

Seeley Swan  
**PATHFINDER**



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**Bottom Line Duo Perform and Inform Amid Smiles and Laughter**

Story and photos by Colleen Kesterson,  
Pathfinder

Spencer Hoveskeland of the Bottom Line Duo interspersed one-liners, humorous anecdotes and food for thought throughout the 2 Valleys Stage concert held Sunday evening, Oct 13, at Swan Valley Elementary School in Condon.

Hoveskeland told the audience an anecdote about Winston Churchill related to the arts. Hoveskeland said that when it was suggested to Churchill to divert funds designated for the arts to the war effort, Churchill replied, "No, that is why we are fighting the war!"

Hoveskeland on the upright bass and ukulele and his wife Traci who plays the cello, tuned their instruments many times during the performance. Every time he interjected with "we tune" with many humorous reasons including "we believe it helps" and "3 out of 5 musicians do tune."

The duo played a variety of selections ranging from classical, familiar melodies, pieces Hoveskeland had written for his ukulele and Traci's cello to a humorous audience participation number that involved social chamber music, heavy metal and disco.



***Bottom Line Duo performing at Swan Valley Elementary School, Traci Hoveskeland played the cello. Spencer Hoveskeland switched between bass and ukulele***

Monday morning the Duo conducted informances for the K-8th grade students of Swan Valley Elementary School to further explain what they do. They gave demonstrations and asked for student participation in their music. The songs included singing the number of tires on a big rig in different formats such as pi to the 18th place and in Roman Numerals to XVIII.



***Hoveskelands of the Bottom Line Duo explaining their instruments to the 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade classes at Swan Valley Elementary School. Also attending were the students from the Mission Christian School in Condon.***

A student from the Christian School commented, "I need to look at the Roman Numerals!"

Hoveskeland told the older students they did much better keeping time than the adults in the audience last night.

Asked by a student why the Duo didn't use sheet music, Hoveskeland answered, "We memorize our pieces so we can interact with the audience better." He went on to explain that they have adopted singing the pieces using the Italian alphabet including do, re, mi. They can practice anywhere.

The Duo went on to answer questions about the differences in their instruments and of what the bows and strings are made.

A middle school student asked, "How long have you been playing?"

Hoveskeland quipped, "Oh about 20 minutes now." That got a lot of laughs from the students.

The consensus of the students was that the informance was fun and awesome and some middle students appreciated the heavy metal music piece.

The musicians were also planning informances at Seeley Lake Elementary Monday afternoon, Oct. 14 and both informance and workshops at Seeley-Swan High School on Tuesday, Oct. 15.

For further information or to contact the Bottom Line Duo visit [www.TheDuet.Net](http://www.TheDuet.Net) or email at [info@TheDuet.Net](mailto:info@TheDuet.Net).

