



THE *Dixieland*

# JAZZ HOT SHEET

The Official Newsletter of The COHJS

A Not For Profit Corporation Dedicated to the Preservation  
of Dixieland and Traditional Jazz Music

March 2024

[www.COHJS.org](http://www.COHJS.org)

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A Member of the American  
Federation of Jazz Societies  
& Midwest Jazz Alliance

## Matt Tolentino Band Opens Spring Season

Sunday, March 10, 2 - 5 pm ~ Clintonville Woman's Club

**PLUS 2 hour dance workshop by SwingColumbus from 11am - 1pm ~ MORE INFO BELOW**



Photo credit Mark Lenz

To kick off our Spring season we're very excited to be introducing a wonderful musician to our COHJS audience - Matt Tolentino. Matt's talents are in demand across the USA, on cruise ships and more, so we're pleased he is finally able to perform for us here in Columbus.

**About Matt** - A native of Dallas, now based in Cincinnati, Matt is a highly talented band leader, vocalist, preservationist, and music historian. A true multi-instrumentalist, he plays accordion, piano, clarinet, saxophone, banjo, guitar, tuba, and vibraphone. As a vocalist, Matt has been praised for capturing the flavor and spirit of the 1920's + '30's with sincerity and authenticity. His ensembles include small combos and multiple large ensembles including Matt Tolentino and his Orchestra and The New Liberty Dance Orchestra - both specializing in the music of 1895 to 1935. Matt also works as an archivist - with a collection of over 6,000 band arrangements and hundreds of 78 rpm records. He has completely dedicated himself to his craft and to the preservation of classic jazz and pop.

**The Band:** For our show Matt has gathered together some familiar top-shelf Hot Jazz musicians to perform with him. **Matt Tolentino**, band leader, vocals,

clarinet, C melody sax, bass sax, accordion, piano; **Chris Moore**, cornet and vocals; **Vaughn Wiester**, trombone; **Betsy Grafin**, banjo; **Chris Berg**, bass; **Jim Leslie**, drums.

### BONUS: SWING DANCE COMPETITION TEAM PERFORMANCE!

During the show, we'll be treated to a dance performance by the **SwingColumbus** competition team, presenting the dance they performed at the recent Dayton Swing Smackdown competition.

## 2 HOUR SWING DANCE WORKSHOP ~ 11AM - 1PM

**Downstairs in the Ravine Room at the Clintonville Woman's Club**

Join **SwingColumbus** instructors **Shannon Varner** and **Mark Calkins** for a two hour dance workshop to help you get ready to dance to the vintage dance tunes at the show. **\$30 gets BOTH the dance workshop AND the show+dance!**

**For detailed info + to register for the workshop: <https://forms.gle/9kNnPPQGdZ6vTtUt7>**



Photo by Siriomi Joy

**PLEASE CONSIDER JOINING OR RENEWING YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2024 AT THE SHOW!**



**SHOW ADMISSION**



General Admission **\$20**, COHJS Members + SwingColumbus dancers **\$15**,

Music educators + music students **ALWAYS FREE!** All other students **\$10**

**For as little as \$20 for a membership you can help keep Hot Jazz Live & Local! (+ get the discount at shows)**

## NEXT SHOW & DANCE - GET IT ON YOUR CALENDAR!

**April 14 - Ragtime Rick & the Chefs of Dixieland**

See inside for photos from November's Fall Harvest Jazz Party, plus Hot Jazz Jam + Dance ⇨

## Fall Harvest Jazz Party & Dance Kept Things Swingin'

A good crowd turned out November 19 for an enjoyable afternoon of music and dancing under the glittering chandeliers of the beautiful Valley Dale Ballroom. Our two featured bands were a great

representation of the Central Ohio Hot Jazz Society's mission: to "promote and preserve traditional jazz" into future generations. We had the perennial crowd pleaser, Ray Heitger's Cakewalkin Jass Band from Toledo, one of the longest running trad jazz bands in Ohio. And representing a new generation, we had the popular local band, the Whirlybirds, featuring a quartet of talented young musicians putting their own personality and spin on traditional tunes, as well as treating us to some of their own originals. It was great to see the camaraderie and respect

between the two bands. And a highlight moment was when the Whirlybirds invited Cakewalkin' trumpet player Dave Kosmyna to come up and join them for a couple tunes - what fabulous fun! Both bands kept the dance floor lively. We're grateful to Rick and Landa Brunetto for being such gracious hosts. Here are a few pics from the event.



*Whirlybirds called Dave Kosmyna up to sit in for a couple tunes - what fun!*



*Joe B and Joe G: classy suits gents!*



*Bob Butters sits in with the front line.*



*Nicole Heitger delights the crowd with her singing!*



## Next Jazz Jam & Dance Plus Short Dance Lesson - March 13, 8:15 - 11

Repeats every 2nd Wednesday at the Rambling House, 310 E Hudson St., Columbus  
DANCE LESSON starts at 8:15 ~ OPEN JAZZ JAM starts on the bandstand about 8:30

All levels of experience are welcomed on the bandstand and the dance floor. It's a fun and informal evening sharing this music and dance we all love! **MUSICIANS:** visit the "Learn it + Play it" page on [www.COHJS.org](http://www.COHJS.org) for Jam tips and learning resources. **So dust off that instrument, or come sing a song. Come out and join the fun at the next jam!**



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## REGULAR HOT JAZZ + DANCE EVENTS NEAR HOME

We'd suggest *calling these places before heading out* because ... well, many things have changed!

... If you know of something we should have on here, or any changes, please let us know

... For national listings we recommend the Syncopated Times – [info@SyncopatedTimes.com](mailto:info@SyncopatedTimes.com)

**Lower London St Dixieland Band** – Ann & Tony's Italian Restaurant, 211 E Main St, West Jefferson (614.879.8897). Last Tuesday of the month, 6-8.

**Goosetown Astonishers** – Crosskeys Tavern, 17 E Main St, Chillicothe (740-774-4157).  
First Thursdays only. 7-9:30. Amazing name - - - a terrific band + fun night out.

**Ragtime Rick & the Chefs of Dixieland** – The Band plans to be in a new venue for a regular gig soon - so stay tuned. Band info: [grafingproductions.com](http://grafingproductions.com)

**Dave Greer's Classic Jazz Stompers** - Jimmie's Ladder 11, 936 Brown St, Dayton (937-424-1784)  
1st Tuesday of the month.

**Ray Heitger's Cakewalkin' Jass Band** - Tony Packo's, where they started in 1968!  
1902 Front St, E Toledo 43605. 2nd Thursday of the month, 7-10.

**EARLYJAS Jam - 2-5pm** (usually last Sunday of the month) *Check their website for more info* [earlyjas.org](http://earlyjas.org)  
Play + learn in a relaxed setting with musicians from NE Ohio bands + at all levels.  
British American Club, 8564 Ravenna Rd, Twinsburg OH.

**SwingColumbus** - Pop-up dance lessons at COHJS monthly Jams on 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesdays. Plus - dance lessons + workshops. [swingcolumbus.org/](http://swingcolumbus.org/) and on Facebook at [facebook.com/swingcolumbus/](https://facebook.com/swingcolumbus/)

### Other related gigs you'll like:

**Vaughn Wiester's Famous Jazz Orchestra** - Clintonville Woman's Club, 3951 N High St, Cbus. Pretty much EVERY Monday night 7:30 - 10 for over 20 years, 22 of Ohio's best jazz artists play amazing big band jazz - a kissin' cousin and 1st-gen descendant of hot jazz! A great night out!

**Whirlybirds Band** - Every Sat, 5:15-7:00 at Natalie's Grandview, 945 King Ave, Columbus  
For more Whirlybirds performances visit [whirlybirdsband.com](http://whirlybirdsband.com)

**The Rick Brunetto Big Band** - 35 years! Now at the "Famed and Fabulous" Valley Dale Ballroom, 1590 Sunbury Rd, Cbus (614-441-1907). Every Fri 7:30-10:30. Listen + dance to everything from a beautiful waltz to disco hits in Columbus' authentic period venue, listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

COJHS is grateful for the generous support of:  
**Columbus Foundation** and the  
**Greater Columbus Arts Council**



### ***The Dixieland Jazz Hot Sheet***

The official newsletter of the  
**Central Ohio Hot Jazz Society**  
a 501(c)3 not for profit corporation  
3307 County 172, Cardington OH 43315

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## ***Support Hot Jazz Live + Local***

**TIME TO RENEW NOW for 2024**

and **PLEASE JOIN** if you're not yet a member!  
Your membership support is **critical to**  
**booking bands AND getting grants.**

Thanks so much for pitching in.

➔ **NOW ONLINE TOO** ⬅

**Debit + Credit cards ~ PayPal ~ Venmo**  
**COHJS.org + click Admit•Join•Renew**  
( find it at the end of the red menu bar )

Or fill this out, add a check and mail to:

Larry Nusser, 720 Lincoln Ave, Lancaster OH 43130

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Individual \$20 ☐ Family \$30 ☐ Sustaining \$50 ☐

Sponsor \$125 ☐ ... get 2 free admissions to all events!

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**The Central Ohio Hot Jazz Society**  
**Listen ~ Dance ~ Play ~ Live + Local**  
3307 County Road 172  
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***Sunday, March 10***

**Matt Tolentino Band**

*with dance performance by*  
**SwingColumbus competition team**

**PLUS 2 Hour Dance Workshop**  
**by SwingColumbus**

***First Class Music***

→ via ←

***First Class Mail***