

Night clubs spotlight bands from Triangle to California

By NANCY ATKINSON
Staff Writer

There's something about live music.

It is the sense of anticipation when a band is a half-hour late, and the waiting crowd is sensitive to every movement on the stage. It is serenity when an orchestra or ensemble weaves its music between candlelit tables. Most of all, it is the feeling in spectators that they are a part of the event, a necessary audience so the performer can perform.

This scenario is not a strange one in Chapel Hill, where one can see a concert nearly every night in one of the many local night clubs. Each establishment has its own type of atmosphere and imported talent, which comes from around the Triangle area or from as far away as California or Europe to play their rock, R&B, new wave, reggae, bluegrass, folk, country or jazz music.

One club in town that shows new musicians taking a first shot and more established musicians proving their lot is Cat's Cradle.

At 320 W. Franklin St., the Cradle has a concert-hall atmosphere — if somewhat smaller — with a large standing area and benches reaching from the front stage to two back bars. Popular touring bands as well as local draws such as I Plus 2, the Connells and UV Prom appear regularly for an average price of \$3.

"We contact a lot of the bands, but a lot of them contact us," said Tim Harper, entertainment coordinator, who encourages local bands who want to start to contact him any day from noon to 2 p.m.

Using a new system, the club has a panel meeting with local musicians to set their tentative schedule. Then Harper calls around to confirm bookings and fill open dates. What results are shows Wednesday through Saturday, and sometimes more, which begin at 9:30 p.m.

Another night club that offers the talents of area and traveling bands is Rhythm Alley at 405½ W. Rosemary St.

Students might remember the location as Cat's Cradle's two years ago. Though the church pews and low ceiling remain, the club now has blues, bluegrass, jazz and contemporary bands.

Cover charges vary but average \$4. Call 929-8172 for schedule information.

Claiming to be the oldest beer bar in Chapel Hill at 22, The Cave (or The Cavern) at 452½ W. Franklin St. has the atmosphere of a cave, complete with moulded stalactites on the ceiling. The clientele, owner Meg Rose said, is "above-average" — the 21-to-22-year-old students, graduate stu-

dents and a middle-age crowd that grew up in Chapel Hill in the '60s and '70s.

On the nights that bands play, however, the different groups often bring their own crowds.

"We have everything from blues to a cappella to rock to bluegrass," Rose said. "We basically let anyone play, if they're good at what they do."

The bands play from 9:30 p.m. to closing on Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. There is no cover charge — just a pass of the hat for people to "contribute if they like what they hear," Rose said.

Also providing a forum for jazz musicians, the Jazz Mill is a new membership club in Carr Mill Mall. Among its changing line-up of events, the Mill has an open jam session and poetry reading from 8 to 11 p.m. every Thursday. Admission to events is \$4 for members and \$6 for guests, and event information is available at 967-0573.

Clubs are not the only place where one can find music; several restaurants also feature musicians in their lounges during the late afternoon or early evening.

The King's Club departs from the normal student fare with its plush night-club setting and location on the edge of town in the Hotel Europa. Monday through Saturday, the club gets its patrons started at 4:30 p.m. with complimentary appetizers and a daily drink special, also known as "Appy Hour." By 6 or 6:30, the bands are ready to begin playing Dixieland on Tuesday, jazz on Wednesday and Thursday and beach music on Friday.

Another restaurant that provides entertainment is Pyewacket, a vegetarian and seafood establishment in the Courtyard on West Franklin Street.

On Wednesday and Thursday nights, the restaurant turns off the classical music at 9:45 p.m. and offers live music in its lounge. Chosen during auditions by two local musicians, the acts play jazz on Wednesday night and a range of acoustic music (blues, country, guitar) on Thursday night.

Enjoying food, folk music and fun also is a popular pastime at Papagayo, a Mexican restaurant in NCNB Plaza. Acts from as far away as Minnesota begin at 9:30 or 10 p.m. and play their music, usually something acoustic, and tell jokes on the patio. There is no cover charge or minimum amount of drinks required to see the performance.

Diners at the Brass Rail, 1301 E. Franklin St., can enjoy live entertainment Friday and Saturday nights, beginning at 8:30 or 10

p.m. Fridays usually feature jazz music. There is no cover charge.

Also offering jazz and many other kinds of music, Carrboro's ArtSchool in Carr Mill Mall offers live music for admissions from \$3 to \$6 (\$1 less for friends of the ArtSchool).

In the mission statement of the non-profit community organization, one of the purposes is to provide for "participation in all the artistic disciplines." The center has worked to fulfill that purpose by providing live musical entertainment of all kinds.

From the Sunday Jazz Series that runs from 7 to 10 p.m. to Doo-Wop Night, piano recitals, a Halloween concert-party and a myriad of rock and folk concerts every week, the emphasis is variety.

Carol Owens, communications coordinator, said, "We open our doors to local and emerging artists of all kinds."

They also open their doors to people of all kinds. Young (even those younger than 19) and old alike are invited to the concerts held in the open warehouse section of the center, with its large stage and dance floor.

The Turning Point Creativity Center, which opened at the beginning of the summer, is a community entertainment center that defies a label because, manager Brian Felstein said, its personality is a "reflection of whoever is in the building."

The current act depends on whatever music, play or meeting some-



DTH/Larry Childress

Mitch Easter and Let's Active frequently perform in local clubs.

one uses the center to produce and on what member of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro community does it.

"The most important thing to me is that people get the opportunity to do whatever they want to," said Felstein, adding, "and as long as no one does anything obscene."

The center is open Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, but Fel-

stein encouraged people to come to see it at Brewer Lane and Franklin Street behind Sparkle Car Wash.

It costs \$1 to use the center for a meeting or \$2.50 per person to put on a band or a play, but Felstein also sells "unlimited use vouchers" that allow free everyday use and one-third off event admissions.

ArtSchool a warehouse of entertainment

By NANCY ATKINSON
Staff Writer

If you are a senior bored with the offering of entertainment on Franklin Street, an underage freshman or someone interested in the community outside the University, the place you are looking for might be nearby.

Just inside Carrboro, in the warehouse end of Carr Mill Mall, stands the ArtSchool, officially called the Center for Visual and Performing Arts.

In the 11th year of its mission to "promote, nurture and challenge the creative spirit of the people of Orange County and the surrounding areas..." its events and classes continue to attract a variety of people, including professionals, young families and retired people.

"This area is for the community," said Carol Owens, the center's communication coordinator. "But when I say community, I mean the student community, too — not just Carrboro and Chapel Hill."

The center prides itself on offering something for everyone to enjoy. Much work goes into providing a wide range of artwork,

poetry, drama and live music every month.

"We try to go for a total cross-section of music," Technical Manager Burke Stedman said.

As a result, the center features contemporary, folk, country, traditional and jazz music on different nights. Sundays are reserved for a jazz series. Musicians from Scotland and Brittany as well as the United States will present traditional folk tunes this fall.

Regional bands that play in night clubs also will appear in force, playing their blends of reggae, rock, rhythm and blues, or Motown.

Although a bar sells beer and wine during shows, people younger than 19 are admitted, making the center a refuge for high-school and underage college students. Owens stressed that they also sold non-alcoholic drinks.

"We are neither a night club or a bar," she said. "But we do provide something for everyone."

Stedman added, "We try to promote concerts — not be a bar — so we are able to have younger people in here."

Town drinkeries the best, bar none

By MIKE ALTIERI
Staff Writer

Jukebox blaring and everything, all the cats began to sing. I heard somebody call, they said last round for alcohol. Hey bartender, hey man, looka here. Draw one, draw two, draw three, four glasses of beer.

— Joliet Jake and Elwood Blues

Jake and Elwood may never have made it to Chapel Hill, but for thousands of UNC students, a bar is available to satisfy almost anyone — whether you enjoy light shows and dancing or drinking in a hot, noisy crowd.

Elliot's Nest, in the Kroger Plaza Shopping Center, combines dancing and drinking in a modern night club atmosphere. Sofas and soft chairs create a comfortable setting, with the interior of the club looking clean and relatively new. Elliot's recently installed a new light show and sound system, making the club a prime spot for either dancing or just listening.

"I think we have the finest facility for viewing Carolina ball games," said manager Sonny Barwick, referring to Elliot's 12-foot projection screen.

As for drinks, \$1.75 hi-balls and 75-cent draft beer are everyday prices. The club runs drink specials on selected nights.

The crowds range from students to young professionals, Barwick said. Elliot's is a member-guest club and is open Wednesday through Saturday from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m.

"The thing about grades is they cause a lot of pressure on your performance," she said. "What's unique about these programs is you're doing it for yourself, your own enrichment — not for grades."

People can reduce the fee for classes by 25 percent by becoming a "friend" of the ArtSchool with a yearly tax-deductible donation. This entitles them to reduced admission to events and mailings of event information, and it allows the center to rent the 7,000 square feet or working area in Carr Mill Mall. The contributions and admission prices also help fund renovations when the center moves into the old Piggly Wiggly supermarket in April 1986.

Then, 16,000 square feet will be available to meet the rising demand for its programs and make room for as many students from UNC who decide to come. And the ArtSchool will consistently use its new official name — the Center for Visual and Performing Arts.

For information on classes, call 942-2041. For box office information, call 929-2896.

If you are looking for a bar that's low-key yet draws large crowds on the weekends, stop by Henderson Street Bar.

This bar is fast becoming known for its modest beer prices and fresh popcorn. Henderson Street offers \$1 bottled domestic beer — as well as 10 imported beers — and 16-ounce drafts for 75 cents. No pitchers are served.

The wooden benches and booths inside provide ample seating for smaller crowds, but expect to stand shoulder to shoulder on a weekend night.

"We get all kinds of people here — graduate students, juniors, seniors, just all kinds," owner Tim Kirkpatrick said. "There are trends in customers, but we just keep the business the same."

If you like to hear music from the past, then Henderson Street is the place. Otis Redding's "Dock of the Bay" or the Who's "Won't Get Fooled Again" are just two examples of the kind of music on the classic-laden jukebox. Video games, pinball and a television also are available at Henderson Street, which is open Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 2:30 a.m. and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 2:30 a.m.

Now, who said there isn't some Irish in all of us? The tradition of the European pub lives on in Chapel Hill by the name of Molly Maguire's.

Although known for its sandwiches and salads, Molly's is a favorite watering hole for many. Customers will find a wide variety of beers, both foreign and domestic. Looking for a stout ale? Molly's has it.

The establishment itself is probably as attractive as the food and drink. Molly's creates the warm, traditional pub atmosphere with its covered outdoor patio and memorabilia-lined walls. Bring some friends and enjoy a different evening out at this unique Chapel Hill establishment.

Quickly, what bar in Chapel Hill has the strangest name? If you said He's Not Here, you probably won't get much argument.

Actually, He's Not Here seems almost inappropriate, because anybody who is somebody goes to this bar. If you want to see friends, you can count on them being there. During the hot months, the beer garden at He's Not Here is packed, especially on Tuesdays and the weekends.

Tuesdays are Happy Days, and you can get those huge, big-gulp cups for \$1.25 and 12-ounce drafts for a quarter. On certain weekends, He's Not Here provides live music, usually for fund raisers for fraternities and other groups.

The bar inside offers 17 domestic beers and 17 imports, as well as seven draft beers. Pitchers also are available.

During the peak periods, He's Not Here runs three bars to han-



DTH/Larry Childress

These Chapel Hillians aren't drinking the water at a Mexican restaurant, Papagayo

dle the crowds. A widescreen television, video games and pinball also are available.

If you like crowds and meeting people, He's Not Here should be the place for you. He's Not Here is open Monday through Saturday from noon to 2 a.m. and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 2 a.m.

If you were disappointed when Purdy's went out of business, you will be glad to hear plans are under way for a new dance club: Upstairs 159th Street.

The club is under renovation but remains open. Plans call for a remodeled interior and a new bar. There are tables and chairs, if you wish to sit and drink, and plenty of space to dance or move around.

Upstairs 159th Street will advertise drink specials, which will be more prevalent after renovations are completed. Upstairs will continue to play dance music but also will spin rock 'n' roll and beach music. Don't get too used to the name, however, because plans call for a name change as a final touch.

Upstairs is open Thursday through Saturday from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. and Friday from 4 p.m. to 2 a.m. On Wednesdays, 18-year-olds will be admitted from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m.

For a change of pace from Franklin Street, you might spend an evening at Teddy's, a new lounge in the Holiday Inn on U.S. 15-501.

Teddy's offers a buffet Monday through Friday from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. After dinner, you can listen to music ranging from the '30s to the '80s.

"Teddy's has a disc jockey seven days a week that will play whatever you want to hear, whether it be beach, rock or disco music," manager Beau Pre said.

Teddy's has drink specials Monday through Thursday and 75-cent draft beer and \$1.50 bar brand drinks on Sundays. Teddy's is open Monday through Saturday from 11:30 a.m. to 2 a.m. and

Sunday from 1 p.m. to midnight.

For those who can only drink in a dimly lit, crowded, excessively noisy bar whose theme song is sung by Hank Williams Jr., then the place is Trolls.

Truly, the name says it all. Scratched tables, torn seats and sticky carpet are what make Trolls. Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights bring huge crowds to Trolls, leaving standing room only.

"Our business has been spectacular since school started this year," owner Joe Thompson said. "When it's packed, it's nothing but wild."

Trolls offers a Sunday, Monday and Tuesday Happy Day special, featuring 75-cent longneck bottles and \$2 house-brand pitchers. On Wednesdays, the No. 1 import sells for \$1. Trolls carries 10 different draft beers and a variety of imports.

In the afternoons, customers can play darts and backgammon; at night, pinball and video games.

"In the afternoons, it is really calm and relaxing," Thompson said. "Trolls is the friendliest bar in Chapel Hill."

Trolls has a new addition this year: a 10-ton air-conditioning system.

The music at Trolls induces crowd participation, and you'll soon find yourself singing along with the likes of Hank, Jim and the Boss.

Another Trolls attraction is the replaying of Carolina basketball games, particularly the 1982 championship. The crowds still go wild. Thompson summed up Trolls by reiterating the logo: "It's not just a bar, it's an adventure."

Trolls is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 a.m. and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 2 a.m.

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