

BLUE NOTES

Bimonthly Publication of the **Central Florida Jazz Society**

NOV/DEC 2014 VOLUME 18, ISSUE 5

New Orleans was the only place in the New World where slaves were allowed to own drums. Voodoo rituals were openly tolerated, and well attended by the rich as well as the poor, by blacks and whites, by the influential and the anonymous. It was in New Orleans that the bright flash of European horns ran into the dark rumble of African drums; it was like lightning meeting thunder. The local cats took that sound and put it together with the music they heard in churches and the music they heard in barrooms, and they blew a new music, a wild, jubilant music. It made people feel free. It made people feel alive! It made people get up and dance. And they danced to the birth of American music.

It's perfectly clear where Jazz began, even the historians agree on that one. What is not so clear, however, is when it began. Or who began it.

You'll see references back to 1847, 1902, 1917, and hear the names Buddy Bolden, Nick LaRocca, Papa Jack Laine, The Tio Family (Louis, Lorenzo Sr. and Lorenzo Jr.), and Willie G. "Bunk" Johnson. Ferdinand "Jelly Roll" Morton said, "It is evidently known, beyond contradiction, that New Orleans is the cradle of Jazz, and I myself happen to be the inventor in the year 1902."

Jazz wasn't born on a particular day, it was created over a period of time. It's alive. It grows, it dies, it changes, it stays the same. Jazz is to American music what the Mississippi is to America, and just as many rivers feed into the Mississippi, music (and musicians) from many cultures came together in the creation of Jazz. It wasn't just one person or one race that was responsible for creating it. It was a meeting, and mixing, of the essences and emotions of many people, of many cultures. When circumstances are right and a variety of influences come together to create something special, when many flavors combine to make a new taste that is greater than the sum of its spices, they have a name for it in New Orleans: they call it gumbo. And just like Jazz, nobody makes gumbo like they make it in New Orleans.

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Bimonthly publication of CFJS
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Central Florida Jazz Society is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit charitable organization.

President's Improv



By Sue Ryerson

Now I *know* that Fall has arrived. The New Smryna Beach Jazz Festival, always the last weekend in September, has come and gone – and for the second year, four jazz-loving BFFs left the confines of Orlando for a girls' week-end at the beach. What fun – and what great jazz we heard.

Three years ago, we dipped our toes into this Festival for the first time...a sensible day-trip. We returned home exhausted and empty – none of us liked driving home the same day, and we simply had not heard enough jazz to satisfy. So right then and there, we tracked down the most convenient place to stay (The Atlantic Plaza) and made week-end reservations for the next year.

Let me tell you: this Jazz Festival is the real deal! Marc Monteson, producer, and his happy crew of volunteers do an incredible job of making it all work together for everyone's ease and enjoyment.

It kicks off Friday night with a concert and buffet. This concert and the final one Sunday are the only 2 ticketed events; all other concerts are free. The music went non-stop from Saturday morning to Sunday night, most of it in the restaurants/bars along Flagler Avenue. Twenty-five groups were featured; our big problem was deciding which ones to investigate. As you might guess, only the young and *extremely* energetic can even begin to squeeze them all in!

I don't have enough space, here, to review the musicians and vocalists we heard, but I can tell you that the whole weekend was a blast!

Might be a good idea to mark your calendar right now for September 2015.

Standing L to R: Sue Ryerson Diana Altman

Sitting L to R:Kim Weintraub
Sandy Fielding



JAZZ ON THE BEACH

JOTB is broadcast on WFIT-FM (89.5) on Thursdays from 7-10pm, and repeated on WUCF-FM Orlando (89.9) on Saturdays from 12-3pm.

I was a young lad in England in the 1920s and 1930s. For a while we lived in Leicester and our house had a garage, but no car.

I was always fascinated with electrified sound. At 13 I fixed up a system in the house with a small microphone and a horn-type speaker in the garage. I was forever shouting "Hello! Anybody hear me?" Usually no one did. At 15 I worked in a radio shop in the center of Leeds that had some classy radios with wooden consoles, large speakers and the "radio grams."

As a radio technician in the RAF, we weren't so concerned with audio quality. It was more a question of whether the other guy could hear you, and you him.

I was somewhat interested in sound recording after the war. I heard the Germans were using wire recorders but I never heard a working model. It was probably good!

My uncle in England had told me about audio systems, power amplifiers, High Fi, etc., but in 1948 TV was the big interest (and meant employment) for me. TV sets had very small speakers! In later years personal 'sound' really leap frogged in this country.

After much handling of reel to reel tapes, personal and mobile tape recorders, audio recording, etc. – it's now all DIGITAL (wow!).

It's now "Hey Jack, at 90 – can you dig it?" I reply "Give me another 90 and maybe I will."



Painting with Jazz





Jazz on the Lake 2014

Keep Jazz Alive!

... On the Butler Chain of Ten Lakes in the Dr. Phillips area

This second annual event attracted an attendance of more than 150 folks amongst scattered picnic tables, lawn chairs, and blankets. Mike and I brought nineteen jazz enthusiasts from Celebration; and the Rickman's, Sue Ryerson and Diana Altman from CFJS were also there.

... Beautiful night, perfect weather, good food, wine, sunset in the background... Disney graciously provided fireworks in the background... FANTASTIC night!

Greg Parnell on drums, Ben Kramer on bass, Davey Jones on trumpet, Per Danielsson on piano, John Orsini on Sax, and Harold Johnson on trombone backed up vocalist Linda Cole.

See you there next year!









These venues feature Allan Vache, Mark McKee, Tommy Bridges, Dennis Lak and Bob Farmer, Ken Moulton, the Barry James group, Suzy Park, etc. It is nice to know that there are still places where you can go and listen to jazz.



Where Are They Now?

Midge Bowman

Sixty-one students have been awarded approximately \$60,000 in CFJS Scholarships since 1986. For the small group we have had during some of those years that is a very impressive record.

Because of the efforts of members dedicated to supporting Jazz and keeping it alive, we can travel across the United States and find recipients active in doing just that -- keeping Jazz alive!









Welcome, New Members!

Dr. Maria Bristol Vince Bristol

Hendrik Brouwer

Annette Carter

Kit Chilton

Richard Duemmling

Caroline and Thomas Grey

Patrick Hennessey

Brandon Johns

Roberta Lyon

Michele Malinda

Alan and Donna Mooney

Bridgette Ross

Corrine Roy

Michael Solomone

Dr. George W. Starks

Alice Theall



Patrons

Audrey Bylott Cliff and Ann Dubbin

Gary Elefante

Jon Grushka

Don Rogers

Dr. Allen and Flora Jo Taylor

Golden Patrons

Douglas Glicken

Gene Hays

Jackie Johnson

Lynne and Jerry Rickman

Bridget Willoughby

Lifetime Maestro

Ruth Maniloff Ginger and Mel Robinson Gregory Winters

Lifetime Honorary

Mildred Bowman

Marge Ann Coxey

Bess Doggett

Alyce Francis

Jean Fuqua

Michael and Sheila Kramer

Moe Lowe

Armand and Sonja Marchesano

Roxanne Faye Noles

Louis and Sigrid Shader

Jack and Lorraine Simpson

Dutch Uithoven

Mary Uithoven



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Have you lost your membership card? Is something misspelled or incorrect? Are you not receiving your bimonthly Blue Notes newsletter or monthly phone message from Sue Ryerson? Contact Mary Uithoven at 407-699-1871 and we will get it corrected.





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NOV/DEC 2014



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Michael Kramer – Keyboards Ben Kramer – Bass Greg Parnell - Drums