

A Swinging Christmas at Ten Broeck Mansion

Pete Sweeney Trio plus guest artists will perform a Christmas program at 4 p.m. Sunday Dec. 8 at Ten Broeck Mansion, Albany. Christmas music, jazz and standards will be evenly mixed. The trio (shown below) is Sweeney, drums; David Gleason, piano; Mike Lawrence, bass. Guest artists will be woodwind player David Bullard and singer Paula McNulty. See story, Page 3.



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Christmas 2013



Swingtime Presents David Gleason Trio

Swingtime Jazz Society will present the David Gleason Trio in concert at 4 p.m. Jan. 12 at Provence Restaurant in Stuyvesant Plaza, Guilderland. Musicians are Pete Sweeney, drums; Mike Lawrence, bass; and Gleason, piano. There will be an open jam session from 6 to 7 p.m. Reservations are strongly recommended; call 584-3548. Tickets are \$15 adults; \$5, students. See Page 8 for story.

The Night Owl

Ye Olde Puzzler



No one correctly guessed our most recent mystery lady. She was the No. 1 singer of 1948 and a pioneer in television who co-starred with many of the big names of the '40s and '50s including Bing Crosby. Her "A Little Bird Told Me" sat atop the Hit Parade for seven weeks. She was **Evelyn Knight**.

Half-Notes

Oft times the new composers at Albany Symphony Orchestra concerts are hard to take. Not so **Aaron Jay Kernis**, whose world premiere of "Three Flavors" for piano and orchestra recently graced a program of Faure, Ravel and Schumann. It is deliciously dissonant, with three movements described as Indonesian, Continental (Ravel) and a barnburner (the last appropriately called "Blue Whirl"). Guest pianist **Andrew Russo** was in fine fettle, as was the ASO conductor **David Alan Miller**.

Another winner is **Clarice Assad**, whose world premiere "Nhanderu" literally opened the orchestra season. As ASO composer-educator in residence, she will also perform May 17 at EMPAC (on the RPI Troy campus) in her "Scattered" Concerto for Scat Singer, Piano and Orchestra. She has sung at jazz festivals and major venues for several years, garnering rave reviews.

Nelson E. Brott died at age 90 in May at Stratton VA Medical Center in Albany. He had spent most of his life in Troy and Wynantskill. Nelson was a bemedaled

paratrooper shot down over France in World War II. He was in the Caterpillar Club ("jump or die"), having jumped over 20,000 feet. He was also an aerial gunner. He often said at public events, "I am not a hero. The heroes are the ones who didn't come back." He was missing in action several weeks before joining up with other Allies. To me (CRB), he was a fine singing partner. We dueted at several events for veterans or holiday assemblies at nursing homes. He loved old songs and won talent contests at various state and national conventions.

Enjoyed **Nancy Frank's** 40th anniversary concert at First Presbyterian (Albany) Church recently. The organist was in fine form. An added delight was the duet of **Deborah Rocco**, soprano, and **Michel Lister**, tenor. They sang stunning renditions of "Music of the Night" and "The Phantom of the Opera" (Inside My Mind). They, and the organist, donned sinister black robes for the terrific finale.

Lee Shaw, piano, **Rich Syracuse**, bass, and **Jeff Siegel**, drums, swingin' like mad at 74 State Bistro. They are usually there a couple of times a month. And while I commend these fine sponsors for first rate music, I must give them this magazine's award for the smallest full-priced "glass" of wine in the Capital District. . . The best full glass? D'Raymonds in Loudonville. Recently awarded "Best of the Best" in area restaurants -- and well deserved.

Copies of **Swingtime** may be picked up at Town of Colonie Library, D'Raymonds restaurant in Loudonville and Beff's restaurant in West Albany.

Sweeney, Bullard, McNulty Swing at Ten Broeck

Ten Broeck Mansion will present a swinging Christmas program at 4 p.m. Sunday Dec. 8 featuring the **Pete Sweeney Trio** with two guest performers, woodwind artist **David Bullard** and singer **Paula McNulty**.

David Gleason, much-heralded piano virtuoso, is the trio's pianist. His own trio will headline Swingtime Jazz Society's Jan. 12 concert at Provence Restaurant. He is also the leader of the fine Latin band Sensemaya.

Bassist is **Mike Lawrence**, son of noted guitarist Dave Lawrence and frequent artist with many of top regional groups. He is an excellent soloist.

Sweeney is considered by many the premier drummer in the region. He has played with many of the top names. He teaches percussion at Union College.

Paula McNulty has a huge range from soprano to alto, is a soloist with St.



Paula McNulty

Pius Church Choir and cantor for many area institutions. She is a graduate of New England Conservatory of Music. She describes her years there as “being in heaven.”

Dave Bullard has been playing the saxophone since eighth grade and the clarinet since high school. He studied at Ithaca College with Sigurd Raschèr and Hartt College of Music at the University of Hartford. After hearing Frank Wess with the Basie band, he picked up the flute, studying under David Berman. Drafted into the Army, he was sent to the band training unit at the U.S. Naval School of Music, then in Washington, D.C., as a **(Continued on Page 11)**



David Bullard



LOOKING FORWARD

'Tis the season to be jolly and we've a lot of artistic cheer ahead.

The wonderful jazz vocalist Tierney Sutton joins the Turtle Island Quartet at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6 in Troy Savings Bank Music Hall. Kathy Mattea appears at 8 Feb. 1. The Glenn Miller Orchestra plays May 8 and Red Molly sings May 16. The *Boston Globe* said they have "caramel harmonies." Help, anyone?

The **Dave Gleason Trio** presents "It's a Jazzy Christmas! A Celebration of the Music of Vince Guaraldi" at 8 p.m. Dec. 6 at the Massry Center for the Performing Arts at The College of Saint Rose. Pianist **John Medeski**, famed student of **Lee Shaw** (she holds a doctorate from Saint Rose), performs solo at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 7. Chick Corea headlines at 7:30 April 11. Call 337-4871 for tickets; mention code "APFJ" to get a 25% discount on either of the December concerts.

Pianist **Sonny Daye** and vocalist **Perley Rousseau** have a merry holiday season highlighted by a trio date with **Malcolm Cecil** Dec. 28 at the Lager House in Latham. Cecil was the house bassist at Ronnie Scott's in London for many years. He played with Stan Getz and cut several albums with Stevie Wonder.

Sonny & Perley will be doing their usual duo date Dec. 20 at Portofino in Latham and Dec. 27 at 677 Prime at Broadway and Clinton from 6:30 to 10. They are doing Victorian Strolls in Saratoga Springs Visitors Center Dec. 5 and Dec. 8 in Troy. They'll be at Carmine's Italian Restaurant on Sheridan Avenue (just off North Pearl

in Albany) from 5:30-8:30 Jan. 23 and Feb. 13. The charming 50 South Restaurant, on Route 50 just north of Ballston Spa, presents the dynamic duo from 7 to 9:30 Dec. 21 and Feb. 14. Their fine program "The Great American Songbook" will be presented at 2 p.m. Dec. 15 in Clifton Park Library.

The **Albany Symphony Orchestra** presents "The Magic of Christmas" at 7:30 Dec. 7 and 3 p.m. on Dec. 8 at the Palace Theatre in Albany; a program of Handel's ("Messiah" and "Judas Maccabeus" overture) at 7:30 Dec. 14 and 3 p.m. Dec. 15 at Troy Savings Bank Music Hall; Andre Watts Plays Brahms at 7:30 Jan. 11 at the Palace; "Bolero" and Wagner at 7:30 Feb 8 at the Palace; Beethoven's Third Symphony ("Eroica") March 1 and 2 at TSBMH. Call 694-3300

Proctors Theatre in Schenectady presents my idea of a superstar, **Kristin Chenoweth**, at 7 p.m. Sunday Feb. 9. She won an Emmy for "Pushing Daisies" and a Tony nomination for "Wicked" on Broadway. She is a beautiful singer in all senses of the word. And tickets can be had for \$20! On March 1 at 8 p.m. violinist Itzhak Perlman performs.

Capital Repertory Theatre in Albany stages "A Christmas Carol" through Dec. 22; "The Mountain Top" Jan. 27-Feb. 9 and "Gypsy" March 14-April 13.

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Lincoln Mayorga Recalls Harry James

By **C. ROBIE BOOTH**

A story of three loves: Gershwin, Sheri and Harry James.

Lincoln Mayorga is the center of this story. He played “Rhapsody in Blue” with the Moscow Philharmonic in Russia. He’ll play “Gershwin in New York and Hollywood” at Proctors Theatre on January 30.

Sheri Bauer, well-known singer and educator, is his wife and will be sharing headlines with him at yet another concert in May.

And Harry James is the star of a new CD issued by Lincoln’s studio, “The Harry James Sessions: Harry James and His Big Band 1976 & 1979,” Sheffield Lab SL10090A-B. The band swings like waxy on arrangements by Ernie Wilkins, Bob Florence, Rob Turk, Bill Rogers and Thad Jones. Among the highlights are “Moten Swing,” “Tuxedo Junction,” “Take the A Train,” “Caravan,” “Satin Doll,” “Cherokee,” “Don’t Be That Way” and James’ own venerated composition “Two O’Clock Jump.” The record is available from Amazon and www.sheffieldlab.com.

Discussing recording technology, Lincoln says, “In the ‘50s I felt LP (33 rpm vinyl) piano recordings weren’t quite true. Those from the ‘30s were truer. I used 78 (rpm wax) recording equipment instead of tape, direct to vinyl, and the sound was much cleaner.” He supervised two records of Erich Leinsdorf with the Los Angeles Philharmonic.

The Chatham resident said his “primary interest is classical. I began playing for hops in high school. I can change styles

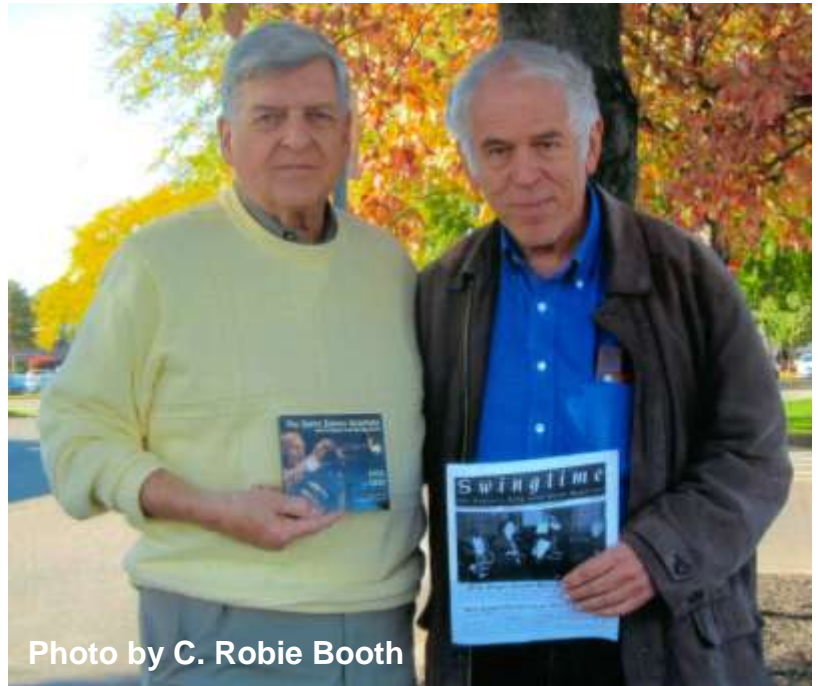


Photo by C. Robie Booth

Jerry Gordon, president of Swingtime Jazz Society, displays Harry James masterpieces issued by Lincoln Mayorga (right).

from pop to swing to Dixieland to bop to 1913 pop tunes. I have been recording as a performer for 30 years.” One of his earliest was with Henry Mancini and the Four Preps on Capitol.

His studio recorded “Gershwin by Grofé” using the Paul Whiteman arrangement with clarinetist Al Gallodoro of Oneonta, who performed the famed opening in the film “Rhapsody in Blue.”

Lincoln plays with bassist **Otto Gardner** every Wednesday except the 2nd Wednesday at the Blue Plate Restaurant, 1 Kinderhook St., Chatham from 6:15-9.

**For the area’s most up-to-date
jazz calendar,
[visit aplaceforjazz.org/calendar.htm](http://visit.aplaceforjazz.org/calendar.htm)**

Swingtime Snapshots

Photos by
C. Robie Booth



Eliza Lopez at SJS



The Jody Shayne Quartet starred at the October Swingtime Jazz Society concert and jam session at Albany Rail Yard. From left: Scott Bassinson, piano; Russ Brooks, bass; Ms Shayne, vocals; Hal Miller, drums (top right).



Composer Dan Schutte at Corpus Christi Church



SJS members Patti Salvatore and saxophonist Arthur "Doc" Salvatore played for the program of famed composer of sacred music Dan Schutte

Swingtime Presents the Dave Gleason Trio in Concert

On Sunday, January 12, the Swingtime Jazz Society will present the Dave Gleason Trio at Provence Restaurant in Stuyvesant Plaza on Western Ave in Albany. The concert, from 4-6 p.m., will be followed by an open one-hour jam session. Space is limited, so call Doc Salvatore at (518) 584-3548 for reservations.

Dave Gleason is a pianist, composer, music educator and ethnomusicologist living in New York's Capital Region. He received an M.A. in music from Tufts University, where he studied ethnomusicology and composition. As an ethnomusicologist, he researched Caribbean folk and popular music in Puerto Rico and Cuba. His fieldwork culminated in a thesis entitled "La Parranda Puertorriquena: The Music, Symbolism and Cultural Nationalism of Puerto Rico's Christmas Serenading Tradition."

As a jazz and Latin pianist, he has performed with ensembles such as RumbaNaMa, The Boston Latin Band, The Either/Orchestra, Altiplano, Mojive, and the Kinewe African Drum Ensemble as well as renowned musicians like Laurel Masse, Fred Wesley, Danilo Perez, and John Fedchock. He currently leads the acclaimed Latin jazz ensemble, Sensemaya.

Mr. Gleason studied music education and jazz studies at the Crane School of Music in Potsdam. He also studied jazz piano with Capital Region guru Lee Shaw. He has taught music theory, and jazz ensemble at the Sayles School of Fine Arts and World Music at the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Pete Sweeney is a drummer, author, and educator living in Troy. Pete studied with Dave Calarco and Joe Morello. He has performed, toured, and recorded with many great musicians such as Pat Metheny, Larry Coryell, Lee Ritenour, John Abercrombie, Robben Ford, Andy Summers (The Police), Ronnie Earl, Duke Robillard, Ed Mann (Frank Zappa), Frank Gambale, Lorne Lofsky, "Dangerous Dan" Toler, Johnny "Clyde" Copeland, Mick

Goodrick, and Steve Bailey. He has written 20 instructional books for the Alfred publishing company including the "30 Day Drum Workout," "The Versatile Drummer," and the "Drum Atlas" books on Cuba, Jamaica, Salsa, and Brazil. Pete currently teaches at the Berkshire Music School, Bard College at Simon's Rock, the Troy Music Academy, Union College, and the Crown of the Continent Guitar Foundation. He is a member of the Latin jazz group Sensemaya, as well as the leader of his own groups. He is an endorser of Mapex drums, Sabian cymbals, Vic Firth sticks, and Aquarian drum heads.

Mike Lawrence has been playing the upright bass since age 10 and had a great foundation with the Empire State Youth Orchestra and the various orchestras and jazz ensembles at school. Playing out in bars and clubs with bands from age 16, Mike has been hooked on playing music for a live audience ever since. Rich Syracuse at the College of Saint Rose along with the Berklee summer music program in Boston really turned him on to the art of jazz bass playing. He has performed with a number of jazz artists in and around the Capital District at a variety of venues and is currently a regular member of Michael Benedict's Bopitude, Dave Gleason/Sensemaya Trio and Keith Pray's Soul Jazz Revival. Mike teaches instrumental music in the Schenectady City School District as well as giving private bass lessons; he recently became a proud father with the birth of his daughter. He holds a bachelor's degree from The College of Saint Rose and a master's degree from Boston University, both in music education.

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SWINGTIME

Jazz Society

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Proudly Presents

The Dave Gleason Trio

with Mike Lawrence (bass) and Pete Sweeney (drums)



4-6 p.m. Sunday, January 12, 2014

Followed by an open jam session from 6 to 7 p.m.

PROVENCE

**Provence Restaurant
Stuyvesant Plaza, Guilderland**

Pub menu and beverages available for purchase

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

*Seating is limited. To make a reservation,
call Doc Salvatore at (518) 584-3548*

Cats and Jammers



Photo by Jerry Gordon

Linda Harrison sings at the Swingtime Jazz Society jam session in October at Albany Rail Yard. On bass is Tommy Shields.

Vocalists dominated the Swingtime Jazz Society jam session in October. Warbling were rising star **Eliza Lopez**, classicist **Paula McNulty**, bandleader (Patti O & the Hip Hooligans) **Patti Melita**, bop singer **Maggie McDougall** and night club entertainer and event chairperson **Linda Harrison**. They were backed by pianist **Scott Bassinson**, guitarist **Mark Capon**, drummers **Tim Coakley** and **Bill Harrison**, trombonist **Jack Speraw**, trumpeter **Jack Rosenbach** and bassist **Tom Shields**. Thanks to all.

The excellent *Jersey Jazz* journal reviewed "Funny Valentine, the Story of Chet Baker" recently. I had heard that Chet's friend and protégé Richard Twardzik died in a car accident. But, according to reviewer Joe Lang, "Pianist Dick Twardzik died of a heroin overdose in Paris. Up to this point, Baker dabbled in drugs but it was mostly marijuana ... The death of Twardzik, and the guilt Baker felt about it, was...the event that ultimately pushed him to become addicted to heroin, an addiction that plagued him for the rest of his life." Twardzik was a genius in his young twenties. His "Crutch for the Crab" is one of my favorite pieces. Trumpeter Chet himself went from James Dean-like celebrity to impoverishment and imprisonment and died at age 58, looking like a man 25 years his senior.

Mark Capon, a regular at the SJS sessions, has won rave reviews for his record *The Jazz Guitar of Mark Capon* with **Rick Eckberg**, well-known area bassist, **Dick Johnson** on drums and **Ray Alexander** on piano. "Schooled by the great Tal Farlow, he shares his mentor's skill for crisp tones and fleet-fingered swing. Capon's melodic instincts are fine tuned, as he seems to know exactly when to strike a chord or sail off on a single line passage." That was the review by Ken Hohman, echoed by similar praise in *Jazz Guitar*, *Jazz News* and *Cadence Jazz Magazine*. Mark is on the list of future SJS presentations.



Duo Wins Lifetime Achievement Award

Sonny & Perley receive the lifetime achievement award from Swingtime publisher C. Robie Booth (center). The plaque says “Swingtime magazine proudly presents its 15th annual Lifetime Achievement Award to the leading duo of the Capital District for four decades. Their impeccable taste and talent speaks to all of us who love good music.” The award was presented at the Almost Retired Musicians monthly luncheon at Ralph’s Tavern in Colonie.

Ten Broeck Mansion Concert

(Continued from Page 3)

flutist. After completing the six-month Army Bandsman course, he was shipped off to the 7th Division Band in Korea for a 12-month tour.

After discharge, he returned to the Glens Falls area. After several years of local gigs, he returned to school to earn a bachelor of arts from Skidmore. In 2001, drummer **Pete Pezzulo** introduced him to **Georgie Wonders**, who was in the early stages of putting together a big band. Dave ended up playing lead alto for G.W. for about seven years and got into doing a bit of writing for the band’s singer as well,

scoring several originals. Since then, he has subbed with the Joey Thomas Band and played clarinet in the Memorial Band of Colonie.

Dave is married to pianist/organist **Jan Maille**, who was a member of The Triads, an accordion, organ, guitar trio, like the Three Suns, but one which could swing. Jan joined the group when the accordionist & guitarist decided to get off the road and buy a local music store. Their two daughters are both professional classical musicians at the University of Northern Iowa.

The program will cover Christmas music, jazz and standards. There will be refreshments. Tickets are \$15. Reservations: call 436-9826. The concert is partially underwritten by C. Robie Booth.

Join Swingtime Jazz Society

The **Swingtime Jazz Society** roster of members has reached 60. 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 1, 8 and 9 for our January 12 attraction, **the Dave Gleason Trio**.

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

Name _____

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Mail to: Patti Melita, SJS Treasurer
PO Box 232
Troy, NY 12181-0232

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