

ON THE ROAD
The World Famous
GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA
The One and Only
TOMMY DORSEY ORCHESTRA
and
JUKEBOX SATURDAY NIGHT
Big Band Newsletter #241

**NEWS FROM THE ROAD...
Curtain up on 2026!**

By Jenny Swoish



We made it!

We began and ended the first month of the year in Florida (with a couple of weeks in between)...so some of us felt like we were sling-shooting back and forth to the sunshine state, while some of us just hibernated over New Year's and awaited the commencement of our usual January tour.

In this bitter weather, hibernating sounds too delightful...but alas, there is music to play and ground to cover. So let's catch you up on the latest happenings on the road!

Flavor of the Month: Florida!

What Were We Doing NYE?

We rang in 2026 with some hoopla down in the **Orlando** area. But if you've been following along, you already knew that!

What were *YOU* doing New Year's Eve? Any fancy soirees? Make any bold resolutions?



Bienvenidos a Miami!

After a couple of weeks off, we all met up in **Miami** for the commencement of our official 2026 tour!

We had to start things off right with a big, fat **Cuban sandwich** in Little Havana...



...and a fun show in Cutler Bay at the Moss Center! The band is all the same folks from last year, except for our pianist. Nate has moved on to other things, so we welcome Luke to the band!



Moving in The Villages

Then we said hello again to our friends in The Villages. We were thrilled to see a local **high school band** opening for us in the lobby area of the community's performing arts center, **The Sharon**.

The **Leesburg High School Swing Band** got the crowd "in the mood" as they played their set in the cathedral-like space. We learned that the building where the PAC stands was once a Unitarian church (hence the decor).

We got to meet some of the students after the show too!



Out in Ormond Beach...

The weekend found us in **Ormond Beach, FL** at the recently renovated **Ormond Beach Performing Arts Center**.

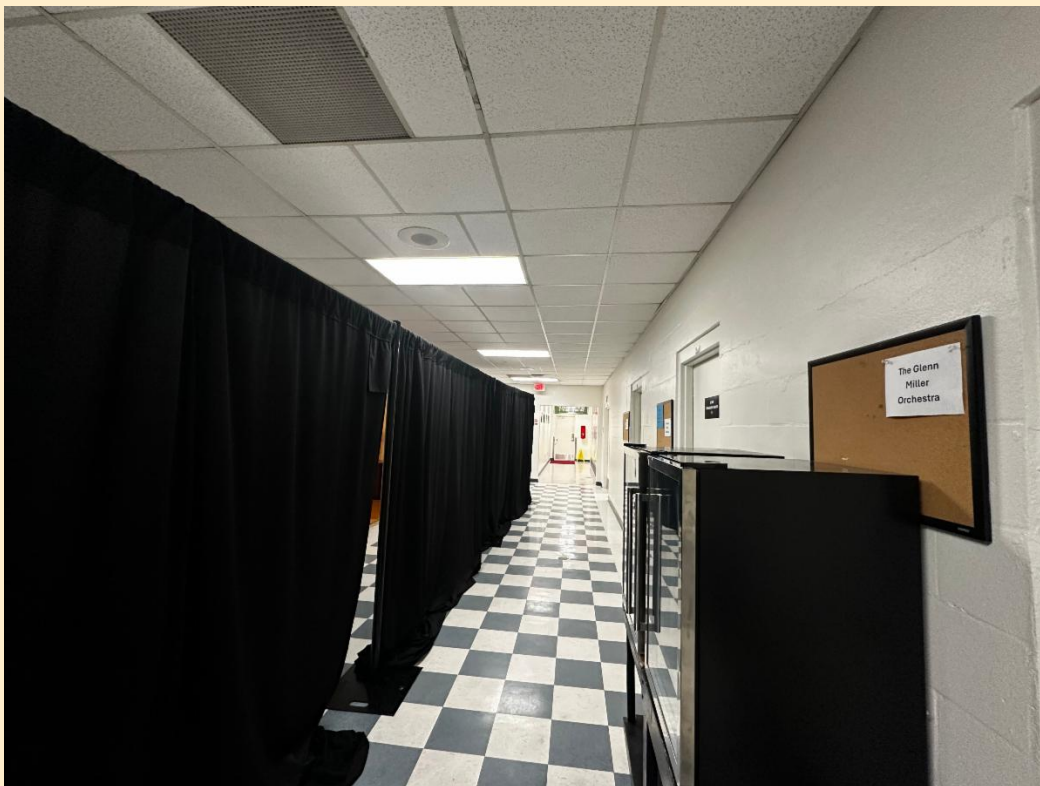


It's been a couple of years since we'd played Ormond Beach, so we were happy to be back. The crowd was happy too and we were thrilled to see so many smiling faces in the audience.



Melbourne: Git R Done?

You might recognize that 'catch phrase' and that's because it's the famous line of none other than **Larry the Cable Guy**. We were playing a Sunday matinee in Melbourne, FL at the studio theater in the **King Center for the Arts** and our friend Larry happened to be playing the big theater that evening. So our paths did cross, though ever so briefly. The staff curtained off the dressing room space to create more privacy for Mr. Cable Guy and his team...



...but we caught him sneaking a peek during our encore song!



Let's hear it for the **veterans** at our Melbourne show. It is our pleasure and honor to recognize and thank you veterans at each and every show. Thank you!



Fan Feature: Dan Castell

We had a lovely crowd for our show in Melbourne, but we noticed a particularly lively gentleman sitting right in the front row!

Meet Dan Castell. Dan has been a fan of Glenn's music since he was 10-years-old and he is now almost 80!

His favorite song in the book is "Moonlight Serenade". He says when he even hears one note of Glenn's theme song, he begins to tear up! You're in good company, Dan. Our lead alto/clarinet player, Kev, has been on the band for over 25 years and he still says "Moonlight Serenade" makes him cry (though not while he's playing it, thankfully!). It was great to see you, Dan, and we hope to see you in the front row again soon!

Frozen in Florida?

On the way to Jacksonville, we decided to do lunch in the historic town of **St. Augustine**. Founded in **1565**, St. Augustine is known as the oldest continuously occupied European-established settlement in the continental United States! The city is dripping with charm and history and the sun was shining (although it was a bit chillier than we would have liked...). All the same, we were thrilled to have a chance to explore.







Back to Jax

The **Terry Theater** in **Jacksonville, FL** has become an annual stop for the band. The temperatures were dropping as we felt some of what's been slamming the East coast blow down our way...but we were heating it up onstage with some burners like "Caribbean Clipper" and "King Porter Stomp"!





Even *Colder* in Carolina?!

Perhaps we spoke too soon about the “heating up” part...because once we headed up to North Carolina, we were afraid we’d turn into popsicles!

We played a fun show in **Hickory, NC...**



...but when it was time to load out, we found that our bus was stuck in a stubborn patch of snow/ice in the driveway.



We tried everything- chains, cardboard, plywood, sheer man-power!? But after exhausting all efforts, we finally had to call in the big guns to winch us out. Needless to say that we were looking forward to heading back to Ft. Lauderdale the next week!



Rallying in Raleigh (and Beyond)



Raleigh, NC was chilly but delightful.

The venue was a beautiful concert hall downtown and the seats were sold up to the rafters!



Grateful in Greensboro...

We played a lovely show at the **Carolina Theatre** in **Greensboro, NC**. It's a gorgeous, historic theater. How beautiful are the gilded details on the apron of the stage!?

The orchestra pit area was purposely left empty to allow folks to dance, if they felt so inclined. As always, one brave couple kicked it off, but others joined as the music played on.



We received this kind message from one fan who attended the show with her family:

Last night we treated my Mom and Dad to a Glenn Miller Band concert that they appeared to really enjoy. The concert began with a beautiful Glen Miller chestnut.. Moonlight Serenade. As the melodies drifted, I noticed something even more beautiful. My Dad gently took my Mom's hand and I knew that in that moment they were going back to a time and place together. I felt a great sense of admiration and blessed to have parents who are still together, since the beginning. A lifetime commitment that continues to say.. no matter how tough the times get, no matter how heavy life feels- you choose to stay, to fight, to face it all together.. hand in hand.

That, folks, is why we do what we do and why it's so important to keep this music alive.

Thanks for a great start to the year!

We've got more great music and shows coming up, so stay tuned.

See you on the road...



The Ultimate Big Band Weekend in Clarinda, IA

Get ready for an unforgettable weekend at the **Glenn Miller Birthplace Society's 51st Annual Festival, June 11–13, 2026**, in Clarinda, Iowa! Experience great music with performances by the legendary [Glenn Miller Orchestra](#), the [Tommy Dorsey Orchestra](#), and more. For the first time ever in Clarinda, witness The Battle of the Big Bands—two iconic orchestras sharing one stage in a thrilling, one-of-a-kind event. Plus, don't miss a special Glenn Miller Orchestra presentation featuring rare music from 1937 that hasn't been performed since. Add in fantastic local restaurants and the charm of a beautiful Midwestern town, and you've got the recipe for an absolutely awesome weekend. For more info visit <https://www.glennmiller.org/2026-festival>



June 11-13, 2026
Clarinda, Iowa

Celebrating

"The Glenn Miller Story"

Featuring

The Glenn Miller Orchestra
Tommy Dorsey Orchestra
Gooch & The Guys Big Band
Adam Swanson
Moonlight Serenade Orchestra
GMBS Band, *directed by Jarrod Harrah*
Music Scholarship Competition

For tickets or more information:
Glenn Miller Birthplace Museum
122 W. Clark Street, Clarinda, IA 51632
712-542-2461
shari@glenmmiller.org
glenmmiller.org

Follow the **Glenn Miller Orchestra** on **Instagram** to receive fun, short, entertaining, bits of information directly on your phone instantly. Download the Instagram app today and follow us at: <https://www.instagram.com/theglenmmillerorchestra>



THE MILLER SOUND LIVES FOREVER!

Visit our Website

Upcoming Glenn Miller Orchestra Shows

02/04/26 Chipley High School - Chipley, FL
 02/05/26 Naval Air Museum - Pensacola, FL
 02/06/26 Bama Theatre - Tuscaloosa, AL
 02/10-12/26 Candlelight Dinner Playhouse - Johnstown, CO
 02/15/26 Popejoy Hall - Albuquerque, NM
 02/18/26 Texas A&M-Corpus Christi - Corpus Christi, TX
 02/20/26 The Grand 1894 Opera House - Galveston, TX
 02/22-23/26 Manship Theatre - Baton Rouge, LA
 02/24/26 Memorial City Hall Performance Center - Marshall, TX
 02/26/26 Hoag Hall - CO State University - Pueblo, CO
 02/28/26 Jim & Linda Lee PAC - Prescott, AZ

03/01/26 Chandler Center - Chandler, AZ
 03/02/26 Historic Camelot Theatre - Palm Springs, CA
 03/03-05/26 Myron's at The Smith Center - Las Vegas, NV
 03/06/26 Lancaster PAC - Lancaster, CA
 03/07/26 The Coach House - San Juan Capistrano, CA
 03/08/26 Sycuan Casino Resort - El Cajon, CA
 03/10/26 Hermosa Beach Community Theatre - Hermosa Beach, CA
 03/12/26 Yoshi's - Oakland, CA
 03/13/26 Clark Center - Arroyo Grande, CA
 03/15/26 The Center for the Arts - Grass Valley, CA
 03/16/26 The Tower Theater - Bend, OR
 03/17/26 Patricia Reser Center for the Arts - Beaverton, OR
 03/18/26 The Rialto Theater - Tacoma, WA
 03/20/26 The Elsinore Theatre - Salem, OR
 03/21/26 Wildhorse Resort & Casino - Pendleton, OR
 03/24/26 Ute Theater - Rifle, CO
 03/25/26 Richardson Hall - Adam State University - Alamosa, CO
 03/27/26 McSwain Theatre - Ada, OK
 03/28/26 Henry B Tippie National Aviation Education Center - Dallas, TX

04/09/26 The Genesee Theater - Waukegan, IL
 04/10/26 Historic Chateau Theater - Rochester, MN
 04/11/26 The Arts Center at Iowa Western - Council Bluffs, IA
 04/14/26 Morris PAC - South Bend, IN
 04/15/26 Valentine Theatre - Toledo, OH
 04/16/26 Goodyear Theater - Akron, OH
 04/17/26 F.M. Kirby Center - Wilkes-Barre, PA
 04/18/26 Northumberland HS Theatre - Heathsville, VA
 04/19/26 The Weinberg Center - Frederick, MD
 4/21-22/26 Aronoff Center - Jarson-Kaplan Theater - Cincinnati, OH
 4/25/26 Hattiesburg Saenger Theater - Hattiesburg, MS
 4/27/26 The Capitol - Bowling Green, KY
 4/28/26 Hoogland Center for the Arts - Springfield, IL
 4/29/26 Meyer Theater - Green Bay, WI
 4/30/26 Ruth A Knoll Theatre - Hartford, WI

[Visit our Tour Schedule](#)

Trivia Contest

Be the first person to answer our trivia question correctly and win the David Fisher book.

Question: The Glenn Miller Orchestra was saddened to hear about the loss of David Fisher, a funny, loving and generous person, this past month. What was the title of the book he wrote about the Glenn Miller Orchestra?

Our last newsletter trivia question and answer:

Question: Glenn Miller co-wrote "Room 1411" with which other famous band leader?

Answer: Benny Goodman

GOOD LUCK! Click here to answer:
maureen@glennmillerorchestra.com

Congratulations to Steve from Champaign, IL who won the CD "Glenn Miller Orchestra - 80th Anniversary of the Army Air Force Band."



Newly Released Authentic Arrangements from the **Glenn Miller Orchestra Library**

A new publication of "On The Trail," arranged by the legendary clarinetist Buddy DeFranco for the Glenn Miller Orchestra in 1972, is now being released to the public for the first time. This lively arrangement showcases DeFranco's unique mix of swing and modern jazz, adding new energy to Ferde Grofé's classic Grand Canyon Suite movement. Fans of big band music and jazz history alike can now experience the intricate harmonies and dynamic orchestrations that defined the Glenn Miller Orchestra's post-war sound under DeFranco's artistic direction. This long-awaited release offers a rare glimpse into a remarkable era of American jazz innovation.

- "On The Trail" - arranged by Buddy DeFranco - [Hard Copy Link](#) / [Download Link](#)

Also available for purchase on eJazzLines.com, these are not transcriptions—they're the original, authentic arrangements straight from the Glenn Miller Orchestra library. Carefully preserved and newly published, these charts capture the unmistakable sound of America's most iconic big band. Featured titles include:

- "Strike Up the Band" – arranged by Bill Finegan - [Hard Copy Link](#) / [Download Link](#)
- "I Know That You Know" – arranged by Bill Finegan - [Hard Copy Link](#) / [Download Link](#)
- "Peg O' My Heart" – arranged by Deane Kincaide - [Hard Copy Link](#) / [Download Link](#)
- "'S Wonderful" – arranged by Deane Kincaide - [Hard Copy Link](#) / [Download Link](#)

Perfect for advanced ensembles and Miller enthusiasts, these classic swing-era gems are now available for the first time in officially licensed editions.

The One and Only **Tommy Dorsey Orchestra**



Follow the **TOMMY DORSEY ORCHESTRA** on its website:

<https://www.tommydorseyorchestra.net/>

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/people/The-Tommy-Dorsey-Orchestra/100051215442353/>

UPCOMING TOMMY DORSEY ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES

02/02-06/26 Busch Gardens - Tampa, FL
 02/28/26 Corning Museum of Glass - Corning, NY
 03/01/26 The Theater at Innovation Square - Rochester, NY
 03/19/26 Carolina Hotel - Pinehurst, NC
 03/20/26 Williams High School - Burlington, NC
 03/21/26 Hazleton Area High School - Hazelton, PA
 03/22/26 Zoellner Arts Center - Bethlehem, PA
 03/26/26 Lincoln Community Theatre - New Martinsville, WV
 04/11/26 South Orange PAC - South Orange, NJ
 04/12/26 Greenwich Odeum - East Greenwich, RI
 04/13/26 Harwich Cultural Center - Harwich, MA
 04/26/26 Glazer hall - Palm Beach, FL
 05/04-27/26 - **Silversea cruise**
 06/13/26 Clarinda High School - Glenn Miller Festival - Clarinda, IA
 07/02/26 Clayton Opera House - Clayton, NY
 07/16/26 Lawrenceburg Crockett Theatre - Lawrenceburg, TN
 11/10/26 Blue Gate PAC - Battle of the Big Bands w/GMO - Shipshewana, IN
 11/11/26 Michigan Theater - Ann Arbor, MI
 12/11/26 Peoples Bank Theatre - Marietta, OH
 12/13/26 Lexington Village Theatre - Lexington, MI
 12/18/26 The Ware Center - Millersville University - Lancaster, PA
 12/19/26 First Congregational Church of Madison - Madison, CT
 12/20/26 Waterville Opera House - Waterville, ME

View full tour schedule: **SCHEDULE**

Jukebox Saturday Night

(managed by Glenn Miller Productions, Inc.)



Follow **JUKEBOX SATURDAY NIGHT** on its website: <https://www.jbsaturdaynight.com/>
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Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/jbsaturdaynight/>

UPCOMING JUKEBOX SATURDAY NIGHT PERFORMANCES

02/06/26 Heritage Center - Dubuque, IA
02/20/26 Englewood Methodist Church - Englewood, FL
03/07/26 Sturges-Young Center - Sturgis, MI
03/21-22/26 Kalif Shrine Center - Sheridan, WY
04/04/26 Firehouse Center for the Arts - Newburyport, MA
04/10/26 Hettenhausen Center - Lebanon, IL
04/12/26 PAC of Wisconsin Rapids - Wisconsin Rapids, WI
02/04/27 Armstrong Auditorium - Edmond, OK
03/13/27 Banyon Bowl at Pinecrest Gardens - Pinecrest, FL

View full tour schedule: [SCHEDULE](#)



Glenn Miller Orchestra | 3208 W. Lake Mary Blvd. Suite 1720 | Lake Mary, FL 32746 US

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