A PLACE FOR JATZ

June 2008 Editor: Tim Coakley

WEBSITE: HTTP://WWW.APLACEFORJAZZ.ORG-UPDATED DAILY



Enjoy Summer, then swing into Fall

by Tim Coakley

VOLUNTEER HELP WANTED

We need help:

With publicity: distributing fliers and posters

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If you can help, please call Tim Coakley at

518-393-4011,

Or e-mail him at coakazz@aol.com

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APFJ Concert Order Form

There will be plenty

There will be plenty of jazz to enjoy this summer, and inside this newsletter you will find information on a number of jazz concerts and festivals scheduled in the Capital Region for June, July and August.

Once September rolls around, we will be getting ready for our fall season of jazz, to be held in the acoustically superb Great Hall of the First Unitarian Society of Schenectady.

First up, on September 12, will be the great Bill Charlap Trio, with Peter Washington on bass and Kenny Washington on drums. Bill Charlap is one of the most highly regarded interpreters of classic jazz instrumentals and Great American Standards. This trio has made numerous acclaimed recordings, and their well-honed interplay will make for a wonderful opening concert. Get your tickets early!

On September 24, local tenor saxophonist **Lee Russo** and drummer Joe Barna will lead a quartet in our second concert. They are two of the most in-demand young musicians in the Capital Region, with an exciting post-bop style. Compositions from their recent well-received CD "The Abenaki" will surely be among those played.

Bassist **Ben Allison**has been called an adventurous improviser and a visionary composer by *Jazz Times*. His

one on national radio charts for 6 weeks. On October 10, his quintet, which he calls Man Size Safe, will give us a chance to sample his unique approach. As for what the name of the group means, you'll have to attend the con-

cert to find out!

2004 CD "Buzz" was number

Vibraphonist **Joe Locke** and his quartet will perform on October 24. His dazzling technique and inventiveness have enthralled audiences for more than two decades, and he consistently places high in readers' and critics' polls. He has more than 25 CDs as a leader to his credit, and his group will bring a unique sound to concert series.

Finally, on November 7, Concord recording artist **Karrin Allyson** will conclude our season with an evening of superb singing. Two of her CDs, "Ballads" and "Footprints," have been Grammy nominees. Her wideranging repertoire includes standards, bebop, and Brazilian and French classics. Her recent CD "Imagina: Songs of Brasil" has received critical acclaim.

Please join us

In the back of the newsletter you will find a ticket order form for the fall concert series, as well as a membership signup form. As always, we depend on the generous support of our members to keep the music coming. Your membership now will help us as we make our way into the fall season, and will also ensure that we can begin planning just as exciting a program for next year.



Check out our updatedmonthly calendar on our website at

www.aplaceforjazz.org.
or www.timesunion.com/
communities/jazz

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

Tales from the Trenches (Anecdotes from the Jazz World of Johnny Morris)

by Jan Egry

When **Johnny Morris** and I graduated from Crane School of Music in 1958, I went on to teach music. Johnny didn't. Though classically trained, his talent as a jazz pianist was such that he immediately immersed himself in the professional world of music in New York City.

Through the years between then and now, he has performed with jazz greats such as Zoot Sims, Jimmy McPartland, Thad Jones, Mel Lewis, Joe Newman and Clark Terry. His club appearances have included the Rainbow Room, the Waldorf Hotel, the Plaza, the Carlyle and Sheraton Hotel, Michael's Pub and Condon's.

Johnny was house pianist at Jimmy Ryan's, in NYC for seven years, appearing with trumpeter Roy Eldridge, and later with Spanky Davis. He spent two years in the sixties touring and recording with Buddy Rich, and also worked with Kai Winding at the NY Playboy Club.

My friend Johnny has not retired. He currently divides his time between two venues in Connecticut/New York and in Palm Springs, California. Several of his piano arrangements have appeared in *Piano Today*.

I asked him to recall some of the more memorable moments during his years of association with people whose names are on the tip of every jazz aficionado's tongue. He recounted to me the following anecdotes, which I've transcribed in his own words:

At Jimmy Ryan's

Well, at Jimmy Ryan's, we had some very surly waiters there. Because Jimmy Ryan's didn't have a food minimum, just had little snacks. But they did have a drink minimum, so if anybody sat down to listen to the music and had a drink (they had little, dinky bottles of beer), the waiters would be standing over them, filling their glasses and looking at them to order something else. The waiters were just mainly concerned with selling drinks, period.

There was one particular waiter, Gene, who was really interested in just making money and didn't have much interest in what was going on. One night, some people came in to say hello to Roy (Eldridge), and they wanted to sit together. So they gathered a bunch of small cocktail tables, which were maybe 18 inches around, and pulled them over to one corner where they could all sit in one group. Gene, the waiter, came up to me and was really ticked off and annoyed that these people took his tables away from his station because he wasn't going to make any money. I guess the waiters make a commission on what they sold.

Those people with Roy were: Tommy Flanagan, pianist; Bobby Durham, drummer; Keter Betts, bass (these were Ella Fitzgerald's rhythm section). Ella Fitzgerald was there. Connie Kay, who was with the Modern Jazz Quartet and was working down the street at Condon's was there and he immediately went over to the group. Benny Carter and Oscar Peterson were there. They were all sitting together at that group of little cocktail tables. It was like a surrealist dream, you know, and this fella is saying, "Who are those people with Roy, and who do they think they are?"

So, I said, "Gene, please don't say anything. Those are some very famous people. I really feel I'm in a dream, here."

That was a wonderful night, because Oscar remembered initially hearing me play when I was with Buddy Rich. He gave me a big hug and was very friendly, and then he sat in and I stood next to him and watched him, which was a thrill.

With Roy Eldridge in New Orleans:

I went to a jazz fair one afternoon and I heard this young boy play. I was very impressed with his playing, so I told his father to bring him to the club. We were playing at a place called The Club at the Hyatt Regency in New Orleans, next to the Super Dome. I wanted Roy to hear this little boy play. He was fifteen.

So, when I told Roy that I heard this kid play and had invited him, Roy went ballistic, ad said, "Who do you think you are? It's not your band. It's my band. I'm not gonna have any kids on my bandstand! You have some nerve telling him he can

come and play before asking me. Call his father and tell him not to bring him!"

And I said, "Roy, I can't. I don't have his phone number. I told the man to bring him." So we went through this and I practically begged him. I said, "Look, Roy, let him play one song. It's going to be embarrassing. I invited this man and his boy. I thought you'd be really interested to hear him. He's a talented kid. Please, let him play something."

"Oh, all right. I'll let him play one song." So this father and son come in and the little boy gets his flugelhorn case out and I see him looking up at Roy and he's nervous as Hell. His hands are shaking. Finally, he gets the flugelhorn out and starts playing with us. I notice Roy's not too ticked off anymore and then he tells the kid to play another. So the kid played another song with us. By then, Roy was almost cracking half a smile and he said, "Play another". He let the kid play three songs. And it's so funny, because once we were back at Jimmy Ryan's, Roy would always say, "You know, your boy is doing pretty well."

At first I said, "My boy? What are you talking about?"

You know. That kid. That kid you brought in that night in New Orleans."

"Oh?"

"Yeah. He's in New York. He's making a lot of noise here. He's been working and recording with everybody."

That boy was Wynton Marsalis.

Swingtime Jazz Society

Presents

An All-Star Quintet comprising Peg Delaney, Bill Delaney, Mike Canonico, Tom Cheles and Mark Anthony

> Sunday, June 8 Appletini's

1118 Central Ave, Albany Reservations: 489-2990



Jazz Venues (Listed Alphabetically)

9 Maple Ave, Saratoga Springs, 518-587-7759

The Bar at 74 State, 74 State St, Albany, 518-434-7410

The Basement, 21 Center St, Northampton, MA, 413-586-9030

Brandon's, 1725 Van Vranken Ave, Schenectady, 518-347-1329

Blue Plate, 1 Kinderhook St, Chatham, NY, 518-392-7711

Cabernet Café, 1814 Western Ave, Albany, 518-452-5670

Café Capriccio, 49 Grand St, Albany, 518-65-0439

Castle Street Café, 10 Castle St, Great Barrington, MA, 413-528-5244

Chameleon on the Lake, 251 County Rt. 67, Saratoga Springs, 581-3928

Chez Sophie Bistro, 534 Broadway, Saratoga Springs, 518-583-3538

Circus Café, 392 Broadway, Saratoga Springs, 518-583-1106

Comfort Inn, 37 Rte 9W, Glenmont, 518-465-8811

The Fountain Restaurant, 283 New Scotland Ave, Albany, 518-482-9898

Four Corners Luncheonette, 2 Grove St, Delmar, 518-439-0172

Freedom Park, Schonowee Ave, Scotia, 370-0662 (summer only)

Jazz on Jay, in front of City Center (across from Proctor's), Schenectady, 518-372-5656 (summer only)

Justin's, 301 Lark St, Albany, 518-436-7008

Lark Tavern, 453 Madison Ave. Albany, 518-463-9779

Linda Norris Aud., WAMC, 339 Central Ave., Albany, 518-465-5233

Mo' Jazz Café, 7 South Main St Wilmington, VT 802-464-2280

Moon & River Café, 115 S. Ferry St., Schenectady, 518-382-1938

Muddy Cup, 1038 Madison Ave, Albany, 518-459-2022

One Caroline Street Bistro, Saratoga Springs, 518-587-2026

Panza's Restaurant, Route 9P Saratoga Lake, Saratoga Spgs, 518-584-6882

Parker Inn, 434 State St, Schenectady, 518-688-1001

Prime 677, 677 Broadway Albany, 518-427-7463

Proctor's, 432 State St, Schenectady, 518-382-3884

Provence Restaurant, Stuyvesant Plaza-Western Ave at Fuller Rd, Albany, 518-689-7777

Quarter Moon Café, 53 Main Street, Delhi, NY, 607-746-8886

Red Onion Restaurant, Route 212, Woodstock, NY 845-679-1223

Saratoga Gaming & Raceway, Saratoga Springs, 518-584-2110

Sarazen Student Union, Siena College, 518-783-4117

Sargo's, Saratoga National Golf Club, 458 Union Ave, Saratoga Springs, 518-583-4653

Scrimshaw Tavern, Desmond Hotel, Colonie, 518-869-8100

Spillin' the Beans, 13 3rd St, Troy, 518-268-1028

Stella's Lounge, 7 Main St, Catskill, 518-943-3173

Stockade Inn, 1 N. Church St, Schenectady, 518-346-3400

Wallabee's Jazz Bar, 190 Glen St, Glens Falls, NY, 518-792-8282

The Winedown, 613 Union St., Schenectady NY 518-344-7086

The Wine Bar, 417 Broadway, Saratoga Springs, 518-584-8777

Zaika, 54 Clifton Country Rd, Clifton Park, 518-688-1548

RADIO JAZZ

WVCR 88.3 FM Cutting edge Afro-Am Pop w/occasional Jazz/Latin flavor; "The Crossroads of Jazz." Sunday from 10 p.m. to midnight. Hosted by Darrin Scott and Ted Moisides.

WCDB 90.9 FM Bill McCann, Saturday 8 am to 12 noon; O.J., "Maiden Voyage", Thursday, 2 - 4 PM; Bill Goss, "TGIF Jazz Party", Friday, 4 - 6 PM; Mark Stevenson, "The Contemporary Jazz Cafe`", Saturday, 6 - 8 AM

WAMC 90.3 FM 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; Afro-Pop Worldwide, 8 pm Sunday

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

WVPR 94.3 FM (Vermont Public Radio) George Thomas Tuesday-Thursday from 8-10 pm, Friday until midnight

WKLI 100.9 FM Sundays 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 & Blues; 10 pm-midnight: Big Band Jump



Summertime Jazz Freihofer's Jazz Festival



SATURDAY, JUNE 28. 2008 MAIN STAGE:

* Return to Forever Historical Tour with Legendary Line Up: Chick

Corea, Stanley Clarke, Al DiMeola & Lenny White

- * Dee Dee Bridgewater's Red Earth: A Malian Journey
 - * Chris Botti
- * Saxophone Summit featuring Joe Lovano, Dave Liebman & Ravi Coltrane
 - * Ryan Shaw
- * Conrad Herwig's Latin Side of Miles, Coltrane & Shorter

* Johnathan Batiste Trio

GAZEBO STAGE

- * Jenny Scheinman
- * Maurice Brown Effect
- * Hayes Greenfield & Jazz-a-ma-Tazz (children's program)
 - * Ionathan Batiste Trio
 - * Andrea Tierra

SUNDAY, JUNE 29, 2008 MAIN STAGE

- * The O'Jays
- * Boney James & Jonathan Butler
- * Dianne Reeves

- * Charles Lloyd New Quartet featuring Jason Moran, Reuben Rogers & Eric Harland
 - * Terence Blanchard
 - * Rachel Price

GAZEBO STAGE

- * The Brubeck Brothers
- * Hayes Greenfield & Jazz-a-ma-Tazz (children's program)
 - * Aaron Goldberg Trio
 - * Rachael Price
 - * 3D

visit www.spac.org for more information

JAZZ ON JAY

Noon to 1:30 p.m. Free

- 5/29 Jack Fragomeni Trio
- 6/5 Ten 27 Trio
- 6/12 Jonathan Lorentz Quartet
- 6/19 April Marie Quintet
- 6/26 Brian Patneaude Quartet
- 7/3 John Menegon & Teri Roiger Quartet
- 7/10 Rob Aronstein-Norm Frederick Quartet
- 7/17 Keith Pray Quintet
- 7/18 (Summer Night) Dave Lambert's Ragtime Island Wind lammers
- 7/24 John MacIntosh
- 7/31 The Jazz Machine
- 8/7 Nat Phipps Trio
- 8/14 Dillon Kopf
- 8/21 Sonny & Perley
- 8/28 Li'l Jay and the Cardsharks

Kingston Jazz Festival

Planet Arts will present the **Kingston Jazz Festival** on June 27-29. Featured performers will be:

The Jon Faddis Jazz Orchestra,

The Frank Wess Quintet,

The Cyrus Chestnut Trio

Claire Daly's Rah Rah band in a tribute to Roland Kirk

The Jeff Siegel Quartet

The Kingston High School Jazz

Ensemble and

The Jazz Knights.

Information is available from Planet Arts at (518) 945-2669 or

www.planetarts.org.

Skidmore Jazz Institute

June 28 – July 12, 2008

Concert Schedule

July 1, 8:00 pm, Terence Blanchard Quintet

Bernhard Theater

Grammy Award-winning trumpeter Terence Blanchard leads his quintet

featuring Brice Winston, Fabian Almazan, Derrick Hodge and Kendrick Scott

July 3, 8:00 pm, Skidmore Faculty Sextet Bernhard Theater

Featuring Bill Cunliffe, Todd Coolman, Clayton Cameron, Pat LaBarbera, Bobby Shew, and Curtis Fuller

July 5, 8:00 pm, Arturo O'Farrill Quartet

Bernhard Theater

Pianist, educator and director of the Afro Latin Jazz Orchestra, O'Farrill leads

this quintet featuring Ruben Rodriguez and Vince Cherico

July 8, 8:00 pm, Aaron Parks Quartet

Bernhard Theater

Blue Note pianist Aaron Parks leads this quartet featuring Mike Moreno, Ben Street and Tommy Crane

July 10, 8:00 pm, Skidmore Faculty Sextet

Bernhard Theater

Featuring Bill Cunliffe, Todd Coolman,

Dennis Mackrel, Pat LaBarbera, Bobby Shew, and Curtis Fuller

Jazz Student Concerts

Filene Recital Hall featuring Institute participants.

Concerts are free and open to the public. The Skidmore Jazz Institute is sponsored in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, The New York State Council on the Arts, the New York State Summer School of the Arts, The Howard Bayne Foundation and Capitol-EMI-Blue Note Records.

A Place for Jazz



We Appreciate It



By Tim Coakley

April was Jazz Appreciation Month, and to celebrate, the musicians unions of Albany and Schenectady put on a series of events for the public that brought together the best players in the Capital Region. It gave everyone a chance to hear the many and diverse

talents that we have in our area, as well as providing the musicians themselves a welcome chance to get together, which they don't always have when they are out doing their own separate gigs.

On Sunday, April 20, the Schenectady Musical Union held an afternoon of music at the Muddy Cup, a pleasant space just off the arcade in Proctors Theatre. Three groups performed, starting with Mellotone, a swinging group featuring Ron Partch, Lew Petteys, Rennie Crain and Tom D'Andrea. Collegen Pratt was on hand to deliver some excellent vocals.

The group Mulligan Stew followed, led by saxophonist Paul Couch (who had to burn rubber to get from his earlier gig with Peg Delaney at the Crooked Lake House).

The group evokes the sound of the Gerry

Mulligan Quartet, and Paul Couch and trum- other groups. peter Paul Supple did an excellent job of capturing the spirit and feeling of that famous combo. Bill Delaney, bass, and Mark Anthony, drums, laid down a solid, sympathetic beat.

The day was capped off by alto saxist Keith Pray doing a tribute to Cannonball Adderley. He was joined by the fiery Tony Speranza on trumpet and the dazzling Dave Salazzo on piano. Bassist Lou Smaldone and drummer Joe Barna kept the pot boiling. A beautiful contrast to the boppish group came when Keith played a soulful "I Cover the Waterfront," which was on Cannonball's "With Strings" album.

The following Sunday, April 27, the Albany Musicians Union presented an equally fine afternoon of music at the Best Western Albany Airport Inn on Wolf Road.

The day began with a combo led by drummer **Joe Sorrentino** and featuring Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass; and Mo Rancourt on trumpet. They got things off to a swinging start, and Mo later joined Pete and guitarist Ron Bill to provide some classic jazz tunes between the sets of the

Pianist Peg Delaney led an all-star group that played several of her arrangements. The group had Mike Canonico on trumpet; Leo Russo and Paul Couch on saxes; Bill Delaney on bass and Bob Halek on drums. They swung hard and well for the entire set, and gave Horace Silver's "Cape Verdean Blues" a real ride.

Linda Brown's Jazz Project wrapped up the afternoon segment of the event, and featured some excellent trombone work by Jim King and nifty flute by Jim Deforge.

The Joey Thomas Big Band, just back from a Midwest engagement, played a tribute to Frank Sinatra in the early evening, with **Bob Father** handling the vocals and between-tunes banter. The band then turned to some Woody Herman charts, including his haunting theme, "Blue Flame," that brought the dancers out on the floor.

During all this, guitarist Sam Farkas led a sparkling little trio in the bar lounge, with Mike Lamkin getting a roaring organ sound from his keyboard and Cliff Brucker providing some crisp drum work.

Remembering Bill Fuller

by Tim Coakley

Longtime bassist Bill Fuller passed away in May at age 89. I had the pleasure of playing with him behind such jazz giants at Doc Cheatham, Vic Dickenson and Buddy Tate. We always had a good time playing together, and, as musicians used to say, he had a good beat.

Here are some comments and memories from others in the musical community:

As President of Local 14, it was an honor to present an award to Bill Fuller during our Jazz Month Celebration two years ago for his more than 60 year career as jazz vocalist and bassist. Bill's response was characteristically

humble. At a luncheon during the winter we chatted about our mutual joy of family - particularly grandchildren. Bill's devotion to his family and his gentlemanly qualities will be long remembered.

--Neil Brown

I did get to work with Bill just one time when I was playing drums. Bill was a sweet person. It was always a joy for me when I saw Bill. He was in the top class of people and will always be remembered.

--Sonny Daye

Very sad news. I'm really going to miss him.

-- Paul Mastriani

Bill was special to us. We knew him ever since we started dating. (a loooong time ago.) He was a genuinely warm and sincere gentleman. Always with a smile and a hug. We would chat for a while when ever we saw eachother. He would always ask us how our gigs were going and have an encouraging word. We will miss him. I only got to play with him once when I sat in at a club in Saratoga, I think it was called The Metro maybe? A beautiful soul. Springtime Blessings.

-- Perley Rouseau

APFJ Concert Tickets Order Form

Pre-order tickets are currently available for this year's concerts. Checks should be made out to

A Place for Jazz and mailed to:

PO Box 1059

Schenectady, NY 12301

CONCERT	QTY	PRICE	TOTAL
Bill Charlap Trio		\$15	
September 12			
Lee Russo		\$15	
September 26			
Ben Allison		\$15	
October 10			
Joe Locke and his quartet		\$15	
October 24			
Karrin Allyson		\$15	
November 7			
Complete Series (offer good until		\$60	
Sept. 8)		_	



Remembering Bill Fuller

By Tim Coakley



(Continued from page 5)

When Stan and I moved here in '71, Bill was one of the first people we met. I don't remember where, but I'm sure we did a few gigs together. He was always so positive and upbeat. It was important to him to challenge himself with those long bicycle rides. Sometimes, in the middle of one of those rides, he would include a visit with us, which was always

fun. He loved music and the Ink Spots period, I know, really was a tremendous pleasure. A very special, very good human being.

--Lee Shaw

To me, the greatest tribute to Bill Fuller is the success of his children, all nice people like their father and fine musicians.

--Ned Spain

I'm sorry to hear about Bill.

I just saw him at the jazz show in Albany and he was his usual charming self. I worked with him and Phil Foote back in the 80's and he seemed to always be lucky with ladies. I always enjoyed working with him and will miss him as a friend and a tasty bass player

.-- Mark Anthony



APFJ Membership Form

Date _		
Name _		
Address	s	
Phone		

Membership Levels (Circle One)

No Bread (But Want to Help)	\$20
Individual	\$30
Family	\$50
Supporter (+1 Series Ticket)	\$100
Patron (+2 Series Tickets)	\$250
Underwriter (+4 series Tickets)	\$500
Jazz Hero (5 Year membership	\$1,000
+2 series tickets until 2011)	

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

Norm Ainslie; Rob Aronstein; Ed August; C. Robie Booth; Joe Bowman; Al Brooks; Jody Shayne and Russ Brooks; Tim Coakley; College of St. Rose; Bob Cudmore; Evvie and Bob Currie; James & Margaret Cunningham; Peg Delaney; Jan Egry; Beverly Elander; The Goldberg Clan; Jerry Gordon; The Hamilton Hill Arts Center; The Hart Clan; Anita and Al Haugen; The Hyland Clan; Pete Jacobs; Barbara Kaiser; Mike and Rosemary Lategano; Peter Lesser; Eleanor Linberg; Chris Martin; Bill McCann; Gail and Bill Mattsson; Bill Meckley; Peg Miller; Bobbie Monterose; John and Donna Moroney; Yves Nazon; Brian Patneaude; Tom Pierce; Kevin Roberts; Alice Rudnick; Schenectady County Community College; Joe Slomka and Claudia White; Randy Treece; Chris Waldron; Sharon Wesley; David Wilkinson

Special thanks also to the *Daily Gazette* for their promotion of **APFJ**

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A Place for Jazz is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to presenting the best in jazz. We receive funding from the Schenectady County Initiative Program well as from our ticket sales 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.

Editor: Tim Coakley

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Board of Directors

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Calendar can be found at www.aplaceforjazz.org

Sean Lane at the Whisperdome

Pianist Sean Lane, a Linton High School graduate, is now a successful jazz pianist in Washington, D.C. He will appear in concert at the First Unitarian Society of Schenectady, 1121 Wendell Ave., at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, June 13. He will be joined by Washington area reed man Seth Kibeo, and backed by fellow Linton grad Van McDonald on bass and Pete Sweeney on drums. The concert will benefit the Schenectady City School District Educational Foundation.

Tickets are \$20, \$10 for students. They may be purchased at the door or by check from Schenectady School District Educational Foundation, PO Box 3956, Schenectady NY 12303.

Al Haugen-Don Egry

Collective

(with Lew Petteys, Bill Delaney & Tim Coakley)

Jazz-Jam BBQ

at River Stone Manor in Glenville

Saturday, July 20 1-5pm \$28





