

SOLID GOLD

Joanne Sullivan: I've been involved in numerous choruses throughout Ontario, Manitoba and British Columbia as well as a teaching career throughout these three provinces. My early inspiration for music comes from my mother and father and fond memories of gathering around the piano and singing tunes while my mother played piano and organ. My father served in the Air Force and loved the music of the Big Band era. We would wake up on Saturday mornings to my father blasting the music of everything from Glenn Miller, Percy Faith, James Last, Vera Lynn, Herb Albert and the Tijuana Brass to Maria Callas. I had the good fortune of meeting Neil Kennedy who introduced me to the alto saxophone and Joy Band Too. I also volunteer my time to the preservation of live music in the North with **Jazz at the Junction**. I consider myself very lucky to be surrounded by a group of very talented musicians in **SOLID GOLD** who happily came together through chance meetings, local gigs, jam sessions. Our musical friendships formed from there. As the name suggests, **SOLID GOLD** represents the golden hits of pop, light jazz and Latin standards across the decades, and NOT the house of ill repute in Sudbury as I am so often kidded about!!!!

Doug Sewell: Doug studied Conservatory piano and with Ernie Fong in Toronto. He has played in blues and jazz bands in Toronto during the 60's and 70's. Doug also divides his time between two churches as organist, solo piano work, a country gospel group, being musical director of the Highland Players and keyboardist for **SOLID GOLD**. As if this isn't enough, Doug is also councillor for the village of South River!

Bruce Burns: My introduction to music started as a young boy with the accordion and I would pull it on a sleigh to go to my lessons. Next came high school and that's where I started on the sax during the era of the Beatles and the Stones. A couple of my high school buddies formed a band modelling ourselves after the Dave Clark Five and we had a blast! After that came my experiences on the road where we played the Ontario circuit with Jake Thomas, Brian Downey, a band called Patti D and the Martiniques, and Gus and the Dynamics with Dave Johnson, Gaston Denis, Richard Brunet and Michael Hull. We had a blast! Then came the 70's... I came back home, met this girl, fell in love, got married and raised three beautiful children and the next thing you know it's 35 years later, and who comes knocking on the door? **Rock & Roll!** So here we are, having a blast again with Dave Johnson and the Good Vibrations and Joanne Sullivan and **SOLID GOLD!** (Bruce can be spotted just about everywhere with his tenor and alto saxophone, sometimes playing both at once in harmony!)

Jordan Wyshniowsky is principal cellist with the North Bay Symphony and is a strings instructor with the Symphony String School. He has studied with former Sudbury Symphony and North Bay Symphony conductor, Metro Kozak, and with National Arts Centre Orchestra cellists Amanda Forsyth and Margaret Munro Tobolowska. He is active in performing and recording music in the North Bay area on both cello and double bass. Recent projects have included performing with the Almaguin Strings and Hidden Roots Collective. He has recently released a recording of instrumentals called 'Jordan Music' featuring cello, guitar, and keyboards. Jordan plays double and electric bass with **SOLID GOLD**.

Mike Gagne, drummer, has played since the age of 13 in many country and rock 'n roll bands. He has a passion for restoring and collecting vintage drums. It was the musical influence of the Beatles that started Mike's drumming passion. Mike's drum career began with banging on his Mom's kitchen pots and pans and has now graduated to Gretsch and Ludwig pots and pans! His musical drum inspiration comes from Joe Morello, Ian Paice, Neil Peart and John Bonham. Mike currently plays for **SOLID GOLD** and 2nd Avenue, travelling and performing throughout the North.

Andy Mclellan (guitarist): I've been playing guitar since three months after the first appearance of the Beatles on the Ed Sullivan Show. All the girls liked Paul, but I thought George was the coolest! Since the age of 18, I've played professionally in many genres. I currently live in Commanada with my wife, Rose, where I spend many happy hours composing original tunes in my recording studio. Andy can be spotted playing and crooning at his regular gig at the Bistro in Sundridge.