Oct. 14: Jazz, Blues and Gospel vocalist Marilyn Keller

Marilyn Keller of Portland, OR is a longtime veteran of music and stage performance with a voice that is beyond category. Jazz, Gospel, R&B, Pop, Blues... whatever the genre, Marilyn is more than able to deliver flawless, emotional, heartbreaking vocals. She has built a career that takes her worldwide as a feature artist in Denmark, Sweden, Norway, the Netherlands, Spain, Australia and the UK for concerts, festivals, night clubs and recording work.

Marilyn brings a special magic to the stage with her charming presence and flawless vocal stylings. Her musical roots are diverse. Since 1981, Marilyn has been a professional vocalist, recording artist, vocal instructor/clinician, actor/voice-over artist, and event planner/ coordinator. Her engaging voice can be heard on multiple recordings, movie sound tracks, commercials, documentary narratives and demos. Once you hear and see this mesmerizing woman, you will not forget the experience!

She joined Black Swan Classic Jazz Band in 1997, quickly establishing a loyal following in the Dixieland and Ragtime scene. She has been a featured vocalist for: Black Swan Classic Jazz Band (Early Jazz, Trombonist. BOB HAVENS of Quincy, IL is best known for his 22 years on the Lawrence Welk Show. He has also toured overseas with jazz greats Bob Crosby, Peanuts Hucko, The World’s Greatest Jazz Band, and Louis Armstrong All-Stars. Bob was our 2009 Emperor of Jazz!

TOM RIGNEY & Flambeau at STJS Fundraiser on Friday, Sept. 28th (Details on page 11)
Notes From the Office
by Vivian Abraham  STJS EXEC. DIRECTOR
<viviana@sacjazz.com>

I am pretty sure I can relate to how a few of you may be feeling as you learn you are reading this column on paper for perhaps what will be the last time. Next month’s issue of AATJ will be posted online at the STJS website, <www.sacjazz.org>. If you are sitting there with a lump in your throat, it’s ok; so am I. However, I think we all know that it’s time to move forward or get left behind.

Almost all who know me know that I was dragged kicking and screaming into the high tech world we all live in today but take heart friends, it’s not as scary a world as I thought it was (although secretly I think my computer here at the office is possessed). Trust me, if I learned enough about how to navigate around this “gosh-darned-new-fangled” way to communicate, then anyone can.

Most of you will love the convenience of reading your AATJ in a digital format, but if you are not one of the many, we have not forgotten you. No computer access? Let us know so we may print out a copy of our online newsletter for you. Call the office to leave a message for Dave & Kathy Becker, and include your name and phone number.

An e-mail notice will be sent when the next AATJ is posted online, so be sure we have your e-mail address. Check with Kathy & Dave Becker by sending them an e-mail at: membership@sacjazz.com

I do not have much to report on the Festival planning front, other than the Talent Selection Committee has had two meetings, and members of the committee are in the process of reviewing CDs and bios from new bands. Of course, they are keeping in mind all of our favorites.

Our goal is to put out a promo piece by mid-September, and we hope to have many great surprises for you. After all, it is our big 40th-year celebration!!!

More to report next time. Til then.

In the Months Ahead

Sept. 9 – BOB HAVENS trombone  Quincy, IL
Sept. 28 – STJS Fundraiser – Tom Rigney & Flambeau
Oct. 14 – MARILYN KELLER vocals  Portland, OR
Nov. 11 – LENA SEIKALY vocals  Washington, D.C.
Dec. 4 – T J YBF Fundraiser – “Up Close & Personal”- Eddie Erickson with Bob Draga, Jason Wanner

40th annual SACRAMENTO MUSIC FESTIVAL
President’s Message
by Tom Duff  STJS PRESIDENT
<tom.duff@hp.com>

I guess the topic of the hour is that this publication, And All That Jazz, is going digital—or electronic if you prefer. I personally am very excited about this change. While this has been done in part for financial reasons, the real positive is that it gives us the capability to provide very rich content to our members. Many of you use the Internet to find information about subjects of interest. This publication can now provide links to websites of interest as well as color photos and music video of your favorite performers.

SEPT. 28 FUNDRAISER CONCERT: If you have read the recent articles in this publication, you know that STJS is presenting to you a concert at the Woodlake Hotel featuring Tom Rigney & Flambeau. I know that tickets are selling out rapidly, so if you wish to attend this fun event, you need to purchase your tickets very soon. My personal thanks to Ken McMurray for his fine work on this event. You can get more information on page 11, or see the flyer online at http://www.sacjazz.org/pdf/2012-Sept28_TomRigney.pdf

I want to extend a great big THANK YOU to the folks that sponsored bands for the 2013 Festival. A few of you have opened your wallet to bring the best talent to the festival. We certainly are not there yet. It does not have to be a large donation; even small donations help. If you wish to sponsor a band for 2013, please send me an email: Thomas.duff@comcast.net

The STJS Trad. Jazz Camp (Youth and Adult) concluded on August 12th. I would like to congratulate all the musicians that had the opportunity to complete these camps. If you are not familiar with these camps, they are held at Sly Park during the summer and feature some of the best clinicians in the industry. You can visit their website at <http://sacjazzcamp.org> On this site you can tour the facility and see videos of the camp and the clinicians (a.k.a. The Professors). I invite all the campers to continue with STJS by participating in our other activities as a volunteer. Your participation will help the society thrive.

Last, I would like to remember a longtime Jazz Festival volunteer. Mr. Dan Price passed away on June 1, 2012. Dan worked on the Transportation Crew at the Radisson Hotel when that venue existed. Dan and his wife, Nancy, devoted many hours to the Society, as well as other arts organizations in Sacramento. Dan, thank you for your service. ☺
2012 Camp wrap-up
by Bill Dendle  STJS TRAD. JAZZ CAMP DIRECTOR

August’s Jazz Sunday marked both the end of the 2012 STJS Traditional Jazz Camps and the return of the youth camp concert to Jazz Sunday, which allows more jazz fans to hear the results of our flagship education program. For the past ten years or so, the youth camp concerts were held on Saturday, and while there was some support from the STJS membership, the kids were mainly performing for their parents and families. This year, we moved the concert back to Jazz Sunday, and I can’t imagine that anyone didn’t see it as a huge success. The Dante Club was packed, and the young musicians were bathed in applause and appreciation from a diverse group of fans, family and friends. (Always avoid alliteration.)

Once in awhile, I’m questioned about the value of the camp program; my answer has been consistent: While it’s true that most of the campers are not going to become professional musicians, some of them will, e.g., the Au brothers, Bria Skonberg, Jason Wanner, Nathan Ketner, Jason Jurzak, Sam Rocha, Molly Ryan, Beth Goodfellow, Claire McKenna, Emily Asher, Molly Reeves, Bobby Henree, Nahum Zdybel, Sherri Colby-Bottel, Matt Bottel, Jeff Kreis, Greg Sabin and Patrick Skiffington (to name a few). The rest will become a hugely important element for the preservation of this music: FANS! They take their love of trad jazz, and their memories of the Camp experience, and share them with their families and friends. Not to mention, they buy and play recordings of their favorite bands and musicians.

Both the adult and youth Trad Camps focus on creating a positive learning environment, a culture in which all learners feel safe, valued, important and respected. Visitors to the camps always remark on the easy manner with which the instructors conduct rehearsals and classes, and the relaxed, comfortable demeanor of the campers. This is on purpose, and is the result of a focus on ensuring that the campers (and everyone else) get as much out of the experience as possible. While I was writing this paragraph, an email arrived on my computer, and I’d like to share a paragraph from it:

“Bill, first I want to tell you what an enjoyable experience the adult camp was this summer, exceeding, as it did, my expectations. The staff were wonderful—concerned, considerate, and incredible musicians to boot. My fellow campers also were a pleasure to meet and get to know. Both the staff and the campers were very supportive, something we weaker players appreciated. Many thanks to all!”

Huge thanks to the STJS for continuing to support and offer the youth and adult Trad. Jazz Camps, allowing us the opportunity to teach about the music, and about the cooperation, respect and support that participation in a jazz band affords. It is a joy for all of us who participate in the camp.

Finally, I wish to offer my enormous gratitude to the faculty, counselors, and staff of the STJS Trad. Jazz Camps. You are wonderful teachers, great musicians, and the dearest of friends.

Jazz Camp from the Inside
by Felicia Greenwood Weatherly

I had the pleasure of attending the Jazz Camp dress rehearsal up at Sly Park on Saturday, August 11th. There is a lot of magic happening in the hills. Kids—LOTS of kids—are excited about our music. I saw middle school age kids working Louis Armstrong quotes into their solos. I saw some very savvy high school students taking a lot of the old, and a little of the new, to create some very exciting arrangements that brought the audience to their feet. Everywhere, everyone was happy, excited and proud—absolutely amazing! Bill Dendle (Camp Director) and Patty Wassum (Head Counselor) spoke of this group of students in glowing tones: How dang NICE they are, and well behaved.

Then there are the camp counselors: Patty Wassum, Jeff Kreis, Rik Nishimori, Katie Waters, Priscilla Ornelas, Keith Penney, Nahum Zdybel, Joseph Tapia, Greg Sabin, Bobby Henry, Kellen Garcia, Molly Reeves and Natalie DeWitt. If I had to point out one of the biggest improvements to the camp in the last few years (and that is saying a lot), it is the hiring of a staff of former “youth musicians” as counselors. Not only is this group of performers incredibly talented, they strive to share their musicality to be additional help to the students, they are also fun and what word am I looking for...wacky.

Now, instead of endless games of ping-pong during the afternoon down time, there are some wild activities planned. For example, the night I was there, the had been a corn husking competition between the bands. One day the faculty covered themselves in shaving cream and the bands competed to cover their mentor in cheese puffs. There was an air band competition and a dance Friday night. Though seemingly silly, activities such of these bond the bands quickly and help create the fantastic music heard Sunday.

If you have never gone to see the Jazz Camp, at camp, try to make a point of doing so next year. Camp changed the course of my life and I am certain it has for many, many others. Not only that, how often do you get to see something that brings a smile to your face and helps you breath a little easier for the future of our music? :)

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Young Bucs
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As teachers returned to school for the new academic year, some of them started out on a high note by attending the new Trad Camp Lite on August 14th. This innovative education outreach activity for training band directors was sponsored by San Juan Unified School District’s comprehensive arts education program, and the Trad Jazz Project, a program funded by generous donations to STJS for the Trad Jazz Youth Band Festival.

While sitting around the Au’s kitchen table (planning the next steps for the Trad Jazz Project), the “Trad Camp Lite” concept was cooked up by STJS Trad. Jazz Camp Director Bill Dendle, San Juan School District VAPA Coordinator Craig Faniani, and musician/music educator Brandon Au. As Faniani stated, “The spirit of this camp was to bring the expertise and training of the weeklong, out-of-town camp at Sly Park to interested band directors in a one-day workshop closer to home.” As added incentive for his teachers to attend this event, Faniani offered staff development time and continuing education hours.

Participating music teachers were experienced and skilled band directors who collectively shared their particular areas of expertise with peers. Ken Ruiz of Del Campo High School hosted the jazz workshop that was attended by Mica Dugan from Mission Avenue, Jeremy Smith from Dewey Elementary, Max Kiesner from Rio Americano High, Brian Gayek from Barrett Middle, and district music specialist Jack Stanfill. Camp “Professor” and tubist Lee “Westy” Westenhofer facilitated the workshop with Dendle and Faniani.

The clinicians modeled Arts “standards-based classroom instruction, guided practice and performance.” <www.sanjuan.edu/arts> In the spirit of jazz improvisation, there was no set agenda; their purposefully relaxed and informal format consisted of music performance and spontaneous discussion about working with student bands at different levels of improvisation. The band directors practiced tools and tips to use with their students while jamming to a few tunes from the Trad Camp repertoire. The day ended with thoughts of a possible performance after the next workshop at a local restaurant patio (and possibly forming a faculty trad jazz band).

On Aug 4th, The Professors jazz band took time away from their weekend break between STJS Trad Jazz Camps to play a special fundraiser concert for the Youth Camp. Held in the backyard of longtime Camp supporters Jim & Jeanette Galloway, the event raised $5100 to help close the budget gap for this year’s camps. Event Coordinator Patti Jones extends appreciation to the 100 people who attended and bought raffle tickets, to all the raffle prize donors, to the Michael Mondavi Family for providing wine, to Rent-Rite for discounting the rentals, and to Los Ponce’s Tex-Mex Catering for providing a wonderful barbecue buffet at a super price. Thanks also to Jim & Jeannette’s family for tending bar and selling tickets, to Leslie Barger for taking pictures, and to the other volunteers who pitched in. Especially big kudos go to Shelley Burns and Bill Dendle, who “auctioned themselves” in a concert package with Eddie Erickson to the highest bidder. It was a wonderful evening full of jazz, friends, food and beverage. What could be better?


UPDATE: This fundraiser helped, but due to last-minute cancellations by some campers, the budget gap for 2012 isn’t quite closed. If you can help, please send donations to STJS with the notation “2012 Jazz Camp.” Thank you!
Dante Club Notes
By “The Cricket”
[who is NOT the AATJ editor]

So, I’d bet, if you’re a regular Jazz Sunday attendee who came in just the tiniest bit late—maybe after church, or brunch—you were thinking WHERE DID ALL THESE PEOPLE COME FROM!?!? So many of them SO YOUNG! Well (she explained), the first part of the day was devoted to the youth bands from STJS Trad. Jazz Camp. And Youth Bands attract Youth Band-Member Families, like Juan Carlos Astoquillca, who made a 9-hour drive up from Los Angeles with wife Ricardina and a car full of kids to hear clarinetist Christopher play with “The Big Bee Stomp.” Then drive back... he said it was worth it, though. Not sure he and Ricardina were quite as enthusiastic after hearing Christopher say that one of the best things at camp was the “shaving cream and Cheetos® game! (You smear the face of one of your band mates with shaving cream and throw Cheetos© at them—the most adhering missiles wins!)

But Christopher also commented on the great instructors. Tyler Bursee, trombone with band “Breathing in Havoc,” (and an STJS regular), agreed that there was a lot of good stuff: the ping-pong tournament, Molly Reeves’ swing dance class, the tap dancing notation class with Professor Greg Varlotta, messing with the counselors—
oops! The band names, by the way, are the work of the band members: “Honey Badger and the One-Shoe Wonders,” “Garage BanTen,” “Electric Mayonnaise,” “Zing! Pow! Boing!,” “Mystery, Inc.,” “Dru Blossom & the Awsomes,” “Breathing in Havoc,” “The Philtrums,” “The Big Bee Stomp,” and “The Tim-Tations.” They must have had their reasons, right? Like, Dru Blossom played trombone with her eponymous band, and Tim Kreis was on saxophone in “The Tim-Tations.” And I get “The Philtrums” for folks focused on their chops, but “Breathing in Havoc”? Ah, well—youth!

It wasn’t all hijinks, though, because they all sounded wonderful! Each band presented three numbers and captivated the overflow audience. Dan Lobay commented on the “nice tight buzz” the “Garage BanTen” drummer was getting, and then realized it was Steven Saavedra on washboard!

Sophie Seng (she played tenor in “Big Bee”) said she thought the most memorable thing at camp was getting Counselor Greg “The Auto Mall Guy” Sabin to say for them, “See you in the fast lane!” and that her band won the competition! Sophie’s mother, Sita, brothers Ryan and Theo, and sister Odessa, along with friend Dominic Benedetti, were in the audience.

Counselor Nahum Zdybel’s sister, Ursula, was the pianist in “BanTen.” Also in the audience: their dad, Steven Zdybel (local fiddle player), grandmother Lillian Zdybel, and Nahum’s girlfriend,
Megan Gage. Nahum’s comment: “Amazing and exhausting, but mostly amazing.” Counselor Priscilla Ornellas said it was just basically fun! Los Angeles pianist Curtis Brengle, second-year Faculty member, said he had a blast! The Campers were a good group of kids, easy to get along with.

There were 89 (89!) Campers, many from near rather than far, but Wyatt Williams is from Sebastopol. His parents, Rex and Kerry, and sister Olivia (swimming and soccer) came with the travel trailer in tow. Rex said they, “don’t get off the farm very often, so they’re going on to Lake Tahoe for vacation.” Wyatt usually plays trumpet, but was registered as a pianist, and played with “Mayonnaise.”

Debbie and Vic Cedar came from Los Olivos to hear daughter Caitlin play saxophone with “BanTen.” This is her second year. Debbie found the camp online last year! Debbie’s father, Bob Alspaugh, is local. Larry and Eszter Harper are friends of “Mayonnaise” trumpeter Jacob Comingore’s parents. Lauren Evans, guitarist with “BanTen,” is from West Sac. Her Dad, Arcadieus, and brother, A.J., came to cheer. A.J. is into sports—football, soccer, skateboarding.

This was the first year for Andrew Arms of Red Bluff. He said there was such a variety of things to do, everybody’s energy was great. Ammon Burdge of West Sac. had to agree. Ammon’s girlfriend, Rayla Maier, was also there. Camden Scott (trombone with “One-Shoe”), Scott Seno (saxophonist with “Mayonnaise”), Julian Seno and Matt Seno (bass and piano, respectively, with “Philtrum”) are all from Elk Grove AND didn’t know about the Trad Jazz Youth Band Festival! Clued in, they immediately started planning to put together a band for February. They took time to agree that the BEST thing was having the Counselors invade the bunkhouse late on the last night to sing a lullaby to the Campers.

“Big Bee” band members told me the best thing about camp was the Counselors, and the Faculty, especially Westy (who just happened to be standing right there). Especially ARPEGGIOS! “Zing!” trombonist Jeffrey Peel was greeted by Mother Maria Peel and Great-Grandmother Maria Diaz de León.

Would have loved to talk to each of the 89 campers, AND Counselors AND Faculty AND Staff, but just not enough time. One last, telling quote, though: Professor Shelley Burns said the most striking thing about both Camps (Adult and Youth) is that they are “completely safe places to explore jazz and know they’re supported and loved—complete freedom.” What a testament! Longtime member Jean Alley summed it up by saying she was there because THIS is the big one! She is SO right.

Then we still had a whole afternoon of jazz! Faculty Bria Skonberg, Terry Myers, Greg Varlotta, Curtis Brengle, Eddie Erickson, Lee Westenhofer, Shelley Burns and Ed Metz (Rusty Stiers and Jason Wanner were in the audience;
Dante Club Notes (cont.)

missed Anita Thomas, though) provided two fabulous sets, with Counselors Jeff Kreis, Rik Nishimori, Katie Waters, Greg Sabin, Keith Penney, Bobby Henry, Nahum Zdybel, Kellen Garcia, Priscilla Ornelas, Joseph Tapia and Natalie DeWitt in between. It was exhilarating! Their excusable exhaustion notwithstanding. Two highlights: "Puttin' On the Ritz" with Westy in the Peter Boyle part, and Terry Myers on "The Very Thought of You," when the dancers just flooded onto the floor—a “Jazz Camp Family” megamess for the last number. It doesn’t get any better than this!

You are not to think, however, that there was nothing else going on in the building—no, no. In fact, afternoon in the Gold Card Room and Tailgate was quite vigorous. Ken Champion, Gene Mondro, Pearl Nicolinno, and Carl Warmdahl were joined briefly by Olivia Flourny on trombone for GCR Set 1. Olivia and her friend, reed player Breanna Rodgers, were not at Camp but were at Jazz Sunday because they REALLY LIKE being here. Ira Greenstein led a cool Set 2 with Pat Blucher, Bill Bua, Jack Scott and Scotty Harper, with Tom Gunterman on violin. Charlie Hull, Ken Meyers, Alan Ginter and Larry Salerno backed the vocalists on Set 3, and bassist Harper was obviously thrilled with Nolan Cyr’s playing on Set 4. Dave Chan and Dan Lobay were there, too. Set 5 started a little sparse, but Tom Carpenter, Eddi Benjamini and Tony Bellacera pulled in some cohorts for a full band by the end.

The Tailgate welcomed back Barbara Maurizi after an absence. She and Dominic Ruggieri were the reed section on Set 1, and she was joined by Mondro on Set 2, which also included Kurt Olsen on trumpet, Carl Kaiser on piano, and Travis Maslen on bass. Travis, a not too distant graduate of Mira Loma, said he teaches music at Christian Brothers High School (mostly big band), but he’s going to devote some time to Trad. He’s a real enthusiast; a welcome addition to our list of local teachers supporting OKOM.

Mike O’Hearn and Nick Niebank led TG Set 3, with Billie Menz on piano. Carl Kaiser switched to trombone on Set 4, with Bill Chamberlain on drums and UOP student Chad Deacon on reeds. Chad was joined by Breanna Rodgers on Set 5, with Olivia Flourny and Carl Kaiser on trombone, Todd Morgan on piano, Travis Maslen back on bass, and Bill Chamberlain and Jan Buhlert filling out the roster. Talk about going out on a high note!

There were four vocalists from Adult Camp: Julie Galleher, Wally Hawkins, Vanna Turner, and—wow—former Four Lads member Harry DuVall. As GCR Director Paula Dula said, “I guess you’re never too experienced to take a class!” Levi Williams told me he’s taking singing lessons. Wish I were brave enough!

Pat Kennedy’s “Street of Dreams” was lovely, and Jay Casl impressed us with Michael Buble’s “Sway.” Vicki Tama returned from an absence to say “It Had To Be You.” And Alan Ginter prefaced “I’m Gonna Sit Right Down and Write Myself a Letter” with a joke about the fly and the iPad (I don’t think one had anything to do with the other). T Jackson gave us a beautiful “Early Autumn,” and Todd Morgan accompanied himself on piano with a hot “Sweet Georgia Brown.”

Bill Reiff has trouble walking, but he tore up the dance floor with Shelley Burns, and Eddi Benjamini looks like he’s feeling better. Ned Poffinbarger still using the cane, but looking much more comfortable. Edd Burhans looking amazingly lifelike after a heart attack and two stents installed since the last Jazz Sunday!

Violet and Dick Reiss are long-time members. Violet said she was talking to Ken McMurray about donating her beautiful organ and piano to benefit the young musicians. Much appreciated. I heard that it was Ken’s birthday. Great party, Dude! It was a thoroughly enjoyable day all around.

World’s Finest Apples’ recent “West Coast Tour” ranged from San Diego to Claremont, San Luis Obispo, Morro Bay, Soquel, Fort Bragg, Weaverville, Chico, The Naked Lounge at 1111 H Street, and a house concert in Berkeley. Check out their totally fun website at http://www.theworldsfinestapples.com

I am so very sad to tell you of the death of Dottie Lawless, Trad Jazz Supporter sans pareil. Dottie, stalwart of the New Orleans Jazz Club of Northern California, joined husband Ed Lawless as Emperor and Empress of Jazz for the Jubilee, and never flagged in her devotion to OKOM. This is a great loss.

Closer to home, the last time I saw Valerie Alexandra Melnikov, she was having a tête-à-tête with Larry Salerno, while her son Mike played bass in the Tailgate Room. She was 90 when she died, six months after the death of her husband of 70 years. Our sympathy to Mike and all the family.

On a happier note, Roger Krum is getting out and about. Allen Pierleoni’s Aug. 10 Counter Culture column in the Bee mentioned his “lunch pal,” our former STJS Exec. Director. They were at Whitey’s Jolly Kone, not confining themselves to the peach milkshakes.

Now this sounds like all kinds of fun: the Kristy Reed Dance Trio is at the Mission Oaks Community Center, 7 to 9:30 p.m. every Wednesday through the summer. And with enough interest, maybe through the fall? Get info at www.morpdp.com

San Joaquin TJS had a clever little marketing idea. They distributed little slips of paper (1”x3” inches) touting Jammers Month at their September 2 Jazz Sunday. Elks Lodge in Stockton, noon to 5.

NEW AATJ FORMAT: Listen, folks, they aren’t kidding about this. We’re way behind the curve. Read info on page 3! This is the last printed issue of AATJ. BE SURE WE HAVE YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS, or call the STJS Office to arrange for a hard copy. We don’t want you to miss one syllable of our breathless prose. Thanks to Olivia Sanchez (on loan from the Sound Crew) for manning the “e-mail address table” all Sunday afternoon. ☼
Blues & Ragtime); Don Latarski & Rue de Blues (Jazz, Blues, R&B); Velvet (top-40, R&B, Jazz, Blues); Disciples in Song (Urban Gospel & Praise); Augustana Lutheran Church Jazz Quartet (Jazz, Gospel); Tall Jazz (Contemporary Jazz, Blues); The Oregon Symphony Gospel Christmas Concert Series (Gospel, Classical, Jazz); New Orleans Delight (Vintage Jazz, Blues, Gospel); Tom Grant Band (Contemporary Jazz, R&B).

This summer, Marilyn went on a 2-month long tour in Scandinavia. This included a cruise in the Baltic Sea and some concerts in Sweden with New Orleans Delight, a Danish/Swedish band that has been inviting her as a guest since 2004.

In 2011, Marilyn portrayed blues singer Gertrude “Ma” Rainey in a play written by the late August Wilson. The story is set in a recording studio in the 1920s. The power struggle between Ma, the studio owner, and her manager, band, and entourage is fed by racism, intolerance, desire and misconception. The blues plays a role in this emotionally charged atmosphere of revelation and consequences.

Marilyn’s formative jazz training was as a member of the Mt. Hood Community College Vocal Jazz Ensemble, and as the vocalist fronting the award-winning MHCC Jazz Lab Band. She is featured at the Jazz Worship Service at Augustana Lutheran Church every Sunday, and can be seen at restaurants, clubs, festivals and events throughout the Pacific Northwest.

Marilyn is featured on the following recordings with the Black Swan Jazz Band from Oregon: “Dance Hall Favorites,” “Feel the Spirit,” “This Joint Is Jumpin’,” “Ragtime Revelry,” “A Joyful Noise,” “Mama’s Gone Goodbye,” and “How You Gonna Keep ‘Em Down on the Farm?” Her current discography also includes: Marilyn’s solo release, At Last, (available at www.sachikurachi.com); How Many Ways (with Don Latarski and Chris Stevens); How ’Bout Now and Once in a Blue Moon (available at www.talljazz.com); Promise (with Jeff Ibach & Promise); Deep Play, Rue II, and Live from Eden Hall (with Don Latarski and Rue de Blues, available at www.donlatarski.com); and My Gratitude (with the Disciples in Song).
Future Jazz Festivals and Jazz Parties

SEPTEMBER 2012

7-9 Pentastic Hot Jazz Fest. Penticton, B.C., CANADA
www.pentasticjazz.com

20-23 Jazz at Chautauqua Chautauqua, NY (800) 821-1881
www.athenaeum-hotel.com

28-30 Summit Jazz Denver, CO (866) 883-2288
www.summitjazz.org

OCTOBER 2012

12-14 Medford Jazz Festival Medford, OR (800) 599-0039
www.medfordjazz.org

17-21 Sun Valley Jazz Jamboree Sun Valley, ID (877) 478-5277
www.SunValleyJazz.com

26-28 Jubilee by the Sea Pismo Beach, CA (805) 481-7840
www.pismojazz.com

NOVEMBER 2012

4-7 Arizona Classic Jazz Festival Chandler, AZ (480) 620-3941
www.azclassicjazz.org

21-25 S.D. Thanksgiving Dixied Jazz Fest. San Diego, CA (619) 297-5277
www.dixielandjazzfestival.org

Jazz Notes

SEPTEMBER 9 Guest Artist: BOB HAVENS, trombonist from Quincy IL. (Bob was our 2009 Emperor of Jazz).

OCTOBER 14 Guest: MARILYN KELLER, jazz/blues/gospel vocalist from Portland, OR.

STJS BOARD MTG: Mon., Sept. 24, 6:00 pm at the NEW office location in Old Sac. — 106 K St., Suite #1 (downstairs). Old Sac parking meters charge $1.50/hr (quarters only) until 8pm.

UPCOMING EVENTS / SPECIAL GIGS:
Submit event info 1 month in advance to: editor@sacjazz.org
See “MUSIC HERE & THERE” for regular gigs.


Western Swing Soc.: Sept. 2 Lincoln Highway. Coming up in October (4th–7th) is the Hall of Fame Music Festival.

Raffle Cents

by Kathy Becker STJS RAFFLE COORDINATOR

Well, you fantastic people did it again, we brought in $369.00 at the Dante Club for our kids.

A huge THANK YOU to our loyal donators: Joan Leuthy, Ira Greenstein, Yvonne Au, Elinor Hackett, Nancy Giffin, and our lovely anonymous lady.

Congrats to our big winners! Martha Swarts, Karen Smith, Faye Neibour, Mabel Burhans, Doris Shizeo, C.J. Deukee, Judy Parker, Kirsten Rodgers, Felix Smith, and Cathryn Doggett. (If I misspelled anyone’s names, I do apologize.)

See you all at the Dante Club.

NOTE: PRIZES for the Raffle Table are needed each and every month. If you have something to donate, please bring it to Kathy & Dave Becker at Jazz Sunday. ☺

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Main Stage  8-12-12

Guest: 2012 STJS Youth Jazz Camp Faculty
Emcee: Jim Fusaro  Guest Artist Coord.: Bob Ringwald

Set #1 YOUTH BANDS from the 2012 STJS Traditional Jazz Camp.
Set #2 GUESTS — Bria Skonberg, trumpet; Terry Myers, reeds; Greg Varlopta, trombone; Curtis Bringle, piano; Eddie Erickson, banjo/guitar; Lee “Westy” Westenhofer, bass/tuba; Shelley Burns, vocals; Ed Metz, drums

Set #3 — STJS Youth Jazz Camp Counselors: Jeff Kreis, trumpet; Rik Nishimori, trumpet; Katie Waters, sax; Greg Sabin, trombone; Keith Penney, piano; Bobby Henry, banjo; Nahum Zdybel, guitar; Molly Reeves, guitar; Kellen Garcia, bass; Priscilla Ornelas, tuba; Joseph Tapia, drums; Natalie DeWitt, vocals.

Set #4 GUESTS — Bria Skonberg, trumpet; Terry Myers, reeds; Greg Varlopta, trombone; Curtis Bringle, piano; Eddie Erickson, banjo/guitar; Lee “Westy” Westenhofer, bass/tuba; Shelley Burns, vocals; Ed Metz, drums. Plus: sit-ins by Camp Counselors Rik Nishimori, Greg Sabin, Keith Penney, Molly Reeves, and Bobby Henry.

Gold Card Room  8-12-12


GCR Dir.: Paula Dula

Tailgate Room  8-12-12

We had five good sets in August, and we appreciate all the musicians who did double or triple duty to fill-in the board:

Tpt: Ira Greenstein, Michael O’Hearn, Kurt Olsen, Nick Nienbank, Ken Champion; Fig: Bob Summers; Rds: Dominic Ruggieri, Barbara Maurizi, Tom Carpenter, Chad Deacon, Breanna Rodgers, Gene Mondro; Tbn: Olivia Flournoy, Steve Leathers, Carl Kaiser; P: Frank Lindskog, Billie Menz, Carl Kaiser, Todd Morgan, “SUGAR” Willie Erickson; Bnj/Gtr: Ned Poffinbarger, Pearl Nicollno, Jan Buhler; B/Tb: “SUGAR” Willie Erickson, Travis Maslen, Eddi Benjamina; Dr: Tony Bellacera, Greg Ayala, Carl Warmdahl, Bill Chamberlain; Voc: Karl Munz, Vicki Tama, Jane Reinmuth.

Co-Directors: Jane Reinmuth, Tony Bellacera.
My introduction to the Sacramento jazz scene came on Friday of the 1977 Jazz Jubilee. I had married Jim Maihack barely 24 hours prior. In those days, there was a huge site in the alley behind the Enterprise Hotel called the “49er Site” (or the “pit”). People reserved the long tables set up there and sat in large groups enjoying the music all weekend.

Friday AM, Jim took me round to that area and began introductions: Dottie & Ed “Doc” Lawless, Bill & Portia Blau, Norma Teagarden, Kerry Lynn Blau & many others. I spent the weekend there with all my new-found friends and have never looked back! Dottie & Doc welcomed me into the jazz fold, and their enthusiasm was very contagious. Ed & Alice Turner threw a wonderful party for us at their home after the weekend was over, and I got to meet tons of the SF musicians & friends. Doc Lawless documented the event in pictures—LOTS of pictures. I knew then Dottie Lawless was special.

In the ensuing 35 years, I became increasing involved in the music & the wonderful people who play it & support it. Dottie worked tirelessly to promote & hire bands. I think N.O.J.C. WAS Dottie & Ed for years. They attended every Jubilee & memorialized them all in photos and photo buttons. Countless foreign band members have spent days at the Lawless home. The parties were always great!

Dottie labored on after Ed’s death, dealing with many health issues. She never stopped seeing her friends or keeping up with the music. She got Ed’s photo collection organized to be sent to Stanford for archiving.

I had a wonderful conversation with Dottie just a week or so before I died. I am so happy I had that opportunity to thank her for all she & Doc have meant to both Jim & me. I counted both Dottie & Ed as great friends and am eternally grateful for that.

Wendy Maihack

PS: Looking through old Jubilee programs and pictures has been a joyful project for both Jim & me. We miss those great days! Thanks for the memories, Doc.

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Dear Editor, STJS Members, and the Great, Wide Jazz World:

Gordon Au brought his East Coast band, the Grand Street Stompers, to Sacramento for two shows before heading up to the Pacific Northwest: an appearance at Midtown Stomp and another at Mather Field Road Straw Hat. The band includes Gordon Au (trumpet), Dennis Lichtman (clarinet), Rob Adkins (bass), and Tamar Korn (magical vocal).

Clarinetist Dennis Lichtman told me that 6 or 7 years ago, there was an explosion of interest in Trad Jazz by young musicians in New York City. He started a Trad jam session (very small, just a few musicians) in an area bar. It is now so jam-packed with musicians and audience that it’s hard to get in.

Sacramento has young musicians lined up to play in the Tailgate every month. FreeBadge, World’s Finest Apples, Crescent Katz, all work in the area. Yolo County is crawling with traddies. We have a wonderful line-up of Next Gen bands at the Music Festival. Perhaps there is similar interest in young people across the country.

If there are young jazz fans, but they aren’t coming to Jubilee/Jazz Festival/Music Festival, maybe it isn’t the music, but the format that needs to change. We can talk to the young musicians and audience members, and ask THEM what would bring them to Jubilee. Let’s listen to their ideas and think about how to implement them, instead of reasons not to. A committee of our Student Members would be a start. Maybe even an actual retreat with Youth and Jubilee Management brainstorming.

I’m the mouldiest of figges and don’t like change, but willy nilly, the Jube is going to change. Let’s get in front of it to be sure the changes sustain Trad Jazz.

Sincerely,

Judy Hendricks, Gadfly
featuring these awesome artists
Meredith Axelrod
Jeff Barnhart
Mimi Blais
Chris & Jack Bradshaw
Tom Brier
Marty Eggers
Ann Gibbon
Rosemary Hallum
Frederick Hodges
Brian Holland
Morten Gunnar Larsen
Carl Sonny Leyland
Larisa Migachyov
Sophie Rivard
Max Morath
Ezequiel Palleja
David Thomas Roberts
Jack Rummel
Christoph Schmetterer
Sean Sharp
Ray Skjelbred
Martin Spitznagel
Virgina Tichenor
Stephanie Trick
Craig Ventresco
Ian Whitcomb
Bryan Wright

and these great groups
Big Mama Sue & Fast Eddie
Crown Syncopators
Ivory & Gold
Pacific Coast Ragtime Orchestra
(with vocalist, Helen Burns
and special guest, Joyce Grant)
Porcupine Ragtime Ensemble
Ragnolia Ragtime
Ragtime Skedaddlers
Raspberry Jam Band
Sullivans/Divons

plus rising stars
Vincent Johnson
Max Keenlyside
Frank LiVolsi
Will Perkins
Grant Somerville
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**Would you like to VOLUNTEER?** *(Please check one.)*

- □ Sac. Music Festival  □ Non-festival STJS programs
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**MAKE CHECKS or money orders PAYABLE to STJS** or CHARGE to:  ○ Visa  ○ MC  ○ Discover  ○ AmEx

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**THANK YOU for your support! We appreciate your membership.**

Please take a moment to complete this form. Your information and opinions will help the STJS better serve you. (Answers may be approximate.)

- How long have you been a member of STJS?________________________
- How far do you travel to attend monthly sessions?________________________
- Number of monthly sessions you attended in the last 12 months________________________
- Who was your favorite guest band or musician?________________________
- __________________________
- What band or musician would you like as a guest?________________________
- __________________________
- What would you like to change about the monthly sessions?________________________
- __________________________

*Thank you for your help!*