



November 2008

Edited by Dick Parker and Jim Torok

Spotlight on big bands on stage, TV and in the classroom

By Dick Parker

Decades-old images and sounds of American jazz are coming to life in 21st-century form because of the efforts of film historian Bob DeFlores and a team at Normandale Community College, Bloomington.

Coda took a look at their work in October 2007. Here's a progress report a year later.

The college's Bob DeFlores Film Project began more than four years ago, but the public's first glimpse of it came just last May on Twin Cities Public Television (TPT), a partner in the project. "Big Band Treasures," a half-hour show that incorporates about 50 film clips from DeFlores' extensive collection, has been repeated several times and will continue to be aired periodically on Twin Cities and statewide channels. (Check listings for local times.)

Although it examines a bygone era, the show has fresh relevance with today's resurgence of big bands. Jerry Swanberg, TCJS past president and host of KBEM/Jazz 88's "Big Band Scene," says there has been a significant increase in the number of big bands in recent years. (Swanberg's radio show is presenting four live "Big Band Scene" concerts between this month and May.)

Two more TV documentaries are in the early planning stages: "Big River Rhythms," celebrating the Mississippi's role in moving



Photo: Normandale Community College
Bob DeFlores

jazz from its New Orleans origins to the cities of the North, and "Instrumental Women," a look at accomplished musicians who weren't given the recognition accorded to men in the heyday of the big bands. Both are likely to include some oral-history interviews with Minnesotans active in the jazz scene in the 20th century.

'Big Band Scene' Concerts

Nov. 28 — **"Big Band Thanksgiving Swing Dance"** with the Bellagala Big Band, 8 p.m. at the Bloomington Knights of Columbus Hall, 1114 American Boulevard, Bloomington.

Dec. 27 — **"Big Band Christmas,"** with the Good News Big Band and the KC Gospel Orchestra, 7 p.m. at the St. Barnabas Center for the Arts, 15600 Old Rockford Road, Plymouth. Co-presented by "Jazz@ St.Barney's" series.

March 28, 2009 — **"Battle of the Big Bands," swing dance** celebrating the 10th anniversary of "Big Band Scene" on KBEM/ Jazz 88, featuring the Bend in the River Big Band and the Minnesota Jazz Orchestra. 8 p.m. at the Bloomington KC Hall.

May 4, 2009 — **"Big Band Salute,"** 7:30 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall in Minneapolis, featuring University of Minnesota Jazz Ensembles I and II, co-presented by the University of Minnesota School of Music Jazz Series.

Tickets at the door. The first three events are \$10 (TCJS & KBEM members, \$7), and the last event is free.

More Big Band Events on page 6. "Big Band Scene" is on KBEM, 88.5 FM, at 7 p.m. Sundays and 10 p.m. Mondays.

So far, the Normandale team has taped conversations with Percy Hughes, Charlie DeVore, Russ Moore, Henry Busse Jr., Bob Stroetz of the Les Brown band, and others.

Normandale's involvement goes deeper than helping DeFlores catalog his collection and creating TV shows.

The full title of the effort is "Legacy for Learning: Bob DeFlores Film Project." DeFlores has been a resource to documentarians (such as Ken Burns, who used some of his footage in the PBS "Jazz" series) for years, and regularly gives live presentations around the country. But what excites him now, he says, is the prospect of using his collection to educate the next generation.

And that's now underway. Aaron Moe of the music faculty says students in his jazz history course are responding enthusiastically to his use of footage saved and provided by DeFlores. One example he cites is a scene, used in "Big Band Treasures," of a male trio apparently singing with Duke Ellington's orchestra in the 1930s. In reality, the black vocalists were lip-

synching as Bing Crosby's Rhythm Boys did the singing behind a curtain, into a microphone. It wasn't acceptable in those days for white singers to appear with a black band.

Moe, a member of the "Legacy for Learning" team, is developing study guides for a series of jazz-history classes using DeFlores' footage to be marketed to colleges and universities nationwide.

DeFlores has upward of 6,000 movies and pieces of movies in his collection, which he has amassed over more than 30 years. Some of that has been transferred to broadcast-quality videotape in recent decades, but that medium is not necessarily more permanent than celluloid film -- each deteriorates in its own way. So for starters, Normandale is transferring the tapes to digital media and, in the process, selecting material for educational use.

The college welcomes corporate and individual financial support for the project. To learn more, visit www.defloresfilmproject.org.

About Coda

Coda is the e-mail supplement to the Twin Cities Jazz Society *JazzNotes*. *Coda*, emailed by the first of each month, contains items too new or lengthy for the printed version of *JazzNotes*, and is available free to all TCJS members who give us their email address. Readers are encouraged to submit CD reviews, news items and articles to torok001@umn.edu. Please e-mail *Coda* as an attachment to friends who might be interested in joining the Twin Cities Jazz Society. They can send an e-mail to tcjsnews@usinternet.com or call (763) 862-5694.

If you are interested in receiving your monthly issues of "Jazz Notes" by email instead of first class mail, please contact Starla Barker, <tcjsnews@usinternet.com>.

CONTENTS:

- ◆ DeFlores Project progress
- ◆ 'Big Band Scene' concerts
- ◆ Barbary Coast at Old Log
- ◆ CC Septet at St. Barney's
- ◆ Big Band Events
- ◆ Gigs

Corrections

A photo of Isaac Zuckerman was miscredited in the September issue of *Coda*. It was a submitted photo, not taken by Andrea Canter. In the October *Coda*, the item on the Oct. 16 "Jazz From J to Z" concert was from Dean Sorensen of the University of Minnesota.

— Dick Parker

BARBARIANS AT THE GATE AGAIN

41-year-old band returns to Old Log

By Dick Stuck, Old Log Theater

Assuming that it's never possible to get too much of a good thing, the Barbary Coast Dixieland Band is returning to the Old Log Theater. The concert is scheduled for Monday, November 3, at 8:00 p.m.

The Barbary Coast has entertained audiences in Minnesota since the first weekend in November 1967, and also tours annually in Florida and Arizona.

The band is led by banjoist/guitarist Dick Petersen and features Tom Andrews on drums, clarinet and vocals; Jim ten Bensel playing trombone, cornet and vocals; Dick Ramberg, clarinet and piano; Steve Pikal, bass and trombone; and Russ Peterson playing the trumpet, trombone, clarinet, flute, sax, bass and vocals.

The six musicians play a total of 18 instruments.

Tickets for Monday's concert are \$22. A dinner is served before the concert.

For complete information on this concert and all events at the Old Log Theater, call 952-474-5951, or go online to www.oldlog.com.



Photo provided by St. Barnabas Center for the Arts

Five members of the CC Septet, from left: Greg Stinson (bass), Larry Neumann (soprano sax), Scott Snyder (trumpet), Brett Smith (drums) and Ralph Brindle (trombone).

JAZZ@ StBARNEY'S

CC Septet is a high-power group

By Jeff Whitmill, Director, St. Barnabas Center for the Arts

St. Barnabas Center for the Arts welcomes the CC Septet to its Jazz@StBarney's concert series on Saturday, Nov. 22, at 7 p.m.

High-energy performance and musical inventiveness are hallmarks of the ensemble, which grew out of the Century Jazz Ensemble at Century College, White Bear Lake. The members are:

Larry Neumann (alto) is a band director in the Stillwater Area School District. In addition to his duties there, he leads the Century Jazz Ensemble and the St. Croix Jazz Ensemble, and freelances with various groups throughout the Twin Cities area.

Paul R. Peterson (tenor) is a St. Paul-based musician and composer/arranger who performs regularly with the Nova Jazz Orchestra, Century College Big Band and the sHorn hortZ jazz quartet.

Scott Snyder (trumpet) teaches for the Parrish Schools Band Program, run by Hill-Murray High School, and for the high school's Academy for the Performing Arts. He's

played locally for 35 years in many and varied styles. Local legends Willie and the Bees and the Suburbs weigh in as his favorites. He's performed with Bonnie Raitt, Dr. John, Bettye LaVette, the Temptations and the Four Tops, to name a few national acts. Besides the CC Septet, he currently plays with the Century Jazz Ensemble, the St. Croix Jazz Orchestra, and the Emperors of Jazz Dixieland Band.

Ralph Brindle (trombone) plays in several Twin Cities area ensembles covering a wide variety of musical styles, including the First John Philip Sousa Memorial Band, the Wild Prairie Brass, the Classic Big Band, as well as the Century Jazz Ensemble. He works as an embedded systems software designer.

Tim Lackas (piano) has been an educator and performer in the Twin Cities for more than 20 years. He has played professionally for churches, R&B bands and jazz ensembles and as an accompanist for various Twin Cities vocalists. As well as composing and arranging for horn sections, jazz ensembles and his own groups, he has written for and recorded with the Century Jazz Ensemble, local vocalist Jennifer Grimm and others.

Greg Stinson (bass) currently plays with the Century College Jazz Ensemble, the St. Croix Jazz Ensemble, and sHorn hortZ and freelances in the Twin Cities area. He is also active as a composer/arranger. By day he is Senior Vice President of Product Development for Amcom Software in Minneapolis. Before entering the computer software field, he taught instrumental music for 12 years.

Brett Smith (drums) is a music educator with a B.A. from Gustavus Adolphus College and an M.A. in Music Education from the U of M, Minneapolis. Along with receiving a Distinguished Alumni Award from Gustavus, he was named Minnesota Teacher of the Year in 1999 and was one of four finalists for the National Teacher of the Year in 2000. He is currently teaching for the Mahtomedi Public Schools and performing with various music groups in the Twin Cities. His performance and freelance career have included tours of England, Sweden, Germany and China with groups including the Century College Jazz Band, the Minnesota Zephyr Cabaret, A Touch of Class, Cabin Fever and Lone Star.

Admission is \$10 for adults (\$7 for TCJS members) and \$5 for students. The performance will be at St. Barnabas Lutheran Church, 15600 Old Rockford Rd., Plymouth. <http://www.stbarnabaslutheran.org/sbca/> For more information call SBCA Director Jeff Whitmill at (763) 553-3083.

St. Barnabas Center for the Arts is a program of St. Barnabas Lutheran Church supporting the arts through education, nurturing and sharing of creative works.

Philosopher-musician Cady to lead peace & politics forum

Jazz trombonist Duane (Duey) Cady will facilitate an open discussion of "Peace, Religion, and Politics" at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 1, in the Spiritual Springboard Coffeehouse at Joyce United Methodist Church, 1219 W 31st St., Minneapolis (612) 822-5288. Cady plays in the Jumpin' Jehosafats and the Pig's Eye Jass Band and teaches philosophy at Hamline University. He is the author of "From Warism to Pacifism" (1989) and "Moral Vision: How Everyday Life Shapes Ethical Thinking" (2005). His award-winning teaching and writing focus on peace and social justice.

UPCOMING BIG BAND EVENTS

By Jerry Swanberg

- Sat, Nov. 15** — Exec's Big Band with vocalist Debbie Bigelow – Swing Dance
Bloomington KC Hall, 1114 American Blvd. – 8 PM / 952-985-5302
- Sun, Nov. 16** — St. Croix Jazz Orchestra & the Stillwater High School Jazz Ensemble
Grand Banquet Hall, 301 2nd Ave. S, Stillwater – 4 PM / 651-439-1465
- Thurs, Nov. 20** — Mahtomedi High School Jazz Bands with CC Septet
Chautauqua Fine Arts Center, Mahtomedi HS – 7 PM / FREE
- Thurs, Nov. 20** — Small College Big Band Jazz Festival, with trumpeter/composer Mark Buselli
Hamline, Macalester, St. Thomas, Concordia (St. Paul) & Normandale
Community College Jazz Ensembles. Sundin Hall, Hamline University, St. Paul –
7 PM
- Friday, Nov. 28** — "Big Band Scene" on Jazz 88 Presents Big Band Holiday Showcase
Bellagala Big Band – Big Band Thanksgiving - Swing Dance
playing the music of Les Brown & his Band of Renown
Bloomington KC Hall, 1114 American Blvd – 8 PM / 651-633-7178
- Sun, Dec. 7** — Bend in the River Big Band, "A Swinging Christmas"
Our Savior's Lutheran Church, East Bethel - 4 PM / 763-434-6117
- Monday, Dec. 8** — University of Minnesota Jazz Ensemble I - Brass Attacks
featuring trumpeter Chuck Lazarus from the Minnesota Orchestra
Ted Mann Concert Hall, U of M West Bank – 7:30 PM / FREE
- Fri, Dec. 12** — Boston Brass All-Stars Big Band , "A Stan Kenton Christmas"
Benson Great Hall, Bethel University – 7:30 PM / 651-638-6400
- Sunday, Dec. 14** — Century Jazz Ensemble – Holiday Concert
Century College, White Bear Lake – 3 PM / FREE
- Monday, Dec. 15** — Russ Peterson Big Band Celebrates Christmas "Swinging All The
Way" — Old Log Theater, Excelsior – 8 PM / 952-474-5951
- Saturday, Dec. 20** — JazzMN Big Band – "A JazzMN Holiday"
Hopkins High School Performing Arts Center – 7:30 PM / 651-209-6689
- Saturday, Dec. 27** — "Big Band Scene" on Jazz 88 & Jazz@St. Barney's "Big Band
Christmas"
Good News Big Band & the KC Gospel Orchestra – 7 PM
St. Barnabas Center for the Arts, St. Barnabas Lutheran Church,
15600 Old Rockford Rd., Plymouth.- <http://www.stbarnabaslutheran.org/sbca/>

Bruce Allard memorial planned for June

A Minnesota memorial for Twin Cities jazz and classical musician Bruce Allard, who died of cancer in August, will be held in June, according to his son, Brady Allard of Monroe, Wash. Allard stayed with his son for the last few months of his life. The 63-year-old violinist and trumpet player worked with the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, the Golden Strings and several jazz bands in a career that covered more than 40 years. Contributions in his memory may be made at any time to the MacPhail Center for Music or the American Cancer Society.

Gigs

Lee Engele

November 8, Sage Wine Bar — 7:00 - 10:00 PM. Hwy 110 & Dodd Road, Mendota Heights - No Cover. With Joel Shapira on guitar and Matt Peterson on bass.

November 17, Fireside Pizza — 7:00 - 9:00 PM. 6736 Penn Avenue South, Richfield- No Cover. Sitting in for Charmin! With Denny Malberg on the keys. Great pizza & atmosphere!

November 22, Club Saratoga — 3:00 - 7:00 PM. 331 Canal Park, Duluth- No Cover. Appearing with the house band: Paul Ierino - piano, Mike Johnson - bass, Jeff Peabody - drums. Fun club in fabulous Canal Park on Lake Superior!

November 28, Jensen's Supper Club - 6:30 – 10:30 PM. 3840 Sibley Memorial Highway, Eagan- No Cover. With the Ed Thorpe Trio.

Jack Brass Band

Nov. 18 — 8-10 PM at O'Gara's Shamrock Room, 164 N. Snelling Ave., St. Paul. All ages; no cover. Acoustic New Orleans street music. Musicians, bring your axe if you'd like to sit in for a tune or two. <http://www.jackbrassband.com> or <http://www.myspace.com/jackbrassband> or <http://www.youtube.com/user/thejbb>

Paula Lammers

Saturday, November 1 — 7-11 p.m. at the Dakota County Steakhouse (in the Holiday Inn), 14201 Nicollet Avenue S., Burnsville. (952) 435-6624 for dinner reservations. No cover.

Christine Rosholt

<http://www.christinerosholt.com> or <http://www.myspace.com/christinerosholt>

Saturday, November 1 — Phillips Eye Institute Benefit - “Urban Cocktail Party” - 7:30 - 12:00 PM at the W Minneapolis Hotel, The Foshay, 821 Marquette Avenue- We will be on the 27th floor in ; Gary Raynor - bass; Mac Santiago - drums

Tuesday, November 4 — 7:30 to 10:00PM at O’Gara’s Bar and Grill, 164 North Snelling Avenue, St. Paul (651) 644-3333. With Beasley’s Big Band

Friday, November 7 — 6:30 to 10:30 PM at Jensen's Supper Club, 3840 Sibley Memorial Highway, Eagan (651) 688-7969; <http://www.jensensupperclub.com/> Christine Rosholt - vocals; Jensen's house band: Ed Thorpe - keyboards; Cliff Johnson - guitar and vocals; Bruce Wintervold - percussion

Sunday, November 9 — Minnpost.com First Birthday Party, 4 to 7 PM at St. Anthony Main Event Centre, 219 SE Main St, Minneapolis. Open to MinnPost members only. New members welcome — Join online or at the door. Buzz/Political games/ prizes. Music by Christine Rosholt Jazz Quartet (Tanner Taylor, Graydon Peterson and Mac Santiago). Free admission, Free refreshments, Cash bar. Free copies of commemorative print edition, "The Best of MinnPost.com." Validated parking in ramp. **Please RSVP 3 days before the event** to Gin at (612) 455-6950 or vkujawa@minnpost.com.

Thursday, November 13 — 7:00 - 9:30 PM at Church of St. Albert the Great, 2836 33rd Ave. S. (in the Social Hall), Minneapolis (612) 724-3643 (**CALL TO MAKE A RESERVATION**). <http://www.saintalbertthegreat.org>. No cover, but donations requested. Christine Rosholt - vocals; Tanner Taylor - piano; Graydon Peterson - bass; Mac Santiago - drums

Saturday, November 15 — 3 to 7 PM at Club Saratoga, 331 Canal Park, Duluth (218) 727-7865. No cover. Christine Rosholt - vocals; Paul Ieirno - piano; Mike Johnson - bass; Jeff Peabody - drums

Thursday, November 20 — 7 to 10 p.m. at Wabasha Street Caves; Swing Dance with Beasley’s Big Band. \$7 cover. 215 Wabasha Street, St. Paul. (651) 224-1191; <http://www.wabashastreetcaves.com>

Friday, November 21 — 8:30-10:30 PM at Norton's Downtown & Lucky Cat Lounge, 307 Main St., Red Wing (715-792-2464). No cover. Directions & more information: <http://thenortonsrestaurant.com> . Christine Rosholt - vocals; Chris Lomheim - piano; bass and drums TBA.