



Happy Birthday Hal!



Celebrating since May 5, 1916

Saturday, June 4, 2011
8936 Hartwell Court, Elk Grove, CA

Program

• Clarinet Fusion • 4:45-5:30 •

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|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Clarinet Marmalade | 7. It Takes Four to Tango |
| 2. Adagio Cantabile | 8. Singing in the Rain |
| 3. Puttin' on the Ritz | 9. The Entertainer |
| 4. Basswood | 10. Elite Syncopations |
| <i>Bass Clarinet & Piano</i> | 11. Dizzy Fingers |
| 5. Misty | 12. Perpetuum Mobile |
| 6. Caprice for Clarinets | |

• Hal & Friends • 5:30-6:15 •

Arabesque (piano solo) Claude Debussy
 Slavonic Dances-No. VIII (piano duet) ... Anton Dvorak
 Hal Wright & Dr. Jana Tomsy, M.D.

Argentine Tango..... Dance Performance
 Janina and Michael



• Joe Mazzaferro Trio • 7:00-9:00 •

Joe Mazzaferro (trumpet)
 Brenden Lowe (piano)
 Alex Reiff (bass)



Performing a variety of Jazz and standards

• Hal & Friends •

Cheryl Albright

Ms. Albright is an exceptional flautist and has served as co-principal in the Contra Costa Chamber Orchestra since 1999. She has also been featured in many orchestras in the area. Cheryl is also the Librarian for the Contra Costa Chamber Orchestra. The CC Chamber Orchestra is composed of volunteer musicians ranging in age from 16 to 95, who are also teachers, accountants, homemakers, students, retirees, plumbers, consultants, lawyers, sales representatives, and computer specialists.

Geoff Albright

Mr. Albright is a trumpeter with a long history of playing with the Blue Devils. He is also an accomplished Tenor who records a good deal, and sometimes makes solo recordings in which he sings all of the parts (You're Nobody Till Somebody Loves You).

Dr. Jana Tomsy, M.D.

Ms. Tomsy is a Family Practice physician with the Clayton Valley Medical Group. She enjoys skiing, ping pong, plays a mean piano, and is known to dance the Tango.

Hal Wright

Happy Birthday to You!

Allegro

happy birth-day to you! ha-ppy birth-day to you ha-ppy

A tempo

birth-day dear Ha-l ha-ppy birth-day to you

• Clarinet Fusion •

Tom Berkelman **Bb Clarinet**

Mr. Berkelman jumped into the world of music, as many students do, playing clarinet in grade school. Today he plays a number of instruments besides the typical Bb clarinet and collects some of the more obscure and extreme examples of the reed family including the contrabass sarrusophone and piccolo clarinet. When not playing music, Tom works in the biotech industry. He also plays his various clarinet instruments with the Walnut Creek Concert Band, the Diablo Valley College Symphonic Band and the Quintaire Woodwind Quintet.

Joan Carter **Clarinet, Bass Clarinet**

Ms. Carter began making music on alto sax in 8th grade but soon added clarinet and the occasional flute. In college she played clarinet exclusively, but followed with a 30-year sabbatical from playing while a teaching career took over. Joan picked up playing music again when a music teacher (at the school where she taught) handed her a clarinet saying she needed her to play in the alumni group the following week—which she did. Since then Joan has added bass clarinet and Eb clarinet to her clarinet instrument performing repertoire. Joan’s other musical forays include playing with the Contra Costa Wind Symphony and East Bay Symphonic Band.

George March **Clarinet**

Mr. March was given his first clarinet at the age of 9. He played bass clarinet for five years prior to college, and plays nearly all of the instruments of the saxophone family. George has been a full-time stay-at-home-dad since 1992; his part-time occupations though have included Scout leader, layout and print editor, drafter, and graphic designer. His musical background includes pit orchestras with several regional theater groups. He also plays with the Ohlone College Community Band, the California Repercussions Marching Band, and the Danville Community Band for which he is also the Business Manager.

Karyn Weber **Bass Clarinet, Alto Clarinet**

Ms. Weber is the manager of Clarinet Fusion. She began playing clarinet in Junior High School, switched to bass clarinet in High School (where she was a Bank of America Achievement Award winner for Music) and later added alto clarinet to her repertoire. Over the years Karyn has played for numerous honor bands including the All-Western States Intercollegiate Honor Band. In addition to Clarinet Fusion, Karyn plays alto clarinet with the Walnut Creek Concert Band and Contra Costa Wind Symphony, and bass clarinet with the Danville Community Band.

Harold Wright **Clarinet, Piano**



Harold E. Wright **Clarinet, Piano**

Hal Wright is well known musically around the Bay Area as a soloist and chamber musician on clarinet and piano. He started on piano in grade school, picked up clarinet in 7th grade (following in his father’s footsteps as a clarinetist) and, dissatisfied with those limits, learned flute, trumpet, and sax too. He continued his musical study at Parker High School in New York. After earning his undergraduate degree in Music at Fredonia State College in New York, he “played” his way through Europe in 1937 and returned to the U.S. to teach. When he began he had sixth, seventh and eighth graders who formed a jazz band. They played professionally in Canada in 1940.

In 1942, Hal earned a Masters Degree in Music from Columbia University in New York. That same year he married his wife Bette, living for a time in the Julliard Apartments. He also joined the Marines in 1942, serving with the 5th Marine Division during World War II. Hal played solo clarinet as part of the U.S. Marine Band. He ended his service at Ewa Marine Corps Air Station in Hawaii in 1946.

Hal returned home and went back to Columbia University where he earned his Doctorate in Music in 1955. He made teaching and performing his career, moving on to head the Music Department at Northern Michigan University where, in 1993, he received a second Doctoral Degree. After teaching for many years, Hal retired and moved to Concord. He and Bette traveled the world together visiting Europe, Russia, Alaska, Hawaii, the Middle East, China and Japan. When Bette died in 2009, he turned to music, increasing his involvement in community music groups.



Hal has performed with many local groups, including the Diablo Symphony, Diablo Light Opera Company, and The Performing Arts Society. He is a long-standing member of the Walnut Creek Concert Band, and currently performs with the Contra Costa Chamber Orchestra, and Clarinet Fusion.

