

# THE CAT'S MEOW



PO BOX 811

Columbia, South Carolina 29202

803-432-1504

## **Dustin Retzlaf Will Be in Charge**

**Capital Senior Center at Maxcy Gregg Park (just off Pickens near Blossom)**

**2:30-5:00 pm Sunday, January 5, 2020**

Our newest band member will call the tunes for this concert. Dustin hails from Minnesota but came to USC to take advantage of the music professors on the faculty here.

And Dustin is truly a man of all seasons. In addition to being our bassist, Dustin plays widely at other events. Plus, he is a piano technician as well as a small business entrepreneur. Among other things, Dustin operates a small, but growing business, called "Soda City Sawmill" where they "treecycle" urban tree waste into kiln dried speciality lumber products.

He says that he started the business with a friend in 2015 "and is still learning" (my guess is that with the wide variety of trees and products, this will be a life-long learning process).

Dustin grew up in a small farm community in Minnesota and still helps out on the family farm during the busy seasons.

Dustin also has great academic credentials (like the rest of our band members). He attended the University of Minnesota, Morris, but relocated to Columbia to attend USC where he earned a Master's Degree in Jazz Studies. He is now a doctoral candidate in Jazz Studies at the University of Northern Colorado (but because of his busy schedule, he is currently "on sabbatical").

THE CAROLINA JAZZ SOCIETY was founded in 1958 to enjoy Dixieland Jazz, one of America's original art forms.

Concerts are \$8 for non-members, \$4 for members, free for Patrons and young people under 18.

### **Dustin (cont).**

Dustin also apprenticed (and later) became a piano technician. He says that tuning and repairing pianos is a specialty craft that is a wonderfully fascinating and challenging line of work, complete with an international network of technicians & businesses eager to share and improve all the craft relating to acoustic pianos.

Dustin also plays jazz bass at the usual venues and events around Columbia. Plus, he has started a small Brazilian Jazz Band composed of SC musicians who play monthly at Pearlz upstairs. He adds that he is a huge fan of classic Brazilian Jazz MPB (Música Popular Brasileira), the bossa nova music of Jobim, Caetano Velosi, Joao Gilberto and other Brazilian Musicians along with classic American Jazz from the Nat King Cole thru the hard bop of the 60's like Art Blakey or Miles second quintet.

He adds that he gravitates towards music where musicians listen and color within the ensemble, confined only by the music's history, tradition and acoustic roles rather than "leader/supporter bands. Also, my tender "piano tuner" ears prevent me from doing loud gigs anymore.

And this is one of the reasons I enjoy Dick Goodwin Bands so much where listening, personality and egalitarian interplay is a major component in the sound experience. It takes mature, developed and selfless players to create such a divine musical experience and Dick is a master in creating this vibe. Dustin goes on to say that Columbia is lucky to have the dedicated members of the jazz club and the outstanding musicians that have allowed the Carolina Jazz Society to present live traditional jazz for over 70 years right here in Columbia.

And the editor will add that this is the only club I've ever been in where some member has always stepped up whenever we needed a new volunteer. And they did this without a lot of begging and wheedling. I believe it is this willingness volunteer that has been a big factor is the long life of this club. Give yourself a big pat on the back.

**Red Smith, editor ([farrensmith@bellsouth.net](mailto:farrensmith@bellsouth.net))**