

Swingtime

The Region's Only Good Music Magazine!

Volume 22, Number 2 Published by C. Robie Booth, Ltd.

Summer 2011



Photo by C. Robie Booth

Jody Shayne Trio at Athos

The fine vocalist Jody Shayne and her trio perform at the Athos Restaurant on Western Avenue in Westmere on a recent Friday. On bass is Russ Brooks (left) and on guitar Joe Finn. Athos is presenting jazz every Friday.

Ultimate All-Stars at Swingtime Jazz Society
June 12 at Appletini's Story, photo in centerfold.

Sonny & Perley at Ten Broeck Mansion

Bassist Lew Scott joins keyboard artist Sonny Daye and vocalist Perley Rousseau July 10 in a new program entitled "She Wrote the Songs," about (Continued on Page 2)

The Night Owl



Ye New Puzzler

Our mystery guest was re-born as a big name after his rediscovery with the Hit Parade winner "Heart-aches." His was known as a singers' band.

At one time he simultaneously presented Perry Como, Elmo Tanner, Parker Gibbs, Country Washburn and Red Ingle. Art Jarrett preceded them. Como said the band "was built around singers. I can't recall it ever played a straight instrumental." Jo Stafford, Mary Lee and Marilyn Maxwell were among the ladies. Our own Sonny Daye was drummer for one of his later bands.

The band recorded the corny "Heartaches" with Elmo's whistled solo in 1933. It was widely ignored until 1947 when it was rerecorded.

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Ye Olde Puzzler

Several of our finest Capital District jazz musicians spent time with the band of our last mystery man. He had played at the Kenmore Ballroom in Albany with Paul Specht and with Ben Pollack, Russ Morgan and Ben Bernie.

His sidemen included Al Quaglieri, Rennie Crain and Al Mastren from our area. It was **Bob Chester**.

Half-Notes

Aaron Copland's classic "Appalachian Spring" does not refer to the mountain region. Copland wrote it as a dance piece for Martha Graham who chose that name because she liked the sound of it. . . **Art Duncan**, trombonist and vocalist, recent face at **Chris Martin's** lunch bunch. . . Thanks to **David Allan** on the Moon station WABY 1160 AM for introducing us to **Beegie Adair**, a lady pianist whose new album covers many of Peggy Lee's standards. Good jazz, good emotion, good technique, with feeling. Try her out. . . The **Park Playhouse** will present "The Producers," "Thoroughly Modern Millie" and "Annie" this summer at Albany's Washington Park Lake. Two special events will be their 23rd annual gala June 9 at the NYS Museum and a revue of Rodgers & Hammerstein songs June 24 and 25 at Pruyn House in New-tonville. Call 434-0776 for tickets or information. . . Morgana King is in "The Encyclopedia of Jazz" but Evelyn Knight is not.

Kay Starr is but Doris Day is not. . . Singer Patti Austin's godparents are Quincy Jones and Dinah Washington. . . Johann Strauss Sr. wrote only one major work, the "Radetsky March." Though he strongly discouraged his son's music ambitions, Junior went on to write the greatest waltz music in history.

Make Believe Origin

Chris Martin of today's "Make Believe Ballroom," Sundays on WABY, tells us the title did not originate with Martin Block, as most folks say, but with Al Jarvis. Block usurped it. Chris is on from 11 to 4 Sundays, followed by Dick Wood's "Jazz Tracks."

Straight ahead, little friend.

Sonny & Perley

(Continued from Cover)

"female composers of the golden age of popular song." It's at 4 p.m. Sunday in the beautiful Ten Broeck Mansion garden, Albany, corner of Livingston Avenue and Ten Broeck Street.

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Cats and Jammers



Hank Carr Is Still in Charge

Henry (Hank) Carr is one of the true musical stalwarts of the Capital District. Well into his 80s, he will put "fini" to his 12 years at the helm of the Memorial Concert Band of Colonie on Wednesday June 1.

The 80-piece band will perform some of Hank's favorite music including a medley from "Les Miserables" on its anniversary. Hank taught 31 years in South Colonie, retiring as district supervisor of music. He was co-founder (with Robert J. Ullery in 1999) of the band and has been its only conductor. The Town of Colonie and South Colonie School District sponsor the band.

Hank was also conductor of the University/Community Symphonic Band at SUNYA and the RPI Symphonic Band. He was trumpeter with Albany Symphony 37 years and still plays in the Naples Concert Band in Florida. In WWII he flew 31 B-25 combat missions in the South Pacific and won many medals, ribbons and stars. He belongs to the Albany and Schenectady musicians' unions.

After this concert, Carr will turn over the baton to a fellow trumpeter, **Doug Daugherty**. The concert is free and begins at 7:30 p.m.

People of Note

Arvid Allen, who was pianist for Lester Lanin for 25 years, is a member of Swingtime Jazz Society and frequent sitter-in at many venues. He has retired from Watervliet to the Southland and sends regards to all his friends hereabouts.

Desirée, the charming daughter of the dynamic duo **Sonny & Perley**, had an appreciative audience at her May 27 Colonie solo performance sponsored by **Ginger Miller**. Self accompanied on guitar, she sang a book of largely folk, original and rock, with assurance and a pleasant voice. I liked her version of Norah Jones, of which she said "I funk it up a little." (Don't misspell that, Dipsy Nipspoon.)

Pat and Nat, **Patti Melita** and **Nat Phipps**,

appear June 30 at Stockade Inn in Schenectady. She is a wonderful singer and stylist, often appearing as the leader of Patti O and the Hip Hooligans dance and jazz sextet. Nat is a world-class pianist with an incredible mental library that covers the history of American music. Put this at the top of your calendar. Music is from 7 to 10.

Had a pleasant conversation t'other night at d'Raymonds (Loudonville) with **Rudy Ciccotti** reminiscing about his years presenting jazz at Rudy's Uptown Club and the Red Carpet, both on Central Avenue in Albany. Singer Paula Sydney (recently passed away in Florida) and pianists Jon Norman and Rick Montalbano were just a couple of the stars who graced his stage.

If you get a chance to hear Kim Thompson you will hear one of the finest young drummers on the scene. We heard her with Tia Fuller at a jazz festival. (Tia is Bill Fuller's granddaughter and will be playing in the Freihofer's Jazz Festival at SPAC and at APFJ this fall.) Also impressive was the too-little-known Dick Morgan, a pianist combining Garner and Peterson with his own huge dynamics. He is married to a woman from Latham. (Any help?)

Angel and Ginger on Memory Lane

Ginger Miller deserves kudos from all music lovers for her presentations. Her next attraction will be a trip down memory lane called "Angel and Ginger" at the Wolf Road (Colonie) Holiday Inn on Friday, June 24.

It will feature Ginger and **Angel Seiden** as vocalists, separately and in duet, as they were when working together more than 20 years. Ginger will still be on drums; Angel no longer wielding the guitar. **Joe Miller III** (his late dad was the leader of the well-remember Joe Miller Trio) will be on keyboard, well-known band-leader **Georgie Wonders** will be on saxophones and **Mark Lambert** will be on bass.



Photo by C. Robie Booth

Bouquet of Beauties at Reunion

It was a gathering of lovely ladies at the reunion of Barbara Thomas models recently in Colonie. Among celebrators (from left) were Michelle Bernier, Ms Thomas and Helen Wallace Fitzgerald.

In Memoriam: Jack Hotchkiss, Miller Authority

Jacob I. Hotchkiss died April 3, 2011, in Agawam, Mass., after a long struggle with Parkinson's Disease. He was 84.

Jack was internationally recognized as one of the greatest authorities on Glenn Miller and headed national, state and regional associations devoted to the man and his music.

He was a schoolteacher and state education department worker before retiring. He played trombone and was a drummer in the Town of Colonie Band, among others. He was a classmate of Al Quaglieri (Albany High '44) and presented a warm tribute to his friend at their 60th class reunion.

He presented programs that included his extensive work on Miller (four programs), Duke

Ellington, Count Basie, Paul Robeson, Wynton Marsalis, community band history and one covering classical, folk, show and pop vignettes. Some of his work was as a teacher-presenter for the Scotia-Glenville Children's Museum.

He founded the Al Mastren Memorial Concert series in the 1990s to provide scholarships to Cohoes High School graduates to continue music study. Alex Mastandrea recorded 90 sides as a trombonist with Glenn Miller and played with Benny Goodman, Harry James, Woody Herman, Bob Chester, Red Norvo and Raymond Scott before retiring to teach in local schools.

Jack was a wonderful friend and a font of knowledge. He is much missed.



Photo by Peg Delaney

Bill Delaney



Pete Sweeney

Ultimate
All-Stars
Shine June 12

See Centerfold



Photo by C. Robie Booth

Mike Canonico

All-Stars Swing into S



Lee Shaw



Le

The Ultimate All-Stars head the bill for Swingtime Jazz Society on Sunday, June 12, at Appletini's in West Albany.

The stars will be world-class pianist Lee Shaw, Mike Canonico on trumpet, Ken Olsen on trombone, Lew Petteys on woodwind instruments, Bill Delaney on bass and Pete Sweeney on drums. A guest vocalist will be

announced shortly. All are top artists on the jazz scene.

Lee Shaw is widely considered the region's top pianist. She just completed a concert tour in Iowa. Every year her trio heads a jazz festival, named after her, in Europe. She has made many critically acclaimed albums and appears regularly at the

Summer



W Petteys



Ken Olsen

top clubs and concert venues here.

Mike Canonico has been at the forefront of regional trumpeters and has been called “one of the best in the entire music business” by the noted late singer, bandleader and trumpeter Garry Stevens. He has also been soloist for many classical concerts. Lee and Mike are both holders of the

Swingtime Lifetime Achievement Award.

Kenny Olsen has been featured with the Al Cavalieri Orchestra, Joey Thomas, Phil Foote, Keith Pray Big Soul Ensemble, Rich Skrika’s Storyville Stompers, Doc Spring’s Partially Rehabilitated Jazz Band and the Alex Torres Latin Orchestra (20 years, na-

(Continued on Next Page)

All-Stars Set for June 12 Concert

(Continued from Centerfold)

tional tours and nine CDs). He studied jazz at the famed North Texas State, returned to this area and played at Starlite Theatre with Dionne Warwick, Burt Bacharach, Natalie Cole and his favorite, Sammy Davis Jr.

Lewis W. Petteys Jr. was co-leader with bassist/trombonist Ronnie Partch of the Mellowtone big band and has long been a fixture on the regional jazz scene. He taught music in Schenectady schools from 1954-1992. He played for Bob Hope, Tony Bennett, Lena Horne, Perry Como, Gladys Knight, Natalie Cole and Aretha Franklin.

Johnny Romeo's Interludes, the Earle Pudney Show (Channel 6), Schenectady Symphony Orchestra and Tommy Ippolito's Manhattans were among his local affiliations. He was in the film "Billy Bathgate" (as was local actress/model Helen Fitzgerald). He is often featured with the Hip Hooligans dance and jazz band.

Pete Sweeney performs every genre of music. He has recorded and toured with Pat Metheny, Dan Faulk, Laurel Massé, Larry Coryell and Ray Vega. He has written 13 drum instructional books for Alfred Publishing and filmed three DVDs. He is a faculty member of the National Guitar Workshop, Berkshire Music School and Bard College at Simon's Rock. Locally, he is heard with Jeanne O'Connor, Nat Phipps, Leo Russo Octet, Sensemaya, Joey Thomas Big Band and John Esposito.

Bill Delaney began his career with his stepfather, Dale Foster. He was one of The Escorts, a Four Freshman-styled

quartet (including Tommy Shields) very popular here in the 1970s, and has played bass with many top-caliber regional combos. He is most often heard with his wife, the superb pianist/music director Peg Delaney. They met at Plattsburgh State University College where both studied music theory and composition. Their kindred spirits produced a home, two wonderful children, David and Amy, and nurtured their continuing musical growth, together and individually.

Bill has done postgraduate work in electronics, technology and composition with Joel Chadabe at SUNYA. He has constructed several string basses, probably one of which you'll see June 12 at Appletini's.

The concert is from 4 to 6 p.m. with open jam session from 6 to 7. All instrumentalists and singers are invited to sit in. Full menu or snacks are available.

The food is good and prices are reasonable; likewise cocktails, wine, beer and non-alcoholic drinks. Reservations are strongly recommended. Call Doc Salvatore at **584-3548**.

Appletini's is at 1118 Central Avenue at the intersection with Osborne Road. There is parking aplenty.

Event chairman is **C. Robie Booth** assisted by **Peg Delaney** (who will chair the October concert starring **Nina Sheldon**, vocalist/pianist, and her trio).

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EJO Outstanding at SCCC

By **C. ROBIE BOOTH**

I started to entitle this "A Tale of Two Orchestras." But it's more about EJO than OJO.

I'd been stricken by the enthusiasm and professionalism of the Orlando Jazz Orchestra at a March concert in Ormond Beach Performing Arts Center. Leader drummer Bill Parnell, who mounted his set up front in the manner of Gene Krupa and Buddy Rich, led his mostly young men and a woman (reeds) through two wonderful sets of swing era classics, Kenton era and a couple of contemporary composers.

A slight edge in youth goes to OJO. A bigger edge for its energy and execution goes to Empire Jazz Orchestra directed by Dr. William Meckley, who led his mostly young men and a woman in concert at Schenectady County Community College. The EJO brass and reeds were superior and the rhythm section (Otto Gardner, bass; Mark Foster, percussion; Bobby Halek, whose drums were almost up front) basically even, with the nod going to EJO because of the piano of David Gleason.

The biggest difference was Colleen Pratt, our own internationally recognized vocalist who was stunning on "Makin' Whopee," "It Might as Well Be Spring" and "Nature Boy." All were arranged by Jim Corigliano. I was surprised when Meckley said he only recently came across the latter song, a Nat Cole classic. Orlando had a nice vocalist (Parnell's wife), but in no way does she threaten Colleen.

"Chili Peppers" (Duke Pearson) featured marvelous solos by Brian Patneaude (tenor) and Corigliano (flute). I loved the Andy Kirk Clouds of Joy arrangement "Messa Stomp" written by Mary Lou Williams in 1929. It featured a reduced band (French horn, tuba, trumpet, trombone, two reeds and rhythm). You could just see those Harlem cats dancing to this one.

"My Ship" featured Steve Lambert on flugelhorn; "Max" was a maximum screamer with Keith Pray on sax; "Frame for the Blues," written by Slide Hampton for Maynard Ferguson, found Jon Bronk turning red after accomplishing marvelous riffs over the top of the orchestra.

The featured artist was 84-year-old Lee Konitz whom I worshiped as a youth when the alto saxophonist was with Kenton and later in a trio with Lennie Tristano (piano) and Warne Marsh (tenor). He won the most recent poll in *Down Beat* as greatest alto in the world. With all due respect, I don't get it. He wasn't t'other night; he seemed to lag at times, not finish lines at others and did not have any sustained solos.

Lee opened cold, with beautiful tone, unaccompanied on "Solar." It is credited, he said, to Miles Davis but was actually written by Chuck Wayne, a fine guitarist who worked at times with Lee. "Body and Soul" was done as a quartet; Lee was a bit weak (perhaps intentionally), but pianist Gleason's solo was superb.

"Boplicity" was the final scheduled number, but there was a wonderful, rousing closer of "Take the A Train," an Alan Blaylock arrangement for the "Airmen of Note."

Pete Bellino, Steve Lambert and Bronk (trumpets) had excellent solos in the Konitz segment. Trombonist Richard Rossoff swept us away on a couple of occasions.

A pleasant by-play occurred when Meghan Barrow, the lovely French horn player, strolled off stage right. Lee took one appreciative glance and chased off after her. (He was fetched back.)

It would have been informative to have the odd instruments introduced. (One was a bass clarinet.)

The other players should all be congratulated: Lee Russo, Brett Wery and Kevin Barcomb, reeds; Scott Thompson and Terry Gordon, trumpets; Gary Barrow, Ken DeRagon and Dan Cordell, trams; Mike Novakowski, guitar; lighting Carter Sullivan-Irwin and sound man Sten Isachsen.

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Sunday, June 12, 2011
from 4-7 PM

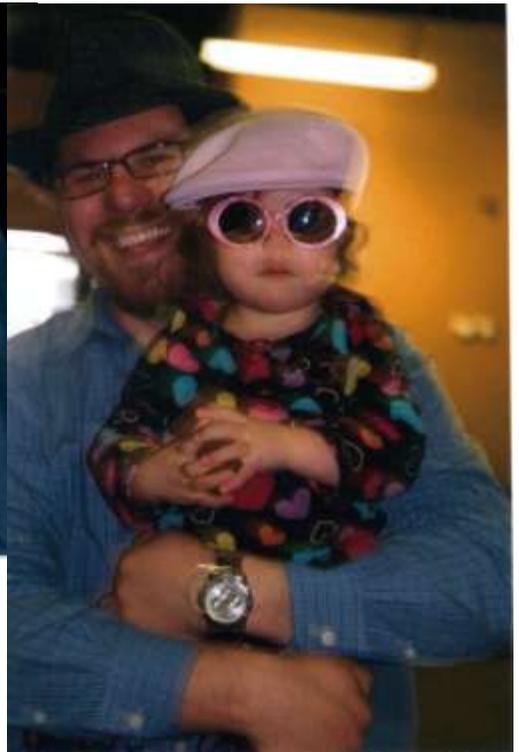
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L-R: Ted Moises, co-host of *Crossroads of Jazz* show on Siena College radio station WVCR 88.3FM; Mark Anthony, president of the sponsoring Schenectady Musical Union Local 85-133; David Bournazian, educator, bandleader and man of many reeds.

David Gleason with hip daughter Maryn

Schenectady Musicians Union Throws a Party

Photos by C. Robie Booth



Matthew Maguire



Eric Walentowicz



Kevin Barcomb

Join Swingtime Jazz Society

The **Swingtime Jazz Society** roster of members has reached 50. You are encouraged to join us by using the coupon on this page.

The Society's mission is to promote quality jazz by employing the finest regional artists for four or five events every year. The format is two hours of concert-cabaret music by the featured artists followed by a one-hour jam session open to all cats.

All members have a full vote on future attractions and electing officers of the non-profit corporation. We also have a wonderful series of dinner meetings hosted by members. There is a one-only fee of \$100 for joining.

See Pages 5-8 for our June 12 attraction, the Ultimate All-Stars.

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