

THE CAT'S MEOW



PO BOX 50806 Columbia, South Carolina 29250 803-432-1504

The Long Jazz Summer Drought is Over! The Band is in Fine Fettle! Our Favorite Music Returns!

Lourie Center at Maxcy Gregg Park (just off Pickens near Blossom)

2:30-5:00 pm, Sunday, Sept 13, 2015

Dick Goodwin normally pulls a name out of the hat to see who's leading the group for each concert. But time is short and surprise! I just pulled Dick's name out (but before I could get the Meow completed, I got an email from Dick saying he'd already pulled his own name). That means you will hear fine trumpet work, maybe some fun singing, a wide range of songs and even some amazing mute work. Dick adds that you'll get to hear several great tunes from Hoagy Carmichael in addition to tunes by earlier musicians.

I continue to be amazed at the versatility of our guys. Need a big band "Dick Goodwin's Big Band" to the rescue. Need modern jazz, The Dick Goodwin Quintet fills the bill. Want to hear authentic early jazz, the Carolina Jazz Band featuring these same guys will be there to bring that joyous music to you. Classical Music lifts your soul? They can do that too. Dick has written symphonic pieces and played them and recorded them. Doug was also a member of two symphonies. And the others are equally versatile. Want smooth R&B, Reggie has done that on world tours no less. Aletha teaches at Columbia College and does other gigs. Jim Hall is not only a fine drummer but he is an excellent guitarist. And Bruce was members of "Dem Bones" for those who like the sound of trombones as well as being a long time middle school band director.

In his spare time, Dick is writing music for a number of different area groups: The Columbia Choral Society, Lexington Choral Society, Sandlapper Singers, the Aiken Symphony, and his own Big Band. His big band has upcoming performances at Still Hopes, Trustus Theater, and the annual New Year's Eve concert at the Newberry Opera House. He has also scored the music for "Prologue to Freedom", a show by James Warren that features the "Ft. Jackson's Own" 282nd Army Band, a chorus, and a number of soloists and actors. Performances are at the Dreher High School Auditorium at 7:00 on September 18th & 19th and Admission is free. But I have to ask "what spare time???"

THE CAROLINA JAZZ SOCIETY was founded in 1958 to enjoy Dixieland Jazz, one of America's original art forms.
Concerts are \$10 for non-members, \$5 for members, free for Patrons and young people under 18.

Our balance sheet now is on firmer ground!

By moving to the Senior Center, we got good facilities with good acoustics and convenient parking. That has allowed attendance to grow and we are doing nicely on our own. But then, we were astounded to learn that Jack Sutherland, our trombonist in earlier times, left us a very nice bequest. It will take a while to get all the legal details worked out, but with this bequest, we can once again bring in nationally known musicians from time to time. When we do that it's fun for the audience and it's fun for our musicians. Guest musicians don't bring better music but they add variety and a different flavor.

Help!!!!

One of the great things about this club; when we've needed someone, someone has always stepped up. It takes teamwork to get the newsletter out on time, to get ready for the concert with the right set-up with tickets to sell at the door. Now, we need new volunteers to step up once again. We need to replace Rowena Nylund as treasurer and membership person. And we need to replace Jerry Bright as vice president.

Now, faced with their imminent departure, I realize I've been remiss in not recognizing the vital work they've done for us for many years. Here's the stellar crew:

Jerry Bright is vice-president. Jerry was an active member long before I got to this area. In fact, I believe a very young Jerry Bright attended the first concert the jazz club ever had back in 1958. Jerry also mails out the newsletter, plus he and **his wife, Pat**, have helped set up the sound system and shove tables and chairs around when the Senior Center had problems getting someone to do proper set-ups on Sundays.

Rowena Nylund is treasurer and the person who sells tickets at the door, with help from **Steve Hait** who also manages our website.

Dick Goodwin, makes sure we have a great bunch of musicians at every concert. If someone can't make a concert, Dick can always find a good substitute. But it helps that they have fun playing with such good musicians for a really good audience.

Anna Amick has the very difficult task of getting notices in the very limited traditional media still available. She also keeps supplies in good order on the Goodie Table. And if you notice, she is the one who refills the ice bowl and makes sure there are napkins etc.

Joanne Newman, who manages the raffle.

Bob Hickman, the newest board member.

Duke Heitger's Steamboat Stomp

Speaking of former guest musicians, here's an announcement from Duke Heitger the fine trumpet player who joined our guys for a fun concert a few years ago. If you've got the time and the money, they've got the musicians and the River Boat. They will be playing in New Orleans September 18-20. And they will have **Bob Havens**, the long time trombonist with Lawrence Welk as special guest. Contact Eugenie Stevens at estevens@glnos.com for more information.

As a reminder, Bob played traditional jazz before he chose security by joining Welk. And, if you remember, Bob joined our guys a few years ago. I think Bob was 90 back then. I was surprised to see him still active. It seems to me that if jazz musicians can avoid the lifestyle temptations inherent in the business, they live long, productive lives.

Red Smith, Editor (farrensmith@bellsouth.net)