

The Imperial Show Band/ Jackson, Mississippi

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Brief Description	One of the few horn bands in the Gulf area in early to mid '60s; many prominent musicians associated with the band;			
Year Established	1960-1969			
Favorite Venues	Any fraternity at 'Ole Miss, any gig in the Delta, the Gulf Coast (around Biloxi) & The Village Hotel in Erie, Pa.			
Music Genre/Recordings	R&B, <i>Push Push, Cotton Chopper, Sweet Jelly, Mash-Ville & Shine. City Girl</i> (B-Side on Lowery's 1-2-3 Red Bird label is considered one of the ISB's best while the A-side is considered one of their worst) <i>Have a good copy ? Let us know !</i>			
Performer	Now Resides	Instrument	Years In The Band	Notes
Whitsett, Tim	Jackson, Mississippi	Trumpet, vocals	1960-1969	Band founder and leader; multi-talented musician, composer, producer, and unusually adept in all aspects of the music industry; became president of the publishing division of STAX in 1970, General Manager of Chrysalis in London in 1976, and Chappell in 1982. Still active with Malaco Music Group, as author of music business text books, and as a music business consultant.
Arledge, Buzz	Nashville, Tennessee	guitar, vocals	1964-1966	Was a member of early SC R&B bands such as the Duprees; went to school at Mississippi College with band mate from Duprees, Hank Martin. Buzz left ISB around September 66 - it was the draft syndrome again. He beat the draft by joining the air force and becoming an MP, or whatever the equivalent name is for an air force enforcer. He has a music publishing business in Nashville. See Buzz and Hank as members of the Never Gonna Give it Up club in appendices.

				Came to ISB as vocalist from Duprees of Sumter, SC. Left ISB in 1966 and became successful jingle writer. Credits include McDonalds, Coke, and the theme for Thundercats. After he left he married a preacher's daughter and was prevailed upon by his new father-in-law to abandon the sinful life of playing the devil's music.
Martin, Hank	Nashville, Tennessee	guitar, vocals	1964-1966	
Jennings, Bennett	Washington, D.C..	bass	1964-1966	Replaced <i>Guy Bowering</i> on bass when Guy joined the air force. And like <i>Guy Bowering</i> and <i>Ed Clarke</i> (see below), he joined the air force during the fall of 1966. He's now a psychiatrist living in the Washington, DC area.
Hodo, Jimmy	Jackson, Mississippi	Saxophone	1960-1969	Jimmy Hodo was with Tim from the beginning to the end having been a member of Tim's earliest bands. He is now a senior executive with the U.S. Dept. of Social Security in Mississippi.
Myers, Buddy		Drums	1960-1966	Buddy Myers left in late 1966 to marry his college Literature professor. He played on at least 10+ sides, and shared the drumming with Dulin on 3 or 4 more sides. Not sure his whereabouts just now, but he's tried everything everywhere trying to find the end of the rainbow; he's been a GOP field representative in Georgia and a sausage skin salesman in Indiana (not a sausage salesman, a sausage <i>skin</i> salesman), etc.

Whitsett, Carson	Nashville, Tennessee	B-3 Organ	1961-1969	<p>According to older brother, Tim, "Carson was allowed to join the band." He certainly made the best of the opportunity. Carson has had a tremendous career as a musician, producer, and songwriter. He co writes with other greats such as Dan Penn, Tony Joe White, and others. In 2003, the composition he co wrote with Dan Penn, <i>Don't Give Up On Me</i>, was the title cut for the Grammy winning album by Solomon Burke. He has written hits for country artists as well as R&B greats such as: Lorrie Morgan, Jerry Butler, Fred Knobloch, Johnnie Taylor, Conway Twitty, Etta James, Bobby Blue Bland, Dorothy Moore, Andre Bocelli and others. Is that's not diversity, what is?</p>
Tate, Tommy	Jackson, Mississippi	Vocals	1966-1969	<p>Tommy Tate's tenure was from late 1966 until the band split in '69; he went with Tim to Stax in 1970 and had moderate success as a writer, artist, performer there and elsewhere. Now lives in Jackson as an invalid, but he obtained cult status in England, Scandinavia, Japan, etc., and his old recordings are constantly being re-mastered and re-released.</p>

				<p>Bill Dunlap is a renown artist and lives in McLean, Va. Coincidentally, I read in the Washington Post yesterday morning that he and his artist wife Linda Burgess have been named in the "Green Book," which lists the names and particulars of Washington's 5,000 top must-know, must-invite elite of the elites. The Top 5,000 selections for the Green Book is rather mysterious, because you can't lobby or ask to belong; you're only selected by established members who remain anonymous even to those they bring in. Bill did play on two of our recordings: "Dee's Village" and "Stand By Me" featuring Tommy Tate. Author's note: While the Green Book may remain a mystery, the fact that Bill Dunlap played the drums on The Imperial Show Band's cover of <i>Stand By Me</i> recorded in <i>The Heeey Baby Days of Beach Music</i> is now known throughout the WWW.</p>
Dunlap, Bill	McLean, Virginia	Drums	1966-1969	
Jones, Eddie		Bass	1966-1967	Remained in L.A. when band headed for NYC
				<p>For the last 20 years or more, Lane has been living in Reno, Nevada where he's a nightly feature at one of the Casinos and has a recording studio. He is on the ISB's recordings of <i>Jive Harp</i>, <i>Pipe Dreams</i>, and played solos on two other records released by the band, <i>Sweet Jelly</i> and <i>Mack's By The Tracks</i>. His guitar licks really impressed Steve Cropper, who tried to get the band to sign with Stax.</p>
Cameron, Lane	Reno, Nevada	Guitar	1960-1962	
				<p>Lee left in late 1962 when the air force called, making four of ISB's bass players future air force fodder, Back in civilian life, he became a Top 40 deejay.</p>
Graham, Lee		Drums	1960-1962	

Lancaster, Dulin	Deep in the rain forest of Mississippi	Drums	1960-1962	He left the band circa 1962, but continued to play on many of ISB's records until 1966 when he went to L.A. with Jim Weatherly & the Vegas, later renamed The Gordian Knot. Dulin now lives in a house trailer deep in the dark woods of the middle Mississippi Rain Forest. Whitsetts states, "I don't know of any town close enough to his hermitage that can give anyone a hint as to where exactly he lives. Dulin played on the A&B sides of our 1st release, and he played on maybe 10+ more, as well as joining Buddy Myers on a few sides when we went for the Phil Spector sound in so far as using 2 drummers."
Barrett, Bucky	Nashville, Tennessee		1966-1969	Bucky Barrett lives in Nashville, owns a photography studio, and still plays on recording sessions for various artists. His tenure with the ISB was from late 1966 'til the end in '69. After ISB, Bucky became Roy Orbison's lead guitarist and stayed with Roy until Roy died.
Jennings, Bennett	Washington, D.C.	bass		Replaced <i>Guy Bowering</i> on bass when Guy joined the air force. And like <i>Guy Bowering</i> and <i>Ed Clarke</i> (see below), he joined the air force during the fall of 1966. He's now a psychiatrist living in the Washington, DC area.
Bowering, Guy	Jackson, Mississippi	bass		replaced Ed Clarke on bass until he too joined the air force upon graduation. A friend of his built a bass amp in his garage, gave it to Guy, and asked him to use it wherever we appeared so wannabes and up-and-comers could hear it, see it, and maybe buy one. This young entrepreneur was Hartley Peavey, founder and CEO of Peavey Electronics. Guy now lives in Jackson, and is an insurance agent.

Kellum, Murray	Deceased	Guitar	1960-1962	He lied ! He didn't wear a ten gallon hat and didn't ride a big white horse from Texas to enforce the law... He was from Mississippi. Played guitar on early ISB recordings then wrote and recorded <i>Long Tall Texan</i> , at which time he mounted that horse and rode away with the Dick Clark Caravan of Stars eventually landing with Carl Perkins as his lead guitarist; died in an airplane crash following a gig.
Kellum, Ronnie	Vicksburg, Mississippi		1960-1962	Murray's younger brother. Both were from Richland (a Jackson suburb), and their father was a regionally famous country & western band leader, recording artist, and radio star (Kay Kellum) in the 1940s and 1950s. Ronnie lives in Vicksburg, MS. He of course left us at the same time Murray did, and became part of Murray's new band.
Liles, Stuart		bass	1961-1962	<u>Stuart Liles</u> played with ISB from <u>1961 to 1962</u> on various instruments as needed: trombone, piano, bass. Tim doesn't know where Stuart is now but wishes he did so he could collect the \$3.75 he owes Tim. Stuart left the band when he was called up for active Naval duty during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

				<p>Jerry Puckett only actually played with us in 1963, after his return from L.A. where he played guitar for The Champs and Ricky Nelson. Glenn Campbell replaced him in the Champs. Though he played with us only in '63, he did play on many of our records in other years, and did a very noteworthy solo on "Shine," our best selling record. (Also played on "Monkey Man," "Cotton Chopper," "Li'l Liza Jane," and probably some more I've forgotten just now). He was an icon to all musicians that ever heard him, and still is legendary. He had a hit record when he was 11 or 12, called the "Hadacall Boogie." I probably misspelled the name Hadacall, but in the early 1950s it was a popular all-purpose elixir for whatever ailed you, and it was promoted by a combination traveling circus and medicine show. The owner and promoter of the wonder-drug was a fast-talking hustler named Colonel Tom Parker! Jerry lives in Madison, MS - a Jackson suburb - and operates a small studio recording jingles for local radio and TV spots.</p>
Puckett, Jerry	Madison, Mississippi	guitar	1963-1963	
Lott, Alton		guitar	1962-1962	<p>Alton Lott was never a member of the band. He did play a guitar solo that, again, impressed Steve Cropper, on our second best selling single, Mash-Ville. That was late 1962.</p>
Hawkins, Fred	Jackson, Mississippi	guitar	1963-1966	<p>Played either rhythm or lead guitar on 8,9, or 10 of ISB's records. "He was a wacky charmer who made the old lady chaperones melt when we played for high school proms and graduations (though he really wanted the young high school girls to melt.)"</p>

Jordan, Bubba	Jackson, Mississippi		1962-1963	real show-stopper, who genuinely could've been a star, but he left for better pay and steady work as a B-52 pilot flying nightly bombing runs over Hanoi. Lives in Jackson, owns an insurance agency.
Clarke, Ed	Phoenix, Arizona		1961-1962	Ed sang on a couple of our early records, was sort of like our mentor, taught us a lot, especially how to behave in public. Joined the air force upon college graduation, is now a retired colonel living in Phoenix.
Moore, Dorothy	Jackson, Mississippi	Vocals	1966-1966	Dorothy joined us at the same time as Tommy Tate. She had and still has a spectacular voice. She was very shy and only stayed with us 3 or 4 months, because her mother didn't want her traveling bunched up with 7 guys in a station wagon. She did okay, though. Has been nominated for gads of Grammys, for songs like "Misty Blue," "Funny How Time Slips Away," "I Believe You," "With Pen In Hand," etc. She lives in Jackson, performs for special occasions, gets dragged out to be the parade Marshall at Christmas, to cut a ribbon at some opening, etc., and gets in lots of fishing, which is heaven to her.
Bowering, Guy	Jackson, Mississippi			replaced Ed Clarke on bass until he too joined the air force upon graduation. A friend of his built a bass amp in his garage, gave it to Guy, and asked him to use it wherever we appeared so wannabes and up-and-comers could hear it, see it, and maybe buy one. This young entrepreneur was <u>Hartley Peavey</u> , founder and CEO of Peavey Electronics. Guy now lives in Jackson, and is an insurance agent.