



BLUE NOTES

Bimonthly Publication of the
Central Florida Jazz Society

MAY/JUN 2015
VOLUME 19, ISSUE 2



2015 CFJS

Scholarship Winners

On March 22nd we narrowed the list of applicants down to 10 outstanding candidates. All of the performances were excellent. Thank goodness I was not a judge, I would have wanted to award them all. Our 6 scholarships went to the following students:

1st Place, Emmanuel Zapata, Valencia Community College, Saxophone (He won 1st place last year, too)

2nd Place, William Patrick, Winter Park High School, Guitar

3rd Place, Ryan Waszmer, UCF, Guitar

4th Place, Mudel Honore, UCF, Piano

5th Place, Saul Dautch, UCF, Saxophone

6th Place, Simon Klochko, Winter Park High School, Guitar (this is the High School Scholarship)

We all love what we do - presenting exceptional concerts and helping to keep Jazz alive. But being able to help these talented and dedicated kids is really rewarding!

Congratulations, Winners! You're all fabulous, each and every one! We look forward to reading about you in the *Blue Notes* column "Where Are They Now?". — Carla Page

CFJS

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President's Improv

By Carla Page



I wasn't sure what to expect when the UCF Flying Horse Big Band had a conflict with our concert date and Jeff Rupert suggested that he would present small groups. Knowing Jeff's professionalism and talent, we knew it would be OK, but who knew it would be sensational! The talent on stage was phenomenal. In fact, four of our previous scholarship winners were performers, and we had such a great response from all of you. Next year we'll have the Big Band again, but I think we'll have a few numbers by the small groups as well.

Our 2014-2015 Season is coming to an end. Our last concert will be on May 17th with Pat Gullotta and his Stompin' Dixie Swampcats who are always fun and fabulous. See you all at The Abbey!

carlampage@yahoo.com • 407-886-8788



Stay tuned for updates on this annual August fundraising event.

All I can tell you now is that it will be a great party!

Great Music! Great Food! Great FUN!

WUCF89.9
JAZZ & MORE



Jack Simpson

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.

A couple of days ago I came across a few recorded cassette tapes which, in the Simpson household, is like finding fish at Sea World. That's right, not an unexpected occurrence. These tapes, however, were old, labeled, and contained audio recordings of jazz musicians either in performance or being interviewed by me. An example of cassette labeling on one tape read **Harry "Sweets" Edison interview 11/3/76**; another was **Roy Eldridge (interview ID) with Kolb Trio 1/18/78**. Then came **"Sweets" and "Jaws", Lockjaw (interview ID) 10/8/80**.

I often asked name musicians to identify the radio station on which we were broadcasting; hence the ID item. Most musicians were cooperative and seemed to enjoy the experience. Starting out, with jazz radio in 1967, I relied on radio station equipment, turntables, and microphones, but provided my own music from about 100 LPs that I owned, and through the years added more, plus tapes as I acquired them.

After a few years of experience, but no interviewing except for Ira Sullivan (at my home) and Gary Bartz (by phone), I acquired a microphone and tape recorder enabling me to do field interviews. I'm finally getting to the point of this column, which is to mention the size and weight of so called *portable* recording equipment. Back in those days when I walked into the Village Lounge at Walt Disney World, there was no doubt that I was about to record something. It was heavy, too, but then I was in my 50's and 60's – young!

If I could position the various tape recorders that I have used side by side, it would make an interesting "large-to-little" picture. The final one, a digital unit, was really neat with built-in memory and stereo mics. I love it. Small enough to slip into my front shirt pocket, and small enough to lose, which I did! Several months went by with no recorder, and then, life without it became too much to bear! I ordered an item, on sale, illustrated on the internet, without carefully checking the size described in millimeters. It arrived in a plain white envelope, and, if you're familiar with an alto saxophone reed – that size, and also flat. Here's an excerpt from the user manual:

Playback

Connect the USB recorder to the computer in order to play, copy, or delete the recorded files. Open the device from My Computer (Windows) or Finder (Mac OSX) and then open the files in the RECORD folder with a media play application installed on the computer. (See notes section for use on Mac.)

My son, Jeff, while looking over my shoulder, says: "Dad, I can do that, don't worry!"

Is it time to retire????

■ Jack Simpson



You Think You Know?

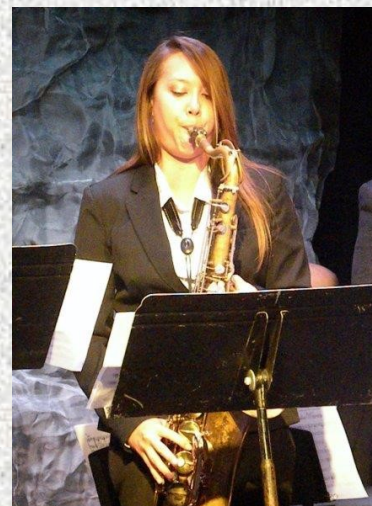
1. When was Ragtime's golden age?
2. Was jazz always jazz?
3. Cornetist Buddy Bolden was what by trade?
4. Early jazz musicians were self-taught geniuses who didn't read music and never took a formal lesson. True or False?
5. What event caused many key jazz players to migrate north from New Orleans in 1917?
6. Who was Louis Armstrong's mentor?

(answers on page 6)





Flying Horse™
BIG BAND



Where Are They Now?



Midge Bowman

Well, on April 12th four of the current CFJS scholarship winners -- Keegan Matthews, piano; Greg Zabel, bass; Ryan Waszmer, guitar and Saul Dautch, baritone -- were on the Abbey stage performing for the CFJS. The trumpets and trombones of the Flying Horse Big Band were playing in a wind ensemble at the week-long UCF Celebrates the Arts at Dr. Phillips Performing Arts, so Jeff Rupert brought 5 saxophones, keyboard, 2 guitars, bass and drums which he combined in different small groups.

It was a delightful afternoon which showcased the musicians very well.

One of the requirements for their senior recitals is an original composition or arrangement. We were treated by groups playing arrangements by Greg and Keegan, as well as guitarist Luis Guerrero and drummer Paolo Tursi.

Greg played a bass solo accompanied by his teacher, Richard Drexler. It was announced that after graduating on May 7th, Greg will go on tour with the Glenn Miller Orchestra the following week. Another winner is having the Miller experience thanks to Greg Parnell who does a tremendous job promoting young musicians and arranging for the scholarship auditions.

Also, we were treated to hearing Jeff and Richard play a number they are recording. Altogether, it was a very special afternoon.

Carey Frank, 2011 and 2012 scholarship winner, will receive his Master's degree from USC in May. Carey is working in the LA area as performer, composer, arranger and educator.

He has just released his first album entitled *KEEP SMILING* - which features Jamey Tate, drummer - 1998 scholarship winner; Sezin Ahmet Turkmenoglu, upright bass; and Grammy-award winning saxophonist Bob Mintzer on 2 tracks. Recording while completing his Master of Music degree is a BIG achievement!!! CONGRATULATIONS, CAREY!!

Jamey Tate is well known in the LA area as a musician, composer, producer and educator. He has been musical director and conductor of the LA Music Center Spotlight Awards which is a scholarship and training of the arts program in Southern California. Professional judges select 2 top finalists in each category to participate in an Oscar-type stage show. His web page is very impressive. Next month I will report about my interview with Jamey.

Horace Greeley said, "Go West Young Man" and several of our Scholarship winners did that -- Dan Boissy, Jamey, and Carey have found LA to be a great place for working musicians. Steve Scholz found his niche in San Francisco.

It is exciting and gratifying to know that our scholarships have assisted so many fine musicians.

You Think You Know?

(Answers)

1. 1898 to 1908
2. Earliest usage was spelled jass, a term introduced by trombonist Tom Brown, a white New Orleansian who introduced it in Chicago in 1915.
3. Barber
4. False. Almost every major figure in early jazz had at least a solid grasp of legitimate musical fundamentals, and often much more.
5. The Great War in Europe (World War I) had created an industrial boom, and the musicians merely followed in the wake of millions of workers moving north to the promise of better jobs.
6. Joseph "King" Oliver

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Dennis Hollin
Peter Patterson
Maria Rubin
Craig Stephens
Jean and Freddie Tirado



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MAY/JUN 2015

MAY 17 PAT GULLOTTA

And his Stompin' Dixie Swampcats

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Last Concert of the 2014-15 Season!

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CHRIS CORTEZ

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Tuesday May 19th 11-Noon on 89.9 FM

Like a tasty dish of Louisiana gumbo, New Orleans-area musician Chris Cortez mixes a broad assortment of delectable ingredients into his performances, and the latest feast is his new album TOP SECRET, released in January 2015.

Cortez continues to confirm his fusion of styles and techniques that is a wide spanning musical vision of performing, improvising and composing that has been refined over the years to be of the highest artistic quality. Cortez is making great musical statements both as an artist and label owner it is certainly time for listeners to get in on this secret; because this cat is out of the bag!

— H. Allen Williams, 04/25/15



Photo Credits:

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The Flying Horse Big Band Concert: Dell Shadgett

