

# Cornucopia

News and articles for anyone interested in the horn

September 2009



Tim Gallagher  
with David Amram

## Cornucopia

is published four or five times a season. It is free, although contributions are welcome.

For further information, to add your name to the mailing list (email or regular mail), to send a contribution, or to submit material, contact:

**New England Horn Society**  
Marilyn Bone Kloss  
1 Concord Greene #8  
Concord MA 01742-3170  
USA  
978-369-0011  
mbkloss@comcast.net

**Horn New England and  
Northeast Horn Workshop**  
www.HornNewEngland.org

**International Horn Society**  
NEHS encourages  
membership in IHS  
(\$40/year). For further  
information, contact:

**IHS Executive Secretary**  
Heidi Vogel  
PO Box 630158  
Lanai City HI 96763-0158  
exec-secretary@  
hornsociety.org

**IHS Online**  
www.hornsociety.org.

## Let the horn be heard!

by Dolores Beck

What kind of educator excludes a student from the school jazz band because he is playing "the wrong instrument"? That instrument is the horn, and for those of us in the horn world who have heard the many fabulous jazz horn players out there, this exclusion is incomprehensible.

I have been a private horn teacher for 53 years, and some of my students have gone on to become professional horn players. I have exposed my students to all kinds of music. For jazz, I included Ellington, Parker, Jobim, etc. My students would enjoy the change of style, but would put most of their study into the classical repertoire.

Then about five years ago, a special student came into my horn studio. Tim Gallagher is one of the most dedicated students I have ever known. He loves his horn and music like life itself. I believe that he only sets his horn down to eat and sleep. The special thing about Tim is that as a 10th-grader now, he is already a jazz horn player. This is what he chooses to play, and this is what he excels in. Tim is intent on spending his musical life playing jazz.

In addition to learning the fundamentals of the instrument, Tim has woked with Alex Brofsky and John Clark and attended John's jazz horn camp. He has been the only horn player for two years at the SUNY Purchase jazz festival for high school students. He has studied with Vincent Chancey and recently performed with David Amram and his band. Tim also has been accepted into the pre-college jazz program for high school students at the Manhattan School of Music.

Everything should be wonderful for Tim, and it is, except for one very disturbing thing. The jazz band director at his high school, Byram Hills in Armonk NY, will not allow Tim to play in her jazz band. She has told Tim that he is playing "the wrong instrument." Tim's parents have

gone to the school, the principal, the music district supervisor, and the band director still says no.

Some school jazz band directors write out parts so hornists (and other non-traditional instruments) can play in the band. But that is not necessary for Tim: he can transpose, play all clefs, and will play anywhere in the band, but the answer is still a big no. An educator owes it to her students to support their dreams and encourage them to be the best that they can through practice and commitment. This has not happened for Tim.

To this I say: Let the horn be heard!

David Amram says it best when he states: "There is no such thing as a jazz instrument, but all instruments can be used to play jazz. Julius Watkins, John Grass, Junior Collins, and I were already improvisers on the horn in the late 40s, and Willie Ruff by the mid 50s had his own duo. Now an army of hornists can play jazz: John Clark, Vincent Chancey, Alex Brofsky, Tom Varner, Bobbie Rouch, Rick Todd, Adam Unsworth, and many others who are fantastic." All these artists would be surprised to learn that they are playing "the wrong instrument."

I am curious if others have experienced this kind of discrimination against the horn. I will be organizing a jazz horn festival in 2010 for my horn choir of students (Top Brass) and will invite and hire all the jazz horn players who are available to play with and for us. ❖

*Dolores graduated from the Manhattan School of Music and studied in Warsaw, Poland, Music Academy of the West, and Tanglewood. Her teachers include Gunther Schuller, Edwin Golnik, Wendell Hoss, and James Stagliano. Contact her in Yorktown Heights NY at doloresbeck@optonline.net or 845-729-1612.*

## News and Events

**Edward Altshuler** (Ellenville NY, trumpet) wants to acknowledge the contributions of Philip and Phyllis Hoffman, who taught brass instruments in the Boston (Sharon) area. Phyllis studied both trumpet and horn (with Valkenier) at NEC. Phil was a prime mover of the NEC Preparatory Division. Ed was motivated to contact us after seeing comments by his friend Richard Dolph in the May 2007 issue of *Cornucopia* and by the fact that Philip and Phyllis are 91 and 90 years old. Ed was able (through *Cornucopia*) to reconnect with other horn player friends from his student days and connect *Cornucopia* to Phil & Phyllis's daughter Johanna in Maine.

**Richard Dolph** (Ft. Collins CO) writes, "This last issue of *Cornucopia* is particularly interesting to me. I think the Bujanovsky unaccompanied compositions are fascinating. I would love to hear the arrangement of *España* for guitar and bass. .... I worked with Gunther

Schuller one summer (1965) at Tanglewood in the Fromm Contemporary Chamber Players. He is such a tremendous talent. It was a learning experience for me and I was lucky enough to get some lessons from him as well. The quintet I am sure will be quite a challenge."

**Cathy Kilroe-Smith** (Athens GA) also appreciated the article about the Bujanovsky arrangement.

**Kaz Machala** (Urbana), arranger of *España*, reports that the arrangement is published by Capo Tasto Music and distributed by Carl Fischer ([www.carlfischer.com](http://www.carlfischer.com)).

**Jasper Rees**, author of *A Devil to Play*, was interviewed in May on the NPR program *Studio 360*. He played part of the Mozart No. 3, second movement, on the radio without accompaniment. Excerpts from the book have been read on the BBC.

*Continued on page 2*

**Cynthia DeBellis** (Falmouth) writes, "I look forward to reading the articles. Having done such newsletters in the past for other organizations, I know how much work and dedication this endeavor entails."

**Rick Todd** (Pacific Palisades CA), featured artist at the IHS symposium, admitted to being the solo horn in the new Star Trek movie.

**Paul Tyra** (Wayland) says the Sudbury Valley Blue Horizons Band, led by Diane Muffitt, is a great opportunity for people who want to start playing an instrument or start up again. See [svnhb.org](http://svnhb.org).

**Milton McKnight** (Jacksonville FL) had a stroke in April 2008. He is recovering and playing the horn again - and "feels like Hermann Baumann."

**Bob Hunter** (Covington NY), an enthusiastic horn player and attendee at many workshops, has died. See the October *Horn Call* for a tribute by his friend Phil Hooks.

**Fred Ehnes**, professor at Ball State University for 30 years and IHS Area Rep for Indiana has passed away. Again, see *The Horn Call*.

**Andrew Karr** (Tampa) plays in the Florida Orchestra and the Colorado Music Festival and teaches at the University of South Florida and in Iraq.

**Maria Harrold** (Gainesville FL), formerly a graduate student at NEC, is principal horn for the Florida Grand Opera and the IHS Area Rep for FL.

**Yoshimasa Kasahara**, formerly a graduate student at NEC, was a finalist in the Professional Division of the International Horn Competition of America. Congratulations!

**Stephen Stirling** (Kent, England) was in Putney VT for the Yellow Barn Festival, playing Mozart, Schubert, and Bowen chamber works. Steve is a proponent of British composer York Bowen (1884-1961), an accomplished pianist, organist, violist, and hornist, who wrote prolifically, including a number of works for horn, some for Dennis Brain. Bowen's music is now largely out of print and seldom performed, but a revival is underway. The Quintet in C minor for Horn and String Quartet is a Romantic work with a soloistic horn part.

**Leigh Alexander**, formerly from NH, now lives in Bath ME.

**Kristen Dirmeier** (Belmont) and Bala Brass performed at Trinity Episcopal Church in Concord in July. Kristen has studied with Dolores Beck, Peter Kurau, and Jamie Sommerville.

**Lydia Busler-Blais** (Montpelier VT) and the Heritage Brass Quintet performed at the Saint Gaudens National Historic Site in Cornish NH.

**Laura Klock** (Amherst) performs the Ligeti Horn Trio during the Five College New Music Festival on Sept. 13 at UMass. Infinity Brass Quintet plays on Nov. 8, Avanti Plus on Nov. 17, and Avanti Wind Quintet on Nov. 30. See [umass.edu/music/eventcalendar](http://umass.edu/music/eventcalendar).

**Mark Anderson** (Woodstock NY), **Abby Mayer** (Cornwall NY), **Richard Martz** (Morrisville PA), **Bill Vermeulen** (Houston), **Jack Masarie** (Greensboro NC), and **Andrew Seacord** (Bowie MD) sent contributions. Abby sent postage money. Thanks to all.



## New York Horn Day

October 4, 2009, 12:30-5:30 p.m., NYU, Greenwich Village. Free  
Ann Ellsworth (history), Joe Anderer (natural horn), concert, horn choir  
[steinhardt.nyu.edu/conference/frenchhorn/day](http://steinhardt.nyu.edu/conference/frenchhorn/day) or 718-230-5189

## Esprit de Cor

October 9, 2009, 12 noon, First Parish Church, Lexington MA  
Multiple horn works. 781-862-3296 [erik.svenson@microsoft.com](mailto:erik.svenson@microsoft.com)

## 2010 Northeast Horn Workshop

March 12-14, 2010 at University of Delaware, Newark DE  
Host: John David Smith 302-831-4945 [smithjd@udel.edu](mailto:smithjd@udel.edu)  
[www.NortheastHornWorkshop2010.org](http://www.NortheastHornWorkshop2010.org). Sign up for RSS feed.  
Regional artists who would like to perform contact John via the website.

## International Women's Brass Conference

June 16-20, 2010, Toronto, Canada. Host: Joan Watson  
[www.iwbctoronto2010.com](http://www.iwbctoronto2010.com)

## 2010 IHS International Symposium

July 19-25, 2010 in Brisbane, Queensland, Australia  
Host: Peter Luff [p.luff@griffith.edu.au](mailto:p.luff@griffith.edu.au)  
Sign up for email updates at [registration.ozaccom.com.au](http://registration.ozaccom.com.au).  
Join founding IHS president Barry Tuckwell down under



**Lost:** Kelly Morrisette (Johnston RI), Kendra Schievelbein (New Braunfels TX).

**New members:** **Travis Bennett**, Western Carolina University; **Joel Gilbert**, York Springs PA; **Ginny Carroll**, high school librarian and free-lancer in Pelham AL; **Jim & Lynda Beckel**, composer in Indianapolis; **Paul Williams**, Oak Park IL, retired from playing opera; **Clare Shore**, composer, Lake Worth FL; **Nancy Johnsen**, retired semi-pro, Freeport IL; **Jonathan Hurrell** of Synergy Brass Quintet; **Paul Blackstone** of Four Hornsmen of the Apocalypse; **Jeff Nelsen**, Bloomington IN, Canadian Brass; **Gene Berger**, Interlochen; **Richard Ilom**, Toronto; **Mayna Tyrrell**, a student in Makanda IL; **Ed Calfee**, a teacher in Knoxville TN; **Samantha Davis**, **Jessica Long**, and **Melanie Erena**, students of David Elliott at University of Kentucky; **Marjory Black**, Minneapolis; **Jennifer Kummer**, studio player in Nashville TN; **Laurel Etzel**, Laura IL, conductor at Macomb; **Rick Todd**, LA studio & jazz; **Russ Lenth**, amateur, Iowa City IA; **James Doss** and **Evan Chancellor**, Oklahoma City; **Bill Tyler**, Harrisburg NC; **Paul Tyra**, Wayland MA; **Alan Orloff**, Huntington NY, IHS Area Rep; **Robert Pritchard** and **David Sneath** Army Band, Fairbanks AK; **Nathan Board**, Bellflower CA, high school teacher; **Seann Trull**, Palos Verdes CA, high school student; **Susan Hurley-Glowa**, lost and finally found as an ethnomusicologist in Fairbanks; **Suzanne Rice**, librarian at Ball State, Muncie IN; **Kaz Machala**, recently retired from UIllinois, studying composition in Cracow this year; **Gregory Beckwith**, Area Rep for MN; and **Joseph Johnson**, Area Rep for WV. ❖

