

The Score

OFFICIAL
PUBLICATION OF
THE ANN ARBOR
FEDERATION
OF MUSICIANS
LOCAL 625 AFM
VOLUME 56 #4
FOURTH QUARTER
2011

**This is really it! The AAFM was founded in 1912
and it's our official Centennial Year!
Pour yourself a drink of your favorite libation
and toast to our great Local 625!**

AAFM Centennial Party Success Exceeds Expectations

*by Betsy Beckerman
Executive Board Member*

The AAFM's Centennial Party, held at the Zal Gaz Grotto Club October 27, was an even bigger success than the party planners (Local 625's Executive Board) had hoped. A great jam session lasted from the beginning of the evening to the end, with countless combinations of instruments. Many of the participants had never met before, so new connections were made through the hours of music.

Attendees included Secretary-Treasurer Emeritus John Dorsey, 64-year (!) member Bob Chance (co-leader of The Ambassadors),

his wife Priscilla and daughter Cathy, Vincent York (sax), Deb Ash (bass flute) and husband Jeff, Edie Herrold, Greg Lanzi, Laurel Federbush (Celtic harp) David McDonagh (sax), Paul Cheng (fiddle), Paul Winder (non union fiddler, but what the heck), Joe DeMarsh (won the Troublemaker t-shirt) and Nora Schankin, Geoff Esty (guitar), Rod McDonald (guitar), Matt Balmer (trumpet), Chris Benjey (played a cameo amount of piano) and wife Sarah, Mike Jones (clarinet, Local 5 - plays with Paul Klinger) and Tom Fivenson. The AAFM Executive Board was represented by Betsy Beckerman (vocals & guitar) Pam Meisel (percussion on chair with brushes) Paul Klinger (cornet, sax, and more) and Cortaz Paige. Finally, a special nod to Celeste McClellan, who was a welcoming presence, getting folks name tags, taking pictures and schmoozing.

We all had fun looking at the old 8 x 10 glossy photos covering the AAFM's entire 100-year history. Thanks go to Paul Klinger and the late Bill Thomas (Vice-President Emeritus) for helping identify the musicians in many of the



**Paul Klinger, Rod McDonald, Paul Winder
and Betsy Beckerman**

photos. John Dorsey gave us a sense of occasion by speaking about the history of the union.

Paul Klinger hosted the jam. He told a story about a business agent flashing a sidearm when collecting work dues at a Detroit gig. Paul said that he learned to play

traditional jazz "on the gigs" and thanked Bob Chance for hiring him while Paul was still in high school. He said, "I never thought that 60 years later, I'd still be playing this

music (Dixeland)." Cortaz Paige recalled being recruited to join the union when he was a young player in the Trinidad Tripoli Steel Drum Band.

Paul Winder graciously shared his violin with Paul Cheng and both played beautiful sweet swing style solos, passing the violin back and forth.

Laurel Federbush jammed right along playing a Celtic harp, or as she mentioned, "More specifically, a Heather Harp, a Pakistan-made model."

Vincent York sounded great as always and especially when he and Paul Klinger played together. Paul sounded great on everything he played. Deb Ash surprised everyone by playing a big bass flute. Paul K. and Paul W. rendered a beautiful duet at one point. Pam Meisel showed her creativity using her brushes on a chair, even did a nice solo or two.

Rod McDonald held down the rhythm section most of the evening and also jammed on (*Cont. on p. 3*)

**One of the Grotto folks
said of our jam session,
"Who is this band?
They sound great!"**

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New AAFM member Bob Jones

started his musical career playing guitar and songwriting in the early '90s Flint music scene. With musical influences ranging from ambient, hip-hop, blues, rock and roll, to anything with that Motown sound, he's taken a lot of time to develop a musical palette that draws from all the great music that he's had the privilege to study. Bob has been in a dozen bands, was a principal songwriter in the award winning band, 'The Bloids' and has written for Nascar, Ford, Gillette, and produced and engineered artists such as The Black Eyed Peas, Lea Michele, Danny Brown, Need to Breathe, Laura Lee, Mia Dyson, Uncle Kracker, Jessica Hernandez and many more. He studied studio engineering under Al Sutton (Kid Rock, Bob Seger, Sheryl Crow, Hank Williams Jr.) and is an expert producer, engineer, midi programmer, and multi-instrumentalist. Bob works both out of Rustbelt Studios as well as his small home studio in Ypsilanti and would love to work with other Ann Arbor Federation of Musicians members. Call 734.323.1746 or email him at bob@rustbeltstudios.com for rates.



Bob Jones

More Party Photos



Geoff Esty, Dave McDonagh, Rod McDonald, Mike Jones



Vincent York, Paul Klinger, Rod McDonald, Paul Winder, Laurel Federbush



Old photos and eats were highlights



How many can you name?

Centennial Party *from p. 1*

guitar with the more modern stylings of Geoff Esty. David McDonagh and Matt Balmer joined the jam towards the end and sounded wonderful. Betsy Beckerman jumped in and out for a few vocals and a tiny bit of guitar.

Joe DeMarsh won a Labor Notes Troublemaker t-shirt by answering the almost impossible question "Name any one article in the most recent issue of *The Score*".

Betsy commented "I was proud and pleased to see that there were about an equal number of male and female players which would not have happened years ago when the union had few female members."

Missy of the Grotto was a sweet and helpful bartender/server. The food was abundant.

Paul Klinger remarked "I thought the party was great. Despite my not being able to corral a full band beforehand, having the "jam" session with a bunch of our members - including classical players - was great. Thanks to all of you who spent a whole lot of time putting this on." Pam Meisel said it was "Great fun! More members turned out than I was expecting!"

Betsy summed it up by concluding "I wish everyone could have been there. I think the reminder phone calls we made the few days before the party were effective as there were more attendees in the earlier part of the alphabet." Edie Herrold said "I was glad my name starts with "H" because I got one of the calls and I would have been sorry to miss it!"



Joe DeMarsh answered the prize question



Cortaz Paige, Nora Schankin and Greg Lanzi



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Member Bob Chance Says “Thanks for the Memories!”; Resigns after 64 Years with the AAFM



Bob Chance at the party, flanked by wife Priscilla and daughter Cathy

At East Grand Rapids High School in 1941-3 Bob formed a Big Band where he learned (by himself) how to arrange Big Band music.

After army service in Europe during WWII, he was transferred to an army special services band in Brussels, Belgium where he played tenor sax and arranged for a swinging Big Band (the band played 5 nights a week). Discharge from the army occurred in 1946 and he returned to Grand Rapids where he joined the Musicians' Union.

"Sammy Fletcher's" 17 piece Big Band played at the Bil-Mar Ballroom in Grand Haven for the summer of 1947 and Bob played baritone sax in the band.

Bob studied architecture at the University of Michigan and played baritone sax in and arranged for Frank Tinker's Band at the Michigan Union (he sat next to Al Townsend before Al left to play with Gene Krupa).

“I wish I could relive it all again, with the same cast of characters!” - Bob Chance

Most importantly at this time Bob married a wonderful, perfect girl named Priscilla and they have two great daughters, Cathy and Susan.

Upon graduating from the U of M, Bob played upright acoustic bass with the "Ray Lewis" quintet for 18 years. A very enjoyable 13 years were experienced playing bass with the "Carl Alexius Trio."

In 1958 Fred Bentz founded the "Ambassadors of Good Will" band to entertain patients at the VA Hospital. "The Ambassadors" soon became a 17 piece Big Band. In the 1970's Al Townsend became the leader and wrote most of the band's quality arrangements. At this time a vocal quartet and male and female vocalists were added to the band. In the '90's Mike Letovsky assumed leadership and the band is still rehearsing and playing gigs. Lorne Kennedy (alto) and Bob Chance (baritone/arranger) were the last two founding members who played in the band into 2011.

In 1998 Al Townsend formed "The Couriers", an 8-piece band plus girl vocalist. Al and Bob wrote most of the arrangements for the band. Bob played baritone sax with the band until the summer of 2011 and is still arranging for them. Dan Raglin is booking the band.

Bob also played bass with "Don Kennys" band and "The Leftovers" 5 piece group composed of WWII veterans (Bob was the kid in the band). The band was based in Glen Arbor, MI and played 1930's music for 7 years -- fun music and great companions.

Bob considers joining the Musicians' Union to have been a very worthwhile

experience in his life and he is proud to have been a member for all these years.

Fellow members have become life-long friends and have provided countless treasured memories. He has often said that he "feels very privileged to have experienced so many wonderful and unforgettable opportunities in life."

Thank You, Bob, for being such a big part of the AAFM's History!

AAFM Membership Updates as of 1/10/2012

An Up-To-Date Membership Directory is always available on annarbormusicians.org in the Members Only area.

New Members

Phillip Bloomer
3164 Asher Rd.
Ann Arbor MI 48104
(281) 799-4647
pbloomer@umich.edu
Tuba, Euphonium

Matthew Bloomfield
1770 Broadway St. #C 105a
Ann Arbor MI 48105
(607) 351-3042
mbloomfi@umich.edu
Trumpet

Adam Cogan
1308 Maplewood
Saline MI 48176
(734) 429-3801
adamcogan80@yahoo.com
Double Bass

Gunnhildur Dadadottir
1695 Broadway St. #202
Ann Arbor MI 48105
(217) 418-2013
gunnda@umich.edu
Violin

Robert Jones II
1131 S. Congress St.
Ypsilanti MI 48197
(734) 323-1746
bob@rustbeltstudios.com
Guitar, Electric Bass, Keyboard,
Drums, Bass

Kevin Maloney
4085 Marvista #301
Hudsonville MI 49426
(616) 570-5744
kevin.maloney4@gmail.com
Trumpet

Benjamin Melsky
4956 N. Hoyne #1
Chicago IL 60625
(847) 912-2511
bmelsky@gmail.com
Harp

Kyle Neely
2809 Prairie Ridge
Grass Lake MI 49240
kzilla@hotmail.com
(848) 635-2909
Guitar, Piano, Drums, Vox

Theresa Prokes
1733 Broadview Lane #405
Ann Arbor MI 48105
(716) 907-4977
tprokes@gmail.com
Violin

Amelia Van Howe
351 Cobblestone Ct.
Brighton MI 48116
(248) 412-3339
ameliavhobo@gmail.com
Oboe

Kaycee Ware Thomas
2037 Pauline Ct.
Ann Arbor MI 48103
(405) 613-1566
kayceeware@yahoo.com
Oboe, English Horn, Voice,
Piano, Chimes

Reinstated

Brain Rounsifer
Rachel Rounsifer

Resigned in Good Standing

Joe Brown
Robert Chance
Emo Honzaki
Gary Hellick
Katie Lee
Kim Cole Luevano
Mimi Morris-Kim
Gerald Ross
Ellen Sudia-Coudron
Nate Zeisler

Suspended

Terry Kimura
Don Peterson

Expelled

Sharon Homeyer
Brad Phillips
Reid Smith

Minutes of AAFM Meetings

Executive Board Meeting June 1, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m. Present were President Kieme, Vice President Paige, Secretary-Treasurer Zmich and Executive Board members Beckerman, Grimes, Klinger and Meisel.

The minutes of the Executive Board Meeting of June 1, 2011 were approved as corrected.

President Kieme had no comments for this meeting.

The Board read the financial report for June, July and August 2011. A motion was made by Klinger to accept the financial report, subject to audit. The motion carried.

The Board examined the list of membership updates. A motion was made by Beckerman to acknowledge/accept the changes. The motion carried.

Zmich made the following reports:

- Two general fund CDs, one in the amount of approximately \$6000 and one in the amount of approximately \$23,000, were renewed, each for a six-month term.
- The season-long, 8-appearance ad for the Ann Arbor Symphony program will be purchased as approved by the Board.
- The current outlook for the Music Performance Trust Fund, which intends to continue at least through 2012-13. She showed the Board the report on MPF distributions for 2010-11, which showed the AAFM as having applied for and received a significant portion of the funding requested by the Michigan locals.
- An update on the AFM-EPF has been sent to all pension participants.
- The AFM is out of their wonderful New Member packets that we send to our new AAFM members. We haven't received word if these will be reordered.
- The AFM Annual Report should be examined carefully. The line about the AFM's prospects of remaining a Going Concern is distressing.

The Board held a discussion about the future direction of the AAFM Scholarship Fund. Perhaps a direct outreach to all high school band and orchestra directors and private teachers in the area will get more response.

The Board discussed the proposed AAFM bylaw amendment that would change the method of voting for officers to mail ballot from the current in-person ballot. A motion was made by Beckerman to recommend adoption of the amendment to the membership. The motion carried, Klinger voted no.

The Board discussed several MidAmerica Conference resolutions presented by Local 5 (Detroit) and Local 542 (Flint):

- On the Local 5 resolution regarding members' responsibility to ascertain that the organization, establishment, or person for whom they propose to render musical services has not been placed on the International Unfair List, a motion was made by Klinger to direct our MAC delegate Cortaz Paige to vote no on the resolution as it stands, but if the resolution is amended to vote as he sees fit. The motion carried.
- On the Local 542 resolution to create a category of Probationary Members, a motion was made by Beckerman to direct our MAC delegate Cortaz Paige to vote no on the resolution as it stands, but if the resolution is amended to vote as he sees fit. The motion carried.
- On the Local 542 resolution regarding a lower AFM per capita amount for smaller locals, a motion was made by Zmich to direct our MAC delegate Cortaz Paige to vote no on the resolution as it stands, but if the resolution is amended to vote as he sees fit. The motion carried.
- On the Local 542 resolution to eliminate FIF and LIF, a motion was made by Zmich to direct our MAC delegate Cortaz Paige to ask for more information and then to vote as he sees fit. The motion carried.

- Zmich reported on an A2SO member's questions about the attendance requirement.

The Board affirmed several e-votes:

- EB Policy proposal: AAFM Credit/Debit Card Policy
- Andrew Pelletier as A2SO Union Steward
- Request to AFM for 4Q 2011 Membership Drive
- A2SO Union Steward, OC Chair stipends
- A portion of ROPA Conference expenses for Zmich reflecting the amount of her participation in the conference as AAFM Secretary-Treasurer (the rest of the cost being her own responsibility as ROPA President Emerita).

Zmich reported on her meeting with the new A2SO personnel manager, Zac Moore, and A2SO Business Manager Lori Zupan.

The Party Committee discussed the still-developing plans for The Party.

Meisel reported on the September 6 HVCLC meeting:

- President Obama spoke at the Labor Day rally in Detroit September 5. He outlined his proposed jobs program.
- Guest speaker was Eric Keller. He presented information on the We Are the People coalition and the Right to Work issue. We need to work with Michigan groups to flip the balance of power in the Michigan legislature.
- The UM Nurses are working without a contract.
- United Way is kicking off its new campaign.

Grimes reported on her attendance at the ICSOM conference:

- Bankruptcy is being used as a bargaining tool. Orchestras of all sizes are affected. Managements offer the musicians a bad deal, then if it's rejected they say they'll file Chapter 11 or Chapter 7.
- Nashville has a great orientation packet.
- Branding of the orchestra in the community is vital. Do things like having Board members sit in the orchestra. People bid to sit there.
- Introductions of orchestral instruments to adults.
- The new Director of Symphonic Services, Jay Blumenthal, looks promising. He spoke about music being "The Golden Thread".
- People are getting ideas from sites like The Noble Viola and the Rusty Musician.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

General Meeting March 12, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. Present were President Kieme, Vice President Paige, Secretary-Treasurer Zmich and Executive Board members Beckerman, Grimes and Meisel.

Thirty members of the Ann Arbor Symphony were also in attendance. Board member Klinger (personal) was excused.

The minutes of the General Meeting of December 5, 2010 were approved.

President Kieme had no comments for this meeting.

Zmich reported that the financial condition of the Local remains good.

A motion was made by Beckerman to set the President's 2011 honorarium at \$50/month. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Beckerman to set the Secretary-Treasurer's 2011 salary at \$875/month. The motion carried; Zmich abstained.

A2SO ROPA delegate Greg Lanzi gave his report on the 2010 ROPA Conference in Omaha, Nebraska.

Grimes reported that the A2SO negotiations have been concluded.

Zmich reported to the membership on the recent assumption of the jurisdiction of the Jackson, Michigan local by the AAFM. The change was mandated by the AFM.

Zmich reported on the identity theft of the Music Performance Trust Fund and subsequent financial chaos.

Kieme and Zmich reported on recent presentations about the Union to UM students.

The meeting adjourned at 1:14 p.m.

Come to the AAFM's General Meeting!

A General Meeting of Local 625 will take place **Saturday, March 10, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. at the Michigan Theater, Ann Arbor.** General business will be conducted, including updates on any emerging Ann Arbor Symphony issues and setting the Executive Board meeting honorarium, the President's honorarium and Secretary-Treasurer's salary for 2012.

See you there!



OK, Room for One Joke

Q: How do you keep a violin from being stolen?

A: Put it in a viola case.

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A quarterly publication of the
Ann Arbor Federation of Musicians
Local 625 AFM
PO Box 980313
Ypsilanti MI 48198
Phone: (734) 668-8041
Fax: (866) 225-AAFM (2236)

Officers:

President: Mark Kieme
Vice President: Cortaz Paige
Secretary/Treasurer: Barbara M. Zmich
Executive Board: Betsy Beckerman,
Kathleen Grimes, Paul Klinger,
Pamela Meisel
First Alternate Delegate :
Celeste McClellan

Score Editor: Barbara M. Zmich
Assistant Editors: Celeste McClellan,
Greg Near, Nancy Koenig
Office Hours: MWF 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
(Please call or e-mail before coming by)
E-Mail: local625@afm.org
www.annarbormusicians.org
Printed at Standard Printing, Ypsilanti MI

ANN ARBOR FEDERATION OF MUSICIANS
LOCAL 625 AFM
PO BOX 980313
YPSILANTI MI 48198

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