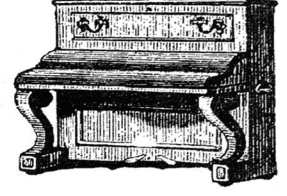


# WEST COAST RAGTIMER



THE JOURNAL OF THE WEST COAST RAGTIME SOCIETY

Sacramento, California

Volume XIX, Number 3

Autumn 2007

## Join Us For 3 Fun-Filled Days!! November 16-18, 2007

### WORLD-CLASS MUSICIANS

It is the fabulous core of talented musicians playing ragtime and vintage music that makes the West Coast Ragtime Festival the outstanding event that it is. As you can see from the lineup on page 2, that wonderful tradition continues.

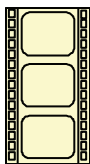
### FULL DANCE SCHEDULE

Dance to the wonderful music of two 10-piece orchestras, plus three ragtime ensembles. Want to learn the vintage dance steps? There is free dance instruction. Many of the dancers dress in authentic clothes from the early 1900's. They are a wonderful addition to the show!

### SIX GREAT SEMINARS

Seminars are always a festival favorite! **Nan Bostick** has lined up six seminar presenters with topics that should fascinate our festival goers.

### SILENT MOVIES



Two silent movies are scheduled this year. Corrine Griffith stars in "Garden of Eden," a full-length romantic comedy. And since many of you didn't get to see "Silent Movies-The Comedies of Marion Davis" last year, it will be repeated in a larger venue this year!

### YOUTH PERFORMERS

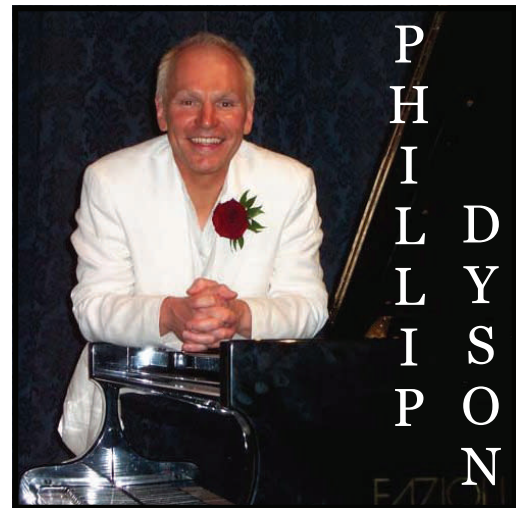
Talented young pianists from around the country will be invited to perform at the festival again this year. There will also be an opportunity to see the winners of the youth competition at the Master Class.

### SPECIAL SETS AND SHOWS

Performers will often create a set designed around a theme. How about World War I songs performed in authentic costume! Like to sing-along? Love the music of Zez Confrey? This year's festival has it all!

And we haven't even mentioned Open Piano, After Hours jam sessions, the Ragtime Store, the Sheet Music Exchange and other great surprises.

THE WEST COAST RAGTIME SOCIETY  
PROUDLY PRESENTS



**International Concert Pianist**

**Saturday, September 29, 2007  
1:00 PM**

**Phillip Dyson** is recognized as one of Britain's most sought after and innovative concert pianists for both his classical and light music repertoire. In addition to his sparkling piano style, he exhibits a very coy, understated sense of humor and a great comic timing. His rapport with audiences, brilliant technique and innate sensitivity constantly win him the highest of praise.

**First United Methodist Church**  
21st and J Streets  
Downtown Sacramento

**Tickets: \$18 in advance; \$20 at the door**

**Contact: Bub & Petra Sullivan 1-866-724-9273**

**Purchase by mail: West Coast Ragtime Society  
PO Box 13346  
Sacramento, CA 95813-3346**

## Festival 2007 Star-Studded Performer Line-up

### Soloists

John Arpin  
Paul Asaro  
Mimi Blais  
Tom Bopp (Sunday only)  
Nan Bostick  
Chris & Jack Bradshaw  
Tom Brier  
Neville Dickie  
Marty Eggers  
Frank French  
Ann Gibson  
Alex Hassan  
Frederick Hodges  
Brad Kay  
Janet Klein  
Carl Sonny Leyland  
Dennis Pash  
David Thomas Roberts  
Ray Skjelbred  
Squeek Steele  
Stern & Piver  
Virginia Tichenor  
Craig Ventresco with Meredith Axelrod  
Adam Yarian

### Ensembles

Heliotrope Ragtime Orchestra  
Pacific Coast Ragtime Orchestra  
Plucking Wonders (Friday)  
Porcupine Ragtime Ensemble  
Raspberry Jam Band  
Sullivans and Drivons

### Youth Performers

Andrew Barrett  
Jared DiBartolomeo  
Adam Swanson  
Stephanie Trick

### Dance Instructors

Bruce Mitchell  
Richard Duree & Ruth Levin

## Dancers' De-light Fantastic!

It's great to hear the sounds of ragtime orchestras and ensembles, and it's amazing to see the dancer's in their vintage costumes, but it's even more fun if you participate in the dancing! Don't know how? Well, free dance instruction is available all week-end so that you can actively enjoy this wonderful, ragtime music. Nothing could be easier than the Cakewalk Dance. If you can walk, you can do the Cakewalk. And cake is served at the end of the Friday Cakewalk Dance! Now, meet our dance instructors:

**Bruce Mitchell** has been a dance instructor at the West Coast Ragtime Festival for many years. We are always glad to have him return. His career began in the 1950s and spans all types of dance, with an emphasis on vintage and folk dancing. Bruce has been instrumental in making dancing a vital part of the festival



**Bruce Mitchell**



**Richard Duree & Ruth Levin**

**Richard Duree** is an internationally known dance ethnologist with over 40 years of experience as a performer, researcher, teacher, choreographer and writer. With his wife and dance partner, **Ruth Levin**, he has introduced hundreds of students and thousands of spectators to the joys of traditional vintage, folk, and ethnic dance. With a dance background in physical education, theater, history and anthropology, the pair impart a rare, in-depth knowledge of dance technique and an appreciation of dance history to their ragtime dance students. We are delighted once again to welcome Richard and Ruth to the West Coast Ragtime Festival.

## Live Piano Accompaniment

No CD's or tapes for dance instruction! The talented team of **Stanley Stern and Nancy Piver** will provide four-hand piano ragtime accompaniment for the dance lessons. You might want to stop by the lessons just to hear them play!

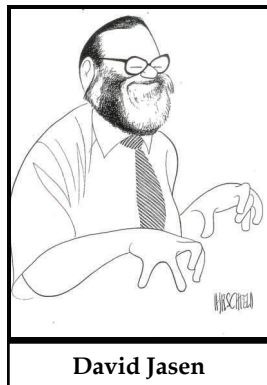
## Six Great Seminars Scheduled

**Nan Bostick**, our seminar guru, has lined up six interesting and knowledgeable people to present topics that are certain to fascinate our festival audience. Full details will soon be available, but let's see if we can peak your interest to find out more about them. And Hurrah! Hurrah! **Nan** has been persuaded to conduct a seminar this year! She conducts seminars at ragtime festivals across the country, so we're delighted to have her do one for us this year.

**Larry Karp: Sedalia's Contract With History.** Larry is a mystery novelist who became interested in the unexplained fact that John Stark saw fit to give Scott Joplin a royalties contract for *Maple Leaf Rag*. He decided to write the matter up as historical fiction and the novel, "The Ragtime Kid" was born. Larry does not play ragtime, but he does love it. A ragtime seminar by a novelist should be quite unique!



Larry Karp



David Jasen

**David Jasen** is a leading authority on American popular music and is internationally recognized for his work as an author, Ragtime historian, Ragtime pianist, Ragtime composer and early jazz and Ragtime record producer. David will share his expertise about creating a ragtime discography during his seminar. With his many years of experience to draw from this should be a most informative seminar!

**Adam Swanson: Celebrating Johnny Maddox.** Last year, Adam's special set concerning Charlie Thompson was so well researched and organized that Nan asked him to conduct a seminar this year. Johnny Maddox is one of Adam's idols, so the subject for the seminar was an easy choice for Adam. Since he always does his homework, this will undoubtedly be an interesting and well-researched seminar.

**Galen Wilkes: HOT WAX—The phonograph in ragtime.** This seminar is designed to show exactly how they made recordings in the ragtime era. Galen will play original recordings on the original equipment from a century ago. Phonographs could record as well as play. Galen will demonstrate this during his seminar by recording a rag being played live using a wax cylinder. Sounds like a fascinating history lesson!



Brad Kay

**Brad Kay: The Pianists Who Rhapsodized Gershwin.** Brad has discovered a quote from Gershwin concerning pianists who inspired him. Among the notables are George Bernard, Aaron Copeland, C. Luckyth 'Lucky' Roberts, Zez Confrey, Arden & Ohman, and Melville Ellis (who performed riffs from *Rhapsody In Blue* years before the piece was written). Brad is not only a music historian, he is also a consummate entertainer, so this seminar should be fascinating and fun!

## Festival 2007 Youth Performers

The West Coast Ragtime Society continues to support and encourage young pianists who have an interest in and a talent for ragtime music. Don't miss these talented performers at the youth concert on Sunday, November 18.

### Performers Under 18

**Adam Swanson** first appeared at the WCRS festival in 2005 and made a big hit. We are delighted to welcome this gifted 15-year-old pianist back to our festival. Adam has been playing the piano for about 5 ½ years and is a 3-time Jr. Champion of the World Championship of Old-Time Piano Playing Contest in Peoria, Illinois.



Adam Swanson

### Performers ages 18-25

**Stephanie Trick** amazed festival audiences last year with her debut appearance at the West Coast Festival. This talented pianist has been playing the piano since she was five years old. Stephanie has been a long-time fan and player of ragtime, and participated in and won the Friends of Scott Joplin Ragtime Competition for three years in a row. She has recorded a CD of some of her favorite ragtime, jazz, and classical music. Welcome back, Stephanie!



Stephanie Trick

**THE THIRD ANNUAL  
WEST COAST RAGTIME SOCIETY  
YOUTH RAGTIME PIANO  
COMPETITION**

For Students ages 8 to 18

**Saturday, November 3, 2007**

**10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.**

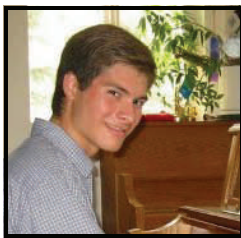
at

**Trinity Cathedral**

2620 Capitol Avenue  
Sacramento, California

Students will be grouped into performance divisions. Each division will be awarded a first and second place prize. First place winners will be invited to participate in a Master Class with **Frederick Hodges** at the Festival on Saturday, November 17, 2007.

**For information call: 1-800-760-9297**



Jared DiBartolomeo

**Jared DiBartolomeo** will be attending U.C. Irvine as a junior this year. He first appeared at the WCRS festival in 2005. A major turning point occurred in 2004 when Jared chose ragtime as the subject of a research paper for a music literature class at Diablo Valley College. At this time, he attended the West Coast Ragtime festival for the

first time and had the opportunity to interview six musicians. Jared began studying ragtime with Marty Eggers and has had opportunities to play at San Francisco's Pier 23, the SRS Ragtime Corner at the Sacramento Jazz Jubilee, and the Sutter Creek Ragtime Festival.

**Andrew Barrett** made his first appearance at the WCRS Festival in 2004. This talented pianist has an interest in band organs, orchestrions, and other automatic musical instruments, and he has a taste for the turn-of-the-century tunes that they played. Andrew has composed several pieces, "Frequent Flyer Rag" and "You're Too Cranky" being outstanding examples. Andrew attends several ragtime societies because "...I can try out pieces I've been working on in front of an audience, I get to hear other performers, I have fun, and mostly, I can hear my favorite music!"



Andrew Barrett

## Youth Program Alumnus

**Adam Yarian** will be performing at the festival again this year, but not as a youth performer. He has graduated to professional status. Our festival audience was extremely impressed with **Adam** when he made his first appearance at the 2004 Festival. He attends USC and is majoring in piano performance and studying both classical and jazz piano. Since 2001, Adam has competed in the senior division in the Old Time Piano Playing Competition four times and has won the coveted title "World Champion Old Time Piano Player."



Adam Yarian

## Youth Master Class



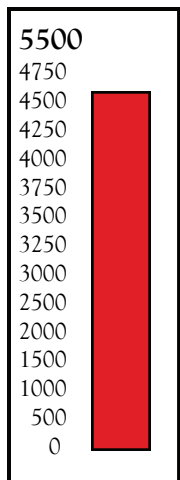
Frederick Hodges

First Place division winners will be invited to participate in a Master Class with the dynamic, sophisticated performer, **Frederick Hodges**, on Saturday, November 17, 10:00 A.M. The Master Class is a rare opportunity for young pianist to have the benefit of guidance by one of ragtime's most talented and well-loved artists. And Frederick certainly fills the bill! For the past two years, Frederick has emceed the Sunday Youth Concerts. He sets the young performers at ease with his wit and charm. We couldn't think of anyone more capable of guiding and advising our aspiring young ragtime pianists.

## We're Almost There!!

Our budget for 2007 is \$5500 and our WCRS Treasurer, Hal Krueger, tells us that we are within **\$1,000** of meeting that goal! Your donations to the WCRS Youth Program make it possible for us to hold the Youth Ragtime Competition and to bring outstanding advanced youth performers to the festival.

**Thank you again to all of you who have already donated generously to the Program.**



WCRS is a 501(c)(3) group and all donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.



## Sheet Music From Tom Brier

Piano players with hands that are considerably smaller than Eubie Blake's will be especially pleased with Tom's selection for this issue of the newsletter. *Benzine Rag (1910)* by Edward A. Denish is a charming piece that, as always, meets the criteria that an amateur (yours truly) can play it.

The opening A and B strains have a jaunty feel and were described by my piano tuner as "Joplin-esque." A fitting description for a rag, don't you think? The Trio has a more legato movement and Denish varies the rhythm with "Boom-Chick-Chick-Boom" in several of the bars. Just a little something to keep us on our toes. A 12 bar bridge leads to the repeat of the Trio and ultimately to a characteristic ragtime *Fine*.

As always – we thank Tom Brier for his generosity in sharing music from his collection. And the same instruction that is always given to those of you who play the piece is: Have Fun With It!!!

## IT PAYS TO ORDER YOUR FESTIVAL BADGE EARLY!

- 1) **SAVE \$5.00** on each All-Event Badge ordered before November 1, 2007. All-Event Badges will be \$85.00 before 11/1/07 and \$90.00 after 11/1/07
- 2) Your badge(s) and Festival package will be waiting for you at the Registration Desk. You will be able to quickly pick up your badge(s) and begin enjoying the music with minimal delay.
- 3) Your name will be printed on your badge if you order prior to the Festival. Most of our Festival attendees appreciate this personal touch.

For your convenience, a Badge Order Form is included on the back cover of the newsletter. Your badge(s) may be purchased with a check made payable to WCRS. **We also accept most major credit cards.**

### *West Coast Ragtimer*

Editor: Bonnie Gonzalez

WCRS can be reached at: P.O. Box 13346  
Sacramento, CA 95813-3346  
[www.WestCoastRagtime.com](http://www.WestCoastRagtime.com)

## Hotel Reservation Deadline

**OCTOBER 24, 2007**

Group room rates:

**\$79.00** for 1 or 2 persons

**\$89.00** for 3 or 4 persons

The number of rooms in the "West Coast Ragtime Festival" block is limited, so be sure to call early to assure that you receive a West Coast Ragtime Festival rate.

Reservations phone number: **1-800-RED LION**

## Bonanza Sheet Music Sales At Festival

**Hawthorn's Antique Audio** has acquired a large collection of rags, marches, cakewalks, coon songs, tin-pan alley selections, novelty piano solos and other wonderful goodies, which they are in the process of sorting and evaluating. This "treasure trove" is large enough to warrant more space at the festival Ragtime Store to accommodate the collection. Since not everyone will be able to attend the festival, some of the very choice items will be offered by mail auction, probably in several segments beginning soon after the festival. If you would like to receive the ragtime list, contact the Hawthorn's:

Hawthorne's Antique Audio

77 Columbia Ave

Roseville, CA 95678

[hawthorn@thoseoldrecords.com](mailto:hawthorn@thoseoldrecords.com)

## Your WCRS Membership Will Be Appreciated

The West Coast Ragtime Society (WCRS) is a member-supported 501 (c) (3) organization whose activities include the annual Ragtime Festival, Ragtime Concerts and an active Youth Program. Subscribing to the Sacramento Ragtime Society's (SRS) newsletter does NOT make you a member of the WCRS. It is true that WCRS is greatly supported by Sacramento Ragtime Society members, and it gets confusing. The SRS is unincorporated and exists solely for the purpose of having monthly sessions to promote ragtime in Sacramento.

WCRS annual dues are \$25 for a couple and \$15 for an individual. Dues must be received by **December 31, 2007**. Please make your check payable to:

**West Coast Ragtime Society**

P.O. Box 13346

Sacramento, CA + 95813-3346

**THANK YOU!!**



## COMPOSER'S CORNER

### GALEN WILKES



This summer my husband and I were driving through the Ozarks after a wonderful time at the Sedalia Ragtime Festival, and one of Galen Wilkes signature compositions, "Creeks of Missouri" started going through my head. As soon as I returned home, I rushed to pull out the sheet music and reacquaint myself with this wonderful, lyrical piece that is so reminiscent of the Missouri countryside. At the Sutter Creek Festival, Chris and Jack Bradshaw always include the fun, audience participation piece "Sedalia Stomp" in their sets. There's hardly a festival at which Galen's music is not performed. I met Galen at the Old Town Theatre in El Segundo in mid July and it just seemed fated that he should be the featured composer for this newsletter's Composer's Corner.

Galen was born in New London, CT and was reared in Niantic. His dad and his grandmother played piano and Galen began taking lessons when he was 8 years old. His first syncopated piece is an untitled ditty using cakewalk rhythms and is pictured in the liner notes of his CD. "Kangaroo Rag" was his first official rag and was written in 1975. Like many other ragtime musicians, Galen's interest in the music was sparked by the 1970's Joplin revival. He also loves silent movies and has his own collection on actual film. These influences are particularly obvious in his early compositions for film accompaniment.

Galen taught himself how to notate music and with a little help from his friends, has now completed four ragtime folios, which include a ragtime teaching instructor for beginners of any age. Besides having wonderful melodies, his compositions fit well under the fingers so it is fun even for amateurs like me to play. I had an opportunity to review one of his new compositions "The Hollywood Stroll." It is described as "elegant swing" and indeed it is - a rich composition and a total departure from the earlier folk rags.



**Try This On Your Piano** - The first page of "The Hollywood Stroll" is included on the next page. Although it is not strictly ragtime, fans of Galen Wilkes are certain to enjoy the "other side of Galen Wilkes." You'll want to collect all of Galen's folios, and don't fail to get a copy of "The Hollywood Stroll." If you cannot wait until the festival in November to acquire the music - Good News! - you can request it via his web site.

<http://galenwilkes.tripod.com>

#### **PIANO RAGS** Volume One

Contains 10 piano rags in classic, folk, popular and novelty styles.

Includes *The Creeks of Missouri* - his most popular rag. Others are: *Leprechaun Rag*, *Puppy on the Piano*, *Daffodil*, *Old Boston Post Road*, *Spanish Moss (tango)*, *Wisteria Rag*, *Whippoorwill Hollow*, *Aphrodite* (rag waltz).

#### **AUTHENTIC RAGTIME** Volume Two

Contains 10 more rags in various styles. *Ragtime Bluebird*, *Magnolia Rag*, *Mephistopheles' Two Step*, *Redwood Rag*, *Baltimore Rag*, *Sedalia Stomp*, *Boone County Rag*, *Horsefeathers*, *Last of the Ragtime Pioneers*, *Streets of Sedalia*.

#### **PIANO SYNCOPATIONS** Volume Three

More Wilkes compositions. *The Oyster Shimmy*, *Sweet Dreams*, *Niantic by the Sea*, *Queen of Diamonds*, *Hollywood Rag*, *The Water Witch*, *Cakewalking through Kansas*, *Mexican Mirage*, *Sunnieside Stride*

#### **RAGTIME INSTRUCTOR**

**A Primer for Beginners of Ragtime Piano.**

This folio features 14 easy ragtime selections, all composed by Galen demonstrating different styles and syncopated rhythms. Includes cakewalks, rags, and ragtime waltzes. For piano teachers and students of any age.

## THE HOLLYWOOD STROLL

Elegant swing

(♩ = 52mm, ♩ =  $\frac{3}{4}$ )

GALEN WILKES

*mf*  
*freely*

*rit. p a tempo*

*mp*  
*etc.*

**WEST COAST RAGTIME Society**

PO Box 13346  
Sacramento CA 95813-3346



NONPROFIT  
ORG  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
Sacramento CA  
Permit #2473

Stamp required  
if not bulk mailed

## BADGE ORDER FORM

### The 21st Annual West Coast Ragtime Festival

Noon Friday, Nov. 16 to 5:00 P.M. Sunday, Nov. 18, 2007  
At the Red Lion Hotel, 1401 Arden Way, Sacramento, CA

Type of Badge	No.	Cost per Badge	Total Cost
All-Event Badge	_____	**@ \$85.00**	_____
**(pre 11/1/07)**			
All-Event Badge	_____	@ \$90.00	_____
Friday Only	_____	@ \$35.00	_____
Saturday Only	_____	@ \$45.00	_____
Sunday Only	_____	@ \$25.00	_____
Sat/Sun Pkg	_____	@ \$60.00	_____
<b>Total Enclosed</b>			\$ _____

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

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State/Province: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone(s): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to **WCRS** and mail to:

**West Coast Ragtime Society**  
PO Box 13346  
Sacramento, CA 95813-3346

To order tickets, call **Toll Free:**  
**1-866-RAG-WCRS (724-9277)**

Confirmation of receipt will be mailed promptly. Pick up your badges at the Registration Table at the Festival. Refunds requested for Festival Badge cancellations must be received in writing no later than November 1, 2007. A \$10.00 Handling Charge will apply. Refunds requested after 11/1/07 will be issued as vouchers valid for the following year's West Coast Ragtime Festival.

For queries & information, call **Toll Free:**  
**1-866-RAG-WCRF (724-9273)**

**Festivalinfo@WestCoast Ragtime.com**

**www.WestCoastRagtime.com**