



NEWSLETTER

ADVANCING JAZZ ALONG THE GULF COAST!

NOTABLE HISTORICAL JAZZ EVENTS IN AUGUST:

1924: Paul Whiteman Orchestra and George Gershwin released Rhapsody in Blue, which became widely circulated in the United States and abroad.



CREATING A SUSTAINABLE AND EVOLVING JAZZ SOCIETY FOR PENSACOLA

BY DERRICK FISHBACK,
PRESIDENT JAZZ PENSACOLA

Hello family!

I want to take your time to say thank you all for your ongoing commitment and support for the jazz heritage society.

(continued, page 2)

WHAT'S NEWS?

03

How YOU Can Support Jazz Pensacola

04

What's Jazzin'

06

Artist of the Month - Count Basie


08

Notable Jazz Birthdays

09

Calendar of Events

President's Message,
(continued from page 1)



As I write to you from Paris France I must say it is both interesting and impressive to experience the level of jazz enthusiast and jazz clubs that they have here in this fine city. From the variety of people to the variety of music and the variety of locations it is both exciting and encouraging. It reminds me of the long standing commitment and history we have within our society and how important it is to sustain.


As we continue to move through the music calendar with so many different bands and acts that have taken place on our stages I must say we should find encouragement in both pushing for growth and pushing for diversity of music.

To this end we're trying to have a grand fundraising event with our Jazz Pensacola Orchestra in December so be on lookout for more information.

I'm going to personally ask you for a small commitment that will help us long term. The first is to invite a new person every time we have a function. That will both help inspire and expand vision of an organization.

The second thing I'm going to ask you to do as members is to see if you can possibly increase a donation over the next few months to help us sustain what we are building.

As always, I'm excited about what we can do, what we can be, and what sound we can make.



Yours in Jazz,

Derrick

Keeping Jazz Alive in Pensacola, **What you CAN Do!**

As was mentioned in our July newsletter, the State of Florida Arts and Culture Organizations find themselves in a monetary squeeze due to the State of Florida removing all funding, and that includes Jazz Pensacola!

Although funding for the arts provides for an enhanced quality of life, attracts tourism, supports professional entertainers, and provides educational opportunities for our youth, like many others, we need to lean on you, our members and the community for additional support to continue our programming, jazz preservation, educational opportunities and activities.

Here are a few ways you can ensure that Jazz Pensacola endures these budgetary cuts and continues to provide social forums

for musicians and listeners, educational opportunities for our talented youth, and our annual community JazzFest:

1. **Sponsor an event:** Jazz Jam, Jazz in the Quarter, Annual Student Competition, or JazzFest.
2. **Donate** your time, talent, or treasure.
3. **Support** our events with our attendance.
4. Become an **active** member of the board.

We're happy to discuss your preferred participation and promotional opportunities to benefit not only Jazz Pensacola, but your business as well.

Call 850-433-8382 for more information.



WHAT'S JAZZIN!

by Carolyn Tokson

August is traditionally one of the hottest months here in town. Let's hope that the jazz is just as hot. **Jazz Pensacola's Jazz Jam, Monday August 5th**, is an opportunity to bid farewell to Andrew Gregg who has served as the keyboardist for the Fabulous House Band. Andrew is off to Southern Methodist University to study for his master's degree. His July performance for Jazz in the Quarter was an evening of a more sophisticated jazz than one might normally hear in Pensacola. It was a rare treat and we wish Andrew well in his studies.

August 19th's Jazz in the Quarter features Jackson Miller, trombonist, performing the music of J.J. Johnson. Special guest performer will be Don Snowden. This should be an evening that will delight everyone.

September's Jazz in the Quarter will bring Jensen Cadenhead on vibes. So many of our performers are known to us from their first win in the Jazz Pensacola Student Competition; Jensen and many others have continued their studies and become professional musicians. It is rewarding to see the impact of furthering the opportunities for young musicians to get experience though performing with a professional band at our Jazz Jams.

Check the website for activities in **Mobile's MOJO (Majestic Order of the Jazz Obsessed)**. Fred Domulot and the Dharma Bums just closed out the month there. MOJO's events are the last week of the month. Steve Gilmore reports that **the Gulf Jazz Society has a new venue at the House of Henry** in Panama City and is having more frequent events.

Locally, **Sheila Green, at It's Personal by Sheila**, offers saxophonist **Patrick Lamb August 17** with doors opening at 7 and a show at 8PM. Tickets are \$40 and this is a BYOB event. Her **Labor Day Jazz Series** on Sunday, September 1 features sax players Antoine Knight and Paula Atherton with Rob Zinn on trumpet. Doors open at 6 with a show at 7 PM. Tickets are \$40.

What's Jazzing

(continued from page 4)

Our Blues cousins are holding the **Regional Blues Challenge** on Sunday, August 18 from 2-6 PM at Lili Marlene's in Seville Quarter. Folks are getting excited about the **2024 Gulf Coast Jazz Festival** Fall Edition in October. William "Cadillac" Banks has put together a stellar event with top- notch smooth jazz stars to perform on the water in Community Maritime Park. Bob Windt is looking forward to hearing Lou Rittenour again. The All Winter White Party is on the preceding Thursday, October 17 at the Sanders Beach Corinne Jones Service Center. Call 850-393-3028 for tickets for the party at \$70. Get information regarding the lineup and ticket purchases at www.gulfcoastsummerfestjazzedition.com

Check out your favorite artists on Facebook to see where they are performing.

It is with a sad heart that I mention the death of Joe Suchcicki who died at the young age of 40 recently. Joe was the formatter for our Jazz Pensacola monthly newsletter when I was a board member. He was a joy to work with; he had a creative bent that brightened the look of our emailed newsletter. He took over the task of finding jazz quotes on his own. He was a remarkably brave man who fought cancer as a child and then again this last year and a half. His memory will bring smiles to all who knew him. We had a lot of laughs together. May he rest in peace and may his memory live on.





Jazz Birthday Artist of the Month

William James “Count” Basie

August 21, 1904 - April 26, 1984

William Basie was born to Lillian and Harvey Lee Basie in Red Bank, New Jersey. Both of his parents had some type of musical background. His father played the mellophone, and his mother played the piano; in fact, she gave Basie his first piano lessons.



Though a natural at the piano, Basie preferred drums. In 1919, Basie switched to piano exclusively at age 15. Basie played with pick-up groups for dances, resorts, and amateur shows, including Harry Richardson's "Kings of Syncopation".

In 1928 in Kansas City, he joined Walter Page's Blue Devils, where band members were lured away by pianist Bennie Moten who could pay them more lucrative salaries.

Basie's stride playing was excellent and that, coupled with his friendly nature, made Basie popular in Kansas City. Basie was pianist on eight record dates with Moten during 1929-31. On December 13, 1932, the Bennie Moten Orchestra had their final and greatest recording session.

After Bennie Moten died in 1935, Basie went out on his own. Record producer John Hammond heard the Basie Orchestra on the radio and flew to Kansas City to convince Basie that he should take his band to Chicago or New York.

By 1936 Basie was playing a sparer style, making dramatic use of space and perfectly placing his notes to maximize swing. The cool and light sound that he created made it essential for him to have a strong rhythm section, which uplifted the entire band.

Remembering William James “Count” Basie

(continued from page 6)



Once the Count Basie Orchestra had begun to solidify its sound in 1937, there was little real change during the next dozen years despite changes in personnel and the development of other styles of music.

By the late 1940's, a number of factors made it difficult for any big band to survive. Basie's increasingly dire financial situation led to his band breaking up in 1949. Count Basie had no intention of giving up music. In 1952, Basie appeared at the helm of a swinging new big band, one with tight, modern arrangements that left room for individual solos. From the mid-50's on, the Count Basie Orchestra was permanently back.

The quality of his band stayed consistently high. Count Basie stayed musically active up until the time of his death on April 26, 1984.



COUNT BASIE

THE COUNT BASIE ORCHESTRA

More Notable August Jazz Musician Birthdays

Compiled by Steve Douglas

Jeff Hamilton	8/04/53
Terri Lynn Carrington	8/04/65
Airto Moriera	8/05/41
Regina Carter	8/06/66
Marcus Roberts	8/07/63
Kat Gang	8/09/80
Jack DeJohnette	8/09/44
Patti Austin	8/10/50
Danny McCaslin	8/11/66
Pat Metheny	8/12/54
Mulgrew Miller	8/13/55
Tony Monaco	8/14/59
John Escreet	8/18/84
Ron Eschete	8/19/48
John Clayton	8/20/52
Mimi Fox	8/24/56
Pat Martino	8/25/44
Bradford Marsalis	8/26/60
Peter Washington	8/28/64
Larry Goldings	8/28/68
Danny Seraphine	8/28/48
Dick Halligan	8/29/43
Gerald Albright	8/30/57

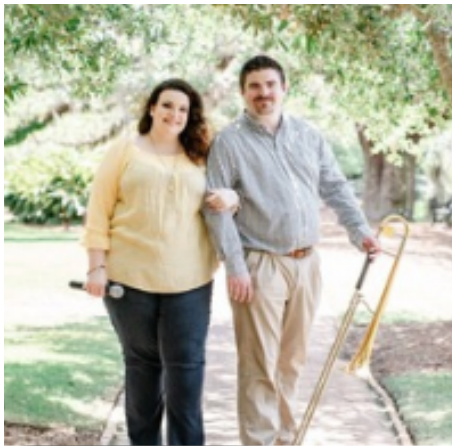


JAZZ PENSACOLA EVENTS **AUGUST 2024**

MON., 8/05 6:30 PM **COMMUNITY JAZZ JAM @ ODD COLONY BREWING**
All Musicians & Vocalists invited to jam with the Fabulous Jazz Pensacola House Band.
Free community event

WED., 8/07 2:00PM **RX: MUSIC, JUST WHAT THE DOCTOR ORDERED @ HCA Florida West, 8383 N. Davis Hwy.**
Live, soothing jazz music for patients, physicians, and medical staff.
Free community event made possible by a Partnership with Jazz Pensacola and Escambia County Medical Society Foundation

MON., 8/19 6:30 PM **JAZZ IN THE QUARTER @ PHINEAS PHOGG'S IN SEVILLE**
Featuring: Jackson Miller's tribute to trombone legend J.J. Johnson



Kathryn & Jackson Miller

Pensacola bred professional trombonist, Jackson has successfully performed with a multitude of groups, genres, and locales over the course of his 15-year musical career.

Three-time winner of Jazz Pensacola's Student Jazz Competition. Jackson instructs brass players, incorporating music theory concepts and jazz improvisation concepts into his curriculum.

A real treat for jazz lovers!

ADMISSION: \$10/MEMBERS, \$12/NON-MEMBERS
[Full cash bar and menu available for patrons.]

AUGUST JAZZ PENSACOLA EVENTS CONTINUED:

SWING DANCING WITH THE SEASIDE SWINGOUTS

@THE WAY YOU MOVE, 918 WINTON AVENUE

FREE CONCERT FEATURING THE JAZZABOUTS HOSTED BY JOE OCCHIPINTI
FRIDAY, AUGUST 2nd - 7:00 - 10:00pm

MOJO JAZZ JAMBALAYA IN MOBILE

CLUB 601 @ THE ELKS, 601 STATE STREET., MOBILE

HOT CLUB-STYLE FEATURING RAPHAEL BAS, CLASSIC JAZZ PRE-SHOW BY
THE JAZZABOUTS
MONDAY, AUGUST 26TH - 5:45PM

JAZZ BY THE BOOKS AT THE PENSACOLA LIBRARY

239 N. SPRING STREET

FREE CONCERT FEATURING THE JAZZABOUTS HOSTED BY JOE OCCHIPINTI
TUESDAY, AUGUST 27TH - 12:00 - 2:00PM

JAZZ AT GOAT LIPS CHEW & BREW, 2811 COPTER ROAD

FREE CONCERT FEATURING THE JAZZABOUTS HOSTED BY JOE OCCHIPINTI
MONDAYS - 12:00 - 2:00PM
THURSDAYS - 4:00 - 6:00PM
SATURDAYS - 3:00 - 5:00PM

JAZZ AT THE DROWSY POET, 86 BRENT LANE

FREE CONCERT FEATURING THE JAZZABOUTS HOSTED BY JOE OCCHIPINTI
TUESDAYS - 3:00 - 5:00PM



MORE JAZZ EVENTS: MARK YOUR CALENDARS

October 18 & 19th



Octoberfest

Saturday, September 21st
St. Thomas More Catholic Church
3295 Barrancas Avenue
Text: 850-206-4642 for more info.

A vibrant poster for the 8th Annual Gulf Coast Jazz Festival. The top features a logo for the 2024 Gulf Coast Jazz Festival Fall Edition with a sun wearing sunglasses. Below the logo, the text reads "8TH ANNUAL 2024 GULF COAST JAZZ FESTIVAL" in large, stylized letters. A neon sign graphic says "Performing Live". The center of the poster is a collage of photos of the performing artists. At the bottom, the text lists the artists: LEE RITENOUR | LINDSEY WEBSTER, MAYSA | RICHARD ELLIOT, JULIAN VAUGHN | DOMINIQUE HAMMONS | JAZMIN GHENT, VINCENT INGALA | KIM SCOTT | THE BRAXTON BROTHERS, and THE SOUTHERN GENTLEMEN. It also mentions the hosts: MORRIS BAXTER & DJ BAM BAM BELONGE. The event is titled "TWO DAYS OF SMOOTH JAZZ" and is held "ON THE WATER AT THE PENSACOLA COMMUNITY MARITIME PARK". The poster includes the dates "OCTOBER 18 & 19, 2024", the ticket information "TICKETS ON SALE ONLINE AT TICKETMASTER.COM AND THE PENSACOLA BAY CENTER BOX OFFICE.", and the website "WWW.GULFCOASTSUMMERFESTJAZZEDITION.COM".

2024 Gulf Coast Jazz Festival Fall Edition

8TH ANNUAL 2024 GULF COAST JAZZ FESTIVAL

Performing Live

LEE RITENOUR | LINDSEY WEBSTER
MAYSA | RICHARD ELLIOT
JULIAN VAUGHN | DOMINIQUE HAMMONS | JAZMIN GHENT
VINCENT INGALA | KIM SCOTT | THE BRAXTON BROTHERS
THE SOUTHERN GENTLEMEN

HOSTED BY: MORRIS BAXTER & DJ BAM BAM BELONGE

TWO DAYS OF SMOOTH JAZZ
ON THE WATER AT THE PENSACOLA COMMUNITY MARITIME PARK

DOORS OPEN 12 NOON • FOR MORE INFO, CALL: 850-393-3028 **OCTOBER 18 & 19, 2024**

TICKETS ON SALE ONLINE AT TICKETMASTER.COM AND THE PENSACOLA BAY CENTER BOX OFFICE.
FOR MORE INFORMATION, GO TO:
WWW.GULFCOASTSUMMERFESTJAZZEDITION.COM