

WASHINGTON BLUES SOCIETY

Bluesletter

APRIL 2016

WWW.WABLUES.ORG

WELCOME

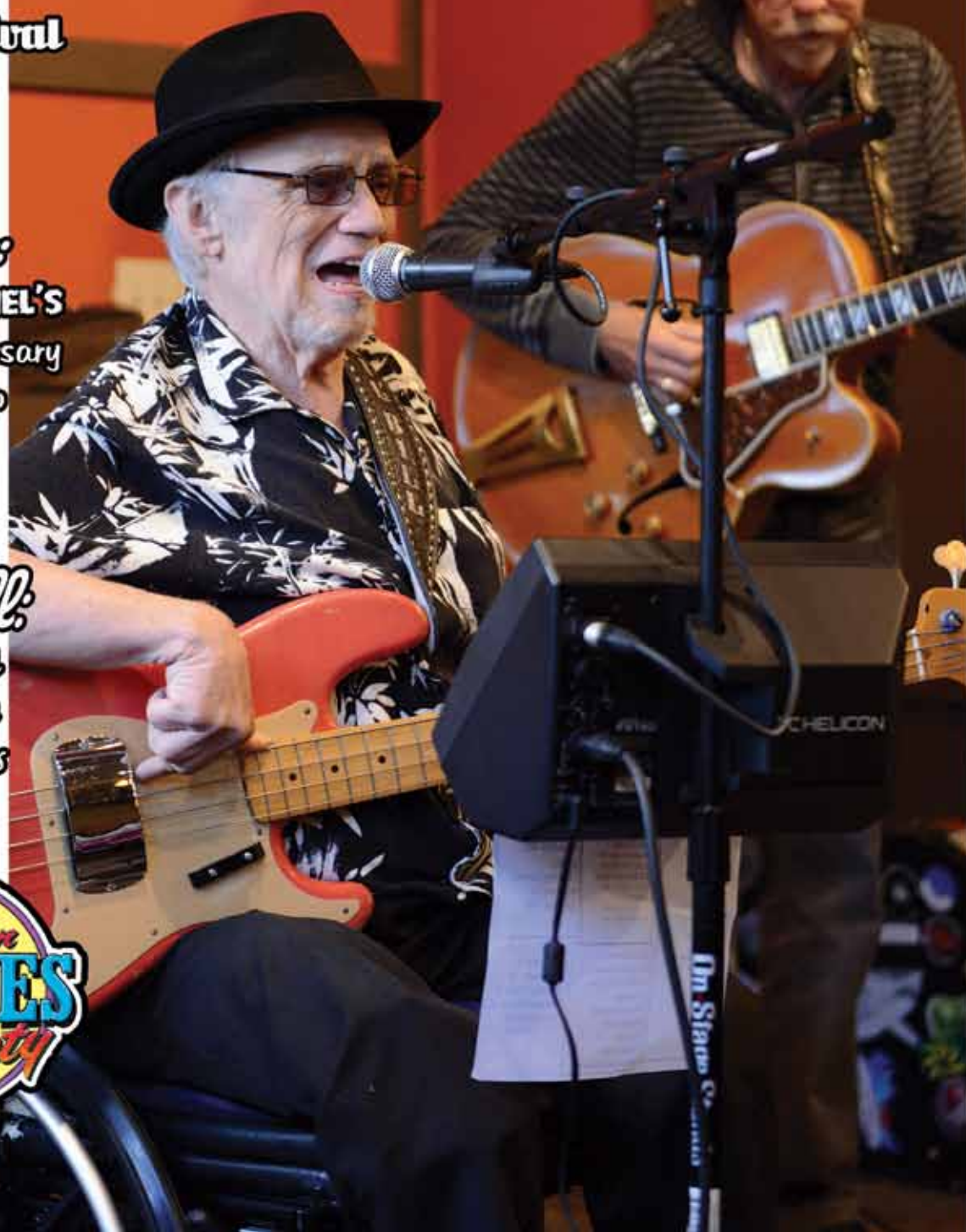
to
**2016
Blues Festival
Season!**



Review:
**MARK HUMMEL'S
25th Anniversary
Blues Harp
Blowout**



Dan Hill:
**Tacoma
Through an
Artist's Lens**



In This Issue...



Tony Fredericson and BB Award Nominee
Mary McPage (Photo by Paul Brown)



Billy Stoops at the March Blues Bash
(Photo by Paul Brown)



Sammy Eubanks at the March Blues Bash
(Photo by Paul Brown)

Letter from the President	2	SJB 2016 European Tour	6	Flat 5 Blues Cartoon	13
On the Cover: Little Bill	2	Photo/Art of Dan Hill	8	Membership Opportunities	14
Letter from the Editor	3	2017 IBC Guidelines	10	What is Victory Music	14
Officers and Directors	4	2017 IBC Application Form	11	Jam Preview: Razzal's Jam	15

Letter from Washington Blues Society President Tony Frederickson

Hi Blues Fans,

What a whirlwind the first four months of 2016 have been! From the International Blues Challenge and the exciting win by Ben Hunter and Joe Seamons the Solo/Duo winners, the Best in the Blues nomination and voting process, finding a new home for our Second Tuesday Blues Bash at the Sound Check Bar & Grill in Lynnwood; from presenting and honoring musicians, clubs and events with their Best in the Blues nomination certificates to setting up the Best in the Blues Awards Show, to setting the dates for the 2017 International Blues Challenge Semi-finals and the start of the blues festival season! It has been a blur!

As you read this in the Bluesletter, the 2016 Washington Blues Society Best in the Blues Show is just days away! And what a show it will be! We're doing something new this year: the show will be more entertaining, the music even more relevant with the awards more of a bonus!

We are doing our own ticket sales this year: that means no extra ticketing fees! At only \$25.00 for current members to \$35.00 for non-members, discounts for seniors and youth, we've got all the bases covered. Get your tickets from Brown Paper Tickets at <http://www.bpt.me/2512024>, purchase them from me or a Board member, or buy them day of show. I look forward to seeing all of you

there and at the after party down at Hector's!! More music and more fun, great food and tasty libations! Don't forget Sunday, April 3rd at the Kirkland Performance Center, doors open at 2:30! Check our Facebook page or your members-only e-mail for additional details!

Did I mention that this year's Washington Blues Society Best of the Blues Show has no additional ticketing fees? This has been a departure from prior years and I hope members will see this as a value-add for their membership!

The Coeur d'Alene Blues Festival is history: what a blast it was! Tinsley Ellis, Dana Fuchs, Robin Barrett & the Coyote Kings, Rob Boatsman & Rampage, Bakin' Phat, Charlie Butts & the Filter Tips, the Doghouse Boyz, Sara Brown, Tuck Foster & the Mossrites, the Stepbrothers and others!

It was a full weekend and I definitely recommend putting this festival on your "to do" list and making plans for next year if you missed this event. It is a great way to start blues festival season!

This month features the Walla Walla Guitar Festival, which is loaded with exceptional national, regional and local talent. Sugar Ray Rayford, Rick Estrin & the Nightcats, the 44s, Ayron Jones & the Way, Randy Oxford's All Star Slam, Big Monti & Rae Gordon, Vaughn Jensen, Ben Hunter &

Joe Seamons, Billy Stoops & the Dirt Angels, Trevalyan Blue, and tons of others! 31 bands total: the weekend promises to be a jam-packed three days of fun! This event may sell out, so get online and get your tickets and pop down to the charming little town of Walla Walla! Great wine, cold beers and good food plus excellent music make for a memory filled weekend! See the ad in this issue for more information. More importantly: don't miss out on the fun!

The Untapped Music Festival, Sunbanks Music Festival, Yakima Blues & Brews, the Gorge Blues & Brews, the 2016 Rally at the Border and many other festivals are on the calendar.

Oh man, I love this time of the year! So many festivals and so many opportunities to experience great, live blues from national, regional and local blues musicians.

Be sure to read your Bluesletter for info about all the upcoming festivals and events and get out and support live blues music.

See you out at a show!

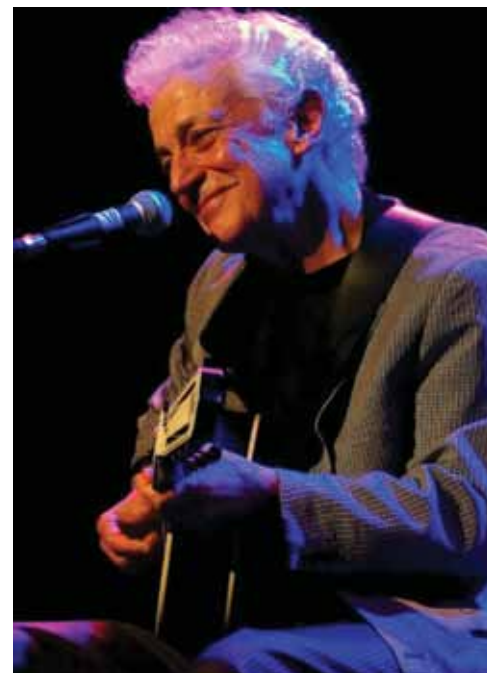
Tony Frederickson, President
Washington Blues Society
At-Large Member, Board of Directors, The Blues Foundation



Mark Hummel at Jazz Alley!
(Photo by Richard Harvey)



Menu Specials at Our Monthly Blues Bash!
(Photo by Eric Steiner)



Doug "Dubb" MacLeod - New Live CD!
(Photo by Theo Looijmans)

Preview: Rally at the Border!	15	Blues Society Membership Form	24	Mark Hummel's Blowout	28
CD Reviews	18	Blues Jam Listings	25	Save KPLU Benefit Show	31
Blues Talent Guide	21	Blues Open Mics Listings	25	Gray Sky Festival Preview	31
Blues Venue Guide	22	April Blues Calendar	26		

Eric Steiner's Letter from the Editor

Dear Bluesletter Readers,

Welcome to the April Bluesletter. This issue is unique for several reasons. First of all, Tacoma figures prominently in it with Little Bill Englehart and Billy Stapleton on the cover, Jane Henderson's insightful profile of Tacoma photographer and artist Dan Hill, and the schedule of 9th annual Gray Skies Music Festival, which kicks off immediately after the Daffodil Parade in downtown Tacoma.

Secondly, this issue includes a review of Mark Hummel's 25th anniversary harp blowout at Jazz Alley by 2016 Best Blues Writer nominee Rocky Nelson. I am pleased that Arizona-based blues photographer Marilyn Stringer contributed photos to Rocky's article: I saw Marilyn at the Chicago Blues Festival last year where she was introducing her excellent *Blues in the 21st Century, Volume 1*, to enthusiastic Windy City Blues Society members in their booth along Columbus Drive near Grant Park. Marilyn's photos of blues legends are memorable and I highly recommend this book to Bluesletter readers. It's not a typical "coffee table book;" instead, I think of it as a reference that honors performers like Michael "Iron Man" Burks who graces the cover as well as working bluesmen and blueswomen we'll see on tour.

The issue also includes instructions and an application form for the 2017 Washington Blues

Society International Blues Challenge. We are very fortunate to have such a robust blues community in the upper left hand corner of the continental United States and the Lower Mainland of British Columbia. While I'm admittedly biased, performers from this region of North America have consistently performed well at the International Blues Challenge in Memphis, and this year, our entrants in the Solo/Duo competition, Ben Hunter and Joe Seamons, finished first in a field of 94 entries from 16 countries worldwide. When I first heard them at our monthly, all-ages Blues Bash last year, I knew that they had something special. I encouraged them to learn more about the Washington Blues Society and enter our competition. Since that gig, Ben and Joe have continued to focus on their own path in roots and blues music, but what really inspires me is their Rhapsody Project: by working with local schools and youth programs, Ben and Joe give back to the community. I think that their work at the Hillman City Collaboratory in Southeast Seattle is an exemplar of how arts and culture can break through barriers, and their explorations of Woody Guthrie in the Pacific Northwest have definitely piqued my interest. Perhaps more importantly: Ben and Joe's sets are a lot of fun!

Finally, this issue has 15 CD reviews. One unique aspect of this month's reviews section is that one release, *Live in Europe* by Doug MacLeod, is the

first all-digital release that I have reviewed in these pages. I guess I should "get over" lamenting album art like *Exile on Main St.*'s foldouts and postcard inserts or the working zipper on Andy Warhol's cover of *Sticky Fingers*.

Over 15 years ago, hip-hop impresario Chuck D told me at Shoreline Community College that music would eventually be distributed digitally, and in 2014, revenues from downloads and subscription services surpassed CD revenue for the first time.

No matter where Bluesletter readers get their music, directly from artists at shows, from digital downloads at Amazon.com or from iTunes, or CDs bought at Fry's in Renton (I'm pleasantly surprised at the diversity and quality of blues selections available at that "big box" store), I hope that they'll continue to support live music.

Please enjoy the April Bluesletter!

'Til next issue,

Eric Steiner, Editor
Washington Blues Society Bluesletter
Member, Board of Directors, The Blues Foundation (2010-2013).

Washington Blues Society

Proud Recipient of a 2009 Keeping the Blues Alive Award

Officers

President	Tony Frederickson	president@wablu.es.org
Vice President	Rick Bowen	vicepres@wablu.es.org
Secretary	Carolyn Palmer-Burch	secretary@wablu.es.org
Treasurer (Acting)	Chad Creamer	treasurer@wablu.es.org
Editor	Eric Steiner	editor@wablu.es.org

Directors

Music Director	Amy Sassenberg	music@wablu.es.org
Membership	Michelle Burge	membership@wablu.es.org
Education	Open	education@wablu.es.org
Volunteers	Rhea Rolfe	volunteers@wablu.es.org
Merchandise	Tony Frederickson	merchandise@wablu.es.org
Advertising	Open	advertising@wablu.es.org
IT	Sherie Roberts-Greimes	TBA

Thank You to the Washington Blues Society 2016 Street Team

Downtown Seattle	Tim & Michelle Burge	blueslover206@comcast.net
West Seattle	Jeff Weibe	(206) 932-0546
North Sound	Malcolm Kennedy	malcarken@comcast.net
Northern WA	Lloyd Peterson	freespirt@televar.com
Penninsula	Dan Wilson	allstarguitar@centurytel.net
Pt Townsend & Pt Angeles	Alvin Owen	alvino227@gmail.com
Central WA	Stephen J. Lefebvre	s.j.lefebvre@gmail.com
Eastern WA	Open	
Ballard	Marcia Jackson	sunyrosykat@gmail.com
Lopez Island	Carolyn & Dean Jacobsen	cjacobsen@rockisland.com
Welcome Home	"Rock Khan"	rocknafghanistan@gmail.com

Special Thanks

Webmaster Emeritus	The Sheriff	webmaster@wablu.es.org
Web Hosting	Adhost	www.adhost.com
WBS Logo	Phil Chesnut	philustr8r@gmail.com
Calendar	Janie Walla	calendar@wablu.es.org
Cover Graphics	Paul Steiner	paul@paulsteinerdesigner.com
Blues Cartoonist	Sylvia Breece	sylviabreece@yahoo.com

Mission Statement: The Washington Blues Society is a nonprofit organization whose purpose is to promote, preserve, and advance the culture and tradition of blues music as an art form. Annual membership is \$25 for individuals, and \$35 for couples. The Washington Blues Society is a tax-exempt nonprofit organization and donations are tax-deductible. The Washington Blues Society is affiliated with The Blues Foundation in Memphis, Tennessee.

Washington Blues Society
P.O. Box 70604
Seattle, WA 98127

April Bluesletter - Vol. XVI, Number IV

Publisher	Washington Blues Society
Editor	Eric Steiner (editor@wablu.es.org)
Calendar	Janie Walla (thewallas@juno.com)
Advertising	Open
Printer	Pacific Publishing Company www.pacificpublishingcompany.com

Contributing Writers:

Rick Bowen, Tony Frederickson, J Henderson, Robert and Carmen Marina
Horn, Tom Jones, Malcolm Kennedy, Rocky Nelson,
Eric Steiner, TS Sutherland

Contributing Photographers:

Paul Brown, Phil Chesnut, Richard Harvey, Dan Hill,
Stacy Jones, Janelle Kallender, Theo Looijmans, Eric Steiner,
Marilyn Stringer, Martin Van Rijen

May 2016 Deadlines

Ad Reservations: April 5th - editor@wablu.es.org
Calendar: April 5th - calendar@wablu.es.org
Editorial: April 5th - editor@wablu.es.org
Camera Ready Ads: April 12th - editor@wablu.es.org

Please Note: All camera ready art and photos need to be in CMYK format (for color) or grayscale (for black and white) at 300 dpi or higher and sent only as attachments (and not embedded in emails).
Text: Plain .txt or Microsoft Word (only as an attachment)

	B/W	COLOR	HT X WIDTH
Full Page:	\$300	\$375	(11" x 8.5")
Half Page:	\$175	\$220	(5.5" x 8.5")
Back Half Page:	\$260	\$325	(5.5" x 8.5")
Quarter Page:	\$100	\$125	(5.5" x 4.25")
Fifth Page:	\$75	\$95	(3.5" x 4.25")
Business Card:	\$30	\$38	(2" x 3.5")

Bluesletter Advertising Discounts:
20% off - 12 month pre-payment
15% off - 6 month pre-payment
10% off - 3 month pre-payment

On the Cover:

Little Bill Englehart and Billy Stapleton
(Photo by Paul Brown)

Pacific Northwest "Ambassador of the Bass Guitar," Little Bill Englehart, returns to the cover the Bluesletter. Catch him live at:
April 3: Johnny's Dock, Lil Bill Trio w/ Rod Cook, Tacoma
April 8: Dawson's, Little Bill and the Blue Notes, Tacoma
April 9: Grey Sky Festival-Lil Bill Trio w/ Rod Cook, Tacoma
April 15: Crossroads, Little Bill and the Blue Notes, Bellevue
April 16: Grinders, Little Bill and the Blue Notes, Shoreline
April 29 and 30: GDonnalsen's, Lil Bill/Rod Cook Duo, Tacoma



ieblues.org

P.O. Box 11513
Spokane Valley, Wa.
99212-1513
anitaroyce@comcast.net
509-922-5692
Kay Miller 509-534-8185

INSIDE BLUES

The Walla Walla Feast & Guitar Festival

30 Blues & Roots Artists
over three days
in 15 venues
in Downtown
Walla Walla!

Coyote Kings Invitational

April 8, 9, & 10



Gourmet
food &
wine!

Music!

Sugaray Rayford

Rick Estrin & The Nightcats

The 44s ~ Ayrton Jones & The Way

Big Monti Amundson ft. Rae Gordon

Randy Oxford's All-Star Slam ft. Patti Allen

Robin Barrett & Coyote Kings w/Tiph Dames

Charlie Butts & The Filbertips ~ The Sara Brown Band

Ben Hunter & Joe Seamons ~ Billy Stoops & The Dirt Angels

The Stacy Jones Band ~ The Wasteland Kings ~ Leanne Trevalyan

Vaughn Jensen ~ Tuck Foster ~ The Barn Dwellers ~ Shanks Pony

Gary Winston & The Real Deal ~ Iguana Hat

Pappa Frita & The Hot Mustard ~ Rae Gordon

Winston/Hemenway ~ and more TBA!



downtownwallawalla.com

Tickets
& info

<http://wallawallaguitarfestival.com>



Road Diary: Stacy Jones 2016 European Tour

By Tom Jones

What does cruising the oceans of the world on a sailboat and a band touring in Europe have in common? More than you might realize. Each of these endeavors bring up images of fun and adventure, but ask anyone who has crewed a sailboat on a long voyage, or has toured with their band, they can quickly tell you that there is a lot of work that goes on behind that romantic image of adventure! I am sure it is every musician's dream to go on tour. To go on a European tour is even more intriguing, but we found out quickly that it is a lot of hard work, too. It was a wonderful experience that none of us will ever forget, but we literally worked our butts off as part of the process

Having never toured Europe before we were faced with all the logistical challenges. How do we book the shows? Where to get our equipment and how do we transport it? Where do we stay? Stacy worked with Jay Landman of the Blues Farm Music Agency in the Netherlands and he began the process of finding venues for the band. As the bookings became available it became clear that the gigs were not conveniently located for ease of travel. This was the main challenge we faced as a band during the tour.

As the schedule started taking shape Stacy took on the daunting task of arranging our travel routes and lodging. She did an absolutely stellar job on this. The only lodging glitch in the entire tour was lodging arranged by the promoter. With some quick thinking, Stacy was able to rescue us from this dire situation. That story alone would require a separate article!

As it was not financially feasible to take anything more than two pieces of checked luggage and one carry-on per person, we knew that we'd have to rent the majority of our equipment. After a few failed attempts at contacting music stores in Amsterdam to rent gear I discovered the backline company "Artists On the Road,". They were incredible to work with and Bart was able to provide us with the van, amps, drums, keyboards, acoustic guitar and the other items we needed for the shows.

With the gear situation handled, the only thing that needed to be decided was what to pack. We knew we needed to bring as much merchandise as possible and still stay under weight on our luggage. So it went like this: our main instrument, a large suitcase filled halfway with merchandise and the other half with clothing and one carry on with everything else. No sweat!

The Tour

Day 1: We arrived in Amsterdam and caught a transport van to the "Artist on the Road" warehouse where they allowed us to select the equipment we desired for the tour. Rick was delighted when he found a set of top-of-the-line Pearl drums among

the many sets to choose from. With the van loaded up we started our journey with Stacy as the navigator and me at the wheel. Little did I know what I was in for.

That night, we stayed outside of Amsterdam at an Airbnb that was on the bus line. We took the bus into town and spent the evening in Old Town Amsterdam. I was relieved that I didn't have to drive into the city as the streets were very narrow, crowded, and full of thousands of bicycles and no parking anywhere. Before the tour was over we would end up returning to Amsterdam for three more stays. Amsterdam is so clean!

Day 2: The second day was a transit day as we made our way down through Belgium to Paris where we would stay the night in a downtown hotel. Parking was also very scarce here but after about twenty minutes I was able to find a spot a few blocks away. We caught a cab and went out on the town including up the Eiffel Tower! When we got back to the hotel we walked around the local area and talked to a few club owners and made some connections for future shows.

Day 3: We headed out for Nyon, Switzerland, home of "Paleo Festival de Nyon," one of the largest music festivals in the world. It was an adventurous trip with winding roads and a snowstorm through the picturesque Swiss Alps. We arrived just in time for the Bar de la Ferme at Paleo gig. This was our first show of the trip and we found out quickly how well Europeans treat musicians. The club had their private chef prepare a fabulous three course meal as the band and staff dined together. It was a fun show to an enthusiastic full house. We were exhausted after the show so Peter, the club owner, allowed us to tear down the next morning.

Day 4: After a good night's sleep at a classic old hotel in one of the oldest cities in Switzerland we loaded up and headed back up to Paris for a night off. This time we traveled through Geneva and on a more wide-open freeway. The French countryside is manicured and beautiful with many elegant farmlands and estates.

Day 5: We headed to the town of Rijen in the Netherlands for a show at the Café - Eeterij 't Vermaeck. This was a fabulously designed room with a top notch sound system and tech. The show was sponsored by the local blues society, the Blues Connection. They were a very enthusiastic and appreciative crowd and once again after the show they treated us to a finely prepared meal and libations. We traveled a short distance that night to the city of Dordrecht and stayed in a beautiful old three-story, six-bedroom house that Stacy had arranged through Airbnb. After exploring the neighborhoods of Dordrecht on day six and having breakfast at a local diner we headed back up to Amsterdam for a two-night stay. Stacy used Airbnb to find an old houseboat on a peaceful canal. It was awesome. We were really close to

the free ferry that ran into downtown and it was a great place to unwind for a couple of days. Dutch cheese is fantastic.

On our first free night in Amsterdam, we drove out to the town of Haarlem for a jam session at Café Stiels Jazz and Blues Club. This club really fits the part of an old school juke joint. The host for the night was our old friend, Ian Siegal and his band, with the Stacy Jones Band as featured guests. We all met Ian about three years ago at the Wallace Blues Festival in Idaho so it was really cool to hook up with him again in his back yard. After jamming with some of the locals, SJB took the stage with Ian joining us as the fifth member. A very fun filled night with some great music!

Day 8: We traveled south again to the rough, old city of Ghent, Belgium for what would be the most unusual show of the tour at 10'Ke's Cave. Tineke Himschoot is a beautiful woman that is dealing with cancer. Her entire life has evolved around music. So she has made the choice to turn her basement in to a small music club and hire her favorite bands to play for her and her guests. After serving us an incredible home cooked meal the band put on an emotional performance for a very unique woman and her friends. An experience we will never forget.

Day 9: We drove 7-½ hours' drive to Munich, Germany. Thank the lord for the German Autobahn. We were cruising smoothly around 90mph while cars flew by in the fast lane at 120mph plus. Our new friend and bundle of joy Helmut had booked us at Alphonso's Music Club and was anxiously awaiting our arrival. He was texting throughout our trip with Rick Bowen, so he could track our progress. When we pulled around the last corner on a narrow crowded Munich street we spotted Helmut saving a parking spot for us right in front of the club. He had been holding it for 45 minutes! With just enough time to set up and change our shirts we played to a standing room only, energy charged crowd in the small neighborhood bar. It was a magical show.

After a less than enjoyable night's sleep and a struggle to find hotel parking we headed out in the morning on a 4-½ drive to the city of Prague in the Czech Republic. Prague is an incredibly hip and beautiful city. Our hotel was magnificent and affordable. We loved Prague and other than Stacy and I being detained by the Czech police for driving the wrong way down a one-way street toward them in a big white van while they were on 'terrorist watch' in front of a mosque -- well, it was our favorite layover. Again, this would be it's own separate story!

As Day 11 arrived we were able spend most of the morning exploring more of the city of Prague as our drive to Singwitz, Germany would only take a few of hours. We arrived in Singwitz on time and

checked into the hotel before we set out for the show at the Kesselhaus Ale House. The venue was out in the middle of the countryside and there were a few anxious moments when our GPS could not find the correct location. After some backtracking and phone calls we saw someone flagging us down from the lowly lit loading dock door of what looked like an old warehouse. What a surprise when we then came around through the front entrance to an absolutely stunning nightclub. People kept rolling in all evening and this ended up being the largest show of the tour. With a crowd of around 300 we heard that people were driving from as far as two hours away to attend the show. They knew who we were from hearing our music on the radio. It was awesome!

Day 12: After getting back to our hotel at 1:30 AM we got up at 4:30 AM for the 6 ½ hour drive to the next show: an early 5:00pm gig at Bluesclub XXL at Café Loburg in Wageningen in the Netherlands, a very modern room with a great sound system and crew. After playing another SRO crowd we retired back to the hotel where we all sat down to a fine dinner, took a deep breath and relished that we did it. It was a grueling schedule at times, but we had pulled it off and had a fabulous time doing it!

We would spend the next night back in Amsterdam and then on to the ocean town of Ljuiden, Netherlands, for an unplugged performance and interview on Blustrain FM radio with DJ's Rob de Fries and Bluesin' Ivy. It was so much fun! As per the norm of this trip they fed us a home cooked meal prepared by Rob's wife. We drank beer and told stories while Stacy and Jeff Menteer performed acoustically over the airwaves.

Day 15: We headed back to Amsterdam where we returned the rental van and equipment and caught a cab back to the hotel. We had one last night to wind down, eat some good food and catch a cab to the airport in the morning.

It was an experience of a lifetime and a memory that will live with us forever. Congratulations to Stacy Jones for a stellar job of planning and to Rick Bowen and Jeff Menteer for being great travel companions and band mates through some very stressful situations. And congratulations to the Stacy Jones Band for playing their hearts out every gig! Nicely done.

Congratulations to the Stacy Jones Band on their first European tour!

Right: Band Selfie in the Van
(Photo by Stacy Jones)

Middle: In the Blues Train FM Studios: Jeff Menteer, Tom Jones, Ivy, Rick Bowen, Rob Fries and Stacy Jones

Bottom: Stichting the Blues Connection in The Netherlands (Photo by Martin Van Rijen)



Through An Artist's Lens:

Blues in Tacoma

by J Henderson (Photos/Art by Dan Hill)

As blues fans, our first love is the music itself, followed closely by the admiration we hold for the artists who play the music. But as important as the music is, a live performance is a visual experience, as well as auditory, which is why a good photograph has the power to pull us back to a special moment in a performance or to push us forward to seek out an artist we've never seen.

Among the best of the many talented photographers in the Pacific Northwest is Dan Hill, a Tacoma-based photographer who specializes in, well... Tacoma. The Spar, The Swiss, B Sharp Coffee House, Treos - Dan haunts them all as he quietly captures the images with an artist's eye. A favorite on Facebook, Dan has chronicled the appearances of hundreds of performers who perform in Tacoma.

Dan did not set out to be a photographer. As a child, he never fooled around with his parents' Brownie camera or took pictures for his high school annual. Art was his passion, from his early years in Seattle through junior high and high school in Tacoma. He majored in art at the University of Puget Sound, with a emphasis on print-making (etching, wood and linoleum cuts, silk screen, etc.) At some point in his college career, a friend introduced him to photography and that became his new focus.

"Being able to see a scene, put a frame around it, push a button, and VOILA! - there was the image," said Dan. "That was a revelation to me."

There was a practical concern, as well. He reasoned he might be able to make a living at photography, as opposed to "fine" arts.

As it turned out, he found that he really didn't like 'making a living' at it.

"I realized that I didn't want to make it a career when I found that it meant doing what other people wanted," he said. "I just wanted to make cool images that pleased me."

So, he became an expert in photography equipment and turned this expertise into a day job in camera stores while, after work, pursuing and making images that appealed to his artistic sensibilities. Composition, juxtaposition of colors and forms, interesting facial expressions, "nice clouds" - are elements that inspire him to grab the shot.

"I have a camera of some type with me most of the time and whenever a particular composition or array of colors catches my eye, I go for it," said Dan. "The musicians I have been photographing since hippy-dippy days. Back in the '60s I did a lot of set up band shots. Whenever I got what I thought was a great shot of the group the drummer would quit or the band would break up. It was a lot of fun, but kind of frustrating, too. These days I shoot musicians in performance. I live close to the Spar in Old Tacoma (walk over, stagger back) and get the opportunity to see and hear some great musicians."

As for equipment, Dan says that he currently uses Sony mirrorless cameras, with the Sony Nex 6 as his "main machine".

"Most of the musician shots at the Spar, Swiss, B# etc. are done with a 24mm lens. I also use my Samsung phone and tablet and do the heavy lifting in Photoshop on a Mac Mini computer."

Although somewhat reserved in public, Dan is not the least bit shy about putting himself out there on social media: he's often dressed as a medieval gentleman, Santa Claus or an astronaut along with the images from whatever musical adventure he experiences. His work is easily identified, both because of the quality of the images he captures and his distinctive, artistic style, which he describes succinctly as "digitally manipulated images."

"The style varies with the subject," said Dan, "but a common theme is to put the subjects against a 'painterly' or stylized background."

The results have been recognized and appreciated by the many musicians he has photographed and have appeared in promotional materials and publications (like the Bluesletter), as well as posters and CD art.

Tacoma, and the musicians who perform in T-Town venues, has never looked so good.

Below: Ain't No Heaven Seven
(Photo/Art by Dan Hill)





Upper Left: Champagne Sunday
 Upper Right: Los Orchids
 Middle Left: Maia Santell & House Blend
 Middle Right: The Fabulous Roofshakers
 Left: Buck England with Teddy Dorch ("The TDQ")
 (Photo/Art by Dan Hill)



Vicki Welter, CPA
 vicki@welter-consulting.com

206-605-3113



Madison Ave Pub

Home of the Unbound Blues Jam

Jam Guests for April

4/6 **Ryan LaPlante**
 4/13 **Tim Turner and Nick Elguezabal**
 4/20 **Eric Rice**
 4/27 **Scott E. Lind**

More live music!
Hot Blues Saturdays
April 16 at 7 pm
HARPAGEDDON 4 !

Paul Green, Bill Davis, Stacy Jones
Jim McLaughlin and Dave Mathis

sponsored by **CD Woodbury on guitar**
Dave McCabe on drums
Paul Quilly on bass

Blue Mondays at 7pm
 with Kevin Sutton,
Tom Jones & Rick Bowen

Thursday Acoustic Jam with
 alternating hosts **Nick Vigarino**
 and **Kevin Sutton 7-9 pm**

FREE UFC pay-per-view events
UFC #197 April 23

Check the website for more info!
April 9
Arkansas & the River Bandits
 with special guest

madisonavepubeverett.com 905 Madison St Everett WA 425-348-7402





Washington Blues Society Sets Local Competitions for 2017 International Blues Challenge

Washington Blues Society Contacts:

Tony Frederickson, President

(206) 612-6055

president@wabluess.org

Rick Bowen, Vice President

(425) 422-5062

vicepres@wabluess.org

The Washington Blues Society's local competitions for the 2014 International Blues Challenge in Memphis have been set! It's time for bands and solo/duo acts to make their plans to compete. One band and one solo/duo act will represent the Washington Blues Society (WBS) in Memphis at the world's largest gathering of blues musicians on February 1-4, 2017 on Memphis' fabled Beale Street.

We are working with the Walla Walla Blues Society (WWBS) and the Inland Empire Blues Society (IEBS) to hold semi-finals across the state to make it easier for blues acts to participate. This form is required to participate in the following local competitions (each held on a Sunday): May 29th at the Sound Check Bar & Grill in Lynnwood, June 5th at H20 in Anacortes, June 12th at the Sports Center in Yakima, on the 19th at the Roadhouse in Spokane, and on June 26th, TBA (Stevenson, WA or Portland, OR). The finals will be held at the Taste of Music in Snohomish on Sunday, August 21st. If we receive 10+ applicants for any event, the Board may select applicants via lottery at the May 2016 Board meeting. This form is an initial statement of interest, and not binding. Judges will evaluate acts using the Blues Foundation official rules: <http://www.blues.org/international-blues-challenge/official-rules/>

Each competition will follow the rules of the Blues Foundation. Each set will be limited to 25 minutes, and each competitor will be allowed one 15-minute set change. Any blues act that resides in WA, OR, ID, MT, BC or ALB, may enter, and the act must include at least one who is a member of the WBS. Membership can be established at IBC entry, using the membership form in the WBS Bluesletter or online at www.wabluess.org. Please note: membership in WWBS for acts competing in Kennewick or membership in IEBS for acts competing in Spokane is required in place of the WBS membership requirement. The contest entry application may be downloaded from www.wabluess.org, in the March or April edition of the WBS Bluesletter, or the Inland Empire's Blues Notes, and must include the non-refundable entry fee, which pays for the backline and a PA system. Each winner will be required to perform at a minimum of two fundraisers in 2016 and one fundraiser in 2017 at no charge. Proceeds from these events and fees, will be deposited into a WBS fund to help defray expenses to get each winning act to and from Memphis, but we cannot guarantee an "all expense-paid" trip. Band entry fee is \$30; solo duo entry fee is \$15.

All proceeds will help with expenses for Memphis. The WBS will help winners in fundraising, but cannot guarantee that all expenses for Memphis will be covered. Judges will evaluate each act using the Blues Foundation scoring criteria and rules at <http://www.blues.org/international-blues-challenge/official-rules/>

Upon application, competitors must not be affiliated the WBS Board (e.g., current Board members are prohibited from competing). IBC rules also prohibit any act from competing three consecutive years at the IBC. Application is an initial statement of interest and not a binding agreement between the applicant and the WBS. Make your plans to enter now! Applications and entry fees must be received no later than Saturday, April 30, 2016.



WASHINGTON BLUES SOCIETY
2017 International Blues Competition (IBC) Contest
Two Categories: Bands (Three Piece and Larger) and Solo/Duo Acts
CONTESTANT APPLICATION

Please complete this application if you want to compete in the Washington Blues Society contest to send a band or a solo/duo act to the 2017 IBC in Memphis in January of 2017. We are working with the Walla Walla Blues Society (WWBS) and the Inland Empire Blues Society (IEBS) to hold semi-finals across the state to make it easier for blues acts to participate. This form is required to participate in the following local competitions (each held on a Sunday): May 29th at the Sound Check Bar & Grill in Lynnwood, June 5th at H20 in Anacortes, June 12th at the Sports Center in Yakima, on the 19th at the Roadhouse in Spokane, and on June 26th, TBA (Stevenson, WA or Portland, OR). The finals will be held at the Taste of Music in Snohomish on Sunday, August 21st. If we receive 10+ applicants for any event, the Board may select applicants via lottery at the May 2016 Board meeting. This form is an initial statement of interest, and not binding. Judges will evaluate acts using the Blues Foundation official rules: <http://www.blues.org/international-blues-challenge/official-rules/>

LOCATION (CIRCLE ONE)

Lynnwood (5/29)

Anacortes (6/5)

Yakima (6/12)

Spokane (6/19)

Stevenson or Portland TBA (6/26)

Band or Solo Duo (Circle One)	
Contact	
Mailing Address	
Best Phone	
Email	
Signature	

PARTICIPATION CRITERIA, FEES, AND DEADLINE: Contestants must be a blues act, pay the nonrefundable entry fee, reside in WA, OR, ID, MT, BC or ALB, and at least one member must belong to (or join) the WBS upon application. (Membership in the WWBS for acts competing in Kennewick or membership in the IEBS for acts competing in Spokane is required in place of WBS Membership requirement.) Each winner will be required to perform at a minimum of two fundraisers in 2016 and one fundraiser in 2017 at no charge. Proceeds from these events and fees, will be deposited into a WBS fund to help defray expenses for each winning act to and from Memphis, but we cannot guarantee an “all expense-paid” trip. Band entry fee is \$30; solo duo entry fee is \$15. Applications and entry fees must be received no later than Saturday, April 30th by a Washington Blues Society Board member or at:

Washington Blues Society
ATTN: Vice President, IBC Entry
PO Box 70604
Seattle, WA 98127

17 BANDS OVER TWO DAYS!

20th Annual
UntAPPED
MUSIC FESTIVAL
2016

featuring...

PARMALEE
THE DELGADO BROTHERS
COMMANDER CODY
AND MANY MORE!

Presented by

MID VALLEY
CHRYSLER JEEP DODGE RAM / MARINE

townsquare
media tri-cities

Plus all your favourite local breweries

13 & 14 MAY
BENTON COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
UNTAPPEDMUSICFESTIVAL.COM

Flat 5

by Sylvia Breece



SylviaBreece© 2016

RALLY AT THE BORDER Blues Fest

May 20th-21st 2016

Oroville, Washington

USA

Admission to Music Events...FREE!*

www.RallyAtTheBorderBluesFest.com

This project is funded in part by the Okanogan County LTAC Tourism Promotion Fund

Must be 21 years or older



Washington Blues Society

New Membership Opportunities!

By Eric Steiner

At a Board meeting earlier this year, the Board of Directors of the Washington Blues Society decided to offer two new membership levels: one for corporate and business members and one for blues acts (Duos and Bands). Contributions may be tax-deductible; please check with your tax preparer to see which new opportunity is right for you.

Each corporate, business or band membership includes a blues society membership card (with discounts!), a subscription to the Bluesletter, and nominating and voting privileges for the annual Best of the Blues ("BB Awards") awards celebration.

Corporate and Business Memberships: these opportunities have been designed to attract for-profit businesses to support the mission of the Washington Blues Society. Modeled after similar membership opportunities available from The Blues Foundation or the Cascade Blues Association, this is the Washington Blues Society's inaugural attempt at providing a range of benefits to Gold, Silver and Bronze business members.

Corporate and Business Membership Levels

Gold

One monthly color business card-sized ad, a pass-through link to the Washington Blues Society website, and four voting memberships. Dues donation: \$1,000.

Silver

One bimonthly color business card-sized ad – that's six placements per year, plus four voting memberships. Dues donation: \$600.

Bronze

One quarterly business card-sized ad – that's four placements annually, plus four voting memberships. Dues donation: \$400.

Blues Performer Memberships

Band Membership

The following example is for a four-piece blues band: \$25 annual dues for the first member; each additional member, \$20 (for a total of \$85 – that's a \$15 savings off the standard membership rate!). When personnel members change, replacement

members will pay \$20 and each original member will continue to enjoy their membership for the duration of their membership.

Duo Membership

Duo acts will be similarly priced: dues for the first member is \$25 with the second half of the duo paying \$20 – the same replacement membership discounts as in the Band Membership category will apply.

Please see page 24 for our updated membership form!

Update on International Memberships

Due to rising postage costs and delays associated with international mail, all international memberships will receive the Bluesletter electronically effective immediately. International subscribers' dues will be the same as USA members' dues - \$25 for a single membership and \$35 for a couple's membership. As an added bonus, international subscribers will receive the link from the Bluesletter editor on the 1st of the month. International members will nominate and vote in the BB Awards process electronically.

What is Victory Music?

a supportive atmosphere.

By Malcolm Kennedy

Victory Music is perhaps best described as the Washington Blues Society's acoustic music second cousin organization. Like the Washington Blues Society, Victory Music it is an all-volunteer, 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization and it supports the local acoustic music scene. While Victory Music primarily supports folk music, the organization also includes acoustic blues, bluegrass and other acoustic music.

Their mission statement, as follows, is short and direct: Victory Music promotes live acoustic music performance for beginning and veteran artists of all ages, to encourage playing to high standards in

The current President of Victory Music is "Stanislove" who along with Alan Kausal form the RooTsters, and played the solo/duo opening set at the November 2015 Blues Bash at the Drift on Inn Roadhouse in Shoreline.

Victory Music's current focus is on hosting a number of all-ages acoustic open mics each month throughout the greater Puget Sound area. These open mics are held weekly in Ballard at Grumpy D's Coffee House, Luther's Table in Renton, Antique Sandwich in Ruston (Tacoma) and once a month at the Crossroad's Mall Shopping Center's Food Court and at Café Zippy's in Everett. That adds up to 14-16 open mics every month.

Musicians with a desire to participate in the open mics need to be able to get all their gear on and off stage in one trip with no amplifiers on stage. From these open mics they select several performers to put on acoustic talent shows/fund raising events a few times a year featuring five to six acts in a two-hour showcase.

Bluesletter readers can find out more about Victory Music's calendar at victorymusic.org. Victory Music had an excellent print publication called the *Victory Review*, and I hope that it will return either in print or online. Musicians are always welcome at Victory Music's open mic nights: another outstanding opportunity to experience live music in the Pacific Northwest.

STICKSHIFT ANNIE WITH KIMBALL AND THE FUGITIVES

Fri May 6 **Third Place Commons** LFP - 7:30pm - 9:30pm
 Sat June 4 **Anacortes Waterfront Festival** - 1:20pm - 2:50pm
 Sun June 19 **Edison Inn Dance** Edison Bow - 5:30pm - 9:30pm

Annie Eastwood with the James Bernhard Band
 Sat May 21 **Grazie** Bothell-Everett Hwy - 7pm - 10pm

Annie Eastwood with the Bill Chism Band
Thursday Evenings at Bad Albert's in Ballard
 April 7, 14, 21 and 28 - 5:30pm to 8:30pm

annie@stickshiftannie.com 206/523-4778
www.stickshiftannie.com/SpecialEvents.html

BLUES, ROCK & ROLL, JAZZ AND SWING

MOJO CANNON

Featuring: Mark Noftsker & The 13th Street Horns

www.mojo-cannon.com

SAT APR 16 - The CONWAY MUSE - Conway, 8PM
FRI MAY 6 - The OXFORD SALOON - Snohomish, 9PM

Blues Jam Preview: Smokin' Jam at Razzals

By Rick Bowen

In the Spring of 2015, Rob Bramlett was approached by the management of the Razzals Sports Grill to bring in his karaoke production services to their pub in Arlington at Smokey Point. Many blues fans in the Pacific Northwest know Rob as the nightly emcee and host at the Madison Avenue Pub in Everett and as part of the BB Award winning Unbound jam. Rob pitched the idea of adding a jam night to Razzals live entertainment calendar offering the winning formula used at the Madison.

Then, Rob invited long time jam host (and fellow B.B. Award winner) Rick J. Bowen to head up the new weekly jam night at Razzals. Rick had been one of the hosts at the BB Award-winning all ages jam at the Oxford Saloon in Snohomish and The Austin in Everett (both of which had recently changed formats and canceled jam nights).

After inquiring with several players around the region, Rick sought out Sean Denton and his crew, who had just lost their Monday night jam at Rocko's Fireside, to join him as hosts at Razzals.

Along with Sean on guitar, the original host band included Jeffery Morgan on Hammond B3 organ and legendary bass man Don Wilhelm.

Using the successful format that welcomes music of nearly every jam-friendly genre and players of all ages and skill levels, the Smokin' Jam at Razzals night was launched in June of 2015. The four-piece worked thru the Summer to establish the night in the region's busy jam scene. Occasionally inviting special guests to be featured with the host band, and encouraging new and old friends to join in the jam, proved to be another part of Rob's winning formula. In the Fall of 2015, due to health issues Sean Denton took a step back from his jam hosting duties and the weekly "guest guitarist" format was born.

Now, the Smokin' Jam at Razzals features a special guest guitarist to joining the house band each week. The guests have included many fan favorites and BB Award winners, such as Kevin Sutton, Chris Eger and CD Woodbury, along with up and coming players like JP Hennessy and Cory Vincent. Other long-time jam hosts Chester Dennis Jones and Teri Wilson have also contributed to the

success of this relatively new jam. Sean Denton will remain in the monthly rotation to keep him on his toes.

This month, the Smokin' Jam at Razzals will see the return of Chicago-born guitar man Johnny Brewer, outlaw country singer Chris Lord and the wild man himself, and International Blues Challenge competitor Rafael Tranquilino. Special guests are encouraged to play as much as they want each week as several folks show up for a chance to jam with these talented players for a great set of live, impromptu music.

Razzals Sports Bar and Grill; just off Smokey Point Boulevard, is a full-service restaurant offering a menu of classic pub grub that includes big burgers and fries, along with Asian and Mexican specialty items. The venue is all ages until 10pm nightly with separate bar and dining seating areas. The host band encourages young players to join in the jam with no pretenses or expectations only wanting everyone to have fun and enjoy the Smokin' Jam at Razzals.

Blues Festival Preview: 2016 Rally at the Border Blues Festival in Oroville, Washington on May 20th-21st!

Some substantial changes are afoot for the 3rd annual Rally at the Border Blues Fest in Oroville, Washington. This year's festival is moving into town and expanding. There will be two nights and one day of live music at multiple venues. The bands will perform in and out of various Oroville establishments with food and libations, on Main Street and off.

The musical line-up will include several blues bands playing Friday early evening into Saturday, continuing until 2 AM. This year the music will be free of charge but indoor attendees must be 21 years of age or older.

Both Friday and Saturday nights will continue the unique feature of the Rally at the Border Blues Fest with an all-star jam session of the events' performers in a mix of talent playing together at the Pastime Bar and Grill.

The schedule of events, though still in its final stages, currently includes the start to past festivals, the BBQ & Blues at the Beach on beautiful Lake Osyoos at Veranda Beach, Friday at 6 PM. Performing at 8:30 PM, in town at the popular Pastime Bar and Grill, is the Deepwater Blues Band harmonica fronted by Mark Morris. This band, which began in Oroville, holds an intense passion for the music they play. Following is Spokane's Voodoo Church of Blues, featuring Gary Yeoman's lowdown and dirty blues with

a little bit of Texas bar rock thrown in for added flavor.

Saturday, live blues music will start up in the early afternoon, downtown at Oroville's award-winning brewery, Alpine Brewing Company. An indoor and outdoor venue, music is scheduled to coincide with the arrival of some two hundred plus motorcycles participating in the 14th annual Run for the Border from Wenatchee. This venue will feature multiple award-winning musician, vocalist and songwriter Polly O'Keary. The Washington Blues Society named her second record Album of the Year and Polly, 2004 Songwriter of the Year.

Continuing into Saturday evening at the Pastime Bar and Grill the energized Lisa Mann from blues-soaked Portland will perform. Lisa received the 2015 Memphis Blues Music Award for her skill on bass guitar. Mann's voice effortlessly straddles the line between the honey sweet warmth of the South, and the force-of-nature sound cultivated by mastering everything from rock to Memphis soul.

The Rally at the Blues Fest seeks to attract visitors on motorcycles and those arriving by other modes along with Canadians celebrating their first three-day weekend of the year to experience the fabulous blues and, as an added bonus, the region's winding backroads that follow scenic rivers, lakes, meadows and streams, and wineries on both sides of the border.

Oroville's Rally at the Border Blues Fest began in 2014 as a way to welcome riders in the Columbia River HOG's annual Run for the Border and music enthusiasts who may not ride, but love the great sound of blues. For more information about this year's festival and the performers, go to www.rallyattheborderbluesfest.com

Rally at the Border Blues Festival

Friday, May 20th

6:00 PM BBQ & Blues at the Beach

8:30 PM Deepwater Blues Band with Mark Morris at the Pastime Bar & Grill, 1307 Main St
Gary Yeoman's Voodoo Church of the Blues
Blues Jam Session at the Pastime Bar & Grill

Saturday, May 21st

Polly O'Keary at the Alpine Brewing Company, 821 14th Avenue
All-Star Blues Jam Session at the Pastime Bar & Grill

Editor's Note: Please visit the event's web page for more current updates!

Borderlines: March Blues Bash Review

By Robert and Carmen Marina Horn

The March 2016 Blues Bash featured musicians who are known for the great work they do along the borderlines between the blues and other genres.

In previous articles over the years, we have commented on the borderline between jazz and blues that Jeff Menteer has been connected to, and the borderline between blues and rock some other musicians have been connected to.

It was at a Blues Bash some time ago in a discussion with a young guitar player about his music influenced by rock and blues when he was told that it is along such borderlines that genius can arise, and he liked being told that.

An article about Stevie Ray Vaughn could focus on the cultures surrounding him while he was growing up and how it influenced his music (where he grew up, he heard rock, blues, Cajun, Mexican, and country before he played his older brother's guitar for the first time). His genius arose from those borderlines.

On March 8th at the Sound Check in Lynnwood, Billy Stoops and Dan Tyack took the stage first for the acoustic set. Billy, who has played with Junkyard Jane for years, was sometimes asked how he defined the music he played in that band. At the time, one of his bandmates paused and said "Swampabilly," which conjured up the image of the Mississippi Delta blues combined with rockabilly. Billy is a great songwriter and performed music from his new CD and band, *Dirt Angel*.

The lap slide performance of Dan Tyack gave it a haunting flavor that could combine Hawaiian, Delta blues and rock together. The opening set included "A Little Less Rain", "Know My Name", "Deep in the Hills", and "Becca and Bonnie". The vocals sounded great and the guitar playing of Billy and Dan was at a very high level, too. Later in the performance Billy put down the acoustic guitar and picked up an electric one and drove people onto the dance floor.

During the break, Washington Blues Society President Tony Frederickson handed out BB Award nomination certificates and raffled off CDs. After the break, the Blues Bash featured a special treat for the electric set: the Sammy Eubanks Band. Fans of Delbert McClinton will love Sammy Eubanks.

Sammy's genius has sprung from the borderline between blues and country, but this evening's performance featured 90% blues (from his guitar and award-winning vocals).

His guitar playing seems to get better and better and he is as good as any male vocalist we have heard in a while at blues bashes or anywhere else.



His vocal range from low to high and back again for several round trips is good enough to be on the air everywhere every day. This was powerfully illustrated on his singing of "Teardrop." The lyric "I'll be there when the next tear drop falls" was probably pretty convincing to anyone who needed to hear that.

Other songs included "Don't Come Back" and "It's All Blues to Me" and a Muddy Waters-sounding job of singing that he is a "Bad Boy (A Long Ways from Home)."

His skillful use of dynamics, slowing down and speeding up the tempo, showcased Sammy's command of the blues at its best. He knows how to capture the audience's attention as they listen to him sing and plan, and he knows how to fill a dance floor.

Sammy invited multiple-BB Award-winning blueswoman Stacy Jones to the stage, who added some exceptional harp parts to a few songs. She looked rested after return from the Stacy Jones

Top: Sammy Eubanks on Guitar, Michael Hays on Drums and Dave Nordstrom on Bass

Bottom: Dan Tyack on Peddle Steel and Billy Stoops on Acoustic Guitar
(Photos by Paul Brown)

Band's first European tour (please see Tom Jones' story in this issue).

Sammy added a little humor to his show saying to the crowd that "If you like the music, I am Sammy Eubanks. If you don't like it, I am Eric Rice." It was a little in-joke between guitar playing friends who both had been in the Eastern Washington Blues scene years ago and are still good friends.

On stage with Sammy were his usual band mates, the rhythm section of Michael Hays on drums and vocals and David Nordstrom on bass they helped pack the dancefloor with their exceptional playing. This band administers music to the ears and makes the whole body follow with the feet moving first.

April Blues Bash Preview @ The Sound Check

Washington Blues Bash at the Sound Check Bar and Grill in Lynnwood – 198th and 4th Avenue West, Tuesday, April 12th from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM – All Ages – No Cover!

Featured Electric Set: Joe Cook Blues Bank

The Joe Cook Band is relatively new to the area, but it's comprised of blues stalwarts who've been known for their prowess around the region for decades. When approached by members of the former Bone Yard Preachers line-up to put together a new band featuring mostly original material, Joe was overjoyed. Joe's lived in the Pacific Northwest with his family for 10 years, and when his schedule permitted, he'd listen to the many talented musicians around the region. Some nights, he'd be fortunate enough to sit in. That's how he met bandmates Tim Sherman, Conrad Ormsby and Patty Mey. Together, they lay down some swinging, hot blues sets with 80% original material. The rest of the Joe Cook Band's set is dedicated to playing time-tested covers of blues musicians whose shoulders they gratefully rest upon. Washington Blues Society members and guests are in for a treat for some fine blues music courtesy of the Joe Cook Band at the Blues Bash!



The Joe Cook Blues Band: Joe Cook, Tim Sherman, Conrad Ormsby and Patty Mey (Photo by Phil Chesnut)

Opening Acoustic Set: Naomi Wachira

There's no doubt that there's a better future in store for Naomi Wachira, especially after her great breakout year in 2013. Named **Best Folk Singer** in Seattle by alt-publication Seattle Weekly and featured on their cover, Naomi became the toast of the town, which in turn led to a friendship with the much-loved indie songwriter Damien Jurado, who came onboard to produce her self-titled debut album in 2014. The daughter of a pastor, Naomi joined the traveling family band at five years old, spreading the good word through gospel song in Kenya. When you listen to Naomi's songs, you'll hear the lifelong influence of two powerful, groundbreaking female artists: Miriam Makeba and Tracy Chapman. Makeba became one of the biggest stars on the continent through her socially aware songwriting, something she shared closely with American songwriter Tracy Chapman. Chapman was a voice for social change as well, but Naomi loved her positive idealism, a concept that informs all of her songwriting. Makeba's also a personal icon for Naomi, who cites "the way she carried herself, her grace and character," as influencers. "She was able to maintain her integrity as an African. She didn't need to change who she was to fit with Western audiences." You won't hear any stereotypical African music on Naomi's debut. She's making music inspired both by the music she discovered in America and the music she grew up with in Kenya, not a Western conception of how African music should sound. With her Afro-infused rhythms and simple lyrics, Naomi seeks to make a positive mark in the world, by reminding us that no matter our differences, we are all alike in our existence.



Naomi Wachira (Photo by Janelle Kallender)

Razzals Sportsbar & Rob Bramlett Productions
Present
RAZZALS SMOKIN' JAM
every tues. 7:00-11:00
with hosts
Sean Denton, Rick Bowen,
Jeff Morgan & Don Wilhelm
special guest every week
Razzals Grill & Sportsbar 3528 168th St. NE
Smokey Point exit 206

Blues CD Reviews

Albert Collins and the Icebreakers

***Live at Rockpalast*
(MIG)**

From the Archives of *Rockpalast* (“Rock Palace”), a German TV program that began in 1974, comes the deluxe DVD double CD package from iconic Texas Blues man, “master of the Telecaster:” Albert Collins and The Icebreakers. *Live at Rockpalast*, released January of 2016, was recorded 35 years ago at a high point in Albert King’s storied career and this DVD/CD package shows that his impact is as relevant and as enduring as ever. With a running time of 90+ minutes, the collection is a “sit back and relax” treat for hard core blues and electric guitar fans. Albert Collins was a one of kind master showman, with his signature shoot from the hip guitar stance and in your face finger pickin’ style, that earned him the moniker the “Ice Pick.” In traditional show band form, The Icebreakers kick off the show with two warm-up numbers featuring vocals from drummer Casey Jones and sax man AC Reed that demonstrate the supreme confidence of the quartet and this confidence allows them to keep up with Collins and his litany of extended jam solos (which can be tedious to listen to, but since Collins is so animated, they are a delight to watch!). The grooves run the gamut from the straight-ahead beat of Eddie Harris proto-soul jazz classic “Listen Here,” to 70s funk bombast of “Cold Cuts,” featuring a nasty popping bass solo from Johnny B Gayden, and the low down 12-bar blues of “Cold, Cold Feeling,” which Collins introduces as “it’s alright, it’s just the blues.” No blues and R&B show would be complete without some hard-driving Chicago shuffles; Collins and crew deliver solidly on “Brick” and on “I Got a Mind to travel,” leaving everything on the stage. One of his fan favorites, “If You Love Me Like You Say,” is played with exceptional swagger and sizzle from a bluesman who was anointed “one of the three Kings.” Collins takes a chance and gets somewhat sentimental on the yearning blues of “Angel of Mercy” before leaping off the stage and wandering around the Rock Palast studio - guitar in hand - for the 10-minute set closer, “Frosty.” The absolute joy and wondrous surprise on German blues fans’ faces as they embrace the wild Texas blues man proves that music is the universal language and that electric blues guitar is the Gospel of truth. - Rick J Bowen

Chris Eger Band

***Show Me Where to Sign*
(Self-Released)**

Chris Eger’s got swagger and probably moves like Jagger, but I tell ya man: his playin’ will make a sober man stagger! Eger, who was recently nominated for the Washington Blues Society’s “Mark Dufresne Male Vocalist Award,” unleashes his full-length CD, *Show Me Where to Sign*. Recorded in Nashville, Tennessee and produced by Eger’s personal guitar hero, Eric Heatherly

(whom also wrote/co-wrote some songs), this recording is nothing short of pure beauty. Included on this disc are 10 songs (with an additional “extended” version of one track, “SRV”), each one showcasing Eger’s range as a vocalist, guitarist and songwriter. While rooted in the blues, *Show Me Where to Sign* has all the earmarks of a well-rounded performer who brings in influences from many other genres. “Eatin’ Crow,” kicks things off with a slight country edge. The title says it all: you mess up with your girl, you ain’t eatin’ them hotcakes you wanted... “Hippie Heart” is a tender, rhythmic ballad that (thankfully) fails to go sappy. With “Last Addiction,” Eger brings the funk and R&B influences while talking about getting rid of negative things and finding that his girl is, well, you get it. “Love Me Now” and “Too Much Fire” bring attitude and aggressive tones, while “Somethin’ Ain’t Right” brings a sobering realization... The title track is an anthem about standing up for liberty in America: “Live free, or die. Show me where to sign.” Eger’s crowd pleaser, his rendition of Heatherly’s “Wrong Five O’clock,” is included on this CD, and the catchy “You Can Run” brings things to a close, and the CD ends with “SRV” (an extended version, with a blistering solo) offering a tribute to the late, great Stevie Ray Vaughan. *Show Me Where to Sign* is a musical pleasure that is quite... addicting. - TS Sutherland

Teri Anne Wilson

***Let Me Love You*
(Wave Magnet Records)**

The title tune of Teri Anne Wilson’s newest CD, “*Let Me Love You*,” is a sexy, hard-grooving blues boogie is the first single from the Seattle-based award winning guitarist, singer and songwriter Teri Anne Wilson. Under the direction of the legendary Blues Music Award recipient Curtis Salgado as producer, Wilson recorded *Let Me Love You* at Falcon Studios in Portland. Inspired by John Lee Hooker’s classic “Boom Boom,” Wilson takes the familiar blues form into the new era by stretching out the vocals and drawing instant comparisons to Bonnie Raitt and Sheryl Crow. Teri then adds a guitar dual between herself and fret board man Alan Hagar. The rhythm section from the Curtis Salgado band, John Mazzocco and Brian Foxworth, deliver the powerful driving groove and Washington Blues Society’s Best of the Blues nominee Michael “Papa” Baxter fills in the cracks with some pretty sweet work on the Hammond B3. Wilson wisely sought out this dream team for her latest CD, who along with Curtis Salgado, has been deservedly showered in awards over their long and successful careers in music. The first track is quite a tasty appetizer, setting the remainder of the CD up for what’s to come from a skilled Pacific Northwest blueswoman in Teri Anne Wilson.

- Rick J Bowen

Eric Tingstad

***Mississippi*
(Cheshire Records)**

Guitarist and producer Eric Tingstad continues his vision quest of regional reflection, reminiscing and reinvention for his newest album *Mississippi* released in April of 2015. The Grammy-winning instrumentalist shows off his skills on his follow up to *Southwest and Badlands* by once again using the landscape as inspiration. Tingstad describes the area as “The Cradle of American Music,” and the 11 tracks run the gamut from blues, soul, roots and jazz to the old Irish standard “Danny Boy,” done as a country two-step for good measure. He begins the journey down the big muddy with the compelling track “Long Boats,” featuring a driving beat and smooth electric guitar sounds that evoke a working port. The lazy shuffle, “Shakin’ in The Cradle,” follows and urges us to settle in for the long ride. The title track starts as a mysterious drone blues that evokes a world of undiscovered treasures and old ghosts then slips into a gentle R&B groove. “Trail of Tears” rolls off as a mournful sire song whose melody is traded back and forth from guitar to pedal steel. Legendary rhythm man Chris Leighton supplied the drums and percussion to the project and he adds some unusual sounds to “Swamped,” and the slinky “Skamania.” The easy glide of “Highway One,” feels like an ode to a Sunday drive in the country while the Spanish guitars and syncopated rhythms of “Durango” remind us of the river’s end in the Gulf of Mexico. The trip ends with the energetic finger picking theme “Chester” telling us it’s time to circle back and head on home. Recorded in his home studio in Sammamish, Washington, *Mississippi* is a sonic travelogue that stirs the imagination. Rick J Bowen

Silver Torches

***Heatherfield*
(Self-Released)**

The juxtaposition of shimmering string sounds over thundering drum grooves is reflective of the name of this Seattle-based band, *Silver Torches*; the sound of *Heatherfield* includes delicate silver strings and vocals vs. fiery torched percussion and passion. Released shortly after New Year’s this year, Silver Torches is the brain child of singer-songwriter Erik Walters, whose raspy tenor is reminiscent of JD Souther and whose songwriting is akin to Jackson Browne. Erik’s joined by drummer Sean Lane, Emily Westman on piano and Henri Bardot on organ, and together, they create a smooth, but robust, Americana sound. The eight songs on this CD are a soothing sonic delight in our over-compressed and frenetically-paced world. Recorded and Produced by Steven Aguilar in Seattle’s Sound House Studio, and Orcas Island’s Hall of Justice, *Heatherfield* was mastered by Ed Brooks at Seattle’s RFI. Brooks adds some tasty pedal steel to a track, and a more

finely-crafted set of songs would be hard to find. The set kicks off with the rambling narrative of self-discovery “Women in Rust,” and then Walters continues the groove with a touch more muscle on electric guitar for “Cal,” an anthem of reminiscing and regret. The stream of consciousness narrative “Dearborn,” builds slowly on acoustic guitar, then adds details of the landscape and a Springsteen-like bombast to its crescendo. Walters pushes his falsetto on a lament of a lost opportunity with an almost Irish lilt on “New Year.” With a straight ahead groove and chorus “Old Friend,” is one of the only conventional songs in the set, but its heartfelt sentiment and lush chords are enduring. The sublime instrumental, “Cowen,” sits just off the center of the set builds off the trio of guitar, piano and drums and paints an idyllic, pastoral scene. Lane delivers a dancing march beat while Walters once again plays on the theme of past regrets and lost dreams for “I Was a King.” The cars pass by on the mournful album closer “State Route 27,” like waves crashing on beach in an endless procession of futility that Walters paints as the dream of life in Anywhere, USA. - Rick J Bowen

Supersonic Blues Machine
West of Flushing South of Frisco
(Provogue / Mascot Label Group)

Thank the gods! Some altruism still exists in our prefab neo-bot world. Long-time high dollar side men Fabrizio Grossi, Lance Lopez and Kenny Aronoff have joined forces to form *Supersonic Blues Machine* and record an album of decidedly non-commercial heavy duty blues rock for their debut *West of Flushing South of Frisco* released in February of 2016. The 13 new tracks have a no gimmicks: each one has big, fat, live, 70’s rock sound that is lacking in anything coming out of Los Angeles today. While this will keep the album off the pop radio charts, it will endure the Supersonic Blues Machine to fans of big drums and big guitars. The opening cut, Billy Gibbons’ “Running Whiskey” features Gibbons on guitar and vocals and rips like ZZ Top covering a Motley Crue song. The trio called in favors from other guitar brothers to sit in on the debut, including Warren Haynes, who co-wrote “Remedy” which has a flowing Southern rock style. Chris Duarte joins the stomping rocker “That’s My Way,” and the charismatic Eric Gales adds his Hendrix-infused style to “Nightmares and Dreams.” Guitar icon Walter Trout lends a heavy hand to “Can’t Take It No More,” playing duel lead with Lopez and trading vocals with Fabrizio and a gospel choir, ramping up the emotion to a boiling point. The final guest is particularly surprising as he is frequently thought of as a “Jazz Guy,” to most of the world (but students of the guitar know Robben Ford as a true master of the instrument), and on this CD, Ford lends a dose of his perfect tone to the easy going rock ballad “Let’s Call It a Day.” Throughout *West of Flushing South of Frisco*, the trio shines and shows that they are masters of arrangement and high style. Rick J Bowen

Johnny Rawls
Tiger in a Cage
(Catfood Records)

Johnny Rawls has gained a lot of attention recently with 15 Blues Foundation Blues Music Award nominations going back to 2003 including all of his last seven albums and *Ace of Spades* winning as the 2010 Best Soul Blues Album. Well, add on yet another with a 2016 nomination for Soul Blues Male Artist. Rawls’ new Catfood Records release, *Tiger in a Cage*, was produced and mixed by Grammy winning producer/engineer Jim Gaines (Santana, Stevie Ray Vaughan, George Thorogood). Bass player Bob Trenchard wrote five of the dozen tracks, including the standout “Born to the Blues.” The four piece horn section and Dan Ferguson’s keyboards fill out the sound while Johnny McGhee’s tastefully refined guitar and Rawls soul drenched vocals seal the deal. Along with those he co-wrote, Rawls penned four cuts including “Lucy” about a girl from Georgia who could “dance real good.” The well-selected covers include Sam Cooke’s upbeat “Having a Party” followed by a polished, fast paced take on Jackie Wilson’s 1967 #1 R&B hit “(Your Love Keeps Lifting Me) Higher and Higher.” Rawls sings a duet with Eden Brent on “Southern Honey” with strings and a beat that offers up a slightly country feel. I think that the Glimmer Twins would approve of Johnny’s version of “Beast of Burden” as he gives this Rolling Stones classic plenty of soul. *Tiger in a Cage* is a strong album of solid R&B. Recommended. - Malcolm Kennedy

Tim Williams
So Low
(Lowden Proud Records)

To quote the liner notes, “Solo (So Low) means just that. No guests, not even any overdubs or edits. Two hands, a good instrument, a voice, and the tapping of a two-tone wing-tip shoe.” The 10 selections include four originals with an original arrangement of a traditional song and five well-chosen covers. Tim opens with Mose Allison’s “If You Live,” with whom he had the opportunity to work with back in the 1970s. The humorous original “More Peppers in Your Chili” includes some fun lyrics: “Jalapeño, pablano, habanero/ make me blow the lid off my sombrero/put some peppers in your chili, more peppers in your chili/ Poppa likes it hot/don’t let it get cold.” Williams breaks out a Resonator to play some slide on his original “Anywhere C/O the Blues.” Other covers include songs by Tampa Red, Big Bill Broonzy, Johnny Cash and “Pistol Snapper,” Williams adaption of Blind Boy Fuller’s “Pistol Slapper Blues” which features some choice picking and bass lines. One of Tim’s originals recalls Lonnie Johnson’s style, the wonderful “Midnight After Midnight” which he describes as a tune that “began as a little guitar noodling in open “D” tuning.” Another song, in the style of Lightnin’ Hopkins, simply titled “Lightnin,” features lots of reverb making it sound like he was playing in a large,

empty warehouse. In the liner notes, Williams includes a short introduction to each song and a blurb about the instruments used and I wish more artists and bands would do that. *So Low* is serious front porch blues and I highly recommend it. - Malcolm Kennedy

Keith Stone
The Prodigal Returns
(Self-Released)

Keith Stone’s debut solo release *The Prodigal Returns* is strong blues that owes as much to Chicago and Texas as Stone’s native Big Easy. It opens with a short bit with Dr. John tinkling the ivories; but when “Better Things to Do” drops in it is punch horns and stabbing guitar with appealing vocals over an organ wash. The core band on the nine originals are Keith on vocals and guitar, David Hyde on bass, Nelson Blanchard on drums and keys and with Lacy Blackledge on trumpet and Mike Broussard on tenor and baritone sax. Bobby Henderson adds alto sax to three cuts. Additionally Hyde was the producer and did the horn arrangements and Blanchard did the mixing and some of the engineering. My favorite cut is “First Love” is a slow burner of the first degree that really delivers with piercing yet economical playing. The accordion of Bruce “Sunpie” Barnes along with the rhythm and three piece horns take “Cindi Leigh” to the Crescent City. “New Orleans Moonlight” is one of my favorite cuts, it has a mellow groove and sounds like a song right out of the Roomful of Blues song book. Keith brings the tempo up for the slightly funky “Time to Move On” featuring a sax solo by Broussard and a piercing solo by Keith with punchy horn accents. “Busters Place” recalls the Crusaders where jazz meets the blues with fantastic horns and a trumpet solo by Lacy over a really cool toe tapping groove and Keith’s supple playing is a perfect fit. Keith closes the disc in the heart of Bourbon Street with the traditional “Just a Closer Walk With Thee” featuring Dr. John on piano, Keith-vocals, guitar, David-bass, Joe Krown on organ, Doug Belote on drums, Tim Stambaugh on sousaphone, Kevin Clark on trumpet, David Phy on trombone, Cale Pellick on alto sax and Elaine Foster on backing vocals. I give *The Prodigal Returns* my very highest recommendation, this is some top notch music. Malcolm Kennedy

Van Wilks
21st Century Blues
(Texas ’51 Records)

Van Wilks *21st Century Blues* opens with the driving beat of “Strange Girl” which has a good line and would not be out of place on a Bryan Adams or Tom Petty CD, and I don’t mean that in a bad way, I like it. On “Drive by Lover” Wilks channels ZZ Top (as it should co-written by Billy Gibbons who makes a cameo) and the Texas shuffle of “Golddigger” recalls Stevie Ray some. Of the 12 selections Wilks wrote 10, co-wrote the

one and the only cover is Christopher Cross' "She Makes Me Crazy," and uses a number of different supporting line-ups. There is nice a pull-out with all the lyrics, credits and acknowledgements. "Just Walk Away" is a tasteful slow organ-guided bluey tune with some refined guitar. The title track has a smoky medium meter with pleasingly layered guitar parts including some glistening and soaring slide making it a standout. Chris Cross' "She Makes Me Crazy" is a straight up rocker featuring Malford Milligan singing with Van and Chris on additional guitar. "There's a Sin in There Somewhere" starts off all front porch, with the crackle and pop of a vinyl record and morphs it to a blazing rocker with multiple guitar parts and biting slide. On *21st Century Blues*, you won't find traditional blues shuffles of 12 bar call and response, you will find a dozen good tunes that are well crafted and performed, mostly rock with some blues elements which I enjoyed. Malcolm Kennedy

Jeremy Serwer
Roads
(Self-Released)

Jeremy Serwer was the featured solo artist at the Washington Blues Society's February Blues Bash, and he played an impressive set of acoustic music that got a lot of folks' attention (including mine). The 10 songs on *Roads* are all originals and diverse. The album opens with "Sky" and displays Jeremy's appealing vocals, dexterous guitar playing as he sings "early morning/ grey swollen/she woke early/coffee pouring." "Char" has piano by Michael Connolly and a cool singer/songwriter lounge lizard vibe. "Desk Criminal" has a medium-fast pace with Connolly on keys and backing vocals by Trina Willard; this song reminds me a bit of James Taylor. Jeremy switches gears for "Soil" with smoothly-picked guitar lines over keyboards. The title track has beautiful harmony vocals by Holly Figueroa as they sing "but these roads/you say lead to nowhere/but they keep me happy still/to be out on the loose." "Gunn" is an up-tempo tune featuring Connolly on organ and fiddle and backing vocals by Sammy Witness. "Dirty Entity" features Orville Johnson on lap steel guitar, Trina on harmony vocals, Connolly on organ. Michael Connolly brings many aspects to *Roads* form producer, engineer and engineer to keys, fiddle, mandolin, backing vocals and on three cuts. *Roads* is not, nor was it meant to be, a blues album; instead, the CD falls more into the singer/songwriter vein; but it features inviting music with finely-crafted songs. At the February Blues Bash, Jeremy Sewel showed the audience that he knows a thing or two about the blues, too. Recommended. Malcolm Kennedy

Doug MacLeod
Live in Europe
(Black and Tan Records)

Doug MacLeod's latest release on the Netherlands-based Black and Tan label captures the two-time

Blues Music Award-winning acoustic bluesman live in 2006. While his most recent release on California-based Reference Recordings have certainly garnered "Dub" some well-deserved recognition, *Live in Europe* features 11 songs from an out-of-print DVD, *The Blues In Me*. This is the first digital-only release I have reviewed in the Bluesletter, and while I miss holding a CD in my hands and reading the liner notes and story behind the production of this release, I think that *Live in Europe* represents the future. A future that distributes music on a number of digital platforms, such as Amazon Music, iTunes and Spotify. There is over 72 minutes of music on this release; while I've heard many of these songs on disc or live, it's always a treat to hear classics like "The New Panama Limited," with a nod to Tom Rush's update of Bukka White's original "Panama Limited" and "Big City Woman" again This year, Doug MacLeod is nominated for three Blues Music Awards: Acoustic Album (for *Exactly Like This* on Reference Records; Acoustic Artist and Song of the Year, for "You Got It Good (and That Ain't Bad)." *Live in Europe* is a must for fans of acoustic blues: I hope it draws listeners to Doug MacLeod's Black and Tan CDs as well as his more recent releases on Reference Recordings. Doug MacLeod is a gifted storyteller and exceptional songwriter; *Live in Europe* provides an opportunity to hear "Dub" interact with a live audience as he works through an entertaining 11-song set. – Eric Steiner

Too Slim and the Taildraggers
Blood Moon
(Underworld Records)

Last month, Too Slim and the Taildraggers released *Blood Moon*, the follow-up to 2013's *Blue Heart*. *Blue Heart* was nominated for a Blues Music Award in the Blues Rock Album of the Year category (an honor also shared by *Shiver* in 2011 and *The Fortune Teller* four years earlier). What caught my ear on *Blood Moon* was Tim "Too Slim" Langford's powerful and nuanced guitar parts on the opening "Evil Mind" and "Twisted Rails." Each of these songs will likely land on many hard rock playlists; each of these new original songs reminded me of 1970s rock guitarists Robin Trower and Neil Young from their *Bridge of Sighs* and *Zuma* releases, respectively. While "Too Slim" has roots in his native Pacific Northwest, he's got two Nashville-based Taildraggers from his new home town of Music City: Jeff "Shakey" Fowlkes on drums, vocals and percussion and Robert Kearns on bass and vocals in this Taildragger lineup. "Dream" showcases the trio's harmonies and the CD features two versions of "Twisted Rails:" a seven-plus minute celebration of rock and roll guitar and the CD's closing instrumental "Twisted Rails (Slight Return)." Fans of supercharged electric guitar, with a few songs firmly rooted in the blues, will enjoy *Blood Moon*; I think that one of the more memorable songs on this new CD is "Good Guys Win," because they often do. After 15+ CDs over the past 30+ years, "Too Slim" has another winner on his hands with this new CD.

Blood Moon will likely land in the Blues Rock category of the 2017 Blues Music Awards. While I found *Blood Moon* to have more blues than rock on it, the stories behind many of the songs are definitely rooted in the blues. -- Eric Steiner

Selwyn Birchwood
Don't Call No Ambulance
(Alligator Records)

I've had the pleasure of seeing Selwyn Birchwood live at the Chicago Blues Festival and Buddy Guy's Legends. Several years ago, when the mercury dreamed of reaching 27 degrees, Selwyn turned to the audience at Buddy's club and said: "It's 20 degrees outside ladies and gentlemen. In Florida where I'm from, that's would be an emergency." That night, hardy Chicago blues fans just shrugged, because bitter cold is a part of life in the City of the Big Shoulders each winter. After two self-produced releases, this Orlando, Florida native has burst onto the world's blues stage by winning the Blues Foundation's 2013 International Blues Challenge in the band category as well as the Albert King Guitarist of the Year award shortly before his 27th birthday. Keeping the Blues Alive Award recipient Paul Natkin's photos in Don't

Call No Ambulance include a band photo where Selwyn's holding that Gibson guitar that Blues Foundation Chief Operating Officer wisely has said to an appreciative Orpheum Theatre audience that "you cannot buy this guitar. You have to earn it." Birchwood's debut on Alligator Records, *Don't Call No Ambulance*, features a dozen original songs that range from full-title blues and boogie to quieter, introspective blues songs. The fat-toned baritone sax of Regi Oliver punctuates the CD, and I especially like the way it powers "Hoodoo Stew" and "River Turned Red" (which also features Blues Hall of Fame inductee Joe Louis Walker in slide guitar). Other guests include RJ Harmon on harmonica on "Overworked and Underpaid" and Dash Dixon on keyboards on "Brown Paper Bag." At nine+ minutes, "Brown Paper Bag" is an heartfelt lament to lives impacted by alcohol abuse that is told with an eloquence beyond Selwyn's years. It reminded me of "Loan Me a Dime," from Boz Scaggs and Duane Allman, written by Alligator Records artist Fenton Robinson. "Brown Paper Bag" looks at the disease of addiction just like "Somebody Loan Me a Dime" looks at loneliness and loss. Selwyn Birchwood is a force of blues nature at a relatively young age: I enjoyed *Don't Call No Ambulance* from start to finish and recommend this CD highly – Eric Steiner

Editor's Note: See Selwyn Birchwood at Seattle's Jazz Alley on May 17th and 18th followed by the Sunbanks Rhythm and Blues Festival on May 21st. He'll return to the Pacific Northwest for the Mount Baker Rhythm and Blues Festival on July 30th at the Log Show Grounds in Deming. After seeing Selwyn Birchwood live at the Chicago Blues Festival and Buddy Guy's Legends, as well as in Memphis, I highly recommend his live show!

Washington Blues Society Talent Guide

44th Street Blues Band (206) 714-5180, and
(206) 775-2762
A.H.L. (206) 935-4592
Richard Allen & the Louisiana Experience
(206) 369-8114
AlleyKattz (425) 273-4172
Annieville Blues (206) 994-9413
Author Unknown (206) 355-5952
Baby Gramps Trio (425) 483-2835
Back Porch Blues (425) 299-0468
Backwoods Still (425) 330-0702
Badd Dog Blues Society (360) 733-7464
Billy Shew Band (253) 514-3637
Billy Barner (253) 884-6308
Bay Street Blues Band (360) 731-1975
Norm Bellas & the Funkstars (206) 722-6551
Black River Blues (206) 396-1563
Blackstone Players (425) 327-0018
Blues Bentley Band (360) 701-6490
Blue 55 (206) 216-0554
Blue Healers (206) 440-7867
Blues on Tap (206) 618-6210
Blues To Do Monthly (206) 328-0662
Blues Playground (425) 359-3755
Blues Redemption (253) 884-6308
Blues Sheriff (206) 979-0666
Boneyard Preachers (206) 755-0766 and
(206) 547-1772
Bill Brown & the Kingbees 206-276-6600
Brian Lee & the Orbiters (206) 390-2408
Bump Kitchen (253) 223-4333, (360) 259-1545
Nate Burch Band (425)-457-3506
Brian Butler Band (206) 361-9625
CC Adams Band (360) 420 2535
Charlie Butts & the Filtertips (509) 325-3016
Ellis Carter - 206-935-3188
Malcolm Clark Band (253) 853-7749
Colonel (360) 293-7931
Kimball Conant & the Fugitives (206) 938-6096
Jack Cook & Phantoms of Soul (206) 517-5294
Rod Cook & Toast (206) 878-7910
Coyote Blues (360) 420-2535
Crooked Mile Blues Band (425) 238-8548
John Scooch Cugno's Delta 88 Revival
(360) 352-3735
Daddy Treetops (206) 601-1769
Dudley Taft (513) 713-6800
Julie Duke Band (206) 459-0860
Al Earick Band (253) 278-0330
Sammy Eubanks (509) 879-0340
Richard Evans (206) 799-4856
Fat Cat (425) 487-6139
Kim Field & the Mighty Titans of Tone
(206) 295-8306
Gary Frazier (206) 851-1169
Filé Gumbo (425) 788-2776
Jimmy Free's Friends (206) 546-3733
Mark Hurwitz & Gin Creek (206) 588-1924
Paul Green (206) 795-3694
Dennis "Juxtamuse" Hacker (425) 423-9545
Heather & the Nearly Homeless Blues Band
(425) 576-5673
Tim Hall Band (253) 857-8652
Curtis Hammond Band (206) 696-6134

Hambone Blues Band (360) 458-5659
Terry Hartness (425) 931-5755
JP Hennessy (425)-273-4932
Ron Hendee (425) 280-3994
JD Hobson (206) 235-3234
Bobby Holland & the Breadline (425) 681-5644
Hot Wired Rhythm Band (206) 790-9935
James Howard (206) 250-7494
David Hudson / Satellite 4 (253) 630-5276
Raven Humphres (425) 308-3752
Hungry Dogs (425) 299-6435
Brian Hurst (360) 708-1653
K. G. Jackson & the Shakers (360) 896-4175
Jeff & the Jet City Fliers (206) 818-0701
The Jelly Rollers (206) 617-2384
Junkyard Jane (253) 238-7908
Stacy Jones (206) 992-3285
Chester Dennis Jones (253)-797-8937
James King & the Southsiders (206) 715-6511
Kevin/Casey Sutton 314-479-0752
Virginia Klemens Band (206) 632-6130
Bruce Koenigsberg / Fabulous Roof Shakers
(425) 766-7253
Lady "A" (425) 518-9100
Steven J. Lefebvre (509) 972-2683,
(509) 654-3075
Scott E. Lind (206) 789-8002
Little Bill & the Bluenotes (425) 774-7503
Dana Lupinacci Band (206) 860-4961
Eric Madis & Blue Madness (206) 362 8331
Albritten McClain & Bridge of Souls
(206) 650-8254
Doug McGrew (206) 679-2655
Jim McLaughlin (425) 737-4277
Mary McPage Band (206) 850-4849
Scott Mallard (206) 261-4669
Miles from Chicago (206) 440-8016
Reggie Miles (360) 793-9577
Dave Miller Band (805) 234-7004
Michal Miller Band (253) 222-2538
The Mongrels (509) 307-0517, 509-654-3075
Moon Daddy Band (425) 923-9081
Jim Nardo Blues Band (360) 779-4300
The Naughty Blokes (360) 393-9619
Keith Nordquist (253) 639-3206
Randy Norris & The Full Degree
(425) 239-3876
Randy Norris & Jeff Nicely
(425) 239-3876/ (425) 359-3755
Randy Oxford Band (253) 973-9024
Robert Patterson (509) 869-0350
Dick Powell Band (425) 742-4108
Bruce Ransom (206) 618-6210
Mark Riley (206) 313-7849
RJ Knapp & Honey Robin Band (206) 612-9145
Gunnar Roads (360) 828-1210
Greg Roberts (206) 473-0659
Roger Rogers Band (206) 255-6427
Roxlide (360) 881-0003
Maia Santell & House Blend (253) 983-7071
Scratch Daddy (425) 210-1925
Shadow Creek Project (360) 826-4068
Doug Skoog (253) 921-7506
Smokin' J's (425) 746-8186

Son Jack Jr. (425) 591-3034
Star Drums & Lady Keys (206) 522-2779
John Stephan Band (206) 244-0498
Chris Stevens' Surf Monkeys (206) 236-0412
Steve Bailey & The Blue Flames (206) 779-7466
Steve Cooley & Dangerfields (253)-203-8267
Steven J. Lefebvre (509) 972-2683,
(509) 654-3075
Stickshift Annie Eastwood (206) 523-4778
Alice Stuart & the Formerlys (360) 753-8949
Suze Sims (206) 920-6776
Kid Quagmire (206) 412-8212
Annette Taborn (206) 679-4113
Leanne Trevalyan (253) 238-7908
Tim Turner Band (206) 271-5384
Two Scoops Combo (206) 933-9566
Unbound (425) 231-0565
Nick Vigarino (360) 387-0374
Tommy Wall (206) 914-9413
Charles White Revue (425) 327-0018
Mark Whitman Band (206) 697-7739
Michael Wilde (425) 672-3206 / (206) 200-3363
Willie B Blues Band (206) 451-9060
Hambone Wilson (360) 739-7740
C.D. Woodbury Band (425) 502-1917
The Wulf Tones (206) 367-6186 (206) 604-2829
Tommy Cook Trio (206)-384-0234
Michelle D'Amour and the Love Dealers
(425) 761-3033
Polly O'Kerry and the Rhythm Method
(206) 384-0234
Rosewood Embargo (206) 940-2589
West Coast Women's Blues Revue (206) 940-2589
Kim Archer Band (253) 298-5961
Cheatin River (425-334-5053
The Wired Band (206) 852-3412
Chester Dennis Jones (253) 797-8937
Groove Tramps (720) 232-9664
Rafael Tranquilino Band / Leah Tussing
(425) 329-5925
Mustard Seed (206) 669-8633
Jeff Mentee and the Beaten Path (425) 280-7392
Chris Eger Band (360) 770 7929

Please send updates to editor@wabluessociety.org by the 5th of the month. We'll do our best to update your listing!

ATTENTION MUSIC PEOPLE!

If you would like to add your music schedule to our calendar, please send in your information by the 10th of the month to wbscalendar@yahoo.com in the following format: (Please, very important! No bold or ALL CAPS): Date - Venue, City - Band Name Time.

Washington Blues Venue Guide

Seattle: Downtown and West Seattle

Bad Albert's Tap and Grill (206) 789-2000
Barboza (206) 709-9442
Ballard Elks Lodge (206) 784-0827
Benbow Room (206) 466-1953
Blue Moon (206) 675-9116
Café Racer (206) 523-5282
Capitol Cider (206) 397-3564
Café' Solstice (206) 675-0850
Central Saloon (206) 622-0209
Connor Byrne Pub (206) 784-3640
Columbia City Theater (206) 722-3009
C&P Coffee house (206) 933-3125
Darrell's tavern (206) 542-6688
East Lake Zoo Tavern (206) 329-3977
Easy Monkey Tap house (206) 420-1326
Egan's Jam House (206) 789-1621
El Corazon (206) 262-0482
EMP (206) 770-2700
Hard Rock Café Seattle (206) 204-2233
High liner Pub (206) 216-1254
Highway 99 Blues Club (206) 382-2171
J&M Café- Pioneer Square (206) 402-6654
Jazz Alley (206) 441-9729
Little Red Hen (206) 522-1168
LUCID (206) 402-3042
Mac's Triangle Pub (206) 763-0714
Mr. Villa (206) 517-5660
Nectar (206) 632-2020
Neptune Theater (206) 682-1414
Neumos (206) 709-9442
North City Bistro (206) 365-4447
Owl and Thistle (206) 621-7777
Paragon (206) 283-4548
Rendezvous (206) 441-5823
Salmon Bay Eagles (206) 783-7791
Seamonster Lounge (206) 992-1120
Serafina (206) 323-0807
Skylark Cafe & Club (206) 935-2111
Ship Canal Grill (206) 588-8885
Slim's Last Chance Saloon (206) 762-7900
St. Clouds (206) 726-1522
Stone Way Café' (206) 420-4435
The Barrel Tavern (206) 246-5488
The Crocodile (206) 441-4618
The High Dive (206) 632-0212
The Moore (206) 682-1414
The Ould Triangle (206) 706-7798
The Paramount (206) 682-1414
The Mix (206) 767-0280
The Royal Room (206) 906-9920
The Tractor Tavern (206) 789-3599
The Triple Door Theater and Musicquarium (206) 838-4333
The Sunset Tavern (206) 784-4880
The Showbox (206) 628-3151
The 2 Bit Saloon (206) 708-6917
Tim's Tavern (206) 789-9005
Town Hall (206) 652-4255
88 Keys (206) 839-1300
Third Place Books (206) 366-3333
Thirteen Coins /13 Coins (206) 682-2513
Tula's Jazz Club (206) 443-4221

Vera Project (206) 956-8372
Vito's (206) 397-4053

South Puget Sound: Auburn, Tacoma, Olympia, Chehalis, Algona, Spanaway and Renton

Auburn Eagles (253) 833-2298
B Sharp Coffee House, Tacoma 253-292-9969
Bob's java jive (253) 475-9843
CC's Lounge, Burien (206) 242-0977
Capitol Theater Olympia (360) 754-6670
Charlie's Bar and Grill, Olympia (360) 786-8181
Dave's of Milton, Milton (253) 926-8707
Dawson's, Tacoma 253-476-1421
Delancy's on Third -Renton (206) 412-9516
Destination Harley Davidson, Fife (253) 922-3700
Doyle's Pub, Tacoma (253) 272-7468
Elmer's Pub, Burien (206) 439-1007
Emerald Queen Casino, Tacoma (253) 594-7777
Forrey's Forza, Lacey (360) 338-0925
G. Donnalsen's (253) 761-8015
Gonzo's, Kent (253) 638-2337
Jazzbones, Tacoma (253) 396-9169
Johnny's Dock, Tacoma (253) 627-3186
Junction Sports bar, Centralia (360) 273-7586
Louie G's, Fife (253) 926-9700
Lucky Eagle Casino, Rochester (800) 720-1788
The Matrix Coffeehouse, Chehalis (360) 740-0492
Mint Alehouse, Enumclaw (360) 284-2517
Monte Carlo Tavern, Kent (253) 852-9463
Muckle Shoot Casino, Auburn (800) 804-4944
Nikki's Lounge, Covington (253) 981-3612
Nisqually Red Wind Casino, Olympia (866) 946-2444
Northern Pacific Coffee, Tacoma (253) 537-8338
The Northern, Olympia (360) 357-8948
Oasis café, Puyallup, (253) 840-2656
O'Callaghan's, Key Center 253-884-9766
Old General Store Steak House & Saloon, Roy (253) 459-2124
Pickled Onion Pub, Renton (425) 271-3629
Rhythm & Rye, Olympia (360) 705-0760
Riverside Golf Club, Chehalis (360) 748-8182
Royal Bear, Algona (253) 222-0926
Scotch and Vine, Des Moines (206) 592-2139
Silver Dollar Pub, Spanaway (253) 531-4469
Stonegate, Tacoma (253) 473-2255
Shuga Jaxx Bistro, Renton (425) 274-3074
The Spar, Tacoma (253) 627-8215
The Swiss, Tacoma (253) 572-2821
Uncle Sam's, Spanaway (253) 507-7808
World Of Beer - Renton (425) 255-0714
Yella Beak Saloon, Enumclaw (360) 825-5500

Peninsula: Bremerton, Port Orchard, Sequim and Shelton

Bethel Saloon, Port Orchard (360) 876-6621
Brother Don's, Bremerton (360) 377-8442
Casey's Bar and Grill, Belfair (360) 275-6929

Cellar Door, Port Townsend (360) 385-6959
Clear Water Casino, Suquamish (360) 598-8700
Filling Station, Kingston (360) 297-7732

Little Creek Casino, Shelton (800) 667-7711
7 Cedars Casino, Sequim (360) 683-7777
Half time Sports Saloon, Gig Harbor (253) 853-1456
Manchester Pub, Port Orchard (360) 871-2205
Morso, Gig harbor (253) 530-3463
Next Door Gastropub, Port Angeles (360) 504-2613
Old Town Pub, Silverdale (360) 473-9111
The Point casino, Kingston (360) 297-0070
Pour House, Port Townsend (360) 379-5586
R Bar, Port Angeles (360) 797-1274
Red Dog Saloon, Port Orchard (360) 876-1018
Silverdale Beach hotel, Silverdale (360) 698-1000
Sirens Pub, Port Townsend (360) 379-1100
Slaughterhouse Brewing, Port Orchard (360) 329-2340
Swim Deck, Port Orchard (360) 443-6220
The Dam Bar, Port Angeles (360) 452-9880
The Gig Spot, Gig Harbor (253) 853-4188
Tree house café', Bainbridge (206) 842-2814
Up Town Pub, Port Townsend (360) 344-2505
Red Bicycle Bistro, Vashon Island (206) 463-5959

East Side: Bellevue Bothell, Kirkland and Woodinville

Alexa's Café, Bothell (425) 402-1754
Bakes Place, Bellevue (425) 454-2776
Beaumont Cellars, Woodinville (425) 482-6349
Cypress Wine bar at Westin, Bellevue (425) 638-1000
Central Club, Kirkland (425) 827-0808
Crossroads Center, Bellevue (425) 402-9600
Cypress Wine Bar, Bellevue (425) 644-1111
Grazie, Bothell (425) 402-9600
Ground Zero Teen Center, Bellevue (425) 429-3203
Horseshoe Saloon, Woodinville (425) 488-2888
Kirkland Performance Center, Kirkland (425) 893-9900
192 Brewing, Kenmore (425) 424-2337
Mt Si Pub, North Bend (425) 831-6155
North Shore Performing Arts Center, Bothell (425) 984-2471
Northwest Cellars, Kirkland (425) 825-9463
Pogacha of Issaquah, Issaquah (425) 392-5550
Raging River Café', Fall City (425) 222-6669
Second Story Hideaway, Redmond (425) 881-6777
Sky River Brewing, Redmond (425) 242-3815
Snoqualmie Casino, Snoqualmie (425) 888-1234
Soul Food Books and Café, Redmond (425) 881-5309
Chateau Ste. Michelle Winery, Woodinville (425) 488-1133
The Black Dog, Snoqualmie 425-831-DOGS (3647)

The Den Coffee House, Bothell 425-892-8954
Twin Dragon Sports Bar, Duvall (425) 788-5519
Village Wines, Woodinville (425) 485-3536
Vino Bella, Issaquah (425) 391-1424
Wild Rover, Kirkland (425) 822-8940
Yuppie Tavern, Totem Lake/Kirkland
(425) 814-5200

North Sound: La Conner, Mount Vernon, Stanwood, Everett, Marysville Snohomish, and Other Points North

Anelia's Kitchen and Stage, La Conner
(360) 399-1805
Angel of the Winds Casino, Arlington
(360) 474-9740
Big Lake Bar and Grill, Mount Vernon
(360) 422-6411
Big Rock Cafe & Grocery, Mount Vernon
(360) 424-7872
Boundary Bay Brewery and Alehouse,
Bellingham (360) 647-5593
Bubba's Roadhouse, Sultan (360) 793-3950
Byrnes Performing Arts Center,
Arlington (360) 618-6321
Cabin Tavern, Bellingham (360) 733-9685
Café Zippy, Everett (425) 303-0474
Cedar Stump, Arlington (360) 386-8112
Conway Muse, Conway (360) 445-3000
Conway Pub, Conway (360) 445-4733
Eagle Haven Winery, Sedro Woolley
(360) 856-6248
Engels Pub, Edmonds (425) 778-2900
Emerald City Roadhouse /Harley Davidson,
Lynnwood (425) 921-1100
Emory's on Silver Lake, Everett. (425) 337-7772
Everett Theater, Everett (425) 258-6766
Grinders Hot Sands, Shoreline (206) 542-0627
H2O, Anacortes (360) 755-3956
Heart of Anacortes, Anacortes (360) 293-3515
Loco Billy's Wild Moon Saloon (425) 737-5144
Longhorn Saloon, Edison (360) 766-6330
Lucky 13 Saloon, Marysville. (360) 925-6056
Main Street Bar and Grill,
Ferndale (360) 312-9162
McIntyre Hall, Mt Vernon (360) 416-7727 ext. 2
Mirkwood & Shire, Arlington (360) 403-9020
Mount Baker Theater, Bellingham
(360) 734-6080
Oak Harbor Tavern, Oak Harbor (360) 675-9919
Old Edison Inn, Bow (360) 766-6266
Paula's Wine Knott/Slaughter house Lounge,
Monroe (425) 501-7563 - (206) 369-6991
Paradise Tavern, Monroe (360) 794-1888
Peabo's, Mill Creek (425) 337-3007
Port Gardener Winery, Everett (425) 339-0293
Prohibition Gastro Pub, Everett (425) 258-6100
Razzals, Smokey Point (360) 653-9999
Rockfish Grill, Anacortes (360) 588-1720
Rockin' M BBQ, Everett (425) 438-2843
Rocko's Everett (425) 374-8039
Skagit Valley Casino, Bow (360) 724-0205
Sound Check Bar & Grill, Lynnwood
(425) 673-7625
Stanwood Hotel Saloon, Stanwood

(360) 629-2888
Stewarts on First, Snohomish (360) 568-4684
Snazzy Badger Pub, Snohomish (360) 568-8202
The Oxford Saloon, Snohomish (360) 243-3060
The Repp, Snohomish, (360) 568-3928
The Wild Hare, Everett (425) 322-3134
The Madison Pub, Everett (425) 348-7402
The Anchor Pub, Everett (425) 374-2580
The Cravin' Cajun, Everett (425) 374-2983
The Old Village Pub, Lynnwood (425) 778-1230
Tulalip Casino, Tulalip 888-272-1111
Twin Rivers Brewing Co. Monroe (360) 794-4056
The Green Frog, Bellingham (360) 961-1438
The Roost, Bellingham (413) 320-6179
The Rumor Mill, Friday Harbor (360) 378-5555
The Shakedown, Bellingham (360) 778-1067
Tony V's Garage, Everett (425) 374-3567
Urban City Coffee, Mountlake Terrace (425) 776-1273
Useless Bay Coffee, Langley (360) 221-4515
Varsity Inn, Burlington (360) 755-0165
Village Inn, Marysville (360) 659-2305
Washington Sips, La Connor (360) 399-1037
Wild Buffalo, Bellingham (360) 392-8447
Wild Hare, Everett (425) 322-3134
13th Ave Pub, Lynnwood (425) 742-7871

Central and Eastern: Yakima, Kennewick, Chelan, Manson, Roslyn and Wenatchee

Bill's Place, Yakima (509)-575-9513
Branding Iron, Kennewick (509)586-9292
Brick Saloon, Roslyn (509) 649-2643
Blending Room, Manson (509) 293-9679
Café Mela, Wenatchee (509) 888-0374
Campbell's Resort, Lake Chelan (509) 682-4250
Club Crow, Cashmere (509) 782-3001
Deepwater Amphitheater at Mill Bay Casino,
Manson (509) 687-6911
Der Hinterhof, Leavenworth (509) 548-5250
Emerald of Siam, Richland (509) 946-9328
End Zone, Yakima (509) 452-8099
Grill on Gage, Kennewick (509) 396-6435
Hop Nation Brewing, Yakima (509) 367-6552
Ice Harbor Brewing Company, Kennewick
(509) 586-3181
Icicle Brewing Co. Leavenworth (509) 548-2739
Main Street Studios, Walla Walla (509) 520-6451
Old School House Brewery, Winthrop
(509) 996-3183
Roxy Bar, Kennewick (509) 491-1870
Sapoli Cellars, Walla Walla (509) 520-5258
Seasons Performance Center, Yakima
(509) 453-1888
Sports Center, Yakima (509) 453-4647
The Vogue, Chelan (509) 888-5282
Twisp River Pub, Twisp, (888) 220-3350
Yakima Craft on the Avenue, Yakima
(509) 571-1468

Eastern Washington, Montana, Idaho and Other Points East

Arbor Crest Winery, Spokane Valley
(509) 927-9463
Barrister Winery, Spokane (509) 465-3591
Bing Crosby Theater, Spokane (509) 227-7638
Bigfoot Pub, Spokane (509) 467-9638
Bolo's, Spokane (509) 891-8995
Boomers Classic Rock Bar & Grill, Spokane Val-
ley (509) 368-9847
Bucer's Coffeehouse Pub, Moscow, ID
(208) 596-0887
Buckhorn Inn, Airway Heights (509) 244-3991
Chaps, Spokane (509) 624-4182
Chateau Rive, Spokane (509) 795-2030
Coeur d'Alene Casino, Worley (800) 523-2464
Crafted Tap House & Kitchen, Coeur d'Alene
(208) 292-4813
Daley's Cheap Shots, Spokane Valley
(509) 535-9309
MAX at Mirabeau Hotel, Spokane Valley
(509) 924-9000
Studio 107, Coeur d'Alene (208) 664-1201
The 219 Lounge Sandpoint, ID (208) 263-9934
The Bartlett, Spokane (509) 747-2174
The Big Dipper, Spokane (877) 987-6487
The Cellar, Coeur d'Alene (208) 664-9463
The Hop, Spokane (509) 368-4077
The Lariat, Mead WA. (509) 466-9918
The Shop, Spokane (509) 534-1647
Underground 15, Spokane (509) 868-0358
Viking Tavern, Spokane, (509) 315-4547
Waddells Neighborhood Pub, Spokane
(509) 443-6500
Whiskey Jacks, Ketchum, ID (208) 726-5297
Zola, Spokane (509) 624-2416

ATTENTION BLUES FANS:

**If you know of a venue that offers live blues mu-
sic, please send the name of the venue and the
venue's telephone number to editor@wablu.es.org
and we'll make every effort to keep this new
and improved listing of region-wide blues op-
portunities as up to date and possible!**





IF you don't KNOW your googily Moogily
FROM your Wang dang doodle, join the
WASHINGTON BLUES SOCIETY!

Please check all that are applicable. Thanks!

☐ NEW ☐ RENEWAL ☐ ADDRESS CHANGE ☐ VOLUNTEER

Name _____

Name (couple) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

STANDARD MEMBERSHIPS: ☐ Individual \$25 ☐ Couple \$35

NOTE: Non-US Residents will receive their Bluesletter electronically (see pg. 14)

BLUES SPONSORS (see pg. 14): ☐ Gold \$1,000 ☐ Silver \$600 ☐ Bronze \$400

MUSICIANS (see pg. 14): ☐ Band ☐ Solo/Duo

MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS PERKS!

- Receive monthly Bluesletter in your mailbox
- Monthly All Ages Blues Bash Email Blasts
- Member discounts for BB Awards & Holiday Party
- Annual BB Awards Nomination AND Voting rights
- \$2 off the cover charge at the Highway 99 Blues Club (Seattle, WA)
- 10% off purchases at Silver Platters (any location)
- 10% discount at the Westport Inn (Westport, WA)

- \$1 off the cover & 25% off food at the Raging River Saloon (Fall City, WA)
- \$5 off the show admission for Friday 9:30 shows at Jazz Alley with valid WBS Membership Card AND advanced reservation. Reservations must be made by calling Jazz Alley 206-441-9729 and requesting the WBS Special. *NOTE: Not applicable to all shows*

PLEASE TELL US HOW YOU HEARD ABOUT THE WBS: _____

I would also like to make the following tax-deductible contribution to the following funds:

Musicians Relief Fund in the amount of \$ _____
Providing assistance to local musicians in their time of need

and/or

Passing the Torch Fund in the amount of \$ _____
Educating the next generation of local musicians

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Send check or money order to:
WBS, PO Box 70604, Seattle WA 98127

Want cool blues stuff? Contact: Merchandise@WabluEs.org

Washington Blues Society *Blues Jams & Open Mics!*

SUNDAYS

Anchor Pub, Everett : Open Jam Hosted by Leah Tussing & Rafael Tranquilino – 2-5pm 2nd Sunday of the month- All Ages
 Conway Pub: Gary B's Church of the Blues 6-10pm
 Dawson's, Tacoma, Tim Hall Band 7pm
 La Connor Pantry and Pub, la Connor, CC Adams 4-6pm
 Raging River Café, Fall City, Tommy Wall 7pm
 Sound Check Bar & Grill, Lynnwood 730P Chester Dennis Jones
 Wild Hare, Everett; T-N-T Jam w Teri Wilson & Tommy Cook, 7-10pm
 Westside Lanes, Olympia w Blues Bentley, 7pm
 Royal Bear, Algona, 7pm
 Shuga Jaxx Bistro, Renton: Eric Verlinde Trio – Live Jam

TUESDAYS

88 Keys, Pioneer Square Seattle : Sea Town All Stars ,8pm
 Antique Sandwich Co. open mic, Tacoma 7pm
 Elmer's Pub, Burien w Billy Shew 7pm
 Engel's Pub, Edmonds: Lou Echeverri, 8pm
 Peabo's (formerly Baxter's) Taylor Tuesday Jam w Michelle Taylor Band, 730pm-11pm
 J&M, Pioneer square Seattle, Seth Freeman, 9PM
 Razzal's Smokin' Blues Jam, Smokey Point, hosted by Rick Bowen and Sean Denton, 7 -11pm
 Sound Check Grill, Lynnwood; Doug McGrew; 8pm
 The Q Café, Seattle, open mic 630pm
 Tim's Tavern, Seattle, open mic 7pm
 Tweede's Café North Bend, open mic 630pm

THURSDAYS

The Austin Bar and Grill, Everett; School of Jam all ages 7-11pm
 Bad Albert's, Ballard/Seattle: Invitational w Annieville Blues 530-9pm
 The Dog House Bar & Grill, Seattle: Blues Jam W/The Uptown All-Stars, 7PM
 The Junction, Centralia w Blues Bentley 630pm
 Madison Ave Pub, Everett: Acoustic Blues Jam hosted by Kevin Sutton or Nick Vigarino (alternating jam hosts)
 The Stanwood Hotel and Saloon, Stanwood, The Sean Denton Band jam, 8 - 11pm
 The Village Inn Pub, Bellingham; w Jimmy D, 8pm
 The Old Village Pub, Lynnwood (3rd Thursday of the month); Chester Dennis Jones Band

MONDAYS

Cafe' Mele, Wenatchee, 7Pm (first Monday of the month)
 88 Keys, Pioneer Square Seattle: Blues On Tap, 7pm
 Swim Deck, Port Orchard The The Malcolm Clark Band's t Monday night blues jam 6-9 every Mac's Triangle Pub, Seattle 8pm
 Mo Jam Mondays, Nectar lounge Seattle 9pm
 Red Dog Saloon, Maple Valley: Scotty FM & The Broadcasters, 7 PM
 Wild Buffalo, open mic, Bellingham 8pm

WEDNESDAYS

Blue Moon tavern Seattle, open mic 8pm
 Celtic Bayou, Redmond, open mic 8pm
 Collector's Choice Restaurant, Snohomish, The Sean Denton Band jam, 8 - 11pm
 Darrel's Tavern, Shoreline, open mic 830pm
 Half Time Saloon, Gig Harbor
 Madison Ave Pub, Everett; Unbound Blues Jam 730pm
 April 6 Unbound with Ryan LaPlante
 April 13 Unbound with Tim Turner & Nick Elguezabol
 April 20 Unbound with Eric Rice
 April 27 Unbound with Scott E. Lind
 The Mix, Seattle, open mic 8pm
 Skylark Café, West Seattle, open mic 8pm
 Yuppie Tavern, Totem Lake/Kirkland; Heather B Blues Acoustic Jam 8pm

FRIDAYS

Urban Coffee Sumner, open mic 7pm

SATURDAYS

Old Village Pub, Lynnwood: Lou Echeverri & Friends



"KEEPING THE BLUES ALIVE"
 AWARD WINNER
 FOR BLUES ORGANIZATION
 OF THE YEAR 2003

PO Box 14493, Portland, OR 97293
 503-223-1850
 WWW.CASCADEBLUES.ORG



Have paint will travel
 Dennis "Juxtapose" Hacker
 juxtapose@gmail.com



Live Art to Blues
 Jazz & Funk! #

WALLA WALLA BLUES SOCIETY

The Biggest Little Blues Society in the World!



Striving to Inspire the Next Generation of Blues Lovers With
 Our Blues In The Schools and Instruments For Kids Programs
 Have a musical instrument sitting around collecting dust?
 Contact us and we'll see that it gets into the hands
 of a child who wants to play but can't afford to do so.

35 W. Morton St. wwwbs@bmi.net
 Walla Walla, WA 99362 www.wlbs.org

April Washington Blues Society Bluesletter Calendar

Note: Please confirm with each venue the start time and price. We also apologize in advance for any errors as we depend on musicians and venues to send in their information and sometimes, changes happen after we go to press.

Friday, April 1

The Repp, Snohomish – Rod Cook solo 6PM
Spinnaker Bay Brewing, Seattle - Star Drums & Lady Keys 7PM
Easy Monkey Taphouse, Shoreline - Eric Madis & Blue Madness 8PM
Rockfish Grill, Anacortes - Mark Riley & Paul Green 8PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle - Jack Cook & the Phantoms of Soul 8PM
Engels Pub, Edmonds - Chester Dennis Jones 9PM
Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle – Randy Oxford’s All-Star Jam w/Aury Moore, CD Woodbury, Willy Staub, Eddie Mendoza & Lissa Ramaglia 8PM
Dimitriou’s Jazz Alley, Seattle – Ruben Studdard 7:30PM & 9:30PM
Bake’s Place, Bellevue – Stapleton & Wilhelm 6PM, Wired Blues Band 9PM
G. Donnalson’s, Tacoma - Kareem Kandi Jazz Band 8PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle – Phantoms of Soul 8PM
Jazzbones, Tacoma – Stacy Jones 8PM

Saturday, April 2

Bucks American Cafe, Everett - Star Drums & Lady Keys 7PM
Easy Monkey Taphouse, Shoreline - Brian Lee & the Orbiters 8PM
White Horse Saloon, Arlington – Randy Norris & Jeff Nicely 8PM
Kirkland Performance Center, Kirkland WA – 60s Flashback Show 8PM
Engels Pub, Edmonds - Mary Mcpage & the Assassins 9PM
Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle – Doctorfunk 8PM
Dimitriou’s Jazz Alley, Seattle – Ruben Studdard 7:30PM & 9:30PM
Bake’s Place, Bellevue – Kalima 7PM & 9:45PM
G. Donnalson’s, Tacoma - Kareem Kandi Jazz Band 8PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle – Some Other Guys 8PM
Jazzbones, Tacoma – Clinton Fearon & the Boogie Brown Band 8PM

Sunday, April 3

Johnny’s Dock, Tacoma – Little Bill Trio 5PM
Dimitriou’s Jazz Alley, Seattle – Ruben Studdard 7:30PM
Kirkland Performance Center, Kirkland – WBS 2016 Best of the Blues Awards 3PM

Monday, April 4

Dimitriou’s Jazz Alley, Seattle – Seattle JazzED 7PM

Tuesday, April 5

The Parliament, Seattle – Billy Joe Huels w/Rod Cook & Robin Cady 7PM
Dimitriou’s Jazz Alley, Seattle – Omar Sosa Quarteto

Afrocubano 7:30PM
Bake’s Place, Bellevue – Gotz Lowe Duo 6PM

Wednesday, April 6

Engels Pub, Edmonds - Lou Echeverri 5-Decades of Hits 8PM
Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle – Drummerboy w/Darren Loucas & Sean Divine 8PM
Dimitriou’s Jazz Alley, Seattle – Omar Sosa Quarteto
Afrocubano 7:30PM
Bake’s Place, Bellevue – Gotz Lowe Duo 6PM

Thursday, April 7

Bad Albert’s, Seattle - Annie Eastwood, Larry Hill, Tom Brighton w/Bill Chism 5:30PM
Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle – Rick Estrin & the Nightcats 8PM
Dimitriou’s Jazz Alley, Seattle – Los Lobos 7:30PM
Bake’s Place, Bellevue – Javier Anderson 6PM, Save KPLU w/JP Hennessy Band 9PM
G. Donnalson’s, Tacoma - Piano Jazz w/Al Gord 7PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle – Gumbo Twins & Rusty Jeff 8PM
Walla Walla Guitar Festival/Sapolil Cellars, Walla Walla – Tuck Foster & Randy Oxford 8PM

Friday, April 8

Dawson’s, Tacoma – Little Bill & the Blue Notes w/Rod Cook 8PM
Sapolil Cellars, Walla Walla - Stacy Jones 11PM
Engels Pub, Edmonds - Electric Hemingway 9PM
Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle – The 44s w/Calvin Conway 8PM
Dimitriou’s Jazz Alley, Seattle – Los Lobos 7:30PM
Bake’s Place, Bellevue – Stapleton & Wilhelm 6PM, Save KPLU w/Paul Green & Straight Shot 9PM
G. Donnalson’s, Tacoma - Good Vibes Trio 7:30PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle – Armed & Dangerous 8PM
Jazzbones, Tacoma – Rick Estrin & the Nightcats 8PM
Little Creek Casino Cigar Bar, Shelton: Alice Stuart
Walla Walla Guitar Festival/The Marcus Whitman, Walla Walla – Ben Hunter & Joe Seamons workshop 12PM & 2PM, Gary Winston & the Real Deal 9PM
Walla Walla Guitar Festival/Kontos Cellars, Walla Walla – Sara Brown acoustic 5PM
Walla Walla Guitar Festival/Sinclair Estates, Walla Walla – Mike & Sadie Wagoner 6PM
Walla Walla Guitar Festival/Gesa Power House Theatre, Walla Walla – Sugaray Rayford Band 7PM
Walla Walla Guitar Festival/Sapolil Cellars, Walla Walla – Ayron Jones & the Way 9PM, The Stacy Jones Band 11PM
Walla Walla Guitar Festival/The Elks, Walla Walla – Shanks Pony 9PM
Walla Walla Guitar Festival/The VFW, Walla Walla – The Sara Brown Band 9PM, Iguana Hat 11PM
Walla Walla Guitar Festival/Wingman Birdz & Brewz, Walla Walla – Quinell 9PM

Saturday, April 9

Gray Sky Blues Festival/Harmon Brewery, Tacoma – Linda Myers Band 12:30PM, Little Bill & the Blue Notes w/Rod Cook 2:30PM, Rafael Tranquilino Band 4:30PM
Gray Sky Blues Festival/The Swiss, Tacoma –

Generation Danger (Puget Sound Music for Youth Association) 1PM, The Cody Rentas Band 2PM, Maia Santell & Hose Blend w/Josh Violette 4PM, Amber Sweeney 6PM, Lighten’ Willie & the Poor Boys 7PM, Memphis All-Star Jam Band w/Les White, Jeff Hayes, Steve Blood, Doug Skoog, Preston Miller & Neal Fallen 9:30PM
Trails End Saloon, Oregon City OR -Stacy Jones
Scotch & Vine, Des Moines - Brian Lee Trio 8PM
Dusty Strings Music, Seattle - Eric Madis’
Fingerpicking Robert Johnson Class 10:30AM, Eric Madis’ Ragtime Blues Fingerpicking Class 1:30PM
Engels Pub, Edmonds - Jimmy Lee’s All Stars 9PM
Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle – Kevin Selfe & the Portland Blues All-Star Big Band 8PM
Dimitriou’s Jazz Alley, Seattle – Los Lobos 7:30PM
Bake’s Place, Bellevue – Save KPLU w/Nearly Dan 7PM & 9:45PM
G. Donnalson’s, Tacoma - Good Vibes Trio 7:30PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle – Tim Sherman Band
Jazzbones, Tacoma – Doctorfunk 8PM
Little Creek Casino Cigar Bar, Shelton: Alice Stuart

Walla Walla Guitar Festival/Walla Walla Public Library, Walla Walla - Ben Hunter & Joe Seamons youth workshop 10AM
Walla Walla Guitar Festival/Sapolil Cellars, Walla Walla – Ben Hunter & Joe Seamons 12PM, The Barn Dwellers 6PM, Charlie Butts & the Filter Tips 8PM, Papa Frita & the Hot Mustard 10PM, Vaughn Jensen 12AM
Walla Walla Guitar Festival/Kontos Cellars, Walla Walla – Trevalyan Blue 12PM
Walla Walla Guitar Festival/Mill Creek Brewpub, Walla Walla – WWCC Jazz Band 2PM
Walla Walla Guitar Festival/The Elks, Walla Walla – Rick Estrin & the Nightcats, The 44s, Robin Barrett & Coyote Kings w/Tiph Dames 3PM
Walla Walla Guitar Festival/Henry Earl Estates, Walla Walla – Eddie Manzanares 5PM
Walla Walla Guitar Festival/Sinclair Estates, Walla Walla – Mike & Sadie Wagoner 6PM
Walla Walla Guitar Festival/The Eagles, Walla Walla – Randy Oxford’s All-Star Slam 8PM, Billy Stoops & the Dirt Angels 10PM
Walla Walla Guitar Festival/The VFW, Walla Walla – Big Monti w/Rae Gordon 8PM, The Wasteland Kings 10PM
Walla Walla Guitar Festival/Wingman Birdz & Brewz, Walla Walla – Shop Singers 9PM

Sunday, April 10

The Birk, Birkenfield OR - SugarRay Rayford w/Lady “A” 1PM
The Spar, Tacoma - Ted Dortch Trio w/Buck England 7:30PM
Dimitriou’s Jazz Alley, Seattle – Los Lobos 7:30PM
Bake’s Place, Bellevue – Save KPLU w/Kelly Ash Band 7PM
Walla Walla Guitar Festival/Feast Party Tent, Walla Walla – Downtown Blues & Gospel Brunch w/Rae Gordon & Winston Hemenway 10AM
Walla Walla Guitar Festival/Mill Creek Brewpub, Walla Walla – Sally Schaefer & Hattie Moss 2PM

Tuesday, April 12

Dimitriou’s Jazz Alley, Seattle – Kenny Werner & Joyce Moreno 7:30PM
Bake’s Place, Bellevue – Gotz Lowe Duo 6PM

Tuesday, April 12 (Continued)

Sound Check Bar & Grill, Lynnwood – Washington Blues Society Blues Bash: All-ages with Naomi Wachira and the Joe Cook Band 7 PM

Wednesday, April 13

Engels Pub, Edmonds - Black Velvet Band 8PM
Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle – James Howard Band 8PM

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle – Kenny Werner & Joyce Moreno 7:30PM

Bake's Place, Bellevue – Gotz Lowe Duo 6PM

Thursday, April 14

Bad Albert's, Seattle - Annie Eastwood, Larry Hill, Tom Brighton w/Bill Chism 5:30PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle – Basic Blues w/Jack Cook & Tom Berghan 8PM, Heather Banker 10PM
Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle – Kevin Andrew Sutton 8PM

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle – Jane Monheit tribute to Ella Fitzgerald 7:30PM

Bake's Place, Bellevue – Javier Anderson 6PM
G. Donnalson's, Tacoma - Piano Jazz w/Al Gord 7PM

Friday, April 15

Crossroads Shopping Center, Bellevue - Little Bill & the Blue Notes w/Rod Cook 7PM

Engels Pub, Edmonds - The Dogtones 9PM
Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle – Western Gents Presents: A Benefit for Eric Elliot w/The Growlers, Little Ray & the Uppercuts, Jackrabbit Starts, Six Gun Romeo 8PM

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle – Jane Monheit tribute to Ella Fitzgerald 7:30PM & 9:30PM

Bake's Place, Bellevue – Stapleton & Wilhelm 6PM, Shaggy Sweet 9PM

G. Donnalson's, Tacoma – Brian Feist 7:30PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle – Zolton's B-3 Kombo 8PM

Jazzbones, Tacoma – Paperboys 8PM

Saturday, April 16

J&M Café, Seattle – Suze Sims Band w/Rod Cook 9PM

Grinders, Shoreline - Little Bill & the Blue Notes w/Billy Stapleton 8PM

Engels Pub, Edmonds - Guy Johnson Band 9PM
Madison Ave Pub, Everett - Harpageddon IV w/Paul Green, Jim McLaughlin, Stacy Jones, Dave Mathis, Bill Davis, CD Woodbury, Dave McCabe & Paul Quilty 7PM

The Birk, Birkenfield OR - Lady "A" Blues & Funk 8PM

The Spar, Tacoma - Cadillac Jack Revue 8PM
Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle – Jeffery Broussard & the Creole Cowboys 8PM

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle – Jane Monheit tribute to Ella Fitzgerald 7:30PM & 9:30PM

Bake's Place, Bellevue – Nick Drummond of the Senate 8PM

G. Donnalson's, Tacoma - Brian Feist 7:30PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle – Joe Cook Band 8PM
Jazzbones, Tacoma – Curtis Salgado 8PM

Sunday, April 17

The Birk, Birkenfield OR - Lady "A" 1PM
The Spar, Tacoma - 2 Scoop 7:30PM

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle – Jane Monheit

tribute to Ella Fitzgerald 7:30PM

Monday, April 18

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle – George Colligan Trio w/Thomas Marriott 7:30PM

Tuesday, April 19

The Parliament, Seattle – Billy Joe Huels w/Rod Cook & Robin Cady 7PM

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle – Janiva Magness 7:30PM

Bake's Place, Bellevue – Gotz Lowe Duo 6PM

Wednesday, April 20

Engels Pub, Edmonds - El Colonel 8PM
Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle – Big Road Blues 8PM

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle – Janiva Magness 7:30PM

Bake's Place, Bellevue – Gotz Lowe Duo 6PM

Thursday, April 21

Bad Albert's, Seattle - Annie Eastwood, Larry Hill, Tom Brighton w/Bill Chism 5:30PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle - John Stephan Band 8PM

Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle – The Trailer Park Kings 8PM

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle – Joan Osborne w/_ Keith Cotton & Jack Petruzzelli 7:30PM

Bake's Place, Bellevue – Javier Anderson 6PM
G. Donnalson's, Tacoma - Piano Jazz w/Al Gord 7PM

Friday, April 22

Bake's Place, Bellevue – Stapleton & Wilhelm 6PM, Rod Cook & Toast w/Suze Sims 9PM

Egan's Ballard Jam House, Seattle - Lady "A" Back Porch Blues w/Teri Wilson 9PM

Engels Pub, Edmonds - Paul Green Blues Band 9PM
Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle – Kalimba 8PM

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle – Joan Osborne w/_ Keith Cotton & Jack Petruzzelli 7:30PM & 9:30PM

G. Donnalson's, Tacoma - College Jazz Fest w/322 Jazz Collective - Jazz instrumental combo from Pacific Lutheran University 7:30PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle – Town Hall Brawl
Studio Bob's, Pt. Angeles: Janiva Magness
Jazzbones, Tacoma – Pearl Django 8PM

Saturday, April 23

Conway Pub & Eatery, Conway – Blues Playground 9PM

H2O, Anacortes - The Fabulous Roof Shakers 7:30PM

Engels Pub, Edmonds - Dirty Rice Band 9PM
B Sharp Coffee House, Tacoma - Brian Lee w/T-Town Blues Revue 8PM

Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle – Brian Nova Funk & Blues Review 8PM

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle – Joan Osborne w/_ Keith Cotton & Jack Petruzzelli 7:30PM & 9:30PM

Bake's Place, Bellevue – Ventura Highway Revisited 7PM & 9:45PM

G. Donnalson's, Tacoma - College Jazz Fest w/322 Jazz Collective - Jazz instrumental combo from Pacific Lutheran University 7:30PM

Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle – Paul Green Jazz Band
Studio Bob's, Pt. Angeles: Janiva Magness

Sunday, April 24

Immanuel Presbyterian Church, Tacoma – Blues Vespers/Benefit for Irma Gary House w/Rod Cook & Toast, Jay Mabin 5PM

The Spar, Tacoma - Jim King & the Southsiders 7:30PM

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle – Joan Osborne w/_ Keith Cotton & Jack Petruzzelli 7:30PM

Monday, April 25

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle – Save KPLU Benefit concert w/Greta Matassa, Gail Pettis, Dave Peck, Anton Schwartz, Lance Buller, Thomas Marriott & Pearl Django 7:30PM

Tuesday, April 26

The Parliament, Seattle – Billy Joe Huels w/Rod Cook & Robin Cady 7PM

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle – Oz Noy w/Jimmy Haslip & Dave Weckl 7:30PM

Bake's Place, Bellevue – Gotz Lowe Duo 6PM

Wednesday, April 27

Engels Pub, Edmonds - The Tim Turner Band 8PM
Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle – Black Cloud Blues Band 8PM

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle – Oz Noy w/Jimmy Haslip & Dave Weckl 7:30PM

Bake's Place, Bellevue – Gotz Lowe Duo 6PM

Thursday, April 28

Bad Albert's, Seattle - Annie Eastwood, Larry Hill, Tom Brighton w/Beth Wulff 5:30PM

Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle – Patti Allen & Monster Road 8PM

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle – Kenny G 7:30PM & 9:30PM

Bake's Place, Bellevue – Javier Anderson 6PM
G. Donnalson's, Tacoma - Piano Jazz w/Al Gord 7PM

Friday, April 29

G Donaldson's, Tacoma - Little Bill / Rod Cook duo 7:30PM

Crossroads Shopping Center, Bellevue - Three Guitars (Chris Stevens, Brian Butler & Jack Cook) 7PM

Engels Pub, Edmonds - Rafael Tranquilino Band 9PM

Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle – Ben Rice Band & the CD Woodbury Trio 8PM

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle – Kenny G 7:30PM & 9:30PM

Bake's Place, Bellevue – Stapleton & Wilhelm 6PM

Saturday, April 30

G Donaldson's, Tacoma - Little Bill / Rod Cook duo 7:30PM

Tulalip Casino, Marysville - West Coast Women's Blues Revue w/Patti Allen, Lady A & Teri Anne Wilson 5PM

Engels Pub, Edmonds -The Shortcutz 9PM
Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle – Acapulco Gold 8PM

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle – Kenny G 7:30PM & 9:30PM

Bake's Place, Bellevue – 313 Soul w/Darelle Holden 8PM

Mark Hummel's 25th Annual Harmonica Blowout: Generations of Blues Harp Tour at Dimitriou's Jazz Alley

By Rocky Nelson

"I would give my world to lift you up, I could change my life to better suit your mood, because you're so smooth..."

These lyrics are from the three-time Grammy award winning single "*Smooth*," inspired by the 1961 song, "*Spanish Harlem*" by Ben E. King and written by Rob Thomas who collaborated with Carlos Santana for the final cut.

One word comes to my mind about Mark Hummel's annual Harp Blow Out: **Smooth!**

"Great Show! Fantastic, really professional!" These are the adjectives I heard from folks about a milestone year reached by Mark Hummel on February 5th at Seattle's Jazz Alley with his 25th annual Harp "Blow Out"! A quarter of a century, absolutely amazing!

A quarter of a century of keeping the blues alive and live by consistently having headliner type harp players "do their thing"! I had to get some more information about Mark and his concept of this popular event. No matter what it takes: love, skill and a dedication to your craft helps Mark to pull something like this off year in and year out. My nephew (a musician himself) joined me and enjoyed a delicious New York Steak served with great care. I also wish to thank the management of Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, specifically Rachael, for both their continuing support of the Washington Blues Society and for the opportunity to meet performers in the hopes of increasing a customer base that might not otherwise think about going to a jazz club. After the show, I posed a few questions to Mark Hummel and Curtis Salgado via email and learned a little bit more from each exchange.

RN: Mark, what compelled you to do the first one and keep the energy going strong for so long?

MH: "It was kind of a fluke- I'd done harmonica shows off & on for at least five years in different venues around the San Francisco Bay Area. I just put the show in 1991 at Ashkanaz in Berkeley and it came out good enough that the owner asked to do the show every year- that's what got the ball rolling. The next year, I did three shows around Northern California: the year after that, we did five shows - every year with bigger names and more harp blowers further out of the area. Eventually, it became a West Coast tradition that audiences craved annually. Now I've had the best out there on these shows and continue to bring new and younger players into the fold as well as the tried and true. The Blowout following is what keeps me energized as well as the great musicians that keep playing on these shows. To be able to work with players I idolized from my beginnings is a

thrill as well, such as Charlie Musselwhite, James Cotton, John Mayall, Snooky Pryor, Carey Bell, Rod Piazza, Lazy Lester, Billy Boy Arnold, Magic Dick, Lee Oskar, and so many others is so amazing it's hard to describe! I studied their records as a teen."

RN: Which of these events have given you the most pleasure?

MH: "Most of them have, but the Little Walter Tribute with Charlie Musselwhite, Billy Boy, Curtis Salgado, Sugar Ray in 2012 and Snooky Pryor, Sam Myers, Anson Funderburgh in 2002, were two that really stand out; mainly because we had so much fun traveling together, swapping stories, joking around and having a whole lotta fun. Plus, when the CD we made of the Little Walter Tribute on Blind Pig, *Remembering Little Walter*, won two Blues Music Awards and was nominated for a Grammy - that was icing on the cake!"

RN: How many venues have you had to book in order to keep this event going for so long?

MH: "It depends on if we can get a couple venues with multiple dates like Yoshi's in Oakland or Jazz Alley in Seattle. That makes it much easier. That way you have at least six dates booked in two cities. Otherwise it's all one nighter's, that's a tougher tour. We seem to have at least 10-14 dates per tour up and down the west coast. Some years it's all just California dates from San Diego to Eureka, it's from Northern California to Seattle or Vancouver, British Columbia. Just depends on the agent, or the artists involved-a lot of variables comes into play"

RN: What or whom stands out as far as your best mentor in playing the harp?

MH: "Too many to name really-Paul DeLay was a favorite, Rick Estrin showed me key stuff early on when I was a pup, Rod Piazza even showed me a few things on "chrom" long ago. James Cotton has shown me by example how to direct a band onstage. Billy Boy Arnold has been a history teacher to me in terms of sharing his knowledge of Chicago Blues. Anson Funderburgh has been a real valuable friend advice-wise, as Willie Big Eyes Smith was prior to that. It's a pretty long list".

Curtis Salgado and I exchanged emails while he was taking a break from his tour in Panama.

RN: How much fun do you have collaborating with Mark with his "Blowouts" over the years?

CS: "For me, playing Mark Hummel's harmonica blowout is always the best times I have on the road. No jive! I get to sit back and he does all the work and worry! You don't have the dealings with the business end of music. I don't play a

lot of harmonica in my shows because my shows are everything that's under the R&B umbrella. Gospel-Blues- Funk- Soul - Pop- Rock and Roll. On my new CD, I sing mostly, and the harmonica is not needed on a lot of the songs. So playing with the harmonica Blowout is my chance to stretch out and learn and hang out, and play harmonica with the music I grew up on all my life with the blues. I always wish the tours would never end. No bull!! I get kinda bummed out when they're over. Look, Mark has put me out there with my heroes: James Cotton, Billy boy Arnold, Charlie Musselwhite, Lazy Lester, Lee Oskar, and Jerry McCain. All my peers, too: Mark Hummel, Rick Estrin, Kim Wilson, Jason Ricci and Norton Buffalo. It's like going to "The College of Harmonica Knowledge". I will never forget what Mark has done for me ... Mark and I have known each other for 40 years. That's a long time and it's hard to put into words what that means to me. I'm just blessed to be asked to do it. Things like that are what keep me alive! Now I know that sounds corny and saccharine, but that's how it is! No bullshit!"

RN: Tell me a little about your newest Alligator CD, *Soul Shot*. You have credit for co-producer. You also covered folks like Otis Redding, Bobby Womack and of all people..."Mr. P-Funk" himself, George Clinton. I'm a big fan of P-Funk.

CS: "First off the record *Soul Shot* was produced by Marlin and Tony Braunagel and I got co-producer credit, however on my newest recording that drops on April 16th, *The Beautiful Low Down*, I will get a full producer credit for the first time! Buy this one when it hits the shelves! I have produced all my recordings, to a certain extent. Because I have the last say in what I want, and I write, or pick the songs and I have a good idea of how I want them to go. But I trust my producers to be the other set of ears, and for their ideas, and for me to bounce my ideas off of them. You learn to let go and trust in the studio. But, if I really want something bad enough, they will let me have my way, and that rarely happens. Again I trust them".

RN: At Jazz Alley, you sounded great and were in good form and you looked healthy. Your vocals are still very soulful and clear with great range. I also noticed that you have become a member of a very elite musical crew by signing with my friend Bruce Iglauer! Again, congratulations for signing to one of the more famous blues labels, Alligator Records. Every time you play a song by Little Walter, it sends chills down my spine and when I close my eyes I can see the ghost of Little Walter himself playing the Mississippi saxophone in some nondescript Juke Joint. Of course, with my PTSD, I see lots of ghosts these days but my question is: was your title for *Soul Shot* a tribute to one of your early influences, such as Buddy Ace?

CS: "Soul Shot was a concept I talked about over the phone in 2012 with one of my producers Tony Braunagel. I needed to make a recording and get back in the game. You see I was not signed to a record contract at this point. I wanted to make an all-soul recording!!! With some of the great soul songs that I have always wanted to do... And I felt I could do them justice. I then mixed them in with soul songs that I was writing at the time ... There are seven cover songs and four originals on that recording. I was hoping to make the kind of recording that you would play at a house party down in the basement. With black lights posters and lava lamps (we both laugh out loud at this mental visual), with a turntable playing a stack of hip soul 45s, can you feel me? Like I did with my older brother and sister, when I was a teenager ...and I think we succeeded. We then went shopping for a record contract. And to my pleasant surprise Alligator Records loved it and I signed up with them. About the musicians on *Soul Shot*, they are the best in the business: seasoned L.A. studio cats who collectively have played with everyone and their dog ... from Jimi Hendrix to Bonnie Raitt from B B king to Crosby Stills and Nash ...and the list goes on and on ... It was...and is ...the best time I could ever have recording.... I was either laughing or recording! I picked the title, "Soul Shot", from a long list of ideas and friend of mine sent me. Alligator Records and Bruce Iglauer liked it, and we went with it!"

I asked my friend, and harmonica master, Jeff Herzog, to give me some technical repartee.

(Continued on Page 30)

Top: Little Charlie Baty and Anson Funderburgh

Bottom: The Grand Finale with Little Charlie Baty, Aki Kumar, Curtis Salgado, Mark Hummel, Jason Ricci and Charlie Musselwhite.

Photos: Copyright by Marilyn Stringer,



Mark Hummel Review

(Continued from Page 29)

JH: “I attended The Mark Hummel Harmonica Blowout at Jazz Alley twice during this tour. As a serious player of the instrument, I could have happily attended every one of the performances. I was considering a third, but I was not able to get there on Sunday for the final show. Mark Hummel has been producing these wonderful shows for 25 years. I have seen many over the years. I have a fond memory of one at The New Orleans Creole Restaurant several years ago which included Carey Bell. I had a wonderful conversation with this blues legend while he sat on the edge of the stage at our local blues hole in the wall. This particular version of the Harmonica Blowout was remarkable. Charlie Musselwhite is probably the current standout of old school Chicago Blues icons that are still performing. Mark Hummel and Curtis Salgado are two the best of the generation that followed Charlie’s generation. Jason Ricci is a representative of the new generation of harmonica players. Jason has mastered the old school playing very well, but then takes harmonica to a new level of innovation and creativity. Aki Kumar is a Bay Area star that I had never heard before. He is originally from India. Aki proves that the blues is not limited to geographical constraints. Each of these players demonstrated mastery in different ways. Each was profound. If you don’t play the harmonica, it would be impossible to explain why. So I guess you will just have to take my word for it. If you missed this show, you made a mistake!”

Frequent Bluesletter contributor Malcolm Kennedy gave me some good information as he was seated at the bar, stage right.

MK: “Before the show even started, most of the performers had to walk right by the table I shared with my dear friend Jeff Herzog. I said hello to each as they passed by and much to our pleasure both Charlie Baty and Anson Funderburgh stopped to chat with us for a while. I talked to Anson about a couple other recent projects he has been involved with and Jeff talked to him about his playing at the King Biscuit Festival (he has played at every single one). Once the band was on stage, Mark Hummel introduced the distinguished players, with a little comment on each player’s music history and origins. Little Charlie Baty and Anson Funderburgh played guitars, and Wes Starr played on drums, RW Grigsby played bass. Mark then introduced the evening’s first harp player: Aki Kumar from San Jose area by way of Mumbai, India. Aki opened with Muddy Waters’ “*Standing Around Crying*.” He has impressive tone and delivered a monster solo setting the stage for what was to come while Anson played a slide guitar solo on his Fender Strat. His second selection was a fast-paced jump blues, Big Joe Turner’s “*Low Down Dog*” with Little Charlie providing a big fat-toned solo on his Gibson ES-175 hollow body



Mark Hummel’s 25th Anniversary Blues Harmonica Blow-Out: Lower Left (Clockwise): Jason Ricci, Aki Kumar, Wes Starr, Charlie Musselwhite, Curtis Salgado, Anson Funderburgh, RW Grigsby, Charlie Baty, Jason Ricci and Mark Hummel (Photo Copyright Marilyn Stringer)

followed by another stunning solo by Aki. Next, Hummel introduced Jason Ricci, who always brings something special to the table. Mark mentioned Ricci’s perfection at the overblow technique and the difficulty of doing it correctly. Jason opened with Charles Brown’s “*Driftin’ Blues*” using an interesting variation on a horn player practice and used a bucket glass as a mute for his harmonica playing acoustically to great effect. Little Charlie and Anson alternated on guitar solos and RW was now on electric bass. Mark opened the third set with “*Detroit Blues*” off his new “*Lone Star-Golden State Revue*” which also includes his touring band. Mark also played an instrumental from New Orleans sax man Lee Allen, also from the new CD, called “*Walking with Mr. Lee*.” When Mark introduced Curtis Salgado, he mentioned that Curtis has a new Alligator Records release coming out in April titled *The Beautiful Lowdown*. Curtis opened with Sonny oy Williamson’s “*Mr. Downchild*” followed by Elmore James’ “*I Cried So Much for You*,” Each of Charlie Musselwhite’s songs were on his new

live CD *I Ain’t Lyin’*, a phrase Charlie uses from time to time as he did at Jazz Alley that night. On “*If I Should Have Bad Luck*,” Little Charlie took a biting solo and on “*My Kinda Gal*,” Charlie played Little Walter-inspired harp lines and making use of dynamics. Musselwhite is one of the last living connections to the post war Chicago blues legends and is himself a paragon of the blues world. For the grand finale, the harp players took the stage with Curtis singing West Coast blues harp preeminent mentor George “*Harmonica*” Smith’s “*Juicy Harmonica*.” After the show, I thanked Mark for all the hard work that it takes to put together a show like this, take it on tour and then show after show deliver at this caliber.”

In conclusion, I started with the word **Smooth**, as in polished and thoroughly thought out to document an experience for those lucky enough to get tickets to be involved with one of the premier harp shows this side of the Mississippi Delta.

Thanks to Mark and Curtis!

SAVE KPLU

\$7 Million By June 30th!

Jazz Friends for Save KPLU: A Benefit Concert

Monday, April 25th, 7:30 p.m.

Doors open at 6:00 p.m.

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley

2033 6th Avenue, Seattle, Washington

KPLU 88.5 and the Pacific Jazz Institute at Dimitriou's Jazz Alley have partnered to present a collage of jazz friends performing to support Save KPLU! This benefit concert includes performances by seven Northwest jazz artists and KPLU favorites. Doors open at 6pm, show starts at 7:30pm.

When jazz performers unite for a cause they believe in, something very special happens. Some of KPLU's favorite Northwest jazz

musicians are doing just that, on stage at Dimitriou's Jazz Alley for an incredible night of music with proceeds benefiting Save KPLU. KPLU has been the source for award-winning jazz and blues in the Northwest for 32 years and is proud of its strong connection to the local jazz scene. KPLU is the nation's preeminent jazz station, and its jazz programming also has a large online global audience which includes its all-jazz service, Jazz24. It's hard to imagine life without KPLU's unique brand of curated jazz at 88.5 FM and online—but if the station's impending sale by Pacific Lutheran University to the University of Washington goes through, that's exactly what will happen.

Join the party and help KPLU meet its goal of raising \$7 million so 88.5 FM can become an independent, community-licensed station.

The evening will be emceed by KPLU Evening Jazz host Abe Beeson. Other KPLU air hosts will be there, too—like Dick Stein and Robin Lloyd. Opening remarks by KPLU's General Manager Joey Cohn and Director of Content Matt Martinez.

Tickets are \$88.50 each, which includes a \$5.00 service fee. All proceeds from ticket sales go to the Save KPLU campaign

Gray Sky Blues Music Festival

Though the skies may be gray... Great music will brighten your day!

On Saturday, April 9, 2016, the Ninth Annual Gray Sky Blues Music Festival returns to downtown Tacoma along along Pacific Avenue, between 10th and 21st Streets, and features the annual Tacoma Grand Floral Daffodil Parade. This all-ages event will feature over ten acts throughout the day at The Harmon Brewery & Restaurant, The Swiss Restaurant & Pub. A donation of \$10 will be asked for The Swiss Stage. The Harmon Stage will be free, all day.

The Swiss Restaurant and Pub (1904 S. Jefferson Avenue)(\$10 cover, 1 PM)
(\$8.00 for Blues Society/Association Members/Active Military)

All ages welcome until 8:00 pm

1:00 – 1:45 PM - **Generation Danger** (Puget Sound Music Youth Association)

2:00 -3:30 PM - **Cody Rentas Band**

4:00- 5:30 PM - **Maia Santell & House Blend** w/ Jumpin' Josh Violette

6:00 - 6:45 PM - **Amber Sweeney** / Vancouver, WA

HEADLINER 7:00 - 9:00 PM **Lightnin' Willie and the Poorboys** /

9:30 - 11:30 PM **Memphis All-Star Jam Band** (Neal Fallen, Doug Skoog, Jeff Hayes, Steve Blood, Preston Miller, Les White)

The Harmon Brewery & Restaurant (1938 Pacific Ave).(No Cover All Ages)

12:30 - 2:00 PM **Linda Myers Band**

2:30 - 4:00 PM **Little Bill and the Bluenotes**

4:30 -6:00 PM **Rafael Tranquilino Band**



PITCHING A WANG DANG DOODLE?

Check out our huge updated,
accessible, upstairs party room

Low rates, full bar, wood dance floor & more
Contact the Salmon Bay Eagles (206) 783-7791



20th BRONZE

August
12-13

SUGARAY RAYFORD

BLUES & BREWS

JOSEPH,
OREGON

CHRIS CAIN
KINGFISH
Harp Attack
DANIELLE NICOLE BAND

TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE @ www.bronzebluesbrews.com



P.O. Box 70604
Seattle, WA 98127
Change Service Requested

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage Paid
Seattle, WA
Permit No. 5617



THE WASHINGTON BLUES SOCIETY IS A PROUD RECIPIENT OF A 2009
KEEPING THE BLUES ALIVE AWARD FROM THE BLUES FOUNDATION



LOS LOBOS
APRIL 7 - 10
Janiva Magness
April 19 - 20
Joan Osborne Acoustic Trio
Feat. Keith Cotton and Jack Petruzzelli
APRIL 21-24

SAVE KPLU
APRIL 25
Jazz Friends for
Save KPLU
A Benefit Concert

Oz Noy
with Jimmy Haslip and
Dave Weckl
April 26-27

DIMITRIOU'S jazz alley
2016
2000 6TH AVENUE
SEATTLE, WA
206-441-9720
WWW.JAZZALLEY.COM

APRIL ADDITIONAL LINE-UPS
RUBEN STUDDARD MAR31-APR3
SEATTLE JAZZED 4
OMAR SOSA QUARTETO
AFROCUBANO 5-6
KENNY WERNER FEATURING
JOYCE MORENO 12-13
JANE MONHEIT - TRIBUTE TO
ELLA FITZGERALD 14-17
GEORGE COLLIGAN TRIO FEATURING
THOMAS MARRIOTT 18
KENNY G APR28-MAY1

GRAPHICS: PAUL@PAULSTEINERDESIGNER.COM