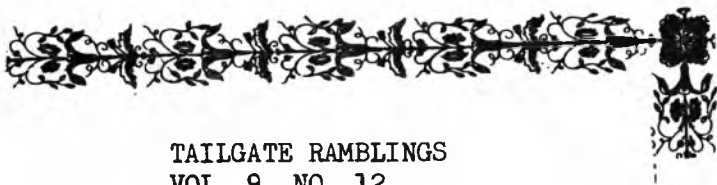


Tailgate Ramblings



LE GOULLON



TAILGATE RAMBLINGS
VOL. 9 NO. 12



The President's Corner
(Continued)

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TAILGATE RAMBLINGS IS THE MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE POTOMAC RIVER JAZZ CLUB. THE CLUB STANDS FOR THE PRESERVATION, ENCOURAGEMENT AND ADVANCEMENT OF TRADITIONAL JAZZ. THIS MEANS JAZZ FROM 1900 TO 1930, IN THE NEW ORLEANS, CHICAGO AND DIXIELAND STYLE, INCLUDING THE VARIOUS REVIVAL MOVEMENTS OF THE SAME, AND INCLUDES BLUES AND RAGTIME. TAILGATE RAMBLINGS WELCOMES CONTRIBUTIONS FROM READERS.

Greetings from the President's Corner

This year promises to be a great one for the Potomac River Jazz Club.. beginning with our New Sunshine Special on January 12th, then a great traditional jazz marathon to benefit the Easter Seal campaign in late February. March's Special is, of course, set aside for Bix's Birthday Party-the date is March 8th. Other delights will follow.

Royal Stokes submitted his resignation from the board this month. Bob Thulman, clarinet with the Bay City 7 and newly with the Federal Jazz Commission, has been elected to fill his spot by the PRJC Board at the December meeting.

Our main way of communication with a large membership, now over 1,000 members, is Tailgate Ramblings. Also available is the PRJC Hotline, 573 TRAD, whose primary purpose is to provide information about local jazz. You can call this number for information, complaints, or even bizarre requests. For an urgent problem contact a board member directly, since 573 TRAD responds to messages on a once a week schedule. And we also have our very fine Sunday evening radio. show, WPFW, FM, with more information on what is coming up on this elsewhere in this issue.

Our January special emphasizes a special welcome to new members. Any member who joined in 1979 is a new member. Club members will be on hand to welcome you and introduce you around to the rest of the gang. There will be a special drawing for new members only, with several jazz items for the winners.

By your attendance at the PRJC Special Events and at other traditional jazz events as well is your best way to support this kind of music. PRJC is a non-profit, for fun, organization. By taking an active part in its activities you will find more enjoyment in life, widen your circle of friends and most likely live longer and happier.

On behalf of the Board of PRJC we wish all of you a great year ahead, filled with the sound of good jazz music.

Mary H. Doyle



The Potomac River Jazz Club
Proudly Presents
the Unique

NEW SUNDAY

JAZZ BAND

on

SATURDAY, JAN. 12, 1980
9 P.M. to 1 A.M.

at

the Ballroom, New Marriott Hotel
No. 2 Pooks Hill Road, Bethesda
(at Wisconsin Ave. and Beltway)

Admissions
At-Door

Members
\$5.00

Non-Members
\$7.00





MANASSAS '79: The Sunday Session

Maybe it was the intimate atmosphere. Perhaps it was the slightly better-organized approach. Or was it simply this particular assemblage of jazz talent? Somehow, this year's Manassas finale packed a bigger wallop than recent years.

The move out of the Osborne High auditorium helped immeasurably. Blissfully absent were the erratic audio and the boomy acoustics that have been, quite literally, hallmarks of past finales. The audience's improved vantage point was complemented by the musicians' clear preference for playing to a full "club" rather than a half-empty auditorium. Indeed, several sets ran overtime as the musicians brushed off emcee McRee's attempts to clear the stage ("Go wait in the car, Johnson" chided Gwaltney before stomping off another).

It went this way. Tommy Gwaltney's "Beach Boys" began with a few soft, tight, tasty standards including an Art Hodes blues solo; Cliff Leeman's "Trio-rooney" with Kenny Davern and Dick Wellstood offered some trad stuff; Wild Bill Whelan's Bicentennial Jazz Band preceded a short Marty Grosz solo act, followed by a Tommy Gwaltney-Kenny Mason swing outfit. After intermission it was "Bob & Pug"; Davern's "Swingin' Kings" featuring Billy Allred and Tommy Saunders; Helen Humes with a whole mess o' blues; and Hodes' "Gutter Selections" (Bob Wilber, cl.; Sammy Duncan, cnt.) doing the Chicago standards. The usual "all hands on deck" cacophony of 18 pieces closed the bash.

Notice that the pickup bands were assigned titles and a recognized leader. Those designated as leaders generally rose to the occasion and led. Consequently there was a minimum of the blank "I-thought-you-were-next" stares that have marred some previous performances.

Local talent was most evident in the Bicentennial Jazz Band, led by "Mr. Chomp-'n'-Stomp" himself, Wild Bill Whelan. With the assistance of Hodes and Grosz, he belted out a half dozen a-la-you-know-who. The tricky trombone work of Art Poncheri was a standout.

A highlight was the swing set of Gwaltney and vibe-ist Kenny Mason. Along with Don Ewell pno., Cliff Leeman dms., George Masso tb., Paul Wingo gtr., and Van Perry bs., these two effectively conjured up the spirit of the old Goodman sextets (a sort of combination of the '36 edition with Lionel Hampton's vibes and the '41 edition with Lou McGarity's trombone--see, Lida Ruth? I ain't too young!). While their three numbers were perhaps overly long, they swung hard enough to lift many members of the audience from their chairs.

A similar response was accorded Miss Helen Humes, whose cheerful countenance and winning way with a song occupied the spotlight for another long set. Four bars into "Lover Man", the yackers that Johnson McRee had been unable to shush all afternoon suddenly fell silent. Then minutes later she was shoutin' the blues at top volume ("If I could HOLLER HOLLER HOLLER like a mountain jack/Well I'd climb the highest mountain and call my baby back..."). What was that she said about having a cold?!



Manassas continued

Notably, all four hornmen at this session--the lyrical Connie Jones, the volcanic Bill Whelan, the driving Tommy Saunders and the dynamic Sammy Duncan--played cornet rather than trumpet. Lasting image: after listening intently to a particularly ebullient excursion by Duncan, Wild Bill kneels and bows as to Mecca; Duncan acknowledges with a grandiose flourish; moments later the stage is bathed in coins. ("Pennies from Whelan"?)

All grand fun. The musicians' willingness to work together rather than out-scream each other contributed to a very musical afternoon. Even the grand finale ("Blues my Naughty Sweetie") was better organized: rather than allowing one to three solo choruses apiece to each member of the crowded stage as in the past, the windplayers were instead given simultaneous solo space in sections (all horns together/all trombones/all reeds--interpolating "Topsy"!), putting a nice concise exclamation point at the end of the day's proceedings.

I do have one bone to pick, however. This year's festival was dedicated to Fats Waller, and aside from a couple of vocals by Marty Grosz, no Fats was heard. (Johnson sang "Blue Turning Grey", but then doesn't he always?) With two pianos on stage, and such stalwarts as Hodes, Wellstood and Ewell on the bill, I had entertained visions of a set or two of some two-fisted stride...maybe even four hands belting out "Handful of Keys"...but it never came. In fact, the second piano was never used. (Even the set of small-group swing was patterned after BG rather than Fats Waller and his Rhythm.) Now I know Johnson knows better than to waste such an opportunity...so I must assume that the pianists strode during previous sessions? At \$11 a crack, I had to limit myself to the finale.

--Dave Robinson

Manassas '79 The Saturday Afternoon Session

Seven lively sets of traditional jazz were played by seven groups of excellent jazzmen Saturday afternoon at the Hayloft Dinner Theatre which left the full house asking for more. Fat Cat's Festival Jazzers led off with Johnson McRee leading and singing. This local band opened with "Friend of Pleasure" and closed with a rousing "Dixie" and "Washington and Lee Swing." The musicians were Joe Shepherd, tp, Doug Powell, tbn, Jimmy Hamilton, reeds, Bill Andrews, po., John Wood, b, and Ken Underwood, dr.

Eddie Phyle's "Jazz Band of Note" pleased the crowd with their renditions of "Limehouse Blues" and "Sunday." This band included Sammy Duncan, ct, Country Thomas, reeds, Doug Powell, trb, Art Hodes, po, Steve Novosel, b, Butch Hall, gtr, and Phyle, dr.

The next set featured two vibraharpists- Don DeMichael from Chicago (and a former Downbeat editor) and Kenny Mason of Atlanta. Their "Vibraharp Blues" was a thriller. They were well accompanied by Don Ewell on piano, Kenny Davern on clarinet, Connie Jones of New Orleans on trumpet and Jerry Martin on bass.

(Cont. next page)



Manassas '79- The Saturday Afternoon Session (Continued)



A band composed of five trombones and a rhythm section really stirred the audience. The venerable Spiegle Willcox led this set and even sang "Basin Street." The other trombonists were Billy Allred, Jerry Martin, George Masso and Herb Gardner. The all-star rhythm section was John Eaton on piano, Marty Grosz, guitar, Van Perry, bass, and Cliff Leeman, drums. The five trombone choir in unison and individually were most impressive. Their playing of "Rastus Trombone" caused a standing ovation.

The Bob Wilber-Pug Horton family presented an inspiring set with rhythm provided by Dick Wellstood, piano, Steve Novosel, bass and Don DeMichael on drums. With Bon eloquent on his various reed and Pug singing, the audience heard tunes in remembrance of Fats Waller plus plaintive vocals on "Blue Turning Grey" and "What a Little Romance Can Do."

John Eaton's Swingsters played what he called their first and only one night stand. In this group were Bill Allred, trb, Tom Saunders, ct, Kenny Davern, clt., Steve Novosel, bass, Butch Hall, gtr, Cliff Leeman, dr., and leader Eaton on the 88's. They, too, played tunes written by Fats and ended with a barnburning "China Boy."

The final unit was led by George Masso, trombone with Bob Wilber on reeds, Dick Wellstood, piano, Paul Wingo, gtr., Paul Langosch, bass, and Monty Montjoy, drums. The crowd liked their "I'll Never Be the Same" and "In a Mellow Mood." An exciting discovery here was the innovative guitar work of Paul Wingo, a young Washingtonian.

The only disappointment of the day was that Soprano Summit did not play together as a group. All former members of that great combo were present.

Harold Gray

Editor's Note- There were four sessions at Manassas, '79. We have the reviews by two other correspondents on hand and they will be run in the February Tailgate Ramblings.

JANUARY SPECIAL EVENT HONORS NEW MEMBERS

There will be special recognition of new members on Saturday, January 12th, at the Special. 9pm to 1 am, on the Ballroom of the new Marriott, Pook's Hill Road, which is at Wisconsin Ave and the Beltway. Prize drawings, slide show, dance demonstrations and special cake walk awards to new member cakewalkers- 4 cakes 4! People who joined in 1979, and up to the 12th of Jan. are new members. Y'all Come!



TRADITIONAL

DIXIELAND JAZZ



CABERET-CONCERT

**A Benefit For
LOU BYERS**

FORMER JAZZ COLUMNIST
FORMER P.R.J.C. BOARD MEMBER
CANCER PATIENT

Donation [Minimum]

\$15.00 Both Concerts

\$10.00 Single Concert

WILD BILL DAVISON

And His Jazz Ambassadors Direct From Europe

Featuring Jacques Kerrien on Soprano Sax

Only Local Appearance!

—— SPECIAL ADDED ATTRACTION ——

SATURDAY AFTERNOON ONLY

THE FABULOUS

BUCK CREEK JAZZ BAND

**Friday, January 4th
9:00 p.m. 'til 1:00 a.m.**

HOLIDAY INN

TELEGRAPH ROAD
2460 EISENHOWER AVE.
ALEXANDRIA, VA.
[703] 960-3400

**Saturday, January 5th
12:30 p.m. 'til 4:30 p.m.**

HAYLOFT DINNER THEATRE

BALLS FORD ROAD
RTS. 66 & 234
MANASSAS, VA.
[703] 368-3666

PRJC'S OPEN JAM SESSION DISCONTINUED

When Ed Fishel invented the PRJC's monthly open jam session five or so years ago, participants used to ask him questions like "What would you do if nobody showed up except eight tuba players and a pianist?" Well, a few months ago the session began to take on that very kind of lopsidedness--nobody showed up for the first hour of one session except one tuba player, three drummers, and a pianist, Ed himself. And participation has deteriorated further since that session; it's been impossible most of the time to assemble a halfway satisfactory combination of instruments. So John Doner, who has managed the jam session the last two years, has found the answer to that old question about the eight tuba players. John is calling it quits.

There will be no open jam in January, and none in the following months unless someone comes forward to undertake a revival.

According to John, "We may be making a mistake, but the surest way to find out whether we are is to quit and see if there's enough of an outcry to justify starting up again." So if you think the sessions should resume, phone John on 536-7374--and be prepared to assure him that your own participation will be fairly regular. (Also be prepared to have him invite you to take over the manager's job.)

The open jam has been one of the two or three most successful things the PRJC has done for musicians. Several dozen of them have found a place in the jazz scene by advertising their wares before their jamming fellows, and the sessions provided the nucleus of four or five new bands.

The PRJC owes John Doner an emphatic thank-you. He withstood the headaches of managing the session twice as long as any of his predecessors.

The open jam's night on the Bratwursthaus schedule--second Wednesday of each month--will be taken over by the Dudley Fosdick Memorial Jazz Band, which has long been holding forth at the B'haus on the "other Wednesdays."

The Jazz Band Ball Schedule

January 1980

WPFW-FM 89.3 6:00 to 7:30 pm

Jan 6- Host, Don Rouse- The New Sunshine Jazz Band"

Early jazz music emphasizing the role of the dance in jazz

Jan 13- Host, Nat Kinnear-Stride Piano. The New Mork style of the 20s and 30s. James P. Johnson and Fats Waller.

Jan 20- Host, Don Farwell "Max Kaminsky" Playing great horn since 1926, Max' records on this show will be from the 20s and 30s.

Jan 27- Host, Jim Lyons-"New Orleans Revival of the 40s and 50s" Bunk Johnson, George Lewis, Jim Robinson and friends.

Special Events:

Tex Wyndham and the Red Lion Jazz Band will celebrate their 3rd Anniversary at the Green Room of the DuPont Hotel in Wilmington on Friday night Jan 4. Ver y special dinner -complete- for under \$10. Reservations required.

The Bay City 7 , with guest artist Russ Whitman on clarinet will be at the Dutch Inn, Gibbstown, NY, Sunday, Jan 13- 6 to 11 pm. Feature event of the Delaware Valley Jazz Club.



WIEN, WIEN NU DUR ALLEIN

A Report from Old Vienna by
Jim Hard

Axel Melhardt is the proprietor's name and he holds forth in a smoky den around the corner from Franz Josephs Kai 29 on the north side of the Inner Stadt. The place is called Jazzland and it features jazz and folk music Tuesday thru Saturday. When Axel has enough beer it features Axel on vocals, on some forgettable numbers like Hey Bop a Rebob, with audience participation. When Axel's not on the bandstand, one can hear some super musicians. One Thursday night I heard a band called the Red Hot Pods (pods being pepper in German) and it was good to hear Doctor Jazz, St. Louis Blues, Mood Indigo and, at the writer's request, Royal Garden, all done by excellent musicians who enjoy what they are doing. The band that night was: Dieter Bietak, co; Harry Jirsa, trb; Claus Nemeth, cl. ts; Lothar Reichhold, p; Erwin Frassine, bj; Michael Libowitzky, bass, and Walter Schiefer, dr.

Frassine is the leader when he is not selling electrodes. Bietak plays a fine traditional sounding cornet when he is not an engineer. Schiefer plays kettle drums in a symphony orchestra when not working over the drum set at Axel's. Reichhold plays good Joplin rags during the lulls. Nemeth has a Bechet vibrato on reeds. All told, a very good sound.

Wear blue jeans at Jazzland and you'll be right at home. Axel charges 40 shillings, \$3, and serves a full variety of beverages and food, and you won't be hustled to buy either.

Next Thursday the Original Storyville Band- and I'll be there.

Dear Sir;

Several of us from the ranks who attended the PRJC picnic in September say thanks and congratulations to all the wonderful hard-working people who put that day together. We were especially impressed by the flexibility and mobility shown when the weather was so temperamental.

Just one sour note: the people in the new Cadillac with the temporary license plate, and the people in the small blue car, who felt they were so much more important than the rest of us that they crossed over illegally into the inbound traffic lane, when we were all leaving the picnic bumper-to-bumper, and passed all the cars instead of waiting their proper turn. Such selfishness! They know who they are and shame upon them!

Ric Lessey

The Editor replies:

Ric, I don't blame you. After 26 years of hitting Shirley Highway twice daily at the height of the rush hour, I know how you feel. Thanks for your comments on the good work done by the picnic committee, too

KLK

SHY JAMS

Webb Ivy 370-8944

George Gailles 343-3113

Call first. Ask George about charts

Good news- The Buck Creek Band starts a series of monthly gigs, Jan 13 at the Springfield Hilton, right across from the Springfield Shopping Center. Other Sunday dates are Feb 3rd, March 2nd and April 13th. The band will be heard in the Lounge. Let's get out and hear this fine band in this new prestige location, and make the four dates continue into the happy future.



IS IT TRUE WHAT THEY SAY.....

JAZZ ACTION IN NORTH CAROLINA

Good buddy Tom Martin tells us of three up-coming jazz events that has us hoping we can get there for them.

On January 31st, at the Cafe de Je Bous in Raleigh, N.C. a stellar band consisting of Doc Cheatham, trumpet, Herb Hall, clarinet, Red Richard, piano and Tom Martin, drums, and with Maxine Sullivan on vocals will open at 3 day Carolina jazz feast.

Next day, Feb 1st they will be at Sam Hill's Art Gallery, in Pinehurst, playing a benefit for the gallery.

On Feb 2nd, Saturday night, the same group will be at the Whispering Pines Terrace Room, Whispering Pines, NC.

Doc Cheatham is playing positively great trumpet, a master of the instrument. The rest of the unit are all fine musicians from the great period of jazz. Why not pack up your golf clubs, ah, that Pinehurst area, and spend a happy three days with those fine Carolina folks.

WIDE SPREAD DEPRESSION BAND AT CELLAR DOOR, JAN 4th and 5th.

This is a band of young musicians, who have been highly acclaimed for their excellent recreations of the swing music of the black bands of the 20s and 30s.

SINGLES ACTIVITIES

Dec 9 was a very enjoyable day and evening starting with Charlie's Trio at the Devil's Fork for brunch then to Bill Owen's place to hear his collection of tapes.

(Cont. next column)



Energy Saving Department: Bob Thulman, new clarinet with the Federal Jazz Commission designs and sells stoves. He is heating his new home with a wood stove of his design. No better recommendations for a hot jazz man. Gene Hyden, late of Honolulu and now residing here was recently seen squiring a lovely "older woman" at the B,Haus, his mother, from Tulsa, Okla. Gene sells synthetic oil, the successor to the MidEast for auto lubrication. Out of Town for the Holidays: Pete Petrakis is going to the Bay Area to visit friends and relatives. He hoped to hear Turk Murphy but found out that Turk is taking that time off too.

Cakewalking Babies : You could win a cake in the Cakewalking Contest at the January special, Saturday the 12th. Honoring new members there will be drawings, contests, and that great New Sunshine Jazz Band.

Mark Your Calendars: February 15th, the February Special features the Ernie Carson Band, with Charlie Bornemann trombone- enough said! March 8th, Bix's Birthday with the Bix Memorial Jazz Band, hurray! April 12, a special Special, with the Jazzin' Babies Jazz Band from Berlin, one of Europe's finest trad bands.

Easter Seal Jazz Marathon dates, place in next issue. Felix Grant will host 6 PRJC bands who will donate their music for crippled children. This will be good and will do good.

PRJCers to Know: Gold buckles spelling j-a-z-z are available locally at the Merrienne L. Griffiths leathercraft store, Chuck Enlind is sporting one which sells for much more in other parts.

Jazz as an Art: Traditional jazz is right there with all the other aspects of culture through our membership in the Cultural Alliance. Harold and Lida Gray represented us at the recent annual meeting at Ford's Theatre.

Mary H. Doyle

SINGLES ACTIVITIES

January, please join us for:

12th at the PRJC special- we will have a table - at Jim Neilson's for Pot Luck BYOB featuring tapes of the Manassas Festival

For information, directions, etc. call Evelyn Franklin 353 4773 and 946 5325 Virginia Wesley 966 9371

All That Jazz!

Events
Editor
Joe Godfrey
829-4664

January 1980

TRADITIONAL GIGS

AT THE BRATWURSTHAUS 708 RANDOLP ST PARKINGTON CENTER, OFF WILSON BLVD ARLINGTON VA.

Mondays- The Federal Jazz Commission

Tuesdays- The Storyville Seven Jazz Band

Wednesdays- The Dudley Fosdick Memorial Jazz Band

Thursday- Riverside Ramblers

Fridays- Bob Gideon Quartet

Saturdays- Bucky Buckingham Quartet

Other Locations

Sunday, Jan 13 and Feb 3rd- The Buck Creek Jazz Band at the Springfield Hilton,
6550 Loisdale Rd, Springfield, Va. details tel. 991-8900

Sundays 11am- Charlie LaBarbera Trio, Devil's Fork, 16th at RI NW DC

Mondays and Tuesdays- Harold Kaufman, Jazz and rag piano- Golden Boeeymonger, 1701 20thNW

Weds, Thurs, Fridays- James Horowitz, Jazz and rag piano- " " " "

Mon, thru Sat.- John Eaton, piano-The Atrium, Embassy Row Hotel, Mass av at 20th, NW DC

Tues. thru Sun. -Daryl Ott, ragtime piano, Il Porto, 120 King st. Alexandria, Va.

Fridays 9 pm- Southern Comfort, Shakey's, Rockville Pike, Rockville, Md.

Fridays- Jazz Limited, Puff's Restaurant, Chain Bridge Rd. Oakton, Va.

Fridays and Saturdays- Original Crabtowne Stompers, Buzzy's Pizza, West st, Annapolis, MD/

Saturdays- Sultans of Swing, Puff's Restaurant, Chain Bridge Road, Oakton, Va.

Down the Road a Little Bit

Friday Jan 4 and Feb 1- Tex Wyndham and the Red Lion Jazz Band- Green Room of the
Hotel DuPont in Wilmington, Del. Rservations advised

Jan 18 and 19th- Brandywine Revival Jazz Band, Ground Round Restaurant
1101 Philadelphia Pike, Wilmington, Del.

AND THE GREAT NEW MEMBER PRJC JANUARY SPECIAL WITH THE NEW SUNSHINE JAZZ BAND

AT THE MARRIOTT, POOKS HILL ROAD JUST OFF THE BELTWAY AT WISCONSIN, JANUARY 12 at 9 pm

PRJC MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
(please print)

NAME _____ SPOUSE'S NAME _____

STREET _____ CITY _____

STATE & ZIP _____ TELEPHONE (optional) _____

MUSICIAN? _____ WHAT INSTRUMENTS? _____

PRESENTLY MEMBER OF BAND? _____ CARE TO JOIN ONE? _____
DESCRIBE JAZZ INTERESTS BRIEFLY (what styles, artists you prefer. Why?) (optional)

PRJC dues are \$10 per year, prorated as follows:

Those joining	Jan-Mar	pay	\$10.00	through	end of	year
"	"	Apr-Jun	" 7.50	"	"	"
"	"	Jul-Sep	" 5.00	"	"	"
"	"	Oct-Dec	" 10.00	"	"	following year

Send application and check payable to PRJC to:

Doris Baker, Membership Secretary
7004 Westmoreland Road
Falls Church, VA 22042

Ken Kramer, Editor
Tailgate Ramblings
4829 Randolph Drive
Annandale, Va. 22003



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