

Our Next Concert Ben Mauger's Vintage Jazz Band



Ben Mauger - Cornet / Leader
Ray Skalski - Trombone
Doug Lasala - Clarinet
Tom Pontz - Piano
Mike Kuehn - Banjo/ Guitar
Bruce Campbell - String Bass
Jeff Clinton - Drums

Sunday, December 13th, 2009

At 2PM

**St. Andrews United Methodist
Church**

**327 Marlton Pike, Route 70 West
Cherry Hill, NJ**

The Vintage Jazz Band, based in Central Pennsylvania, returns to perform hot Jazz for TSJS. The VJB has played for other jazz

societies and prestigious jazz festivals in Florida, Connecticut, and Pennsylvania. This past June they performed at the Hot Steamed Jazz Festival in Connecticut. For those who have not heard the VJB in live performance, the small excerpt from the review of its last TSJS concert on November, 2008 will give you some idea...

"...[Ben Mauger's Vintage Jazz Band] provided a great delectation for our loyal following throughout the afternoon....A tom-tom beat started things off to introduce "I Found A New Baby" in the first set of the afternoon. From that moment on, the Vintage Jazz Band was airborne. Mauger's fat cornet sound contrasted nicely alongside Doug Lasala's cool, swing era clarinet..."

Directions to St Andrews on Page 7

CONCERT ADMISSION
\$20 ADMISSION
\$15 MEMBERS
\$10 STUDENTS
\$10 FIRST TIME MEMBER GUESTS
Pay At the Door - No Advance Sales

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LOOKING AHEAD TO JANUARY

Coming up in January, Ed Wise will bring his New Orleans Jazz Band "Lite" with Ed on string bass, Stan Slotter on trumpet; Joe Midiri, on clarinet and soprano saxophone; Pat Mercuri on guitar revisiting the music of Sidney Bechet's Big Four and Django Reinhardt's American Quartet on January 17, 2010 at Brooklawn American Legion Hall, Brooklawn, NJ at 2PM

AMERICAN RAG WINNERS

Every month, TSJS selects from its membership a winner of a free four month subscription to the American Rag. The winner for December, 2009 is John Lawrence. New members of Tri-State Jazz Society automatically receive a two-month trial subscription to American Rag, the country's largest traditional jazz and ragtime newspaper.



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Tri-State Jazz Society

BMQ Swings Webb, Gershwin, Porter at First Unitarian

The Time: Sunday, November 1st, 2009, 2pm – 5:30pm

The Place: First Unitarian Church, 730 Halstead Ave, Wilmington, DE

The Band: The Barnhart-Midiri Quartet with Jeff Barnhart, leader, piano and vocals; Anne Barnhart, flute; Joe Midiri, clarinet, alto sax, bass clarinet and vocals; Paul Midiri, drums, xylophone and vibraphone

One of the selling features of several Big Bands during the Swing Era was the addition of a "band within a band" This created a diversion for the band's following, and a venue for the more Jazz hungry sidemen, who may have found the large ensemble limited in producing Jazz soli of great length. Each small group had a gimmick; Goodman's Trios, Quartets mirrored the big band, only swung with more force. Tommy Dorsey's Clambake Seven advocated Dixieland Jazz but with a more-than-subtle nod to vaudeville comedy. Johnny Guarneri performed on harpsichord with Artie Shaw's Grammercy Five. Then there was a flautist named Wayman Carver, who would perform with drummer Chick Webb's Little Chicks.

The Barnhart-Midiri Quartet, with flute, reeds, percussion and piano paid tribute to Webb's chamber Jazz group, as well as putting together original interpretations of classic Dixieland standards, with a sampling of standards by Gershwin, Berlin, and Porter. Jeff Barnhart performed stride piano with gusto; his enthusiasm transmitted to his wife Anne and the Midiri Brothers, making for one of the most unique concerts held by TSJS.

Anne Barnhart on flute proved, like Carver's efforts from an earlier time, that the flute is welcomed in a pre-modern Jazz setting. One would never know that she entered the Jazz world not too long ago, having come from a classical background. The Midiri Brothers, away from their working sextet, seemed freer, less constrained in this ensemble, despite the fact that group played "complicated, intricate arrangements." Both brothers introduced new instrumentation to add to their tonal palette; Paul, while predominately in the drummer role, was featured on xylophone as well as the expected vibraphone and Joe made extensive use of the bass clarinet.

The concert began with Irving Berlin's "Blue Skies, taken at a swinging gait, with Paul Midiri having a grand old time on drums throughout, inserting rim shots and splash cymbal accents. Anne Barnhart flauted through a chromatic run during her initial chorus. Jeff Barnhart's stride was direct and two fisted. "Sweet Sue" began with a Goodmanesque riff, which was used as a transition between choruses. Jeff Barnhart inserted a little of Fats Waller's technique, while Paul Midiri enjoyed

producing a drum solo backed by woodwinds. “Avalon” is quoted in the closing chorus, capped by a trade-off ending.

The xylophone was introduced for the next selection; “I Don’t Stand A Ghost of A Chance with You” Paul Midiri introduced the Victor Young-Ned Washington tune unaccompanied before the band introduced the first chorus. After a key change, Midiri performed a beautiful xylophone solo with subtle woodwind backing. With the woodwinds taking five, Midiri remained to perform a duet with Barnhart on piano, xylophone advocate George Hamilton Green’s “Chromatic Fox Trot”

Joe Midiri’s only turn on alto sax was on “I’m Gettin’ Sentimental Over You” Midiri played the melody, while Jeff Barnhart mixing stride and classical with a dramatic flair, and throwing in a familiar swing riff. Barnhart then performed A. J. Piron’s “High Society” as a solo stride piano piece, taking all of the orchestral parts, including the traditional clarinet solo, which Barnhart played on the high treble keys.

Following a straight interpretation of Cole Porter’s “So In Love,” the trio with Joe Midiri, taking on the Omer Simeon clarinet role, Paul Midiri taking on the Baby Dodds drum chair, and Barnhart filling in for Jelly Roll Morton, everything was set for Morton’s “Shreveport Stomp” Paul aka Baby Dodds, had the time of his drumming life on this one.

Before the beginning of the second set, Jeff Barnhart dazzled the audience with a speedway version of Fats Waller’s “Handful of Keys.” After the rest of the quartet assembled, “Jitterbug Waltz” underwent a modern-classical-chamber Jazz-arrangement, with Paul Midiri taking his only turn on vibraphone, with a Prez-like Joe Midiri on bass clarinet. Another interesting arrangement was “Cornet Chop Suey” – interesting for the fact that there was no brass, but lines created by the Hot Five were more than sufficient for woodwind interpretation. Barnhart captured the period flavor on piano, and Midiri reflected clarinet stylings of Buster Bailey and Jimmy Dorsey.

Anne Barnhart was featured on two somewhat contrasting pieces: Raymond Burke’s “Blue Goose Rag” from 1915 and George Gershwin’s “Summertime.” The former is a bright, peppy rag of the period, while on the latter, the Barnharts

created an interesting musical effect: hunched under the lid of the grand piano, Anne performed her flute solo while Jeff pressed on the damper pedals of the piano. The results caused the piano strings to resonate, adding a wistful echo.

“Sent For You Yesterday and Here You Come Today” was a vehicle for Joe Midiri’s Louis Armstrong vocal, with added lyrics arguing the correct way to address the locals: “Delawareans” or “Del-a-Ware-ians.” Alec Wilder’s “I’ll Be Around” is taken at a slow tempo, and finishing up the set was the Gershwin war horse, “I Got Rhythm,” using the Little Chicks arrangement, highlighted by a cutting contest between Anne Barnhart and Joe Midiri.

Rodgers and Hart’s “Blue Moon” opened the third set, backed by Paul Midiri’s Latin beats. Joe Midiri’s bass clarinet croaks, like a mate-less male bullfrog in a lonely pond, grumbling at the full moon in disgust. Anne Barnhart’s flute, in contrast, is a Viceroy Butterfly jumping from Thistle to Thistle. A Paul Midiri original, “Elizabethian Dreams” featured long flute and clarinet lines, and a modern touch. Barnhart produced some relaxed, unrestrained stride on this one, and Midiri quotes “High Society” in his clarinet solo.

“The World Is Waiting For the Sunrise” is taken in a typical Goodman small group fashion – frenetic swing, fiery clarinet, barrelhouse piano. “Japanese Sandman” is taken at a brisk, walking speed. Jeff Barnhart has a field day, quoting “Jersey Bounce”, “Louise”, and finishing off with “Chinatown, My Chinatown.” Joe Midiri is at his most relaxed, and Paul’s brushes swinging like mad.

For those of you who remember the scenes at Washington Heights Orphanage scenes in Leo McCarey’s film, “Love Affair,” will recall the song “Wishing Will Make It So.” Performed “a la Fats Waller”, it featured unison woodwind playing throughout, and Barnhart half-talking on the second refrain. For an encore, the quartet concluded with George Hamilton Green’s xylophone exercise, “Triplets”

Like Marty Grosz’s’ Hot Winds and Aaron Weinstein’s Quartet, the Barnhart-Midiri Quartet is a departure from the Dixieland Jazz which TSJS features regularly, but is welcome. It would be nice to see this foursome perform for us again in the future. – Jim McGann

RECALLING MUSIC OF THE PAST

My “Small Change” column in the May 1971 RECORD RESEARCH featured a large photo given to me by Joe Tarto in 1970. It dealt with the BAKER’S CHOCOLATE RADIO PROGRAM, 1930-2, which featured the Boswell Sisters with the BOB HARING ORCHESTRA. The photo had the following personnel on the back of the picture: l to r--- kneeling George Steiner(vi), Eddie Lang(g) --- standing – Arnold Brillhart(sax), Frank Chase(sax), Frank Perriro(vi), unknown(vi), Teddy Lassoft, Harry Hamner, Joe Lindwurm, Harry Merker, Lloyd (Wa-Hoo) Turner, Vet Boswell, Joe Tarto(tuba), unknown, Connie Boswell, Izzy Faberman, Martha Boswell, radio announcer, Bob Haring.

You no doubt have heard recordings by the BOB HARING ORCH. He was the recording director at the Cameo Record Corporation of New York from 1925 to 1928, at which time he moved to Brunswick in a similar position.

I had a most delightful chat with Haring in New York City on July 17, 1963. During that visit he told me he used Red Nichols on a few DIXIE DAISIES dates, probably the early ones. He recalled that Red Nichols was too much in demand and commanded above scale, Haring only paid scale. Leo McConville was Haring’s main trumpet man --- he used Earl Oliver quite a bit --- also Tommy Gott and Bob Effros, on the DIXIE DAISIES dates. It must be realized, of course, that this group was a house name also assigned to other groups occasionally.

This article tries to locate tunes where Red Nichols recorded with the Bob Haring group. Three DIXIE DAISIES were listed as Red Nichols possibilities, but two were ruled out. This leaves only one known that fits --- Cameo 834 “Paddlin’ Madelin Home”, recorded about November 1925. Four tunes released as BOB HARING AND HIS ORCH. are worthy of consideration:

Cameo 824 “Roll ‘Em Girls” c. 11/25

The next two recorded about March 1926 sound typical of a Nichols-styled group:

Cameo 892 “Tie Me To Your Apron Strings Again” &

Cameo 893 “In The Spring”

On the last tune of the group, there are two trumpet solos; I’d say the first solo is positively Nichols: Cameo 969 “School Day Sweethearts” c. 7/26

So, is this the end of the list? - Woody Backensto

J. FRED COOTS & HAVEN GILLESPIE

Recognize those names? You should because you hear one of their songs every year at this time. They are also responsible for one of the most enduring standards of all time. Yet few people know the men behind the music.

John Frederick Coots was born in Brooklyn, New York on May 2, 1897. His mother taught him piano, and after high school pursued a career in the banking industry. He changed careers when he heard a song plugger in a music shop performing new songs for sale. In 1917, he had his first of 700 songs published. Performed in vaudeville, and wrote music for singer Sophie Tucker. During most of the 1920’s wrote music for Broadway shows. At the end of the decade, Coots left New York to work in Hollywood.

In addition to collaborating with Haven Gillespie, Coots worked with other lyricists. Benny Davis wrote the words to “I Still Get A Thrill (Thinking of You)”, the romantic “For All We Know” with Sam M. Lewis, and “Love Letters In the Sand” with lyrics by Nick and Charles Kenny. Davis and Coots would collaborate on three Cotton Club Revues in 1936, 1938 and 1939.

Haven Gillespie, born in 1887, in Covington, Kentucky, left school at age sixteen to work in the newspaper field as a typesetter. By his early 20’s, he moved to New York to pursue a career in journalism, working at the New York Times and other newspapers. During this time, Gillespie worked as a song plugger on Tin Pan Alley, and composing songs for vaudeville acts. In 1911, he had his first song published, and a contract with music publisher Leo Feist, Inc.

Like Coots, Gillespie worked a variety of composers, and shared some hit songs with them. “Breezin Along With the Breeze” was written by Gillespie, Seymour Simons and Richard A. Whiting. Beasley Smith, composer of “The Sheik of Araby”,

helped Gillespie pen the latter day classic, "That Lucky Old Sun."

It was 1934. Gillespie met with a representative of his music publisher, Leo Feist, Inc. It was not the best of days for the lyricist, for he had just returned from his brother's funeral. The publisher wanted Gillespie to compose a children's song. Gillespie met with J. Fred Coots, and in the course of a fifteen minute train ride, completed the song. The song debuted on the Eddie Cantor radio show and became an immediate success, with sales up to 25,000 copies per day! For Gillespie, however, the song's success was bittersweet for it was a reminder of a sad time in his life. The song? **Santa Claus Is Coming To Town.**

It was Gillespie's love for alcohol that provided the inspiration for the enduring standard mentioned earlier. After a long bender in a local speakeasy, Gillespie wrote the words for what was to become a jazz standard: **You Go to My Head.**— Jim McGann

Bibliography

Unknown author. "J Fred Coots" Songwriters Hall of Fame. 2002-2009. n.p., November 4, 2009.
< <http://www.songwritershalloffame.org/exhibits/C45>>

Unknown author. "Haven Gillespie" Songwriters Hall of Fame. 2002-2009. n.p., November 4, 2009.
<http://www.songwritershalloffame.org/exhibits/C26>

UPCOMING EVENTS



www.tristatejazz.org

CONCERT SCHEDULE

(All Concerts start at 2PM unless otherwise noted)

Jan 17 Ed Wise and his New Orleans Jazz Band "Lite", Brooklawn American Legion Hall, Post 72, Browning Road and 11 Railroad Ave Brooklawn, NJ

Feb 21 Capitol Focus Jazz Band, Brooklawn American Legion Hall, Post 72, Browning Road and 11 Railroad Ave, Brooklawn, NJ

Mar 21 Midiri Brothers Septet, Saint Matthew Lutheran Church, 318 Chester Ave, Moorestown, NJ

April 25 Drew Nugent & the Midnight Society, First Unitarian Church, 730 Halstead Road, Wilmington, DE

May 23 Fête Manouche with Dan Levinson, Brooklawn American Legion Hall, Post 72, Browning Road and 11 Railroad Ave, Brooklawn, NJ

OTHER VENUES

PENNSYLVANIA JAZZ SOCIETY

www.pajazzsociety.org,
610-740-9698, 610-258-2082

Concerts are at 2 PM (except July) at **Easton Moose:** Route 22 to Route 248 and go north to right on Van Buren in Palmer OR at **American Legion Hall**, 217 North Broadway, Wind Gap, PA 18091. Take 22 to 33 north to Wind Gap exit, to main road east. \$20, \$18 members, \$5 students
Feb 14 Mardi Gras Party w/Ed Wise

NEW JERSEY JAZZ SOCIETY

www.njjs.org, 1-800-303-NJJS

For events co-sponsored by NJJS, check the Bickford Theater and Ocean County College listings.

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF HOLY COMMUNION

<http://www.lc-hc.org/drupal/jazz>

Third Sundays 2110 Chestnut St., Phila., PA
Monthly Jazz Vespers at 5 PM. 215-567-3668. Ed Dennis is JV leader.

CAPE MAY TRADITIONAL JAZZ SOCIETY

www.capemaytraditionaljazzsociety.com
PO Box 113, Stone Harbor, NJ 08247
ashbc@comcast.net, Dues \$10

Dec 10 6PM Atlantic City Jazz Band

Jan 31 2-4PM Al Harrison's Jazz Band

BICKFORD THEATRE, MORRISTOWN, NJ

Columbia Turnpike (Route 510), 8-9:30 PM
\$15(advance), \$18 (at the door), 973-971-3706.

Jan 25 Diva Jazz Trio

Feb 1 Great Groundhog Day Jam, with Herb Gardner and his Underground All Stars

Feb 8 Rio Clemente

**OCEAN COUNTY COLLEGE
(At Ocean County Library)**

www.ocean.edu, jazzevents@aol.com., 732-255-0500 \$13 advance/ \$15 at the door. All concerts start at 8PM. Concerts temporarily at Toms River (NJ) Library, 101 Washington Street 08753

Dec 16 Warren Vache Trio

Jan 20 Midiri Brothers with guest stars

EAR INN

www.earinn.com, 326 Spring St. near West Side Hwy, Washington St., and Greenwich St., NYC
Sundays 8-11 PM: EarRegulars with Jon-Erik Kellso, Matt Munisteri, and more. Good food, bar and parking.

JAZZ AND BLUES SHOWCASE

(SAT) 7:30 TO 10 PM (Usually first Sat.) \$20 (\$15 seniors and students) Memorial Hall, Across from Cathedral of the Woods, 100 Stokes Road, Medford Lakes, NJ, 609-654-4220. or rquagliata@yahoo.com

POTOMAC RIVER JAZZ CLUB

www.prjc.org

Dec 13 PRJC Holiday-Dixieland-Big Band Bash, with Dixieland Direct and the Olney Big Band, Kena Temple, Fairfax, VA. Advance tickets \$18.00

BAND SCHEDULES

MIDIRI BROTHERS

www.midiribros.com

Check TSJS and Ocean County College listings

Dec 31-Jan 1 New Years Eve Weekend, Golden Inn, Avalon, NJ

Jan 16 Tribute To Benny Goodman, Theater of the Somerset County Vo-Tech Schools, 14 Vogt Drive, Bridgewater, NJ. For tickets, call 908-237-1238

JOE HOLT

http://www.joeholtsnotes.com/

Dec 17 2PM Downs Cultural Center, Wilmington, DE. Free concert. Reservations are requested 302-575-0250 x2244

ATLANTIC CITY JAZZ BAND

http://www.myspace.com/atlanticcityjazzband

Dec 10 West Cape May VFW, West Cape May NJ

Dec 16 7PM Villa Fazzolari, Buena, NJ

FATHER JOHN D'AMICO

Tues nights Jazz Jam Session at the 23rd Street Café, 223 N. 23rd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19130 215-561-2488

VINCE GIORDANO AND HIS NIGHTHAWKS

www.myspace.com/vincegiordanothenighthawks
Every Monday, Sofia's Restaurant, 221 W 46th St, Edison Hotel, NYC 212-719-5799. 8 and 11 PM: \$15 cover (May through September 2009)

DAN LEVINSON

www.danlevinson.com

Dec 13 with Drew Nugent, piano at the Historic Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St. Bethlehem, PA 18018 (610) 625-5000

HERB GARDNER

www.herb-gardner.com

Mondays Leader of Stan Rubin's All Stars, 8:30-11:30 PM, Charley O's Times Square Grille, Broadway and 49th St, NYC

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Wednesdays with Stan Rubin Orch., Swing 46, 349 W 46th, NYC

Sundays Noon to 4 PM, Olde Stone Mill Restaurant, 2 Scarsdale Road, Tuckahoe, NY 10707 Sol Yaged Quartet 914-771-7661

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Do you have one?

HEAVENLY STRUTTERS

THE SOCIETY NEEDS AND WELCOMES YOUR GIFTS!

July 2009- June 2010: Gladys and Woody
Backensto, Steve Barbone, Flora Becker, Doris and
Charles Bitterli, Walt Brenner, Sandy Catz and
Paula Ingram, Lois and George Hines, Louis
Kaplan, Mike Mudry, Frank Nissel, Peter Parisi,
DeWitt Peterson, Anita and Joe Pew, Herb Roselle,
Rita and Harry Schmoll, Lou and Jay Schultz,
Katherine Smith, Kay and Bob Troxell, Ann
Uniman, Sally and Bill Wallace.

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Mailing Address: PO Box 896, Mount Laurel, NJ
08054
Email: info@tristatejazz.org
Phone: NJ: (856) 232-1463 **PA:** (610) 268-5930
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telling us to add you to our list for email newsletter
delivery, TSJS concert notices, area traditional jazz
events (not TSJS), or all three lists.
Send questions about membership and general
information to info@tristatejazz.org

ATTENTION STRUTTER CONTRIBUTORS!

Deadline to contribute reviews, literature, and
schedule changes for the January Strutter is:
Tuesday, January 5th, 2009

VISIT OUR WEB SITE:
www.tristatejazz.org

STRUTTER INPUT:

How are we doing? Is there something you
like/don't like in the Strutter? Something you
would like to see in the Strutter? Send us your
comments to: editor@tristatejazz.org

DIRECTIONS TO ST ANDREWS

From Trenton and points north: Take I295
south to Route 70-Cherry Hill exit. After 2nd traffic
light, take the JCT 41 to South 154 Haddonfield-
Maple Shade exit ramp on right (Famous Daves
BBQ and CitiBank landmarks on right visible from
the ramp), make left at traffic light onto Kings
Highway. 1st traffic light will be Route 70. Stay
straight and make right at next light (Connector
Road). Make right at light, then make left at first
street (Missouri Ave).

From Pennsylvania and points west: Take
Ben Franklin Bridge to Cherry Hill Route 30 East
(merge into left lanes when exiting bridge). Take
Route 30 (Admiral Wilson Blvd) to Route 38 & 70
exit ramp on left. Take ramp, take left lanes at top
of ramp. When exiting ramp, merge right. Right
lanes will put you on Route 70. Take Route 70 for 7
traffic lights. St Andrews will be on your right.
Take 1st exit ramp after Ponzios. Make right on
Missouri Ave.

From Delaware and points south: Take either
Commodore Barry Bridge or Delaware Memorial
Bridge to I295 north to Route 70-Cherry Hill exit.
Follow Trenton directions from that point.



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P.O. Box 896, Mount Laurel, NJ 08054

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