

## FROM THE CHAIR

You may recall that PAJA came into existence as an outgrowth of Dr. Herb Wong's courses on jazz as offered via the Adult School of the Palo Alto Unified School District. Since Herb's passing, a group of former attendees of those courses, now known as Herb's Herd and ably led by Tom Meeks, continue to meet on a Tuesday, just as they did when Herb was alive—only now it's at someone's home and only once a month. The focus of each get-together has varied from viewing jazz video documentaries to live performances. All of us enjoy keeping the social relationship alive as well as sharing jazz time together.

One jazz fan who has hosted Herb's Herd is Teresa Anthony. She is a jazz singer, known professionally as Teresa Bleux, and she has just joined PAJA's Board of Directors. She'll be performing at Angelica's in Redwood City on Tuesday night, March 8 (see notice elsewhere in this issue), and PAJAns are invited to come and support our new Board member. Teresa grew up in Indiana, now resides in Foster City, and helps various groups set up and manage web sites, as well as keeping her pipes active. Her musical insight, enthusiasm, and professional savvy will make her a fine addition to the Board.

January was a big workout for my ears, starting with our concert that featured the Montclair Women's Big Band and vocalist Kenny Washington. It was another stimulating evening at the Menlo-Atherton High School Performing Arts Center. We were worried the date (January 9) was too close to the holiday season and that you might not have any energy left to go out for an evening. Happily a goodly number of you had recovered sufficiently

to come out in force to hear some grand big time sounds. Thanks to Harvey Mittler and all our other volunteers who made this such a successful gig.

A few weeks later, I was off to The Jazz Cruise with Michael Griffin, Editor Emeritus of the *Buff*. This is a weeklong extravaganza aboard a humungous Holland America ship, sailing out of Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Michael and I joined about 1500 other jazz lovers on the cruise. We basked in the sunny Caribbean, heard some wonderful jazz artists, and stopped at various islands for special tours. The top-of-the-line performer list included Christian McBride (recent Grammy winner), the Clayton Brothers, John Pizzarelli, Jeff Hamilton, and so on. It was like a big family picnic where you start off knowing only a few, but soon have lots of friends.

There were some other PAJAns and PAJA friends along for the fun, including Linda Knipe, our web site manager, Glenn & Shirley Grigg, and the Flickers, formerly of Palo Alto, now of New York City. Michael Flicker was the legal guide involved in the establishment of PAJA, back in the day.

One added value on these jazz cruises is the opportunity to constantly mingle with the musicians. For example, Michael Griffin and I sat at breakfast one morning with Dee Dee Bridgewater. What fun—the sea was smooth, the music cool and the people warm and friendly.

All the best and watch for news of our 2016 concerts.

C. Stuart Brewster

PAJA's two  
new Board  
members



Teresa Anthony



Doris Harry

## SAVE THE DATE(S)

Event Chair Harvey Mittler is working on a concert for either the evening of April 30 (Saturday—International Jazz Day) or Sunday afternoon, May 1, venue to be announced—possibly an outdoor venue. The concert will feature the David Miller Quartet with popular local vocalist Rebecca DuMaine, with a theme that will be attractive to kids but entertaining for adults too. Plan to bring your children or grandchildren—or just yourselves. Stay tuned!

# THE MONTCLAIR BIG BAND TEARS IT UP



PAJA's winter concert (January 9) featured the dynamic Montclair Women's Big Band and there was an excellent turnout for the band at Menlo-Atherton High School's beautiful Center for the Performing Arts. The 16-piece orchestra is led by trumpeter Ellen Seeling and saxophonist Jean Fineberg, and its personnel list includes such well known Bay Area performers as bassist Ruth Davies and sax veteran Mad Duran. The band treated us to superb renditions of such swing/jazz classics as "In The Mood," "Caravan," and a high-energy closing version of "Sing Sing Sing". Other highlights were Joe Henderson's "Recordame" and Stanley Turrentine's "Sugar." Bay Area favorite Kenny Washington joined the band for a vocal tribute to Frank Sinatra and Billie Holiday, offering two songs associated with Billie: "Good Morning, Heartache," and "God Bless the Child." It was all a triumphant evening, arranged and spearheaded by PAJA event chair Harvey Mittler. Harvey is now in the planning stage for a spring concert, probably in early May. Stay tuned.



**JANUARY 9**  
**Menlo-Atherton H.S. Center for  
the Performing Arts**

*Photos by  
Andy Nozaka*





## HEY, WHERE'S DESMOND?

"Working with Dave [Brubeck] was such a positive experience. Sometimes, I would be playing a solo, and people would be looking at me not knowing what to think because I'm not Paul Desmond and don't sound like Paul Desmond—even though he is one of my idols. But Dave would be looking at me and smiling, and they'd be looking at him and thinking, 'This guy must play OK because Dave likes him.' That's a great lesson to learn because sometimes you're on the bandstand with somebody who looks morose, like they're not having a good time. Dave put positive energy out there every moment." Tenor saxophonist Jerry Bergonzi, quoted in "Jerry's Way," in *Jazziz* magazine, Fall 2015.

## ON THE JAZZ CRUISE

Michael Griffin wins the dance contest



Glenn and Shirley Grigg



Stuart Brewster, in front of the ship, holds up Michael's prize, a bottle of rum!



Karl Robinson

PAJAns at Newport Beach. Name them all and win a prize!

## AT ANGELICA'S ON MARCH 8<sup>TH</sup>

New PAJA Board member Teresa Anthony is also a jazz singer of note. Under her *nom de chanson* Teresa Bleux, she'll be appearing at Angelica's Bistro in Redwood City on Tuesday night, March 8, from 7:15 to 8:15. Teresa will be performing with the Denny Berthiaume Trio. A number of PAJAns will be there to support Teresa, and you're certainly welcome to be there too. To buy tickets and to get more information about the performers: [www.angelicasllc.com](http://www.angelicasllc.com). Click on "Calendar." Important: Be sure to purchase tickets for the Bell Stage Main Dining Room—6:30 Premier Table Seating. For \$15 you'll be seated center stage with our group. There are a limited number of these seats, so act now! Angelica's serves pretty decent food too, so feel free to reserve for dinner too. (There will be a second show featuring vocalist John Sylvester.)

Palo Alto  
**Jazz**  
Alliance

**Join PAJA**

Mail your check to Palo Alto Jazz Alliance  
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Total enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## THE JAZZ PERISCOPE *Selected gigs for March and April, 2016*

### YOSHI'S OAKLAND *www.yoshis.com/oakland*

3/22	Tommy Igoe Orchestra .....	8pm
3/25-27	Rachelle Ferrell	
4/1	Pacific Mambo Orchestra .....	8, 10 pm
4/21-22	Jane Monheit	

### SF JAZZ CENTER *www.sfjazz.org/center*

3/10-13	Melissa Aldana & Crash Trio	
3/17	Tammy Hall Plays Shirley Scott. ....	8, 9:30pm
4/15	Dee Dee Bridgewater. ....	7:30, 10pm
4/21-24	Kenny Barron, plus	
4/22-24	Renee Rosnes Quartet .....	7, 8:30pm
5/2	Keith Jarrett (Davies Hall). ....	7:30pm

### BACH'S DANCING & DYNAMITE SOCIETY, EL GRANADA *www.bachddsoc.org*

3/6	Marquis Hill Blacktet. ....	4:30pm
3/21	The Orrin Evans Trio .....	4:30pm

### KUUMBWA JAZZ CENTER, SANTA CRUZ *www.kuumbwajazz.org*

3/7	Delfeayo Marsalis Quintet .....	7pm
3/14	Melissa Aldana & Crash Trio .....	7pm
4/4	Mack Avenue Super Band, with Christian McBride, Carl Allen, Tia Fuller, et al. ....	7pm
4/18	Jane Monheit. ....	7pm
4/25	Kenny Barron Trio .....	7pm

### SAN JOSE JAZZ *www.sanjosejazz.org*

#### ANGELICAS 863 Main St., Redwood City *www.angelicasllc.com*

Every Tuesday evening		
	Jazz on Tuesdays Trio + vocalists .....	7:15pm
3/8	Denny Berthiaume Trio, with Teresa Bleux .....	7:15pm
3/20, 4/3, 4/24	Mike Galisatus Big Band .....	7:30pm

#### CAFÉ STRITCH, 374 S. 1<sup>st</sup> St., San Jose *www.cafestritch.com*

#### HOTEL SOFITEL, 223 Twin Dolphin Dr., Redwood City 650/598-9000

Wednesday evening jazz, with Michael O'Neill and vocalists 6-9pm

#### CAFÉ PINK HOUSE, 14577 Big Basin Way, Saratoga 408/647-2273

Jazz Fri. & Sat. evenings plus Sunday brunch

3/5	Primary Colors .....	7:30pm
3/19	Kay Kostopoulos Group .....	7:30pm
4/1	Kat Parra Group .....	7:30pm
4/2	Pamela Rose .....	7:30pm
4/7	Danny Green Trio, with Harvey Wainapel. ....	7:30pm
4/24	Jonathan Kreisberg/David Kikoski Due \$35 cover. ....	6pm

### DINKELSPIEL AUDITORIUM, STANFORD

3/5	Stanford Afro-Latin Jazz Ensemble, featuring legendary pianist/ composer Oscar Hernandez .....	7:30pm
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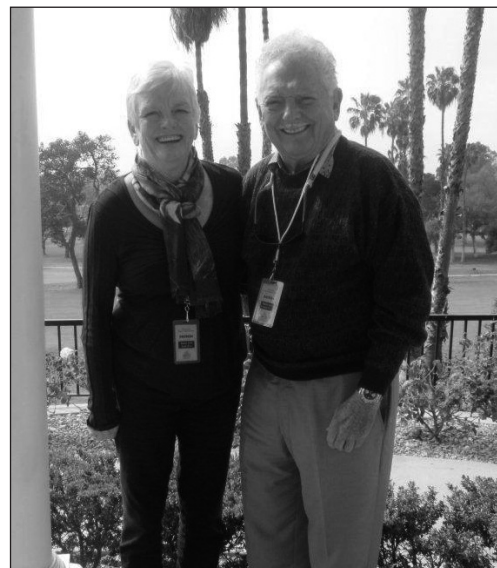
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# NEWPORT NEWS

*by Shirley Douglas*



Chuck Redd on Vibes



PAJANs Eileen Merten & Justin Rockwell

The 16<sup>th</sup> annual Newport Beach Jazz Party was held at the Fashion Island Marriott Hotel, February 11-14. Ten enthusiasts from PAJA were in attendance (you can see several of us in Karl Robinson's photo on page 3). This was my second year and the musicians were, as expected, extremely talented, and of high caliber and superb quality. There were six pianists, an organist, six guitar virtuosos, a vibes player, six bassists, six drummers, two trumpeters, two trombones, seven reed players, nine (!) vocalists, and four big bands. If names like Tamir Hendelman, Russell Malone, John Clayton, Scott Hamilton, Kenny Washington, and the Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orchestra don't pique your interest, you can't call yourself a jazz fan.

The theme was "For the Love of Jazz and the Great American Songbook" and therefore 90% familiarity with the tunes played. The musicians played with enthusiasm and great rapport with their other musical mates. The following comments came from a "Tales From The Road" panel discussion, with many upbeat, encouraging and comical contributions:

"When you play, you make yourself happy, regardless of the critics, writers and the audience. Jazz musicians are always learning and the younger audience is still coming," Ken Peplowski.

"Jazz education programs are more prolific than ever before," Jeff Hamilton (certainly encouraging for us and PAJA's mission).

In an answer to "where is jazz headed?" Houston Person responded, "Jazz is here! It is not going anywhere and we as musicians have to relate to our audience, whether it's blues, dance music, or jazz. That is our responsibility."



Vocalist Freda Payne