's music. Ken, "You have a band, South Mountain since 1989." Steve proceeded to share the history of the band.

There was a brief interruption. Jack is becoming more and more comfortable with the studio he made another appearance this evening.



I appreciated it when Barry used this camera shot. I loved watching Steve's fingers so I could hear what he was playing. Again I'm not a musician. It took me a few Watchmen shows to distinguish the bass sound.



Ken, "Sorry folks Jack has come in to say hi." Our Steve, "He took a nice couple of steps on your pedal (speaking to Steve) hope he didn't change anything." Neil, "We'll find out, won't we." Steve, "He probably fixed my sound." Ken, "The tone you have been working your life at." Then talking to Jack, "OK Jack is that good, are you going to go back and see mommy, sit on the couch. Now stop stepping on stuff, you just gave me an extra delay" I just love the laid-back feel of the Show.

Steve shared the interesting history of One Way Rider, "It's just a great tune there are only two cords in it, C and F and everybody gets to play." They then figured out the structure of the song, Steve did reassure us, "It won't be eight or nine minutes like it normally would be." Ken, "I am not sure how fast you're going to bring this in but in all honesty to try to keep up with those speeds for 8 to 9 minutes, that takes a lot of practice." Steve, "I will start her comfortable at this age."

Wow, this is Steve in his element, the cameras were shaking, I was mesmerized watching, the boys kept up and it sounded fantastic.



The song ended with applause. Neil, "Thank God that was the slow version." Ken, "It's so much fun to sit beside someone who can do that stuff...that was smoking good fun." Steve, "Good job boys."



I love these images, the boys were so focused on Steve



What an amazing band experience.
A viewer comment, "I think Steve could fit right in with the band."

Not déjà vu, Jack made a second appearance, very needy this evening



It was an interesting night not only a guest musician sitting in, it was also a live Whatta ya at? with the whole band. Ken managed to be a musician, interviewer and fan all at the same time. He did slip in comedic one-liners here and there. In this speaking segment Steve told us his background story including what he does when he's not playing guitar.

I liked this conversation. Steve, "If there is ever an opportunity to play I would rather play than sit on my hands. We just did two years of that... this is great what you guys are doing." Ken, "It's kept us sane... if we are careful we can be our own bubble and still make music... the four of us including Barry have come together organically just through proximity. It's amazing what people

give up to play music." Then Ken and Neil had their usual entertaining banter. He also gave a band history of all the Goats. I think viewers new and familiar with the Show learned a lot.

Judgment

Ken, "I was thinking a Ron Hynes tune would be really cool to do. Did you know Ron Hynes as a musician at all?" He did and they exchanged stories. Steve has played on many versions of Sonny's Dream with various artists. Viewers know it's time to start playing when Ken looks at Mr. Grant and asks what key do we do this in again? Lots of discussion on what key.

I was excited to see what Steve would bring to a Hynes song. It seemed like they have all been in a band together for years not the first time playing. Ken explained to viewers, "You got to remember folks this is all live. Steve has never played with us before. None of this is rehearsed." Isn't that crazy. You could see that Steve was watching Ken's hands throughout.



Ken, "Very cool once again. I love how you can adapt so quickly, that's pretty heavy playing. Has anybody ever told you that?"

I loved Steve's response, "I think we have to be chameleons, we listen and fit in the best we know to what's going on around us. The best players are listeners." More music knowledge shared back-and-forth between Ken and Steve.



I was so proud of how wonderful the studio looked tonight. I analyze photos week after week to see what to tweak. I wouldn't change a thing.

Then Steve shared, "Bass is my favorite instrument though (you hear an excited Mr. Grant in the background say "oh really"). I think it's the most important thing in the world." Well we know Mr. Grant and Ken agrees, "preaching to the converted." Mr. Grant, "Sorry for all the wrong notes." Steve, "No it's great, there's no empty spots, it's amazing." Ken shared his bass journey and talked about our Mr. G. "For a bunch of years with all my trios I wouldn't have a bass player. I couldn't find anybody to do what I could hear. And this guy walked into my life and I heard him playing, this guy does exactly what I would do... and if he doesn't I tell him what to do and he does that."

The Kentuckian Song

Steve shared a wonderful story about The Kentuckian Song before they started. Unlike Steve the boys did have a couple of rehearsals before tonight's show. They wanted to get somewhat familiar with Steve's repertoire. And it definitely paid off. They sounded great and I especially loved the Goats doing the very catchy backup vocals, "possum in the gumtree, the rackoon on the ground."



The absolutely best smile at the end of this song

Ken, "Very nice, that was a sweet little moment there. I quite like that. Wow it is so nice to have you here. What a thrill for us, I can't tell you how much this means. This is just great." Then the whole band had an unusually long talk about possums and raccoons. BTW "rackoon" is how it is spelled on the record.



King Is Gone

Ken, "Why don't we do a little George Jones." Yes, I think I was most looking forward to hearing Steve on this song. Ken then told the wonderful story about why this song is so special to our family. I will confirm the girls do know every Bob Dylan song from his first three albums. Ken, "They always loved the Fred Flintstones song from George Jones, the King Is Gone."

They started with their usual fiddle tune, Cherokee and then, I don't know about others, I love when Ken closes eyes and belts out, "Last night I broke the seal on a Jim Beam decanter that looks like Elvis." I thought I would have fun and show you this in photos. Exceeded all expectations, I loved it. I agree with one viewers comment, "Wow the fifth goat." Ken is going to have quite the herd of goats soon.



Ken, "It's incredible watching your hands... the guys who really know what they're doing and doing really technical precise stuff, it hardly looks like they are moving. I see that when I'm watching you. Even from behind all I see are the fingers in the neck. There's nothing moving but there's all these things happening. Is it your economy of motion approach or is it a note approach. You have talked about the CAGED approach before." If you want to know the answer you will have to tune in. Steve gives a clear explanation and even demonstrates on his guitar. It's really a guitar players dream interview. We could tell Ken was enjoying every minute of it. He had so many questions for Steve and he patiently answered them all. It was really fascinating to listen to Steve's thinking process when playing with a band like in tonight's situation. The biggest take aways for me... "Know when not to play!" and I bet everyone is going to go out and buy a good set of headphones.



Fun Fact

How many records do you think Steve has played on?

"I probably have a thousand or so cds, and cassettes and albums at home that I played on and I don't have half of what I played on."





Ramblin

Steve had another in-depth introduction to the next song Ramblin. I'm going to pick up the story at the very end... Steve, "We were doing a South Mountain record maybe seven or eight records ago... it sounded really good in headphones so I just started playing this..." and then Steve just started playing his guitar and the boys just knew when to join in.

What an absolutely perfect name for this beautiful instrumental piece of music. You really do feel like you are ramblin when you close your eyes and just listen. The boys practiced this song during rehearsals and the first time they played it, I instantly fell in love with it.



Ken then started to wrap up the evening in his unique way ...

"So ladies and gentlemen thanks for tuning in once again. Christmas is upon us that can mean a lot of joy for a lot of people, it can also mean a lot of loneliness and other feelings for other people. As always it's been weird so be nice, be kind, be friendly out there especially if you are shopping in public and not online. Being out in public is still a weird thing. Everybody give everybody else a little bit of space, some love, some forgiveness and compassion and we will get through til another Christmas season. In the meantime we are going to be signing off with a little song called On Your Mind. This is a song I wrote one night when I was smoking a little bit too much weed and listening to a little too much Hank Williams"

On Your Mind

I know this is a cliché but they really did save the best for last. They were in sync and in the groove. So much so they had to regroup at the end, Ken, "I got so into listening to Steve, let's just cycle the verse for a little bit here and we will count her in and let Steve wind us out."

I really love when Ken does his goodbyes as part of the song. I know this sounds confusing you'll understand when you watch the Show. Ken really does have a way with words and he even rhymed in this one. It wasn't too challenging it was "gear" and "beer."

Another unique Whiskey Wednesday Show.

I don't know if I had more fun watching Steve or the boys watching Steve and being so engaged. It was an inspiring and nourishing evening for all.

I think we are all going to miss Ken saying, "Take it away Steve" just before his solo. You may be seeing Steve again before too long.





The Whiskey Wednesday Show Setlists

Episode 44- Wednesday, November 2nd

1. St. John's Waltz
2. This Town Of Mine
3. Video Part One
4. Old Dog
5. Video Part Two
6. Dollar A Day
7. End Of The World
8. Video Part Three
9. One Too Many Mornings

Ken did a Studio update on the Show. Ken, "Allison has put together a little story board presentation of the Studio and the changes that we have gone through to get where we are now. When she was doing it, I was understanding it, I wasn't seeing the severity of it all until she had it all together. It was like this is how it started and here it is now. Holy shirt man we have done a lot here, this is really cool."

I'm going to share what we have been up to in one of my "vision boards."

*We're learning to build our own table
and have people come to it
as opposed to trying to get a seat at
somebody else's table...*

This phrase is very inspiring to both of us. Ken has not only built his own metaphorical table he is building not one but two studios, a virtual Whiskey Wednesday community & creating music on his own terms. I too am slowly building my own table, well really five rooms and I love supporting Ken's vision, with my input of course.

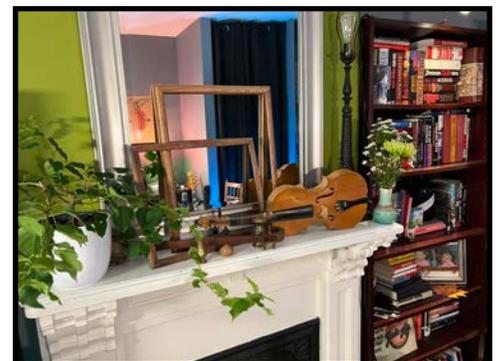
In Episode 38, September 21st, Ken shared a video of the new Whiskey Wednesday Show Studio which had a lot of technical information.

Definitely worth the investment of 12 minutes to watch. I'm going to use photos to give you a backstage tour and show you a few changes we have made. Basically I'm going to share my thoughts. Coming up in the vision board I also have some comparison before, during and after photos.



Each week Ken changes the album he is showcasing. BTW the gold Elvis is a gift from viewers. It is a lyric from a George Jones song Ken plays regularly on the Show... "Last night, I broke the seal on a Jim Beam decanter that looks like Elvis." Yes it is an actual decanter, they found it on eBay.

The fireplace mantle is my space, I'm going to change it seasonally.



Ken's "rig of doom"

**Episode 45-
Wednesday, November 9th**

→
I love our grandfather clock made out of Ken's bass amps. The clock is my mom's. The lime tree and bougainvillea love their winter home.



1. Kiss An Angel Goodmorning
2. Other Side Of Wrong
3. Weight OF The World
4. Judgement - Ron Hynes Cover
5. King IS Gone - George Jones cover
6. Don't Think Twice - Bob Dylan cover
7. Home
8. Sunshine
9. Allison's Wheels
10. Dolla r A Day
11. Waste Your Time
12. This Town Of Mine



Our 25 year old IKEA Billy bookcase is still serving its purpose. It really is a time capsule. I'm just going to highlight a few items. Ken loves his collection of horror books primarily Stephen King and Clive Barker. He also has some cherished encyclopedias. The old school way, our original google. He often just pulls things down during the Show to talk about. Viewers should ask him about the snowman which is appropriate now but it actually stays out all year and about the ship in the big white box.

First Show in new Broadcast Studio (September 28th)

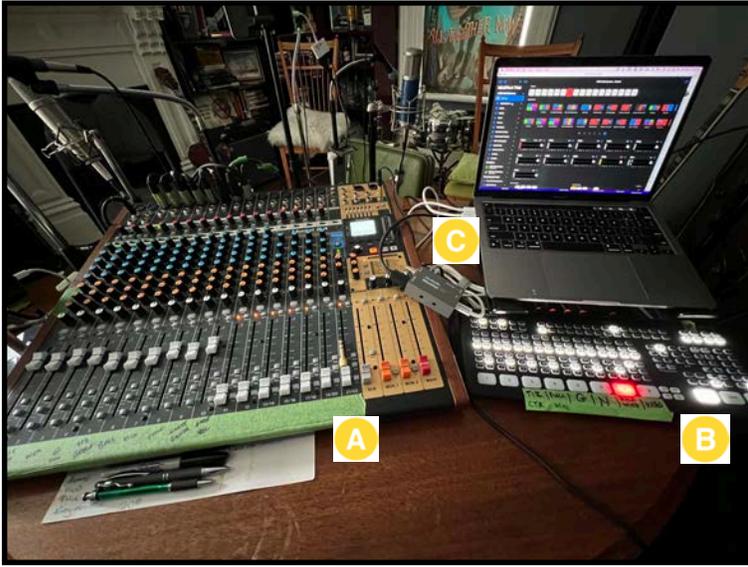
A few improvements have been made...



We were not happy that you could see the washer and dryer and the All Together banner taped in the window kept falling down.

The drums have arrived; we made a large All Together poster on foamcore for the window; floor to ceiling black velvet drapes; and a TV monitor for Barry. The amazing news, the Whiskey Wednesday tip jar helped with these upgrades.

Our dining room chairs look perfect in the studio. I am on the lookout for alternatives because I would like my chairs back eventually. I love Ken's shaggy white pillow on his chair, very "rockstar!" BTW the black tape on the floor is to mark where the chairs should go for the cameras. Ken was using green painters tape, I made him change it, lol.



**Episode 46-Wednesday,
November 16th**

1. End Of The World
2. Over You
3. RPD - This Town OF Mine
4. Bob Izumi Part 1
5. Dollar A Day
6. Pain Free Living
7. Bob Izumi Part 2
8. Morrissey
9. My Father's Ghost

Now to the tech side. Ken really explains the gear in his video and he is a master with organizing the many power cords which are everywhere.

My simple description. The “mixer” is on the left (A), this makes the Goats sound great. The “switcher” is on the right (B) and that’s what allows switching between different cameras. The studios newest piece of equipment and software (C) will be explained in Gear Talk.

Let's talk about Barry. The crazy universe, he is a trained Audio/Video tech who moved from the city to a house directly across the street from us. He now gets to work with all of this new gear. And we are so lucky he has the knowledge, loves the challenge and likes hanging out with us. Gratitude all around.

I really like how we have two different looks. A more traditional look for the cameras, what you all see. And a more modern feel for the off-camera production side.

Present Broadcast Studio Set Up a.k.a. ‘the drummer's perspective’



The big Whiskey Wednesday Show banner on the wall was centered & a new WW Show logo poster on foamcore was made for under the TV which can be taken to Live & On Location Shows.

The long white IKEA floor unit, the white IKEA lamps and the big screen mounted TV were already in the room. They work perfectly. I guess I'm not getting my big screen TV back.

First Show- September

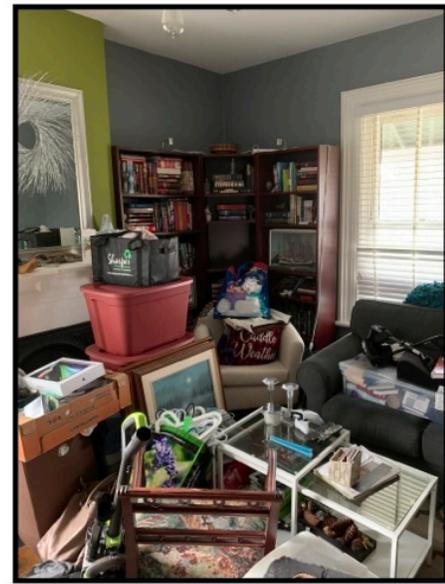


The Becoming Of A Studio



In 2019, before my transplant this room was our main living room.

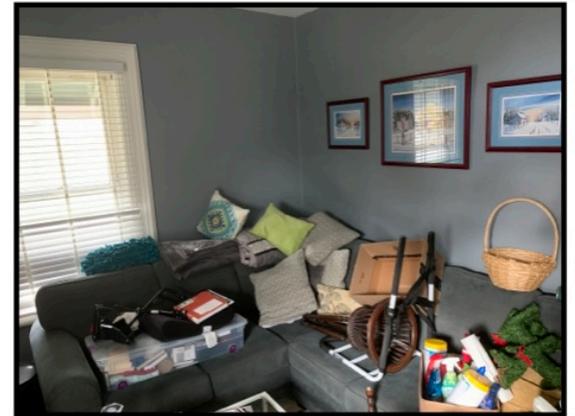
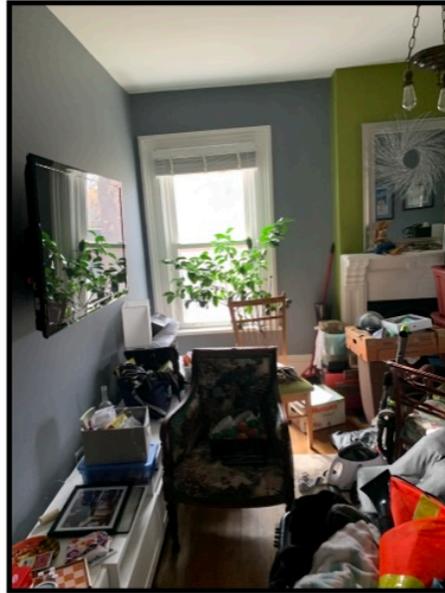
For the past 3ish years this has become the drop everything in there room. As the rest of the house was being moved or renovated we needed a holding spot. Also we acquired my mom's things when she moved into a nursing home. The girls took this only five year old large sectional from Bennett's to their apartment in Peterborough.



2020-2022

Episode 47-Wednesday, November 23rd

1. For The USA
2. Boy's Don't Cry
3. Old Dog
4. Dollar A Day
5. Bob Izumi second part
6. Darkness Has Fallen -
7. Dance Again
8. End OF The World



After bathroom renovation - May, 2022

When I look at this photo after moving in the washer and dryer I see a lot of potential.



I actually feel nostalgic looking at my manual wheelchair sitting in the middle looking lonely. I definitely don't miss using it but I appreciate how important it was in my journey. And just recently Ken took it down to my mom. So she is benefiting from it now.

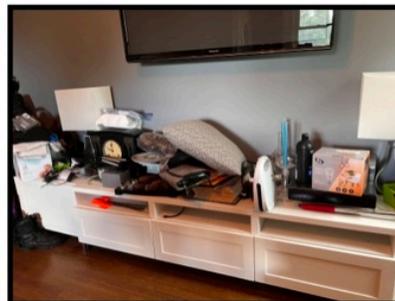


BTW we don't buy special elongated toilet paper



The antique table beside my wheelchair was recently bought for the Studio. I looked around for the right size. I love how it fits the look of the room perfectly and with the table risers it is high enough that I can wheel under it.

During the summer when Ken was away for a Watchmen show weekend, my Aunt Claire a.k.a. the organizer (remember from Guyana) helped us with the final transformation.



July 9, 2022

Yes Aunt Claire and I totally staged this...



Did you know that YouTube started out as a video dating site, it even had the slogan "tune in, hook up." The problem was nobody was sharing the type of videos the YouTube founders were looking for. People did however post all kinds of random videos, like of their dogs or vacations. The founders could have tried to correct this behavior but instead they embraced it. And we know the rest of what happened with YouTube.

*A moment of
Calm*

In today's meditation we are going to adopt that mindset. It is about your choices and how to approach them from a place of possibility.

Here is a tale about two companies. The year is 2000, the setting is a corporate building in Dallas, Texas, a building that is so intimidating, it is described as an unbroken cube of steel and glass. Our characters are two young men who have traveled

there to save their company from collapse. They have been running an internet start up for three years where you could rent dvd's by mail. They faced massive challenges going into this new millennia, the.com bubble was bursting and online companies were failing. They were in Dallas to ask their biggest competitor, their Goliath to buy them out.

The CEO of the giant company wore Italian loafers that cost more than both their outfits combined. He thought online businesses were not sustainable and would never make money. So when the young men named their price, \$50 million, the CEO had to hold himself back from laughing in their faces. But fast forward to today the Goliath was Blockbuster and it went bankrupt back in 2010. This scrappy start up is worth hundreds of billions of dollars, you know it as Netflix. Yes they started out with mailing dvd's.

The point of this story, the leadership at Blockbuster was so focused on what worked for them in the past that they couldn't see what was coming in the future. They weren't open minded to change and so the world moved on without them.

Do you ever find yourself behaving the same way, getting trapped in a line of thinking because it worked out once or twice before. Don't worry that's natural, repeating behaviors that were previously effective is a fundamental

part of being human. But in many situations that fixed mindset can hold you back. The key to thriving is often breaking those patterns, embracing a new opportunity even if it feels uncertain.

We can't predict the future but we should be able to adapt to it. And the people who continue to grow and find success they're the ones who refuse to settle for business as usual.

Ken has approached (admittedly with some guidance and my full support, lol) his musical career/path with an open mindset. From moving to Toronto at the age of 18 to pursue music, to the Watchmen, to Thornley, to an independent artist. I remember in 2005, he had no band and said to me I think I'm going to do a solo album just using the bass guitar. I said why not? That morphed into a few local band formations. Now we are on our latest adventure together, The Whiskey Wednesday Show.

Ken is enjoying the freedom of creating music on his own terms and he is not only building his own table but his own broadcast studio so that we can all enjoy his music with the Goats.

November 6, 2022 (four months later)



Embracing new opportunities...

**Episode 48-Wednesday,
November 30th**

- 1. Fare Thee Well
- 2. Waste Your Time
- 3. One Way Rider
- 4. Judgement
- 5. The Kentuckian Song
- 6. King Is Gone
- 7. Ramblin
- 8. On Your Mind

THE

WHISKEY
WEDNESDAY

SHOW *Gear Talk...*

We are doing something different this month. Ken did not showcase new gear from Traynor. They did have fun with the banjitar and we are going to look at new equipment and software for the Broadcast Studio.

In Episode 45, Nov. 9th, Ken used the banjitar for You Are My Sunshine. Ken, "This is a **banjitar** from **Goldtone**. This is another one of those creatures that the Yorkville Traynor gang sent to me. I think they were like, let's see what he does with this." After a few minutes of tuning they were ready to start. I just love the toe tapping, fun feeling of the banjitar. After the song, Ken, "Oh there you go, how much fun is the banjitar. Whatever band you play with that has a guitar player, whatever style of music, give him (or her) this and say use it for a song. Everything that you do will totally, totally change."

On Episode 47, Nov. 23rd introduced the new software, "I have actually spent another week researching and changing up software and equipment. As you noticed, tonight Barry's using a new switching system for doing super source stuff, which means all the little boxes that move around. We were kind of limited in what we were using. I did a little change up and it gives Barry some extra features to get to really easy... Thanks Barry for coming across the street and I threw OBS and Mix Effect at him tonight for the first time. It has got him more into the computer realm rather than the tactile. It's more optional. Thanks Barry for being such a sport." Barry responded, "I'm loving it."



Lot's of time tuning the banjitar. Ken, "Banjos are such finicky things. Are you picking this up in the microphone Barry?" Oh yeah was the reply with lots of laughter from everyone in the room. "I'm trying to tune this as quietly as possible."



The recent addition to the system is the inclusion of the **Black Magic Ultra Studio Monitor 3G**. This allows Barry the ease of playback of videos through OBS and direct into a HDMI channel on the ATEM.... Simple and effective.

As well we changed to **Mix Effect** for controlling the ATEM switcher. This allows many more options and presets for Barry when using the multi camera SuperSource windows. These two simple changes have saved Barry some serious time and effort.

Ken

Life Under (and beside) the Studio

Fall leaves have lulled themselves to sleep and winter is coming...

You're going to have to wait for the December newsletter for the Christmas reveal. Here are some arrangements I created this month. And let's remember at the beginning of November it still felt like autumn.

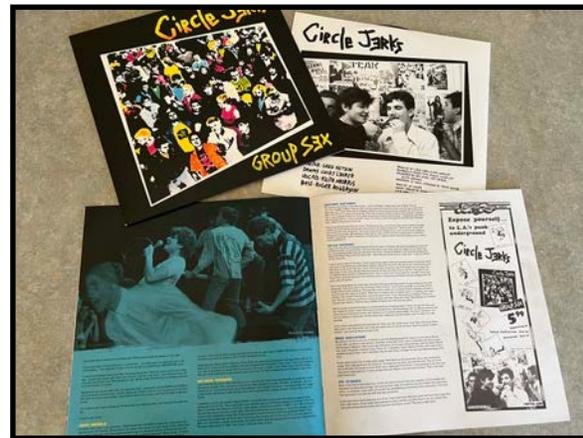


From Ken's Record Collection

The re-issue of **Group Sex** from the **Circle Jerks** sounds as good as it did in the 80's. No screwing around with remixes and alt versions, this album is complete and satisfying. Also I love a band that adds the value of good liner notes. This album has the best I've seen in decades.

Ken

Sneak Peek

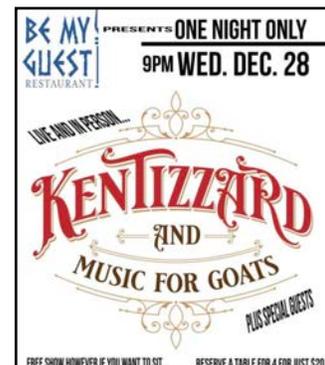


Wednesday, December 7th - Remembering Jacky Cook
A special evening celebrating a cherished friend.

Wednesday, December 14th - It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas
Guest: **James Clark** (Singer Songwriter)
For the first time on the Show Ken is interviewing someone who he did not grow up with, play in a band with, or even fished with. Come meet James Clark a singer songwriter from Toronto.

Wednesday, December 21st - Whiskey Wednesday Show Christmas Party
We have lots planned, a few guests, many Christmas tunes, festive drinks and a surprise or two. Now if only the guys would agree to wear either ugly Christmas sweater's or Santa hats then we would have an official CBC Christmas variety show. Think Tommy Hunter or dare I say Hee Haw.

Wednesday, December 28th - Whiskey Wednesday Show Live & In Person
Depending on internet connection we are hoping to broadcast parts from our local Be My Guest restaurant for this one night only event.



The Journey of Becoming an Album

November was a busy month for recording. I'm going to share Ken's own words from Episode 45, Nov. 9th. He described the recording process so well...

"We have been busy plugging away at the record. The drums are done, I think completely. Almost all whole takes too. No quantize (a new word for me) editing at all. There may be a combination of two takes for a few bits but none of the cutting and pasting as per usual. Mostly the same with the bass and acoustic which have been laid down now. I'm still sort of rewriting a lot of the parts for me so that's a little bit more choppy. But there are a few songs that I've got written that I've recorded full takes for. I'm going for a take vibe. I'm not thinking of the radio at all for this record. I don't want to. It's going to allow me to do things that I haven't thought about before. Either that or I have become really lazy in my old age and it's like, hmm, it sounds all right. He may be a little out of tune, but that's OK." Ken is definitely not lazy, he's been sharing a couple of tracks with me and you will all be impressed.

"The record has been taking up a lot of time. The Good Place has also been taking up our time. What a forking good show. This is my second round through. Me and Allison watched it years ago when Allison was first sick and we were head down into Netflix, killing time waiting for our emotions to figure out what was happening in our lives." Ken really does have a wonderful way of explaining our life. He continues, "We have recently started it with Neil. So we are Good Place Netflixing it with recording acoustic guitars every night which is a fantastic mix." It really is our nightly routine. Dinner, two episodes, recording, repeat.

Started recording guitars for the new record today!!!
Yay Traynor Amps



"The bass is done. The bass sound so forking groovy man. There is one tune in particular, I Like To Get High or Pain Free Living, I haven't quite decided yet. Man I think it was just after you got your bass back from Martin. You came in and played those big sort of high cords and they are just so beautiful on the recording. Oh my God this is one of the greatest bass tones ever! Mr. Grant, "I remember thinking I don't think any of those came out right. You said don't worry about that, they will be fine." Ken, "They did and the clarity of the tone was so great."

Later in this episode, "I'm going to start to think of some album titles. I have a bunch in mind already but none of them have stuck with me long enough. But it's fun to be working on an album again. I have gone full immersion mode on it which is not good for my vitamin D, getting outside. It's good for the record, it's coming together nicely."

An update on Episode 47, Nov. 23rd. "We're recording the album right now, we're about, ah I'm not going to put a percentage on how far because I have no idea. We have a fair chunk of it done, bed track wise. We have one or two acoustic tunes left for you (pointing to Neil). Then move into some other stuff. It's really coming together neat. But I am reassessing all the lyrics as we go through and making changes."

I asked Ken to explain bed tracks. "This is the first part of the recording process often done with the entire band playing together. The hope is to capture as much of the live performance as possible. But also to deal with bleed from microphones from one instrument to the next. Often what is remaining is the bass and drums. Guitars and vocals are often done in the overdub process."

Up Next

Once the beds are tracked and solid we sort through the remaining bed/scratch tracks of guitar and vocal to see if there was any magic. Usually this leads to the over-dub phase of the album where instruments are added on top of the existing 'beds' to create a mixable record.

Ken

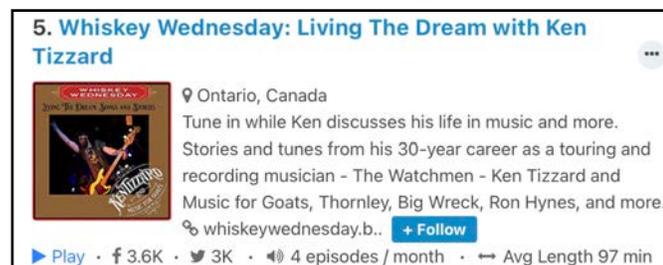
Bonus Feature

A personal reflection. On Wednesday night's as I am watching the Show I'm also watching the viewer comments. It's fun to be in the moment and be a part of the community. Even though I have never commented. When I am writing the newsletter I rewatch without the viewer comments. A totally different experience. It's amazing how many things I miss.

Also, I try to listen to the Show podcast especially with headphones, the music is just beautiful. So grateful for Barry's mixing abilities. This year The Whiskey Wednesday Show podcast was ranked number #5. I can say this, I'm proud, I think we all are. Ken, "Pleased to be alongside such great company." If you are new to the podcast world or haven't listened to a podcast in a while I suggest Episode 48, Nov. 30th with guest musician Steve Piticco. Definitely listen with headphones.



Stanley does love his belly rubs. The upstairs recording studio really does have its own unique vibe. Ah the memories!



Yabba Dabba Do!
See you at the next Whiskey Wednesday Show

