



FROM THE DESK OF JOHN SAMPEN

Believe it or not, I started writing this Saxophone Sentinel article last February as I gazed out my office window, watching the traditional Bowling Green wind and snow punish the Ohio landscape. Somehow it now has become June with all the typical hot weather (at least here in Ohio), leaves on the trees and green grass which needs to be mowed. The seasons and our lives pass so quickly.

In the “air conditioning” of our CMA building, the DMA program in Contemporary Music is now blossoming with the talents and enthusiasm of seven doctoral candidates, including saxophonist Jeff Heisler. This doctoral degree is unique in the USA and attracts composers, conductors and performers from all over the world.

The saxophone studio remains strong and vital with terrific players who inspire me in so many ways. In the fall we will welcome many new saxophone students who were trained by our own BGSU graduates. Thank you BGSU alumni who “carry the torch” for our instrument, our art and our alma mater.

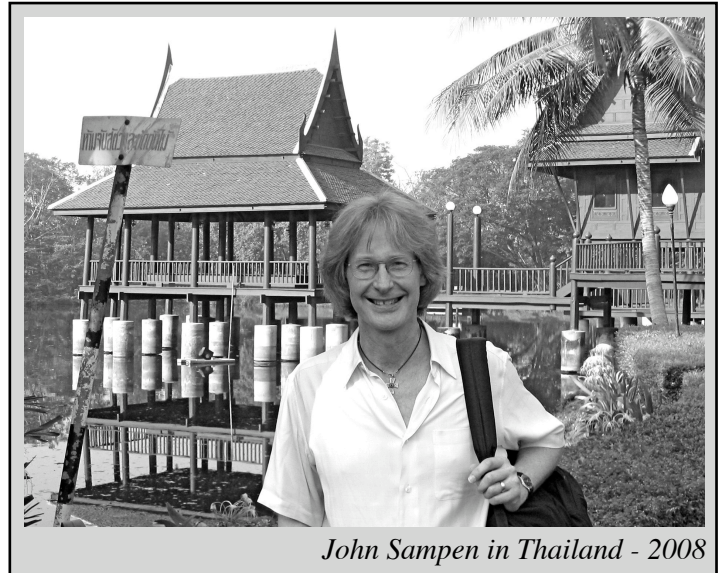
Travel remains one of my passions and my recent professional trips have been extensive--journeys to Greece, Italy, Cyprus, and Thailand where I was the USA judge for the 2nd International Londeix Saxophone Competition. Perhaps some of you will join us again in Thailand during the summer of 2009 for the 15th World Saxophone Congress. Most recently, Marilyn and I have just returned from a three week European trip where we saw thirteen operas—it was a glorious way to celebrate our 35th wedding anniversary.

We also enjoy infrequent trips to the west coast where our son David resides in Los Angeles and works his multiple jobs in the restaurant industry, his part-time acting career (you will see him in “Blades of Glory”) and his guitar performance. Our daughter Maria and family reside in the Seattle area where she is violin professor at the University of Puget Sound. And we especially love our special times with our “brilliant” two-year old grand daughter Charlotte.

We sadly mourn the passing of my predecessor Lou Marini who was our BGSU saxophone professor at BGSU from 1962 to 1977. Lou passed away in May of 2008 at the age of 87. He will be greatly missed!

On a brighter note, I leave you with a thought from recent alumni Theofilos Sotiriadis who characterizes the BGSU Saxophone Studio as the “sun’s light in the world of a musical darkness”.

Thanks and best wishes.



John Sampen in Thailand - 2008

SAXOPHONE STUDENTS ABROAD

BGSU saxophonists circled the globe with a variety of special trips and activities for 2007/2008. Here is a sampling:

Florence, Italy As part of “Music and Art in Florence 2007”, saxophonists Emily Bair, Joel Diegert, Katie Hachey, and Carl Wiggins joined nine other BG music students as well as Dr. Shrude, Dr. Natvig, Mr. Engelke and Dr. Sampen for a “studies abroad” experience. The group enjoyed an incredible five weeks in Italy where they performed concerts, studied analysis and music history and attended on-site classes in Renaissance art history.



BGSU “Music and Art in Florence” (2007)



Cosmos Saxophone Quartet in Thessoloniaki (2008)
(L-R): Joel Diegert, Theo Sotiriadis, David Wegehaupt,
Sean Patayanikorn

Thessolonaki, Greece In April of 2007, the Cosmos Saxophone Quartet traveled to Thessolonaki, for two featured concerts and a terrific taste of the culture, food and wine.

Corfu, Greece In July of 2007, students Jessica Simms and Adam Liddle spent two weeks on the lovely island of Corfu where they studied saxophone, played concerts, and enjoyed the Mediterranean beach life.

Paris & Bordeaux, France Four of our recent alumni pursued advanced saxophone studies in the cities of Paris or Bordeaux. Ryan Muncy worked with Goury (2006-2007), Allison Balcetis finished her master’s degree with Charrier in Bordeaux (2005-2007), David Wegehaupt won a Fulbright Scholarship for studies with Goury (2007-2008) and Joel Diegert is just arriving in Paris for a year of lessons.

Bangkok, Thailand Joel Diegert and Sean Patayanikorn participated in the 2nd International Jean-Marie Londeix Competition in January of 2008.



CURRENT EVENTS



"Saxophobia" Halloween Concert featuring the BGSU Saxophone Class of 2008

It was a very good year with lots of fun including our fall young audience "Saxophobia" concert on Halloween. We also organized an "everyone plays" ping pong tournament with Chris Bartz winning first prize and a coveted saxophone doll. Jeff Heisler hosted our end-of-the year barbeque with special sports activities like bocce and guitar mania (check).

Special guests for 2007/2008 featured Jean-Michel Goury (France), alumni Joseph Murphy (Mansfield University), Susan Fancher (University of North Carolina), the Composition VII Quartet from Taiwan (BGSU alumni Wu, Ku and Jimmy), and the Anubis Quartet (alumni Balcetis, Muncy, Patayanikorn, and Wegehaupt).



NSA 2008 Biennial Convention in South Carolina

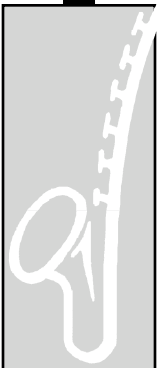
*Row 1: Rhonda Taylor, Jessica Simms, Chris Covlin, Marilyn Nathan Mandel
Row 2: David Wegehaupt, Carl Wiggins, Steve Leffue, John Sampen, Jim fusik, Ryan Muncy, Mikel Kuehn, Jim Umble, Shyen Lee*

Our saxophone quartets and chamber ensembles played frequent concerts throughout the Midwest. Additionally, more than half our saxophone studio attended and performed at the North American Saxophone Alliance Biennial Convention last April in Columbia, SC where we were joined by a throng of BG alumni.

Our graduating saxophone class of 2008 included senior performance majors Carl Wiggins and Chris Bartz as well as graduate performance majors Emily Bair, Joel Diegert and Sean Patayanikorn. Their talents and enthusiasm will be greatly missed but we are proud of the incoming class which comprises eight new freshmen from the states of Illinois, Michigan, North Carolina, New York, Ohio, and Oklahoma. Our matriculating new graduate class features the return of Carl Wiggins (Maryland), Aaron Backes (Ohio) and a new music certificate student from China.



*Compisition VII
Saxophone Quartet*



HONORS AND AWARDS

- David Wegehaupt • Fulbright Scholar in Paris at the C.N.R.
 • de Boulogne-Billancourt Conservatoire with Jean-Michel Goury (2007-2008)
- Sean Patayanikorn • 4th Prize Winner at the 2nd International Jean-Marie Londeix Competition (Bangkok, Thailand 1/08).
 • and elected a member of Pi Kappa Lambda
- Joel Diegert • Semi-finalist at the Jean-Marie Londeix Competition in Thailand (1/08)
- Chris Bartz • 2007 Winner--BGSU Competitions in Music and a performance of the Villa Lobos with orchestra
- H3O Quartet • Undergraduate Winners of the 2008 BGSU Chamber Competition (Hachey, Heller, Hummer, O'Shea)
- Volunteer Quartet • Graduate 2nd Place Winners of the 2008 BGSU Chamber Competition (Braet, Diegert, Fusik, Patayanikorn)
- Jessica Heller • Coulon Special WW Achievement Award (2008)
- Jessica Simms • Printy Arthur Jazz Award (2008)
 • OMEA Inter collegiate Jazz Ensemble
- Jessica Simms • Printy Arthur Jazz Award (2008)
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- Jeff Heisler • Win Stone Scholarship (2008)



*Londeix International Competition in Thailand
 Sampen, Londiex, Diegert, Patayanikorn*

ALUMNI UPDATE

David Wegehaupt (BM 2007) was named a 2007 Fulbright Scholar for studies in Paris at the C.N.R. de Boulogne-Billancourt Conservatoire with Jean-Michel Goury. Alumnae **Melinda (Dicke) Smith** (1987 BM) has just re-immersed on our radar and is now living in Bowling Green with her husband Jeff and her three children. From 1996-2006, Melinda and her family lived in the country of Uzbekistan where her husband taught college English. **Michael Holmes** (2004 BM) was married last summer to Joyce. Besides nearing the completion of his final work on a DMA from the University of Illinois, Michael is an artist assistant and administrator for the Dansr Company (Vandoren) as well as the new director of the BGSU Super Sax Camp. **Erik Ronmark** (2001 MM) has been named Artistic Coordinator for Classical Program for the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and founding member of New Music Detroit (www.newmusicdetroit.com). He also continues performing as a freelance saxophonist and recently premiered new music by McAllister and Dietz. **Marty Spitzer** (1981 BM) is the marching band director and saxophone instructor at the University of North Carolina—Pembroke. **Yiannis Miralis** (1995 MM) and his wife Doretta have a baby girl (Aretii) who was born July 18th, 2007. Yianis has recently served as the Music Chair at the University of Cyprus.

Believe it or not, **Steve Leffue** (2001 BM) was married last year (wife Beth). And he is in his final stages of DMA completion from the University of Maryland. Steve plays in a quartet with **Chris Blossom** (2002 BM) and **Michael Ibrahim** (2002 MM). Michael Ibrahim has been in New York City

freelancing and playing with the Fireworks Ensemble and has just recently been hired as Assistant Professor at the University of West Virginia. Chris Blossom continues his work in the US Army Field Band, performs musical theatre gigs in Virginia, and has just started a new rock band! Chris reports that **Kollister Williams II** (1998-2004*) now serves in the US Army Band which last year was stationed in Iraq but was recently deployed to Heidleberg, Germany. Kollister was married in 2006. **James Stephens** (1999 BM) announced the birth of a new son—James Paul II! James “senior” is music director at Broken Arrow HS in Tulsa where his marching band was named the 2006 Bands of America Grand National Champions. **Justin Church** (2004 BM) survived Boot Camp (even with his liberal tendencies) and is now a Petty Officer with the US Navy Band which is stationed in New Orleans. **Aaron Backes** (2006 BM) was a music director in the Norwalk School district where he taught with **Sandy (Bowman) Bennett** (1987 BM). Aaron is returning to BGSU this fall to pursue a masters degree in Music Education.

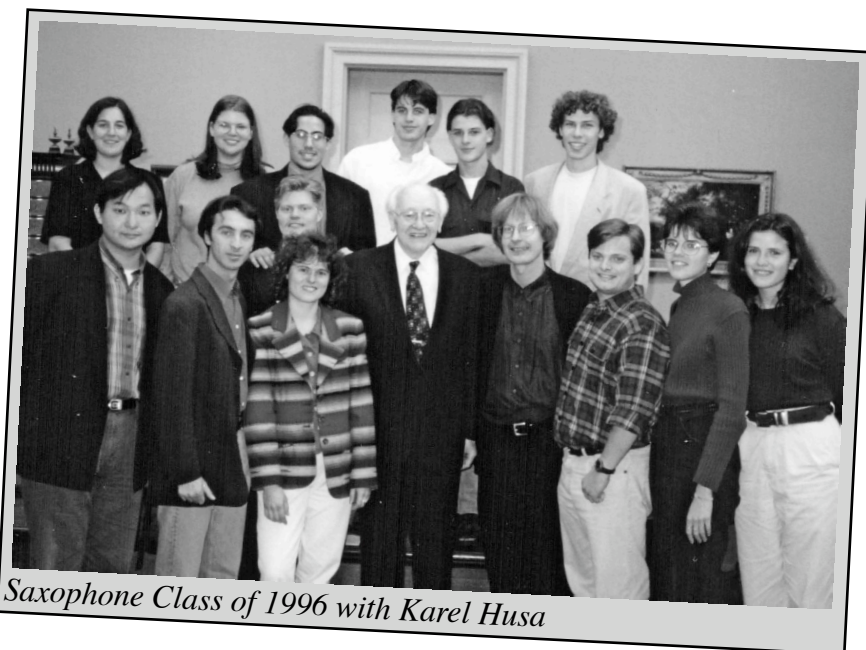
Greg Ruffer

(1987 BM) has a multitude of jobs, including his work for Keynote Arts Associates, Directorship of Gulf Coast Men's Choir and Orlando Chorale, Music Instructor at Central Florida Community College and he is a DMA candidate (pedagogy) at Columbia University. **Katie Schuh** (2006 BM) is the program director for Student Ministries at the Immanuel Bible Church in Maryland. Katie was married last year.

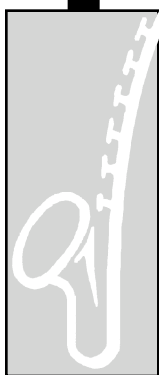
Jeff Vickers (1999-2000*) is an Assistant Professor at Southern Arkansas Uni-

versity. **Carey (Valente) Polacek** (2002 BM) announced her new position as WW instructor and jazz teacher at Oakton Community College. Carey also continues on the faculty at the Merit School of Music and the British Music School of Chicago. **Michael Chamberlin** (2005 BM) has finished his masters degree from the University of North Texas and is just starting a doctorate at the University of Maryland

Andrew Liebermann (2005 BM) was winner of the 2006 Performer’s Certificate at Eastman. Andrew is currently in the DMA program at Eastman and is a faculty member at the Hochstein School of Music. **Chih-Huan Wu** (2004 MM) is also a DMA candidate at Eastman and was recently awarded a teaching assistant prize for the best TA at Eastman. Last summer Wu performed on the “Young Star” series at the Taiwan National Concert Hall. And Wu has just formed the Composition VII Saxophone Quartet with **Po-Yuan Ku** (2002 MM) and **Cheng-Yu (Jimmy) Lee** (2001 MC). **Chris Ross** (1998 BM) completed his M.Ed degree in School Counseling (Kent State) last May. Chris and his wife Shauna had a baby girl (Calissa) in February of 2006. And **Paul Shevock** (2004 MM) had a new baby boy last May. **Megumi Nakamura** (1999-2001*) is working for Aflac Incorporated and pursuing an MBA at Columbus State. **David Born** (2001 BM) teaches at the Apex Academy and he was married last year to Alana. **Lee Morrison** (2003 MM) has recently been appointed music director of the Wind Ensemble at the New World School of the Arts in Miami, Florida. Now living in Montreal, **Claudia Schaetzel** (1997 MC) writes that she is Instructor at the Marianopolis College and performing artist with the Frontier Saxophone Quartet, the Tesorino jazz ensemble, and the saxophone/organ Duonita.



Saxophone Class of 1996 with Karel Husa





Allan Wainwright Fisher (1983 BM) has “resurfaced” and reports that he is an educational manager and teacher for the Paul Effman Music Services in the NYC metro schools. **Valeri (Conley) Brokaw** (1985 MM) has returned to Penang, Malaysia where she teaches band, music and drama at the Dalat International School. She has three children, and Emily (her middle child) is a saxophonist who hopes to become a band director like her mother. **Barry Hartz** (1982 BM) was recently honored with an award from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. This distinguished recognition is achieved by only 2-3 percent of working teachers. **Chuck Keane** (2002 MM) is pursuing a doctoral degree in Dental Surgery at the University of Minnesota. He also continues his jazz performance and studio teaching. **Preston Duncan** (1999 MM) is Production Engineer for MakeMusic (Finale & Smart Music) in Minneapolis. **Mark Egge** (2005 MM) is Director of Prospect Research at Carleton College (Northfield, MN). **Matthew Balensuela** (1985 MM) continues his teaching of music history at DePauw University and he recently published a book entitled “Music Theory from Boethius to Zarlino” (Pendragon Publications). Matt was just promoted to full professor. And finally **Brian Bair** (1982*) announced that he and his wife Deborah are expecting a new baby in August. Brian lives in LA where he is the Chief Engineer at Technicolor Studios.



Lou Marini



(L-R) "Blue Lou" Marini, Lou Marini, John Sampen (2003)

We all mourn the passing of Louis Eugene Marini (1921-2008) who died last May of from a fall and subsequent head injuries. Lou was Professor of Music at Bowling Green State University from 1962-1977 where he taught saxophone, woodwinds, jazz arranging and conducted the jazz band. In addition, he wrote over 180 arrangements for the Falcon Marching Band. He was named Outstanding BGSU Professor (2003) and he was winner of the National Jazz Educators Award (1977). His passion for teaching has left a great legacy in the lives of his students and many have achieved significant careers in the music industry. We will all miss his wit, his honesty, his integrity and his love for music and education.