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Scatman, jammin' at the PSL **Botanical Gardens**

I CAN HEAR AND ENJOY PROFESSIONAL JAZZ & BLUES LOCALLY - EVERY WEEK!	WHY SHOULD I BECOME A MEMBER? "WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?"	I want to be a part of the best Jazz & Blues in Fort Pierce! Please Check One: New Individual \$50 Family \$75 Patron \$100 CORPORATE \$500 BENEFACTOR \$250 SCHOLARSHIP \$1,000	
		The Fort Pierce Jazz & Blues Society is a nonprofit organization and all donations are tax deductible.	
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Winter 2014



MISSION: To promote the growth, appreciation and performance of Jazz & Blues - great American music art forms through scholarships, workshops, clinics, weekly jazz jams and community outreach programs.



By Don Bestor, Jr., President

The Fort Pierce Jazz & Blues Society presents jazz and blues

music to the public in a variety of ways, including: performances, festivals, free jam sessions, clinics, hands-on workshops, community education, and outreach initiatives. Our objectives are to foster greater awareness and enjoyment in the community for jazz and blues through education and performances, and to provide scholarships to deserving college-bound students who wish to further their knowledge and skill in the music field.

We continue to award merit scholarships to worthy area high school graduate musicians and singers, who have displayed high academic achievement, good citizenship and promising musicianship. Some scholarships are provided by donors interested in providing opportunities for those who earn the financial aid through an educational program

designed by the Society in conjunction with our Educational Chairman, Mr. Al Hager, an educator for more than 30 years. Other scholarships are funded by memberships in the Jazz Society and from revenues earned from the Saturday morning Jazz Market in Ft. Pierce, which is managed by the Society. In addition to scholarships, winners receive a year's membership to the Ft. Pierce Jazz and Blues Society.

\$13,000 for 2012, \$9,000 for 2011, \$7,000 in 2010, \$6,000 for 2009 and so on! Students are welcomed all year long to come and sit in on any of our Jazz Jams and there is no admission charge for them when

presenting a student ID card at the door.



site: www.jazzsociety.org

email: info@jazzsociety.org

office: 772-460-JAZZ (5299)

Volume XXI

Our Mission and Scholarships

The Society provided \$9,000 worth of Scholarships for 2013, The Sunrise Theatre and the Ft. Pierce Jazz & Blues Society supports and underwrites this arrangement.

If you care to provide a scholarship to help a student afford going on to college, please do so! It is tax deductable as we are a non profit, 501 C 3 organization. All of our scholarships are awarded in increments of \$1,000 each. If you would like to donate toward one \$1,000 scholarship, please do so! Every dollar donated toward this scholarship fund will eventually become another \$1,000 scholarship. This can be done online, at any one of our jam sessions, or any one of our

events! Please see one of our volunteers for help with this!

Thank you very much for your support and please know that we are aware that we cannot do this without

your very special commitment to support our endeavours.

A Blast From The Past!

Elinor Samuels, former Board Member, donates her photo album from the Jazz Society's early days. Chris Hulka, VP and Board Member, gladly accepts this aift on behalf of the Society.

Thanks Elinor!

FPJ&BS Membership - We're glad you're here!

We would like to thank the following new members for joining the Fort Pierce Jazz & Blues Society. Your membership dollars help provide scholarships for students in high school who are committed to furthering their education in an institution of higher learning. Your contribution also allows us to produce local shows which we bring to the community at little or no charge and to provide live music to students of all ages in local schools during the school year. Without you, this would not be possible.

NEW MEMBERS

Anthony Anzalone Frank Cramblitt Maxine Felski Brian & Yvonne Johnson Jim Langone Dorothy Leslie Suzanne & Glenn Michaud Jim & Kathie Osterman Tahra Richardson James Tavares Vickie Trefeiner Alex Trewvn Thornton Turnin

RENEWED MEMBERS Peter Amar Paul Amaru Leonard & Peggy Berg Marie Butt Roy Daniels Family John DeFranco Mario & Ellen Gemininiani Peter Green Chiqui Guiribitey James Guver Richard Hemingway Janet Hoch

Bill & Rhoda Jenkins Bruce Miller Lynn & Betty Nichols Betty Palumbo Joseph Parrinello Dolores Principe Henry Schmitz Jr. Family Maurice Sedacca Robert & Fileen Chapell Joann Steinmeyer Thomas & Vera Stopya . Iov Warshauer Horace & Theora Webb Joel & Deena Wynne George & Ann Maria Zeridan

PATRONS William Riebusch Paul & Jo-Ann Berg Art DiLucente Family William Fish Ralph & Lela Haldorson Carl Hensley Family Jane Koehler Joseph/Agnes Schwartz/Hill Sheldon Schuman Dick & Maggie Westfall Stanley & Susan Winters

BENEFACTORS Henry Chamberlain

Shirley Kosar Don & Georgia Musante Anonymous angel

SCHOLARSHIP BENEFACTORS

Tom & Kathy Dixon Arthur & Andrea Mellon Jack & Mardette Miller



Pat Horan

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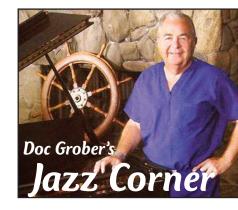
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BREAKFAST

Monday - Friday 6:30 - 3:00 Saturday 7:00 - 2:00

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DEL



Blues -Initial Origins

Although the blues eventually was shaped by elements of African as well as European music, its initial origins were shaped by the Africans who were displaced from their homeland and sold into slavery under very difficult conditions.

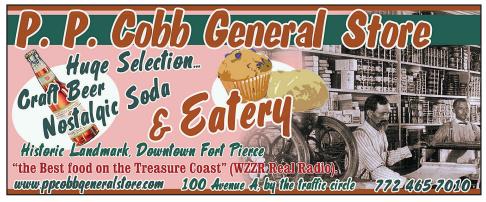
The blues initially was a type of "spoken speech" rooted in deep emotion. It expressed a depressed and disconsolate mental state valid for all members of the small subsociety from which it emanated.

These feelings of defeat and downheartedness, also served as a catharsis for the slaves thereby

But to go back for a moment... the tribal groups of negroes offloaded from the slave ships were split up and intentionally sent to different plantations in hopes that this would destroy the shared cultural patterns that helped hold them together. During that period the blues were sung solo or in unison with little, if any, harmonic accompani-

express its suffering.





enabling the participants to return to their work environment albeit with a strong sense of resignation. One of the most common blues components was the call and response coming from the field hollers and African chants. Call and response became a part of the Baptist religious services before morphing into marching jazz and subsequently into riffs. Arranged ensembles soon began incorporating these elements.

Riffs were commonly used in the arranged ensembles of the swing bands such as Count Basie. Fletcher Henderson, Benny Goodman and Benny Moten.

ment. The blues initially was simply a mode of verbal expression through which a minority could

The only accompaniment might have been on a banio.

Most often a 12 bar sequence was typical using field hollers and works songs as the basic material. The degree to which sophisticated harmonies developed varied in direct proportion to the degree of urbanization.



In summary, the blues was an informal improvised structure which preserved the original rhythmic and melodic patterns of African music.

The words and music served to ease the pain while exultantly reaffirming the joys of life. The blues singer expressed the hurt and anger felt by the listeners thereby forming a kinship with the audience.

I have not really said much about the musical aspects of the blues form. For now, keep in mind that early blues were based on simple chord patterns (which have subsequently

been modernized).

We can dive in and deal with some of the musical ideas and typical chord patterns that developed in association with the blues in a future article.





POETRY CORNER By Gene Hull THE CHET BAKER STORY

In 1952, the young Californian trumpet player, Chet Baker, joined the Gerry Mulligan Quartet, which became an instant phenomenon. The group used no pianist, which was unique among jazz groups. The most prominent element that made the Mulligan/ Baker group special, was the interplay between Mulligan's baritone sax and Baker's trumpet. Rather than playing identical melody lines in unison like bebop giants Charlie Parker and Dizzy Gillespie, the two would complement each other's playing with contrapuntal touches. It often seemed as if they had telepathy in anticipating what the other was going to play next.

The Quartet's version of "My Funny Valentine," featuring an iconic Baker solo, was a hit and became the tune with which Baker was intimately associated. Because of his unique trumpet style, his pleasant singing voice, and his charming boyish looks, he soon became an international favorite and his popularity rose.

Baker began using heroin in the 1950s, resulting in an addiction that stayed for the remainder of his life. At times, Baker pawned his instruments for money to maintain his drug habit. In the early 1960s, he served more than a year in prison in Italy on drug charges. He tried many times to recover from his habit, but each time returned to it.

Between 1966 and 1974, Baker mostly played flugelhorn, after losing his teeth when attacked by a group of men outside a club one night. His playing and recordings would mostly be classified as West Coast jazz.

From 1978 until his death in 1988, Baker resided and played almost exclusively in Europe, returning to the US roughly once per year for a few performances. This was Baker's most prolific era as a recording artist. He also toured with saxophonist Stan Getz during this period.

At 3:00 a.m. on May 13, 1988, Baker was found dead on the Prins Hendrikkade walkway, near the street below his second-story room

(Room 210) of Hotel Prins Hendrik in Amsterdam.

Heroin and cocaine were found in his hotel room, and an autopsy also found these drugs in his body. There was no evidence of a struggle, and his death was judged to be due to an accidental fall.

However, rumors have persisted to this day that he was either pushed or jumped from his hotel window.

A poignant

nowned British

poet/author/jazz

fan, John Henry,

sums up the life

of Chet Baker

with a unique

poetic way. It

book, Bluer

is from Henry's

poem by re-

A plague outside the hotel now memorializes him.



Than This. Plaque at the Hotel Prins Hendrik, in Amsterdam

Chet Baker

looks out from his hotel room across the Amstel to the girl cycling by the canal who lifts her hand and waves. and when she smiles he is back in time when every Hollywood producer wanted to turn his life into that bitter-sweet story where he falls badly, but only in love with Pier Angeli, Carol Lynley, Natalie Wood; that day he strolled into the studio, fall of fifty-two, and played those perfect lines across the chords of My Funny Valentineand now when he looks up from his window and her passing smile into the blue of a perfect sky he knows this is one of those rare days when he can truly fly.



Education and Scholarship Committee

High school seniors in our four county area with an interest in jazz have a chance to receive a \$1,000 scholarship to continue their music and jazz education. Last year, \$9,000 was presented to nine deserving seniors.

Applicants receive detailed instructions on the format and content of their essay and suggestions for enhancing their audition which will take place at one of the Jazz Jams in April and May, 2014 Applicants can attend the jam sessions at the Sunrise Black Box Theater in Ft. Pierce Tuesdays or the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens and Tutto Fresco every other Wednesday. There is no admission with a student ID and they may observe or perform. Details are on the website: www.jazzsociety.org.

JAZZ IN THE SCHOOLS is our outreach program. This year we have visited Martin County HS, Hidden Oaks MS, Treasure Coast HS and Murray MS. As scheduling permits, we will continue to provide this educational interaction between students and professional musicians at no charge to the schools. If you know a director who might be interested in bringing the **FPJ&BS FACULTY ENSEMBLE**

to their school, have them contact alfredhager@bellsouth.net.





FPJ&BS Receives Generous Donation

by Chris Hulka, Vice President Operations

Several months ago, The FPJ&BS was informed of the Beerworks Charitable Foundation, that each year, rewards selected local nonprofit organizations for their commitment, dedication and service to the community with monetary donations to further their individual cause(s).

Vice President of Administration, Mia Batalini and I made an appointment to meet with the Beerworks' Board of Directors to explain our mission statement and all that the FPJ&BS has done for the past seventeen years including our Jazz Jams, school workshops, clinics, master classes, free concerts and especially our Scholarship Program that rewards local high school graduates \$1000.00 merit scholarships to further their college studies in the music field. The Beerworks folks were absolutely astounded that we accomplish what we do on a completely volunteer basis.

Our Society musicians, always eager to perform, volunteered to

provide the musical entertainment for the Beerworks Foundation's annual Beerfest fundraiser on November 16th, 2013 at the Port St. Lucie Civic Center. The crowd was elated to hear the live jazz and to feel the honest enthusiasm of our virtual "army" of volunteers manning the Society's information booth. The event was an overwhelming success.

Imagine several hundred selfless volunteers working together with the same mindset of giving back to the community, making sure that every patron left with a smile on their face.

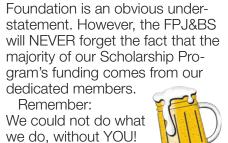
Recently, FPJ&BS President, Don Bestor, Jr., received a check from Beerworks Charitable Foundation in the amount of \$3,500.00 which will help our young scholarship winners with the overwhelming costs of college tuition.

Beerworks Charitable Foundation, Thank You!









To say that we need more organizations like Beerworks Charitable









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TUTTO FRESCO





Profile of Christopher Ketcham



Bv Mia Battalini

Thanksgiving Season reminds us that we have many wonderful reasons to be thankful. One of them is our Student Liaison Volunteer, Christopher Ketcham.

In August of 2012, Christopher stopped by one of our Tuesday Jazz Jams at the Black Box and was impressed with what was going on. After sitting in with the ensemble, playing drums, he asked how he could

get more involved in the Fort Pierce Jazz & Blues Society. Right then he became a volunteer and started by helping out at an upcoming Waterside Blues Concert. Next, in 2013, he signed up to work daily alongside the setup/teardown crew at the weeklong Jazz & Blues Festival.

In June of 2013 Christopher was responsible for putting together the first FPJ&BS Student Jazz Ensemble. They performed a successful debut

concert at the Saturday jazz market on June 8th, and then again on December 21, 2013.

When FPJB&S was presented with a community outreach idea of bringing music to the after school program at Lincoln Park Community Center our President, Don Bestor, Jr. was very keen to take on the project-but was faced with it conflicting with our ongoing weekly jazz jams at the Sunrise Theatre Black Box. Christopher

stepped in and volunteered to spearhead the classes. Here is a quote from Jennifer Anglin, Special Facilities Coordinator, "Chris has been instrumental in creating both an interest and an awareness of Jazz as an art form. The participants have responded well to Chris' teaching and have formed quite a bond with him. Chris' comfort level with the participants is a testament to his skills for his intended career as a music instructor."

Now a Lincoln Park Academy senior, music has been Christopher's passion since the third grade. He plays drums and vibes and is a regular at the weekly jazz jams enjoying every minute he is able to sit in and jam with the professional musicians. He has a very impressive resume and is committed to continually growing and learning and helping others in any way he can. Here indeed is a young man with a very bright future.



We are delighted that he is an active member of our organization and an asset to our community. We will be following his career with great interest. Christopher Ketcham is one of the rare and wonderful young musicians who will keep the great music of jazz and blues alive in our schools and community.







MIA WITH ST. LUCIE COUNTY COMMISSIONER KIM JOHNSON

