Celebrate the Holiday Season with Roger Eckers’ Little Big Band

Monday, Dec. 17th, Radisson Hotel

Roger Eckers Little Big Band is composed of some of Rochester’s most notable musicians. A great Holiday evening is ahead; buffet dinner, dancing, greeting friends, and big-band music with Roger, Sean, Brad, Mike, Ron, Andy, Sheldon, John, & Steve.

Roger Eckers, saxophone. Roger Eckers left Minneapolis to attend Eastman School of Music, completing both his Masters and PhD degrees. Teaching Rush-Henrietta (where his one-year teaching position lasted 33 years), he developed the Band program into one of the finest in the country. Many of his students pursued music careers as educators or performers. Dr. Eckers career as a performer has included performing with many jazz greats (Urbie Green, Clark Terry, Slide Hampton, Monty Alexander, Jiggs Whigham, & Junior Mance), Broadway shows, the Buffalo Philharmonic, NBC Ice Capades, Dianna Ross and the Supremes, as well as three albums and many jingle/advertising recordings. The Roger Eckers Quartet & Big Band have performed in just about every venue in Rochester. Dr. Eckers is an artistic clinician for Selmer & has been involved in testing the latest woodwinds, particularly new clarinets and alto saxophones.

In the spring of each year, Roger performs in the St. Lucia Jazz Festival in the Caribbean. He currently performs on weekends at Charley Brown’s with Fred Costello.
The Other MUSICIANS IN ROGER ECKERS LITTLE BIG BAND (brief bios):

**Mike Kaupa, trumpet.** Performing throughout the U.S., Europe, & Japan. Mike was a faculty member at the annual Seminario de Jazz in Barcelona, Spain, 2001 thru 2005. Associated with the “Taller de Musics” school in Barcelona since 1983, he has recorded there with the group “ONIX”. On 12/2/2007, Mike performed at the Palau de la Musica in Barcelona. Mike holds a Bachelor of Music (Fredonia State Univ.) and a Master of Music degree (University of Miami). Currently on the faculty of The Harley School & the Eastman Community Music School, he has been a soloist with the SUNY Fredonia Jazz Ensemble, an interim professor of jazz trumpet at the Eastman School (1999/2000 school year & spring semester 2010). Among others, he has performed with Jorge Rosay, Ben Monder, Mark Murphy, Gary Bartz, Luciana Souza, Joe Locke, Mel Torme, & Ray Charles.

**Ron D’Angelo, trumpet.** Ron was born in Philadelphia and has been living in the Rochester area since 1987. He attended Berklee College of Music and played lead trumpet in the Eastman Jazz Ensemble as a UR student. He has performed with Josh Groban, Aretha Franklin, Natalie Cole, Frank Sinatra, Jr and is a member of Prime Time Funk. By day, Ron is an audiologist with Clear Choice Hearing and Balance. He has degrees from University of Rochester and Syracuse University.

**Sean Joseph, trombone.** Born in Albury, NSW, Australia, Sean began music with French horn, eventually switching to cornet, playing in A-grade bands nationally. In high school, he switched to baritone, winning a seat in the Australian Army Band Corps and for six years travelled and performed in Australia and throughout the world. In 1990, he won seats playing in the Australian Wind Orchestra and Australian National Youth Band, touring and recording internationally. Sean studied at the prestigious Sydney Conservatorium of Music, receiving his Bachelor of Music in Jazz studies on trombone. Studying with top jazz educators & musicians & being an “in-demand” recording artist and musician in Sydney, Sean was trombonist 1999-2001 for Princess Cruises (where he met his “wife-to-be”), then moving to Rochester, NY, to earn a Master of Music Education (Eastman School of Music). He is a music educator for Rush-Henrietta Central School District, teaching band, brass, percussion, jazz ensemble, music theory, and world music. He has also taught at the Rochester Institute of Technology and SUNY Geneseo. Sean performs & records as much as his busy work schedule allows and with a young son and daughter at home.

**Brad Batz, alto saxophone.** Brad Batz has a M.M. in Music Performance of Multiple Windwinds (New York City University, where he was a Graduate Teaching Assistant teaching woodwind methods & conducting wind ensemble). He holds a B.M. [(music education; Nazareth College); Jazz Composition Studies (Eastman School of Music). An active woodwind doubler and jazz musician, he freelances & plays with various groups including Al Chez & the Brothers of Funk, Brad Batz Group, Nostalgic Reunion, Roger Eckers Big Band, Spanky Haschmeyer Swing Orchestra & One Sweet World. Brad has performed as musical director for Martha Reeves, performed as opening act for Joan Rivers, 10,000 Maniacs, & Bruce Hornsby, and also shared the stage with jazz greats, including Jimmy Heath, Eddie Daniels, Randy Brecker, Wycliffe Gordon, Eddie Palmieri, Frank Weiss, Joe Lovano, Paul Smoker, Freddie Greene & Mic Gillette & Tom Politzer of Tower of Power. Brad is currently on the music faculty at Nazareth College.

**Andy Calabrese, piano.** Andy Calabrese, pianist and musician producer, plays in the Rochester New York area with his own jazz trio as well as Prime Time Funk and Chet Catallo and the Cats. He’s in demand as a sideman as well, having performed with jazz & pop artists such as Chuck Berry, Aretha Franklin, Felix Cavaliere, Gene Cornish, Kathy Sledge, Lou Gramm, Carmine Appice, Russell Thompkins Jr., Bob McGrath, Bobby Vinton, Jerry Vale, The Shirelles, Randy Brecker, Eric Marienthal, Chuck and Gap Mangione, Bat McGrath, Pepper Adams, Marvin Stamm, Sam Noto, Joe Romano, Sal Nistico, Roger Eckers, Sheila Jordan, Kenny Rankin, Steve Davis (bassist in the original John Coltrane Quartet), Nancy Kelly, Dave Mancini and others. Andy composes and produces jingles and film soundtracks, having recently produced tracks for The Stylistics, Danny and the Juniors, Jay and the Techniques, Ferdinand J. Smith, Brucato Productions and Forevermore Records. When he’s not gigging, composing or producing, Andy is usually teaching jazz and classical piano lessons at his studio in Pittsford N.Y.

**Sheldon Tripi, bass.** Sheldon has been playing bass for 26 years now and currently resides in Rochester, NY. He has performed on several albums and presently plays with The Marvin Gaye Anthology, Jive Street Five, Miche Fambro and Faixa and many other local bands and musicians.

**John Viavattine, tenor saxophone.** An accomplished woodwind specialist in Rochester, New York for many years, John is currently a member of the latin jazz group Mambo Kings. He has also toured extensively worldwide with the Glenn Miller Orchestra, including a memorable performance in Washington, D.C. at President Reagan’s 1980 Inaugural Ball. John has also performed with Chazz and Gap Mangione, Jeff Tshik and the Rochester Symphony Orchestra. John has also performed as a member of the Mambo Kings with Symphony Orchestrass in Baltimore, Portland, Oregon, Dallas, Detroit and Vancouver to name a few. John has also performed with the likes of The Temptations, Patti Page, Connie Francis, Vic Damone, Lou Rawls and Ray Charles. Currently, director of bands at Spencerport High School in the Rochester, New York area, the Spencerport High School Wind Ensemble and Jazz Ensemble under Mr. Viavattine’s direction have gained national recognition throughout his tenure at Spencerport High School.

**Steve Curry, drums.** Steve first became fascinated with the drums at the early age of five years old. He started private lessons by fourth grade and by age eleven was studying with legendary jazz drummer Vinnie Ruggerio. At sixteen began playing professionally in his hometown of Rochester, NY. Steve currently performs on occasion with the Gap Mangione Big Band, Chet Catallo, the Andy Calabrese Trio as well as many other artists in the upstate NY region. With almost 40 years of teaching experience Steve has been on the faculty of Hobart and William Smith colleges for 18 years and also teaches privately at his studio in East Rochester.

Membership: Len Marcus, 347-4820. 328 Lenora Ln, Webster, NY 14580-2874

**SEND DINNER RESERVATIONS by December 7th to reach Jerry Williams by TUESDAY the 11th. If check may be late, call Jerry (729-6555), “tell Jerry your order”**

**BOARD of DIRECTORS Meeting. Monday, December 3rd, 6pm, Kay Salerno’s, 48 Elmore Road, phone: 442-1076**

**FLOWER CITY JAZZ SOCIETY www.flowercityjazz.org**

President: Kathy Campbell* 248-6564  Vice-President: Kay Salerno* 442-1076

Hospitability: Kathy Campbell* 248-6564  Secretary: Jeanne Thomann* 227-6684

Treasurer: Dave Sturmer* 381-7603  Membership: Len Marcus 347-4820

Dinner Reservations: Jerry Williams*, 729-6555. See Page Three (Menu area)

Governance: Jeanne Thomann* 227-6684  Mary Lou Hogle*

Newslettter: Dave Sturmer*/Kent Campbell*/Tom Ireland*/Doreena Hames/Kay Salerno*  Publicity: Bob Hesselbeth*

Flower City Jazz Society formed to preserve & promote Dixieland Jazz in Greater Rochester.

[ASCP Licensee] Membership dues: $15 per person for one year. Dinner-Concerts are third Monday, January through December, at the Radisson Hotel, 175 Jefferson Rd, Rochester, NY, 14623. FCJS, Inc. 41 Parkridge Dr, Pittsford, NY 14534 (temporary address)
THANKS TO RENEWING MEMBERS: Tom & Gail Cometa, Peter & Connie Barker, Carol Mulligan, Richard Haseings, Ann Salisbury, Janet Bossert, Doreena & Hollis Hames, Norma Stone, Philip Rupert, Mark Bernard  

NEW MEMBERS: Richard Powers, Gwen Cohen

MEMBER PROFILE. Sonia Marlin and Martin Cocca  
Sonia and Martin first met at one of our monthly dinner dances about five years ago, at the Green Lantern Inn. Martin had already been a member for three years, and when Sylvia Kellogg brought her good friend Sonia to a function, and Sonia sat next to Martin, sparks flew, Martin says. Both widowed, they found that they had an instant attraction to each other, and have been dating ever since.

Martin is a Rochester native, growing up in the Bay Street-Webster Avenue area. He attended East High School, and left school during World War II to serve in the Army. His service included being in the Battle of the Bulge. He served from 1944 to 1949. Upon his discharge, he finished high school and attended RIT, graduating in 1964 with a degree in Industrial Engineering. Martin worked at Shuron Optical Company for 23 years, in personnel and industrial relations, then at Xerox for thirteen years as an industrial engineer and project leader. He retired from Xerox. He was married for 43 years. He and his late wife raised twin daughters and one son. He has four grandchildren.

Sonia grew up in East Penfield and graduated from Penfield High School. She attended business school and after raising her family, worked at Citibank for twenty years, retiring from there. Sonia was also married for 43 years and has two daughters and three grandchildren.

Martin and Sonia each live in their own homes, just 2/10 of a mile from each other. Both belong to the Rochester Dinner Dance Club, and do a lot of dancing together. They also enjoy going to many concerts together, throughout the year. Sonia enjoys gardening, knitting, painting, and reading. Martin loves listening to good music and working in his yard and garden.  

Written by Ron Anderson

SEND DINNER RESERVATIONS by Friday, DEC. 7th

DINNER RESERVATION for Monday, December 17, 2018

MAIL TO: JERRY WILLIAMS 84 Chippenham Dr., Penfield, NY 14526 (585) 729-6555

Reservation form and payment is due on or before Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2018

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MENU for MONDAY, December 17, 2018

5:30pm cheese/crackers social;  6:30pm dinner service starts;  music 6:30pm-9:30pm

ADMISSION FEE WAIVED IF BUFFET ORDERED FOR 12/17

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<tr>
<th>BUFFET: Plated Salad Asiago Caesar (romaine; asiago cheese; garlic croutons; Caesar dressing; lemon slice). Prime Rib (sliced); Cranberry Balsamic Roasted Chicken Breast; Seafood Mac &amp; Cheese; Roasted Butternut Squash; Roasted Red Potatoes. Apple Pie Dessert</th>
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Gluten Free: entrée options are gluten free except the pasta (can be made gluten free). Ask Server if House Salad Required

| | | |
| | | $31 |

Total enclosed: $_________ (check payable to FLOWER CITY JAZZ SOCIETY)

COMMENTS FOR THE BOARD:

RATE LAST MONTH’S BAND: O BELOW AVERAGE
O AVERAGE  O ABOVE AVERAGE
(Blumenau-Beck Upstate Dixieland Jass Band)
FLOWER CITY JAZZ 2018
Radisson Hotel (Airport) Park
in well-lighted area in back of Hotel; Enter thru Doors At
Back Of Hotel to Ballroom.

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Radisson Hotel (Airport) Park
in well-lighted area in back of Hotel; Enter thru Doors At
Back Of Hotel to Ballroom.

UPCOMING FCJS CONCERTS & OTHER VENUES

FCJS Events are at Radisson Hotel (Airport), 175 Jefferson Rd, Rochester, NY 14623  (585) 475-1910
FCJS times:  5:30pm cheese/crackers social; 6:30pm dinner service starts; music 6:30pm—9:30pm
Queen City Jazz (Buffalo) events: SEAN PATRICK’S, 3480 Millersport Rd, Getzville, NY. Concerts 5pm
NEW Location Syracuse Jazz (JASS): Spaghetti Warehouse, 689 N. Clinton St, Syracuse, NY. Concerts 4pm

December 2018  2nd Sunday (Queen City Jazz) Morgan Street Stompers (Protocol Restaurant) Exit 49Thruway
December 2018  17th Monday (FCJS) Roger Eckers Little Big Band Radisson

2019

January 20th Sunday (Syracuse Jazz Society) ToBeAnnounced (Spaghetti Warehouse)
January 2019  21st Monday (FCJS) Smugtown Stompers with Carol Mulligan Radisson
February 2019  18th Monday (FCJS) Rod Ham’s Black Diamond Express Radisson
March 2019  18th Monday (FCJS) Al Bruno’s Bourbon Street Parade Radisson
March 24th Sunday (Syracuse Jazz Society) Original Cornell Syncopators (Spaghetti Warehouse)
April 2019  15th Monday (FCJS) Barroom Buzzards Plus Two Radisson