

OUR NEXT CONCERT OUR JAM SESSION AND ANNUAL MEETING



Photo by Jim McGann

Sunday, June 24, 2012

2:00 – 4:30 p.m.

American Legion Hall

11 Railroad Avenue

Brooklawn, NJ

Directions on [Page 7](#)

This year, Tri-State Jazz Society favorite Jerry Rife, clarinet, will lead our annual jam session. The jam band will be anchored by seasoned traditional jazz professionals including Randy Reinhart on trumpet, Pat Mercuri on banjo/guitar, Brian Nalepka on bass/tuba and Audrey Puzyr-Spies on drums. Jerry Rife will call song titles and invite other musicians to sit in as the session progresses.

Leader of the famed Rhythm Kings, Jerry teaches and directs the band at Rider University and also teaches at Westminster Choir College. He has also

been conductor and musical director of the 70-member Blawenburg Band since 1985. He earned two degrees in Music at Kansas State University and a PhD in Musicology at Michigan State University.

The American Legion Hall is a large popular concert hall location with good acoustics and seating at tables. There's also a bar for anyone so inclined and lots of free parking.

MUSICIANS: COME JAM WITH US

The annual Tri-State Jazz Society jam session on June 24 is open to all traditional jazz musicians. Admission is free if you come to sit in with our core band. A keyboard and a drum set will be available; otherwise, bring your own instrument.

Although walk-ons will be permitted as time allows, we strongly encourage you to guarantee your place on the program by pre-registering via email at jam@tristatejazz.org or by leaving a message on our hotline: (856) 720-0232. In either case, be sure to include your name, email address if available, phone number, and instrument(s).

Continued on [Page 3](#)

All Concert Admissions

\$10 First-time attendees and members

\$20 General Admission

High school/college students with ID and children with paying adult admitted free

Pay at the door — No advance sales

In This Issue

Looking Ahead.....[Page 2](#)

Ed Wise Band Review.....[Page 2](#)

Help Wanted.....[Page 3](#)

Books About Jazz.....[Page 4](#)

Upcoming Events.....[Page 5](#)

LOOKING AHEAD TO OUR NEXT CONCERT AUGUST 2012

On Sunday, August 12, 2012, at 3:00 p.m., the New Black Eagles Jazz Band will perform at the Community Arts Center, 414 Plush Mill Road in Wallingford, PA. The New Black Eagles have been together for 40 years, play the traditional music of New Orleans, and have appeared just about everywhere great jazz is played, including the Newport Jazz Festival. The NBEJB has an uncommonly large repertoire and will feature material by Armstrong, Oliver, Bechet, Morton, and Ellington.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

It's time to renew membership dues that expire June 30, except for new members who joined after March 1. Basic membership dues are \$20 per person and members are admitted to regular concerts at half price (\$10), the same as last year.

Concert attendance is higher since we lowered our member admission price and started offering reduced first-timer pricing in 2010. We have introduced hundreds of newcomers to traditional jazz this year and many of them have become members. We will continue these policies for membership year 2012-2013, even though we expect some of our concerts to operate at losses. We rely on the generous contributions of members to balance our budget and continue to offer a full program of top-notch concerts.

Please consider renewing at the Sponsor level of \$50, \$70 for couples; or the Patron level of \$100 or more, \$120 for couples. If you are not at one of our June concerts, please mail [the renewal form](#) on page 8 with your check. We are a 501(c)(3) educational non-profit corporation, so your contributions and dues may be tax deductible, but check with your tax advisor. If you have membership questions, contact Jay Schultz, our membership manager. Leave a message for him on our hot line (856)-720-0232 or send e-mail to membership@tristatejazz.org.

MARDI GRAS IN MAY CONCERT REVIEW

Dispelling the belief that the Mardi Gras spirit is limited only to a period prior to Lent, Ed Wise and his New Orleans Jazz Band brought forth images of street parades, bayous, magnolias, and the Big Muddy at Silverside Church, Wilmington, DE on May 20.



Photo by Paul Macatee, Jr.

The hallmarks of an Ed Wise-led concert are tight arrangements, soaring solos by his sidemen, sounds of sweet clarinet, thumping bass, spirited trombone, high octane trumpet, and sparkling piano work. The band kicked off the afternoon with Hoagy Carmichael's "Riverboat Shuffle." It began softly with solos by each band member, then with all letting loose in the finale in perfect harmony. Other notable numbers included "Mahogany Hall Stomp," a favorite of Louis Armstrong; "Four or Five Times" and "Frog-I-More" which was later transposed by Evan Christopher and Tom McDermott into a rumba style called "Sweetheart of Mine."

Especially appealing to this acoustic piano fan was Dave Posmontier's inventive treatment of the Fats Waller favorite - "Ain't Misbehavin'." Soft and subtle background was provided by Ed on bass and Grant MacAvoy on drums. Dave gave that tune the aura of a piano bar instead of a church hall. Another great favorite was "Just a Closer Walk with Thee," beginning as a slow funeral march, conjuring up visions of a funeral procession with musicians giving a send-off to a dearly departed brother headed for the Promised Land. It ended with a high spirited blowout featuring Charly Salinger reaching for the stars on clarinet.



Photo by Paul Macatee, Jr.

Unquestionably Ed Wise is a master of the bass. His peers will attest to that fact when he is asked to perform as a sideman by noted jazz band leaders throughout the U.S. Little known is Ed's singing ability that wrings the emotions from songs pertaining to his former home - New Orleans. Examples on this day were his renderings of a Louis Armstrong favorite entitled "That's My Home" and the popular "Do You Know What It Means To Miss New Orleans." 'Nuff to make a grown man cry! There were more than twenty selections played during the concert. Each piece was introduced by Ed with a scholarly explanation of the composer, when the piece was first recorded, and the performers who played it at the local Sportsman's Club which Ed explained "naively" was a place where one could buy baseballs and baseball gloves. The afternoon ended in the traditional manner of Dixieland concerts with a spirited treatment of "When the Saints Go Marching In." Most likely the Saints were awakened from their afternoon naps while the appreciative audience clapped in unison as the band left the stage.

Bill Wallace

HELP WANTED

STRUTTER ASSISTANT EDITOR: Work with Strutter Editor, compiling concert schedules and events from other jazz venues, band leaders, concert venues, members, and the Web. Anyone who knows how to send and receive e-mail and information from Web sites can do this job. Training and PC software will be provided.

PUBLICITY EDITOR: Create programs and fliers by pasting prepared text and photos into template documents. Minimal writing skills, but some familiarity with PC word processing is required. Training and PC software will be provided.

MUSICIANS... From Page 1

Feel free to suggest up to five tunes you'd like to do as well, including your preferred key, and Jerry will try to honor your requests. We've chosen Bob Rawlins' new traditional jazz fake book, *The Real Dixieland Book* (Hal Leonard), as a primary source for both tunes and keys. Several copies will be available on-stage and tunes selected from the book are the most likely to be chosen.

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of Tri-State Jazz Society will be held on June 24 at the Brooklawn American Legion Hall during the first intermission of the jam session. The meeting will last 20 minutes. The agenda will include brief financial and membership reports and election of three Directors to serve on the Board. The nominating committee has recommended the following nominees for Director to serve three-year terms:

Ray Whearty - Director since 2010, publicity writer.
Lou Kaplan and Peggy de Prophetis - to share one Board position as couple.

Dewaine Osman - new editor of *The Strutter*.

Nominations from the floor will also be accepted.

AMERICAN RAG WINNERS

At one concert each month, TSJS picks a winner of a free four-month subscription to the *American Rag* as a door prize. The winner for May, 2012 is Bruce Smith of Hockessin, DE.

New members of the Tri-State Jazz Society automatically receive a two-month subscription to *American Rag*, the country's largest traditional jazz and ragtime newspaper.



The American Rag

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Tri-State Jazz Society

REVIEW - FINAL CHATTANOOGA TRADITIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL

This exceptional event started in 1990 as the Bessie Smith Jazz Festival and Astrid and Mike Griffin were driving forces from the beginning. The 2012 festival, which was held at the Chattanooga Choo-Choo Hotel May 3-6, was the 22nd and last one. It was a sensational exit!

The Buck Creek, Grand Dominion, High Sierra and Bob Schulz Frisco Jazz Bands performed. The Choo-Choo Ballroom was packed with some 400 attendees, including 4 Tri-State Jazz and 50 Potomac River Jazz Club members. The red napkins, towels, scarves, wash cloths, hankies, whatever, were never idle. I have heard these bands many, many times, but this weekend they never played or sounded better. The music was nothing short of spectacular, with generous portions of Bix, Jelly Roll Morton, Louis Armstrong, The Duke, Fats Waller and Sydney Bechet (at least 7 of his tunes). The roster of musicians was equally impressive.

The finale of any long standing, successful endeavor is always met with mixed emotions. For sure there were some melancholy handshakes, "goodbyes" exchanged with a note of sadness and a few tears were shed. However there was no pall hanging over us. This was an excited, wound-up, exuberant crowd bursting at the seams.

Contributed by Walt Brenner
former Tri-State Jazz Board member

BOOKS ABOUT JAZZ ITS CREATORS AND ITS HISTORY

My own interest in jazz began at a very young age because of books about jazz; indeed, I read about jazz before I began listening to jazz. What I read fascinated and captivated me and drew me into a lifetime of listening to, performing and talking about jazz.

The origins of the music have been cloaked in mystery and in myth. Its creators have passed on and left us a handful of recordings and a dearth of written material. Legend, hearsay and a few written or recorded interviews were all that were available to the student of New Orleans jazz history around the turn of the 20th century.

An undocumented collection of myths and legends, stories of heroes, villains, alcoholism and prostitution became the history of jazz, along with a notion that its creators were musically illiterate and untrained, that improvisation was their only means of musical expression and that the legal houses of prostitution in the storied Storyville district were the only venues where one could hear the new syncopated sounds of hot jazz.

Thankfully, in recent years, due to the diligent and time-consuming work of historians and musicologists, a clearer picture of the origins of jazz has emerged. Among others, Bruce Raeburn (son of swing-era big band leader Boyd Raeburn) who oversees the huge collection of historical artifacts at Tulane University and Lawrence Gushee, Professor Emeritus of Music at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign have been tireless in their efforts to uncover the elusive story of the earliest beginnings of jazz in New Orleans and its prehistory of music in the Crescent City during the 18th and 19th centuries.

As I immersed myself in these subjects, I have become fascinated, once again as I was at age 15, with the history of America's art form. What follows is a very incomplete, informal bibliography of some books on early jazz, its prototypes and the music in 19th century New Orleans. I hope you will acquire some of these, either by purchase or through your local library, and enjoy the world of old New Orleans, its music and its history.

- **Brothers, Thomas, *Louis Armstrong's New Orleans***, W. W. Norton, New York - London, 2006.
I consider this one a "must-read." Learn about New Orleans as it was during Armstrong's childhood and learn about the people and circumstances surrounding young Louis that led to his becoming "the most influential figure in American music" (Gary Giddins).
- **Gushee, Lawrence, "The Nineteenth-Century Origins of Jazz"**, Black Music Research Journal, Volume 14, #1 (Spring 1994).
An article by musicologist/music historian Lawrence Gushee. This article can be downloaded online at no cost in pdf form at <http://www.jazzstudiesonline.org/files/14.1%20Nineteen%20Century%20Origins.pdf>

- **Collins, R., *New Orleans Jazz: A Revised History***, Vantage Press Inc., New York, 1996. (out of print, but I bought a used copy on Amazon or eBay, can't remember which)
An interesting book about culture and music in New Orleans with a particular focus on the history of "free people of color," a.k.a. "Creoles of color." As a historical work, it needs to be taken with a grain of salt. It is quirky and Collins is driven by an agenda as he takes special pains to segregate Creoles of color from African-American descendants of slaves. Nevertheless, highly readable and enjoyable. I recommend reading the Gushee article above as an offset to Collins' perspective.
- **Burns, Ken, *Jazz*** (television series), Episode 1, "Gumbo".
- **Gushee, Lawrence, *Pioneers of Jazz: The Story of the Creole Band***, Oxford University Press, New York, 2005.
 - The Creole Band predated the Original Dixieland Jazz Band by about 3 years as a national touring group out of New Orleans. Musically unrecorded, their story is fascinating. The legendary Freddie Keppard was the cornetist and King Oliver's bassist/banjoist Bill Johnson was also in the band.
- **Marquis, Donald M., *In Search of Buddy Bolden: First Man of Jazz***, Louisiana University Press, 1978, 1993, 2005 (new edition).
Marquis' pioneering work in tracking down documented information on Buddy Bolden.
- **Sudhalter, Richard, *Lost Chords: White Musicians and their Contribution to Jazz, 1915-1945***, Oxford University Press, New York, 2001.
Another essential read. 890 pages long, this book, with its "set the record straight" agenda (not unlike that of the aforementioned R. Collins), is chock full of informative data, vignettes and biographies. Whether or not you agree with Sudhalter's assertions vis a vis his agenda, the work is monumental and important. And it is valuable as an offset to Ken Burns' perspective.

Books about jazz history are plentiful. In a future issue of The Strutter, I'll list some of the important biographies and autobiographies extant, including a new edition of Alan Lomax's book on Jelly Roll Morton with a new afterword by the aforementioned Lawrence Gushee.

Ed Wise

UPCOMING EVENTS



www.tristatejazz.org

CONCERT SCHEDULE

Aug 12 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. The New Black Eagles Jazz Band, Community Arts Center 414 Plush Mill Rd., Wallingford, PA

Sept 16 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. Barbone Street Jazz Band, St. Matthew Lutheran Church, 318 Chester Ave, Moorestown, NJ

Oct 7 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. Joe Holt, Solo Piano, Community Arts Center, 414 Plush Mill Road, Wallingford, PA

Nov 18 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. The Al Harrison Dixieland Band, St. Matthew Lutheran Church, 318 Chester Ave, Moorestown, NJ

Dec 16 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. Rio Clemente, Solo Piano, Community Arts Center, 414 Plush Mill Road, Wallingford, PA

OTHER VENUES

PENNSYLVANIA JAZZ SOCIETY

www.pajazzsociety.org

1-(610)-625-4640

Concerts are at 2:00 p.m. (except July) at Easton
Moose Hall: 3320 Fox Hill Road, Easton, PA.
18045

June 10 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. The Midiri Brothers with
Dan Tobias, Pat Mercuri, Ed Wise, and Jim Lawlor

July 15 12 p.m. Mini-Festival, Gordon Au's Grand
Street Stompers and Jazz Lobsters Big 14-piece
band, Plainfield Township Fire Company, 6480
Sullivan Trail, Wind Gap, PA

NEW JERSEY JAZZ SOCIETY

www.njjs.org

1-(800)-303-NJJS

June 16 noon - 9:00 p.m. Annual "JazzFest"
College of Saint Elizabeth, Morristown, NJ
Details on website

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

THE BICKFORD THEATRE

6 Normandy Heights Road
Morristown, NJ

www.njjs.org/p/services/bickford.html

All concerts 8:00-9:30 p.m. \$15(advance), \$18
(at the door), 1-(973)-971-3706.

OCEAN COUNTY COLLEGE

(At Ocean County Library)

www.njjs.org/p/services/ocean.html

1-(732)-255-0500 \$13 advance/ \$15 at the door.
All concerts start at 8:00 p.m. Concerts at Ocean
County College campus, Community and Arts
Center, College Drive, Toms River, NJ 08753

CAPE MAY TRADITIONAL JAZZ SOCIETY

www.capemaytraditionaljazzsociety.com

VFW 419 Congress St., Cape May, NJ

June 10 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Bill Newnam and his
Traditional Dixieland Jazz Group

JUNE 3 CONCERT REVIEW

NEVILLE DICKIE, Solo Piano

The Neville Dickie concert will be reviewed in the
next issue of the Strutter

PASSING THE TORCH

As you may know, I am stepping down as Strutter
Editor. Editing for the Strutter, as well as writing
for it, has been an adventure for me. In July, 2009,
with the encouragement of former TSJS president
DeWitt Peterson, and current president Sandy Catz,
I took on the Editor assignment, with no previous
experience as an editor other than some writing and
computer skills. For the years that followed, I
quickly discovered what it would take to edit such a
publication. My successor will be Dewaine Osman.
In speaking with Dewaine, I am confident that the
Strutter will be in good hands and continue to be a
quality publication. Please lend your kind support
to Dewaine as he takes on a very challenging task. I
will continue to be involved with TSJS, writing
occasional articles, reviews, as well as providing
photography at the concerts. Thank you for your
many compliments, comments, criticisms, etc.
during the past three years. I have tried to make
the Strutter an exceptional product. From your
feedback, I feel that I have met that goal.

Jim McGann, 2012

ABOUT TRI-STATE JAZZ SOCIETY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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webmaster@tristatejazz.org

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Liaison, Asst. Editor TSJS Strutter, 2014,

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Adam Rogers, **Administration, miscellaneous**
assignments

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TSJS CONTACT INFORMATION

Mailing Address: PO Box 896, Mount Laurel, NJ. 08054

E-mail: info@tristatejazz.org

Hotline Phone for updated concert information: (856) 720-0232

THE STRUTTER IS ON THE WEB

The current and back issues of The Strutter are on the Tri-State Jazz Society Web. Read the current issue at www.tristatejazz.org/strutter.pdf. If you have trouble opening PDF files, download the free Adobe Reader software from www.adobe.com/products/reader

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Send an email to webmaster@tristatejazz.org 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.

SEE US ON FACEBOOK

www.facebook.com/tristatejazz

Tri State Jazz Society is now on Facebook! Our Facebook page is available for comments, questions, and suggestions offered in a public forum. To post a comment on Facebook, you need to set up a Facebook account, but anyone can visit our public page at www.facebook.com/tristatejazz. If you would like to post a comment, question, review, photo or shared link on our page and you don't have a Facebook account, follow the instructions to set up a free account.

DIRECTIONS TO BROOKLAWN AMERICAN LEGION HALL

FROM PHILADELPHIA OR DELAWARE:

Take the Walt Whitman Bridge. Stay to your right. Take the ramp following signs to Route 130 South. Proceed 1.5 miles to Browning Road (Days Inn). Bear right on ramp, then turn right onto Browning Road. Go to the end of Browning Road and turn right onto Railroad Ave. The American Legion parking lot is ahead on the right.

FROM NORTH JERSEY:

Take I-295 south. Keep to the left when you get to the ramp that takes you toward the Walt Whitman Bridge. The ramp merges with I-76. Take the first right ramp after the I-295 intersection. Make a left at the top of the ramp onto Market Street. At the second traffic light turn left on Route 130 South (Gloucester High School). Proceed 1.5 miles to Browning Road (Days Inn). Bear right on ramp and turn right onto Browning Road. Go to the end of Browning Road and turn right onto Railroad Ave. The American Legion parking lot is ahead on the right.

FROM NORTH JERSEY USING THE NJ

TURNPIKE: Take NJ Turnpike Exit 3 and proceed west toward Camden and Philadelphia on Route 168 (Black Horse Pike). Turn left on Browning Road (second light). Go to the end of Browning Road and turn right onto Railroad Ave. The American Legion parking lot is ahead on the right.

FROM THE EAST: Take the Atlantic City Expressway and Route 42 north and west to I-76.

Take the first right ramp after the I-295 intersection. Make a left at the top of the ramp onto Market Street. At the second traffic light turn left on Route 130 South (Gloucester High School). Proceed 1.5 miles to Browning Road (Days Inn). Bear right on ramp and turn right on Browning Road. Go to the end of Browning Road and turn right onto Railroad Ave. The American Legion is ahead on the right.

FROM THE SOUTH: Take I-295 north to Exit 23, continuing on Route 130 North. Go under a railroad trestle to a traffic circle with a Hess Station on your right. After rounding the circle, take the first right onto Spur Route 551 to the next traffic light. Turn left on Browning Road and cross over Route 130. Go to the end of Browning Road and turn right on Railroad Ave. The American Legion parking lot is ahead on the right.



Membership Application/Renewal Form

TRI-STATE JAZZ SOCIETY
P.O. Box 896, Mount Laurel, NJ 08054

New Renewal *Annual membership is valid through June 30, 2013.*

Regular: Individual \$20 Couple \$40

Sponsor*: Individual \$50 Couple \$70

Patron*: Individual \$100 or more \$ _____ Couple \$120 or more \$ _____

Email and Newsletter Options: (Check all boxes that apply)

TSJS concert and membership notices

Newsletter by Email **Newsletter by U.S. mail** (paid members only)

Other traditional jazz event notices (not sponsored by TSJS)

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Date _____ Check No. _____ **Mail with check payable to Tri-State Jazz Society, Inc.**

Names of sponsors and patrons are normally published in The Strutter newsletter and on our Web site. If you do **not want your name included in the list, please check this box:*

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