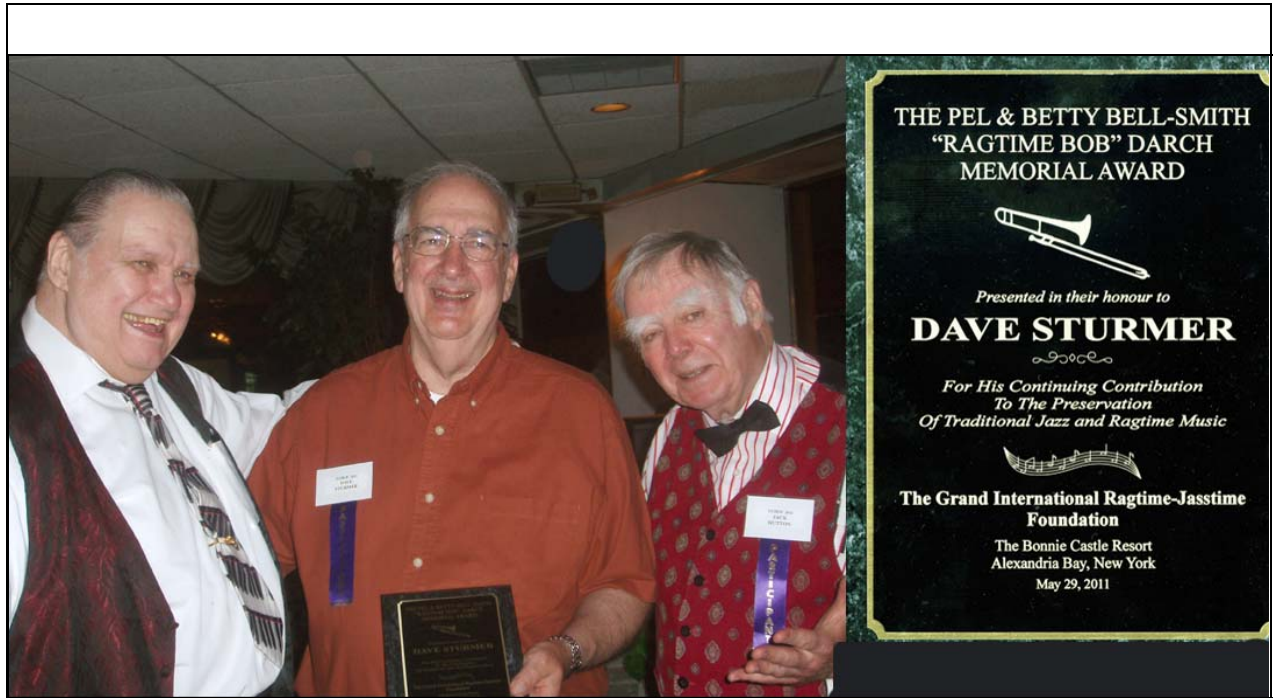


Traveler's Report from Alexandria Bay

TGIRJF Ragtime Festival 2011 Friday thru Sunday, Memorial Day weekend.

Two Simultaneous Music Venues with Eight or Nine ragtime piano performers (the heart of the festival) including Dariusz Terefenko (Eastman School) & Jon Seiger (Rochester); three (token) Dixieland bands (including Smugtown Stompers).

Saturday's class (by Dariusz) was "Jelly Roll Morton's contribution to jazz styles: creative mixing of ragtime, blues, and marching-band styles". Sunday's pre-gospel music by elder-statesman Jack Hutton (Bala, Ontario) included unpublished Fats Waller compositions (given to Jack by Fats Waller's son). "Memorial Award" (for one of the festival's founders "Ragtime Bob" Darch) given to Dave Sturmer to recognize (the band's) dedication to performing a wide range of traditional jazz / ragtime music and helping young people hear & perform this music. Katie Ernst (May 2011 Eastman School graduate as double bass major) was featured singer with Smugtown band and Dariusz' piano sets; also, played string bass in a set with Jon Seiger.



Three "Memorial Award" recipients since 2005: Don Burns (piano & a festival founder; Buffalo), Dave Sturmer (Smugtown Stompers), Jack Hutton (piano, Ontario, Canada).