

# Swingtime

The Region's Only Good Music Magazine!

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Photo by C. Robie Booth

## *Fantastic Felines Sparkle for Swingtime*

**These swingin' chicks are three of a half-dozen** singers for the Georgie Wonders Orchestra appearing for Swingtime Jazz Society Oct. 14 at Colonie Elks Lodge. From left: Katherine Hudson-Sabins, Linda Egan Johnson and Erin Upson. Story, Page 3.

# The Night Owl



## *Ye Olde Puzzler*

All of Swingtime's contestants correctly identified the seminal bassist Jimmy Blanton. Predictably, the winners were largely bassists: **Bill Delaney, Pete Toigo** and **Mike Wicks**, plus drummer **Tim Coakley**.

## *Ye Newe Puzzler*

Who was a protégé of Jean Goldkette who led one of the first big bands under the Goldkette umbrella, which also included the Don Redman orchestra?

Our mystery man, a Detroit drummer born in Kentucky, began his band in the mid-1920s. His sidemen included Benny Carter, Coleman Hawkins, Rex Stewart, Fats Waller, James P. Johnson, Quentin Jackson, Hilton Jefferson and Redman.

His theme song was If "I Could Be With You One Hour Tonight." His band was also known as the Chocolate Dandies.

## *Ellington, OA SIS and More*

**Dr. R. David Kissinger's** OASIS classes on Duke Ellington continue Oct. 9, 16 and 23 at Colonie Senior Services Center. "The Mature Duke" will cover his career from the 1940s until his death in 1947. It will focus on suites, movie and television projects and collaborations with other jazz giants. The concluding section is about his unusual sacred works.

OASIS is an adult education program with free membership and reasonably priced classes ranging from \$5 ("Living Healthy with Diabetes") to \$65 (a trip to Clark Museum in Williamstown, Mass., including transportation, buffet lunch, a lecture and all the exhibits). The Ellington series is \$50 for three two-hour programs.

## *Half Notes*

**Rich Syracuse** handcrafted a bass for a left-handed player. Think about it. . . **Lee Shaw's**

dynamics and swirling flourishes, as heard on a recent "Skylark," are without peer . . . Her original "Crazyology" is a wonderful romp. . . Remember **Rocky Palmer** and the Ritz? ? ? We're sorry to see the Brown Derby in downtown Albany go out of business. Some Fridays they had excellent jazz.

Recently discovered a wonderful singer, Judy Starr, on Hal Kemp's "I've Got a Pocketful of Dreams."

Also "discovered" was Margie Woodward, a beautiful leading lady in many B movies of the 1930s and '40s. She starred with two of the first Dick Tracys, Ralph Byrd and Warren Morgan. The third and last Tracy was Warren Beatty.

Enjoyed very much "Ella" and star **Tina Fabrique** at Capital Repertory Theatre. Her phrasing, enunciation, tone, stage presence, intonation and impersonation of the great jazz singer were without peer. Often, even her voice was similar.

I did not like her "A Tisket, A Tasket" anywhere near Ella's, but I thought her "Mr. Paganini (Don't You Be a Meanie)" was even better than the original. The Jazz Quartet was astounding in every way: **George Caldwell**, piano; **Ron Haynes**, trumpet; **Derick Polk**, bass; **Rodney Harper**, drums. A wonderful evening of musical theater.

Lots of anti-Americanism in Colonie. I've had seven antennas snapped off my car because of the Stars and Stripes I always fly at the tip of it.

The original Act III, predecessors of Act IV, comprised **Frank Mastan**, organ; **Pat Andre**, drums; **Georgie Wonders**, saxes, flute and bass ! ! ! They played six nights at week at Rudy's Uptown Club.

Frank's 18-year duo with bassist **Doug Harris** is still playing Wednesdays and Thursdays at Grappa 72, Central Avenue in Albany, along with drummer **Michael Carlito**.

—C. ROBIE BOOTH

# Georgie Wonders Swings for Dancers

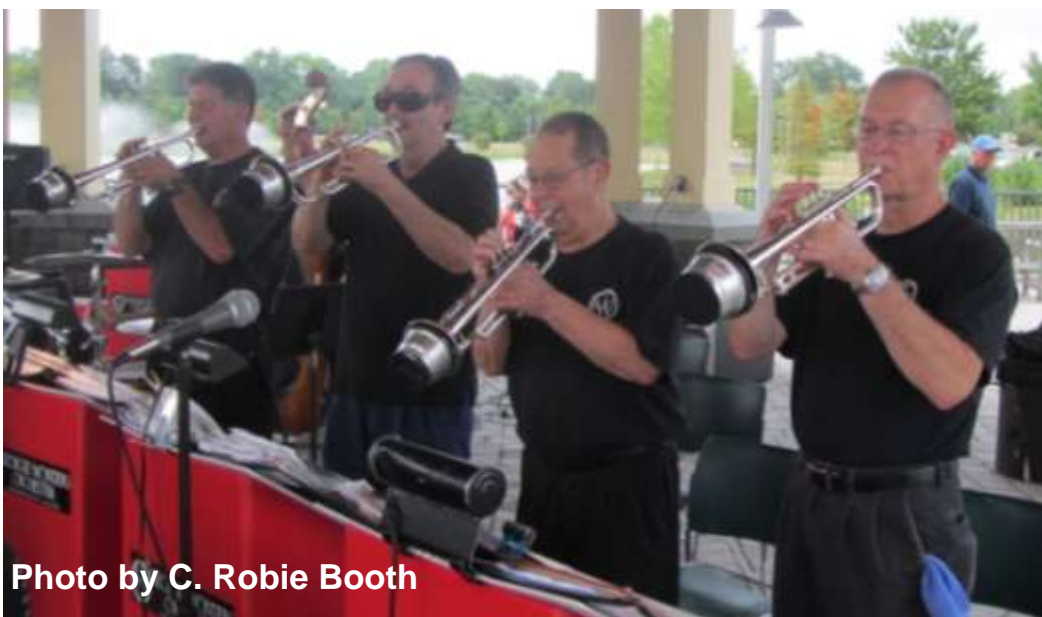
This is one groovy band. It's a dancer's delight and a tasty treat for lovers (friends, too) of the Swing Era.

Georgie Wonders Orchestra is being presented by the Swingtime Jazz Society at 4 p.m. Oct. 14 at the Colonie Elks Lodge on Watervliet-Shaker Road, a half-mile east of Shaker schools.

"Our music is so old it's like brand new," says the veteran leader, whose entire professional life has been music. "Many younger people are now picking up on this great style of music. They're actually dancing together to it! The GWO specializes in big-band music from the 1920s to the '50s."

You'll also hear a bit of progressive jazz (Kenton, Herman) with a carload of fine soloists. The vocalists are great too, headed by soloist Linda Egan Johnson and the Georgettes: Erin Upson, Katherine Hudson-Sabins, Art Duncan, Dave Rhodes and leader Wonders. Their "Baby, Baby, Don't You Go Away Mad" is truly a gem.

All the arrangements of big band stan-



**The swinging GWO trumpet section (from left): Tony Zillo, Jack McGirr, Pete Campisi, Marty Knowlton**

dards are from originals by Glenn Miller, Artie Shaw, Benny Goodman, the Dorseys, et al.

The orchestra played the score for the world-distributed documentary "Molecules to the Max" and has backed many name singers.

The concert is from 4 to 6, at which time there is an open jam session for instrumentalists and vocalists. The big band comes back on for the finale at 6:55.

The Elks Lodge has an excellent dance floor. There is a good variety of food, reasonable prices and great grog. Admission for adults is \$15; \$5 for children and students. Call Robie (pronounced row-bee) at 428-7618 for reservations or details.

***For the area's most up-to-date jazz calendar, visit  
APlaceForJazz.org/calendar.htm***

## LOOKING FORWARD

# *Chromatics To Honor Lee Shaw*

The much-heralded boss of Capital District jazz musicians, pianist **Lee Shaw**, is honorary chair and featured artist for the opening Troy Chromatic Concert.

The Cafehaus concert will be at 3 p.m. Sunday Sept. 30 in Kiggins Hall at Emma Willard School in Troy.

Lee's long-time trio mates are **Rich Syracuse**, bass, and **Jeff Siegel**, drums. Their program will be "Women Composers and Women in Music." The committee chair, **Mary Ann Willetts**, said they will "recognize the pianist and composer for her outstanding artist achievements: a life in music from classical to jazz."

### *Sinopoli's Season*

The **Ellen Sinopoli Dance Company** appears next at 4 p.m. Saturday Sept. 15 at the Olana State Historic Site in Hudson. It is based on children's books. Children free, adults \$5. Rain date, Sept. 16 at 2.

Friday Sept. 21 finds them at Sage Colleges Opalka Gallery in Albany at 7:45 p.m. A sculpture exhibit by John Van Alstine will be complemented by 15-minute dances.

**Don Knaack** and his Junkman band joins the dancers Oct. 13 at 7 p.m. in Hubbard Hall, Cambridge. Nov. 16 and 17 at 8 p.m. they'll be at the Russell Sage College James L. Meader Little Theater in Troy. Dec. 1, they're in Tivoli, with three biggies in the spring (our first mention of 2013!) on Jan. 12 at their home, The Egg at Empire State Plaza; March 12 at Proc-



tors in Schenectady; May 4 at Troy Savings Bank Music Hall.

The company, under the direction of the charismatic choreographer Ellen Sinopoli, are **Melissa George, Claire Jacob-Zysman, Marie Klaiber, Andre**

**Robles, Sara Senecal and Laura Teeter.**

### *Hip Hooligans Cut a Rug at Siena*

Patti O and the Hip Hooligans quintet will play for a concert-dance Nov. 25 at 4 p.m. in the Maloney Room at Sarazen Student Center, Siena College, Newtonville.

**Patti Melita** is the leader-vocalist for this splendid group which includes primetime pianist **Nat Phipps**, guitarist **Bernie Mulleda**, bassist **Pete Toigo**, and saxophonist **Lew Petteys**. They probably play for more dances than any Capital District aggregation. They'll also sprinkle in some incredible jazz.

The cabaret setting, complimentary edibles and reasonable drinks and free soda promise an atmospheric soiree.

Admission is \$15 for adults, \$5 students (including high schoolers who like to cut a rug). Tickets may be purchased at Sarazen box office. Call for details at 428-7618. Sponsor is the Siena College Creative Arts Committee, **Mary Brizzell**, chair, and C. Robie Booth, event chairman.

### *Post the Poster!*

Please use the poster on Page 10 to publicize our big concert-dance Oct. 14. We hope you will find a spot at your business, library, place of worship, club or neighborhood store.

### *Check the Jazz Schedule*

There is good music aplenty hereabouts this autumn. While we'll try to cover the highlights, we can't cover the field nearly as completely as **A Place for Jazz**, so kindly check their splendid comprehensive schedule at [aplaceforjazz.org/calendar.htm](http://aplaceforjazz.org/calendar.htm).

*A not-for-profit that is dedicated to presenting the very best in Jazz in a beautiful listening space.*

A PLACE FOR  
**JAZZ**

## APFJ FALL 2012 SERIES

ALL PERFORMANCES BEGIN AT 7:30 PM

### SEPTEMBER 14

Our series opens with Tom Harrell, one of the most acclaimed trumpeters since the early 1980s.

### SEPTEMBER 28

This year's exciting vocal performer, Mary Stallings, is a celebrated veteran of 50 years.

### OCTOBER 12

Legendary Dick Hyman, who will perform solo, is one of those very few pianists who can capture & express the entire history of Jazz.

### OCTOBER 26

This year's "local" group, Bopltude, is a stirring sextet headed by drummer-vibist Michael Benedict.

### NOVEMBER 9

World-class Cuban Conga player & singer Pedrito Martinez brings an especially uplifting and infectious Latin Jazz quartet to close out our season.



ALL PERFORMANCES BEGIN AT 7:30 PM

All Concerts: Friday 7:30 pm, First Unitarian Society of Schenectady, 1221 Wendell Ave. Tickets: \$15.  
One child under 12 admitted for free when accompanied by an adult. Series ticket: \$60 until September 12.  
To purchase tickets or become a member: [aplaceforjazz.org](http://aplaceforjazz.org) | 518.393.4011 | [coakjazz@aol.com](mailto:coakjazz@aol.com)

[WWW.APLACEFORJAZZ.ORG](http://WWW.APLACEFORJAZZ.ORG)



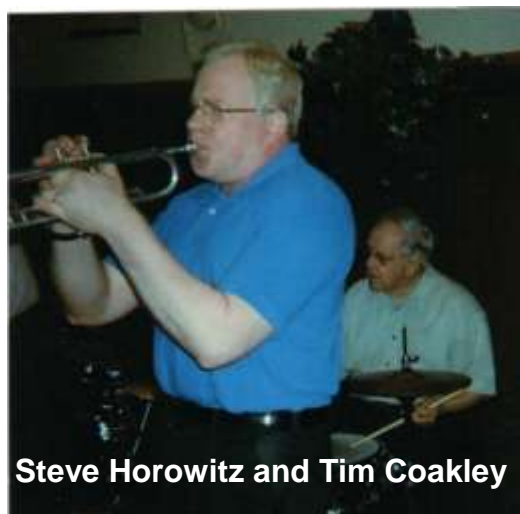
# Swingtime



Josie Wallace, niece of the late Helen Wallace Fitzgerald, sings at Swingtime Jazz Society jam session. John Angerosa is at the 88.



Jack Rosenbach, Jack Speraw



Steve Horowitz and Tim Coakley

Lou Pappas and



# Time Snapshots

Photos by C. Robie Booth



Headliner Al Haugen and Don Egry



Drummer and emcee Joe Barna (right) congratulates Bill McCann at Jazz Journalists Award reception honoring the radio jazz disc jockey.

and Bob Halek



Lew Petteys and Mike Wicks

Patti Melita



# Cats and Jammers



The jammers at Swingtime Jazz Society's recent Appletini's concert should be applauded for one of our best jam sessions. Thanks to **Jack Speraw**, trombone; **Steve Horowitz** and **Jack Rosenbach**, trumpets; **Mike Wicks** and **Pete Toigo**, basses; **Tim Coakley**, drums; **Lew Petteys**, tenor sax; and **Patti Melita**, singer.

## Quarter Notes

Enjoyed meeting and hearing the group Standard Clams at taste of Albany on Beaver Street (the Key Bank Building). They are **Mike DeAngelis**, a Bobby Darin-influenced vocalist; **Scott Apicelli**, drums; the veteran **Ed Tourge**, bass; **Jim Wilson**, guitar; **Rob Lindquist**, piano.

Perley Rousseau sings seldom-done introductory verses, as she did on Dorothy Fields' "Exactly Like You." Few singers have the appreciation and mood of lyrics as does the articulate Mrs. Sonny Daye.

And did you know the composer of "Willow Weep for Me," Annie Rosenblatt (also known as Ann Ronnell), was a stu-

dent of George Gershwin? ? ?

Return to Spruce Creek. Last issue's item on the 10 O'clock Band, the youngest of the three jazz bands at the Florida high school, has 11 saxophones (six are females) including two baritones, seven trumpets, four trombones, two flutes, two clarinets, keyboard, bass, guitar, drums and three assorted percussion.



## Sonny & Perley Schedule

(Continued from Page 9)

Fri Oct. 5, 6:30-9:30pm, Carmen's Café, 198 First St, Troy, 326-2064

Mon Oct. 8, 9pm-12am, Templeton Lounge, Otesaga Hotel, 60 Lake St, Cooperstown, 607-547-9931

Fri Oct. 12, 7-10pm, Arlington House, 3532 Route 43, West Sand Lake, 674-1880

Fri Oct. 26, 7-10pm, Lager House, 185 Old Loudon Rd, Latham, 988-5326

Fri Nov. 2, 6:30-9:30pm, Grappa '72, 818 Central Ave, Albany, 482-7200

Thu Nov. 8, Tribute to Johnny Mercer, Berkshire Athenaeum, Pittsfield, Mass.

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**SwingtimeJazz.org**



# Swingtime Inks Famed Trio For January

The Lee Shaw Trio will be presented in concert by Swingtime Jazz Society at 4 p.m. Jan. 13 at Appletini's restaurant in West Albany.

Lee is recognized worldwide as one of jazz's finest pianists. She was a student of Oscar Peterson, holds a master's degree in piano and an honorary doctorate from The College of Saint Rose, where she was an adjunct professor.

Bassist Rich Syracuse is likewise an adjunct professor, at Skidmore College.

Drummer Jeff Siegel, like Syracuse, has played with many of the biggest names in American music. Look for a full feature on this fine group in the Christmas issue of *Swingtime*.



## *Sonny & Perley Play Early Autumn*

The dynamic duo of keyboard artist-arranger **Sonny Daye** and the sensational vocalist **Perley Rousseau** just wrapped up a summer that included regular gigs on a Lake Champlain dinner cruise ship and Carmine's Restaurant in downtown Albany.

This late summer and early autumn they'll be appearing at libraries, hotels and a special Steven Sondheim tribute. In late autumn they'll be doing many local clubs. Their schedule for the next three months:

Thu Sept. 6, 7pm, "The Great American Songbook Post Golden Age," East Greenbush Library, 10 Community Way, E. Greenbush, 477-7476

Fri Sept. 7, 8-10pm, Stockade Inn, 1 N. Church St, Schenectady, 346-3400

Fri Sept. 14, 8-10pm, Berkshire Gateway Jazz Weekend, Spectrum Playhouse, 20 Franklin St, Lee, Mass, 413-394-5023

Sat Sept. 15 & 22, 7-10pm, The Inn at Saratoga, 231 Broadway, Saratoga Springs, 583-1890

Mon Sept. 24, 9pm-12am, Templeton Lounge, Otesaga Hotel, 60 Lake St, Cooperstown, 607-547-9931

Tue Sept. 25, 6:45pm, "An Evening with Steven Sondheim," Maureen Stapleton Theater, Hudson Valley CC, 629-8071

Thu Sep 27, noon, "Great American Songbook," Saratoga Public Library, 49 Henry St, Saratoga Springs, 584-7860

Sun Sept. 30, 2pm, "She Wrote the Song," Colonie Town Library, 629 Albany-Shaker Rd, Colonie, 458-9274

Sun Sept. 30, 6:30-9:30pm, Sullivan Station, 109 Railroad St, Lee, Mass, 413-243-2082

**(Continued on Page 8)**

**SWINGTIME**

**Jazz Society**

swingtimejazz.org



*Proudly Presents*

# The Georgie Wonders Orchestra

featuring Linda Egan Johnson, Art Duncan and Erin Upson



**Sunday, October 14, 2012, 4-6 p.m.**

(open jam session to follow from 6 to 7 p.m.)

**Colonie Elks - a venue with a dance floor!**

**11 Elks Lane, Latham, NY**

**Pub menu and beverages available for purchase.**

**\$15/person (\$5 for students)**

***For reservations, call C. Robie Booth at (518) 428-7618***

# All-Star Sextet Will Introduce Siena's Saints

One of the grandest sextets the area has ever seen will swing in the basketball season Oct. 21 at Siena College.

Meet the Saints is the theme for the 4 p.m. extravaganza in the Sarazen Student Center's Maloney Room. The musicians will "pipe in" the men's and women's basketball teams and audience members will have opportunities for photos and autographs with the players and coaches.

The sextet front line is **Skip Parsons**, clarinet; **Mike Canonico**, trumpet; **Tom Shields**, trombone; rhythm-makers are **Rennie Crain**, piano; **Pete Toigo**, bass; **Tim Coakley**, drums.

Skip Parsons is rarely seen outside his distinguished usual role of leader of the Riverboat Jazz Band and Clarinet Marmalade. Crain played and arranged for some of the biggest names in entertainment. All of the



**Skip Parsons**

players are at the top of their game. Parsons, Canonico, Shields, Crain and Coakley have all won the Swingtime Lifetime Achievement Award.

Gordon Jevons is chairman of this fundraiser for the Siena Creative Arts Committee. C. Robie Booth is co-chairman. Tickets are \$15 adults, \$5 students, available at the Sarazen box office or by calling 782-6751. Full cabaret tables may be reserved.

Complimentary snacks will be served and drinks will be available at reasonable prices.

This is going to be one fun party!

## *Canaan Church Has Jazz*

Pianist **Lincoln Mayorga** and bassist **Pete Toigo** will present a concert from 4 to 6 p.m. Sunday Oct. 14 at Canaan Congregational Church in Canaan.

**Gordon Jevons**, long-time impresario and friend of good music, revisited his childhood church, envisioned a setting for chamber jazz, and set this program in motion.

Admission is \$10 for adults, \$5 for students and children.



# Join Swingtime Jazz Society

The **Swingtime Jazz Society** roster of members has reached 59. 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 once-only fee of \$100 for joining.

See Pages 1, 3 and 10 for our Oct. 14 attraction, the Georgie Wonders Orchestra.

I want to join the Swingtime Jazz Society.  
Enclosed find my membership fee of \$100.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

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