

The Strutter

VOLUME 23 NUMBER 12

Traditional Jazz in the Philadelphia Tri-State Area

JULY 2014

OUR NEXT CONCERT

Perseverance Jazz Band



Sunday, July 20, 2014 2:00 – 4:30 p.m. Community Arts Center 414 Plush Mill Road Wallingford, PA 19086 Directions at

http://www.tristatejazz.org/directionscac.html

Cecilia Ferneborg - Vocals, Co-Leader Jonathan Davenport - Bass, Co-Leader Adam Hershberger - Trumpet Larry Toft - Trombone Bob Rawlins - Clarinet David Streim - Piano Chad Brown - Drums

Perseverance Jazz Band was started in a West Philly group house in September 2010 by Jonathan Davenport and an eclectic group of young musicians. Originally organized to play early Dixieland and New Orleans parade music, the band has since expanded its repertoire to include small band Swing. The band is now co-led by Jonathan and Cecilia, and features Cecilia's vocals on many songs. Perseverance has become a local favorite for private parties and weddings, and has toured the Northeast, South and Midwest playing for swing dance organizations. The band has made a point to

play with and learn from tradition bearers in the Tri-State area, and is honored to have played concerts for the Philadelphia International Festival for the Arts, the Cape May Jazz Society and the Illiana Club, among many others.

Tri-State Jazz Society favorite Steve Barbone, who played with jazz greats from Coleman Hawkins to Sydney Bechet to Bob Haggart to Thelonious Monk, says: "Having worked with the Perseverance Jazz Band on numerous occasions, I can attest to the professionalism of their performances. They bring youth, vigor, energy and a love of New Orleans Jazz to the table. And they have a wonderful vocalist. Everyone who supports our kind of music should come out and hear their July 20 offering at the Tri-State Jazz Society Concert. For they are the future of the music we love."

For more info see their website:

http://perseverancemusic.com/, or listen at: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ueYBtcuUTXE. Their recently-recorded album is available at: http://www.perseverancejazzband.bandcamp.com/album/hard-timescome-again-no-more.

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 2014 CONCERT

Cynthia Sayer and her Sparks Fly Quartet will play a Tri-State Jazz concert at the Haddonfield Methodist Church, Haddonfield, NJ on August 17th.



Cynthia Sayer - Banjo, Vocals, Leader Adrian Cunningham - Clarinet, Sax Mike Weatherly - Bass, Vocals Larry Eagle - Drums

Soulful, edgy and both contemporary and classic, Cynthia Sayer breaks all the banjo player stereotypes as she single-handedly brings the 4-string banjo to the forefront of early jazz. Celebrated as the top 4-string jazz banjoist in the world today, and praised for her "drive and virtuosity" by The New York Times, Cynthia is a founding member of Woody Allen's New Orleans Jazz Band with whom she played and toured for over 10 years. Her solo career has taken her well beyond these New Orleans roots as a dynamic performer, instrumentalist and vocalist, and whose eclectic, swing-based shows embody the rarely heard range and versatility of the 4-string banjo.

"Jazz just doesn't sound the way it used to. Cynthia is out to reclaim the banjo's place in the genre."-NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO, "Soundcheck"

You can hear Cynthia Sayer and her Sparks Fly Quartet here:

"I Love Paris":

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XC JxM3Z MhY

You can visit her website at: http://cynthiasayer.com

NEVILLE DICKIE-MIDIRI BROS. JUNE CONCERT REVIEW

On Sunday, June 1, 2014, at the Haddonfield Methodist Church in Haddonfield, NJ, Tri-State Jazz presented a Neville Dickie piano trio with the Midiri Brothers in concert.



Photo by Jim McGann

During the concert, Neville Dickie commented that he had performed for TSJS for fifteen years. The first time, he said, "...was at Old Pine Street church. Twenty-two people showed up - 15 of them were praying!" There is something to be said about perseverance, for at this Sunday concert, the 217 people in attendance exceeded all previous TSJS records. I have reviewed the pianist performances about 8 or 9 times over the years, and I have never been let down once. For the second year in a row, Joe and Paul Midiri brought their considerable talents to join Dickie to ignite a swinging fire. Quite a joyous fire it was.

When the trio first appeared in Wallingford, PA last year, I had anticipated a re-enactment of the Benny Goodman trio but it was more like having James P. Johnson and the Dodds brothers. It was a free-swinging party. You could say Sunday's concert was the sequel of that party.

Some items from last year were resurrected; Goodman Trio numbers "Rose Room" and "World is Waiting For the Sunrise" as well as a new selection, "Nobody's Sweetheart." Two Dickie solo efforts, "The Bells of St. Mary's" and Donald Lambert's version of "Anitra's Dance." Joe Midiri had a soprano sax feature, "September Song." All were worth a second hearing.

New titles were also presented. The opener, "All By Myself" taken at a medium swing, featured a growling Joe Midiri clarinet and a wailing Joe Midiri soprano sax. An up-tempo trio version of "Shine" incorporated a "Handful of Keys" riff

midway through the performance. A pair of James P. Johnson hits - "Charleston" and "If I Could Be with You One Hour Tonight" - was performed by Dickie and Paul Midiri. The former title had trademark piano "waterfall" effects and Midiri's brushes impersonating a boxing kangaroo, while the latter had Midiri achieving press roll effects from his brushwork, and Dickie evoking Johnson's skipping treble piano effects. Stephen Foster's "Swanee River" got the Albert Ammons treatment.







Photos by Paul Macate

As good as all that was, it was the final three numbers that brought the house down. The first one was an extended version of "St. Louis Blues" which allowed all three musicians to stretch out. particularly Joe Midiri on soprano sax. Next was a duo version of "Nagasaki" which began lightly but increased in tempo in each consecutive chorus, Paul Midiri providing some creative hand drumming along the way. After a lively third chorus, vou think it was all over when Neville stood up to the microphone, but Midiri, interrupted reminding the pianist that he recalled it played "even faster." Back to the instruments for one more exhilarating chorus. The closer, Stealin' Apples", Dickie observed the possibility that the tune was not composed by Fats Waller, who was known to record his compositions; Waller never recorded "Stealin Apples." Beginning with a Paul Midiri brush intro, Joe Midiri's clarinet flew into a swinging frenzy once he was done with the melody, Dickie put his own stamp on the tune with fine stride, and a thunderous Paul Midiri drum climaxed the performance before its cut-time conclusion.

I wish more sequels were this good.

Jim McGann

TRI-STATE JAZZ SOCIETY HONORS PATRONS AND SPONSORS

On June 1, after the Neville Dickie-Midiri Brothers concert in Haddonfield, the Tri-State Jazz Society sponsored a reception to thank the Patrons and Sponsors for their generous donations in the 2013-2014 concert year. The reception was held at Dewaine and Clare Osman's home in Haddonfield. A special treat at the reception was the attendance of the concert musicians - Neville Dickie, Joe Midiri, and Paul Midiri. Bill Nixon also joined the



Photo by Paul Macatee

group with his violin and the jam session didn't stop until 8:30 p.m. The reception included wine, cheese, beer, soda and heavy hors d'oeuvres.

The contributions of our Patrons and Sponsors have enabled the jazz society to present some of the very best traditional jazz and ragtime performers in the country (and beyond). We could not have afforded them without their generosity.

TSJS hopes that it will receive more Patron and Sponsor renewals for its next year (2014-2015) starting July 1. It has already received several new Patrons and Sponsors (see page 7) which will enable TSJS to pay the higher prices for the celebrity musicians during the year. Since our regular member dues are not increasing this 2014-2015 membership year, our continued Patron and Sponsor support is critical for our success.

TRI-STATE JAZZ SOCIETY JAM SESSION

As always, the end of June is an opportunity for guest musicians to participate in TSJS' Annual Jam Session. For the 2014 Jam Session, saxistclarinetist Bob Rawlins led the core band, accompanied by Randy Reinhart, cornet; Franny Smith on banjo; Brian Nalepka, bass and Alan Hubbell, drums. Rawlins' group provided a nice foundation for the participating musicians.

Most of the musicians performing were return visitors from past TSJS Jam Sessions. Trombonist John Tatum, of Tex Wyndham's Red Lion Jazz Band, had an opportunity to shine on "Basin Street Blues" and several numbers of the first set.





Clarinetist Skip Livingston was featured on a lively version of "Avalon." Cornetist Scott Ricketts called for "Baby, Won't You Please Come Home" and held his own trading fours with Reinhart on the following number, "Deed I Do."





Trombonist Bob Troxell, violinist Bill Nixon and pianist Nancy Rawlins shared the spotlight on a beautiful "Do You Know What It Means To Miss New Orleans?"









The second set opened with Chic Bach sitting in on piano on "Aint She Sweet."



Chic Bach

Another veteran of the Red Lion Jazz Band, Matt Zimnoch, joined the group on "Aint Misbehavin" and stayed on for the remainder of the concert.



Vocalist Janey Murtha participated on "Mean To Me" and "I'm Crazy 'Bout My Baby" backed by Zimnoch, Ricketts, and Nancy Rawlins.



The last guest, Steve DiBonaventura, applied his banjo expertise to "Once In A While" (A rarely heard Hot Five number, not the pop tune of the same name) and "Struttin' With Some Barbecue."



The Jam ended with most of the musicians contributing to a spirited version of "Saints," concluding another great TSJS Jam Session.

By Jim McGann Photos by Paul Macatee & Jim McGann

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

This is a reminder for our members to renew their membership which expires each year on June 30, except for new members who joined after April 1, 2014 (and whose membership then continues to June 30, 2015). Basic yearly membership dues are \$20 per person and members are admitted to regular concerts at half price (\$10) for the rest of the TSJS membership year.

We also remind our members that currently receive this Strutter newsletter by US mail that there continues to be an annual mailing charge of \$10, in addition to your annual membership fee. There is no charge for members to receive the Strutter by email.

We continue to rely on the generous donations of members to balance our yearly budget (July 1 to June 30) and continue to offer top-notch concerts. Please consider renewing your membership at the Sponsor level of \$50 per person, \$70 for couples; or the Patron level of \$100 or more per person, \$120 for couples. Please mail the renewal form on page 8 of this newsletter with your check.

We are a 501(c)(3) educational non-profit corporation, so your contributions and dues may be tax deductible, but check with your tax advisor. If you have membership questions, contact Jay Schultz. Leave a message for him on our hot line (856)-720-0232 or send Jay an email at membership@tristatejazz.org.

ANNUAL MEETING

A brief Tri-State Jazz Society annual meeting was held during intermission at the jam session on June 29, 2014. President Sandy Catz announced that the current 25th anniversary year set records for concert attendance, membership and volunteer participation. Average attendance increased 26% and membership increased 22%. Donations also increased as TSJS had 26 Patrons and 31 Sponsors for the 2013-2014 fiscal year.

Sandy Catz provided a financial report (excluding the jam session concert results) that showed our assets increasing from \$12,219 to \$17,504 as of June 24, 2014. These results make it possible to present top-level bands and soloists while maintaining the \$10 member and first-time admission policies.

Sandy Catz presented the following members recommended by the nominating committee to be Directors for three-year terms on the TSJS Board of Directors:

Sally Cannon - PA Publicity Manager and Refreshments Coordinator

Bill Hoffman - Chairman of the Music Committee and Booking Agent

Bob and Nancy Rawlins - Bob serves as Music Committee Advisor, Nancy prepares concert fliers.

The above nominees were elected unanimously.

Sandy also thanked Bill Wallace, who is leaving the Board after numerous years of outstanding service. Bill served as Director, Vice President and booking agent for bands, and he has contributed in numerous ways - over many years. No job was too big or small. Tri-State Jazz owes Bill a large debt of gratitude and looks forward to his continued help as a volunteer.

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.

FUTURE CONCERTS



All Concerts from 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

September 21, 2014 Dave Posmontier - Solo Pianist, Wallingford, PA.

October 26, 2014 The Hot Club of Philadelphia - Jazz Quartet, Haddonfield, NJ.

November 16, 2014 Ethan Uslan-Solo Pianist, Haddonfield, NJ.

December, 2014 No concerts planned due to the holidays.

January 18, 2015 The Al Harrison Dixieland Band, Wallingford, PA.

Wallingford: Concerts are held at the Community Arts Center, 414 Plush Mill Rd; just west of exit 3 of I-495 ("The Blue Route").

Haddonfield: Concerts are held at the Haddonfield United Methodist Church, 29 Warwick Rd., just south of Kings Highway; about a ten minute walk from the PATCO station.

Detailed directions at www.tristatejazz.org.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

The work of Tri-State Jazz is done by its board and interested volunteers. We need new volunteers for the following jobs and training will be provided:

- If you like to TALK to people and network, help us publicize TSJS. Contact newspapers and media in your area.
- Distribute FLIERS and post them on bulletin boards in your neighborhood.
- Help at CONCERTS. Come early or help at intermission: Both our Wallingford, PA and Haddonfield, NJ venues have openings for help at the admissions table, literature table, refreshments and ushers.

OTHER JAZZ CONCERTS PENNSYLVANIA JAZZ SOCIETY

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

Dewey Fire Company Hall, 502 Durham Street, Hellertown, PA.

July 6, 3:00-6:00 p.m. New Black Eagles Jazz Band

September 28, 2:00-5:00 p.m. Molly Ryan New CD Release Party

NEW JERSEY JAZZ SOCIETY

www.njjs.org

(800)-303-NJJS

NJJS 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 16 Nicki Parrott

August 5 Beacon Hill Jazz Band

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 24 David Ostwald's Louis Armstrong Eternity Band

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

www.capemaytraditionaljazzsociety.com

July 13 Midiri Brothers Jazz Band August 17 Al Harrison Dixieland Band September 14 Atlantic City Jazz Band

POTOMAC RIVER JAZZ CLUB

Check out the numerous traditional jazz events sponsored by PRJC at "www.prjc.org."

TSJS PATRONS 2014-2015

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

- Jack & Joan Adams
- Sanford Catz
- William N. Hoffman
- Chris Jones
- James & Lorraine Maitland
- Mike Mudry
- Janney & Bill Murtha
- Dewaine & Clare Osman
- Nancy Pontone & Steven Peitzman
- DeWitt Peterson
- Bob & Nancy Rawlins
- Sylvia Rosenberg
- Jay & Orinda Lou Schultz
- Anne Uniman
- Martha Keyser & Raymond P. Whearty, Jr.

TSIS SPONSORS 2014-2015

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

- Joan Bauer
- Flora Becker
- John & Susan Bingley
- Daniel Blattberg
- Jack Boesch
- Sally R. Cannon
- Marge Wroblewski & Porter Carlson
 Tee Conroy
- Rita H. Fulton
- J. Mervyn & Peg HarrisBenny Riviello Jr.
- R. Adam Rogers III
- Ken & Joyce Sternberg
- Doug & Louise Strande
- Kay & Bob Troxell
- Bill & Sally Wallace

The American Rag

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At each concert, TSJS picks a door prize winner of a free four-month subscription to the American Rag, the country's largest traditional jazz and ragtime newspaper. The winner for June 1, 2014 was Toni Weber of Haddonfield, NJ. The winner for the June 29, 2014 concert at Wallingford, PA was Jerome Leventhal of Norristown, PA.

New members of the Tri-State Jazz Society automatically receive a two-month subscription.

ABOUT TRI-STATE JAZZ SOCIETY **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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

Dewaine Osman, Vice President, Strutter Editor, 2015, editor@tristatejazz.org

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

Bill Hoffman, Music Committee Chairman, Bands Contact, 2017, bands@tristatejazz.org

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

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

Sally Cannon, PA Publicity Manager, 2017, publicity@tristatejazz.org

Bob Rawlins, Music Committee, 2017. bands@tristatejazz.org

Nancy Rawlins, Publicity Assistant, 2017 Louis Kaplan, Writer, 2015

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Jay Schultz, Membership Chairman membership@tristatejazz.org

More Volunteers are listed on our website

at: www.tristatejazz.org/officers.html

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



Membership Application/Renewal Form

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

☐ New	Renewal	Annual mem	bership is valid thro	ough June 3	30, 2015.		
Individual:	☐ Basic Member	\$20	Sponsor \$50	☐ Patron	\$100 or more		
Couple:	☐ Basic Member	s \$40	Sponsors \$70	☐ Patron	s \$120 or more		
Delivery Fee:	Newsletter by	U.S.Mail Deli	very (Add \$10)				
Free Email and Newsletter Options: (Check all boxes that apply) TSJS concert announcements and membership notices Newsletter by Email Other traditional jazz event notices (not sponsored by TSJS)							
First and Last	Name(s)						
City				State	Zip		
Phone ()	E-mail					
Date	Check No	TOTAL P	AYMENT				
	Mail with che	ck payable to	o Tri-State Jazz So	ciety, Inc.			
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