

WASHINGTON BLUES SOCIETY

Bluesletter

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AUGUST 2016



*Remembering Blues Photographer
Larry Williams*

A SECOND LOOK:
THE 2016 BLUES MUSIC AWARDS

Blues Festival Photos!



In This Issue...



Larry Williams
(Photo Art by Dan Hill)



Bobby Rush! Bobby Rush! Bobby Rush!
(Photo by Suzanne Swanson)



Larry Williams and Suzanne Swanson
(Photo by Theresa Southwick)

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Letter from Washington Blues Society President Tony Frederickson

Hi Blues Fans,

I'm sitting here at the Winthrop Rhythm & Blues Festival as I write this month's Letter from the President, and going through the first half of the Blues Festival season in my mind. What a year it's been so far! From early in February at the Coeur D'Alene Blues Festival, to the Walla Walla Guitar Festival, on to the Untapped Music Festival, Sunbanks Spring, Yakima Blues & Brews, the Gorge Blues & Brews and so forth. It has been a great ride so far with some incredible shows from greats such as Sugar Ray Rayford in Walla Walla; Hamilton Loomis and the Delgado Brothers at both the Untapped and Sunbanks; Curtis Salgado at Wallace; Christone "Kingfish" Ingram here at Winthrop and all the great talent that has surrounded them!

Our International Blues Challenge Semi-Finals have been concluded, the Wild Cards drawn, and our finals at the Snohomish Taste of Music are set. It just amazes me, the level of talent that we have across the state. Sunday, August 21st out in Snohomish promises to be one of those special days of music as we move through the remainder of this year! The line-up includes the Rafael Tranquilino Band, the CD Woodbury Trio, the Bobby Patterson Band, the Naughty Blokes, Polly O'Keary & the Rhythm Method, the Charltones, Stanislove (Solo/Duo), Cee Cee James & the Mission of Soul (Solo/Duo), Altai (Solo/Duo),

Mark Riley (Solo/Duo), and Brett Benton (Solo/Duo). With the talent in the finals the state of Washington, the Washington Blues Society will be well represented once again! I highly recommend making plans ahead of time to see our finals at the very least if not the entire Taste of Music. At only \$10 per day it will prove to be one of the best values of the second half of the Blues Festival season. For more information on the Taste of Music please read the preview in this issue.

The Gas Station Blues Series that the Washington Blues Society produces with the Downtown Issaquah Association kicked off this last month, and the first show was heavily attended and a treat with Rafael Tranquilino and Leah Tussing as a duo. I set this series up as a songwriter's showcase and if you were clued in you have seen Leanne Trevalyan & Peter Pendras and Son Jack Jr & Michael Wilde the third and fourth week of July. But this series also runs through most of August and with talent like Kevin Sutton & Jim McLaughlin, CeeCee James & the Mission of Soul, Lloyd Jones it will be a musically treat for those who come out to Issaquah every Thursday from 7:00 to 9:00 at the Historic Shell Gas Station at 232 Front St N. We may even have a surprise seventh show! So check our Facebook page for additional information. Great food from BardslyQue BBQ and cold micro brews from the Issaquah Brew Pub make for a fun filled Thursday!

A new development with the Grammys! Thanks to the hard work of one of my Blues Foundation board members, Michael Freeman, the "Blues" now has two different album categories! One for Traditional Blues Album and one for Contemporary Blues album. This is big news for our world. The Blues Music Awards are wonderful and do a great job recognizing the musicians, recordings, and all facets of "Blues" music, but there's nothing like a Grammy award to bring awareness to music.

Once again we are raffling of a cabin for two on the October Legendary Rhythm & Blues Cruise in addition to lots of other prizes. The cruise is a seven day adventure on the Celebrity Cruise Line with over seventy different national and international "Blues" acts, including our own IBC winners Ben Hunter & Joe Seamons. The tickets are available at our booth all summer long and most of the Board of Directors have them also. Please support this major fundraiser for the Washington Blues Society! The drawing for the prizes happens on Sunday, August 21st at the Taste of Music. I have so much more to share with you, but I have run out of room!

Tony Frederickson, President
Washington Blues Society
Affiliates' Representative,
Board of Directors
The-Blues Foundation



Billy Stoops - Kenova!
(Photo by Paul Brown)



Hambone Wilson - Kenova!
(Photo by Paul Brown)



Nick Vigarino - Kenova!
(Photo by Margene)

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Eric Steiner's Letter from the Editor

Dear Bluesletter Readers,

I'm looking forward to Washington Blues Society members and other readers' opinions of our August issue. I am pleased to welcome back to these pages two long-time contributors:

This month, frequent contributor Rocky Nelson reviews Mark Bittler's newest CD, *My Name is Mark*, on the Maurice the Fish record label, and the White Rock Blues Society's (and frequent Blues Foundation volunteer) Suzanne Swanson recaps this year's Blues Music Awards in words and pictures from Memphis, Tennessee.

The Blues Music Awards is a signature event produced by The Blues Foundation. I strongly encourage all Bluesletter readers to join the foundation to support what Morgan Freedman has called "America's classical music."

The other major event is held in early February: the world's largest gathering of blues bands otherwise known as the International Blues Challenge. I am pleased that this issue also includes Tony Frederickson's preview of our own local International Blues Challenge competition held in conjunction with the award-winning Taste of Music in historic downtown Snohomish, Washington. I am also pleased that our resident blues cartoonist, Sylvia Breece, has a humorous take on one of Barry Manilow's most popular songs from the 1970s in this

issue, too.

In keeping with Washington Blues Society members' comments to me during our all-ages monthly Blues Bashes at the Sound Check Bar and Grill, this issue has 16 CD reviews. Of particular interest to readers interested in local music are three reviews: Rocky's review of Mark Bittler's CD that I mentioned above, my review of one of my favorite new discoveries, Mercedes Nicole's *Rivers in the Desert*, and Rick Bowen's review of the newest CD from Dirty Rice, *The Devil's Nursery*. I hope that, over time, we can expand the CD reviews section to four full pages: recruiting new volunteers to complement reviews that I've written – as well as those by Rick, Malcolm and Rocky – will be one important step forward to add to our pool of reviewers.

Finally, I urge potential contributors to consider learning about specific requirements of editorial content and photos that land in these pages – specifically about the formats required for photographs and editorial content. Our partners at Pacific Publishing in South Seattle have been exceptional mentors to me as a new user of the program I use to produce the Bluesletter, Adobe In Design. I have no experience in graphics, so I am constantly on a steep learning curve with this particular program which seems to be the "state of the art" for print publications like our blues society's Bluesletter. Over the past few years, I've received

a number of inquiries of individuals wanting to improve the quality of this publication, but when they learn that our entire blues society is 100% all-volunteer, they head for the exits like patrons at a bad movie (or blues fans expecting blues at a show but get Air Supply instead - Sorry to invoke this very successful pop band, but I think most readers will "get" this analogy. That said, I welcome volunteers with expertise in In Design.

For example: All photos must be in high resolution, 300 dots per inch format that is suitable for print media. That said, photos I receive downloaded from Internet-based sites like Facebook, are of too low resolution to be of use in print. They are fine for the lower resolution media online, but not appropriate for print.

Likewise for editorial copy, I prefer formats that I can readily edit in Microsoft Word or plain text (instead of locked PDFs that I cannot revise if needed).

Thank you again for reading the Bluesletter.

Eric Steiner, Editor
Washington Blues Society Bluesletter
Past President, Washington Blues Society
Board Member, The Blues Foundation (2010-2013)

Washington Blues Society

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September 2016 Deadlines

Ad Reservations: August 5th - editor@wabluessociety.org
Calendar: August 5th - calendar@wabluessociety.org
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Camera Ready Ads: August 12th - editor@wabluessociety.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)

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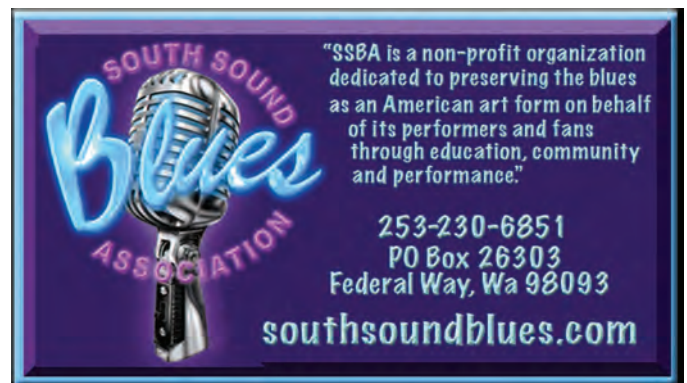
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Kenova!
(Photo by Paul Brown)

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What's Left Behind: A Remembrance of Larry Williams

By Amy Sassenberg

At a blues jam at Dawson's Bar & Grill in Tacoma on a recent warm July night, the pub is full of people, bass thumping, harmonica blowing, the whole place alive with movement, sound and light. Looking across the bar to where one could often count on seeing Larry Williams sitting back with his camera, the space is empty. In fact the rest of the bar is full, but that particular space is vacant. And then it really hits home.

If you were lucky enough to know him, you probably heard the morning of July 4, 2016 that our friend, photographer Larry Williams, had passed the day before. He was at home, with his girlfriend and caregiver, Theresa Southwick, who was trying to keep him comfortable as long as possible. He had come back days before from another stay at the Veterans Administration hospital. While he had lived with medical issues for years, a viral infection last February exacerbated those conditions, and he died from complications of congestive heart failure. He was 74.

Many had little idea there was anything wrong until an impromptu gathering arranged with the help of Ed Maloney at Seattle's Highway 99, in late spring, when many artists and others in the blues community came together to honor him. Larry showed up with Theresa and a tank of oxygen, and clapped and smiled and cried at the outpouring of love. He kept shaking his head and covering his face with his hand. Theresa says he wept even at the memory of that night.

An intensely private and humble man, Larry didn't often talk about himself. He had spent 22 years in the service: in the Navy and then the Coast Guard, and served in Vietnam during that war. But Theresa said he didn't talk much about that, except that he served the country he loved, and was admired by his fellow countrymen, including many he had served under. Instead he would approach friends with open arms and enthusiasm, asking about how they were. Down to a person, everyone who was asked for their thoughts about Larry used the words, kind, gentle or sweet. He left an imprint of kindness, warmth and generosity that is not easily matched in today's world.

Tom Jones of the Stacy Jones Band offered this: "Larry Williams was a great man and a true gentleman! He was a friend to the entire Jones family. Every time I saw him he would ask, 'How's Momma?'" My son Jon-Paul Jones, in San Antonio, shared many conversations with him about photography. Larry was a big fan of my daughter Stacy Jones and me, and appreciated that we got to play music together. He had the same appreciation for fellow musicians Cody Rentas and his father

Lee Rentas. He asked a favor of me one time: He explained how much he enjoyed the two family acts and asked if I could arrange for the four of us to perform together. I was able to make it happen and it was very special. But the best part was seeing the smile on Larry's face. I will miss that smile! I love you my friend! Rest in Peace and I pray you are one of the ones there to greet me when I come!"

To someone who spent much of his life alone, family was very important to Larry. Indeed, he took care of his friends as if they were family. Born in the heart of where blues and jazz were also conceived, Larry did not live with his birth parents in New Orleans for more than the first few years of his life. He went to stay with relatives in Texas before landing in Monterey, CA where he was raised by his aunt and uncle. Theresa says she believes he found stability and acceptance there, as they were conservative religious people who did not drink or smoke, and hence, Larry never developed a taste for either. She says it made him uncomfortable and the only time he ever had anything less than kind to say was when he thought someone was hurting themselves with behaviors like that. He would actively try to help them, drive them home, or offer other assistance. But he would be firm. "He would say, 'No. Don't do that anymore.' or 'You got to stop doing that,'" Theresa remembers. Because he so often frequented eating and drinking establishments in order to be around the music and people he loved, he probably had ample opportunity to observe folks at their best and at their worst. "He did everything modestly," she says.

He would also share anything he had. He enjoyed good food, but never ate a lot. He would often share what was on his plate or offer to buy someone a meal. Or a ticket to a show. Or whatever struck him that he thought might bring someone happiness. Many of his friends mentioned unexpected gifts from Larry. Fellow photographers Michelle & Tim Burge shared this: "At the Mineral Blues Festival, we sat with Larry at breakfast. He was eating an off-the-menu item; ham steak. Michelle commented that ham steak is Tim's favorite. Larry then disappeared for a minute, and moments later, I too, have a ham steak. Larry disappears again, this time to pay for our breakfast."

The couple describe him as the kindest and sweetest man they've ever known. "Many years ago, when Larry heard I was looking for a used transmission for our car, he immediately sprang into action. He began the search via his network and resources. While he wasn't able to find a transmission, the point to my story is, he saw we were in need and didn't hesitate to help," says Tim Burge.

Writer and teacher Jane Henderson has spent years organizing for and supporting the blues commu-

nity. She interviewed Larry about his photography for an issue of the Bluesletter a few years ago. Now she remembers the man and friend to so many: "Somehow this quiet, unassuming man managed to impact the lives of so many people in the blues community in the relatively short time we knew him. Larry was a generous soul and happily donated his time, ideas and considerable talents to help wherever he saw a need. He helped a struggling mother finance a car, introduced musicians to other musicians, and taught me how to adjust my car's side-view mirrors."

Often, he was a shoulder to cry on or a buddy to laugh with. Writer and photographer Suzanne Swanson often travels down from British Columbia to attend festivals, judge contests and support events. She says Larry Williams will be fondly remembered as a gentle man. "He sensed when I was stressed when someone had treated me shabbily. He provided a calming, sincere friendship. We shared support for one another and much laughter," she says. "We are all suffering a great loss with his death."

Another friend from across the border, writer and promoter for the Sunshine Coast Blues Society, Dave Mathews, contributed this: "True friends are hard to find but every so often you meet someone who is a truly good soul. Larry Williams was a good soul. One of the most giving, caring, kindest people I have ever had the honor to know and to call a friend. He will be sorely missed by many, I am certain."

Perhaps his capacity for giving and his generous spirit was born of something deep within, because he was familiar with lack and loss. Besides losing touch with his birth parents, he had been in a war, witnessed devastation and lost friends. He had been married and divorced, helped raise three daughters, step-children and sometimes even their children. He had two back surgeries and upon discharge, nursed himself while recovering, not wanting to ask for help.

Stoic and positive to the end, his friend Jeff Hayes, a Seattle-based drummer and promoter, says he visited him before he passed and that he expressed frustration that the doctors weren't still trying to make him better. "He never gave up," Jeff says. "He had a joy for life and living that never waned, even when death was just a few days away. I hope I can live my life the same way."

A talented diesel mechanic who liked working with his hands, Larry gutted and built at least three motorhomes from the frame up. He also lived in one, on the streets, for several years, when, his girlfriend reports, the military mistakenly cut his \

(Continued on page 8)



Honoring Blues Photographer Larry Williams

Above: Photo by Cora Price

Top Right: Photo by Dennis Dudley

Right: Photo Art by Dan Hill





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Honoring Larry Williams' Memory (Continued)

retirement benefits because they thought he had been overpaid. He worked as a night watchman in wrecking yards to make ends meet before the mistake was discovered and he received back pay retroactively. He was tough, gentle, self-sufficient, proud, unassuming. He would very likely be embarrassed by the sentiments between these pages. Theresa says, "I don't think he had a clue how much people cared about him." He didn't want anyone to make a fuss. He was much more comfortable being a giver.

Theresa says when he learned she had an interest in photography, he gifted her with a camera. And for the last 3 years, they went everywhere together, shooting events and nature and weddings, with Larry sharing his years of expertise with her. She says he truly loved photographing weddings and it gave him a lot of joy, she thinks, just to share the occasion with them. Dani Shew knew him because she worked at Dawson's, a regular music haunt for Larry. She says he was the photographer for her wedding to bandleader Billy Shew. She volunteered that Larry shot a lot of photography for Dawson's owner, Kenny Bender, and that Larry's work lined the walls of his office.

Billy Shew shared this: "I considered Larry to be my brother. He is a part of my music family. I met Larry while playing music at Dawson's. It was always so nice to see Larry amongst the people taking pictures and smiling. Even now, as he has gone to the heavens, I still expect to look out and see him enjoying the music. He was a caring soul and a beautiful human being. I will miss him." Theresa said many musicians appreciated his presence at their shows. "Son Jack, Jr. said a gig wasn't a good gig until Larry walked in."

One of the things heard over and over, was that Larry was well-known for observing his friends, taking great shots and then gifting them with the finished product. It was one of his favorite things to do.

Jewelry Artist Nancy Kinney (from Desert Night Designs) has this treasured memory: "I had watched him watching others from afar at many festivals. Knowing I was going to see him at Untapped, I brought him a guitar pick pendant with a camera on it. At the next festival he gifted me with a photo of myself, nicely done and framed to boot."

Theresa vividly remembers the same incident. She said Larry was so touched by that act of thoughtfulness that he watched Nancy all day, took some photos, printed and framed one, and wrapped it and presented it to her. Theresa also remembers he handed over his camera and asked Theresa to capture a few photographs of them together so he could have a record of the moment. She said she would often help him wrap one of these and that he put a lot of effort into it. She says he was excited and happy to do this for people he cared about, and

on that particular occasion, "He had a grin on his face the rest of the day."

Even then, he always gave credit to his subjects and friends. He would say, "I only take pictures of what you give me." Theresa said he wasn't so much proud of being a photographer as when people liked the photographs he shot and gave. "That's what really made him happy," she said. He'd get that look on his face; that smile."

His smile was infectious and genuine. Those on the receiving end felt adored and honored. Fellow photographer Stig Johannessen mentioned how much he will miss his wonderful smile and heart, and posted a photo of a smiling Larry in a fireworks shirt from an Independence Day celebration a few years back. "One of the kindest men I knew," he says. Dave Mathews says he too will miss that ever present smile. "I'm sure you are lighting up the room wherever you may be."

It was somehow graceful that Larry passed on the weekend he normally would have been photographing all the blues acts at the Safeway Waterfront Blues Festival in Portland, surrounded by friends and the music that he loved. There was an air of sadness this year around the nation's birthday, and his absence was already palpable, even before the announcement. His presence was so expected that several of his friends mentioned they thought they caught a glimpse of him. And it was at that same festival three years ago that he met Theresa. She says they just clicked and within a few hours of spending time together, he fell asleep listening to the music, with his head resting on her hip.

The two were fond of traveling and adventuring together. Theresa shared that they had planned to tour and photograph the region's waterfalls, but when Larry broke his leg this past year, they had to put that on hold. They would often travel by night to reach a new destination in time to photograph the sunrise. That is how they began the year, the first of January, up before the sun, cameras in hand.

Photographing nature was dear to Larry's heart, and was his first photographic subject. He first picked up a camera in the late 60's, either at the Post Exchange or a pawn shop (accounts differ slightly) and got a book to teach himself. Theresa says he took pictures while in Vietnam to keep himself sane. "He would take pictures of nature, of animals: goats, dogs, chickens," she says, "to balance out the harshness of life there." In Jane Henderson's story, she says he never took photographs of the people there, out of respect.

Theresa says he loved going to the Winthrop Blues Festival because the river was right there and he could be there and hear the music. She said he also loved to walk down there early in the morning

before anyone else was awake and all was quiet. She says he enjoyed the open spaces and the quiet. And he enjoyed his solitude as much as the crowds he photographed and found himself in. She says, "I've heard dozens of stories from people who tell me, 'When I was down Larry was there for me.' We'd be at an event and he would tell me, 'Just a minute; I have to go talk to someone. I have to say hello.'"

Cora Price, from the White Rock Blues Society, says, "I loved Larry's ability to make everyone feel like he was their best friend. He put you at ease and made you feel like you had a special place in this world."

He was a deep thinker and felt things deeply as well. Men would describe him as a good friend and a man's man, and many women felt adored, because he was quick with a compliment, and would shake his head and seem to marvel at some beauty that might be lost to the lady he was talking to. He really seemed to love women. Theresa says yes, both of those are true. "He loved people," she says. "He really liked to see people happy. He liked to make people happy. That was maybe his favorite thing." As much as Larry Williams loved photography and music and nature and travel, his first passion was people. He had an overwhelming capacity for love and friendship.

In her announcement on July 4, Theresa wrote these words:

"He touched everyone he came in contact with. He had a dignity and quietness about him that was misleading, because the man underneath questioned everything in life, had a passion that ran so deep that it was a wonder to sit back and behold in his captured images. He loved largely in every way and felt it was his duty to be the best to all things around him."

Three years ago, in the June 2013 Bluesletter Jane Henderson wrote about northwest photographers in a series called "Behind the Lens." Larry Williams was featured in a piece titled, "Looking for what isn't there." It's a short, powerful read, and you can find it online at "Scribd" at <https://www.scribd.com/document/147051004/Bluesletter-June-2013> if you want to know more. In it, Larry says he waits for what isn't necessarily apparent to the casual observer. He says he watches for the expression that reveals the truth of the moment, the emotional power of things. He tells her a story about photographing a snail, and upon developing the photograph in the darkroom, discovers the iridescent trail that was not visible before, but only after the fact. That is his gift to us. Larry may no longer be here. But if we are patient and kind, even during the dark times, if we look for what isn't there, we may just find some of that sparkle; the proof of the journey, the treasure that is the trail.

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 Mon Aug 1 **Interbay BBQ Jazz** Seattle - 5:30pm - 8:30pm
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Annie Eastwood with James Bernhard

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Festival Preview: Taste of Music

By Tony Frederickson

This year's Snohomish Taste of Music promises to pick up right where it left off last year. Friday will kick off with the popular vote winners from the 2015 Blues Invasion, a great band from the Bellingham area, the Naughty Blokes. They will be opening the festival on Friday, August 19th at 7:00 pm on the main stage in the park behind the Carnegie Library at 105 Cedar Ave. The second band that night will be Mojo Cannon who finished second by one vote in the popular vote at the Blues Invasion. It just made sense to pair them with the Naughty Blokes for a Snohomish dance party to open up the first night for this year's Taste of Music. So get your dancing shoes all polished up and make your plans to be there Friday night. From there we will head into the music venues up and down First Street in historic Downtown Snohomish.

We will open Saturday on the main stage with Kenova, a great group of songwriter's featuring Billy Stoops, Nick Vigarino, and Hambone Wilson. They don't get together very often to do this show, so it is a very special way to roll into a full day of music. They will start the Saturday off at Noon and make for a nice transition into the following acts with lots of original music and solid musicianship. The CC Adams Band, based out of the Mount Vernon area, will take the stage second this day. We have been watching them for a few years and they just kept tightening up their show and constantly working to grow their audience. They will play a fun and lively set that is sure to be a crowd pleaser. Polly O'Keary and the Rhythm Method will be third on Saturday and bringing their Best in the Blues award winning talent. Solid vocals, polished musicianship, and great

stage presence, they will fill the dance floor for sure. We are bringing Sammy Eubanks all the way from Spokane for our forth act. Sammy is a fabulous guitar player and has a very tight band. But maybe the best component of the band is Sammy's vocals! He is known as "The Voice", having won the Best Male Vocalist Awards from not only the Inland Empire Blues Society but the Washington Blues Society as well! He has just recorded a new CD in Nashville recently "Sugar Me", and it has hit the radio charts with a bullet and has quickly moved up the charts. This CD is some of the best work that Sammy has done and may be the ticket to becoming a national touring musician. Closing out the night on the main stage will be SeHarvest Moon Festival: Cider, Brews, & Blues Saturday, Sept. 10, 4:30-10:00 p

Seattle's own Left Hand Smoke. This always popular local act has toured across the country and made an impression and had lots of success as they have established themselves with a show built around original music and top notch professional stage management and performance skills! If that isn't enough we will have acts in many in the local clubs once again to close out this very full day of music.

Sunday will bring the Washington Blues Society's International Blues Challenge Finals to find out who will represent our state and the society in Memphis at the 2017 International Blues Challenge put on by the Blues Foundation. The Pacific Northwest has had a lot of success over the recent years with four different acts making the finals in Memphis, and two of those acts winning outright! This is always one of the best days of music at the Taste of Music, with 25 minutes sets from all those who have made the finals and quick set

changes, it is a fast paced exciting day of music. All the acts bring their "A" game performances and raise the level of their music to new heights. This year promises to be another great day! The International Blues Challenge is not a head to head contest, band against band, but rather the artists are being graded against the Blues Foundation's scoring sheet. There are five different weighted categories on the form which include Blues Content, Instrumental Talent, Vocal Talent, Originality, and Stage Presence. Each category also has a different weighting level also, with a times four for Blues Content, a times three for Instrumental Talent and Vocal Talent, and times two for Originality and Stage Presence. And then there are rules on time with penalties for going over 25 minutes and lots more! It may seem very confusing, but we recruit judges who have knowledge of the "Blues" and music in general and use different judges for every Semi-Final and the Finals. So it is a lot of work, but a very fair process that rewards talent and originality within the Blues genre. The score sheets are picked up after each act so the judges so the scores are set after each act finishes. It is a very well thought out process and very fair to everyone. This year the Finals have these acts: the Rafael Tranquilino Band, the CD Woodbury Trio, the Naughty Blokes, the Bobby Patterson Band, Polly O'Keary & the Rhythm Method, the Charlatones, Stanislove (Solo/Duo), CeeCee James & the Mission of Soul (Solo/Duo), Altai (Solo/Duo), Mark Riley (Solo/Duo) and Brett Benton (Solo/Duo). The order will be set the week before the finals in a blind draw.

So make your plans to attend the Snohomish Taste of Music and support this fun and growing community festival! Hope to see all of you out there enjoying all the music!

August Blues Bash Preview

By Amy Sassenberg

The monthly Washington Blues Society Blues Bash at the Sound Check Bar and Grill on August 9th will feature Michael Powers and Blues on Tap.

Michael Powers' musical career began in his teen years, as therapy, when he took up strumming the guitar to strengthen his wrist after a skateboarding accident. Following his early graduation from Berkeley High School at age 15, he moved to Seattle and started going to local jam sessions.

"I learned how to play by sitting in at as many places as I could, developing eclectic tastes by playing with all types of bands: Jazz, Rock, Blues, R&B, and Top 40. I wanted to learn how to play any kind of music that featured a guitar as a solo voice," he says.

Powers fostered an interest in theory and eventually graduated with honors from the prestigious

Cornish College of the Arts with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Composition and Performance. While at Cornish, Powers studied under composers Gil Evans and Sam Rivers, and many other revered artists. Also influenced by blues, rock and jazz greats like Jimi Hendrix, Carlos Santana, Charlie Parker, George Benson, Miles Davis and Kevin Eubanks, Powers developed his artistry to a level where he eventually shared stages, recordings or billing with an incredible list of music legends including Herbie Hancock, Keiko Matsui, Nancy Wilson, King Sunny Ade, Diane Schuur, David Benoit, Gladys Knight and Ray Charles.

Powers concludes that it's hard to pin down his style of music. "If I had to put a label on it, I would call it contemporary instrumental music," he says. "It's a sound rooted in the jazz tradition that keeps pace stylistically with pop, R&B and blues, with blues being at the core of my inspiration."

The August Blues Bash will also feature local favorites, Blues on Tap, an all-star collection of seasoned Seattle players. You may have seen them at the weekly blues jam at 88 Keys in Pioneer Square, Seattle, where they were the house band for almost four years. Before that, their members performed for decades all over the US, Canada, Europe and Australia. In 2013 Washington Blues Society nominated Blues on Tap for Best New Blues Band and the band's guitarist and vocalist, Steve Peterson, for Best Male Blues Singer. Blues on Tap has enjoyed years as a regular feature at clubs and festivals throughout the Northwest, and we are excited to have them at the Blues Bash!

The 37th Blues Music Awards

By Suzanne Swanson©™ 2016

As you entered the hotel lobby in Memphis joyous shouts of recognition and greetings rang out during the week of the 37th Blues Music Awards. Those personally involved in the music industry, as well as hundreds of fans, make the yearly pilgrimage to be a part of The Blues Foundation's annual celebration. With 24 categories, the best of the world's 120 blues talents gather to honor those who have excelled in the past year.

The festivities begin early: most attendees fill the downtown core on Tuesday of the first week of May every year. Early Wednesday, The Blues Foundation Hall of Fame opens to members and guests. This is a must-see Hall of Fame as it is filled with memorabilia that honors those who have performed, recorded, or documented the blues. In the afternoon, the Center for Southern Folklore held a seminar by award-winning journalist, Bill Donoghue, "Sonny Boy Williamson II: Rock's Missing Blues Legend." Later, the Hall of Fame held a reception and ceremony inducting Elvin Bishop, Eddy Clearwater, Jimmy Johnson, John Mayall, and The Memphis Jug Band. The book *Early Downhome Blues: A Musical and Cultural Analysis*, by Jeff Todd Titon, was inducted in the literature category. Behind-the-scenes support was honored, such as Malaco Records partners' Tommy Couch, Sr. and Wolf Stephenson, plus the classic album *Blues in the*

Mississippi Night (Nixa, 1957: United Artists, 1959), the singles, "Crazy Blues" by Mamie Smith (Okeh, 1920), "That's All Right" by Jimmy Rogers (Chess, 1950), Billy Boy Arnold's "I Wish You Would" (Vee-Jay, 1955), Johnny Moore's "Three Blazers" (Charles Brown, vocal and piano), "Merry Christmas Baby" (Exclusive, 1947), and "Blues Before Sunrise" by Leroy Carr and Scrapper Blackwell (Vocalion, 1934). After the induction ceremony, Big Llou's fourth Annual Hall of Fame Tribute Jam took place at the Hard Rock Café with several Hall of Fame performers taking the stage.

On Thursday of the day of the awards, MusiCares and other volunteers provided free health screenings for blood pressure, diabetes cholesterol, and custom ear plugs for musicians. At the same time, the Yellow Dog Records showcase featured the Ragpicker String Band and Eden Brent at B.B. King's. The Chicago and Memphis chapters of the Recording Academy then held a reception celebrating The Blues Music Awards.

Promptly at 5:30 PM, we gathered across the street from the hotel at the Cook Convention Center. The evening of the awards was about to begin for the over 1,200 attendees. As we passed through the main ballroom doors to take our seats, the excitement was palpable: It felt we were about to experience something truly magical. Barbara Newman, President and CEO

of The Blues Foundation welcomed all to this year's festivities and then the program began. The stage was an ever-revolving salute to the blues world with presenters, award recipients, and over seventy performers playing the music we love so dearly.

The winners for the 37th Blues Music Awards were:

Acoustic Album: Duke Robillard – *The Acoustic Blues & Roots of Duke Robillard*
 Acoustic Artist: Doug MacLeod Album: Buddy Guy – *Born to Play Guitar*
 Band: Victor Wainwright & the Wild Roots
 B.B. King Entertainer: Victor Wainwright
 Best New Artist Album: Mr. Sipp – *The Mississippi Blues Child*
 Contemporary Blues Album: Buddy Guy – *Born to Play Guitar*
 Contemporary Blues Female Artist: Shemekia Copeland
 Contemporary Blues Male Artist: Joe Louis Walker
 Historical Album: *Buzzin' the Blues* by Slim Harpo on Bear Family Records
 Instrumentalist-Bass: Lisa Mann
 Instrumentalist-Drums: Cedric Burnside
 Instrumentalist-Guitar: Sonny Landreth
 Instrumentalist-Harmonica: Kim Wilson
 Instrumentalist-Horn: Terry Hanck

(Continued on Page 13)



ers Mick Kolassa and Greg Nagy (Photo by Suzanne Swanson)

Summertime Blues: The July Blues Bash!

By Robert and Carmen Marina Horn

Summer is when music festivals happen in the Northwest and it is a good time to be outdoors. So how do you get people to come indoors to hear some live music on a day when the weather is perfect? The answer was shown on July 12 in Lynwood Washington. You put great acts on stage that are worthy of being on stage at festivals like The Waterfront Blues Festival, The Winthrop R & B Festival, or the Mount Baker Blues Festival. There were two blues acts on stage at the Sound Check for the July Bluesbash.

First there was the duo of Mark Riley and Paul Green. These multiple BB Award winners put on some show. They have worked together many times over the years and even co-wrote music together, like one time when Paul did a harmonica riff and Mark suggested they go write lyrics and meet in ten minutes. The result of that impromptu song-writing was a song that got more air play than other songs on a CD that came out later.

Mark Riley is one of the best blues guitar players in the region, and his slide guitar playing is excellent.

Paul sometimes improvises a lot in his harmonica playing and it doesn't always go where you expect. He has won some BB Awards because of his harmonica and vocals.

When Mark played the slide guitar, "Lay Me Down Slowly Mama" the sound was enough to show why some consider music to be more than entertainment but can also be soothing to the soul

in a therapeutic way. Mark's hands went to places on the guitar nobody but Sonny Landreth or Mark Riley would have thought of.

They started with the the Robert Johnson classic "Kind Hearted Woman" and later did another Robert Johnson classic, "Little Queen of Spades." They took turns singing and Paul sang "Walkin' Cane" among other songs.

They are both known for songwriting as well as playing their instruments and singing. Check the calendar to see where Paul and Mark are performing. Sometimes they perform together and sometimes in other bands.

The second band to get on stage is one that is newer to many blues fans in the area. They play traditional blues though and if you like either Muddy Waters or the North Mississippi blues of R.L. Burnside you will like what they do.

Willie & The Whips started with "Got My Mojo Workin'" and it certainly was. Then they did one from their new CD. That CD is called "Homage", and the song was "Thunder". By the time they sang "Can't Keep a Good Man Down" they had people on the dance floor and they stayed there through, "She Loves Me", "Shake 'Em On Down" and "John the Revelator."

They openly talk about the influence of the North Mississippi Hill Country on their music and that has a very great flavor for fun music. There are not too many bands in the NW who talk about that region as a big influence.

Willie & The Whips includes a rhythm section with Art Behrman on bass and Ed Portnow on drums. If you like a band you like the rhythm section whether you are aware of the rhythm section or not. That is how much the rhythm section is crucial to the sound of the band as a whole.

On harmonica and vocals is Kevin Bean and his facial hair appears to be inspired by Civil War General Ambrose Burnside (who created a word in the English language with what are now called sideburns).

Another vocalist in the band is guitar player/vocalist/band leader, Will Morgan. He writes some of the bands songs as well.

There is another guitar player in the band too, that is Ari Joshua.

Look for notices about where they are playing and get the new CD coming out as we type these words, "Homage."



The 37th Blues Music Awards (Continued)

(Continued from Page 11)

Koko Taylor Award (Traditional Blues Female): Ruthie Foster

Pinetop Perkins Piano Player: Allen Toussaint

Rock Blues Album of the Year: Walter Trout – Battle Scars

Song: “Gonna Live Again” written and performed by Walter Trout

Soul Blues Album: Billy Price & Otis Clay – This Time for Real

Soul Blues Female Artist: Bettye LaVette

Soul Blues Male Artist: Otis Clay

Traditional Blues Album: Cedric Burnside Project – Descendants of Hill Country

Traditional Blues Male Artist: John Primer

Some of many highlights of this exceptional evening of music included the Bey Paule Band – Sou Review, Gaye Adegbalola, James Harman, Duke Robillard, Wee Willie Walker, Beth Hart, Rick Estrin and the Nightcats (special mention to Christoffer “Kid” Andersen), Ruthie Foster, An

thony Geraci & The Boston Blues All-Stars, and Sugar-Ray & The Bluestones.

With more music yet to come, people gathered Friday morning at the Hard Rock Café for the Big Walter Friday Blues Brunch Showcase, followed by French photographer Francouise Digel’s grand opening exhibition of “Screamin’ the Blues” images of singers and musicians at the Blues Hall of Fame. Blues Music Award nominees performed at a fundraiser for Play-It-Forward Generation Blues, a program of The Blues Foundation that provides tuition and resources for youth to study their instrument of choice at reputable camps, seminars and workshop programs in order to ensure that Blues is played live for generations to come. That evening, “Ghost of the Blues”, a musical play, was a huge success at The Orpheum. This was followed by Earl & The Agitators featuring Scott Holt, Foghat members Roger Earl and Bryan Bassett, Rodney O’Quinn of the Pat Travers Band at Earnestine & Hazel’s Sundry Store presented by 2Left Feet Blues Festival.

We all are immensely grateful to Barbara Newman, President & CEO, Joe Whitmer, Chief Operating Officer, Board of Directors’ chairman, Paul E. Benjamin, the Blues Foundation staff, and all the volunteers for organizing and presenting the amazing music that filled four days.

Editor’s note: For the past four years Blues Matters, an international blues magazine, have published Suzanne’s work in addition to publications like the Washington Blues Society’s Bluesletter and several on-line publications..

(Photos by Suzanne Swanson: Top: Sonny Rock and multiple Blues Music Award winning blues artist Janiva Magness. Bottom Blues Foundation Board Member Deb Lubin, Mike Tash and Blues Music Award nominee Diunna Greenleaf).



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.

***August Blues Bash Reminder:
August 9th at the Sound Check in Lynnwood!***

Acoustic: Michael Powers

***Electric: Blues on Tap
See You There (All Ages)***

Juke Joint House Party at Grant Dermody's!

By Malcolm Kennedy

This past April, I had the opportunity to attend a juke joint house party at Grant Dermody's home and it was a blast.

Furniture had been removed and the living room and dining room were made ready for the house party with a few chairs around the edges with room purposely left dancing. Grant is well known for playing acoustic blues harp and performing with acoustic players like Orville Johnson, John Miller and Eric Bibb; this evening's electric Chicago style blues "Juke Joint House Party," with a Pacific Northwest All-Star line-up of this type, was a first for him. The band was all set up in the dining room and ready to play. I arrived early due to unexpectedly lite traffic so I made a coffee run Mega-coffee was closed; but the PCC was happy to brew me a fresh dispenser of hot brew. When I arrived back at the "Juke Joint" the party was in session with the All-Star band of Tim Sherman-guitar, Mark Dalton-bass, Conrad Ormsby-drums and Grant Dermody-harp and vocals, all seated, playing Slim Harpo's "Scratch My Back." Grant was playing through a slightly battered small old Fender Princeton Tweed amp and a bullet mic. Conrad had a very basic kit with a small 16" bass, snare, hi-hat and ride cymbal with no toms or additional cymbals. Mark was on his trusty Fender Precision Bass and Tim had a 1963 Fender Stratocaster which he had plugged into his modest 20 watt Fender amp with an 8" speaker. Due to dancing my notes are incomplete; but that would be a good thing. They did a T-Bone Walker song and then Grant called out "Hi-Heel Sneakers" in E flat,

an old Tommy Tucker song, with Grant singing "put on your red dress, mama/ 'cause you're going out tonight." This was followed by an instrumental blues and then a Bo Diddley song in E. As you can see Grant was just calling things out like that and they would play. Tim called out for something funky proceeding to play and both Mark and Conrad took short solos and they closed out the first set with a fast tune in B flat with Grant singing "slow down baby, don't tell me what to do."

There was a short intermission and snacks like veggies & dip, cheese & crackers, cookies and such plus coffee, tea and the like were served in the next room. After the break they kicked into "Okie Dokie Stomp" high lighting Tim on guitar. Next Grant called out a blues in F and they followed that with John Lee "Sonny Boy" Williamson's (aka Sonny Boy I) "Spring Time Blues" with Conrad using brushes on his drums. Grant sometimes passed on a little extra info on a song as a fair number of those attending the "Juke Joint" that evening were some of his current or former harmonica students, and this was an eight bar blues in G, and calling out the keys was partly for the band; but also for the students to reference.

Next we were in for a real treat as Tim opened another case at his feet and hauled out a very beautiful custom made banjo, which he had purchased second hand. The instrument itself was a piece of serious craftsmanship and who better to play it than Sherman? Tim called out "Joe Avery Blues," a traditional New Orleans Second line brass band tune, Conrad picked up his sticks and Grant, still playing acoustic, proceeded to follow along. Tim followed this by calling out "Memphis Baby" in

E flat, with Conrad switching back to his brushes. Grant stood up to take a tastefully robust solo. Tim switched back to his Strat and, still standing, Grant picked up his bullet mic calling out "Help Me." I should mention that since it was a smallish room Grant wasn't using a vocal mic; but had occasionally been using his harp mic for vocals as well. I was having a great time and had been enjoying the whole show; but for me this Sonny Boy II staple was a major highlight. It was a hit for him in 1963 and is based on Booker T. & the M.G.'s #1 R&B Hit "Green Onions." They ended the set with Albert Collins "Backstroke," done in C, it was the B side to Collins' mid-60s single "Thaw Out" and included on his first album. Tim is a master at Albert's signature "ice pickin'" tone. Everyone was calling out for an encore, which co-host Penny Brandon enthusiastically endorsed. Grant obliged and introduced a song he really enjoys, a shuffle in G by Eric Bibb, with whom Grant has toured and recorded, for which Tim switched back to his banjo. The song was "Don't Ever Let Nobody Drag Your Spirit Down," which Grant says Eric often ended shows with. It is off Eric's 2001 Painting Signs release. Grant thanked us all for coming out telling us what a wonderful time he had had playing with this fantastic supporting cast saying that they should do another Juke Joint House Party again sometime soon. I have been to a few "House Party" performances and I will tell you that they are a blast. The settings are very intimate, up close and personal, inspired; often with close friends and family in attendance. If given the opportunity to attend one I very highly recommend one of these immensely cool shindigs.



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Seattle Peace Concerts: Checking in With Don Glen

By Ed Portnow (Photos Courtesy Don Glen)

The deal with the Peace Concerts is that there is no budget: seriously, zero dollars for the past 36 years. It's an incredible achievement- Free music in Seattle Parks with no agenda other than – Peace.

When I was young I used to practically camp out at Bumbershoot and other local festivals. I was learning to play music and I loved to listen to bands perform. There weren't many opportunities for under age people to hear live music, especially for free.

Fast forward to 2016...

There is now a steep price to pay at Bumbershoot, or for that matter, most of the Seattle-area music festivals with the exception of Seattle Peace Concerts.

The founder, Don Glen, has been providing these events for the past 36 years and may not be able to continue. This is why some of us are trying to help to keep the concert series alive. We hope to find some younger people with social media skills and a love of music to continue the Peace Concert mission.

From what I know, Don left high school and enlisted in the US Marine Corps Air Wing in 1959. He served as an aircraft electrician. After completing his service, Don returned to college and majored in Math, Physics and Astronomy working to support

himself as a musician. IBM was looking for computer techs and Don was hired. As an ex-Marine, Don was given a high security clearance. This was during the Vietnam era; there was no way was Don would help to build weapons to kill people. He left IBM, moved to Washington and lived communally with the 'Love Family' group. It was then that he took over the Seattle Peace Concerts.

Now it's 36 years later and unfortunately, it may be the final chapter for the Peace Concert Series. As a part of this year's series, there is a 75th Birthday party for Don on August 21st at Volunteer Park with Jim Page - Rod Cook & Toast - Annie O'Neil - The Whole Bolivian Army - Alice Stuart - Willie & the Whips. I had the good fortune to talk to Don recently and our conversation follows.

Q: Who are you?

A: Don Glenn

Q: What are the Seattle Peace Concerts?

A: The Seattle Peace Concerts are, and always have been an all-volunteer free summer park concerts and food bank benefits. Celebrating Peace through Music.

Q: Where do the Seattle Peace Concerts take place?

A: We rotate through various Seattle parks, such as Gas Works, Volunteer, Magnuson, and Woodland Park.

Q: When did the Seattle Peace Concerts begin?

A: 1981

Q: Why did you create the Seattle Peace Concerts?

A: Seattle Parks were planning to ban amplified music due to dangerous behavior caused by "rock" events at the time. Along with the support from the ACLU and other event organizers, we set sound limits and called our series Seattle Peace Concerts. Free music celebrating our community at peace. Sometimes, we get fairly loud, but we never offer angry music.

Q: How have you managed to keep the Seattle Peace Concerts series alive for all these years?

A: Some of the best of Seattle's musicians volunteering their time. And the kind folks in Seattle leaving the parks in better condition after our events than before. We used to advertise we had the largest cleanup crew of any other event- everyone in attendance. Later it evolved to the smallest cleanup crew because no one was making a mess.

Q: You always perform a Seattle Peace Concert incantation before each event. Would you invoke this incantation for us now?

A: Very simple. We are all made of the same stardust connect to each other and everything else in our universe. Oneness isn't a hippie rainbow thing, it's the Law! Unbreakable Natural Law. Here now we are at peace!



Vicki Welter, CPA
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Blues CD Reviews

Dirty Rice
The Devil's Nursery
(Self-Released)

If a rockin' blues thrill ride is what you seek, look no further. The Devil's Nursery, released in June of 2016, features the growling vocals and keen lead and slide guitar work from bandleader and veteran Northwestern guitarist Eric Rice. He is backed up acutely by all-star rhythm section of multiple Best of the Blues award winners Scotty Harris on bass and Andrew Cloutier on drums. The trio kick off the first of six original tunes with the Mid-western blues rock anthem of positive thinking, 'I'm Alive.' A slippery funk groove anchors Rice's tongue twisting "No Time," that warms us up for the inferno of rock and roll rebuke in the title track, "The Devil's Nursery." This mix of rock, rap, and scalding slide is played out with over the top theatrical flair, but his message is clear: modern parenting in our video-addicted culture is much to blame for society's problems. The head bopping track "Nobody but You," feels like a gem unearthed from the Buddy Holly catalog, but this song was written by Spokane guitar man Cary Fly. Rice drops a solo acoustic reading of delta classic "Goin' to Build Me a Playhouse," in the center of the collection before amping up his slide work for the full tilt boogie of "Whiskey Stop." The Lefty Frizzell saga, "Long Black Veil," is fleshed out with sweet background vocals and dynamic underpinnings taking the time tested tune to new heights with as extended version offered as a bonus featuring a soaring chorus of "Amazing Grace" from Julie Mains. The foot stomping country detour, "Bonus Round," is a genuine hoot and holler, and complete with a cowbell driven beat, gritty guitar and sing along chorus, the swamp rock blues "7th Shot of Whiskey," defines the Dirty Rice sound. Rick J Bowen

Bill Phillipe
Parade
(Arkansas Street Records)

The acoustic music of Bill Phillipe on guitar and vocals is given an old-timey feel with the addition of Glenn Hartman on accordion and Ivor Hollo-way on clarinet. The opening cut "Blues Come Callin' (Home)" is a lament that cuts to the soul as Bill sings "and the blues come callin'/the blues come callin'/the blues come callin'/ you home/you home/you home." "14th Street" opens with the clarinet starting the melody and then the accordion joins in filling out the sound. The 11 tracks include two covers and the remainder are original songs. One cover is Duke Ellington's "Solitude" paired with Phillipe's "A Kinder Voice." Bill's slightly reedy vocals have a melancholy feel that suit "Everything I Have is Grey" well. Although the songs do vary, most have a similar tempo and neither Phillipe's vocals or playing lifts them. "Red Beret" is more perky than most and Ivor's clarinet adds to that. Parade closes with the second cover,

Tom Waits' "Take it With Me" from his Grammy winning 1999 release Mule Variations. - Malcolm Kennedy

Kentucky Headhunters (feat. Johnnie Johnson)
Meet Me in Bluesland
(Alligator)

I have been particularly impressed with Delta Airlines' in-flight entertainment lately. On a four+ hour flight to Atlanta last month, the airline's blues selections included one of the most innovative – and to my mind, somewhat improbably - artist pairings that I've head in a while: long-time Chuck Berry sideman (and Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee) Johnny Johnson and the Grammy Award-winning Kentucky Headhunters. This session was recorded in 2003 shortly after Johnson joined the Rolling Stones on tour in Texas, and released last year as Meet Me in Bluesland on Alligator Records. Sadly, Johnson died two years after that session was recorded in Kentucky. Johnson's piano playing is frenetic, yet nuanced, at the same time: on the CD, I hear echoes of Jerry "The Killer" Lee Louis, the late Alligator alumna Katie "Two Fisted Blues" Webster and legendary Bling Pig piano man Henry Gray. Standout cuts for me in include rousing versions of "Stumblin'," "Little Queenie" and a staple of Sammy Eubanks' more recent sets, "Shufflin' Back to Memphis" (which features some nice slide guitar from Headhunter Greg Martin). This CD ably crosses Southern rock, roots and Americana and blues boundaries and is a rollicking ride in the hands of the late Johnnie Johnson and one of the nation's finest Southern rock bands. – Eric Steiner

John Clifton
Let Yourself Go
(Rip Cat Records)

On his Rip Cat Records release Let Yourself Go John sings lead vocals and plays blues harp on all track. The support work is shared by six guitarists with the team of Rusty Zinn and Bob Welsh on five and Rusty on a sixth, label president Scott Abeyta and Kid Ramos on a pair and Scott with Bill Clifton on a third. A trio of bass players, a pair each of drummers and keyboardists plus a pack of percussionists. The 13 tracks feature seven written or co-written by Clifton. Some of John's vocal style and arrangements owe a nod to rockabilly, just listen to Les Cooper & the Soul Rocker's "Dig Yourself," the original "Big Man in a Little Town" or the obscure Titus Turner ditty "Big John (From Mississippi)." There is plenty of steamy blues harp to be found to like on the smooth shuffle "Anytime is Cool" and the mid-tempo instrumental "Beer Joint" which also features stout guitar lines by Scott and Bill. The jumping beat of "Tell Me Baby" is a dance floor filler with slinky guitar and "Every Time You Come Around" could be a lost 1950s ballad. Put John Clifton on your radar. Highly recommended. Malcolm Kennedy

Mark Bittler
My Name is Mark
(Maurice the Fish Records)

Many Bluesletter readers may remember Mark Bittler from his 10 year tenure with Bump Kitchen, or his extended stay with the Mary McPage Band. His newest solo CD, My Name is Mark, includes a who's who of Pacific Northwest musicians, including Michael Kinder (Merilee Rush, Linda Meyers Band), David Broyles (Bump Kitchen), Aaron Dressler (Bump Kitchen), Marc Miller (Bump Kitchen, Edgar Winter) Tim Scott (Zen Blues Quartet, Red House). Sadly, there is not room to list them all here, but I particularly liked the the soulful vocals of Franke Pharaoh and Carl Kelley and the funky instrumentals. This CD should be on your playlist throughout the summer; if you are ever in the mood to do the "Funky Chicken," this CD has what you need. This CD has all Mark's own tunes, full of energy, grooves, a tight horn section and funky goodness. From the fun title tune to the song "Kees Teepa Deek," dedicated to the late Jho Blenis, founder of Bump Kitchen and one of three legendary guitarists that grew up together in Lakewood (Robert Cray and Bobby Murray being the others), this album will have you kickin' it with a big 'ol smile on your face. Imagine Jeff Beck, The Meters, George Clinton and Frank Zappa combining forces to make a musical stew that is at once original and groovy (that is a term widely used back in the day.). Listen to the swampy drum intro of Kinder on the song "Sideways," you'll think you're in New Orleans chilling with a cold Sazerac on Toulouse Street... It's fresh, fun and entertaining. "Something Funky" is exactly what it says and means: it's pure, unadulterated uncut funk. The genre, as Mark has it nailed on this CD, is urbane and the backup vocals lend that 70's "Soul Train" feel. Break out your polyester (If you can still fit into them) and although it is not yet out on vinyl, if you are listening to this CD, you'll be reliving in a time machine. It's a great, and happy CD to have fun with on a road trip. The official release date was May 24th, and the album is available through CD Baby, I-tunes, Amazon and many others; plus, if you know and have heard Mark play, this CD features some pretty choice funk. – Rocky Nelson

Paul Reddick
Ride the One
(Stony Plain)

Ride the One is Reddick's debut on the Stony Plain label. It is his fourth solo record having released three with Northern Blues, most recently 2012s Wish Bone. Ride the One is a significant departure from Reddick's early work having a much more rocking sound. Reddick sings and plays harp on the 11 original songs penned by him and producer/guitarist Colin Cripps (Blue Rodeo.) The rest of the players are Greg Cock-erill on guitar, backing vocals; Steve

Marriner (Monkey Junk) on guitar, backing vocals; Anna Ruddick on bass and Derek Downham on drums, piano, talk box guitar and percussion. From the vibrant blues harp and fast tempo of the opening track “Shadows” the die is cast. The driving beat and guitar rhythm of “Celebrate” are great vehicles for Reddick’s slightly rough vocals and storming harp solo. “Mourning Dove” has a mellow, almost JJ Cale-like approach that satisfies and the guitar interplay adds depth. “Watersmooth” brings Heartland rock anthems to mind, while “Diamonds” with chiming guitar evokes U2’s The Edge. “Living in Another World” bounds out of the gate with a strong beat, vibrant harp and cutting guitar. “Tried to Tell You” has a swampy feel; but to a faster grinding beat. “Moon and Star” closes out the album with Reddick solo on harp and vocals giving it a Delta blues feel. Recommended. Malcolm Kennedy

Mercedes Nicole
Rivers in the Desert
(Self-Released)

Mercedes Nicole is perhaps better known in the Pacific Northwest jazz community, but I dearly hope that her latest CD, *Rivers in the Desert*, will introduce this talented vocalist to a much wider audience. A follow-up to last year’s highly-regarded *People are Talking*, this new CD features four originals and six covers that highlight this jazz chanteuse’s exploration of the blues. I recognized each of her cover songs immediately as I read the back cover of the CD: there’s “Needed Time,” “With My Maker” and “Turner Station” from master Finland-based troubadour Eric Bibb, a soulful interpretation of John Mayer’s “Gravity,” and one of my favorites from Guy Davis’ new CD, *Kokomo Kidd*, “Taking Just a Little Bit of Time.” Two of the Eric Bibb covers are from his 2014 CD on Stony Plain, *Blues People*, where Eric collaborated with the likes of Taj Mahal, Ruthie Foster, Guy Davis and the Blind Boys of Alabama. On *Rivers in the Desert*, Mercedes features a sparse sound that showcases her diverse vocal range backed by no more than two or three musicians on each song. Producer Wayne Bliss plays guitar, keyboards and/or drums on four songs while Vince Louis Federici plays electric guitar on five. Steve Peterson sits in on guitar with Enekov Rodriguez on violin on the touching original “J’taime Encore,” and Maga Urdeneta Gonzalez rounds out the sound on one of my newest favorite love songs of the year, “Flowing.” *Rivers in the Desert* was recorded at Tacoma’s Blissman Studios, and while I’ve been reminded by many Bluesletter readers that sometimes “I dream too much,” wouldn’t it be cool if Mercedes Nicole could join Eric Bibb for an encore this month when he returns to Seattle at Jazz Alley? *Rivers in the Desert* is one of my favorite discoveries of a Pacific Northwest vocal talent this year and I hope that Bluesletter readers will attend her live shows, and perhaps more importantly, buy this independently-produced CD directly from the artist. - Eric Steiner

The Hitman Blues Band
The World Moves On
(Nerus Records)

All but one of the 13 tracks on *The World Moves On*, the fifth studio release by the New York-based Hitmen Blues Band are originals written or co-written by front man Russell “Hitman” Alexander. Each one features loads of slippery slide guitar played with a good touch. The one is a cover of “Hoochie Coochie Man,” seven are new songs and five previously released; however have been re-mixed, remastered and have had horns added on to them. *The World Moves On* opens with “Bad, Bad Man” with Russell singing “I’m a bad, bad man/I can’t deny it/I’m a bad, bad man/it’s just the way that I am” sets the tone. “Don’t You Tempt Me” is an up tempo romp guided by pounding piano and horns. “Two Minute Warning” is one of four reworked songs from the Hitmen’s second release *Angel in the Shadows* and has a catchy guitar hook and the horns fill it out nicely. “Hammer Down” is another reworked song that has a driving beat with adept guitar leads. “Two Trains Running” gets a boost from special guest Neil Alexander on blues harp and The Hitmen give Muddy’s signature “Hoochie Coochie Man” a complete and total original treatment. Highly recommended. Malcolm Kennedy

The Mighty Orq
Love in a Hurricane
(Connor Ray Music)

I first discovered The Mighty Orq as a solo/duo competitor at the International Blues Challenge in Memphis in 2012 in the Westin Lobby Bar and I was smitten with the way Orq teased, cajoled and expertly channeled the blues from his guitar. That same year, the Washington Blues Society’s band entrant, The WIRED! Band, won first place in the world’s largest gathering of blues bands. Earlier this year, the band represented the Houston Blues Society in the finals at the International Blues Challenge in Memphis (just like they did five years ago). On *Love in a Hurricane*, Orq offers up 11 originals and one exceptional cover of Son House’s “Death Letter Blues.” On that classic blues song, Terry Ray’s bass sets up a tension that reflects the subject of Son House’s song, and Barry Seelen’s organ, Jimmy Rose’s drum parts and Orq’s vocals and guitars all contribute to an eerie sense of foreboding that naturally accompanies sensations associated with the death of a loved one. There are several cuts of blues that rock pretty hard on this CD, such as the opening “Sweet In Between” and “Falling Down,” but there are also some finely-wrought love songs like the title tune and “Carry Me Home.” Up until *Love in a Hurricane*, I’d never heard a blues song about a marsupial, but “The Possum Song” is a creative look at a pest. The CD’s closer, “Cannon Ball,” belies its title: it’s a soft and gentle acoustic song that reminded me of elegant fingerstyle pickers like Doyle Dykes, Jorma Kaukonen or Tommy Emmanuel. The rest of the CD is a solid blues

rock CD, but “Cannon Ball” is in a class by itself. I wish there were a buyers’ market for a full CD of songs like it. I think that The Mighty Orq has sharpened his craft considerably since that first solo show that I saw at the Westin in Memphis, and, for me, *Love in a Hurricane* is certainly proof of that. - Eric Steiner

Little Charlie & Organ Grinder Swing
Skronky Tonk
(EllerSoul)

On *Skronky Tonk* Little Charlie Baty takes his big fat Gibson ES-175 and plays a bunch of cool instrumental jazz standards with a few choice originals to fill it out. Baty is supported by Nightcats Lorenzo Farrell on Hammond organ and bass and Jason Hansen on drums and recorded at Greaseland Studio by Kid Andersen. The 13 tracks include “How High the Moon” covered by Benny Goodman and Les Paul among others, Errol Garner’s “Misty,” Charlie Christian’s “Swing to Bop,” Django Reinhardt’s “Nuages” and Goodman’s “Flyin’ Home.” Charlie opens with the title track, a serious toe tapper that is very, well “Skronky!” “Django,” pianist John Lewis’ homage to Reinhardt is also included. Baty allows Farrell plenty of space to stretch out on every track. Another highlight is Charlie’s original “Cobalt Blues,” an upbeat number with guitar flourishes and organ punch. One of my favorites is the extended take on Garner’s “Misty.” The fleet guitar lines Charlie Christian played on Goodman’s version of “Flyin’ Home” sparkle in the hands of Baty. *Skronky Tonk* is just perfect for a Sunday drive or to chill out with after a long day and then facing traffic to get home. Malcolm Kennedy

Travis Green
A Little Too Late
(Self released)

With prominent West Coast players Kid Andersen, Jason Hanson, Randy Bermudes and Jim Pugh as well as having been produced, engineered and mixed at Kid’s Greaseland Studios I was surprised by the country twang of the opening title track of Austin singer/guitarist Travis Green’s new release *A Little Too Late*. The country feel continues into “Please Don’t Cry,” however things take a big turn with “Everybody Knows.” Pugh’s keys and Nancy Wright’s honking sax give it a touch of R&B as Green sings “you played me good, and you think you’re so smart/everybody knows you’re a bitch at heart!” Kid lays some bluesy guitar onto “The Only Love” and the bubbling “Keep You Off my Mind” has a touch of rockabilly in the guitar lines. My favorite track is “Road Runs Cold” with swirling organ and echo laden spaghetti western theme song guitar. *A Little Too Late* has an interestingly eclectic mix of songs that combine to become a winner. Recommended. Malcolm Kennedy

Kenny "Blues Boss" Wayne
Jumpin' and Boppin'
(Stony Plain)

Spokane native son Kenny "Blues Boss" Wayne's third CD on the award-winning Stony Plain label, *Jumpin' and Boppin'*, is 13 tracks of uptempo blues from one of the most appreciated and in-demand blues piano men playing today. The British Columbia-based "Blues Boss" has a shelf of well-earned awards and nominations, ranging from Canada's Juno Awards, the Toronto Blues Society's Maple Blues Awards, the Bay Area Blues and Hall of Fame Society annual awards, and a nod for the Pinetop Perkins Piano Player of the Year at the 2012 Blues Music Awards. The rollicking instrumental "Blues Boss Shuffle" opens this CD, over the course of this baker's dozen of blues, there are many toe-tapping and high octane piano driven cuts like "Jumpin' and Boppin' with Joy" and "Blues Stew." Amid the disc's joyful celebrations of life, love and the blues, there are two timely reminders of troubles faced by many people who were, and continue to be, impacted by the Great Recession as well as identity theft such as "Bankrupted Blues" and "Blackmail Blues." *Jumpin' and Boppin'* features Duke Robillard on guitar, Sherman Doucette on harmonica, Dave Babcock on tenor and baritone sax and this band is anchored by Russell Jackson on bass and Joey Demarco on drums and percussion. Twelve of the album's tracks are originals and the lone cover, "You Don't Know Me" from Eddy Arnold and Cindy Walker, would be right at home on a country and western radio playlist. For me, *Jumpin' and Boppin'* works best when Wayne leads the band through the charging, uptempo blues of "I Need Your Lovin'," "Rock, Rock Little Girl" or the 40s-inspired "Ciao Ciao Baby," which reminded me of swing bands like the Royal Crown Revue and Indigo Swing. Connie Sinasac sings background vocals on "Ciao Ciao Baby" and this song showcases Duke Robillard's exceptional guitar tone and Dave Babcock's soulful sax. I enjoyed *Jumpin' and Boppin'* from start to finish! – Eric Steiner

Billy Gibbons & the BFG's
Perfectamundo
(Concord)

Perfectamundo is Billy Gibbons' solo debut and as the liner notes indicate Tejano, Mexicano, Caribeano and Afro-Cubano elements and Gibbonized cross-cut, blues-rock stylings come together. On this CD, Gibbons plays guitar, bass, B-3, piano, vocals; teamed up with Mike Flanigin on the B-3, Martine "G.G." GuiGui on piano and B-3; Alx "Guitarzza" Garza on bass and vocals and Greg Morrow on drums and the results are interesting. Many of the vocals are electronically treated, and the beats have an electronic feel, too. Gibbons opens *Perfectamundo* with Slim Harpo's "Got Love if You Want It" giving it a techno update; but he also lays on some of his signature snarling guitar lines, too. This is followed by the 1965 #2 Billboard Hot 100 hit "Treat Her Right" which gets

a head bopping beat, Afro-Cuban stylings on the piano and cool guitar. I can envision folks strutting around the dance floor to "Sal Y Pimiento" or "Piedras Negras." Big Joe Williams' "Baby Please Don't Go" is keyboard laden; but has a short, but roaring, guitar solo. The title track is a rocking mashup of styles and "Q-Vo" has a jazzy R & B "Green Onions" vibe. Perfectamundo has more of a techno hip hop thing going on than I anticipated; but for those fans with an open mind, there is some pretty cool stuff on this CD I might have preferred Billy channeling more of his inner blues roots; but some of it is growing on me. Malcolm Kennedy

Robert Cray
4 Nights of 40 Years Live
(Provogue)

Recipient of multiple Grammy Awards and Blues Foundation W.C. Handy/Blues Music Awards and Blues Hall of Fame inductee Robert Cray's career goes back to gigs in 1974. The first CD of the multimedia CD/DVD release *4 Nights of 40 Years Live* was recorded at four California shows in December of 2014 and features songs from across Cray's career including one of his biggest hits "Right Next Door (Because of Me)." The bonus disc has four songs captured in 1987 for the Dutch show *Countdown* including Cray's huge crossover hits "Smokin' Gun," "I Guess I Showed Her" and "Right Next Door" plus a cool pair from the 1982 San Francisco Blues Festival before he was more widely known widely beyond the Pacific Northwest. The DVD includes over 90 minutes of concert footage interspersed with interview clips with the band, Eric Clapton, Bonnie Raitt, Keith Richards, Buddy Guy and Jimmie Vaughan with selections from 10 of Cray's 17 studio releases. The line-up for the 2014 shows featured Robert Cray, Richard Cousins on bass, Les Falconer on drums, Dover Weinberg on keys (the same as on Cray's 2014 release *In My Soul*) and on various selections featured guests, producer Steve Jordon on percussion and drums; on *The Cats* on horns: Steve Madaio on trumpet, Trevor Lawrence on sax; and special guests Kim Wilson vocals on "Wrap It Up" and Lee Oskar, blues harp, on "Sittin' On Top of the World." The DVD alone make this package worth having and the inclusion of the live version of "Too Many Cooks," the alternate name for Cray's debut *Who's Been Talkin'?* from 1982 makes *4 Nights of 40 Years Live* a must have item. The numerous standouts include "These Things," "The Forecast Calls for Pain" and "Shiver." I give *4 Nights of 40 Years Live* my highest recommendation. Malcolm Kennedy

Yardbirds
Making Tracks
(MVD Visual)

Making Tracks is a live DVD featuring 17 songs culled from four Yardbirds shows in New England with 15 from three dates in early September 2011 and a pair from a May 2010 show plus a pair from a May 2012 Jim McCarty Band show. The line-up

includes original members Jim McCarty and Chris Dreja plus Ben King on lead guitar, who joined in 2005, Andy Mitchell on lead vocals, harmonica and acoustic guitar and David Smale on bass (each joined in 2009). McCarty and Dreja had reformed the band in 1992 and released an album, *Birdland*, in 2003 which consisted of half new material and re-workings of some of the 1960s hits. In fact, 10 selections from that 15 track set are included here with three of the new songs. The set opens with a Mose Allison song, "I'm Not Talkin'" which was on the Yardbirds first U.S. album *For Your Love*, released in 1965. Jim and Chris bring the original band authenticity element while Andy and Ben give the songs the energy and urgency of early British blues and they both have the chops that stand up to the Yardbirds' considerable musical legacy. The second disc includes a tour documentary, interviews with both Jim and Chris and more plus the pair of originals from the Jim McCarty Band show, one from the *Birdland* set and two Yardbirds classics "Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Sailor" and Howlin Wolf's "Smokestack Lightning." Standout classics like "Train Kept a Rollin'," "The Nazz are Blue," "Over Under Sideways Down" and "I'm a Man" all shine and the new Yardbirds songs fit right in. A sure highlight is "Dazed and Confused" with a full rave-up as performed in Jimmy Page's Yardbird days with the lyrics as adapted and sung by Keith Relf. *Making Tracks* is plenty of fun and I highly recommend it. Malcolm Kennedy

Barry Levenson
The Visit
(Rip Cat Records)

The Visit is Barry Levenson's fifth solo record and follow-up to the 2011 Rip Cat Records release *The Late Show*. Barry played with Canned Heat from 2006-2010; but has a long and notable career as a session player and sideman. *The Visit* includes two firsts for Levenson, one it is his recording vocal debut, singing on four tracks the other is recording covers of four artists who inspired him. Barry is supported by Hank Van Sickle on bass, Mike Sandberg on drums, Mike Thompson on keys and Phil Krawzak on horns. *The Visit* opens with the Otis Rush instrumental "I Wonder." The instrumental track is like Ronnie Earl meets BB and had a conversation with Albert. "Steel City" has a very jazzy feel while "Magic Groove" has much more of a blues thing going on. Bill Price takes the vocals on Bobby "Blue" Bland's "This Time I'm Gone for Good." Barry gets all swampy on his guitar and sings on *Lightnin' Slim's* "It's Mighty Crazy" with Jay Edwards blowing harp. Barry has the vocals again for the original "Talkin' to Myself" with a blues harp assist from Edwards. "Shadows at Midnight" has a T-Bone Walker feel and the rambunctious "Flip Side" recalls Freddie King. *The Visit* closes out with Price singing on Albert King's "You're Gonna Need Me." Very highly recommended. Malcolm Kennedy

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
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
The EveryLeaf Band (425) 369-4588
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
\$cratch 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
The Soulful 88s/Billy Spaulding (206) 310-4153
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
Willie & The Whips (206) 781-0444
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 Menteer 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
Seamons 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, Algon, 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. Donnalson'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, Algon (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
 Sound Check, Lynnwood: (425) 673-7625
 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
 Rico's Pub Pullman (509) 332 6566
 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)

- \$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@Wablu.es.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
 Rocko's Fireside, Everett: Rocko's "Frenchy Blues Jam," 6-9PM hosted by Kader Sundy.
 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 Cedar Stump, Arlington: Chris Leighton, Don Wilhelm, Jeff Morgan and Sean Denton, 8-11 pm
 The Village Inn Pub, Bellingham; w Jimmy D, 8pm
 The Old Village Pub, Lynnwood (3rd Thursday of the month); Chester Dennis Jones Band

MONDAYS

Café 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 ja 8 - 11pm
 Darrel's Tavern, Shoreline, open mic 830pm
 Half Time Saloon, Gig Harbor
 Madison Ave Pub, Everett; Unbound Blues Jam 730pm
 Aug 3 Unbound with Bill Davis & CD Woodbury
 Aug 10 Unbound with Annette Taborn & Carl T. Edwards
 Aug 17 Unbound with Billy Reed & Cory McDaniel
 Aug 24 Unbound with Ron Baker & Dan Taylor
 Aug 31 Unbound with Kevin Sutton & Domonic Espinoza
 The Mix, Seattle, open mic 8pm
 Skylark Café, West Seattle, open mic 8pm
 Yuppie Tavern, Kirkland; Heather B Blues Acoustic Jam 8pm

FRIDAYS

Urban Coffee Sumner, open mic 7pm

SATURDAYS

Old Village Pub, Lynnwood: Lou Echeverri & Friends



Have paint will travel
 Dennis "Juxtamuse" Hacker
juxtamuse@gmail.com



Live Art to Blues Jazz & Funk! #



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August 2016 Washington Blues Society 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.

Monday, August 1

G. Donnalson's, Tacoma - Brian Feist 7:30PM
Interbay Golf Course, Seattle - Stickshift Annie w/Kimball & the Fugitives 5:30PM

Tuesday, August 2

G. Donnalson's, Tacoma - Brian Feist 7:30PM
Bake's Place, Bellevue - Gotz Lowe Duo 6PM
Dimitrious Jazz Alley, Seattle - Eric Bibb & Corey Harris 7:30PM

Wednesday, August 3

G. Donnalson's, Tacoma - James Haye 7:30PM
Bake's Place, Bellevue - Gotz Lowe Duo 6PM
Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle - Drummerboy 8PM
Old Town Park, Tacoma - Leanne Trevalyan & Barbara Blue 6:30PM
CI Shenanigans, Tacoma - Maia Santell & House Blend 6PM
Dimitrious Jazz Alley, Seattle - Eric Bibb & Corey Harris 7:30PM

Thursday, August 4

Destination Harley-Davidson, Tacoma - Little Bill Trio 5PM
G. Donnalson's, Tacoma - Kareem Kandi 8PM
Bake's Place, Bellevue - Stapleton & Wilhelm 6PM
Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle - Chris Eger Band 8PM
Red Dog Saloon, Maple Valley - Junkyard Jane 8PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle - Brian Lee & the Orbiters 8PM
Historic Shell Station, Issaquah - Kevin Sutton & Jim McGlaughlin 7PM
Bad Albert's, Seattle - Annie Eastwood, Larry Hill, Tom Brighton & Bill Chism 6PM
The Triple Door, Seattle - Kacy & Clayton w/ Linda Ramsey 7:30PM
Dimitrious Jazz Alley, Seattle - Monty Alexander w/John Clayton & Jeff Hamilton 7:30PM

Friday, August 5

G. Donnalson's, Tacoma - Little Bill Englehart / Rod Cook duo 7:30PM
The Repp, Snohomish - Clint McCune 6PM
Bake's Place, Bellevue - Stapleton & Wilhelm 6PM, Butch Harrison & Good Company 9PM
Port Plaza, Olympia - Blues County Sheriff 7PM
Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle - Ridin' with the King - A tribute to the music of B.B. King 8PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle - Thunder Road 8PM
Dimitrious Jazz Alley, Seattle - Monty Alexander w/John Clayton & Jeff Hamilton 7:30PM & 9:30PM

Saturday, August 6

G. Donnalson's, Tacoma - Little Bill Englehart / Rod Cook duo 7:30PM
Patterson Cellars / Gorman Winery, Woodinville - Larry Murante 7PM
The Repp, Snohomish - Reggie Miles 6PM
Bake's Place, Bellevue - Mark DuFresne 8PM
Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle - Rose City Kings 8PM
Flotation Device, Gig Harbor - Junkyard Jane 9PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle - Scratch Daddy 8PM
Dimitrious Jazz Alley, Seattle - Monty Alexander w/John Clayton & Jeff Hamilton 7:30PM & 9:30PM

Sunday, August 7

Johnny's Dock, Tacoma - Little Bill Trio 5:00PM
Bake's Place, Bellevue - Double Play 6PM
The Spar, Tacoma - Billy Spaulding & the Soulful 88s 7PM
Hot Spot (across the street from Highway 99 Blues Club), Seattle - Rose City Kings 2PM
Dimitrious Jazz Alley, Seattle - Monty Alexander w/John Clayton & Jeff Hamilton 7:30PM

Monday, August 8

G. Donnalson's, Tacoma - Brian Feist 7:30PM

Tuesday, August 9

G. Donnalson's, Tacoma - Brian Feist 7:30PM
Bake's Place, Bellevue - Gotz Lowe Duo 6PM
Dimitrious Jazz Alley, Seattle - Fatoumata Diawara 7:30PM
Sound Check, Lynnwood: Washington Blues Society Monthly All-ages Blues Bash featuring Michael Powers (Second Act TBA).

Wednesday, August 10

G. Donnalson's, Tacoma - James Haye 7:30PM
Bake's Place, Bellevue - Gotz Lowe Duo 6PM
Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle - Wasted Words (Allman Brothers Tribute) 8PM
Dimitrious Jazz Alley, Seattle - Fatoumata Diawara 7:30PM

Thursday, August 11

Pacific Place Atrium, Seattle - Billy Joe Huels & the RCs 5PM
G. Donnalson's, Tacoma - Kareem Kandi 8PM
Bake's Place, Bellevue - Stapleton & Wilhelm 6PM
Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle - Danielle Nicole w/Kevin Andrew Sutton 8PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle - New Rhythmatics 8PM
McMenamins Anderson School, Bothell - Stacy Jones 6PM
Bad Albert's, Seattle - Annie Eastwood, Larry Hill, Tom Brighton & Bill Chism 6PM
Madison Park, Seattle - Mark Hurwitz & Gin Creek 6:30PM
Dimitrious Jazz Alley, Seattle - John Pizzarelli Quartet w/Jessica Molasky 7:30PM

Columbia City Theater, Seattle - The National Parks w/The Almost Faithful & Jenn Blosil 7PM

Friday, August 12

Patterson Cellars / Gorman Winery, Woodinville - Rod Cook 7PM
The Repp, Snohomish - The Ginger Ups 6PM
G. Donnalson's, Tacoma - Johnaye Kendrick 7:30PM
Bake's Place, Bellevue - Stapleton & Wilhelm 6PM, Paul Green & Straight Shot 9PM
Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle - Brandon Santini 8PM
Black Diamond Farmer's Market, Black Diamond - Billy Stoops 3PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle - Armed & Dangerous 8PM
Historic Shell Station, Issaquah - Cee Cee James & the Mission of Soul 7PM
Dawson's Tacoma - Brian Lee & the Orbiters 9PM
Jazzbones, Tacoma - Chris Cain 8PM
The Triple Door, Seattle - Ian Moore & Friends 8PM
Dimitrious Jazz Alley, Seattle - John Pizzarelli Quartet w/Jessica Molasky 7:30PM & 9:30PM

Saturday, August 13

Broadway Center For The Performing Arts (Broadway between 9th & 11th), Tacoma - Brew Five Three w/The Paul Green Band 1:30PM, Rod Cook & Toast 3PM, Barleywine Review 5PM, Stacy Jones Band 6:30PM
Patterson Cellars / Gorman Winery, Woodinville - Alex Britton 7PM
G. Donnalson's, Tacoma - Johnaye Kendrick 7:30PM
The Repp, Snohomish - Andrew Norsworthy 6PM
Bake's Place, Bellevue - Ventura Highway Revisited 8PM
Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle - Lisa Mann & Her Really Good Band 8PM
Rockin' M BBQ, Everett - Junkyard Jane 8PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle - 44th St Blues Band 8PM
Scotch & Vine, Des Moines - Brian Lee Trio 8PM
H2O, Anacortes - Blues Playground 7:30PM
Oxford Saloon, Snohomish - Mark Hurwitz & Gin Creek 9PM
The Triple Door, Seattle - Brazillian Jazz w/ Viceversa Duo: Guinga w/Stefania Tallini & Hans Teuber 8PM
Dimitrious Jazz Alley, Seattle - John Pizzarelli Quartet w/Jessica Molasky 7:30PM & 9:30PM

Sunday, August 14

Bake's Place, Bellevue - The Side Project 6PM
The Spar, Tacoma - Billy Barner & King Kom Beaux 7PM
Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle - Fiona Boyes w/ Lloyd Jones, Brian Foxworth & David Kahl 8PM
Dimitrious Jazz Alley, Seattle - John Pizzarelli

Quartet w/Jessica Molasky 7:30PM

Monday, August 15

G. Donnalson's, Tacoma - Brian Feist 7:30PM

Tuesday, August 16

G. Donnalson's, Tacoma - Brian Feist 7:30PM
Bake's Place, Bellevue - Gotz Lowe Duo 6PM
Dimitrious Jazz Alley, Seattle - Freddie Jackson 7:30PM

Wednesday, August 17

G. Donnalson's, Tacoma - James Haye 7:30PM
Bake's Place, Bellevue - Gotz Lowe Duo 6PM
Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle - Big Road Blues 8PM
Pike Place Bar & Grill, Seattle - Stickshift Annie w/Kimball Conant & the Fugitives 6PM
Dimitrious Jazz Alley, Seattle - Freddie Jackson 7:30PM

Thursday, August 18

G. Donnalson's, Tacoma - Kareem Kandi 8PM
Bake's Place, Bellevue - Stapleton & Wilhelm 6PM
Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle - T-Town Revue w/David Hudson, T-Boy Boyle, Dennis Ellis & Les White 8PM
City Hall Saloon, Cumberland - Junkyard Jane 5PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle - Cory McDaniels Blues Revue 8PM
Bad Albert's, Seattle - Annie Eastwood, Larry Hill, Tom Brighton & Bill Chism 6PM
Dimitrious Jazz Alley, Seattle - O'Connor Band 7:30PM

Friday, August 19

The Repp, Snohomish - Rod Cook 6PM
Patterson Cellars / Gorman Winery, Woodinville - Leanne Trevalyan 7PM
G. Donnalson's, Tacoma - Kareem Kandi 8PM
Bake's Place, Bellevue - Stapleton & Wilhelm 6PM, Shaggy Sweet 9PM
Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle - Everyleaf & the Trailer Park Kings 8PM
Little Roadside Tavern, Everson - Billy Stoops & the Dirt Angels w/Hambone Wilson 9PM
The Dragon Gate, Des Moines - Blue On Tap w/Nancy Claire 9PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle - Teen Rock Night 8PM
Snohomish Taste of Music/Carnegie Park, Snohomish - Naughty Blokes 7PM, Mojo Cannon 8:40PM
UsHistoric Shell Station, Issaquah - Lloyd Jones 7PM
Easy Monkey Taphouse, Shoreline - Brian Lee & the Orbiters 8PM
Jazzbones, Tacoma - Nolan Garrett 8PM
Dimitrious Jazz Alley, Seattle - O'Connor Band 7:30PM & 9:30PM

Saturday, August 20

The Triple Door, Seattle - Jr Cadillac w/Little Bill

Englehart & Rod Cook 8PM

Patterson Cellars / Gorman Winery, Woodinville - Andrew Norsworthy 7PM

G. Donnalson's, Tacoma - Jared Hall 7:30PM
The Repp, Snohomish - Randy Norris 6PM
Bake's Place, Bellevue - Shelley & the Curves 8PM
Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle - Daniel Castro Band 8PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle - Barrel House Jive Cats 8PM
Snohomish Taste of Music/Carnegie Park, Snohomish - Kenova 12PM, CC Adams Band 1:50PM, Polly O'Keary & the Rhythm Method 3:40PM, Sammy Eubanks 5:40PM, Left Hand Smoke 7:30PM
Dimitrious Jazz Alley, Seattle - O'Connor Band 7:30PM & 9:30PM

Sunday, August 21

Bake's Place, Bellevue - New Age Flamenco 6PM
The Spar, Tacoma - Blues Redemption 7PM
Hot Spot (across the street from Highway 99 Blues Club), Seattle - Daniel Castro Band 2PM
Snohomish Taste of Music/Carnegie Park, Snohomish - International Blues Challenge Finals w/Rafael Tranquilino Band, CD Woodbury Trio, Bobby Patterson Band, Naughty Blokes, Polly O'Keary & the Rhythm Method, The Charlatones, Stanislove, Cee Cee James & the Mission of M EMSoul, Altai, Mark Riley, Brett Benton 12P
Girl key Square, La Conner - Brian Lee & the Orbiters 1PM
Johnny's Dock, Tacoma - Maia Santell & House 5PM
Dimitrious Jazz Alley, Seattle - O'Connor Band 7:30PM

Monday, August 22

G. Donnalson's, Tacoma - Brian Feist 7:30PM

Tuesday, August 23

G. Donnalson's, Tacoma - Brian Feist 7:30PM
Bake's Place, Bellevue - Gotz Lowe Duo 6PM
Dimitrious Jazz Alley, Seattle - Lee Ritenour & Dave Grusin 7:30PM

Wednesday, August 24

G. Donnalson's, Tacoma - James Haye 7:30PM
Bake's Place, Bellevue - Gotz Lowe Duo 6PM
Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle - The Black Clouds 8PM
Dimitrious Jazz Alley, Seattle - Lee Ritenour & Dave Grusin 7:30PM

Thursday, August 25

Destination Harley-Davidson, Silverdale - Little Bill Engelhart / Rod Cook duo 5PM
G. Donnalson's, Tacoma - Kareem Kandi 8PM
Bake's Place, Bellevue - Stapleton & Wilhelm 6PM
Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle - Patti Allen & Monster Road 8PM
River Walk Park, Mt Vernon - Stacy Jones 6PM
Bad Albert's, Seattle - Annie Eastwood, Larry

Hill, Tom Brighton & Bill Chism 6PM
Bellwether Hotel, Bellingham - Mark Hurwitz & Gin Creek 6PM
Dimitrious Jazz Alley, Seattle - Lee Ritenour & Dave Grusin 7:30PM

Friday, August 26

Bake's Place, Bellevue - Stapleton & Wilhelm 6PM, Rod Cook & Toast w/Suze Sims 9PM
Patterson Cellars / Gorman Winery, Woodinville - Larry Murante 7PM
The Repp, Snohomish - Carolyn Cruso 6PM
Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle - Polly O'Keary & the Rhythm Method, CD Woodbury Band 8PM
Tula's, Seattle - Dave Peck Trio 7:30PM
Black Diamond Farmer's Market, Black Diamond - Leanne Trevalyan 3PM
Dimitrious Jazz Alley, Seattle - Lee Ritenour & Dave Grusin 7:30PM & 9:30PM

Saturday, August 27

Patterson Cellars / Gorman Winery, Woodinville - James Coates 7PM
The Repp, Snohomish - The Winterlings 6PM
Dawson's, Tacoma - Little Bill & the Blue Notes
Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle - Doctorfunk
Tula's, Seattle - Dave Peck Trio 7:30PM
Grazie, Bothell - Annie Eastwood w/The James Bernhard Band 7PM
J&M Cafe, Seattle - Mark Hurwitz & Gin Creek 9PM
Dimitrious Jazz Alley, Seattle - Lee Ritenour & Dave Grusin 7:30PM & 9:30PM

Sunday, August 28

The Spar, Tacoma - Little Bill & the Blue Notes 7PM
Hot Spot (across the street from Highway 99 Blues Club), Seattle - Big Road Blues 2PM
Dimitrious Jazz Alley, Seattle - Lee Ritenour & Dave Grusin 7:30PM

Monday, August 29

G. Donnalson's, Tacoma - Brian Feist 7:30PM

Tuesday, August 30

G. Donnalson's, Tacoma - Brian Feist 7:30PM
Bake's Place, Bellevue - Gotz Lowe Duo 6PM
Dimitrious Jazz Alley, Seattle - Otis Taylor 7:30PM

Wednesday, August 31

G. Donnalson's, Tacoma - James Haye 7:30PM
Bake's Place, Bellevue - Gotz Lowe Duo 6PM
Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle - Mark Hurwitz & Gin Creek 8PM
Dimitrious Jazz Alley, Seattle - Otis Taylor 7:30P

ATTENTION MUSIC PEOPLE!

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

Harvest Moon Festival: Cider, Brews, & Blues - Saturday, Sept. 10, 4:30-10:00 pm

Courtesy of the Mount Vernon Downtown Association (Photo of Lloyd Jones by Marilyn Stringer)

The Mount Vernon Downtown Association (MVDA) is excited to present the 2nd annual Harvest Moon Festival: Cider, Brews, & Blues on Saturday, September 10, 2016, from 4:30-10:00 pm. Envisioned as a community celebration of the fall harvest season, our signature fall event will be staged on the Skagit Riverwalk Plaza, following the Farmers Market in downtown Mount Vernon.

This year's theme will feature the bounty of our orchards and grain fields with local cideries and breweries sharing their wares, accompanied by award-winning blues bands. The MVDA is excited to showcase performances by Lloyd Jones, Stickshift Annie Eastwood with Kimball and the Fugitives, and Nick Vigarino's Back Porch Stomp. Bring your dancing shoes and lawn chairs to the Harvest Moon Festival: Cider, Brews & Blues! Advance tickets are \$20 per person and can be purchased at brownpapertickets.com. Same-day

tickets will be \$25 at the gate. Must be 21 or older to attend.

Portland, Oregon roots artist Lloyd Jones has recorded six critically acclaimed albums, toured internationally, and racked up dozens of major awards and accolades. He's a relentless road dog, hitting festival stages, Delbert's annual Sandy Beaches Cruises, and clubs all across the land, playing to enthusiastic crowds who can't get enough of his swampy blues, his back porch pick



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ing growl, and the groove. From his roots in muddy Oregon soil, he's forged a 30-plus-year career as an impassioned singer and fierce guitar slinger, a clever and soulful songwriter, a bandleader, record producer, and an almost strident torchbearer for all that's true and good about America's music. "When I heard Lloyd Jones live for the first time in January 1999, it was like exhaling after holding my breath for fifteen years!" - Delbert McClinton

Stickshift Annie with Kimball and the Fugitives features the flying fingers of Kimball Conant on lead guitar and vocals, one of the tightest rhythm sections in the Northwest, with Larry Hill or Phil Lane on bass and John Rockwell on drums, and the sultry words of Annie Eastwood. The band performs every style from Freddie King shuffles, smoldering grinders and Texas 2-beat blues, to Latin, jazz, swing, rock & roll, and R&B tunes. Kimball Conant performs on his vintage 1962 Gretsch electric guitar in the distinctive finger style made famous by Chet Atkins, and easily shifts to a deep down Johnny Winter style acoustic slide guitar for burning blues.

Annie's vocals combine the elements of blues and jazz with a unique sultry, sensitive tone that she can shape to rock the house.

"Nick Vigarino has performed in 13 countries and has been nominated for dozens of various music

awards, (garnering 24). Vigarino was inducted into the Washington Blues Society Hall of Fame as well as receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award. Having earned finalist status at the International Blues Challenge, he is now globally recognized as one of the top blues acts in the world. Be it a juke or a major festival, Nick delivers the story with a stinging guitar that is second to none." - Washington Blues Society, Seattle, Washington.

"Vigarino radiates an unpredictable fervor with slashing slide guitar, powerful vocals, funky licks, modern lyrics and his homemade "slop jar delta funk" blues. His style elevates the blues to a place where the roots are respected, yet nudged towards the future. He consistently captures, then rivets listeners with precise, passionate performances". - Jefferson Magazine (Sweden)

The Harvest Moon Festival is sponsored by the Mount Vernon Downtown Association, the Rick Epting Foundation for the Arts, KISM Radio, Hair & Body Mechanix and Skagit Valley Food Co-op. For more information, visit: www.mountvernon-downtown.org, email dep.mvda@gmail.com, or call (360) 336-3801.

(Photos: Lloyd Jones by Marilyn Stringer - left, Stickshift Annie & the Fugitives by Brian Jones - Bottom, Nick Vigarino by Margene - Right).



The 2016 Wallace Blues Festival in Idaho

(Photos by Paul Brown)



Below: The CDA Blues Mobile, Left: Curtis Salgado,
Right: Ayron Jones & The Way



Flat 5

By Sylvia Breece



Barry Mangelo, lounge singer.





2016 Blues Picnic



The Washington Blues Society Presents:

The 2016 BLUES PICNIC

SUNDAY AUGUST 28th 12-6pm. \$5

THE CONWAY MUSE

18444 Spruce St. Conway WA 98238

MUSIC & POTLUCK

All beverages will be for sale at the venue

NO outside beverages will be allowed in.





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~TRUE BLUES~

AUGUST 2 - 3

FREDDIE JACKSON



Aug 16-17

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Fatoumata Diawara



Aug 9-10

OTIS TAYLOR



AUGUST 30 - 31

MUSIC OF AUGUST

MONTY ALEXANDER WITH JOHN CLAYTON
AND JEFF HAMILTON AUG 4-7
JOHN PIZZARELLI QUARTET WITH
JESSICA MOLASKEY AUG 11-14
O'CONNOR BAND FEATURING
MARK O'CONNOR AUG 18 - 21
LEE RITENOUR AND DAVE GRUSIN
AUG 23 - 28



GRAPHICS PAUL@PAULSTEINERDESIGNER.COM