

Denver JAZZ Club NEWS

Volume 64,
Number 6

September/October 2020

Denver Jazz Club in operation for 65 continuous years

Established 1954

Again this issue, there is so little to report on that the newsletter has been pared down.

The Denver Jazz Club is trying to improve and expand our e-mail base. Please supply your current e-mail to the Denver Jazz Club, 1801 W. 92nd Ave., Lot 327, Federal Heights, CO 80260 or 303-430-5606.

Or simply e-mail the information to Kristiflesher@centurylink.net.

No Event in September

Because of the ongoing pandemic and the risk of infection, the club will not meet for its monthly session in September.

At this time, the possibility of holding an event in October is unknown. The club will inform members by e-mail, and information about the possibility of meeting in October will be posted on the club's website, denverjazzclub.com.

The Annual Picnic in August with the Band Leaders Band was a real success!



The annual Denver Jazz Club Picnic, at the home of **Decker and Ann Westerberg** in Littleton, was a little different this year because of the pandemic. Trumpeter **Kevin Bollinger**; reedman **Lance Acker**; trombonist **Marti Henry**; vocalist **Wende Harston**; pianist **Ray Leake**; tubist **Bill Clark**; and drummer **John Akal**, provided the music. **John Bredenberg** sat in on banjo, and **Hank Troy**, piano; **Eric Staffeldt**, trombone; and **Tony Pantelis**, drums, played a

few numbers with the band. The Denver Jazz Club Youth All-Stars gave us their first official performance by the 2020-2021 group of young musicians. Social distancing was well observed, and everyone brought their own food and drink. It was difficult to tell with masks on, but we like to think that everyone was smiling happily, glad to be able to hear some live jazz once again! Our sincere thanks to Decker and Ann for hosting the picnic once again!

The Denver Jazz Club turns 65!

We will be celebrating all year! This issue, we remember a satirical article that ran in *The Denver Post* on July 13, 1969, by jazz club member Joe Igo.

Recent Book Rejects Notion That Jazz Originated in New Orleans

We'd like to call attention to a recent book by Marshall and Jean Sterns, "Jazz Dance" (Macmillan, \$9.95) in which, once and for all, is exploded the myth that jazz originated in New Orleans.

It is the Stearns' contention that jazz more or less developed in spontaneous fashion to meet the needs of the developing vernacular dance, wherever such needs might arise. This seems to us a more reasonable view than the claim that jazz spread north from New Orleans, following the river boats.

This traditional view is also in conflict with that of Harney Peterson, Denver radio personality and jazz authority, who claims the jazz first saw the light of night in the north (probably in Minnesota) and then spread down the Mississippi, eventually reaching New Orleans. He adduces as evidence the obviously greater ease of going down the Mississippi, as well as the later appearance in jazz annals of folk songs common in Minnesota, transmogrified into suitable Southern guise. One such instance, cited by Peterson, is the appearance of the Swedish song (descriptive of childish play) "I Wish I Could Shiny Like My Sister Helga," in jazz literature of a later day as "I Wish I Could Shimmy Like My Sister Kate.

Peterson's reasoning is ingenious, if not entirely rigorous. It nevertheless demands attention if only for the manner in which it expands the horizons of jazz historians. Indeed, there is evidence indicating that the roots of jazz may lie even further back, and not necessarily in the United States.

The present writer came upon smatterings of such information in the course of investigating a theory that the plays attributed to William Shakespeare were the work of one Jack Falstaff, an actor-writer who adopted the pseudonym to cover his connection with the well-known Falstaff family, brewers to the queen. Our researches in connection with the authorship of the plays were inconclusive, and the theory remains unproved. We did, however, uncover data relevant to the discussion at hand in the form of frequent mention of a song popular among the peasantry. This ditty was known as "How

Come Thou Doest Me Like Thou Dost, Dost, Dost'; striking confirmation of the authenticity of this information is to be found in the contemporaneous popularity among the better-educated folk in the castles of "How Come Thou Hast Done Me As Thou Hast, Hast, Hast." While the music of these songs remains undiscovered, the presumption that they rejoice in the same melody is one we don't hesitate to take.

French tapestries of somewhat earlier date mention a song called "Frere Jacques the Bear." This discovery, coupled with that detailed above, leads inescapably to the conclusion that the roots of jazz a deeper and more remote in origin than had been suspected, and that the New Orleans phenomenon was more in the nature of a renaissance than a birth.

Although these researched have extended by hundreds of years the field available to scholars, evidence of yet more distant origins has been recently uncovered by R. von Blesch, the noted musical archaeologist, who, in this investigation of a late-Neolithic graveyard discovered an engraved stone tablet. Von Blesch has tentatively translated the inscription as "Diga Diga Don't." If this is accurate, he has unquestionably established the time of Jazz's origin as being virtually identical with that of the emergence of man as man.

Any earlier swinging what have to have been through trees.

Denver JAZZ Club
NEWS

 Published in January, March, May, July, September, and November

Deadline for next issue: October 15, 2020

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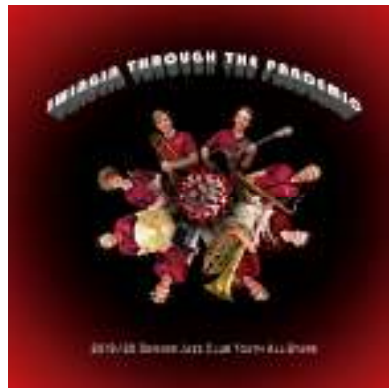
Half page (7.5" width x 4.75" depth)	\$50.00
Quarter page (3.625" width x 4.75" depth)	\$25.00



YOUTH ALL-STARS

The Denver Jazz Club Youth All-Stars are hoping to go on a concert tour to New Orleans next summer!

You can help us out by going to: <http://youthallstars.denverjazzclub.com/donate/> to make a single or recurring donation, or to purchase any of our 11 CDs!



Our 11th CD, "Swingin' Through The Pandemic," was recorded at Mighty Fine Productions recording studio, on June 3, 2020! "Swingin' Through The Pandemic" is now available for just \$10! (Buy any 3 of our CDs and get one free)!!! You can also mail donations and purchases to: *Denver Jazz Club Youth All-Stars, Ed Cannava, Director, 6388 S. Dexter St, Centennial, CO 80121*. Venmo donations to: *@DenverJazzClubYouthAll-Stars*. PayPal donations to: youthallstars.denverjazzclub.com/donate.



PRESENTING THE 2020-21 DENVER JAZZ CLUB YOUTH ALL-STARS:

Joanna Toy – clarinet – sophomore, Golden High School

Ben Kaufman – tenor sax – senior, East High School

Morgen Andersen – trumpet – junior, Ralston Valley High School

Serra Claypool - trombone - senior, Legacy High School

Andrew Kaiser – banjo – junior, Horizon High School

Aidan Vogel - piano – senior, East High School

Jacob Brown - tuba - senior, Chatfield High School

Isaiah Kim – drums – junior, Grandview High School

The Denver Jazz Club Youth All-Stars are scheduled to appear Tuesday, September 22 from 6:00-8:00pm at Q's Pub and Grille, 10133 W. Chatfield Ave, Littleton; Tuesday, October 6 from 4:30-6pm for an Outdoor Concert at Riverpointe Retirement Community 5225 S. Prince St, Littleton; and at the Denver Jazz Club monthly sessions at the Westminster Elks if they are scheduled. Information will be posted on the club's website, denverjazzclub.com.

**Denver Jazz Club News, published every two months by the Denver Jazz Club
1801 W 92nd Ave, Lot 327, Federal Heights CO 80260**

Denver Jazz Club officers and board members

Board Officers:

- Dan Simons, President, 303-674-0641
- Kevin Bollinger, Vice President, 303-885-9665
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- Dottie Sobott, Treasurer, 303-430-5606
- Kristi Flesher, Corresponding Secretary, 303-748-9498

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- Are you a musician? Yes No
- Individual \$20/year Student \$10/year
- Musician \$15/year Family \$30/year
- Patron \$80/year (get 2 free jam session passes!)

Denver Jazz Club Membership Application

**Denver JAZZ Club
NEWS**

1801 W 92nd Ave, Lot 327, Federal Heights CO 80260

Return service requested

Other front range jazz clubs are not meeting due to the coronavirus. The Poudre River Irregulars will play at Avogadro's Number - by reservation only -- on Friday, September 4. E-mail Fred Smith, at: fwsmithpe@msn.com for details.

Somehow, this old picture of Harry James blowing his trumpet through a Kleenex seems newly relevant!

