

# The Strutter

"Best of South Jersey" 2008 - 2011!

**VOLUME 24 NUMBER 1** 

Traditional Jazz in the Philadelphia Tri-State Area

**JULY 2013** 

### **OUR NEXT CONCERT**

New Black Eagles Jazz Band



Sunday, July 7, 2013 3:30 – 6:00 p.m. Haddonfield Methodist Church 29 Warwick Road Haddonfield, NJ 08033 Directions on Page 7

The New Black Eagles Jazz Band is "in many people's view, the premier traditional jazz band in the world." ~ JAZZTIMES. The New Black Eagles ripped the rafters off at last year's concert and this year's encore will be at our New Jersey location.

The New Black Eagles have been together for 40 years and play the traditional music of New Orleans. According to trombonist Stan Vincent, "we present our interpretation of early black jazz as it was played from, say, 1900-1938." Indeed, they take their name from the Black Eagle Social Club, which was a black organization in New Orleans at the turn of the century.

Renowned for their seamless ensemble work, they have appeared just about everywhere great jazz is played, including the Newport Jazz Festival. The NBEJB has an uncommonly large repertoire and

will feature material by Armstrong, Oliver, Bechet, Morton and Ellington as well as other early masters of the form. Tony Pringle is a founding member of the NBEJB. Originally from Liverpool, England, he's been playing cornet in traditional jazz bands since the 1950s. He was with Tommy Sancton's Black Eagle Jazz Band before the NBEJB, the New Climax Jazz Band in Leicester, UK, and the Druids Jazz Band at The Cavern in Liverpool in the early 1960s.

The New Black Eagles Jazz Band consists of:

Tony Pringle - Cornet, Leader

Bob Pilsbury - Piano, Vocals

Stan Vincent - Trombone

Billy Novick - Clarinet & Reeds

Peter Bullis - Banjo

Barry Bockus - Bass

C.H. "Pam" Pameijer - Drums

You can read more about each musician by visiting our website, "www.tristatejazz.org".

This is a "Not to be missed" concert!

Please note the later than usual start time for the concert - starting at 3:30 p.m. to accommodate the band's touring schedule.

#### **Concert Admissions**

\$10 First-time attendees and members \$20 General Admission High school/college students with ID and children with paying adult admitted free

Pay at the door

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# LOOKING AHEAD TO OUR AUGUST 2013 CONCERT

Tex Wyndham and his Red Lion Jazz Band will perform a concert at the Haddonfield Methodist Church on August 18, 2013 from 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. In their 49th year, this local band was featured for 7 years at the Hotel DuPont's Green Room. The Red Lion Jazz Band has been the Delaware Valley's leading revivalist Dixieland combo for 45 years.



Leader Tex Wyndham has a national reputation both as a performer and an authority on early jazz. He can be heard on some forty recordings, including performances with Wild Bill Davison, Maxine Sullivan, and Banu Gibson. He is the author of *Texas Shout: How Dixieland Jazz Words* and in 1998 was nominated for a National Heritage Fellowship in Folk and Traditional Arts. The Red Lions play a cross-section of America's popular music from about 1895 to 1930, including blues, marches, cakewalks, and rags.

#### THE STRUTTER IS ON THE WEB

The current and back issues of The Strutter are on the Tri-State Jazz Society Web. The Strutter archives cover over three years of back issues and all the bands and soloists who performed during that period are listed there.

Read the current issue at www.tristatejazz.org/Strutter.pdf.

## TRI-STATE JAZZ JAM SESSION CONCERT REVIEW

It has been a long tradition at Tri-State Jazz Society to end each year's concert series with a Jam Session. The Tri-State Jazz Society's year runs from July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013. This year's jam, celebrating the Society's twenty-fifth anniversary, was held on Sunday, June 23 in the Fellowship Hall of the Haddonfield United Methodist Church. The jam session leader this year was Bob Rawlings, well known to our members as the reed player for the Atlantic City Jazz Band, the Al Harrison Dixieland Band and other groups. As a frequent participant in our Tri-State jam sessions, he demonstrated that he



Bob Rawlings-Jam Session Leader

knows what we like. A professor of music theory at Rowan University, he is the author of several books on jazz including "The Real Dixieland Book," a collection of Dixieland tunes the musicians referred to during the jam session. Bob's leadership skills were impressive, as he spontaneously assembled and re-assembled musicians of diverse backgrounds, negotiated which tunes to play, and subtly directed them to create music they had never before played together. The concept of a real jam session has always been valued by the musicians, but this years' jam session once again proved that it can also produce entertainment of the highest quality for the audience. The suspense of not knowing exactly what's coming next, moment by moment, builds suspense in the audience. It's like not knowing what's going to happen next at a sports event.

Recruitment of musicians was coordinated by two of our board members, Ray Whearty and Chic Bach,

who worked closely with Bob Rawlins in preparing for the jam session. The gathering of musicians who don't often play together is one of the oldest and most important traditions in jazz. For many years the Tri-State Jazz Society annual jam sessions were assembled from a mix of our favorite musicians who belonged to different bands. The objectives have always been to maximize spontaneity and improvisation, while assuring the audience a first-rate concert. Other musicians had been invited to sit in to jam, but only a few had taken advantage of the opportunity in recent years. So last year, Chic Bach, our long-time sound technician, suggested we actively recruit a wider range of musicians to participate. This is the second year that TSJS has attracted such a large and diverse group of jammers.

This year, the jam band was built on a small core of jazz professionals, who are among the country's best and best-loved practitioners of traditional jazz. Joining Bob Rawlins, who played clarinet and saxophones, were trumpeter Randy Reinhart and bassist/tuba Brian Nalepka, who came down from New York. Guitarist Pat Mercuri, who has played for TSJS more times than anyone can count, seems to be everybody's favorite trad guitarist. He only had a short drive from Moorestown, NJ.



Core Band — Alan Hubbell-Drums, Randy Reinhart-Trumpet, Brian Nalepka-Bass

The other musicians recruited to sit in range from seasoned professionals who have played traditional jazz for years - to professional musicians who don't get much chance to play early jazz - to students and amateurs eager to hone their skills by playing with pros. Based on what we heard, most of us in the audience wouldn't know where most of the jammers would place on that spectrum of experience. John Tatum, as the only trombonist this year, got plenty of action. (Last year we had



Mary Lou Newnam-Tenor Sax, Bob Rawlins-Alto Sax, Barry Levine-Clarinet, Randy Reinhart-Trumpet, John Tatum-Trombone

four trombones.) Taking turns on reeds, Skip Livingston and Barry Levine played clarinet; Mary Lou Newnam, tenor sax; Scott Ricketts and Tex Wyndham played cornet. Pianists who jammed with the band included three of our board members, Ray Whearty, Chic Bach and (our newest board member) Nancy Rawlins. Tex Wyndham got so excited that he sort of pushed Nancy to the edge of the bench as he slid in for a four-hands piano finale. Long-time volunteer Adam Rogers performed solo piano during the intermission. Bill Nixon's jazz violin fit right in, even though we don't expect a violin in a Dixieland band. On rhythm guitar we heard Ernie Pugliese and on plectrum banjo, Seth Briliant. Alan Hubbell shared his drum set with retired board member George Hunt, and the much younger Ryan Cullen. Vocalist Janney Murtha performed several songs. Some of the men in the band also contributed vocals.



Bob Rawlins-Alto Sax, Ernie Pugliese-Guitar, Janney Murtha-Vocals





Pat Mercuri-Guitar, Seth Briliant-Plectrum Banjo



Ryan Cullen-drums, Randy Reinhart-Trumpet, Brian Nalepka-Bass, John Tatum-Trombone, Ray Whearty-Piano

From what I heard from the jammers, they had a blast. As a listener, I'd say jamming seems to bring out the best in jazz. Spontaneity seems to provide excitement that increases the fun. I'm already looking forward to next year's jam session.

Photos - Nancy Rawlins Article - Sandy Catz

#### ANNUAL MEETING

A brief annual meeting of the Tri-State Jazz Society was held during intermission at the annual jam session on June 23 at Haddonfield, NJ. President Sandy Catz presided while members and guests were polishing off anniversary cake in celebration of the organization's twenty-fifth anniversary.

Beginning assets on July 1, 2012 were \$9477. Estimated income from July 1, 2012 through June 19, 2013 was \$19,100. Expenses for the same period were estimated at \$17,715. Estimated net income for the period was \$1385. Ending assets on June 19, 2013 were \$10,862. The increase of \$1385 was applied to reserves. Sandy thanked the patrons and sponsors whose contributions enabled the society to balance its budget.

Tri-State Jazz Society now has 319 members, including 20 patrons and 29 sponsors. Since July 1, 2012 we have added 87 new members. Three current members of the board were re-elected unanimously to three-year terms: Chic Bach, Mike Mudry, and Sandy Catz. Bob and Nancy Rawlins were nominated and unanimously elected as a couple to a one-year term.

## TREAT IT GENTLE Continued from June Issue

New Orleans certainly offered enough employment opportunities for a very talented clarinetist; but being young and because "I wanted to see places," Sidney Bechet left the Crescent City in 1917 to peddle Clarence Williams's songs in Texas. This was followed by a carnival in that state; a tour of the South with a stock (theatrical) company; playing with bands in Chicago and New York; then, in 1919, on to London with Will Marion Cook's Southern Syncopated Orchestra. Bechet was heard there by Ernest Ansermet, the Swiss classical music conductor, who wrote of an "extraordinary clarinet virtuoso...[playing] perfectly formed blues...[with] richness of invention, force of accent, and daring in novelty and the unexpected....I wish to set down the name of this artist of genius; as for myself, I shall never forget it; it is Sidney Bechet."

It was also in London that Bechet purchased a straight soprano saxophone and became the first jazz master of that instrument.

The wanderlust characterizing so much of Bechet's life meant a variety of musical jobs and adventures in many places. These included: a brief stay in Duke Ellington's band; touring Europe in La Revue Negre, starring charleston-dancing Josephine Baker; jailed for a few days in London on an erroneous and soon-dismissed rape charge, but, in 1928, imprisoned 11 months in France for wounding two people with his gun; during a slack period, opening the Southern Tailor Shop in Harlem with trumpeter Tommy Ladnier; star performer with clarinetist Mezz Mezzrow on King Jazz Company recordings; giving lessons in his Brooklyn home to 17-year-old Bob Wilber; freelancing in clubs, jam sessions, and on radio; recording prolifically; finally settling in France, with occasional appearances elsewhere in Europe as well as his native land. (I heard him in 1953 at Childs' Paramount restaurant on Broadway.) It was in France that Bechet attained long-due jazz acclaim (crowds following him in the street), national prominence, and financial security. In 1959, when he died, 3,000 people attended the funeral. The next year his statue was unveiled at Juan-les-Pins in southeastern France.

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### **FUTURE CONCERTS**



www.tristatejazz.org

**August 18** 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. Tex Wyndham and his Red Lion Jazz Band, Haddonfield Methodist Church, Haddonfield, NJ. In their 49th year, this local band was featured for 7 years at the Hotel Dupont's Green Room.

**September 15** 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. Ben Mauger's Vintage Jazz Band and Roaring 20's Orchestra, Community Arts Center, Wallingford, PA. Dixieland plus hot dance songs of the 20's and 30's

October 20 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. Martin Spitznagel, Solo Pianist, Haddonfield Methodist Church, Haddonfield, NJ. Selected in 2011 as Scott Joplin Artist in Residence and World Champion of Old Time Piano playing

**November 24** 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. Atlantic City Jazz Band, Community Arts Center, Wallingford, PA, Premier 7-piece Dixieland band from the Jersey shore has always been a hit at TSJS.

**January 12, 2014** 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. Barbone Street Jazz Band, Haddonfield Methodist Church, Haddonfield, NJ.

#### AMERICAN RAG

New members of the Tri-State Jazz Society automatically receive a two-month subscription to American Rag, the country's largest traditional jazz and ragtime newspaper.



# TREAT IT GENTLE Continued from Page 4

I wonder whether Bechet, at least near the end of his life, would have reaffirmed a statement in *Treat It Gentle* concerning the music he loved: "White people, they don't have the memory that needs to understand it." He had in mind Negro family history of ancestral Africa, slavery, Emancipation, and heard spirituals, blues, and ragtime. But actually, are such memories essential to understanding the kinds of music Bechet cared for? Moreover, didn't Bechet himself praise the jazz feeling and understanding of some white musicianers-guitarist-club owner-entrepreneur Eddie Condon, English clarinetist Wally Fawkes, and cornetist Muggsy Spanier, to name only three?

Also regarding the music, Bechet asserted, "You gotta treat it gentle." (Hence the book's title.) By "gentle" I assume he meant respectfully. For while Bechet could play with sensitive tenderness if the tune called for it, so much of his music is distinguished not only by superb melodic phrasing and an overarching majestic swing, but is frequently punctuated by a passionate intensity, forceful high tones, occasional growls, and a throbbing vibrato which repels some listeners and entrances others.

I'm a fervent Bechet devotee, so much so that I've told my daughters I want a certain Bechet number played at my funeral. He and Armstrong are my favorites. You too might become more interested in him after viewing "Sidney Bechet: Treat It Gentle" (Kultur), a 57-minute video that touches on early jazz in New Orleans, outlines Bechet's life, shows him playing a torrid solo on "St. Louis Blues," and has perceptive comments by family, friends, and fellow musicians (among them, Bob Wilber, Wynton Marsalis, and Woody Allen). For persons wanting Bechet on CD, I particularly recommend: "The Sidney Bechet Story" (Proper Records), "The Best of Bechet" (Blue Note), and "Sidney Bechet-Dear Old Southland" (Definitive Records). For persons wanting to know more of Bechet's life and opinions, read his own oft-times lyrical words in Treat It Gentle.

A final note: Bechet, like Armstrong, is famous enough to merit an entry in my Webster's *New World College Dictionary*.

Rabbi Louis Kaplan

#### OTHER JAZZ CONCERTS

#### PENNSYLVANIA JAZZ SOCIETY

www.pajazzsociety.org (610)-625-4640

**July 14** 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. The Peter and Will Anderson Sextet, Dewey Fire Co. Hall, 502 Durham St, Hellertown, PA

#### NEW JERSEY JAZZ SOCIETY

www.njjs.org

(800)-303-NJJS

NJJS also co-sponsors events at the Bickford Theatre and Ocean County College.

#### THE BICKFORD THEATRE

6 Normandy Heights Road Morristown, NJ

www.njjs.org/p/services/bickford.html

All concerts 8:00 p.m. (973)-971-3706.

July 9 Emily Asher's Garden Party

July 30 Five Stars from Five States

**August 6** Dan Levinson's New Millenium All-Stars OCEAN COUNTY COLLEGE

www.njjs.org/p/services/ocean.html

(732)-255-0500

All concerts start at 8:00 p.m. Ocean County College campus, Community and Arts Center, College Drive, Toms River, NJ 08753 July 10 Al Harrison's Dixieland Band July 24 Peter and Will Anderson Quartet

# CAPE MAY TRADITIONAL JAZZ SOCIETY VFW Post 386, 419 Congress St., Cape May, NJ

www.capemaytraditionaljazzsociety.com

July 4 "Hot Taters"

#### JAZZ AT JACK'S

Jack's Deli Restaurant, 8500 Bustleton Ave., NE Philly, (215)-528-0582

Third Thursday of each month/concerts 6:30-8:30p.m., dinner starts at 5:30 p.m. and is included in ticket price.

**July 18 and August 15** Al Harrison Dixieland Band with Paula Johns, vocalist

## ABOUT TRI-STATE JAZZ SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sanford Catz, **President**, 2016, president@tristatejazz.org, webmaster@tristatejazz.org

Bill Wallace, First Vice President, Band Liaison, 2014, bands@tristatejazz.org

Mike Mudry, **Treasurer**, 2016, treasurer@tristatejazz.org

Dewaine Osman, **Strutter Editor**, 2015, editor@tristatejazz.org

Chic Bach, **Sound Coordinator**, 2016, advant@voicenet.com

Ray Whearty, **Publicity Editor/Writer**, 2015, rabundo88@gmail.com

Sally Cannon, Publicity Manager, 2014, publicity@tristatejazz.org

Bob & Nancy Rawlins, 2014

#### **VOLUNTEERS**

Lou Schultz, **Contributions Mgr.** and Jay Schultz, **Membership Mgr.** 

membership@tristatejazz.org

Jim McGann, Writer, Photographer Paul J. Macatee Jr., Photographer Steven Peitzman, Publicity Assistant Adam Rogers, Administration Jack Adams, Video Coordinator

#### TSJS CONTACT INFORMATION

Mailing Address: PO Box 896, Mount Laurel, NJ.

08054

E-mail: info@tristatejazz.org

**Hotline Phone for updated concert** 

information: (856) 720-0232

#### SEE US ON FACEBOOK

www.facebook.com/tristatejazz

Tri State Jazz Society is on Facebook! Our Facebook page is available for comments, questions, and suggestions.

#### **TSJS PATRONS 2012-2013**

The Big Time - \$100 or more, \$120 couples

- John (Jack) & Joan C. Adams
- William & Élsie Bonnet
- Chris Jones & Caren Brodsky
- Sanford Catz
- Jim McGann
- Mike Mudry
- DeWitt Peterson
- Joe & Anita Pew
- Bob & Nancy Rawlins
- Jay & Orinda Lou Schultz
- Anne Uniman
- Martha Keyser & Raymond P. Whearty Jr.

#### **TSJS SPONSORS 2012-2013**

Headliners - \$50 or more, \$70 couples

- Flora Becker
- Jack Boesch
- Walt Brenner
- Marge Wroblewski & Porter Carlson
- Bruce M. Gast
- William N. Hoffman
- Peggy deProphetis & Louis Kaplan
- Janney & Bill Murtha
- Dewaine & Clare Osman
- Peter Parisi
- Nancy Pontone & Steven Peitzman
- George Poletti
- Kay & Bob Troxell
- Bill & Sally Wallace
- Nancy Weaver

#### MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

It's time to remind our members to renew their membership which expires each year on June 30, except for new members who joined after March 1, 2013. Basic yearly membership dues are \$20 per person and members are admitted to regular concerts at half price (\$10) for the rest of their membership year.

We also need to remind our members that currently receive our Strutter newsletter by US mail that there will now be an annual charge of \$10, in addition to your annual membership fee, for receiving the Strutter by US Mail. There is no charge for members to receive the Strutter by email and we encourage all members to use that version.

Please mail the renewal form on page 8 of this newsletter with your check.

## DIRECTIONS TO HADDONFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

FROM PHILADELPHIA: Cross the Ben Franklin bridge into NJ. Keep left at the end of the bridge, following signs for US-30 East. Continue on Admiral Wilson Blvd. for 2.2 miles, keeping to the left and following the signs to Cherry Hill, NJ-70. The overpass leads to NJ-38 and NJ-70. Move to the right lane for NJ-70 east. Go 2.3 miles to Grove Street and turn right at the traffic light. Go 1.5 miles to Kings Highway (NJ-41). Turn right and drive a half mile through Haddonfield, passing over the PATCO tracks just before you get to Warwick Rd. Turn left at Warwick Rd. The church is on your left. Pass the church and turn left into the parking lot. Use the rear entrance for Fellowship Hall.

#### FROM THE SOUTH OR WEST VIA I-295:

From PA or DE take I-95 to the Commodore Barry Bridge (US-322 east) and cross into NJ. Take the second exit, I-295 and US-130 north. In 2.1 miles US-130 merges with I-295. Follow I-295 north for 16 miles to Exit 32, Haddonfield Berlin Rd. (NJ-561). Turn left toward Haddonfield and go past Kresson Rd., as it bends to the left and continue on Ellis Ave. At the "Welcome to Haddonfield" circle, keep to the right for S. Haddon Ave. Continue to the traffic light at Kings Highway (NJ-41) and turn left. Go 0.4 mile, passing over the PATCO tracks just before you get to Warwick Rd. Turn left at Warwick Rd. The church is on your left. Pass the church and turn left into the parking lot. Use the rear entrance for the Fellowship Hall.

FROM THE NORTH VIA I-95: Take I-95 south to the Betsy Ross Bridge exit (NJ-90). Cross into NJ and continue 2.1 miles on NJ-90. Exit at Haddonfield Rd. south. Go 4.2 miles. When you cross NJ-70, Haddonfield Rd. becomes Grove St. Go another 1.4 miles to Kings Highway (NJ-41). Turn right and drive a half mile through Haddonfield, passing over the PATCO tracks just before you get to Warwick Rd. Turn left at Warwick Rd. The church is on your left. Pass the church and turn left into the parking lot. Use the rear entrance for Fellowship Hall.

FROM THE NORTH VIA I-295: Go south on I-295 to Exit 30, Warwick Rd. From the exit ramp, turn left (north) onto Warwick toward Haddonfield. Go 1.4 miles. Turn right into the church parking lot. Use the rear entrance for the Fellowship Hall.



## **Membership Application/Renewal Form**

TRI-STATE JAZZ SOCIETY
P.O. Box 896, Mount Laurel, NJ 08054

☐ New	Renewal	Annual membership is valid through June 30, 2014.					
Individual:	☐ Basic Member	\$20	Sponsor \$50	☐ Patro	n \$100 or more		
Couple:	Basic Members	s \$40	Sponsors \$70	Patro	ns \$120 or more		
Delivery Fee:	Newsletter by I	U.S.Mail De	livery (Add \$10)				
Free Email and	d Newsletter Option	ns: (Check a	Il boxes that apply)				
TSJS concert announcements and membership notices							
	☐ Newsletter by Email						
	Other tradition	nal jazz eve	<b>nt notices</b> (not spon	sored by <sup>-</sup>	TSJS)		
First and Last	Name(s)						
Street		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·					
City				State	Zip		
Phone (	)	E-mail					
Date	Check No	TOTAL F	PAYMENT				
	Mail with che	ck payable	to Tri-State Jazz So	ciety, Inc	; <b>.</b>		
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