

Jazz Society of Pensacola

December 2004 Newsletter

“JazzFest Goes On”

February 26, 6-9 p.m.

“JazzFest Goes On” -- a Jazz Society fundraiser to benefit the 2005 Pensacola JazzFest -- takes place at Seville Quarter (130 E. Government St.) on Saturday, February 26, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Popular area musicians who will entertain at the event include:

- ◆Vocalist Kitt Lough, who will perform with her group in Apple Annie’s Courtyard.
- ◆Pianist Bobby Van Deusen, who will perform in Lili Marlene’s. Bobby’s newest CD will be available for sale.
- ◆Joe Occhipinti’s Big Band, which will be set up in Phineas Phogg’s for listening and dancing. As an added feature, the Big Band will be joined by the Swing Kids Dancers, always a hit with their high energy dancing skills.

There will also be a Second Line Umbrella Parade as part of the evening’s festivities.

Jazz Society merchandise and information will be available in Fast Eddie’s. Special menu food service will be available in every room with full menu service in The Palace Oyster Bar.

Jazz Society Board Member Crystal Joy is Chair of “JazzFest Goes On.” For ticket information, contact the Jazz Society office at 850-433-8382.

JazzFest 2005 - April 9 & 10

The 2005 Pensacola JazzFest (#22) unfolds in historic Seville Square on Saturday and Sunday, April 9 & 10. Headliners for this year’s event include the Jazz Ensemble of the U.S. Navy Commodores, led by saxophonist Steve Williams, a

Pensacola native; The Boondockers, a California group that performs vintage jazz with plentiful comedy; a New Orleans group that includes pianist Chuck Chaplin, vocalist Betty Shirley and saxophonist/flutist Loren Pickford; The Rebirth Brass Band of New Orleans, a young group that will perform from the stage as well as lead a second line umbrella parade around Seville Square; and O Som Du Jazz, a Latin group from St. Petersburg, Florida that includes a vocalist and a pianist, both Brazilian natives.

There will also be a youth stage with programs especially geared to those of school age. Some of the headliners will also perform on the youth stage, as will area middle school and high school jazz bands.

JazzFest is a free festival presented as the Jazz Society's annual gift to the community. Support comes from WUWF-FM, the Arts Council of Northwest Florida, the Florida Arts Council, and commercial and individual sponsors.

Upcoming Jazz Events

◆ Sunday, January 9 - A special concert by Bruce Katz Quartet featuring Katz on Hammond B3 organ. Titled "An Evening of Jazz And Blues," this concert is presented by the Jazz Society of Pensacola and Seville Quarter and begins at 6:00 p.m. Cost is \$10.00 at the door.

This Bruce Katz Quartet, based in Boston, is traveling in support of their new CD. This should have broad appeal both to jazz and blues enthusiasts. This concert will be the Jazz Society's presentation for January, consequently, there will be no Jazz Gumbo event in January.

◆ Monday, February 21 - The Jazz Society's regular 3rd Monday Jazz Gumbo event features trumpeter Roger Villines and group ("Trumpets in Time II"). This Gumbo event continues the series honoring various jazz trumpet players. Last year Roger presented a program which included Clark Terry's signature feat of playing the trumpet and flugelhorn simultaneously. The evening begins at 6:00 p.m. in the Phineas Phogg's Room in Seville Quarter, 130 E. Government Street in downtown Pensacola. Cost \$7.00 for public and \$5.00 for JSOP members. Admission includes a bowl of seafood gumbo.

◆ Friday, May 13 - "Jazz In the Country" featuring Nashville/Pensacola steel guitarist Doug Jernigan with a Pensacola jazz ensemble led by JSOP Music Director Joe Occhipinti. This special event is co-sponsored by the Jazz Society of

Pensacola and the Farmers' Opry and will be held at the Farmers' Opry in Chumuckla. As special attraction there will be a delicious meal served before the event. The Jazz Society will have a bus for those who prefer not to drive. Maps and driving directions will be available. This should be an interesting and unusual program of interest to music enthusiasts; not limited to jazz fans. Jernigan, a Pensacola native, has had a Nashville career. He returns periodically for appearances at Farmers' Opry and elsewhere, and this will be his first appearance with a jazz band. Come and hear Doug's jazzy licks. Older western swing fans will remember Leon McAuliffe's steel guitar featured by Bob Wills' band. McAuliffe's big number was "Steel Guitar Rag."



Though not sponsored by Jazz Society of Pensacola, the following items may be of interest to area jazz fans:

- ◆ Thursday, January 6 - The Four Freshmen will be appearing in concert at the Fort Walton Beach Municipal Auditorium (right on route 98) at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$15.00 and the number to call is 850-598-0803 (that's Ray Brown).
- ◆ Wednesday, January 26 - The Glenn Miller Orchestra at the National Museum of Naval Aviation. Details: Naval Aviation Museum Foundation, 850-453-6289
- ◆ Tuesday February 1 - The Glenn Miller Orchestra and Buddy DeFranco at the Municipal Auditorium, Panama City. Buddy led the Glenn Miller Orchestra for eight years. There will be special celebration on the occasion of Buddy's 82nd birthday that will include a display of memorabilia of Buddy's career and that of the Glenn Miller Orchestra. Tickets available on Ticketmaster soon. Details: Fred Lindholm, 850-763-8546.
- ◆ April 22-24 - The Atlanta Jazz Party, featuring 20 jazz musicians including trumpeter Ed Polcer and guitarist Bucky Pizzarelli. Patron tickets are \$200. A number of Pensacola jazz enthusiasts have attended previously. Since there won't be a bus trip to French Quarter Jazz Festival this year - Pensacola JazzFest is same weekend - the Atlanta Jazz Party may be a consideration for some of you. Point your browser to Atlanta Jazz Party or call Phil Carroll at 423-821-4461.
- ◆ Remember the Jazz Cruise in December of 2005. Advantages: departs from Mobile; excellent price; bus from Pensacola to the ship, thereby saving parking charges. Those interested need to reserve early to take advantage of the price

break. Full refund if the cruise line is notified 60 days in advance of the cruise. This cruise has been endorsed by JSOP but is no an official function of the Jazz Society. Details: Josephine Thiel, 251-961-1252.

Veteran Trombonist Henry Grad Dies at 87

Henry Grad, a charter member of the Jazz Society, died this month in Jacksonville, Florida. A memorial service was held at St. Cyprian Episcopal Church where he and wife, Marge, were members. A native of Cincinnati, Grad attended the Cincinnati Conservatory and traveled as a jazz musician before World War II. He played with the Russ Morgan Band and entered the U.S. Navy after the outbreak of the war. He was a vocalist and trombonist in trumpeter Ray Anthony's service band in the Pacific Theater. Radio broadcasting and advertising brought him to Pensacola. He served as Choir Director for Christ Episcopal Church for a decade and taught privately in his home studio in Gulf Breeze.

He is survived by his wife, Marge, their daughter, Jenny Danieli of Jacksonville, a brother in Lexington, Kentucky, and two daughters by a previous marriage.