



July/August 2008

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Greetings, Saxophonists,

This issue of Update is the first that has been created exclusively for online publication. While the form of the newsletter is not expected to change in the near future, what is different is that we expect publication to be on schedule. In fact, in practice, this may mean that we may be able to post Update ahead of schedule (you can find submission dead-

lines and how-to-submit instructions at [saxalliance.org](http://saxalliance.org). In the "publications" drop-down-menu click on "Newsletter"). This should help make Update a more attractive venue to list your upcoming and recent events. Be sure to download a full-color PDF of Update for your records by clicking on the link at the top of the page.

### Biennial Conference

NASA recently celebrated its biennial conference at the University of South Carolina School of Music April 16-19. Special kudos go to host Cliff Leaman and his studio for organizing a conference that could be described in superlatives. It was the largest biennial conference to date with over 250 performances and more than 600 registered attendees. The weather was beautiful, events ran (mostly!) on time, venues were clearly marked and the USC saxophone students were helpful and friendly. You can see conference photos (or submit your own) by visiting the "Members Area" of [saxalliance.org](http://saxalliance.org).

This conference, as with past biennials, reaffirmed to me the importance of what NASA is all about. In addition to the scores of new works performed, master classes, concertos, competitions, exhibits, lectures, and the high level of the performances, it was a chance to revel in our inner

saxophone geek, spend time talking with artists who share our passion (I don't know about all of you, but I can tell you that my wife has heard enough about mouthpieces to last her a lifetime) and catch up with some of my oldest friends. What a great time.

### 2010 Biennial

As long as I am talking about the biennial, I should mention that we are still looking for a host for 2010. If you or your institution are on the fence about whether to make a proposal, know that not only can NASA give you unprecedented help in the form of advice and support from past hosts, but we have been developing several strategies to help make hosting biennials less stressful, including financial incentives for the host studio. Contact me [scstusek@uncg.edu](mailto:scstusek@uncg.edu) if you have any questions.

### NASA Competitions

One of the highlights of the Biennial conference was undoubtedly the performance competitions. Newly reorganized by our new Competition Coordinator Connie Frigo and Jazz Coordinator Rick vanMatre, this year's competitions were certainly the largest and, especially with the inclusion of the quartet competition, the most complex ever. In the end there were 58 solo entrants, 25 quartets, and 5 jazz finalists who participated, along with 18 judges between the various rounds of each competition and at least 19 pianists. The results were well worth the effort. In addition, through a combination of large participation and support from both Jamie Aebersold and Vandoren, NASA was able to raise the award amounts. Here are the results of the performance competitions:

*(Continued on page 2)*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *(Continues from p. 1)*

### 2008 Classical Quartet Competition

- 1st place: H2 Quartet (Michigan State University), Geofrey Deibel, Jeffrey Loeffert, Jonathan Nichol, Kimberly Goddard
- 2nd place: Zzyzx Quartet (Indiana University), Stacy Wilson, Stephen Page, Matthew Evans. Dana Booher
- 3rd place: North Carolina School of Arts Saxophone Quartet, Annalise Stalls, Joey Trahan, Corey Dundee, Ryan Lemoine
- Finalists: Assembly Quartet (University of South Carolina), Lauren Meccia, Sid Tyner, Matt Younglove, Adam Estes  
 Quadrivium Quartet (University of Minnesota), Andrew Duren, John Cummins, Andrew Brobston, David McCarthy

### 2008 Classical Performance Competition

- 1st place: Edward Goodman,  
 2nd place: Douglas O'Connor  
 3rd place: Jeffrey Loeffert  
 Finalists: Dana Booher,  
 Jonathan Yannik

### 2008 Jazz Performance Competition

- 1st place: John Leadbetter  
 2nd place: Justin Janer  
 3rd place: Remy Le Boeuf  
 Finalists: Greg Johnson II  
 Samuel Ryder

### Composition Competition

A confluence of happy circumstances - the success of the recent performance competitions and the terrific current financial health of NASA - has made it possible for NASA to address an area of our Mission statement - "fostering and facilitating the creation of new repertoire" - that we haven't visited since the commissioning of the Maslanka *Sonata*. Rather than commissioning another work, however, we have decided to stimulate the creation

of new work by creating a composition competition. To that end, we have formed a special committee. I don't have specifics to share at this time except that the competition is likely to be held in rotation with the performance competitions. In other words, this coming year could see the first composition competition.

### Constitutional Vote

The NASA Executive Committee is submitting to the membership a vote to amend the NASA Constitution to allow the use of electronic and web-based voting. This will expedite the execution of current initiatives and facilitate similar updating of the remainder of the Constitution. Look for a ballot on this matter to land in your mailbox within a few weeks.

### Larry Teal

The new biography, **Larry Teal: There Will Never be Another You**, is now available from the NASA Store. Written by Mary Durden Teal and edited by Thomas Liley, with cover art by Jennifer Scott, this book is a fascinating look into both the life of one of America's first classical saxophone teachers and the life of performing musicians in the first half of the twentieth century. This book will make a great addition to your reference collection and is a bargain at \$25 for NASA members.

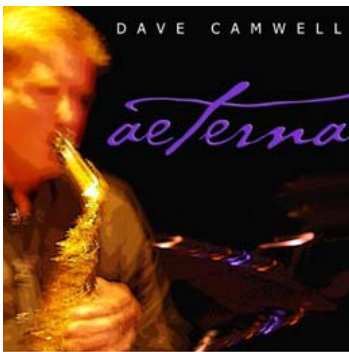
### New Officers

I would like to welcome our two newest NASA Officers. James Romaine, saxophone and jazz professor at Drake University, has been appointed as Membership Director, and Thomas Lowry, saxophonist and computer genius, has taken over the reigns as NASA Web-master. You can find contact information for both at - where else - [www.saxalliance.org](http://www.saxalliance.org).

Best wishes,  
 Steven Stusek

## MEMBER NEWS

On March 11, 2008, **Nicholls State University**, in conjunction with **Southeastern Louisiana University**, hosted a South Louisiana Saxophone Day in Thibodaux, Louisiana. Jeffrey Vickers, a Selmer Clinician and Assistant Professor of Music at Southern Arkansas University, presented a master class and recital. The three-hour master class featured students of Paula Van Goes from Nicholls State University and Richard Schwartz from Southeastern Louisiana University. Vicker's recital included works by Vivaldi, Sancan, Heiden, Larsson, and Iturralde; pianist Sharon Ard also performed. Conn-Selmer, Inc provided sponsorship for the event.



**Dave Camwell** has released a new classical CD titled *Aeterna*. The disc features original works for saxophone by John Anthony Lennon, Nate Brown, Ron Albrecht, and Steven Galante, as well as Camwell's arrangements of works by J.S. Bach, Niccolò Paganini, and Robert

Schumann. *Aeterna* was released on Tom Bergeron's Teal Creek Music label and is available at CDBaby <http://cdbaby.com/cd/camwell> and many other online sources such as Amazon and iTunes. Noted saxophonists James Bunte (Galante's *Sax Sounds III: Diminishing Returns*) and Jim Romain (Bach *Double Concerto* BWV 1043) are featured on the CD, along with pianist Ron Albrecht. Early reviews have been very favorable, with composer John Anthony Lennon describing Camwell's disc as "fantastic and sublime playing!" More information can be found on Camwell's website, [www.davecamwell.com](http://www.davecamwell.com).

Saxophonist **Michael Ibrahim** has joined the music faculty at West Virginia University. Ibrahim will continue to perform contemporary works in New York City in concerts affiliated with Amp, Either/Or, Fireworks Ensemble, Manhattan Sinfonietta, Red Light New Music, Riot, and the SEM Ensemble. In April, he co-organized the first annual HiFi New Music Festival in NYC. Information on HiFi can be found at [www.hifimusicfestival.org](http://www.hifimusicfestival.org).

On April 28 at Lewis-Clark State College, saxophonist **Bill Perconti** premiered a work by Allan Blank. Entitled *Five Sketches* for solo alto saxophone, the work is one of four new pieces by Blank for saxophone solo, trio, and quartet.

The **Idaho Saxophone Trio** is releasing a second recording in the America's Millennium Tribute to Adolphe Sax Series, a compilation CD set by Arizona University Recordings. The Trio recorded the *Trio* by Alan Hovhaness; the recording will be released June 1 on Volume 14. The Idaho Saxophone Trio was formed by Bill Perconti, Joy Atkin of Lewiston, Idaho, and Vanessa Sielert of the University of Idaho to explore saxophone trio repertoire.

**Jackie Lamar**, Professor of Saxophone at the University of Central Arkansas, premiered *Concerto for Alto Saxophone and Wind Ensemble*, by Charles Booker, Jr., on April 22 with the UCA Wind Ensemble with repeat performances with the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith Symphonic Band on April 25 and 26. The piece was also performed with the UCA Wind Ensemble on a tour of Austria with Music Celebrations International.

**Peter Sommer** has a new release on Capri Records titled *Crossroads* featuring Rich Perry (Maria Schneider, Vanguard Jazz Orchestra) in a two-tenor frontline with Eric Gunnison, piano, Ken Walker, bass, and Todd Reid, drums. The program includes Sommer originals,

as well as some standard and not-so-standard classics from the jazz repertoire. Peter Sommer is Assistant Professor of Jazz and Saxophone at Colorado State University in Fort Collins and is an active performer and recording artist. Peter is featured on a number of releases from Capri Records and Synergy Records and is also a founding member of the Ninth and Lincoln Jazz Orchestra in Denver.





## MEMBER NEWS *(Continues from p. 3)*



named outright winner in the classical soloist category.

The University of Kentucky Mega-Sax Quartet was named a co-winner in the jazz group category in the 31st Annual Downbeat Student Music Awards. Other co-winners were the Julliard and Berkley Jazz Combos. **David Harper**, a senior music performance major at the University of Kentucky was

The **PRISM Quartet** recently released *Pitch Black*, a disc featuring music by Jacob ter Veldhuis. In June, the Quartet will perform with the Colorado Opera, at the invitation of conductor Marin Alsop, in a production and compact disc recording of John Adam's *Nixon in China*.



The **Glass Farm Ensemble**, featuring Taimur Sullivan, released their debut CD *In Four* on Innova Records. The disc features music for saxophone, piano, electric guitar, and percussion by Louis Andreissen, Wolfgang Heiniger, Yvonne Troxler, Elizabeth Hoffman, and Peter Herbert.



## COMMISSIONING PROJECTS

World-Wide Concurrent Premieres and Commissioning Fund, Inc. is pleased to announce that we are commissioning a new work for saxophone quartet by Lei Liang for December 7, 2008 world-wide concurrent premieres. As with all previous WWCP commissions, performers will receive signed and numbered limited edition scores for \$100. Only one member of a quartet needs to commission the work for all to be able to perform it. Participants will receive ALL scores/parts by October 1, 2008.

To receive a contract, e-mail Eliot Gattegno, Co-Executive Director, World-Wide Concurrent Premieres and Commissioning Fund, Inc. at [eliotgattegno@mac.com](mailto:eliotgattegno@mac.com) or visit our website at [www.wwcpcf.org](http://www.wwcpcf.org) to enroll. The commission will be open to the first 100 people in order of receipt of a signed contract and payment.

CASE Arts Group, Inc announces three consortium commission opportunities. The pieces will all be available by January 2009 for premiere performances on March 15, 2009 or anytime thereafter. For further information please contact CASE Arts Group Executive Director Jeremy Just-

eson at [justeson@kutztown.edu](mailto:justeson@kutztown.edu) or 610.683.4871.

The first piece will be written by composer and percussionist Robert Paterson [www.robpaterson.com/](http://www.robpaterson.com/). The work will be for alto saxophone and five octave marimba (six mallets). Composer James Barry [www.james-barry.com/](http://www.james-barry.com/) will write the second piece for alto saxophone and piano. Both works will be between six and eight minutes in duration.

Fees for either work are \$100 each or \$150 for both. The number of participants will not exceed 40, and each consortium member will receive an autographed score and exclusive performance rights for one year. Participation fees will be paid to the CASE Arts Group, Inc.; all collected fees will be paid to the composers. Robert Paterson will be available to perform the new marimba work with consortium members if schedules and additional travel fees can be arranged.

The third work is for saxophone quartet and marimba written by David Stock <http://davidstockmusic.com/>. At the time of this publication, exact details are still being negotiated.

## NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY'S AMETHYST QUARTET CAPTURES TOP PRIZES AT THREE NATIONAL CHAMBER MUSIC COMPETITIONS

Northwestern University saxophonists Johnny Salinas (soprano), Sean Hurlburt (alto), Luke Gay (tenor) and Zachary Pfau (baritone), founding members of the award-winning Amethyst Quartet, have earned top honors this spring by winning the MTNA National Collegiate Chamber Music Competition (Denver, CO), the Coleman-Saunderson Prize for Woodwinds and Brass at the Coleman Chamber Ensemble Competition (Pasadena, CA), and the Gold Medal of the Winds Division of the Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition (South Bend, IN).

Founded in the fall of 2006, the quartet is comprised of graduate and undergraduate students in the studio of Dr. Frederick L. Hemke. Their performance and competition repertoire included David Maslanka's 2006 composition *Recitation Book*, written for the Masato Kumoi Quartet of Japan, and Salinas's own arrangement of *Six Bagatelles* by György Ligeti.

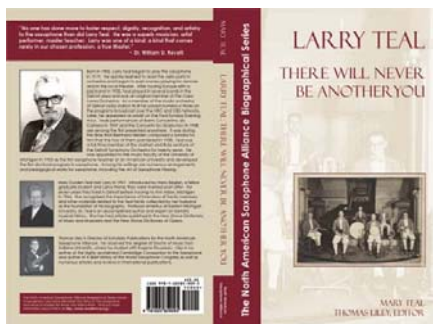
The members of the Amethyst Quartet have found that participation in chamber music competitions has been both eye opening and rewarding. "The general public and the members of the juries at these competitions don't necessarily want to continue hearing the old French quartets," remarked Hurlburt. "Repertoire choice is extremely important when saxophone quartets are competing against other chamber ensembles. We have really enjoyed performing Maslanka's new quartet – audiences have been extremely receptive to this great work," said Salinas. Pfau noted that, "Attaining such a quality of chamber music-



making has been one of the most important experiences I have had as a musician. It has been an honor and a pleasure to perform around this country this year with young musicians of the highest level. We all agree that we've learned so much as a result of these experiences."

This fall, Salinas will remain in Chicago where he maintains a large private studio and will begin research for his doctoral dissertation. Hurlburt will move to the San Francisco Bay area to establish a private studio and perform. Gay is beginning his career in arts administration in New York City, and Pfau will study with Jean-Michel Goury in Paris, France, as a Fulbright scholar.

## LARRY TEAL: THERE WILL NEVER BE ANOTHER YOU



NASA is pleased to announce the inaugural volume of the North American Saxophone Alliance Biographical Series. *Larry Teal: There Will Never Be Another You*, written by Dr. Mary

Durden Teal, traces the life of the first university professor of saxophone in the United States. Dr. Mary Teal, professor emeritus at Eastern Michigan University, is a highly regarded author whose work is found in the *New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians* and the *New Grove Dictionary of Opera*.

The biography follows Larry Teal's career from vaudeville, the popular music of the 1920s, theater and radio orchestras, and the Detroit Symphony Orchestra through his groundbreaking tenure at the University of Michigan. Teal's relationship with Bernhard Heiden, who wrote his famous *Sonata* for him is discussed, as well as Teal's historic performances of Glazounov's *Concerto* and the *Concertino da Camera* by Ibert.

The softcover book is 272 pages in length and is generously illustrated with 24 photographs. It provides a window to the history of the saxophone in the United States and how it was influenced by one of our instrument's most significant teachers.



## CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR THE SAXOPHONE SYMPOSIUM

*The Saxophone Symposium*, the peer-reviewed journal of NASA, is accepting manuscripts in the areas of saxophone history, literature and repertoire, pedagogy, jazz studies, and interdisciplinary areas involving the saxophone. An editorial board consisting of professional performers, scholars, and teachers reviews all feature articles submitted for publication. Reviews of books, music, compact disks, films, pedagogical materials, and works in alternative media pertaining to the saxophone are also encouraged.

For more specific information regarding submissions, please see [www.saxalliance.org/submitarticles.html](http://www.saxalliance.org/submitarticles.html)

### Send materials to:

Dr. Jennifer Turpen, Editor  
The Saxophone Symposium  
University of Wyoming  
Department of Music  
Department 3037  
1000 E. University Ave.  
Laramie, WY 82071  
e-mail: [jturpen@uwyo.edu](mailto:jturpen@uwyo.edu)

### Send reviews or materials for review to:

Dr. Frank Bongiorno  
The University of North Carolina at Wilmington  
Department of Music  
601 South College Road  
Wilmington, NC 28403-5975  
e-mail: [bongiornof@uncw.edu](mailto:bongiornof@uncw.edu)

## COMING EVENTS

The Shell Lake Arts Center announces the **Eugene Rousseau Saxophone Workshop**, to be held August 10 - 15 in Shell Lake, Wisconsin. The Workshop was initiated in 1972 in the beautiful Indianhead area of northwest Wisconsin, about 90 miles from Minneapolis.

The event will begin on Sunday evening, August 10, with a recital presented by Rousseau and faculty members Thomas Liley and Anna Marie Wytko. Class sessions covering a wide variety of topics and including individual and group performing opportunities begin the following morning. Solo performers are provided with a profes-

sional pianist and receive coaching both privately and in front of the class. Student soloists, duets, trio, and quartets perform in a Thursday evening concert, which concludes with a large saxophone ensemble. For more information, contact Eugene Rousseau at [rouss007@umn.edu](mailto:rouss007@umn.edu).

For an application form, contact the Shell Lake Arts Center.

Phone: 715.468.2414

e-mail: [info@shelllakeartscenter.org](mailto:info@shelllakeartscenter.org)



### Editor, NASA Update

Carolyn J. Bryan  
Department of Music  
Georgia Southern University  
PO Box 8052  
Statesboro, GA 30460  
(912) 478-5669/v