

# A PLACE FOR JAZZ

Vol. XVI

August, 2005

Our web site----- [http://timesunion.com/communities.jazz/Updated daily](http://timesunion.com/communities.jazz/Updated%20daily)

## This One's for Butch

Our anticipation of the 2005 season is tempered with concern for Butch Conn, who founded the series 18 years ago and who has been battling serious illness since last fall.

Butch's devotion and enthusiasm have brought us many memorable evenings of jazz at the Whisperdome with both well-known and up-and-coming musicians. He has always insisted on treating the musicians with respect, making sure they have everything they need and giving them the best possible showcase. We hope the 2005 season will live up to his standards.

While planning this year's concerts, negotiating with musicians, raising funds, doing publicity and keeping track of myriad details, all of us have marveled at how Butch was able to do all this by himself for so many years. It has been a true labor of love, and he can be immensely proud of the tradition he has created.

The advisory committee and everyone who has helped to get this fall's series ready to go would like to dedicate the 2005 season of A Place for Jazz to Butch Conn, with love, respect and admiration.

### Jazz Cruise Update

Last fall, APFJ-ers Lee Shaw, Tom Pierce, Uta Jennings and I enjoyed the Jazz Cruise aboard Holland America's *Zaandam*. This year, we will be joined by Margaret Gaines, Peg Miller, Winnie Stewart and Al and Ruth Sabo.

The Jazz Cruise is a seven-day Caribbean cruise which embarks from Fort Lauderdale, Florida on October 29, 2005., aboard HA's *Zuidrdam*. Ports of call this year are Aruba, Curacao and Half Moon Cay.

*Check out our update monthly calendar. Check out our website at <http://timesunion.com/communities/jazz/>. The calendar is updated weekly and includes links to Jazz Festivals, clubs and concert series.*

### VOLUNTEER HELP WANTED

*We need help:*

- *Label newsletters (1 hour every 3 months...can be done at home)*
- *Go to clubs and do reviews*
- *Work on a young people's project at the Hamilton Hill Art Center*

*Call Tim Coakley if you want to help at 518-393-4011 or e-mail him at [coakjazz@aol.com](mailto:coakjazz@aol.com)*

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### HAVE YOU MAILED BACK YOUR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL?

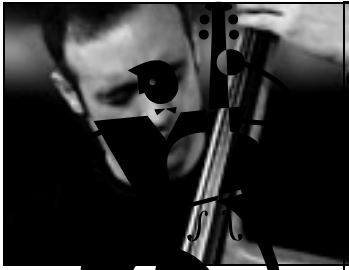
If so, we thank you for your continued support.

If not, please take a moment to pick a membership category from the form at the back of this newsletter and mail it, together with your check made payable to "Jazz/FUSS", to the address listed below. Membership is critical to allow us to continue our tradition of providing great Jazz at affordable prices. We would greatly appreciate it if you would renew your membership in A Place For Jazz now. Thank You.

**A Place For Jazz**  
1221 Wendell Avenue  
Schenectady, NY 12308



# A Place for Jazz Fall Series '05



**Gregg August Sextet**  
Friday, September 16

Schenectady native Gregg August comes from a musical family. His father, Ed, played piano professionally and his aunt, Peg Delaney, is one of the Capital Region's top jazz pianists.

Gregg's recent recording, "Late August," features a group of up-and-coming New York musicians who play Gregg's music with spirit and vitality. Branford Marsalis called it "an excellent debut recording by a very versatile musician. Gregg August will be around for a long while."

Now Gregg brings this sextet to the Whisperdome to open our 2005 season with a scintillating evening of great sounds.



**Dan Levinson and his Summa Cum Laude Orchestra**  
Friday, September 30

Clarinetist Dan Levinson appeared at A Place for Jazz in 2001 with Ed Polcer's Magic of Swing Street. This year, his Summa Cum Laude sextet will perform tunes from a historic 1939 recording session by Bud Freeman, along with some other beauties.

Dan has studied with clarinetist Rosie McHargue saxophone virtuoso Al Gallodoro. He leads the Roof Garden Jass Band, a five-piece ensemble devoted to hot jazz from the early '20s..

Dan and the group, which includes trumpeter Randy Reinhart, will play a lively brand of swing and dixieland music that could get some folks up and dancing.

Vocalist Molly Ryan will join in for some classic American songs. This should be a joyous and tuneful evening.

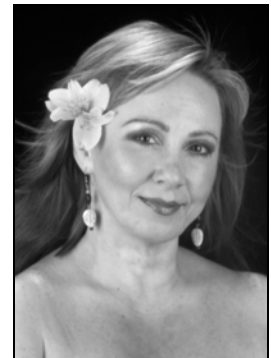


**Hilton Ruiz Quintet**  
Friday, October 14

One of the finest pianists in Afro-Cuban jazz, Hilton Ruiz is also an expert bebop player. A child prodigy, he appeared at Carnegie Hall when he was 8.

He performed with Latin bands as a teenager, and gained jazz experience with Joe Newman, Frank Foster and Freddie Hubbard. After touring Europe with saxophonist George Coleman, he recorded with Charles Mingus, Betty Carter and Clark Terry.

He has led his own groups since the early 1980s. The quintet he brings to the Whisper Dome will offer a spicy mix of Latin music and jazz that's sure to get listeners moving in their seats - or out of them.



**Roseanna Vitro**  
Friday, October 28

Roseanna Vitro brings a wealth of swing, melodic inspiration and expression to the jazz idiom. Her vocal stylings can be heard on her recent CD "Tropical Postcards."

She has toured with Hilton Ruiz and has performed at many international jazz festivals, including concerts in Bombay, India, and at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut.

She was a resident faculty member at SUNY Purchase from 1999-2202, and has been featured on Marian McPartland' "Piano Jazz" program on National Public Radio.

Roseanna and her trio will give us an evening of intimate, swinging and melodic jazz that will linger long after the concert.





**Steve Kuhn Trio  
Friday, November 11**

Brooklyn-born Steve Kuhn was fascinated with jazz early in life. In his early teens, he studied with legendary teacher Margaret Chaloff, mother of the great baritone saxophonist Serge Chaloff.

While studying at the Lenox School of music, he met trumpeter Kenny Dorham, joining his group for a two-year stint.

After playing with Stan Getz, he formed his own trio and made a series of albums on ECM, as well as collaborating with vocalist Sheila Jordan.

With his current trio of David Fink, bass, and Billy Drummond, drums, Steve Kuhn will bring our 2005 season to a spectacular finish.

Order Form			
CONCERT	QTY	PRICE	TOTAL
GREG AUGUST		\$15	
DAN LEVINSON		\$15	
HILTON RUIZ		\$15	
ROSEANNA VIDRO		\$15	
STEVE KUHN		\$15	
Complete Series		\$60	

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# M&Ms...Members and Musicians

Trumpeter **Lew Soloff** made a memorable appearance a few years back with the Empire Jazz Orchestra, directed by Bill Meckley, at Schenectady County Community College, playing the music of Gil Evans. He will return to play with the orchestra again on Tuesday, Oct. 11. This time, he will play one or two pieces by Evans as well as some other music. He will also do a free clinic that will be open to the public on the afternoon of the concert. Another highlight of the concert will be the orchestra's multi-reed man **Brett Wery** performing Artie Shaw's famous "Concerto for Clarinet."

Speaking of the **Empire Jazz Orchestra**, vocalist **Colleen Pratt**, who has sung several times at EJO concerts, recently finished recording an album with the band. All but one of the arrangements were made by the orchestra's Jim Corigliano. Should be a fine album, and we look forward to hearing it.

*The Sunday Gazette* recently printed a nice article by reporter Phil Schwartz about clarinetist and saxophonist **Skip Parsons**. In 2006, Skip will celebrate the 50th anniversary of forming his **Riverboat Jazz Band**, which has been keeping traditional jazz alive and well these many years. Skip and the band play the second weekend of every month at The Fountain on New Scotland Avenue in Albany.

The Capitol District area is blessed with good food and good music. But when these two elements are combined, and on a consistent basis, the establishment offering them deserves mention. So here are seven, in alphabetical order:

One Thursday each month, you'll find **Colleen Pratt** pleasing the

lounge crowd at **Brandon's Restaurant** in Schenectady (1725 Van Vranken Ave, Schenectady, 518-347-1329). And one of the nicest parts is that it's possible to order one of Chef/Owner Donnie Williams' fine dinners as well.

The story goes that owner John Romano once told his wife as long as the **The Fountain Restaurant** (283 New Scotland Ave, Albany, 518-482-9898) is in operation, **Skip Parsons** and his Riverboat Jazz Band will have a venue. John's gone, but the Fountain and Skip are flourishing. Pub food (the wings and Italian Antipasto are my favorites) and Dixieland are at its best in this comfortable establishment.

**Justin's Restaurant** (Lark St. Albany, 518-436-7008) features dinner in the Savoy Room, newly-decorated with snazzy jazz paintings and wild vases. On Friday and Saturday nights, some of the region's heppiest jazz cats (**Lee Shaw, Adrian Cohen, Brian Patneau**) heat up the front of the room; a delectable Sunday brunch also features live jazz, "eccentric" omelettes and snazzy Bloody Marys.

**Mill Road Acres** (30 Mill Road, Latham, 783-7244) isn't just a golf course. Decent food and fine music (weekends) are served up by a cozy stone fireplace at the **Mill Road Restaurant**. Bar, lounge and dining room form a comfortable assemblage where the music can be heard from all corners. One is apt to find Sonny and Perley fireside entertaining the guests.

Looking for **Lee Shaw** and her trio? They've been at **One Caroline Street Bistro** (518-587-2026) in Saratoga on a regular basis for several years now. The menu features "multi-cultural cuisine" in a comfortable dining room right smack in the middle of "happening"

Saratoga. And of course, the main entrée is the incredible Ms. Shaw and her piano jazz, with Rich Syracuse (bass) and Jeff Siegal (drums).

**Panza's Restaurant** on Saratoga Lake (518-584-6882) boasts fine music on weekends. Son **Michael Panza** is a regular along with vocalist **Colleen Pratt** and pianist **Peg Delaney** who is often accompanied by her bassist husband Bill. Ian mixes adult beverages with good conversation. I like to sit at the bar and treat myself to a shrimp cocktail served in a martini glass with shrimp the size of lobsters.

The **Stockade Inn** (1 North Church St., Schenectady, NY, 518-346-3400) has recently begun to offer local jazz greats (**Sonny Daye** and **Perley Rousseau** with **Tom Charlap, Jody Shayne** to mention a few), on Thursday evenings from 7-10. The music is played in what is possibly the loveliest lounge in the area. Drinks are sturdy and a lounge menu is available (try the Dim Sum for Two or the Crab Cakes).

Drummer **Jeff Siegel**, who plays regularly with the Lee Shaw Trio, has a new CD out under his own name. Titled "Magical Spaces," it features **Erica Lindsay** on tenor sax, **Francesca Tanksley** on piano and **Danton Boller** on bass. Vocalist **Tim Strong** is heard on one number. All the compositions are by Jeff himself. The disc is on the Consolidated Artists Productions label. For more information, go to [www.jeffsiegeljazz.com](http://www.jeffsiegeljazz.com), which is Jeff's official Web site.

**Al Haugen** recently returned from an accordion summit in Dallas, Texas, where he joined the legendary Art Van Damme in judging some up-and-coming young performers.

# JAZZ IN THE NORTHWEST

By Jerry Gordon



Jazz comes in many flavors, and there are multi-day festivals that cater to most varieties. The ones that Maryanne and I usually attend are dedicated to traditional jazz. "Trad" is also known as Dixieland, classic jazz or hot jazz, or its various subsets: New Orleans, Chicago, Kansas City, West Coast revival, etc. These festivals often include lesser amounts of big-band swing and mainstream. I belong to an on-line Dixieland Jazz Mail List ([www.islandnet.com/djml/](http://www.islandnet.com/djml/)) that discusses all of these, and to avoid our infighting about nomenclature, we lump it all under the acronym OKOM - Our Kind Of Music. Recently, we took a trip to the beautiful Northwest to attend not one, but two such festivals. The **Victoria Hot Jazz Jubilee** ([victoria-hot-jazz.com](http://victoria-hot-jazz.com)) started on Thursday, April 14, but because I made our airline reservations before studying the festival schedule and Victoria's ferry schedules, we missed Thursday evening and some of Friday. However, with 14 bands playing at 6 venues from noon to midnight Friday and Saturday and 10:30am-3pm on Sunday, there was still plenty of jazz to hear. (Next year: April 20-23, 2006)

Here's who performed, in the order that we heard them, and my very subjective reactions:

**Climax Jazz Band**, a British-style trad group from Toronto, is the first group we heard, and they set a very high standard for the rest of the weekend. They play with feeling and gusto, and their humorous song introductions add to their appeal.

**CanUs** is a Victoria-based septet that plays Dixieland, swing and ragtime, and throws in some three-part harmony vocals. They're very good, but probably because they read many of their charts, I'd put them a notch below Climax.

**String of Pearls**, also from Victoria, comprises three lovely ladies who do close-harmony versions of many big-band favorites. They remind me of an all-girl Manhattan Transfer, especially when they do the same songs. During the set we heard, they did at least 4 MT numbers. But they're still delightful to listen to and look at.

**Igor's Jazz Cowboys** (Tempe, AZ) is a western swing group that's a big crowd-pleaser at all the festivals they play, and they play maybe 15-20/year. We've heard them in CT, CA and now in BC, and they always fill the venue.

**Rollanda Lee and the Canadian Hot Stars** (Edmonton, AB) is a "hot" Dixieland band with a "Hot Mama" at the

helm. They did a very good job with both typical Dixie tunes, as well as a number of big-band songs.

**Lance Buller and the Monarchs** (Seattle, WA) is another high-quality Dixieland group, but I found them to be quite loud. This was our first visit to this particular venue, and I don't know whether it was the hall or the soundman's fault, but the volume definitely detracted from our enjoyment of this group.

**Bijoux du Bayou**, from the Victoria area, followed the Monarchs and had the same decibel-level problem.

Since Zydeco isn't among my favorites, we rearranged our schedule and left for another venue.

**51st Eight** - WOW!! This octet of youngsters (all between 19 and 23) just blew our socks off! Using mostly their own arrangements of Dixieland and swing tunes, they played with unbridled joy and enthusiasm, and they swung mightily. The piano and bass players were female, but the gal to watch is Bria Skonberg. She led the group and announced all the songs, played the trumpet like a pro and sang beautifully; it's just not fair for someone so young to be blessed with her combination of good looks, musical talent, personality and stage presence. Highlights were Bria's ballad-like take on "Stompin' at the Savoy" and a really hot "Please Don't Talk about Me." Keep your eye (and ear) on this group, especially Bria and tenor sax player Evan Armtzed. Their web sight is [www.the51steight.com](http://www.the51steight.com)

**Belvedere Broadcasters** is a Victoria-based orchestra that plays recreations of the songs and dance music of the '20s and '30s. If the crowds on the dance floor are any indication, they do it quite well, too.

**Casey Ryder and Twango** (Victoria, BC) was a very pleasant surprise. With a front line of lead guitar, trumpet and tenor sax supported by a string bass and two rhythm guitars, they played a very swinging "gypsy jazz." If they had had a CD, I would have bought it.

**Desperation Jazz Band** is from the Comox Valley area of Vancouver Island. Somewhat unusually, their front line included a bass trombone and a soprano sax. Good, clean,

swinging trad, just as enjoyable as Climax.

**Chicago 6** from Cardiff, CA, is a favorite on the West-Coast festival circuit. I love bassist/leader Bob Finch's droll, dry humor just as much as their music. When we first heard them at the Sacramento Jazz festival about 8 years ago, I was impressed enough to buy a CD. I bought another one this time.

**Uptown Lowdown** (Seattle, WA) plays a drumless West-Coast revival-style Dixieland, a la Turk Murphy. They produce an interesting sound when both reed players take out their bari saxes at the same time. They are another staple of the West-Coast festival circuit, for good reason.

**Dixieland Express Jazz Band** (Victoria, BC) is yet another great Dixieland band, easily the equal of Climax, Desperation or Chicago 6. This was the last set of the festival, and I must admit that I left about 1/3 of the way through so I could catch the end of **51st Eight's** finale. As great as all the other music was, **51st Eight** was the highlight of the festival for both Maryanne and me.

After a few days of sight-seeing in and around Victoria, a beautiful city that's well worth a visit with or without a jazz festival, we took the ferry to Port Angeles, WA, which is directly across the Strait of Juan de Fuca from Victoria. **Jazz in the Olympics** (<http://jazzolympics.com/>)

is slightly smaller than Victoria, with "only" 10 bands playing in 4 venues. Victoria had around 1200 attendees, while JITO had about 2000.

**JITO** is a strictly trad festival. All the bands, with just a few minor exceptions, had a front line of trumpet or cornet, reeds and trombone, backed by piano, banjo or guitar, tuba or bass, and drums. Here are the bands, in alphabetical order: **Buck Creek Jazz Band** (Springfield, VA); **Grand Dominion JB** (Camano Island, WA); **High Sierra JB** (Three Rivers, OR); **Holotraddband** (Seattle, WA); **Louisiana Joymakers** (Vancouver, BC); **New Black Eagle JB** (Boston, MA); **Original Salty Dogs** (Chicago, IL); **Paramount JB** (Boston); and **Titanic JB** (Vancouver). I'm not going to give individual reviews as I did for Vancouver, because they were all excellent. There were some variations in styles, but the worst of them rates a 9 out of 10. The ones I enjoyed most, as much because of the humor of the leader as for the music, were **High Sierra** and **New Black Eagles**.

But I've got to tell you about the **Louisiana Joymakers**. Remember my raves about **51st Eight** in Victoria? Well, 21-year-old Bria led the **Joymakers**, too! The clarinetist was another young female, but the rest of the band was composed of much more "seasoned" guys. They were still great, thanks to Bria.

(Maryanne thinks I'm in love; maybe she's right.)

If this report tempts you to try a trad festival, you're in luck - there are two that you can drive to in about 3 hours: **Hot Steamed Jazz** ([www.hotsteamedjazz.com/](http://www.hotsteamedjazz.com/)) in Essex, CT, June 24-26, 2005 and **The Great Connecticut Traditional Jazz Festival** ([www.ctjazz.org/](http://www.ctjazz.org/)) in Moodus, CT, July 29-31, 2005. Give one (or both) a try; you won't be sorry. For a list of other jazz festivals within about a day's drive of Albany, visit [timesunion.com/communities/jazz](http://timesunion.com/communities/jazz). If there are any aspects of any of this that you'd like to discuss with me, drop a line to [jerrygordon@juno.com](mailto:jerrygordon@juno.com), or call me at 518-235-8232.



Bria Skonberg (on the left) in front of the Louisiana Joymakers. The other singer is clarinetist Claire McKenna.

**2005 Lake George Jazz Weekend**  
**September 17 and 18**  
**1 - 6 pm**  
**Shepard Park, Canada St., Lake**  
**George, NY**  
**Free Admission**  
**Rain site: LGHS Auditorium**



**Saturday, September 17:**

Gregor Heubner, Richie Beirach & George Mraz

Sonny Fortune  
Quartet



Vince Seneri, Dave Valentin, & Houston Person

**Sunday, September 18:**

David Sanchez  
Trio



Giacomo Gates w/ Richie Cole  
Ensemble

Chris Washburne & Soyotos



# August Jazz Calendar

## Monday, August 1

7-10pm, Dave Gleason, One Caroline Street

## Tuesday, August 2

7pm, Cole Broderick, Chez Sophie bistro

10pm, Family Tree, Lark Tavern  
6-8pm, 2 Broads with Alotta Sound, Onderdonk Park, Hampton Manor Rd, E. Greenbush, 489-7652

7:30-10:30pm, Masters of Nostalgia, One Caroline Street

8pm, Henry Francis Sextet, Seven Hills Inn

## Wednesday, August 3

6-9pm, Lincoln Mayorga (piano) and Otto Gardner (bass), Blue Plate

9pm-midnight, Sensemaya, Justin's  
7-10pm, Peg Delaney, One Caroline Street

6:30-9:30pm, Sonny Daye (piano), Provence Restaurant

## Thursday, August 4

7-11pm, Swing night, Danceland/Boomers

Noon-1:30pm, John McIntosh Quintet, Jazz on Jay

9pm-midnight, Adrian Cohen Trio, Justin's

9-12pm, Nouveau Chill, Lark Tavern

6-9pm, Chuck D'Aloia; 9-12pm, Lee Shaw Duo, One Caroline Street

6:30-9:30pm, Sonny Daye Duo, Provence Restaurant

## Friday, August 5

### Festival

9-12pm, Walter Donnaruma Trio, Cafe Capriccio

8:30-11:30pm, Reggie's Red Hot Feetwarmers featuring Don Young, Doc Scanlon, Peter Davis, Gary Burke & Dan Levinson, Hibernian Hall, 375 Ontario St, Albany  
9:30pm-12:30am, Leo Russo Quartet, Justin's

6-9pm, Joe Gitto; 9-12pm, Dave Payette Trio, One Caroline Street

10pm-1am, April Marie & Friends, Reel Meals Cabaret, 86 Congress

Street, Congress Plaza, Saratoga Springs, 583-8883

7pm, John McLean Jazz Men, Saratoga Lake Bistro

7-10pm, Ruth Hellkamp, Scrimshaw Restaurant

7pm, Sonny & Perley Trio in concert, *I'll Take Romance*, roof of the Tand Museum, Skidmore College

## Saturday, August 6

### Festival

7:30-10:30pm, live jazz, Blue Mt Bistro

7:30pm, Sonny & Perley Trio in concert, *I'll Take Romance*,

Conkling Hall

call for time, Rob Kelly & guests,

Egremont Inn

7pm, Alex Torres & the Latin Kings,

Freedom Park

9:30pm-12:30am, Jeff Siegel Trio, Justin's

6-9pm, Dave Payette; 9-12pm, Adrian Cohen Duo, One Caroline Street

7pm, John McLean Jazz Men, Saratoga Lake Bistro

7-10pm, Ruth Hellkamp, Scrimshaw Restaurant

7:30pm, Freddy Cole, Southern Vermont Arts Center

Jazz bands from all over New England play in the Village, Stratton Mountain

## Sunday, August 7

### Festival

6-8pm, 2 Broads with Alotta Sound, Butler Park Concerts, Gettle Rd, Averill Park, 270-2731

7pm, Sonny & Pearly, Caffe Lena  
10am-1pm, Tom Shields,

Cambridge Hotel

7pm, Sensemaya, Collar City Live!  
11am-1pm, brunch with Skip

Parsons' Riverboat Jazz Band, Dutch Apple Cruises

7:30pm, John Hughes-Charlie Tokarz-Todd Roach Trio, Heron Cove Concerts

11:30am-2:30pm, Jazz Brunch with Nat Phipps, Justin's

9pm-midnight, Brian Patneude Quartet, Justin's

7-10pm, Chuck D'Aloia, One Caroline Street

10am-2pm, Jazz Brunch with Joe Sorrentino Band, Sargo's

Jazz bands from all over New England play in the Village, Stratton Mountain

## Monday, August 8

7-10pm, Delprete & Solazzo, One Caroline Street

## Tuesday, August 9

7pm, Cole Broderick, Chez Sophie bistro

10pm, Family Tree, Lark Tavern

7:30-10:30pm, Masters of Nostalgia, One Caroline Street

8pm, Bob Connors Sextet, Seven Hills Inn

## Wednesday, August 10

6-9pm, Lincoln Mayorga (piano) and Otto Gardner (bass), Blue Plate

9pm-midnight, Sensemaya, Justin's  
7-10pm, Joe Gitto, One Caroline Street

## Thursday, August 11

7-11pm, Swing night, Danceland/Boomers

Noon-1:30pm, Paul Mastriani Quartet, Jazz on Jay

9pm-midnight, Adrian Cohen Trio, Justin's

9-12pm, Nouveau Chill, Lark Tavern

6-9pm, Mike Dimin; 9-12pm, Saratoga HS Student Jazz Ensemble, One Caroline Street

## Friday, August 12

### Festival

8pm, Taylor Eigsti, Belleayre Music Festival

9-12pm, Walter Donnaruma Trio, Cafe Capriccio

10pm-1am, Skip Parsons' Riverboat Jazz Band, The Fountain

8-11pm, Sonny & Perley Trio, Jubilee Restaurant

9:30pm-12:30am, Craig Magnano Quartet, [Justin's](#)  
6-9pm, Joe Finn; 9-12pm, Brian Patneau Duo, [One Caroline Street](#)  
7pm, John McLean Jazz Men, [Saratoga Lake Bistro](#)  
7-10pm, Ruth Hellkamp, [Scrimshaw Restaurant](#)  
7pm, Dead Cat Bounce, Tang Museum, [Skidmore College](#)

**Saturday, August 13**  
**Festival**

Acoustic Circus, [Bailey's Café](#)  
8pm, Chick Corea Trio, [Belleayre Music Festival](#)  
7:30-10:30pm, live jazz, [Blue Mt Bistro](#)  
call for time, TBA, [Egremont Inn](#)  
10pm-1am, Skip Parsons' Riverboat Jazz Band, [The Fountain](#)  
7pm, Swing Docs, [Freedom Park](#)  
9:30pm-12:30am, Paul Kogul Trio, [Justin's](#)  
7-9pm, Sonny & Perley Trio in concert, *I'll Take Romance*, Merchants Park, corner of North and Pleasant Streets, Bennington, VT 802-442-5758  
8pm, Elite Syncopation, [Music Mountain](#)  
6-9pm, Joe Gitto; 9-12pm, Azzaam Hameed Duo, [One Caroline Street](#)  
7pm, John McLean Jazz Men, [Saratoga Lake Bistro](#)  
7-10pm, Ruth Hellkamp, [Scrimshaw Restaurant](#)

**Sunday, August 14**  
**Festival**

7pm, Sonny & Perley Trio in concert, *I'll Take Romance*, [Caffe Lena](#)  
10am-1pm, Tom Shields, [Cambridge Hotel](#)  
11am-1pm, brunch with Skip Parsons' Riverboat Jazz Band, [Dutch Apple Cruises](#)  
11:30am-2:30pm, Jazz Brunch with Lee Shaw, [Justin's](#)  
9pm-midnight, Brian Patneau Quartet, [Justin's](#)  
7-10pm, Chuck D'Aloia, [One Caroline Street](#)  
10am-2pm, Jazz Brunch with Joe Sorrentino Band, [Sargo's](#)

8:30pm, New York Voices + Boston Pops, [Tanglewood](#)

**Monday, August 15**

7-10pm, John Nazarenko, [One Caroline Street](#)  
7pm, Spectrum Dance Orchestra, Senior Citizen Center, Hamburg St, Schenctady

**Tuesday, August 16**

7pm, Cole Broderick, [Chez Sophie bistro](#)  
10pm, Family Tree, [Lark Tavern](#)  
7:30-10:30pm, Masters of Nostalgia, [One Caroline Street](#)  
8pm, Henry Francis Sextet, [Seven Hills Inn](#)

**Wednesday, August 17**

6-9pm, Lincoln Mayorga (piano) and Otto Gardner (bass), [Blue Plate](#)  
6-8pm, Sonny & Perley, Gazebo at River Park, Hudson Ave, Green Island, 273-2201  
9pm-midnight, Sensemaya, [Justin's](#)  
7-10pm, Peg Delaney, [One Caroline Street](#)

**Thursday, August 18**

4-5pm, 2 Broads with Alotta Sound, Altamont Fair, Grove Stage, Altamont, 861-6771  
7:30-10:30pm, Sonny & Perley, [The Chow Hound](#)  
7-11pm, Swing night, [Danceland/Boomers](#)  
Noon-1:30pm, Paul Couch & Mulligan Stew, [Jazz on Jay](#)  
9pm-midnight, Adrian Cohen Trio, [Justin's](#)  
9-12pm, Nouveau Chill, [Lark Tavern](#)  
6-9pm, Dave Payette; 9-12pm, Lee Shaw Duo, [One Caroline Street](#)  
6:30-9:30pm, Sonny Daye Duo, [Provence Restaurant](#)

**Friday, August 19**  
**Festival**

8pm, Roni Ben-Hur Quartet, [Belleayre Music Festival](#)  
9-12pm, Walter Donnaruma Trio, [Cafe Capriccio](#)  
7:30-10:30pm, Sonny & Perley, [The Chow Hound](#)  
9:30pm-12:30am, Chad McLaughlin Trio, [Justin's](#)

6-9pm, Mike Tremante; 9-12pm, Colleen Pratt & Friends, [One Caroline Street](#)  
7pm, John McLean Jazz Men, [Saratoga Lake Bistro](#)  
7-10pm, Ruth Hellkamp, [Scrimshaw Restaurant](#)

**Saturday, August 20**  
**Festival**

8pm, Jane Monheit, [Belleayre Music Festival](#)  
7:30-10:30pm, live jazz, [Blue Mt Bistro](#)  
call for time, Jay Messer Trio, [Egremont Inn](#)  
9:30pm-12:30am, Keith Pray Group, [Justin's](#)  
8pm, Big Easy Rhythm, [Music Mountain](#)  
7pm, John McLean Jazz Men, [Saratoga Lake Bistro](#)  
8-11:30pm, Sonny & Perley's Jive Five, [Saratoga Music Hall](#)  
7-10pm, Ruth Hellkamp, [Scrimshaw Restaurant](#)  
7:30pm, Bucky Pizzarelli, John Pizzarelli Trio with Jessica Molaskey, [Southern Vermont Arts Center](#)

**Sunday, August 21**  
**Festival**

1pm, Hudson Valley Youth Jazz Orchestra, [Belleayre Music Festival](#)  
10am-1pm, Tom Shields, [Cambridge Hotel](#)  
7pm, Annie and the Hedonists, [Collar City Live!](#)  
11:30am-2:30pm, Jazz Brunch with Maria Zemantauski, [Justin's](#)  
9pm-midnight, Brian Patneau Quartet, [Justin's](#)  
7-10pm, Dave Payette, [One Caroline Street](#)  
10am-2pm, Jazz Brunch with Joe Sorrentino Band, [Sargo's](#)  
10:30am-1:30pm, Sonny Daye (piano), [Turf House Grill](#)

**Monday, August 22**

7-10pm, Peg Delaney, [One Caroline Street](#)

**Tuesday, August 23**

7pm, Cole Broderick, [Chez Sophie bistro](#)



6:30pm, 2 Broads with Alotta Sound & Dixie Sweet Hots, Cook Park, Lincoln Ave (off Central Ave across from L-Ken's Drive-In), Colonie, 869-7562

7-8:30pm, Sonny & Perley's Bossambajazz, Congress Park, Broadway and Congress Streets, Saratoga Springs, 587-3241  
10pm, Family Tree, Lark Tavern  
7:30-10:30pm, Masters of Nostalgia, One Caroline Street  
8pm, Bob Connors Sextet, Seven Hills Inn

### **Wednesday, August 24**

11:30am, NitroJive, At the Park, Ten Eyck Plaza, Albany, 465-2143  
6-9pm, Lincoln Mayorga (piano) and Otto Gardner (bass), Blue Plate  
9pm-midnight, Sensemaya, Justin's  
7-10pm, Scott Bassinson, One Caroline Street  
6:30-9:30pm, Sonny Daye (piano), Provence Restaurant  
11:30am, NitroJive, Ten Eyck Plaza, Albany, 465-2143

### **Thursday, August 25**

**Festival**  
7-11pm, Swing night, Danceland/Boomers  
Noon-1:30pm, Alan Payette Quartet, Jazz on Jay  
9pm-midnight, Adrian Cohen Trio, Justin's  
9-12pm, Nouveau Chill, Lark Tavern  
6-9pm, Joe Gitto; 9-12pm, Azzaam Hameed Duo, One Caroline Street

### **Friday, August 26**

**Festival**  
8pm, Vince Giordano's Nighthawks, Sosnoff Theater, Bard College  
9-12pm, Walter Donnaruma Trio, Cafe Capriccio  
9:30pm-12:30am, Francesca Tanksley Trio, Justin's  
6-9pm, Mike Dimin; 9-12pm, Lee Shaw Trio, One Caroline Street  
7pm, John McLean Jazz Men, Saratoga Lake Bistro  
7-10pm, Ruth Hellkamp, Scrimshaw Restaurant  
7-8:30pm, Doc Scanlon's Rhythm Boys, Tang Museum, Skidmore College

### **Saturday, August 27**

**Festival**  
Acoustic Circus, Bailey's Café  
8pm, Afro-Latin Jazz Orchestra, Bard College  
7:30-10:30pm, live jazz, Blue Mt Bistro  
call for time, John Sauer & Jeanne Laurin, Egremont Inn  
9pm-midnight, Lee Shaw Trio, Justin's  
7-10:30pm, Sonny & Perley Trio, Mill Road Acres  
8pm, Cynthia Sayer's Hot Jazz Trio, Music Mountain  
6-9pm, Chuck D'Aloia; 9-12pm, Chuck D'Aloia & John Nazarenko, One Caroline Street  
7pm, John McLean Jazz Men, Saratoga Lake Bistro  
7-10pm, Ruth Hellkamp, Scrimshaw Restaurant

### **Sunday, August 28**

**Festival**  
10am-1pm, Tom Shields, Cambridge Hotel  
11:30am-2:30pm, Jazz Brunch with George Muscatello, Justin's  
9pm-midnight, Brian Patneau Quartet, Justin's  
7-10pm, Joe Finn, One Caroline Street  
9pm, Joey Thomas Big Band, Saratoga Gaming & Raceway, Crescent Ave, Saratoga Springs, 584-2110  
10am-2pm, Jazz Brunch with Joe Sorrentino Band, Sargo's  
6pm, Charley Smith Blues Band, Tropic Hut, Saratoga Lake

### **Monday, August 29**

7-10pm, TBA, One Caroline Street

### **Tuesday, August 30**

7pm, Cole Broderick, Chez Sophie bistro  
10pm, Family Tree, Lark Tavern  
7:30-10:30pm, Masters of Nostalgia, One Caroline Street  
8pm, Bob Connors Sextet, Seven Hills Inn

### **Wednesday, August 31**

6-9pm, Lincoln Mayorga (piano) and Otto Gardner (bass), Blue Plate  
9pm-midnight, Sensemaya, Justin's  
7-10pm, Chuck D'Aloia, One Caroline Street

## **R A D I O J A Z Z**

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# Saratoga Stan

By Beverly Elander

The last time I remember seeing **Stan Marsden** perform was on the final **Earl Pudney** Show on WRGB. Clad in a raccoon coat (loaned to him by **Ray LaMere**, he told me in a recent interview), Stan (vibes) was hamming it up with the rest of the **Vito Mamone** Trio, which included Vito (accordion) and **Sid Norman** (bass). The tune was “Winchester Cathedral.” And the trio was giving Putney a jolly old send off.

It took me two years to coax Stan to talk to me. “For a music magazine, I think they [interviews] should be limited to those whose musicianship and abilities make them interesting artistically. Not involving personal/social history.” In the end, it was pianists **Lee Shaw** and **Peg Delaney** who suggested that Marsden more than lived up to his rigid standards for being “interesting.”

“I was born in Hamilton, Ontario, in 1929 during the Depression, and my folks took me to London just in time for the Blitz.” Thus began the tale of Stanley Marsden, in his own words.

It was in Perivale in the County of Middlesex that young Stan discovered the lure of music. His father played the piano (in G-flat, playing “more black notes than white notes”), as well as the harmonica.

But when his friends George, Frank and Harry purchased second-hand musical instruments, Stan began playing chords on the piano at the age of 10 or 12. He remembers that his first gig was on drums (“though I never ‘learned’ to play”).

When Marsden returned to Hamilton in 1953, he confessed to

faking it on piano, always making sure he had good musicians with him. In those days, he labored in a factory by day, and gigged at night. Stan decided to play vibes after watching a vibist, and being encouraged by a friend who told him, “you can’t play piano, and you don’t have drums” (he had sold them to pay for the trip home to Canada).

Working “silly” jobs like selling TV picture tube insurance, Marsden practiced his new instrument in the cellar of the music store where he stored it.

His break came when he auditioned for blind pianist Billy Lane, who had come to town. Lane offered Stan a job touring the states. One of the group’s first jobs was in Latham, NY in 1956 at Otto’s (owned by



Otto Golonka), where Stan sat in for the first time.

Recalling his year and a half stint with Lane, Marsden chuckled over a particular job at Green’s Crystal Terrace in Duluth, Minn., where the temperature was minus 29 degrees, and the stripper was flaming. Literally. The finale of her act called for her to light the tassels strategically strung around her hips

and shimmy them out. But by the end of the week, the tassels had burned to the point where no amount of hip gyrations would extinguish them. The bartender had to douse the flames with his seltzer bottle.

The G-rating of APFJ prevents me from relating Marsden’s story about the 17 year-old sax player’s instrument and a certain portion of the lightly-clad lady’s anatomy. Stan suggested that a resounding B-flat would unplug the horn.

When the group disbanded, Stan wound up at Rudy Ciccotti’s Duke’s Bar, frequented by a veritable Who’s Who of area musicians: Paul Couch, Tommy Shields, Nick Brignola, Sid Norman, Andy Glasco, Vito Mamone, and Dale Foster.

It was Foster who hired Stan, along with Vito and Sid to form the Dale Foster Quartet in 1957. But when Foster left the group to marry Dee Delaney, Stan joined Dave Read as a duo, calling it “one of the silliest things I’ve ever done.” So Marsden left Read and called Mamone, playing his first gig as part of the Vito Mamone Trio at Fay’s on the Greenbush Road in 1961. The popular group went on the play at Duke’s, the Crystal Lounge, The Golden Fox, The Country Gentleman, the Lion’s Den, Uptown Club, Smart Set, Veeders, and Mill Road Acres. Their last gig was New Years Eve 1996 at the Century House.

Most recently, the cassette recorder is Stan Marsden’s instrument. He could be heard at [www.northernbroadcasting.co.uk](http://www.northernbroadcasting.co.uk) with a fine assortment of platters and patter.

# Help Us Remember!

We are trying to put together a list of all the concerts at A Place for Jazz since we started in the late 1980s. This could help us attract new members, as well as letting potential performers know the caliber of music we present.

If you have any old programs or posters that would help us compile our list, please call 393-4011 or email [coakjazz@aol.com](mailto:coakjazz@aol.com). We promise to return any materials you let us borrow.

APFJ and this newsletter are a part of the Adult Programs of the First Unitarian Society of Schenectady, with grants from Schenectady County Improvement Program, Schenectady Foundation, the Albany-Schenectady League of Arts and membership contributions.

Programs include concerts, public workshops, school-based clinics, a Jazz website and general support of Jazz and its musicians. We welcome announcements and comments.

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Our website with a weekly updated calendar is [timesunion.com/communities/jazz/](http://timesunion.com/communities/jazz/)

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## Tanglewood Labor Day Weekend Annual Jazz Festival Schedule

**Friday, Sept. 2:**  
Seiji Ozawa Hall.  
Diane Schuur with  
the Caribbean Jazz  
Project; Toots  
Thielemans, Kenny  
Werner, Oscar  
Catro-Neves and  
Airtro, 8 p.m. \$55  
\$40, lawn tickets:  
\$17

**Saturday, Sept. 3:**  
Theatre. The Legends  
Trio with Skitch  
Henderson and  
Bucky Pizzarelli,  
noon. \$35-\$25  
Seiji Ozawa Hall.  
Marian McPartland  
taping for "Piano  
Jazz" with special  
guest Madeleine

Peyroux, 3 p.m. \$45-  
\$30, lawn tickets \$17  
Koussevitzky Music  
Shed  
Tony Bennett and  
the Count Basie  
Orchestra, 8 p.m.  
\$81-\$41, lawn tickets  
\$23

**Sunday, Sept. 4:**  
Seiji Ozawa Hall.  
Sonny Rollins. 2 p.m.  
45-\$30, lawn  
tickets \$17  
Seiji Ozawa Hall.  
Yellowjackets, Chris  
Botti.  
8 p.m. \$65-\$42,  
lawn tickets \$20

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