

A PLACE FOR JAZZ

February 2006

Editor: Tim Coakley

WEBSITE: [HTTP://WWW.APLACEFORJAZZ.ORG](http://www.aplaceforjazz.org)—UPDATED DAILY



A New Beginning

By
Tim Coakley

Last year marked a turning point for A Place for Jazz. We lost our founder and leader, Butch Conn, to cancer and were left to carry on the season that he had begun earlier in the year.

Thanks to an array of great volunteers and generous members, as well as good ticket sales, we produced a successful concert series.

As 2006 gets under way, A Place for Jazz will start taking on a new shape, as we organize to carry on the mission that Butch began 19 years ago. By the time you read this, we will have a board of directors in place to begin planning the fall concert series.

And while we did have

season, each new year brings the challenge of raising money to fund the concerts and their attendant expenses - publicity, housing and feeding the musicians, renting musical equipment, etc.

Time to Renew

No arts organization, however successful its events, can survive solely on ticket sales. That means that we are again asking everyone to renew their memberships for the year. Inside you will find our membership form, listing the funding levels for each category.

Whether you are joining us for the first time or renewing your membership, you can help us begin prepar-

ing another season of top-quality jazz performances. We hope by the next newsletter to have at least some of the performers lined up for what we hope will be an even better and more swinging series of concerts.

VOLUNTEER HELP WANTED

We need help:

Labeling newsletters (1 hour every 3 months...can be done at home)

Writing music reviews

Working on a young people's project at the Hamilton Hill Art Center

If you can help, please call Tim Coakley at

518-393-4011

or e-mail him at

coakjazz@aol.com

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Check out our updated-monthly calendar on our website at www.aplaceforjazz.org or www.timesunion.com/communities/jazz

The calendar is updated daily and includes links to Jazz Festivals, clubs and concert series

In Memoriam

BILL EDWARDSSEN
November 16, 1927-
February 6, 2006

NEA Names Seven New Jazz Masters

An awards ceremony held in New York City in January honored this year's NEA Jazz Masters: **Chick Corea**, singer **Tony Bennett**, Latin jazz percussionist **Ray Barretto**, composer-arranger trombonist **Bob Brookmeyer**, trumpeter **Freddie Hubbard**, clarinetist **Buddy De Franco**, and **John Levy**, the bassist who became the first African-American to work in the music industry as a personal manager.

Bennett said, "This is amazing. I'm overwhelmed. It's music that I love so much from all of these magnificent artists."

"More than anybody

else I'd like to thank Count Basie for teaching me how to perform," said Bennett.

Corea, who has moved smoothly between acoustic jazz, fusion and classical music during his career, said he felt inspired by the award.

"It is my dream to help young musicians to take on the beauty that we've lived and we've created," said the pianist, composer and arranger.

NEA Chairman **Dana Gioia** said his goal is to give the Jazz Masters awards the same status as the Academy Awards or the Pulitzer Prizes. "What we're trying to do is to take great living

jazz musicians and make them celebrated and recognized in their own country during their own lifetime," said Gioia. "We're trying to give these musicians a chance to perform in ways where people hear them so they can build an audience."

Since taking his post as NEA chairman in 2003, Gioia has expanded the Jazz Masters program, which has honored 87 jazz legends since its inception in 1982.

The NEA provides each Jazz Master with a one-time fellowship of \$25,000. The endowment has initiated a 50-state Jazz Masters on Tour program covering

75 cities and produced a two-CD anthology of their music and a special "Jazz Profiles" series with National Public Radio. It also helped support a "Legends of Jazz" TV series hosted by Ramsey Lewis, which will debut on PBS this spring, as well as a multimedia Jazz in the Schools curriculum offered free to high school teachers of social studies, history and music. This year's awards ceremony was held as part of the International Association for Jazz Education convention.



Rufus Reid at EJO

The great bassist and composer Rufus Reid will join the Empire Jazz Orchestra, the professional big band in residence at Schenectady County Community College, for a concert on April 11. They will play several of his compositions, including a new extended piece that will close the first half of the program. Also in the first half, the EJO will play John Clayton's arrangement of Thelo-

nious Monk's "Evidence" and Gordon Goodwin's arrangement of "Attack of the Killer Tomatoes." The first half will end with a new composition titled "Dreamscapes".

Rufus Reid will return for the second half of the concert to perform with the EJO. A special treat for this concert will be an appearance by guitarist Jack Fragomeni, who will join Reid for some

duets.

All in all, it should be another stellar performance by the EJO. The concert starts at 8 p.m. Tickets are available by calling 381-1231.



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

FEBRUARY JAZZ CALENDAR

Visit our website at www.aplaceforjazz.org

February Jazz Venues

Listed Alphabetically

9 Maple Avenue Jazz Club, Saratoga Springs, 583-2582

Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY, 845-758-6822 (50 miles south)

Blue Plate Restaurant, 1 Kinderhook St, Chatham, NY, 518-392-7711 (30 miles southeast)

Café Capriccio, 49 Grand St, Albany, 465-0439

Caffe Lena, 47 Phila Street, Saratoga Springs, 583-0022

Century House, 997 New Loudon Rd (Rt 9), Latham, 785-0834

Chez Sophie bistro, Route 9 (500 yards south of Northway Exit 13S), Malta, 583-3538

Danceland/Boomers, 1892 Central Ave, Albany, 456-2888

The Egg, Empire State Plaza, Albany, 473-1845

The Fountain Restaurant, 283 New Scotland Ave, Albany, 482-9898

Four Corners Luncheonette, 2 Grove St, Delmar, 439-0172

Justin's, 301 Lark St, Albany, 436-7008

Lark Tavern, 453 Madison Ave. Albany, 463-9779

Mo' Jazz Café, 7 South Main St (beneath the Wilmington Village Pub), Wilmington, VT 802-464-2280 (45 miles northeast)

Moon & River Café, 115 S. Ferry St., Schenectady, 382-1938

One Caroline Street Bistro, Saratoga Springs, 587-2026

Panza's Restaurant, Route 9P on Saratoga Lake, Saratoga Springs, 584-6882

Parker Inn, 434 State St, Schenectady, 688-1001

Red Onion Restaurant, Route 212, Woodstock, NY 845-679-1223 (55 miles south)

Roadhouse 29, 1023 Route 29 East, Saratoga Springs, 695-6995

Saratoga Hotel, 534 Broadway, Saratoga Springs, 885-4430

Sargo's, Saratoga National Golf Club, 458 Union Ave, Saratoga Springs, 583-4653 (Open to General Public)

Scrimshaw Tavern, Desmond Hotel, Colonie, 869-8100

Stockade Inn, 1 N. Church St, Schenectady, 346-3800

The Van Dyck, 337 Union St, Schenectady, 381-1111

Vermont Jazz Center, 72 Cotton Mill Hill, Studio 222, Brattleboro, VT, 802-254-9088 (80 miles east by northeast)

WAMC Performing Arts Studio - Linda Norris Auditorium, 318 Central Ave, Albany, 800-323-9262 ext 4

Friday, February 17

9-12pm, Walter Donnaruma Trio, [Cafe Capriccio](#)

8-11pm, Ralph Whittle Trio, [Castle St Café](#)

5pm, Bob Sbuttoni, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

8pm, Soulive, Mass MoCA, North Adams, MA

9pm, Vic Bell Combo, [Roadhouse 29](#)

10:45pm-12:30am, Doc Scanlon's Rhythm Boys, Saratoga Hotel, 534 Broadway, Saratoga Springs, 885-4430

7-10pm, Ruth Hellkamp, [Scrimshaw Restaurant](#)

7-10pm, Sonny & Perley, [Stockade Inn](#)

Saturday, February 18

8-11pm, Mitch Kessler Trio, [Castle St Café](#)

5pm, Dan Sedia & Joel Villa, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

9pm, Mark McKay, Jim Daggs, Chris Bakriges, [Mo' Jazz Café](#)

7-10pm, Pauline Bennick-vocals & Peg Delaney-piano, [Panza's Restaurant](#)

8pm, Anne Correa, [Roadhouse 29](#)

7-10pm, Ruth Hellkamp, [Scrimshaw Restaurant](#)

8pm, Edsel Gomez Trio, [Vermont Jazz Center](#)

Sunday, February 19

10am, Rich Donnelly, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

11:30am-2:30pm, Jazz Brunch, [Justin's](#)

9pm-midnight, Brian Patneau Quintet, [Justin's](#)

6-9pm, Peter Einhorn, Malcolm Cecil & George Deleon, [Red Onion Restaurant](#)

10am-2pm, Jazz Brunch with Joe Sorrentino Band, [Sargo's](#)

Monday, February 20

WE WELCOME YOUR INPUT

Have you been to a good concert; heard a new Jazz CD, or just want to tell us how we're doing? Why not share it with us? Write a review and send it to coakjazz@aol.com. And be sure to check out our website at www.aplaceforjazz.org. Let us know what you like, or don't like, and keep the Capital Region updated as to why it is *A Place for Jazz*. Deadline for the next newsletter: April 15, 2006.

FEBRUARY/MARCH JAZZ CALENDAR

Visit Our Website at www.aplaceforjazz.org

Tuesday, February 21

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

5pm, Diane Russo & Bob Sbuttoni, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

10pm, Family Tree, [Lark Tavern](#)

Wednesday, February 22

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

5pm, Chris Dunn, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

9pm-midnight, Sensemaya, [Justin's](#)

7pm, Masters of Nostalgia, [One Caroline Street](#)

Thursday, February 23

7-11pm, Swing night, [Danceland/Boomers](#)

5pm, Shirley Nasner, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

9pm-midnight, Justin's Jazz Trio, [Justin's](#)

9-12pm, Nouveau Chill, [Lark Tavern](#)

6-8pm, Ed Wool, [Parker Inn](#)

7-10pm, Pauline Bennick Trio, [Stockade Inn](#)

Friday, February 24

9-12pm, Walter Donnaruma Trio, [Cafe Capriccio](#)

8-11pm, The BTUs, [Castle St Café](#)

5pm, Bob Sbuttoni, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

8pm, Ann Rabson & Bob Malone, [Linda Norris Auditorium \(WAMC Perf Arts Studio\)](#)

9pm, Vic Bell Combo, [Roadhouse 29](#)

7-10pm, Ruth Hellkamp, [Scrimshaw Restaurant](#)

7-10pm, Brian Patneade Trio, [Stockade Inn](#)

Saturday, February 25

4pm, Masterclass with Henry Grimes (bring your instrument), Bard Hall; 8pm, Henry Grimes Quartet + Roswell Rudd, Olin Hall, [Bard College](#)

8-11pm, Jay Messer Trio, [Castle St Café](#)

5pm, Dan Sedia & Joel Villa, [Four Corners](#)

8pm, Sonny & Perley Quartet in concert, *Tribute to Ella Fitzgerald*, [Hilton Arts Center](#)

9:30pm, Lee Shaw Trio, [Justin's](#)

9pm, Billy Arnold, Jim Daggs, Chris Bakriges, [Mo' Jazz Café](#)

9pm-1am, Pete Sweeney Quartet, [9 Maple Ave](#)

6pm, 'Azzaam Hameed; 8pm, Rachel Dave & Tico, [One Caroline Street](#)

6:30-9:30pm, Tom Shields-piano, [Panza's Restaurant](#)

7-10pm, Judd Staley, [Provence Restaurant](#)

7-10pm, Ruth Hellkamp, [Scrimshaw Restaurant](#)

7 & 9:30pm, Rachael Z Trio with Bobby Rae, [Van Dyck](#)

Sunday, February 26

10am, Rich Donnelly, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

11:30am-2:30pm, Jazz Brunch with George Muscatello, [Justin's](#)

9pm-midnight, Brian Patneade Quintet, [Justin's](#)

6-9pm, Peter Einhorn, Malcolm Cecil & George Deleon, [Red Onion Restaurant](#)

10am-2pm, Jazz Brunch with Joe Sorrentino Band, [Sargo's](#)

9:15am, Skip Parsons Dixieland Quartet, Mardi Gras Jazz Mass at **St Andrews Episcopal Church** at the intersection of Main Ave, Madison Ave & Western Ave, Albany

Monday, February 27

Tuesday, February 28

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

5pm, Diane Russo & Bob Sbuttoni, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

Wednesday, March 1

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

8-11pm, Jazzmin, Cabernet Café, Albany

5pm, Phil Foote, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

9pm-midnight, Sensemaya, [Justin's](#)

7pm, Masters of Nostalgia, [One Caroline Street](#)

Thursday, March 2

7-11pm, Swing night, [Danceland/Boomers](#)

5pm, Shirley Nasner, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

9pm-midnight, Justin's Jazz Trio, [Justin's](#)

6-8pm, Ed Wool, [Parker Inn](#)

Friday, March 3

9-12pm, Walter Donnaruma Trio, [Cafe Capriccio](#)

9pm, Tin Hat, [Club Helsinki](#)

5pm, Bob Sbuttoni, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

9pm, Chris Bakriges, Mark Dunlap, Dennis Ray Pelletier, [Mo' Jazz Café](#)

9pm, Vic Bell Combo, [Roadhouse 29](#)

7-10pm, Ruth Hellkamp, [Scrimshaw Restaurant](#)

Saturday, March 4

5pm, Bob Dunn, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

7-10pm, Ruth Hellkamp, [Scrimshaw Restaurant](#)

Sunday, March 5

7pm, James Carter Quintet, [The Egg](#)

10am, Rich Donnelly, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

11:30am-2:30pm, Jazz Brunch, [Justin's](#)

9pm-midnight, Brian Patneade Quintet, [Justin's](#)

6-9pm, Peter Einhorn, Malcolm Cecil & George Deleon, [Red Onion Restaurant](#)

10am-2pm, Jazz Brunch with Joe Sorrentino Band, [Sargo's](#)

Monday, March 6

Tuesday, March 7

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

5pm, Diane Russo & Bob Sbuttoni, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

Wednesday, March 8

FEBRUARY/MARCH JAZZ CALENDAR

Visit Our Website at www.aplaceforjazz.org

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

5pm, Chris Dunn, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

9pm-midnight, Sensemaya, [Justin's](#)

7pm, Masters of Nostalgia, [One Caroline Street](#)

Thursday, March 9

7-11pm, Swing night, [Danceland/Boomers](#)

5pm, Shirley Nasner, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

9pm-midnight, Justin's Jazz Trio, [Justin's](#)

6-8pm, Ed Wool, [Parker Inn](#)

Friday, March 10

9-12pm, Walter Donnaruma Trio, [Cafe Capriccio](#)

10pm-1am, Skip Parsons' Riverboat Jazz Band, [The Fountain](#)

5pm, Bob Sbuttoni, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

9pm, Chris Bakriges, Mark Dunlap, Dennis Ray Pelletier, [Mo' Jazz Café](#)

9pm, Vic Bell Combo, [Roadhouse 29](#)

7-10pm, Ruth Hellkamp, [Scrimshaw Restaurant](#)

Saturday, March 11

10pm-1am, Skip Parsons' Riverboat Jazz Band, [The Fountain](#)

5pm, Bob Dunn, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

7-10pm, Ruth Hellkamp, [Scrimshaw Restaurant](#)

Sunday, March 12

10am, Rich Donnelly, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

11:30am-2:30pm, Jazz Brunch, [Justin's](#)

9pm-midnight, Brian Patneau Quintet, [Justin's](#)

6-9pm, Peter Einhorn, Malcolm Cecil & George Deleon, [Red Onion Restaurant](#)

10am-2pm, Jazz Brunch with Joe Sorrentino Band, [Sargo's](#)

Monday, March 13

Tuesday, March 14

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

5pm, Diane Russo & Bob Sbuttoni, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

Wednesday, March 15

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

5pm, Phil Foote, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

8-11pm, Jazzmin, [Moon & River Café](#)

9pm-midnight, Sensemaya, [Justin's](#)

7pm, Masters of Nostalgia, [One Caroline Street](#)

Thursday, March 16

7-11pm, Swing night, [Danceland/Boomers](#)

5pm, Shirley Nasner, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

9pm-midnight, Justin's Jazz Trio, [Justin's](#)

6-8pm, Ed Wool, [Parker Inn](#)

Friday, March 17

9-12pm, Walter Donnaruma Trio, [Cafe Capriccio](#)

5pm, Bob Sbuttoni, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

9pm, Chris Bakriges, Mark Dunlap, Dennis Ray Pelletier, [Mo' Jazz Café](#)

9pm, Vic Bell Combo, [Roadhouse 29](#)

7-10pm, Ruth Hellkamp, [Scrimshaw Restaurant](#)

Saturday, March 18

5pm, Bob Dunn, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

7-10pm, Ruth Hellkamp, [Scrimshaw Restaurant](#)

Sunday, March 19

10am, Rich Donnelly, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

11:30am-2:30pm, Jazz Brunch, [Justin's](#)

9pm-midnight, Brian Patneau Quintet, [Justin's](#)

6-9pm, Peter Einhorn, Malcolm Cecil & George Deleon, [Red Onion Restaurant](#)

10am-2pm, Jazz Brunch with Joe Sorrentino Band, [Sargo's](#)

Monday, March 20

Tuesday, March 21

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

5pm, Diane Russo & Bob Sbuttoni, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

Wednesday, March 22

7:30pm, Jazz & poetry by Thurman Barker and Mikhail Horowitz with the Trinity Trio, Olin Hall, [Bard College](#)

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

5pm, Chris Dunn, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

9pm-midnight, Sensemaya, [Justin's](#)

7pm, Masters of Nostalgia, [One Caroline Street](#)

Thursday, March 23

7-11pm, Swing night, [Danceland/Boomers](#)

5pm, Shirley Nasner, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

9pm-midnight, Justin's Jazz Trio, [Justin's](#)

6-8pm, Ed Wool, [Parker Inn](#)

Friday, March 24

9-12pm, Walter Donnaruma Trio, [Cafe Capriccio](#)

8:15pm, Ivey-Divey Trio, [The Egg](#)

5pm, Bob Sbuttoni, [Four Corners Luncheonette](#)

Web Site News

There's a new way to reach our web site! The old URL (www.timesunion.com/communities/jazz) will still work, so if you've already got it in your Favorites, you don't have to do anything. But otherwise, you can now get to our web site with www.aplaceforjazz.org. Much simpler and more professional, don't you think?



WHO IS THAT GUY ?

From time to time at just about every APFJ concert, the audience notices a photographer crouching on the floor in front of the musicians or peering around the edges of the stage. It's Andrzej Pilarczyk, a loyal member and jazz lover, who chronicles many musical events in the Capital Region.

Those who saw the Rene Marie concert a couple of years ago may remember her singing directly to Andrzej, who didn't seem to mind at all.

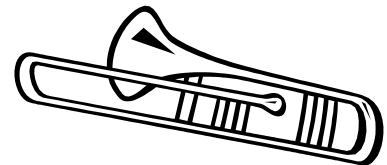
Andrzej (Andre') Pilarczyk is a regional photographer who has been shooting musical subjects for more than twenty years. His distinctive photographs have appeared in numerous national and regional publications, including *Dirty Linen*, *The Saratogian*, and *Metroland*.

"My passion for both music and art have found a creative outlet in my work as a photographer," Andrzej explains. "I average about 60 musical events a year, some of them are all-day festivals. Most of the time no one has hired me to photograph the concert. I am out there in front of the stage with a camera because of my passion for the music and the musicians. I have a life-long love for Jazz, Blues, Folk, African, Latin and Irish music and since I'm not a musician, this is the way I emotionally and psychologically connect with the music and the performance."

Andrzej Pilarczyk has been for many years an integral part of many musical events in the Capitol Region including being the "unofficial-official photographer" for The Skidmore Jazz In-

stitute, The Eighth Step Coffeehouse, Second Wind Productions, Schenectady's Central and Albany's Washington Park series, APFJ and The Lake George Jazz Weekend. The Lake George Arts Project honored him with a solo exhibition at the Courthouse Gallery of his photographs culled from their *Jazz at the Lake* festival for over 15 years.

On these pages, we feature some of his photos from the 2005 season in hopes that they will bring back warm memories of the concerts.



Dan Levinson leads his Summa Cum Laude Orchestra in a re-creation of a famous Bud Freeman session



Cornetist Randy Reinhart blows up a storm with Dan Levinson's Summa Cum Laude Orchestra



Trombonist Harvey Tibbs adds his thoughts to a Dan Levinson tune



Saxophonist Sue Terry stirs things up in the front line of the Hilton Ruiz Quintet



Drummer Sylvia Cuenca drives the Hilton Ruiz Quintet in the company of bassist Leon Dorsey



Hilton Ruiz digs in as he and his quintet blend Latin music and jazz at the Whisperdome



WHO IS THAT GUY ?

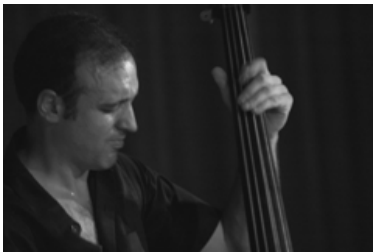
(Continued)



Saxophonist Greg Tardy, trumpeter John Bailey and saxophonist Myron Walden unite on one of Gregg August's compositions



Roseanna Vitro captivates the audience with her voice and vibrant personality



Bassist Gregg August leads his sextet through an evening of his new and arresting compositions



Pianist Steve Kuhn wraps up our 2005 season at the piano as members of the audience are absorbed in his music

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R A D I O J A Z Z

WVCR 88.3 FM Cutting edge Afro-Am Pop w/occasional Jazz/Latin flavor

WCDB 90.9 FM Bill McCann on Saturday mornings from 8 am to 12 noon

WAMC 90.3 FM Great mix. Jazz or jazz related music every evening including: **Tim Coakley**, Saturday 10:30 pm-12 midnight; **Jim Wilke**- Jazz After Hours 1 am to 5 am Friday and Saturday; **Marian McPartland**, Sunday 9pm, Jazz Profiles Tuesday 10 pm; Afro-Pop Worldwide, 8 pm Sunday

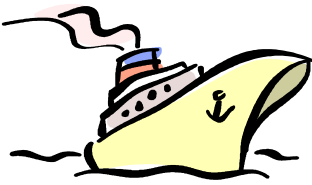
WSPN 91.1 FM Dave Casner's show, Wednesday. 12 to 3 pm; **Howie Kaplan** on Fridays 12 to 3 pm

WRPI 91.5 Barbara Kaiser 10 am to noon on Tuesday. with a wonderfully eclectic mixture of Jazz and; **Keven Roberts**, Thursday. 8-10 pm with his exciting and varied theme shows

WVPR 94.3 (Vermont Public Radio) **George Thomas** is the daily Jazz host (Tuesday-Thursday from 8-10 pm, Friday until midnight)

WKLI 100.9 Sundays on Magic 100.9 FM, Albany 8 am. -10.am.: Legends of Jazz with **Ramsey Lewis** 12 noon -2 pm.: Swingin' with Sinatra 7 pm. -10 pm.: Big Bands, Ballads and Blues 10 pm -midnight: Big Band Jump





Cruise Nuisance

By Beverly Elander

Last fall's Jazz Cruise to Aruba, Curacao and Half Moon Cay aboard Holland America's MS Zuiderdam was a tribute to long-time Jazz Cruise bassist Keter Betts who died August 6, 2005 at the age of 77. Other Jazz Cruise honorees last year were: Joe Williams (his widow accepted for him), 91-year old Ray (Buttons And Bows) Evans who delighted the audience by allowing us to sing his hits along with him, and Connie Williams for her continued support of the Jazz Cruise.

The roster of musicians read like a Who's Who of Jazz: jazz archivist John Altman, The Clayton Brothers, Marlena Shaw, Dena DeRose, The Four Freshmen, Red Holloway, Johnny O'Neal, Houston Person, Cedar Walton, Joe Cohn

(son of Al), Wycliffe Gordon, Eddie Higgins, Tom Kennedy, Jay Leonhart, Bill Mays, Ken Peplowski, Lynn Seaton, Norman Simmons—to name a few. At a given time, there might be as many as four performances at various locations on the ship, from the intimate piano lounge to the double-decker Vista Lounge. And sometime 'round midnight, talented passengers and hired musicians would connect for a jam session that lasted the rest of the night.

Cabin-mate **Lee Shaw** blessed me with private jazz seminars every morning on our veranda over a pot of coffee. Fellow cruisers **Uta and Tom Pierce** invited us on more than one occasion to an informal gathering in their posh suite. Other area

passengers were **Peg Miller, Peg Gaines, Winnie Stewart, and Al and Ruth Sabo.** The maitre'd made it possible for us to dine together at the Captain's Table one evening. Impeccable service and abundant exceptionally well-prepared food the rule.

Besides the stellar music, four *Conversations with the Stars* were scattered throughout the week—a chance for passengers to hear the musicians in groups of nine talk about jazz, with a Q&A included.

Because we all shared the same passion—jazz—each in our own way, a family-like atmosphere pervaded the ship. Conversation came easily, no one was a stranger, and no one dined alone.

This year's line-up includes popular favorites Houston Person and Wycliffe

Gordon's Quintet; the Clayton-Hamilton Orchestra (the great brothers, as well as Jeff Hamilton, who also will have his trio); Barbara Morrison, who will sing with the Clayton-Hamilton Orchestra; guitarist Russell Malone's Quartet; pianist Bill Charlap's Trio; and the well-known trumpeter/flugelhornist Clark Terry.

The cruise will set sail the week of October 28–November 4, 2006 aboard the V-class m/s Oosterdam (Holland America Line) living from San Diego. Ports-of-call on the “Mexican Riviera” include: Cabo San Lucas, Mazatlan, and Puerto Vallarta. For more information, go to the Jazz Cruise website at <http://www.thejazzcruise.com/> or contact Beverly Elander (Elander7@aol.com).

2005 JAZZ CRUISE VOCALISTS

By Tom Pierce

The fifth annual Jazz Cruise was a musically exciting voyage, not only due to the numerous excellent instrumentalists, but also because of a diverse collection of stimulating, extraordinary vocalists.

DENA DeROSE – This compelling NYC (originally Binghamton) singer-pianist with her bassist Martin Wind and drummer Steve Barnes was, for this reviewer, the musical highlight in a galaxy of talent on the cruise. She displayed her distinctively

engaging vocal style and timbre, with delightful alterations in melodies, in doing material from her latest CD, “Walk in the Park” and her previous 4 releases.

MARLENA SHAW – This dynamic and versatile 63-year-old singer was both inspirational and entertaining, backed by a trio, led by pianist Norman Simmons, in a Sunday Gospel Hour. And in several appearances with Frank Capp's 17-piece big band Juggernaut, she clearly

showed, with both her voice and sassy charisma, why she was selected to perform for over 4 years in the late 60's with Count Basie's orchestra.

FOUR FRESHMEN – This 22nd edition of the legendary 1948 group consists of 4 singer-instrumentalists between the ages of 25-32 and has been together as a unit since 2001. The material and arrangements, competently performed, were as expected, strictly from the classic Four Freshman book. Although

their individual voices and instrumental skills were not as exceptional as others on-board, their harmonies certainly met with the approval of their many fans.

TWO FOR BRAZIL – Brazilian-born singer-guitarist Paulinho Garcia and Chicago saxophonist/flutist, Greg Fishman comprise this uniquely swinging, but intimate act.



Jazz is Alive and Well at Schalmont

By
Peg Miller

On January 9, I went to Schalmont Middle School to keep an appointment with Mrs. Eileen Scheffer, the music coordinator for the Schalmont School District. She had requested that I arrive a little before 1:45 so that I would be able to listen to a performance by an a cappella group from the University of Buffalo, known as the "Buffalo Chips."

These ten young men gave an incredibly fast-paced, well-rehearsed thirty minutes of everything from jazz to rock to barbershop and beyond. They not only sang, but moved to the music as well, and frequently changed positions to keep the balance and tone quality consistent with the type of music they were singing.

If a particular piece of music would be enhanced by the use of instruments, they were able to improvise the sound of a percussion instrument - a drum or cymbals, for example.

This group was enthusiastically received by the middle school students, and they graciously took time to answer the many questions directed to

them. The "Buffalo Chips" travel and perform for other schools, as well as graduations, open houses, class reunions. They make their own arrangements, enter competitions and have also made some recordings. They have been together 11 years, with obvious changes in personnel. They are part of a growing trend of these kinds of performing groups in schools and colleges all around the country - and last, but certainly not least, there are all-female groups and mixed groups as well.

Mrs. Scheffer was able to spend some time with me following the performance in order to give me some information about jazz in the music program at Schalmont. One of the ways she introduces jazz to students at the elementary level is by way of a CD titled "Jazz for Kids" featuring recordings by Ella Fitzgerald and many other well-known artists of appropriate songs for young children.

The eighth-graders in the middle school have been working on a project involving the history of music, and in

the area of jazz they chose different artists to write about; i.e. Ella Fitzgerald, Charlie "Bird" Parker, Duke Ellington. They have also been studying a book written by Wynton Marsalis.

The Middle School Jazz Band directed by Mark Eiser will perform on March 22. The High School Jazz Ensemble presents one concert yearly, and each year the emphasis is on either jazz or swing. This year's concert will be on March 9, directed by Sean Lowry. This March concert will also feature the High School Concert Choir doing a tribute to Hoagy Carmichael.

It is obvious that jazz is alive and well and thriving in the Schalmont School District, thanks to a dedicated and talented music staff.



April is Jazz Appreciation Month

By Peg Delaney

The Albany Musicians' Association, Local 14, AFM and the Recording Industries Music Performance Fund (MPF) are celebrating the Great American Music called JAZZ with concerts and presentations by our local talent. Help us celebrate jazz by attending the soon to be

announced musical event this April. All events will be free and open to the public.



Jazz Quotes

Contributed by
Jerry Gordon

**"The drummer drives.
Everybody else rides!"**
—Panama Francis

**"The bottom line of any
country is, what did we
contribute to the world?
We contributed Louis
Armstrong."**
—Tony Bennett

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PEPLOWSKI TO SWING GOODMAN AT PROCTOR'S

By Tim Coakley

Clarinetist Ken Peplowski will lead the Kingdom of Swing big band in a re-creation of Benny Goodman's historic Carnegie Hall Jazz Concert at 8 p.m. on Thursday, March 2 at Proctor's Theatre in Schenectady.

An alumnus of one of Goodman's later bands, Peplowski has been called "Goodman straight up with a twist of lightning" by the New York Times.

Peplowski is no stranger to the Capital Region. He performed a memorable concert with his quartet at the Whisperdome back in 1997 and was a guest artist on one of Skip Parsons' Lake George cruises.

He has also appeared at the Frehofer's Jazz Festival at the Saratoga Performing Arts Center and the Polish festival at Our Lady of Czestochowa Church in Albany.

There will be a pre-concert theater talk by Randy McConnach at 6:30 p.m. at Proctor's 440 Arts Center.

Tickets range from \$34.75 to \$19.75. To order, call the box office at 518-346-6204 or go online at www.proctors.org.



Jazz Voices to Perform at the Stockade Inn

By Peg Delaney

"Jazz Voices captivates audiences...It began as a one-time experience but has become one of the brightest musical groups in the Capital Region... Although they work hard preparing for a performance the dominant impression the audience gets is one of sheer exuberance."

—Tim Coakley, *Daily Gazette*

Take three uniquely talented vocal soloists, add one gifted pianist with enough creative foresight to envision the possibilities, and you have Jazz Voices- a dynamic group that blends diverse styles and influences into an exciting musical montage.

Teresa Broadwell spent the first part of her career arranging for and performing in groups featuring three and four part harmony singing. She has contributed greatly to Jazz Voices' repertoire

with this writing and arranging talent. Her very successful solo career, including a widely released CD, has her fronting her group called THRIVIN' ON A RIFF. "I find inspiration in a solid groove whether I'm stating the melody, harmonizing or scatting. I need to feel free to improvise."

Colleen Pratt was raised in a home full of love of music. Having musical parents provided her with many listening experiences and opportunities to sing with a variety of musicians. With two CDs to her name and on many with Schenectady's Empire Jazz Orchestra, she is soon to release a new recording featuring EJO. "I feel very fortunate to have worked with so many talented musicians in the area

and excited to be part of yet another musical experience. Singing with Jazz Voices is musically challenging and extremely rewarding. I'm just having fun doing what I love to do!"

Jody Shayne began her professional singing career in Boston, where she attended Berklee College of Music. After working in Boston and NYC for a few years, she returned to the Capital District to perform in settings ranging from single to big bands. Her gift of writing lyrics can be heard in many of the songs Jazz Voices performs. "Everything I listen to contributes to the way I interpret a song, from Billy Holiday to Bill Evans, but one thing I always try to do is tell a story."

Peg Delaney gained experience on piano by leading her own combos, performing in a variety of settings from solo piano to twenty piece big bands, and accompanying many jazz vocalists. Starting the group Jazz Voices has enabled her to explore arranging and develop the musical sensitivity needed to accompany three terrific singers. "Working with some of the area's best singers not only challenges me musically but also has made me aware of a whole spectrum of vocal music that longs to be shared with listeners. We're glad to be together again and look forward to the Swingtime Jazz Society Concert at the Stockade Inn, March 26."



APFJ Membership Form

Date _____

Name _____

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Membership Levels (Circle One)

No Bread (But Want to Help) *	\$20
Individual **	\$30
Family ***	\$50
Supporting ****	\$100
Underwriter *****	\$250
Patron *****	\$500
Jazz Hero *****	\$1,000

For information or suggestions, please call 393-4011, or e-mail coakjazz@aol.com. Checks for membership and tickets should be made out to JAZZ/FUSS and mailed to The First Unitarian Society of Schenectady, 1221 Wendell Avenue, Schenectady, NY 12308

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.

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***** Special Thanks *****

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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, 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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Calendar can be found at www.aplaceforjazz.org

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