

Intermezzo

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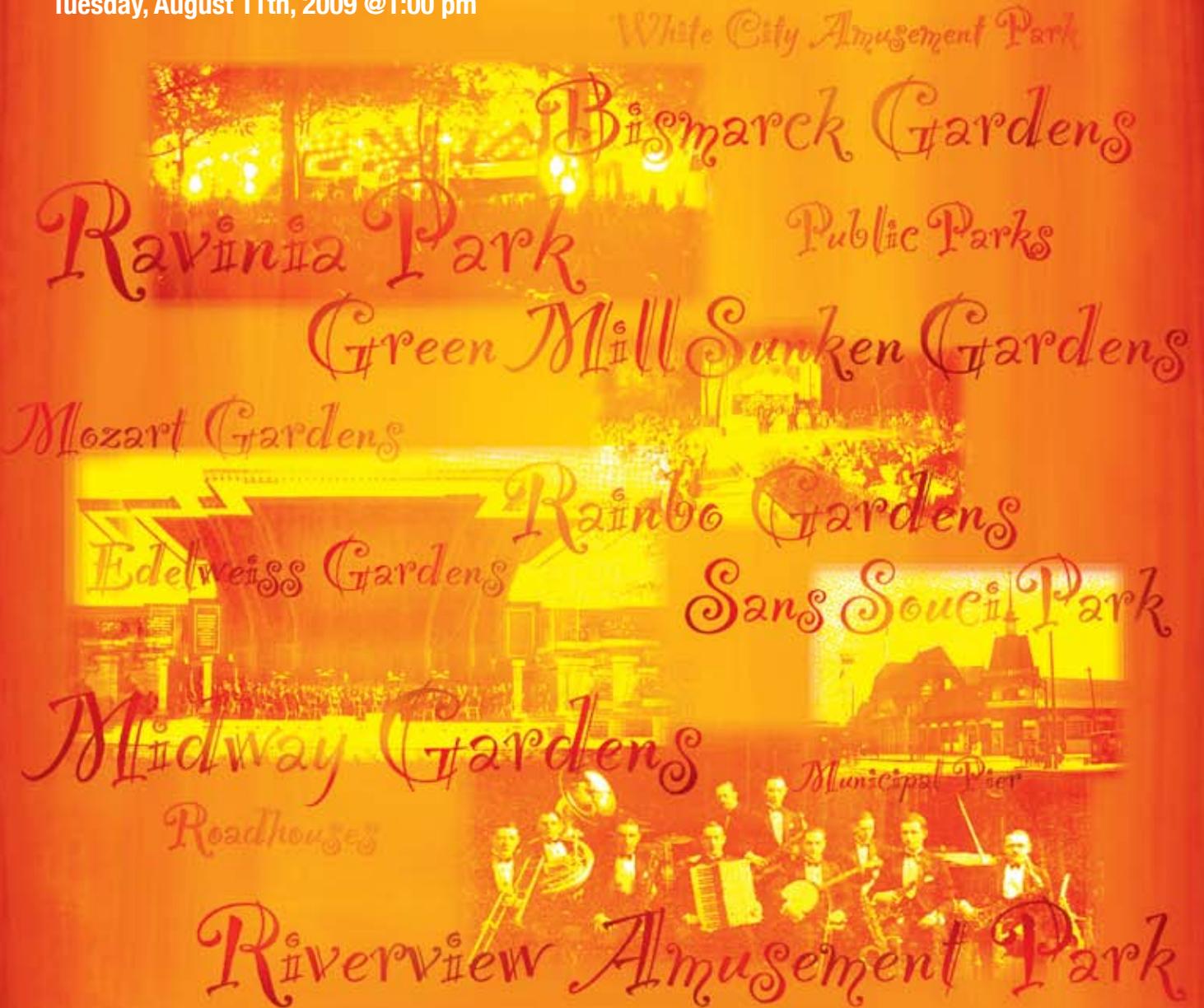
Membership Meetings:

Tuesday, July 14th, 2009 @1:00 pm

Tuesday, August 11th, 2009 @1:00 pm

July 2009

Vol. 69 No. 6



Music Allfresco

Chicago's Summer Music Oases

See Page 14



By Ruth Marion Tobias

“WHERE’S WALDO?” NO... WHERE’S CHARLES?

Somehow, **CHARLES HARRISON**’s name was omitted in the May-June issue of this column within the item about the Chicago Jazz Orchestra. Harrison is the featured guitarist and associate director of CJO since 1991.

FROM STEVE COOPER (Trumpet)

“30 years ago, I wrote an arrangement of the old Dixieland tune, ‘That’s A Plenty’ for a local Chicago brass quintet. They told me they liked it and performed it many times. The leader of the group published it a few years later without my knowledge. About 10 years ago, I found out from a member of the US Air Force Academy Band that my arrangement was being played by them and several other service bands around the country. I didn’t hear anything else about the arrangement until a few months ago when I received a phone call from a trombonist friend of mine. He was watching a PBS show on Channel 11 and saw the New York Philharmonic Orchestra Brass Quintet performing in Carnegie Hall playing ‘That’s A Plenty’ and in big letters on the screen it said ‘Arranged by Steve Cooper.’ So I called PBS and they sent me a DVD of the show. Yes, it was my arrangement. It was a

very proud moment for me--I’ve written over 20,000 pages of musical arrangements over the past 45 years and this was a high point for me. Recently I looked it up on YouTube and found over a dozen ensembles from all over the world have put videos of my arrangement on the Internet. And PBS recently contacted me [to say] that they are putting out a home video with the New York Philharmonic clip and will send me some royalties, so.....finally I am getting paid back for all the copies of that arrangement sold over the years.”

ERA’S END

The Jewish Musicians Club has been in existence since 1915 with some 200 to 300 members in bygone years. As membership began to decline with the passing of players and relocation of many members, widowed wives joined the club and continued to attend monthly meetings and holiday festivities to reminisce and party with old friends. Around 1984 when secretary/treasurer **ANNE GORDON** became ill, **MILLIE SANDLER** (wife of pianist **SAMMY SANDLER**) was asked to take over the position. As she remarked, “No one else wanted the job”. Millie was one of the first people to use a computer and her ability to conduct the affairs of the office has been awesome. Though Sammy left us seventeen years

ago, Millie continued to help and encourage the club officers. Millie truly became the club. With but one active member remaining locally, she was left to disband the organization. She has donated remaining funds to CFM’s Musicians Assistance Fund, the Jewish Childrens and Family Services, Jewish United Fund and the **BURT TOBIAS** Music Scholarship Fund—helpful and welcomed gestures, all.

SINFONIETTA AND GUESTS

Conductor **PAUL FREEMAN** has announced his planned retirement from his cherished Chicago Sinfonietta after its 23rd season (2009-2010), which will run from October 4 through May 17, 2010. He will be sharing the conductor’s podium with distinguished conductors auditioning as his replacement. With him on the opening concerts will be **MAI-ANN CHEN**, assistant conductor of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra; in November **MICHAEL MORGAN**, music director of the Oakland East Bay Symphony and former assistant conductor of the CSO; in January **KAZEM ABDULLAH**, assistant conductor at the Metropolitan Opera; and in March, **ALONDRA de la PARRA**, founder and artistic director of New York’s Philharmonic Orchestra of the Americas.

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Continued from Page 2

IT'S DeYOUNG AGAIN

Chicago's west suburbanite, **DENNIS DeYOUNG**, musician, performer, songwriter has gone solo for the past decade. His amazing popularity, especially in Canada, amazes him. This spring he rereleased a new version of "One Hundred Years From Now", his first solo album in five years and his first "rock" album in more than twenty. The initial version came out in Canada in 2007 where it went platinum. At 62, he still performs concerts across the globe, and is working on a dozen or so songs (music and lyrics) for a theatrical production of "101 Dalmatians: The Musical" for a nationwide tour in the fall. Much of his past 10 years was spent working on his musical version of **VICTOR HUGO's** "The Hunchback of Notre Dame". Its 2008 production, given locally at Bailiwick Repertory Theatre, won a **JOSEPH JEFFERSON** Award as best musical.

MERRY MONTH OF MAY

Some goodies, and free ones at that, took place in May. **BRANT TAYLOR** gave a cello recital at DePaul University; under the baton of **CLIFF COLNOT**, the DePaul Symphony Orchestra performed at Orchestra Hall to accompany their annual fund raising reception and dinner; and **DIETER KOBER** was once again in town to conduct his annual May concerts at the Chicago Cultural Center.

LIFETIME THRILL

When Chicago violist **HILTON JOSEPH** received a personal "once in a lifetime" invitation from President-Elect Barack Obama, he eagerly put aside a few 87-year-old aches and pains to travel to



Hilton Joseph

Washington, D.C. to attend the presidential inaugural ceremony. "I was elated", he said. As a member of the Tuskegee Airmen, the personal invitation particularly touched him and he was thrilled to see an African-American elected president. Local surviving and current Tuskegee Airmen work with the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) of the Oshkosh, Wisconsin chapter, supporting a flight program called "EAA Young Eagles" which offers 7- to 17-year-olds an opportunity to fly in a general aviation airplane free of charge. Hilton noted the Airmen in this vicinity fly out of Gary, Indiana, which is within the "10-mile no-fly security area" when President Obama is in Chicago—a temporary inconvenience. While Hilton no longer flies, he does still play the viola as a member of the City Symphony Orchestra of Chicago, for many years under the baton of conductor **RUDY MACCIOCCHI** and most recently **CHARLES GROELING**.

Cover illustration provided by
Chris Nolan Creative.



CFM Scholarship Winners

The Chicago Federation of Musicians awarded three scholarships to deserving students majoring in music. The First Prize award went to **Jonathan Borgetti**, a bass trombonist from Dyer, IN. He is a member of the CFM and plans to attend the Cleveland Institute of Music in the fall and major in Trombone Performance.



1ST

Spencer Aloisio, Terryl Jares, Jonathan Borgetti, Melissa Borgetti and Gary Matts.

Second Prize winner was **Christopher Dessent**. Chris is from Deerfield, IL and is the son of CFM members Patrick and Karen Dessent and the grandson of CFM President Emeritus Harold (Hal) Dessent. He attends Indiana University and is pursuing a degree in Clarinet Performance.

2ND



Spencer Aloisio, Terryl Jares, Gary Matts, Christopher Dessent, Karen Dessent and Patrick Dessent.

Our Third Prize award went to **Brandon McQuaid** of Wauconda, IL. Brandon is also a trombone player and will be majoring in Trombone Performance at the University of Minnesota in the fall. He is the son of CFM member Lisabeth McQuaid.



3RD

Terryl Jares, Lisabeth McQuaid, Brandon McQuaid, Gary Matts and Spencer Aloisio.

The Officers and Board of Directors would like to congratulate each of the talented musicians and wish them the best in their future musical endeavors.

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New and Returning Members

By Leo Murphy



We welcome these new and returning members to Local 10-208, the Chicago Federation of Musicians. The members listed below represent many of the musical groups around Chicago including our orchestras, operas, bands, chamber groups, casual groups and soloists. They have different talents, perform in different genres and work in various venues, but they all share a love of music and have made a decision to join us as professionals in our Union. If you encounter them on a job; whether on a bandstand, in a pit, or a stage; introduce yourself and get to know them.

Sarah Basel Acct# 55694 (Percussion/Drums/Marimba) is a returning member.

**3130 N. Lake Shore Dr.
Apt. 1812
Chicago, IL 60657
708-707-9956
sarahbasel@yahoo.com**

John Burnett Acct# 56355 (Conductor) had lived in Toronto, Canada and London, England prior to moving into the Chicago area. He attended the Royal Military School of Music and currently leads his own big band the "John Burnett Orchestra". He is also a public radio personality on WDCB where he hosts a morning jazz program.

**1460 Golden Oaks Pkwy.
Aurora, IL 60506
312-405-2592/630-844-1066
burnett162@aol.com**



Adam Cowger Acct# 56363 (Percussion) is a native of North Dakota. He graduated from the University of North Dakota with a Bachelor of Music degree and then attended Northern Illinois University where he received a Master of Music degree. He has subbed with the Elgin Symphony Orchestra, the New Philharmonic and the Northwest Indiana Symphony. He is an experienced private instructor teaching in Naperville,

Wheaton and Aurora. His instructors include Robert Chappell, Greg Beyer and Mike Blake.

**1599 Country Lakes Dr.
Apt. 105
Naperville, IL 60503
218-791-9625
acowger@gmail.com**



Raphael Crawford Acct# 56368

(Trombone) attended high school in Michigan near Detroit and then went on to graduate from Western Michigan University with a Bachelor of Music in Jazz Studies. He is performing with various ensembles including several big bands, Salsa, Brazilian and world music ensembles. He is also involved with several original music projects. He was a finalist in the Illinois

Arts Council Composition Contest. He is a private instructor and teaches at the Latin School of Chicago and at the Chicago Jesuit Academy.

**3220 W. Armitage Ave.
Apt. 304
Chicago, IL 60647
773-426-2428
raphaelcrawford@gmail.com**

Stephanie Eng Acct# 56364 (Oboe)

**710 W. Buckingham Pl.
Apt. 3
Chicago, IL 60657
703-932-6967
stepher.eng@gmail.com**

WELCOME!



**2328 N. Mango
Chicago, IL 60639
773-622-7797**

Harold Harrington Acct# 56361 (Bass Guitar) is a native of Chicago and a graduate of John Marshall High School. He is an active Blues musician who has toured throughout Europe and the United States. He has performed at the Berlin Jazz Festival as well as the Chicago Blues Fest and performed with both Koko Taylor and Syl Johnson. He is an experienced private instructor.



Vernon Harrington Acct# 56360 (Guitar) was born and raised in Chicago graduating from John Marshall High School. A self taught guitarist, he is an active blues musician who has toured overseas and worked at the Chicago Blues Fest.
**2328 N. Mango
Chicago, IL 60639
773-368-8652/773-622-7797
vernon.harrington@gmail.com**



Paul Biss and Alex Kerr. She has performed with the Harrisburg Symphony, the Louisiana Philharmonic, the Baton Rouge Symphony and the Sphinx Quartet. She is currently a member of the Soulful Symphony in Baltimore MA. She is an experienced private instructor having taught at the Rockford College Music Academy, at Indiana University and at the Wychwood Music School in Canada.

**360 E. South Water St.
Apt. 3007
Chicago, IL 60601
312-371-6969
shelbytharris@gmail.com**

Isabella Lippi Acct# 56185 (Violin) is transferring into our Local from Local 47, Los Angeles, CA. She was the Concertmaster of the Charleston Symphony before taking the position of Concertmaster of the Elgin Symphony. She has attended the Julliard School of Music and has an Artists Diploma from the University of Southern California. She was born in Chicago and currently resides in Wisconsin.

**2027 Skyline Dr.
Stoughton, WI 53589
608-877-2586/608-217-4313
ilippi@msn.com**

Mark Renfrow Acct# 56352 (Flute/Alto Flute/Piccolo)
**20875 9B Road
Plymouth, IN 46563
812-272-9533
markarenfrow@gmail.com**

Douglas Rosenthal Acct# 56353 (Trombone/Bass Trombone/Euphonium/Piano/Vocalist) grew up in Northbrook, IL. After graduating from Glenbrook North High School, he attended Northwestern University where he graduated with a Bachelor of Music degree. He has performed with the Huntsville Symphony Orchestra, the New World Symphony, the Northwest Indiana Symphony and the Northbrook Symphony. He is currently in the Civic Orchestra of Chicago and is a sub with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. He is teaching at the People's Music School, Carl Sandberg High School and at the Merit School of Music. His teachers include Local 10-208 members Michael Mulcahy, Charles Vernon, Jay Friedman, Peter Ellefson and Randall Hawes. He was a finalist in the 2009 Zellmer-Minnesota Orchestra Trombone Competition.
**2633 N. Kimball Ave.
Apt. 1
Chicago, IL 60647
847-917-3684
trombonedoug@gmail.com**

Timothy Sawyier Acct# 56366 (Oboe/English Horn/Oboe d'amore) was raised in Chicago where he graduated from the University of Chicago Lab School. He then attended the University of Pennsylvania before graduating from the Curtis Institute of Music with a Bachelor of Music degree. He has performed with the Richmond Symphony and appeared on the Dame Myra Hess concert series as well as on the NPR radio show "From the Top". He has participated in summer festivals in Tanglewood and Aspen. His instructors include Richard Woodhams, Elaine Douvas and Local 10-208 members Scott Hostetler and Ricardo Castaneda. He is an experienced private teacher.
**360 E. South Water St.
Apt. 5101
Chicago, IL 60601
312-988-4005/312-375-9853
tsawyer@gmail.com**

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**MUSICIANS WORK BEST
WHEN WE SAY...
UNION YES** 
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MUSICIANS

New and Returning Members

Continued from Page 7



Anna Steinhoff Acct# 56362 (Cello/Viola da Gamba) grew up in Ann Arbor Michigan. After high school she attended Oberlin Conservatory graduating with a Bachelor of Music degree. She then moved to Chicago to attend Northwestern University where she received a Master of Music degree. Her instructors include Hans Jensen and Peter Rejto. She performs with the Baroque Band and the Accende Ensemble. She has performed with the Chicago Civic Orchestra, the Advent Chamber Orchestra and the Rocca String Quartet. She has also worked with the band "Saturday Looks Good To Me" as well as the band "Function". She is an experienced private instructor.

3013 W. Eastwood Ave.

Apt. 2

Chicago, IL 60625

773-458-8220

annasteinhoff@hotmail.com



Sandra Swanson Acct# 56359 (French Horn) is a transferring member from Local 802 New York, NY. Originally from Big Bend, WI, she studied with Barry Benjamin (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee) throughout high school and for a year of college. She then transferred to the Curtis Institute of Music where she graduated with a Bachelor of Music degree. She joined the AFM while working and studying in Philadelphia and then went on to work in New York in theater pits on Broadway. For the past ten winters she has performed with the Sarasota Opera in Florida. Besides her membership with the AFM she is also a Screen Actors Guild member and works as a model and actress in both Chicago and New York.

2142 Asbury Ave.

Evanston, IL 60201

212-957-1271/847-733-9372

sandwhy@sbcglobal.net



Jacob Sweet Acct# 56349 (Guitar/Bass Guitar/Mandolin/Ukulele/Vocalist) is originally from Ohio where he graduated from Westerville High School. He then moved to Chicago to attend DePaul University where he received a Bachelor of Music in Jazz Studies. His teachers include Alan Swain and Mark Maxwell. He has performed on stage with or opened for the Goo Goo Dolls, Freddy Jones Band, Blues

Traveler and Poi Dog Pondering.

4212 N. Lincoln Ave.

Apt. 2-S

Chicago, IL 60618

773-868-0062

jacobsweet@mac.com

Matthew Walker Acct#54950 (Drums/Bass Violin/Guitar/Piano) is a returning member.

229 Woodbine Ave.

Wilmette, IL 60091

847-251-9667/847-820-0829

Daniel Won Acct# 56097 (Clarinet/Bass Clarinet) is a returning member.

P.O. Box 14447

Chicago, IL 60614-0447

773-412-8102

danwonclarinet@gmail.com

NOTICE

CONSTITUTION – BY-LAW CHANGES:

Amendments to the Constitution or By-Laws must be submitted no later than July 11th to be considered at the Annual Meeting in September.

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Mark Russell Smith, Music Director
Announces auditions for 2009-10 Season:

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Auditions will be held August 29-30. Season begins on September 12, 2009. ***Deadline for application is August 14.*** The Quad City Symphony is a per-service orchestra. Send one-page resume and \$25 deposit check (payable to QCSO) by August 14 to:
Rich Stodd, Director of Orchestra Operations,
327 Brady Street, Davenport, IA 52801
Email: rstodd@qcsymphony.com

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Obituaries

Joseph 'Sam' Sciacchitano

1913 - 2009

Former cellist with the CSO

Lakeview resident also played for WGN, Taught cello

Joseph "Sam" Sciacchitano showed an interest in stringed instruments at an early age, when his parents put on a classical record and he went into a spirited pantomime of a violinist. He was soon given an actual violin to play, and he went on to a career in music that included 22 years as a cellist with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Mr. Sciacchitano, 96, of Chicago died of complications from pneumonia Friday, May 22, in Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center, said his wife, Barbara. He was a resident of the Lakeview neighborhood and had grown up on the Near North Side, near what became the Cabrini-Green housing complex. Mr. Sciacchitano went by "Sam," the name his Sicilian immigrant parents called him. He took to the violin quickly after starting lessons at age 7, his wife said. He played for local churches and at his grammar school, scratching out a tune to lead fellow students into class each morning. At Lane Tech High School, music teacher and orchestra conductor Oscar Anderson took one look at Mr. Sciacchitano's large hands and decided the boy was better suited for the cello. "His first thought was, 'I don't want to carry that big thing around,'" his wife said. Nonetheless, the cello became the instrument he would play for the rest of his life. He hadn't initially counted on a music career; applying for



a job with the telephone company after graduating early from Lane Tech only to be turned down because he was too young. Instead, he played for several years with the Civic Orchestra of Chicago before joining the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra in 1937. Around the same time, he accepted an offer to travel to southwestern Wisconsin to play chamber music at Frank Lloyd Wright's Taliesin estate. He got to know the architect and went back for several more summers while developing a lifelong appreciation for architecture, his wife said. In 1943, he landed a spot with the CSO but left shortly afterward for what he figured would be steadier work with the WGN Symphony Orchestra. That orchestra disbanded in the mid-1950s and Mr.

Sciacchitano went on to play as principal cellist with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra before going back to the CSO in 1961. "He loved music. He loved the orchestra. He loved the cello," said David Sanders, a CSO cellist since 1974. "He was always investigating new fingerings, new bowings, new ways to get a certain sound." Mr. Sciacchitano taught at Northwestern and DePaul Universities, the American Conservatory of Music and private lessons. Peter Szczepanek had just graduated from Lane Tech when he started lessons with Mr. Sciacchitano in 1979. "I can't give him enough credit for where I am now,"

said Szczepanek, who plays with the Grant Park and Milwaukee Symphony Orchestras. "He was an enthusiastic guy, strong-willed, always kind of pushing me." "He was very inspiring," said Jill Kaeding, who studied with Mr. Sciacchitano at DePaul in the early 1980s and is now a professional cellist in Chicago. "I'd go for a lesson for one hour and be there 2 1/2 hours." Mr. Sciacchitano's first wife died in 1948, leaving him with three children. He and his second wife divorced. In addition to his

Obituaries

May they rest in peace

Last	First	Instrument	Died	Born	Elected
Deering	Herbert T.	Trumpet	01/27/08	12/29/20	08/07/47
Fowler	Gene R.	Bass Violin	04/26/09	03/26/16	10/01/37
Konieczny	Roman	Clarinet	04/20/09	08/01/13	12/31/48
Licari	Joseph J.	Drums	05/29/09	06/02/27	12/08/55
Michalcik	Joseph	Accordion	03/25/09	11/30/25	10/03/46
Sciacchitano	Joseph	Cello	05/22/09	03/20/13	10/01/36
Shonfeld	Marilyn P.	Violin	04/28/09	01/20/37	05/04/72
Talbot	Roy A.	Bass Violin	05/15/09	11/24/15	10/18/54

third wife, he is survived by two sons, David and Steven; three daughters, Sandra Levy, Lois Perrolle and Katherine; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. A service will be held June 28 in Washington, DC.

Trevor Jensen, *Chicago Tribune*

Marilyn Shonfeld 1937 - 2009

Marilyn Perlman Shonfeld 1937-2009
VIOLINIST, music teacher

**Highland Park Strings concertmaster
played with many orchestras.**

Marilyn Perlman Shonfeld, a talented violinist who maintained a busy teaching and performing schedule while raising a family, was concertmaster of the Highland Park Strings for more than 25 years. Mrs. Shonfeld, 72 died of complications from breast cancer Tuesday, April 28, in her Glencoe home, said her husband, Willard.

Mrs. Shonfeld held the first chair for the Highland Park Strings, a well-regarded community orchestra whose members have included musicians of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, from its second season in 1980 until she stepped down a couple of years ago, said Larry Block, the orchestra's founder and general manager. "She was a very passionate player," Block said. "She was just an important part in the history of our orchestra."

Mrs. Shonfeld also played for many years with the Chicago String Ensemble, soloed with Waukegan Symphony Orchestra and, from early in her career until well into the 1990s, she taught the violin to elementary and high school students at her home studio and at the Jack Benny Center for the Arts in Waukegan. Her aptitude for the violin was evident from an early age.

A Chicago native whose family moved to Winnetka when she was 10, the former Marilyn Perlman took up the instrument when she was 7 in part because her father had been forced to give it up when he was a boy. Joseph Perlman, later the chairman of the Handy Button Machine Company, suffered a bad scrape playing outside when he was 11 and tried to hide the injury from his parents. The wound became infected, and the arm had to be amputated.



"Her mother planted the seed that it would be nice if she tried the violin" for her father's sake, her mother said. At New Trier High school, she was the orchestra's concertmaster and was selected to spend a summer at the elite Interlochen Center for the Arts in Michigan. While at the

University of Michigan, where she received a bachelor's degree in music, she played with the Toledo Symphony Orchestra. After college, she took a two-year respite from music and did social work in Chicago. She married in 1960, she started a family and resumed playing and teaching.

In addition to her husband, Mrs. Shonfeld is survived by a son, Kenneth; a daughter, Francine Sherman; a sister, Judith Perlman; and seven grandchildren.

Trevor Jensen, *Chicago Tribune*

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darone32@msn.com

Nick Drozdoff

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Music Allfresco

Chicago's Summer Music Oases

By Charles A. Sengstock, Jr.

In the days before refrigeration and air conditioning, entertainment moved out of doors during Chicago's hot summers where evening breezes could cool things down. Theaters closed, early dance halls shut down for the season and many restaurants and taverns moved their service outside onto patios or into gardens.

Beer gardens, a tradition brought to Chicago by its large German population in the 19th Century and early 20th Century, almost always had music and occasionally some entertainment. They were places where the whole family could gather on warm evenings and on Sunday afternoons.

Other favorite summertime gathering places were amusement parks in the city, and roadhouses out along country roads. Then there was Ravinia, the north-suburban outdoor music show place and summer home for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. And live music of some sort was a key ingredient in the proceedings in all these venues.

By 1900 there were scores of beer gardens all over the city from North to South, East to West; many of them very large and elaborate operations, often occupying a full square block. Several were located at the ends of streetcar lines, often built by the carline companies themselves to attract riders as well as to provide naturally cooled places for summer refreshments and entertainment.

The largest of them all was Bismarck Gardens, built before the beginning of the 20th Century began and located at Halsted and Grace Streets. Also on the north side were the Green Mill Sunken Gardens at Lawrence and Broadway, and Rainbo Gardens, few blocks west on Clark just north of Lawrence.

There were several big gardens on the South Side as well: Mozart Gardens (built in the 1880s) at 55th and State Streets, and Edelweiss Gardens (1898) at 51st Street and Cottage Grove Avenue. Then there was the most elaborate of them all, the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Midway Gardens (1914) at 60th Street and Cottage Grove.

An abundance of smaller beer gardens also dotted the city's neighborhoods. These "gardens" often were just a dusty vacant lot adjoining a tavern and decorated with strings of colored electric lights hanging above.

Running a close second to big beer gardens for a summer evening get-away were amusement parks. There were San Souci Park (1898), which occupied the property at 60th and Cottage Grove before the Midway Gardens was built, giant White City (1904) Amusement Park at 63rd Street and South Parkway (now Martin Luther King Drive); and, on the north side, Riverview Amusement Park (1904) at Belmont and Western Avenues.

Another choice was Chicago's elaborate system of public parks, where people often congregated on the warm summer nights to hear band concerts and occasionally spent the night, sleeping on blankets to avoid returning to their hot apartments nearby. For those more inclined toward concert music, Conductor John Hand led an orchestra in performances in Lincoln Park.

To the north, in Highland Park, was Ravinia Park. Ravinia was originally built as an amusement park by the Chicago and Milwaukee Electric Railway in 1904, which used to run its trains just to the west of the venue. The Metra Line now has a station right at the west gate. Since 1936 it has been home to the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Following the railroad's bankruptcy in 1911, the park was taken over by a corporation formed by local residents and businessmen. The annual Ravinia Festival is said to be the oldest such festival in the U.S.

Again, the common link in all of these summer oases was music. Hundreds of Chicago musicians populated the variety of musical organizations that provided the melodies for listening and, after the dance craze began in about 1914, rhythms for dancing.

The music was as varied as the venues. For larger audiences there were brass band concerts, sometimes conducted by well-known leaders such as Bohumil Kryl and Giuseppe Createore, and big symphonic orchestras. "Hungry Fives" (German-style five piece brass groups), small string ensembles and other combos were the more likely purveyors of music in the smaller parks, beer gardens and neighborhood locales. Floorshows ranging from a few acts to extensive productions were the fare at some of the larger beer gardens and amusement parks.

Bismarck Gardens

The Eitel family, which operated the Bismarck Hotel on Randolph Street, took over management of what had been de Berg's Grove in 1896, which included a large winter garden building. Located at the intersection of Halsted and Grace, it was in the center of a large German area of Chicago. In short order, Owners Karl and Emil Eitel changed the name to Bismarck Gardens, after their downtown hotel.

By 1910 the entertainment policy changed from floorshows only to dancing and floorshows. Elaborate revues and dancing were presented in the winter garden building year-round. The huge Benson Organization staged the big productions and provided the music. It was a first-class operation from the decor to the food service to the entertainment (the entrance fee of \$1.10 by the 1920s was enough to set the tone). Everything was done in the very best of taste. Paul Biese, Roy Bargy, Herb Carlin and others led the Benson bands.

In 1917, as the U.S. entered World War I, anti-German sentiment in Chicago was running high and the Eitels changed the name of the establishment to Marigold Gardens. The venue was closed by Eitel in 1923 because of Prohibition but later was leased to others who continued to operate it as a twin ballroom—one inside, the other in the outdoor garden, now floored over for dancing. Years later it became the site of regular boxing and wrestling matches.

Green Mill and Rainbo Gardens

Both of these venues began as outdoor beer gardens but soon erected buildings and began catering to the mourners attending burials at St. Boniface cemetery just across the street from Rainbo Gardens. This area was just outside the city limits in those days.

By the early 1920s, shortly after World War I ended, both the Green Mill and Rainbo Gardens had developed into large entertainment venues with both outdoor and permanent indoor facilities and featured large floor shows with dancing



Rainbo Gardens

fact, sold the garden property to the Balaban & Katz movie chain, which built the huge Uptown Theater on the site.

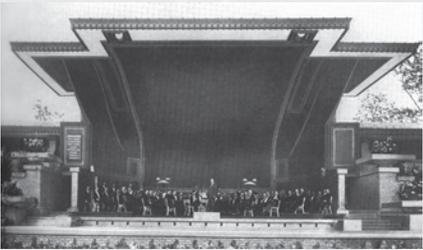
San Souci—Midway Gardens

The striking but ill-fated south-side Midway Gardens, designed by architect Frank Lloyd Wright, was built on the grounds of the old San Souci Amusement Park at 60th Street and Cottage Grove just to the west of the University of Chicago and Hyde Park areas. Built in 1898 by The Chicago City Railway Company, San Souci was primarily



Sans Souci Park

a beer garden until 1904 when nearby White City was constructed. To remain competitive, new owners added amusement park rides a ballroom and bandstand and other features. Band concerts featuring Createore's band attracted big crowds. The future owners and builders of famed Midway Gardens bought the San Souci in 1913, which by then had become a distressed property, and the stunning new Frank Lloyd Wright-designed edifice was opened the following year with a symphony orchestra led by Max Bendix.



Midway Gardens

High toned from the beginning, the famed Russian ballerina Pawlova appeared there in 1915. But after a couple of good years the venue failed financially and passed to the Schoenhoffen Brewing Co. to become the new Edelweiss Gardens.

The new Edelweiss Gardens (its predecessor by the same name was at 51st Street and Cottage Grove) did well for several years featuring entertainers like Ted Lewis and outdoor and indoor dancing to the music of George Mallen and Walter Ford's orchestras (both Benson organizations). It closed during 1918 as part of the war effort but reopened the following year.

By 1921 Edelweiss Gardens closed and new owners acquired a lease on the property, remodeled the indoor winter garden into a ballroom and opened it as the Midway Dancing Garden. Art Kassel and George Towne both led bands there but it was the victim of bad timing. It just couldn't compete with the massive new and palatial Trianon Ballroom, which opened in 1922 just two blocks south on Cottage Grove Avenue.

year around. In short order both the Green Mill and Rainbo Gardens became large cabarets and the beer gardens faded in importance. The Green Mill management, in

White City

Another major center of amusement and entertainment opened on the South Side in 1904. Aaron Jones and Joseph Beifield of the Sherman Hotel created White City Amusement Park, located at 63rd Street and South Parkway (now Martin Luther King Drive), to re-create a park similar to the Midway Plaisance of the 1893 Columbian Exposition in Jackson Park.

On it's 13-acres were a giant illuminated tower, amusement rides, a roller rink, a show building, a ballroom and a Casino for dancing and shows. The first cabaret show performed in Chicago was at the White City Casino in 1912. A year later the first grand opera program presented outdoors was in the terraced gardens of White City.

For years it was a major dancing venue on the South Side with two bands playing most evenings. Eli Courlander's orchestra was the first to play for dancing in the ballroom right after it opened. But the three longest tenured were Sig Meyers and Cope Harvey in the Casino and Al Lehmas in the ballroom. Each catered to different types of dancing: Meyers and Harvey were the "hot" bands and Lehmas was the more staid, playing a lot of waltzes.

Charles "Doc" Cooke led a band there in the late '20s (1927-30) after his long stay at the west side Dreamland Ballroom. The Cooke band had many jazz players among its ranks through the years and recorded on Columbia. Dancing and symphonic band concerts continued irregularly through the 1930s and into the early '40s at White City in spite of fires destroying most of the other building on the grounds.

Riverview Amusement Park

Chicago's largest amusement park, Riverview, was built on the North Side the same year as White City—1904. It was, by far, the largest, covering over 70 acres along the north Branch of the Chicago River at Belmont and Western Avenues. Built by the Schmidt family, successful real estate investors, on an old German shooting park they owned, the large venue featured the usual and some unusual amusement rides. But, like White City, it had a roller rink, a Casino and a large ballroom and concert stage.

Charles "Doc" Cooke was brought from Detroit to lead the Riverview dance orchestra in 1918. But before that there had been smaller bands led by Tomasco and Ray Parker. Cooke was extremely popular and remained there for four years before moving to the west side Dreamland Ballroom.

Parenthetically, promoter Patrick "Paddy" Harmon



Frank Schmidt and the Riverview Orchestra

had the dancing franchises at both Riverview and the city-owned Municipal (now Navy) Pier at Lake Michigan, and operated the Dreamland Ballroom. Other bands gracing the various music stages at Riverview before and after Cooke were those led by Elmer Kaiser, Frank Schmidt and Ray Parker.

Municipal Pier, mentioned above, featured dancing in the huge ballroom at the far end during the summers. Two streetcar lines served the ballroom, running down the center of the pier. Besides Cooke, Charlie Elgar (also a stalwart at Dreamland during the winters) and Joe Kayser played for pier dancers.

Music Alfresco

Continued from Page 15

Roadhouses

The many roadhouses were also prime places to go for dancing, food and entertainment during the 1920s and early '30s. The major ones were the Lincoln Tavern and the Dells on Dempster Street in Morton Grove and Villa Venice in Glenview—all in the north suburbs. Le Chateau in south suburban Thornton and the Purple Grackle to the northwest, near Elgin were other popular destinations.

The roadhouses were different in that they thrived during Prohibition and the fact they were located outside the city. Another attraction was illicit liquor. It was often discretely available if you knew what and how to ask, or patrons brought their own along in a hip flask. The major venues mentioned above were well run and most often catered to a well-heeled crowd. They featured popular orchestras of the day: Coon-Sander Nighthawks, Paul Whiteman, Ben Pollack, Abe Lyman and others, and served fine food. Floorshows were also part of the fare at these roadside spots.

Many of the so-called roadhouses were not as classy and quite often were sleazy. Some were crude roadside taverns. Not a few openly serving illegal booze and had "hostesses" on premises. Sometimes the only music on the premises was a wind-up phonograph.

Air Conditioning, Repeal Bring End to Era

Two major changes halted the success of the outdoor summer venues by the early 1930s: the introduction of air conditioning and, for the road houses, the end of prohibition. No longer restricted to winter-only operating seasons, theaters, ballrooms, night clubs, restaurants, hotels and other venues could now operate all year round in comfort. But live music in the years since World War II has declined considerably in most major venues, losing out to changing public taste and the impact of television.

Today some of the theme parks around the country have followed Disneyland's lead and feature live entertainment in show rooms. For a while Disneyland even brought back many of the popular dance bands of the 1930s, '40s and '50s. But these performances provided miniscule numbers of musicians compared with the earlier days.

The only surviving summertime outdoor music attractions of any significance these days in the Chicago



Ravinia Park

area are the Ravinia Festival at Ravinia Park in Highland Park featuring the Chicago Symphony, the Ravinia Festival Orchestra and numerous other popular attractions and the Grant Park Music Festival with the Grant Park

Orchestra now presented at the new Pritzker Pavilion in Millennium Park. Some random concerts, sponsored in part by the Musicians Trust Fund also are presented in several Chicago area parks and at downtown locations. The City of Chicago Office of Cultural Affairs also presents dancing in Grant Park several nights a week and on weekends featuring a variety of Chicago dance bands.

Summertime entertainment in Chicago, as in most parts of the country, may have changed, but the exciting days of outdoor living and entertainment during the hot summer days of old was a golden period not only for the general public but for the working musicians, as well.

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Charles A. Sengstock, Jr. is the author of [That Toddlin' Town, Chicago's White Dance Bands and Orchestras, 1900-1950](#), published by the University Press, 2004.

Cover and article photo credits...

(Photo 1—Rainbo Garden)

The outdoor garden at Rainbo Gardens, Clark and Lawrence, ca. late 1910s. (A79918, Lake County [Illinois] Discovery Museum, Curt Teich Postcard Archives)

(Photo 2—Midway Gardens)

Midway Gardens Band Shell from middle terrace, with the National Symphony Orchestra and Max Bendix. ca. July 1914. (Courtesy of the Chicago Historical Society.)

(Photo 3—Sans Souci Park)

Sans Souci Amusement Park, Chicago. Looking southwest from Sixtieth Street and Cottage Grove Avenue, ca. 1908. (Courtesy of the Chicago Historical Society.)

(Photo 4—Frank Schmidt & Riverview Orch.)

Frank Schmidt and his Million Dollar Riverview Orchestra was just one of the dance bands that played in the Riverview Ballroom in the 1920s. (Photo from Conn-Selmer, Inc., a Steinway Musical Instruments Company.)

(Photo 5—Ravinia Park)

ca. 2007

(Russell Jenkins, Ravinia Festival)

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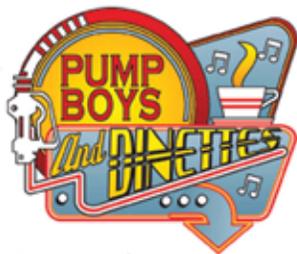
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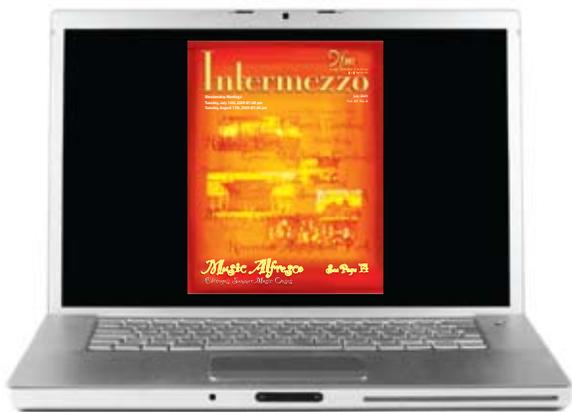
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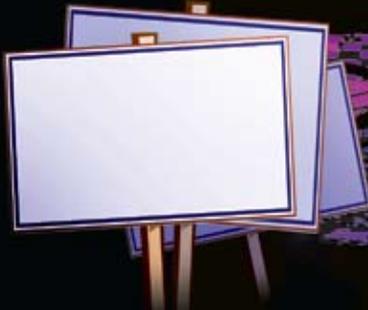
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(708) 485-9670

GERMAN AMERICAN MUSICIANS CLUB

Third Monday of the month. Regular meeting, Mirabell Restaurant, 3454 W. Addison, Chicago, IL, 8 p.m. Send all communications to Mr. Zenon Grodecki, 5024 N. Moody, Chicago, IL 60630 (773) 774-2753

SOCIETY OF ITALIAN AMERICAN MUSICIANS SOCIAL CLUB

Third Monday of the month. General meeting, Superossa Banquet Hall, 4242 N. Central Avenue, Chicago, IL 60634, 8 p.m. Send all communications to John Maggio, 6916 W. Armitage, Chicago, IL 60635
(773) 745-0733

THE KOLE FACTS ASSOCIATION

Third Sunday of the month at 2 p.m. Regular meeting, Washington Park Fieldhouse, 5531 S. King Drive, Room 101, Chicago, IL 60637

POLISH AMERICAN MUSICIANS CLUB

Meetings held every second Wednesday of the month, 8:00 p.m. at A.A.C. Eagles Soccer Club, 5844 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL. Send all communications to Dave Lenckos, President, 4548 N. Mobile, Chicago, IL 60630
(773) 685-5226

WOMEN'S PROFESSIONAL MUSICIANS CLUB

Meeting dates and locations change from month to month. Send all communications to Jennifer Silk, strgosilk1@msn.com
(224) 856-1144

MUSIC PERFORMANCE FUND ENGAGEMENTS

July 2009

DATE	PLACE OF ENGAGEMENT	LEADER	No. MUSICIANS	AMOUNT
3	Hodges Park	B. Schubert	54	\$7,041.75
4	Chicago History Museum	J. Gelsomino	40	5,275.91
4	St. Alexander Church	R. Rushford	47	6,271.33
10	Hodges Park	B. Schubert	50	6,538.65
12	Oz Park	R. Davis	12	1,654.28
17	Hodges Park	B. Schubert	48	6,287.09
24	Hodges Park	B. Schubert	48	6,287.09
31	Hodges Park	B. Schubert	16	2,162.36

The above Local 10-208 Music Performance Fund engagements are co-sponsored.

Terry Jares, Vice-President
Administrator MPF
Music Performance Fund

Congratulations

Our congratulations go out to member Philip Orem who won an Honorable Mention Award in the 2009 Humboldt Brass Chamber Music Composition Competition. The contest focuses on original works for brass octet written for college-level players. The winning compositions will be performed during the Humboldt Brass Chamber Music Workshop during July at Humboldt State University in Arcata, CA