

Arkansas Jazz Calendar

Vol. 11 No. 6

Arkansas Jazz Heritage Foundation Newsletter

August 2003

Local Flugelhornist and two Northwest Arkansas Jazz Favorites

Hot Jazz on August Mondays



Clifford Hawkins

The Monday Jazz Project at the Afterthought presents local blues and jazz flugelhornist / vocalist Clifford Hawkins on Monday August 4, 2003, 8 pm, \$5 charge. Hawkins will be joined by pianist Buck Powell, bassist Joe Vick, and drummer Dave Rogers. Clifford W. Hawkins was born and raised in Marion and West Memphis, Arkansas. He attended Arkansas AM&N College, now the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, receiving a Bachelor of Arts in Music Education, and teaches fourth graders in Pine Bluff.

An experienced professional musician, Clifford has been a Little Rock resident for 25 years and a member of the "Right Track Band" for 15 years of that. He is

also a member of the UALR Community Orchestra and the band "The Rockets". He makes regular appearances at the River Blues Society and Monday Jazz Project jam sessions.

The schedule continues on August 11, 2003, with the first of two featured Fayetteville, Arkansas, performers, Dr James Greeson on guitar. Greeson will be accompanied by Joe Vick on bass and Dave Rogers at the drum, 8 PM, \$5 cover.

James Greeson is a Professor of Composition and Music Theory in the Department of Music at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. He received his doctorate in composition from the University of Wisconsin and MM and BM from the University of Utah. His compositions have been published by Cor Publishing, Willis Music Co., the U. of Northern Colorado Jazz Press, and SeeSaw Publishers.

His Fantasy for Five Players, (1984) commissioned by the Da Capo Chamber Players, has been heard by that group in performances at Carnegie Hall, Symphony Space in New York City, and around the country. His Trees of Arkansas, (1987) for

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James Greeson

Jazz on the River 2003



Najee

Don't miss Jazz on the River, Saturday, August 2, 2003. Jazz on the River features Najee, Waymon Tisdale, Miles J. and the Jazz and Blues AllStar band. It's going to be a great show. It starts at 7pm, in Little Rock at Riverfront Amphitheater. The doors open at 6 PM.

Tickets \$15.00 general admission, \$20 Reserved Seating, and \$25 VIP Seating, available from all Ticket Master locations or by phone, 975-7575.



ARKANSAS JAZZ NEWS ...

* The Arkansas Jazz Heritage Foundation Hall of Fame Committee will be accepting supporting materials for the 2004 Arkansas Jazz Hall of Fame until October 1, 2003. Contact AJHF President Cece Rich at (501) 228-9999 for information.

* The North Arkansas Jazz Society presents jazz events in Northwest Arkansas. Support NAJS by sending a check for \$20 to North Arkansas Jazz Society, 40 East Elm, Fayetteville, AR 72703, or call Robert Ginsburg for information at (479) 521-1255 or 442-0990.

* Send You Back to Arkansas: Our Own Sweet Sounds II exhibit runs until October 2004 at the Old State House Museum, center and W. Markham, Little rock. Native Jazz, Folk, Gospel, R&B, Blues, Rock, and Country artists represented. Call for information (501) 324-9685.

* Hot Springs Jazz Fest September 13.. Featuring Vicho Vincencio, Hot Cotton Jazz Band, Ruby Wilson, Rodney Block, Dr. Rick Diamond with the Henderson State Uni. Nu Fusion, and the Real Thing Trio. Saturday noon-7pm in Downtown Hot Springs. Evening events include Friday night at The Bathhouse Theatre featuring Kermit Ruffins New Orleans trumpeter and Sunday evening jazz jam at the HofBrau Restaurant. The above schedule will be continually updated on our website www.hotspingsjazz.org

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Hall of Fame Artist Bitsy Mullins Dies

Renowned big-band trumpet player Bitsy Mullins died on July 5, 2003, in the Jefferson Regional Medical Center in Pine Bluff, Arkansas. Mullins was 77.

A premier trumpet player, he was inducted into the Jazz Hall of Fame in 1995. A graduate of the University of Arkansas, he gained fame in 1940's through the 1970's playing with big bands, such as the Buddy Rich Band.

He's been featured with well-known bands such as Randy Brooks, Charlie Spivak, Buddy Rich, Ray

Continued on Page 2 - Bitsy Mullins

News from North Arkansas Jazz Society

by Robert Ginsburg

The North Arkansas Jazz Society (NAJS) was founded in 1993 in Fayetteville, Arkansas. The concert series continues in August:

August 1 - Concert 3 - Composers' and Ensemble Showcase This concert has become an annual favorite. Our fine local jazz musicians present their own jazz compositions and it always has results in a high-energy concert. This season it will also feature Jack Martin's "Jazz Mafia" and the "Ryan Four Trio" as well as many other area players. 8 PM, Friday, August 1 in Stella Boyle Smith Concert Hall on the U. of Arkansas Campus.

August 8 - Concert 4 - Bassist Lynn Seaton In 1984, Lynn joined Woody Herman and in 1985 he played with the Count Basie Orchestra. After a two-year engagement with the Basie Band, he did extended tours with Tony Bennett and George Shearing. Since 1993, Lynn has had a busy career free-lancing with many musicians. He has performed at festivals world wide including Bern, Concord, JVC, Kool, Kyoto, Newport, North Sea, Perugia and Pori. In addition to all these activities Lynn teaches jazz bass at the famous University of North Texas and is on the Jamey Aebersold Summer Jazz Workshop faculty.

August 22 - Concert 5 - Vocalist Lisa Henry Kansas City based jazz singer Lisa Henry will return to our Summer Jazz Concert Series as the season closer. In her first appearance two years ago she "blew the lid off the place" with her big voice, energy, charm and soulful approach to jazz standards. She will be backed up by our house rhythm section featuring Claudia Burson on piano, Jim Greeson on bass, and Kenny Everts on drums. 8 PM, Friday, August 22 in Stella Boyle Smith Concert Hall on the U. of A. Campus.

Ticket Prices: \$10 general admission, \$8 for NAJS members and \$5 for Students Buy tickets for the entire season and get a 10% discount (Does not apply to student prices).

To pre-order tickets with a credit card phone the UA Music Department at 479-575-4702. To buy tickets before the concert visit Uncle Sam's Safari Outfitters in Evelyn Hills Shopping Center, Fayetteville. 479-521-7779. Tickets are also available at the door prior to each concert.

NAJS has a new website. <http://digjazz.com> - Anyone interested in contributing their talents to upgrade our webpages contact:

Robert Ginsburg
North Arkansas Jazz Society
40 East Elm
Fayetteville, AR 72703
479-521-1255 fx-479-442-0990
najsjazz@aol.com www.digjazz.com

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McKinley, Jimmy and Tommy Dorsey, Tex Beneke, Buddy Morrow, and Claude Thornhill.

With the Dorseys, he did a TV series for Jackie Gleason in which he played with Count Basie, Louis Armstrong, Duke Ellington, Dick Haymes, Kim Novak, Mel Torme, and, in 1955 (a full year before his Ed Sullivan performance) a young Elvis Presley.

Bob McCord, who wrote a special tribute to Bitsy in the Arkansas Times, went to school with Bitsy in 1948 and 1949. He said that when Bitsy was in school at UA Fayetteville, he simply memorized the professors lectures instead of taking notes - pointing to Mullins high intellectual capacity. Bitsy also received tributes for his perfect ear and for his musical excellence.

We are deeply saddened to have lost this great artist. For more information on Bitsy Mullins, check out:

Arjazz web site	www.arjazz.org/hof/
The Band Museum Site	www.bandmuseum.org
Arkansas Times	www.arktimes.com/mccord/



Bitsy Mullins, 1946

Continued from page 1-Monday Jazz

soprano and orchestra, has been performed in Arkansas, Kansas and Bolivia. Contra, a composition for solo doublebass has been recorded on Crystal Records by bassist Daniel Gwyn. He has also composed music in his home MIDI recording studio for four documentaries aired on Public Television. Also active as a jazz composer Dr. Greeson's music for jazz ensemble is published by University of Northern Colorado Music Press and has been performed at the Telluride Jazz Festival.

Dr. Greeson is also active as a guitarist in both the classical and jazz idioms. He has performed widely throughout the region as a soloist and part of a Novaria, a classical guitar and flute duo. Novaria's first compact disc recording was released in 1996 on the Nuance label. He is also the jazz guitar consultant for Kendor Music, Inc. in New York. At the University of Arkansas Dr. Greeson teaches music theory and composition, guitar, string bass, plays principal string bass in the North Arkansas Symphony and directs the UA jazz ensemble.

The second Fayetteville performer will be pianist Caudia Burson, August 18, 2003, returning for her third Little Rock appearance in as many years, also with Joe Vick on bass, and Dave Rogers at the drums, 8 p.m., \$5 cover.

August 25, 2003 will be the monthly Monday Jazz Project Jam Session with House Trio with Dan Sieckman on guitar, Joe Vick on bass, and Dave Rogers at the drums. Jam players signup starting at 7:45 p.m. in Afterthought Foyer, 8 PM, \$5 cover, \$1 Jammers. June's jam session featured a special guest visitor, Bassist James Leary, Arkansas Jazz Hall of Fame and member of the Count Basie Orchestra. Leary happened to be in town for a union and appeared at the Monday Jazz Project Jam Session during the last set. Be there and don't miss a beat.

Coming up September 15th pianist Michael Jefry Stevens returns from Memphis, TN. Dates confirmed for October include October 6, 2003 featuring the Dave Rogers Trio and October 10 Astral Project returns for a 2nd date at the Afterthought this year. Jazz will take the evening off on September 1, 2003 as the Afterthought will be closed for Labor Day.

All dates at the Afterthought 2721 Kavanaugh, Little Rock. (501) 663-1196. The Monday Jazz Project is sponsored by The Arkansas Jazz Heritage Foundation (www.arjazz.org), with special assistance from the Afterthought. Seating is General Admission. For more information on the Monday Jazz Project contact Cecil Rich at (501) 228-9999.

Continued from Page 1-Jazz News

* The Hot Springs Jazz Society supports jazz programming in the Spa city including the Annual Scholastic Jazz Festival in Hot Springs National Park, Apr. 26 and the annual Hot Springs Jazz Festival, September 2003. Memberships are \$25 individual and \$37 for a couple. For info, contact the Hot Springs Jazz Society, PO Box 972, Hot Springs, AR 71902-0972 or call Shirley at (501) 767-5482 or Peggy Ross at (501) 922-4570.

* Jazz at Sink's Kitchen in Hot Springs, 801 Central, third floor (Spencer's Corner complex), (501) 321-1747. On the first Friday of each month (Gallery Walk Friday)



The Beachwood Grill

Lunch and Dinner
11am to 9 pm

Dinner in the Afterthought
Right Next Door
5:30-9 pm Mon-Sat

Non-smoking Environment
Modern American dining

Jazz Birthdays - just a few!

Aug 3, 1926	Tony Bennett
Aug 4, 1900	Louis Armstrong
Aug 4, 1921	Herb Ellis
Aug 6, 1937	Charlie Haden
Aug 6, 1932	Dorothy Ashby
Aug 6, 1930	Abbey Lincoln
Aug 8, 1907	Benny Carter
Aug 9, 1942	Jack DeJohnette
Aug 10, 1918	Arnett Cobb
Aug 12, 1954	Pat Metheny
Aug 13, 1919	George Shearing
Aug 14, 1930	Eddie Costa
Aug 15, 1925	Oscar Peterson
Aug 16, 1929	Bill Evans
Aug 21, 1904	Count Basie
Aug 21, 1928	Art Farmer
Aug 25, 1913	Bob Crosby
Aug 25, 1933	Wayne Shorter
Aug 26, 1960	Branford Marsalis
Aug 27, 1937	Alice Coltrane
Aug 27, 1909	Lester Young
Aug 29, 1920	Charlie Parker
Aug 29, 1924	Dinah Washington

JAZZ RADIO CALENDAR

- **KABF 88.3 FM Community Radio (Little Rock)**
Sunday 9:30am-noon *The Quiet Storm* w/Griff
Monday thru Friday, 8:30 to 10:30, various Jazz
Saturday 8:30-10 pm *Cool Jazz*
Call (501) 433-0088
- **KUAR 89.1 FM / NPR (Little Rock)**
KUAR now has satellite feed Jazz program weeknights from 9 am until 5 pm Monday - Friday nites and from 12 midnite until 6 am weekends.
(94.5FM Monticello, 94.7FM Batesville/Forrest City, 106.9FM Hope)
Sunday 7-8 pm *Swinging Down the Lane*, David Miller
8-9 pm *McPartland's Jazz Piano*
9-12 midnight *52nd Street Jazz* John Cain
Monday 9-10 pm *Riverwalk*
10-11 pm *Billy Taylor Jazz*
Tuesday 9-10 pm *Jazzset*, Branford Marsalis
11-12 pm *Beale Street Caravan*
Wednesday 9-10 pm *Jazz Profiles*
10-11 pm *Jazz from Lincoln Center*
11-12 pm *World Wide Jazz*
Call (501) 569-8485 for select show info
- **KUAF 91.3 FM / NPR (Fayetteville & Ft Smith)**
Friday
7 KUAF's *New Blues & Beale Street Caravan*
9 *Blues Show*
10 *Shades of Jazz*
Midnight - *Jazz from Lincoln Center*
Saturday 9-10 pm *Marion McPartland's Jazz Piano*
10-11 pm *JazzSet* w/ Branford Marsalis,
11-midnight *Jazz Profiles*
Call (501) 575-2556 for info
- **KTXK 91.5 FM / public radio (Texarkana)**
Saturday 12-3p *The Enjoyment of Jazz* with host
Jerry Atkins (program is now in it's 17th year!)
Sunday 1-2pm *Jazz Profiles* with Nancy Wilson
2-3pm *Jazz from Lincoln Ctr -Wynton Marsalis*
3-4pm *Jazz Scene*
Monday thru Friday 6:30-7pm *Jazz Tonight*
Monday 7-8pm *Piano Jazz* w/ Marian
McPartland
Call (903) 792-2946 for info
- **KASU 91.9 FM (Jonesboro)**
Something Blue show with Hairy Larry
Mon-Fri 1pm *Afternoon Moods* with Marty
Scarborough and Terri Pratt
Mon 9:30pm *When Swing was King*
Tue 9:30pm *Jazz Profiles* with Nancy Wilson
Wed 9:30pm *Piano Jazz* with Marian McPartland
Thu 8:30pm *JazzSouth*, profiles of musicians
9:30pm *Worldwide Jazz*
Fri 9:30pm *Rhythm: Sweet & Hot* (Swing)
Sat 7pm *Beale Street Caravan*
8pm *Blues After Hours*, Bob Brown
10pm *Something Blue*
11on *Blues Overnight*
Call (870) 972-3070 for more info
- **KIPR 92.3 FM (Little Rock)**
Sunday 10 am-2 pm jazz format -
Call (501) 663-0092
- **KYFX Foxy 99.5 FM (Little Rock)**
Sundays 10 a.m. to 5 pm - Call (501) 666-3699
- **KFFB 106.1 FM (Fairfield Bay)**
Wednesday & Friday 10-11pm
Saturday 7pm - midnight

Send revisions or new entries to:

The Jazz Radio Calendar of Arkansas,
c/o the Arkansas Jazz Heritage Foundation
P.O. Box 251187
Little Rock, AR 72225-1187
Email: ajc@arjazz.org, or Phone: (501) 666-9294

HELP SUPPORT JAZZ IN ARKANSAS!

For only **(\$15 individual / \$25 family/ \$5 Student/ \$50 Jazzman / \$100 Corporate / \$500 Corporate)** you become a member of the Arkansas Jazz and Heritage Foundation and help support "America's classical music" in Arkansas Your application fee entitles you to membership privileges for one year. These privileges include regular newsletters (The Arkansas Jazz Calendar) about upcoming jazz performances in and around the state, and the right to help the Foundation decide which musicians and programs it will sponsor. The Arkansas Jazz and Heritage Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to educating the general public about the historical significance of Arkansas's musical heritage. It sponsors jazz performances by musicians with Arkansas connections and educational clinics for high school and college musicians throughout the state.

Please give us the following information, so we can keep you informed about upcoming jazz performances and educational clinics.

Check the Following: New Membership Renewal

Name _____ Jazz Society Affiliation _____
 Address _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____
 Are you a musician _____ instrument(s) _____
 Type of Membership _____. What types of jazz do you most like? _____

 What jazz musicians or groups would you most like to see perform in Arkansas? _____
 _____ College _____

Please make checks payable to *Arkansas Jazz and Heritage Foundation* and send to:
 Arkansas Jazz and Heritage Foundation, P.O. Box 251187, Little Rock, AR 72225.
 For further information call (501) 228-9999, 225-2133 or 663-5264.

August 2003 Jazz Schedule
Monday Jazz Project at *The AfterThought* , every Monday night at 8PM
2721 Kavanaugh, Little Rock, AR (501) 663-1196

Aug 4 - Clifford Hawkins (flugelhorn) with Buck Powell - piano, Joe Vick - bass, and Dave Rogers - drums. 8 pm, \$5 charge.

Aug 11 - Dr. James Greeson, guitar (from Fayetteville, Arkansas) with Joe Vick-bass and Dave Rogers-drums, 8 p.m., \$5 cover.

Aug 18 - Caudia Burson, piano (from Fayetteville, Arkansas) with Joe Vick-bass and Dave Rogers-drums, 8 p.m., \$5 cover.

Aug 25 - Monday Jazz Project Jam Session, with House Trio, Dan Sieckman-guitar, Joe Vick - bass, Dave Rogers-drums.

Jam players signup starting at 7:45 p.m. in After thought Foyer, 8 PM, \$5 cover, \$1 Jammers. June's jam session featured a special guest visitor, Bassist James Leary, Arkansas Jazz Hall of Fame and member of the Count Basie Orchestra. Leary happened to be in town for a union and appeared at the Monday Jazz Project Jam Session during the last set. Be there and don't miss a beat.

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