

Bio

*Julie Lee
& her
White Rose Band*



“I have one of the best jobs in the world!” That is a statement I’ve repeated many times to people as I travel this great country of ours, playing my music for the many dances or special parties that I’m asked to work at. Let me tell you about myself, past and present.

I grew up on a farm outside of Hillsboro, ND, the third oldest of nine children. My parents, Rudy & Lorraine Reinbold, were both musically inclined and instilled music into us kids as well. Dad had a local band for some years as we were growing up called “Rudy & the Rhythm Kings.” There were five members, including Dad on guitar and vocals, Mom on vocals and my uncle on accordion. I went to a country school for grades 1-3 and our teacher had us singing three -part harmony for our Christmas programs. Mom would “volunteer” us older girls to sing for various bridal showers at our church and she would accompany us on piano. So we were always singing for something and it sure made dishes go faster at home too.

I took three years of piano lessons in grade school. I started playing clarinet in 6th grade and continued until graduation. I started playing alto sax in high school stage band. This was my favorite instrument and continues to be so today. Mom would always play records at home featuring Billy Vaughn, Herb Alpert, Buck Owens, Floyd Cramer, Eddy Arnold, etc. Those were all big influences in my musical upbringing. Mom & Dad would sing together, he on guitar & she playing piano many Sunday evenings in our home. I learned all the old songs as I grew up from them.

So music has always been a cornerstone of my life and in 1995 I was able to start my own group – “Julie Lee & her White Rose Band.” I am based out of Fargo, ND, but travel extensively to do my work. The core of my group is myself on vocals, alto & tenor sax, clarinet & rhythm guitar and my husband Hugo, who manages the electronic soundboard and plays accordion. We add more musicians to our group as needed and as venues require, using three, four and five pieces for some of the bigger festivals or events.

My music has taken me to many corners of our country, including the states of Washington, Oregon, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Michigan, Missouri, Texas, Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada and even Alaska. This was done in 2010 when I entertained on a Carnival cruise

ship to Alaska. We will be working on a Princess Cruise Ship to the Western Caribbean in January of 2014 as well.

Late spring, summer and early fall finds us based out of Fargo, ND. From November thru April we base out of Mesa, AZ. Between our summer and winter schedules, we are kept very busy.

My music has a wide variety of dance styles. Depending on what the venue is, I can feature country music, 40's and 50's, old time waltz & polka, rhumba, etc. We play for a variety of venues including festivals, fairs, church festivals, private parties, club dances, pool parties, polka masses, Christmas parties or casinos.

I currently have fourteen CD's for sale and one DVD produced live at the Corn Palace in Mitchell, SD in 2005. I have a website at www.whiteroseband.com which shows all of my schedules, promo items, newsletters, etc.

I have started a new venture - an annual festival with a little different twist. Check out my website for the current news on my WHITE ROSE FESTIVAL, held at the Withrow Ballroom in Hugo, MN. Not only do we have great bands to dance to, but we feature a sit-down, catered dinner on Friday night followed by a dinner show. It's something a little bit different and people are really enjoying this special touch.

Another new venture Hugo and I have started together is we've taken on the Southwest Polka Party in Las Vegas, held every February. It's a big challenge for us, but a fun and rewarding one as well. People come from all over the country and Canada to take a break and come down to Las Vegas to meet up with their friends and have a great time dancing each year. You can find out all about it on www.southwestpolka.com.

I have met so many wonderful people doing my work and many of them have become very close friends. Where ever we travel, we know people. It's like having a family at every stop. The most satisfying thing about my job is seeing the happy, smiling people and knowing that we are bringing enjoyment to them. I am truly blessed to be able to play my music for my career. Thanks to all of our followers and friends out there - you all make it so worthwhile.

