

February-2009

# Still Fumin' News

Special Edition



I may be able to speak the languages of human beings and even of angels, but if I have no love, my speech is no more than a noisy gong or a clanging bell. I may have the gift of inspired preachings; I may have all knowledge and understand all secrets; I may have all the faith needed to move mountains -- but if I have no love, I am nothing. I may give away everything I have, and even give up my body to be burned -- but if I have no love, this does me no good. Love is patient and kind; it is not jealous or conceited or proud; love is not ill-mannered or selfish or irritable; love does not keep a record of wrongs, love is not happy with evil, but is happy with the truth. Love never gives up; and its faith, hope, and patience never fail. Love is eternal. There are inspired messages, but they are temporary; there are gifts of speaking in strange tongues, but they will cease; there is knowledge, but it will pass. For our gifts of knowledge and of inspired messages are only partial; but when what is perfect comes, then what is partial will disappear. When I was a child, my speech, feelings, and thinking were all those of a child; now that I am an adult, I have no more use for childish ways. What we see now is like a dim image in a mirror; then we shall see face-to-face. What I know now is only partial; then it will be complete -- as complete as God's knowledge of me. Meanwhile these three remain: faith, hope, and love; and the greatest of these is love.

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# NAMM Show 2009



F14a Tomcat at the NAWC Pt. Mugu Airpark



*Tom developed an audio testing system for Sidewinder missiles to ensure they hit on-target and don't accidentally explode when subjected to the loud sounds and vibrations of an F14a Tomcat in flight -- even louder than the many rock bands that Tom has played with. But now it's violins, not violence!*



Mike Kent of Roland Corp. with Tom

Every January, Tom, Jacob and Joel head down to Anaheim for the annual NAMM show. An important trade show for the music industry, NAMM brings together thousands of music equipment companies, musicians, and industry professionals from all over the world.

Along the way, they decided to stop at the Naval Air War Center Airpark in Pt. Mugu to admire the jet fighters and missiles on display.



John Mazza demonstrates the amazing String Master Robotic Guitar Tuner at NAMM 2009

Once inside the NAMM show, Tom, Jacob and Joel almost immediately started seeing familiar faces.

*(Continued on p. 4)*



Triple-neck guitar



An amplifier made to look like a guitar



Tom and Epiphone President Jim Rosenberg



Tom rocks out at the Epiphone Guitars booth

## Still Fumin' News

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## Kenny Sara and The Sounds of New Orleans

While in Anaheim, we made it a point to go see Kenny Sara with his band, The Sounds of New Orleans at Ralph Brennan's Jazz Kitchen, at Downtown Disney. Three years ago, Jacob and I saw them at the same restaurant, where they have been the house band for a few years now (See Spring 2005 issue of SF News, available at [www.stillfumin.com](http://www.stillfumin.com).) Ever since then, we had been meaning to take Tom to see Kenny and the band, and finally had success during this year's NAMM show. Tom was notably impressed, calling them the most authentic New Orleans band he had ever seen.

The lineup consists of Kenny Sara on drums and vocals, Johnny Turner on Guitar/vocals, Richard "Domino Fats" Taylor on Keyboards/vocal, and David "Woody" Woodford on sax/vocals. The band plays a fluid blend of Jazz, Blues, Soul, Rock 'n Roll, and New Orleans boogie. We look forward to seeing them again and highly recommend you to do the same! -Joel Savell



Kenny Sara and the Sounds of New Orleans, with a guest throwing beads -New Orleans style- out to the audience!

Kenny Sara and Joel Savell

## Kenny Sara's New Album: New Orleans In Me



[www.kkaremusic.com](http://www.kkaremusic.com)

Kenny recently sent us a copy of his latest CD: *New Orleans in Me*. As he describes in the opening narrative, *Growing Up In New Orleans*, this album is his tribute to the rich and varied musical styles that were all around him as a kid in New Orleans.

The first half of the album features an instrumental jazz lineup. Pianist, Composer, and Teacher Gary Fukushima lends his arranging and performing talents to these songs. Track 1, *Mozartin'*, is reminiscent of the great Thelonius Monk, with elements of Be-Bop, Cool Jazz and Avant-Garde Jazz. Track 4, *Lil Sugar*, guest stars Abe Lagrimas on Vibes. Tom and Jacob saw Abe, a phenomenal multi-talented musician, playing ukulele in the Hilton Lobby during the 2008 NAMM show last year. Track 6, *Landscapology*, is one my favorites. With its dissonant, interlocking piano lines, this Fukushima composition also reminds me of T-Monk, Coltrane, and other avant-garde jazz icons. Track 8, *New Orleans* is written by Debbie A Sara. Kenny starts by caressing the drums with brushes. He sings softly and sweetly on this sentimental, bluesy number, and maybe sounds a bit homesick for "The Big Easy." On track 10, *Harlem Nocturne*, Kenny brought in his trusty band-mates from The Sounds Of New Orleans. The Rock'n Roll edge of the band becomes more evident in contrast with the more traditional sounding Jazz and Blues tracks up to that point. Track 11, *Feel the Power*, shows Kenny's Gospel side as he plays this song of praise by the legendary Reverend James Cleveland. Track 14, *Buck Jumpin'* might be my favorite of the album. With Vince Tividad laying down some bad-ass bass lines on the sousaphone, this horn, reed and drum arrangement captures the exciting party atmosphere of New Orleans. I could close my eyes and imagine a marching band rocking down the street in the French Quarter, with girls dancing on the balconies. All in all, a big thumbs up for this CD! - Joel Savell

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## NAMM 2009 *(Continued from p. 2)*



*This rare and valuable DeLorean was outside the Hilton. The same kind of car was used in "Back to the Future" Convention Center.*

It's remarkable how many friends and colleagues they saw on the NAMM show floor, despite the overwhelming masses of people spread out among the labyrinth of aisles and booths at the Anaheim



*A foldable keyboard by Infinite Response*

Convention Center. Separated from the loud, busy main halls by a concrete floor and escalators, the downstairs area has a smaller, more intimate feel. This is where many of the new innovations by up-and-coming music companies can be found.



*Dancers at the Pacemaker booth*



*A marching band outside the NAMM show at the Anaheim Convention Center*

## Wood Violins

One of Tom's goals at this year's NAMM was to visit the Wood Violins booth. Wood Violins makes a wide variety of beautiful electric violins with unique shapes and innovative features.

Usually violinists have to use their neck muscles to hold the violin in place, sometimes causing strain and fatigue. But the Wood Violin comes with a strap which wraps around the player's back, much like a guitar, which takes the strain off of his or her neck. Being accustomed to the traditional method, Tom says the Wood Violin "neck-free" approach takes some getting used to, but he picked it up quickly enough to shred some licks at the booth, which got the attention of Mark Wood, Founder/ inventor of Wood Violins. A great violinist himself, Mark is the lead violinist for the acclaimed Trans Siberian Orchestra.. Impressed with Tom's skill on the instrument, Mark immediately wanted Tom as an endorsing artist for Wood Violins. Tom is looking forward to his custom, one of a kind Wood Violin. Tom says "It's well worth the four month wait."

For more information on Wood Violins, visit [www.woodviolins.com](http://www.woodviolins.com).



*Tom tries out a Wood Violin, with it's unusual harness*



*Mark Wood, founder of Wood Violins & Tom*

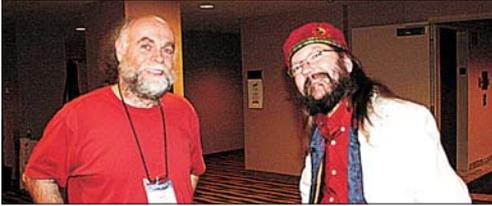
## Muse Research Party

Muse Research is the creator of the Receptor, a powerful and versatile hardware music plug-in player. Muse just released the Receptor 2, Receptor 2 Pro, and the Receptor 2 Pro Max. For more info, visit [www.museresearch.com](http://www.museresearch.com).

Muse Research's Bryan Lanser, who is also a friend, colleague and talented drummer, invited the Savell bros to the Muse Research party at the Anaheim Hilton. This party featured a musical "battle" between Jordan Rudess, keyboardist for Dream Theatre and Richard Devine, electronic musician. These two creative musicians played at a feverish pace, mixing their sounds to create a high-tech sonic tapestry.



Jacob with music industry colleague Tim Swartz



Matt Christiano: Musician, Entrepreneur, and Owner of Paicines Ranch poses with Jacob outside the Muse Research party at the Hilton



Bryan Lanser of Muse Research videotaping the concert

## William K Santana, Young Bassist Extraordinaire

While at the Ampeg amplifiers booth, Jacob and Joel noticed a small figure playing some impressive bass guitar riffs through Ampeg equipment. This diminutive rocker quickly drew a crowd with his skilled fingers and "rock star" presence.

William Santana (no relation to Carlos or Jorge) is 12 years old and lives in Chico, California with his mother, father and little sister. Born Sept. 23, 1996, William has always had an interest in music, at the age of 7 he started taking piano lessons, at 8 he did a short stint on the trumpet, then, later that year he decided to give the Electric Bass a try. He joined his first band, Children with Chainsaws, as a bassist in early 2006. William decided that he was interested in pursuing music further and in 5th grade he decided to apply for sixth grade at the only junior high in the area with a full music program, Chico Jr. High School. He was accepted into the sixth grade program for the '07/'08 school year and immediately enrolled in Choir, join the jazz band and dedicated himself to learning everything he could about music.

In early February of 2008, Will auditioned for the X-Factor and was selected as the bassist. Will has performed with the Jazz band and X-Factor at numerous small venues and with X-Factor on Picnic Day at UC Davis on 2 separate stages. They have recently played 2 separate dates at the California State Fair and have been working hard to prepare for the NAMM Show.

William was recently selected as a tenor for the Northern California Honor Choir and continues to study Classical Choral Music, Jazz, Blues, and Rock & Roll, theory, Technique and Musical Performance. He hopes to have a long and fulfilling career as a musician.



William K Santana shows off at the Ampeg amplifier booth

## 2009 NAMM Epiphone Party

Among the many perks that come with being part of the Epiphone family are passes to the exclusive Epiphone NAMM Show Party! Held at the Anaheim Hilton's Pulse Lounge, this annual tradition always packs a star-studded lineup, in the past featuring world famous acts like Twisted Sister and Heart. Epiphone also gives away free stuff and raffles off guitars, including this year's prize, an Epiphone Thunderbird bass.

The music was headlined by hard rockers Puddle of Mudd, most famous for their hits *She Hates Me* and *Away From Me* (with it's memorable chorus "Can you take it all away.") Rounding out the show were bands Bad Influence, Dave Spector & Steve Freund, Duke Robillard, and Santa Cruz's own Heavy Metal favorites, Archer.

By the end of Archer's first song, the crowd erupted with frenzied enthusiasm, impelling lead guitarist Dylan to reach for even greater heights. The faster he played, the louder they screamed. The louder they screamed, the faster he played. And the rest of the band followed suit, with Isaiah throwing out one amazing bass line after another, and Duke holding it all together with a solid back beat.



Jacob and Gibson Guitars President Dave Berryman



Epiphone Guitars President Jim Rosenberg and Tom



Jacob and the legendary JJ French of Twisted Sister



"Dr. Epiphone"  
Will Jones



Award winning blues band Duke Robillard



Duke and Dylan of Archer



Archer (l-r): Duke T McB, Isaiah, and Dylan



Marcus Henderson of Guitar Hero jams with Archer



Wes Scratlin,  
Singer/ guitarist  
of Puddle of Mudd



Puddle of Mudd headlined a great night of music

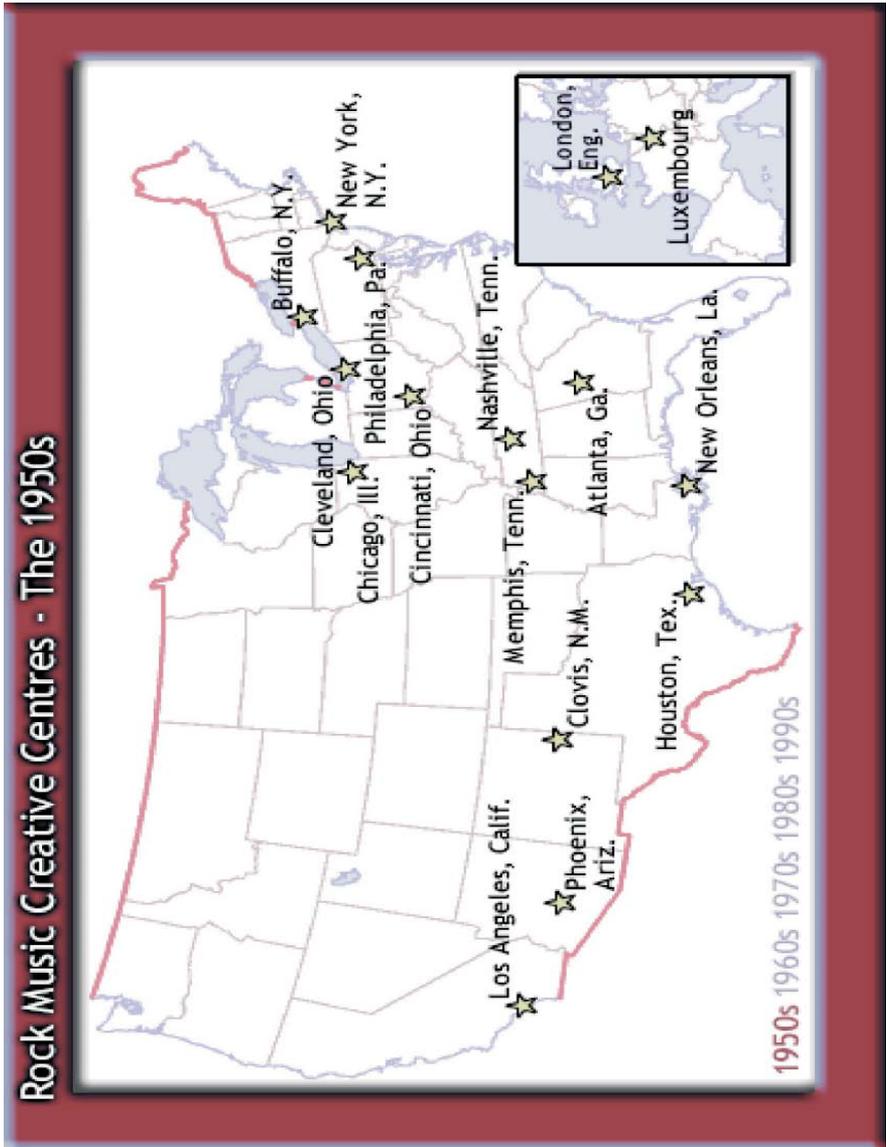


Epiphone President Jim Rosenberg & raffle winner James H. Beebe with his prize, an Epiphone Thunderbird Bass



## Rock Music Creative Centers: Through the Decades

Rock 'n Roll was created out of Rhythm and Blues, Jazz, and Country (once called "Hillbilly" music). Though the foundations of Rock have been evolving for over a century, the official term "Rock 'n Roll, in regards to the music, was coined in the 1950's. Since then, Rock has continued to evolve and change, along with the places where the music is created. Over the next few issues, SFNews will explore how the varied Rock creative centers have moved from decade to decade.



# Celebrity Face-Off

Can you match the following musicians' names with their High School photos to the right?

Results to follow in next Still Fumin' News

- 1) Connie Francis 3) Barbara Streisand  
2) Janis Joplin 4) Bette Midler



## Answers to Fall 2008's Celebrity Face-Off

- 1) Neil Sedaka = D 3) Neil Diamond = B  
2) Elvis Presley = C 4) Frank Sinatra = A



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**Superior Olive CD**  
"Farewell To The Illusion"  
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Punk/Alternative.  
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