

## In This Issue...



Read About Chris Eger's CD Release Party!

2



Letter from the Editor

Officers and Directors

This is		7	
I	O.		3
			12
		X	
			9

Welcome Back, Shemekia Copeland! (Photo by Joseph A. Rosen)

Bellevue Jazz & Blues Festival

Spring Sunbanks Preview 2016 BB Award Winners

One Nominee's Reaction

ton Blues Society Preside
A thousand of us it becomes \$200,000. Two
thousand it becomes \$400,000! That is the "Power
of Numbers. This is a very reasonable amount to
donate for most of us and because of the power of
numbers it carries a huge impact! Please give this
some serious thought and check our Washington

Blues Society Facebook page for the upcoming

shows and pick the show that you want to attend!

Let's make this happen just like we did for the

Blues Hall of Fame in Memphis!

This year's Washington Blues Society Best of the Blues award show has happened and what a show it was! The after party at Hector's was packed almost all the way to the end. Lots of music, lots of surprises and lots of fun was had by all who attended! I want to say "Thank You!" to my entire Board of Directors and our great volunteers who stepped up and pulled this entire show together and made it flow without any hang-ups, kept it on time, and finished up right at the scheduled time. I must express my appreciation to Rick Bowen, Kevin Sutton and Casey Sutton for putting the music sets together and our great stage crew of Paul Quilty, Willow Stone and Renee Anderson for their quick set changes. And, for my great front of house team of Rhea Rolfe, Jane Henderson and Roxana Williams helping all the attendees get through the arrival line and seated in a timely manner. I also

want to acknowledge Sheri Roberts-Greimes for

her wonderful program, and Amy Sassenberg for



Coming to Sunbanks: Hamilton Loomis (Photo by James Westveer)

Chris Eger Band CD Release	12
Winthrop Blues Festival Update	13
June Blues Festival Updates	13
Membership Opportunities	14

#### Letter from Washingt ent Tony Frederickson

10

11

Hi Blues Fans,

This month I am writing about the importance of supporting the Save KPLU campaign and keeping it in its existing format, but as a community nonprofit. The clock is ticking and the time is now to write your check in support of this worthy effort. By keeping KPLU as it is not only will we be saving over thirty jobs, several locally produced shows, support of music educational programs, and just plain high quality music! Blues, Jazz, and local northwest relevant news! But most importantly we will be keeping the music alive!

This last Friday, April 29th up at the H2O in Anacortes we held the first of several fundraisers around the area that we will be putting on in support of KPLU. We are approaching this in a novel way using the "Power of Numbers" to build our contribution from the members and supporters of the Washington Blues Society. We will be changing a \$30 cover for most of these shows and having silent auctions and fifty/fifty raffles, etc. But we are also asking folks to consider donating \$200 in a pledge to KPLU. For this we will let you into the KPLU fundraiser of your choice for free and give you a free one year membership in the Washington Blues Society. There are thousands of blues fans in our local area. If just five hundred of us do this \$200 donation it will become a \$100,000 donation to the Save KPLU campaign.

her help in getting sponsors for the Best of the Blues award show, and Roy Brown for his talents as an emcee. You all rocked and I grateful to all of you for all your efforts!

For those of you who missed this event be sure to make time next year to come and support our great Pacific Northwest talent.

Next year we will be doing our nominating and voting entirely online! It will be easier for all dues current members to get their nominations submitted and their final votes in for their choices for Best of the Blues.

It's a great time to be a member of the Washington Blues Society! Thanks to all our members and to those who haven't joined in the fun yet, join now and see all that the Washington Blues Society has to offer!

See you out at a show!

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



Jeremy Wildhaber Reading the Bluesletter! (Photo by Eric Steiner)

15

15

18 21

Gig Town is Here!
Preview: Rally at the Border!
Blues CD and Show Reviews
Blues Talent Guide

Hi Bluesletter Readers,

This month, the Bluesletter has coverage of blues events ranging from the annual Rally at the Border Blues Festival in Oroville near the Canadian border, the Bellevue Jazz and Blues Festival on the Eastside to the Keeping the Blues Alive Awardwinning Winthrop Rhythm and Blues Festival.

We also welcome first-time advertisers in Gig Town and Jeremy's Farm to Table Restaurant in Centralia. In keeping with my interests in informing Bluesletter readers about blues music throughout the Pacific Northwest. I'm admittedly a technological dinosaur when it comes to new media, but Washington Blues Society Vice President Rick Bowen introduced me to Gig Town, a company that seeks to link musicians and fans together through a unique social media app. I hope that efforts like Gig Town will be successful; I've heard anecdotally that this may be a new source of revenue for musicians. Earlier this year, Malcolm "Yard Dog" Kennedy and I drove to meet up with frequent Bluesletter contributor Rocky Nelson at his current home base near Chehalis in Salkum, Washington.

During our visit, Rocky introduced Malcolm and me to Jeremy's Farm to Table Restaurant not far from Interstate 5 in Chehalis. Jeremy Wildhaber's restaurant has been frequently recognized as "Best Dinner Restaurant" by the Lewis County



Eitenne Charles will play the Bellevue Jazz and Blues Festival!

Julia Bruco I convun	
Blues Venue Guide	22
Blues Society Membership Form	24
Blues Jam Listings	25
Blues Open Mics Listings	25



Coming to Sunbanks: Joey Delgado

(Photo by James Westveer)

,	May Blues Calendar	26
	Flat 5 Blues Cartoon	28
	Welcome Back Dudley Taft	28
	CDA Blues Festival Photos	30

#### **Eric Steiner's Letter from the Editor**

Chronicle. Jeremy's menus use locally-sourced ingredients, offer creative entrees and scratchmade soups. The restaurant also features local blues and folk musicians weekly. During our visit to Centralia on Easter Sunday, we also saw the recently restored 1916 Baldwin locomotive of the historic Chehalis-Centralia Railroad driven by conductor and railroad board member Harold Borovec. The mood around the train depot was very festive as volunteers staged an old fashioned Easter egg hunt for children of all ages, and everywhere we went in Centralia and Salkum, we felt welcome. The Brown Paper Shack Tavern, across from the Salkum Super Market also hosts live music not far from Rocky's home, and the pub's décor interior includes painted sawmill blades from the region's roots as a logging community. One of the many highlights of that day with Rocky and Malcolm was presenting them with their 2016 Certificates of Nomination in the "Best Blues Writer" category. Due to this issue's deadline, we'll have more complete coverage of this year's "BB Awards" in a future Bluesletter.

This issue also includes Rocky's "thank you" column to Washington Blues Society members who nominated him in the "Best Blues Writer" category and updates on the momentum of the Save KPLU Campaign (home to a number of original programs including the "All Blues" radio show hosted by Keeping the Blues Alive Award recipient John Kessler).





Until next month, please share this Bluesletter with friends and gp to our Blues Bash in May!.

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

#### **Washington Blues Society**

#### Proud Recipient of a 2009 Keeping the Blues Alive Award

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#### June 2016 Deadlines

Ad Reservations: May 5th - editor@wablues.org May 5th - calendar@wablues.org Calendar: May 5th - editor@wablues.org **Editorial:** Camera Ready Ads: May 12th - editor@wablues.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 (onlyas an attachment)

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#### On the Cover:

Sara Brown Band from Kettle Falls, Washington (Photo by One Mind Creations - Alan Birdsell and Sherry Jensen)

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## Headliners Announced for the 2016 Bellevue Jazz & Blues Festival!

The five-day festival will also showcase more than 50 free shows of local jazz, blues talent

From June 1 to 5, the Bellevue Downtown Association (BDA) will bring together top talent for the 9th Annual Bellevue Jazz and Blues Festival. Featured artists, American blues vocalist Shemekia Copeland and jazz recording artist and trumpeter Etienne Charles, will perform at the Theatre at Meydenbauer Center while local jazz and blues artists play at several Downtown Bellevue dining establishments. Local funk and jazz band McTuff kicks off the festival at Bake's Place on Wednesday, June 1, with Lee Oskar & Special Guests on Thursday, June 2. Tickets go on sale March 25 and will be available at www. BellevueDowntown.com via Brown Paper Tickets.

Bellevue Jazz & Blues Festival Featured Artists

McTuff: 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 1 | Bake's Place | \$15. The Seattle-based funk and jazz band began in 2008 as an ode to jazz organ greats Jimmy Smith and Captain Jack McDuff. The three-person ensemble is known for playing powerful funk and jazz led by Joe Doria's hard-hitting Hammond B3 organ.

Lee Oskar & Special Guests: 8:30 p.m. Thursday, June 2 | Bake's Place | \$25. Known for his unique, cross-over blend of blues and jazz, funk, latin and rock, Oskar has been connecting with musical audiences throughout the world for over 40 years. His unique role as a founding member and former lead harmonica player for the pioneer funk/jazz group, War, won him international renown for over two and a half decades.

Etienne Charles: 7:30 p.m. Friday, June 3 | Theatre at Meydenbauer Center | \$25 (Students \$10). Only in his 20s, Trumpeter Etienne Charles has already recorded three impressive and well-received albums. His new album, Creole Soul, is a captivating journey of new jazz expression. Charles is one of the most compelling and exciting young jazz artists ushering the genre into a groundbreaking new territory. He is also an assistant professor of jazz trumpet at Michigan State University.

Shemekia Copeland: 7 p.m. & 9:30 p.m. Saturday, June 4 | Theatre at Meydenbauer Center | \$30 (Students \$15). Shemekia Copeland showcases a wide-open vision of contemporary blues, roots and soul music. She recorded her first album at 18 years old which was well-received by music fans around the world. Copeland went on to record three Grammy-nominated albums between 2000 and 2005, earning her eight Blues Music Awards. Most recently, her album *Outskirts of Love* was nominated for a 2016 Grammy for Best Blues



(Shemekia Copeland (Photo by Joseph A. Rosen)

Album. She has sung with Eric Clapton, Bonnie Raitt, B.B. King, Buddy Guy, Mick Jagger, Keith Richards, Carlos Santana and James Cotton.

Established in 2008, the Bellevue Jazz & Blues Festival is a cultural and community event that attracts national artists, showcases regional talent and draws diverse audiences. Headlining artists were selected in collaboration with John Gilbreath, executive director of Earshot Jazz. Past featured artists include Branford Marsalis Booker T. Jones, Poncho Sanchez, Bill Frisell, Charles Lloyd, Terence Blanchard, Dianne Reeves, Hubert Laws, Mingus Big Band, Spanish Harlem Orchestra and Seattle Repertory Jazz Orchestra. The event was renamed the Bellevue Jazz & Blues Festival in

2015.

The festival is produced by the Bellevue Downtown Association, a non-profit membership organization charged with leading the evolution of Downtown Bellevue as the economic and cultural heart of the Eastside. The 2016 Bellevue Jazz & Blues Festival sponsors are the City of Bellevue, Microsoft, Washington Federal, Aegis of Bellevue, 4Culture, KPLU 88.5, 425 Magazine, 91.3 KBCS, The Bellevue Reporter and Gravity Creative.

More information about the Bellevue Jazz & Blues Festival can be found at www.BellevueDowntown. com.

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## **Blues Festival Preview: Spring Sunbanks!**

By J Henderson

Winner of seven "Best of the Blues" awards from the Washington Blues Society, this year's spring Sunbanks, May 19-22, promises to be another in the long line of memorable shows staged along-side beautiful Banks Lake in Eastern Washington.

With a reputation for featuring top-shelf national and regional performers, this year's line-up is no exception. In fact, Saturday night's line-up features artists who have all been International Blues Challenge finalists, including 2016 Challenge winners the Delgado Brothers, Matt Anderson (Solo/Duo 2010), Selwyn Birchwood (Band 2013), and Karen Lovely (Finalist, 2010). James Harmon, winner of two Blues Music Awards, will be taking the stage Sunday night. We're talking, certifiably top-shelf, certifiably blues.

In fact, the four-day festival is packed with blues in all it's beautiful incarnations, from roots to rock. But a great festival line-up is more than just a collection of performances. Talent buyer and festival manager Billy Stoops explains that acquiring the talent for a festival is much easier than "curating," i.e. deciding which act is best suited for which day and in what order the bands should appear. "Each day of the festival has it's own energy," he says, so care is taken to design the shows to reflect, reinforce, and build on that energy.

Thursday night finds everybody ready to relax, party a little (or a lot) and hear some good music in an intimate setting. Good music there will be - at the Cantina, starting with Adam Hendricks at 8:00. Hendricks plays acoustic guitar and sings within the classic folk format, but with modern themes and his own distinctive style.

Billy Stoops is up next (9:00), pulling out his excellent solo show of mostly originals. We can also expect the usual colorful banter and raunchiness, as he welcomes everyone to the festival.

At 10:00, we get the answer to the question, "What do you get when two metal heads try to make music on grandpa's guitars?" - Acoustic Noise. Coming to us out of Portland, OR, Matt Stoops and Emily Aldridge play everything from "pop to folk, punk to funk" - with attitude.

Forest Beutel closes out Thursday night with banjo, harmonica, and his trademark rough-voiced vocals. His songs speak to common experiences, but his words and music sparkle with originality – a satisfying end to a great evening.

Friday night is the longest party-night of the fourday festival. All afternoon the energy builds as people arrive and reconnect with friends they haven't seen since the last festival. When the music starts, the grand party begins in earnest. The line-up includes a fine collection of bands - all from the left side of the Cascades - and moves quite logically from Americana to Chicago—style blues, all designed to help people get their party on. But this is Sunbanks, so there's going to be a little "twang" mixed in with your blues, beginning with the first act on Friday night.

The Twang Junkies with Bob Hill kick the evening off at 4:30. Their band name says it all, except for the part about spot-on harmonies, tight arrangements, and original songs. These guys will have you dancing from the get-go.

6:30 brings singer-songwriter Leanne Trevalyan to the stage with the Trevalyan Triangle. Intelligent lyrics and dulcet melodies delivered by one of the best voices in the business – the Trevalyan Triangle goes well-beyond simple geometry.

At 8:00, fresh from her European tour, Stacy Jones and her band ramp up the energy with tunes from her latest CD, including her original, "Can't Do Nothin' Right, which won this year's International Music and Entertainment Award for Best Blues Song. Stacy Jones heats it up on vocals, guitar, and harp, backed by a spirited, well-rehearsed hand

Billy Stoops & the Dirt Angels at 9:30 will also be showcasing a CD, which was recently nominated for a Best of Blues award. A Jazzbones show in March inspired a packed dance floor from beginning to end, so fans can expect a high-energy performance and lots of fun.

Closing out the Friday night show at 11:00, the Ken DeRouchie Band, out of Portland, OR, will entertain us with original blues, soul, R&B, and funk. A blazin' horn section, four-part harmonies, and front man DeRouchie on guitar and lead vocals - this band has a reputation for delivering the goods.

Most commonly heard admonition on Saturday morning? — "I've got to PACE myself!" After a late night with old and new friends and a brief recovery over breakfast, folks are ready to explore the many opportunities for recreation Sunbanks has to offer: water sports, boating, miniature golf, and the lake area near the stage where folks enjoy bobbing around on inflatable rafts, lashing them together to form "islands."

There are on-site showers, a general store, boutique, and espresso at the Lodge, as well as good barbeque and burgers in the Cantina. Outside the lodge, vendors and craftsmen offer festival gear, jewelry, etc. For people who like to sight see, there ARE sights to see - particularly Grand Coulee Dam and the Steam Boat Rock area. There's lots of history and geology to experience, as well as a really BIG dam. Damn!

By the time the music starts at 1:00, the Sunbanks tribe is refreshed and ready for the next earful. Vaughn Jensen Band kicks off the festivities with great original songs and fresh interpretations of blues favorites. Vaughn is the real deal, so when his buddy Perry Roper joins him on stage, we'll be witnessing a guitar master face-off.

Franco Paletta and the Stingers bring their energetic Chicago-style blues to the stage at 2:30 pm. Admired for his prowess on harp, his unique vocal style, and showmanship, Franco and his band intend to get the fans out in front of the stage and dancing.

Coming to us out of Southern Texas, the Barnyard Stompers perform at 4:00. Unabashedly calling themselves "Rockin' Rednecks," this power duo plays music that's a mixture of classic country, dirty blues, and southern rock.

At 5:30 Matt Anderson takes the stage—the first of the four bands with IBC finalist credentials. In addition to his IBC win as a solo artist, Matt has won multiple Juno awards in his native Canada. He'll be playing with his band this time—the Bona Fide, a three-piece powerhouse built to showcase Matt's soulful voice and songwriting.

Oregonian Karen Lovely - as well loved and familiar as she in the Pacific Northwest - always pleases, with every performance reinforcing her growing stature in the blues music world. The talented vocalist and songwriter has been nominated for 4 Blues Music Awards, including her nomination this year as Best Contemporary Blues Female

Artist. Karen and her band perform at 7 pm.

At 9:00, the winners of this year's International Blues Challenge, the Delgado Brothers take the stage. And yes, they really are brothers. There's Joey D, who won Best Guitar honors at the IBC, Bob Delgado on bass and vocals, and Steve Delgado on vocals and drums. David B. Kelly adds Hammond B3 to the mix. The Delgado Brothers have played together for more than 30 years, never really considering themselves a blues band. According their bio, they spent that time being "music-makers, collaborators and ordinary citizens, raising children, grieving the loss of parents, marrying, and divorcing" and creating music to reflect those experiences. The result is the BLUES played well by an incredibly tight band - and music that resonates both aesthetically and emotionally.

Closing out the night is Alligator Records artist, Selwyn Birchwood, from Tampa, Florida, who will be bringing his band of veteran players and an energetic mix of contemporary and traditional blues. Schooled in guitar and lap steel by the great Sonny Rhodes, Selwyn has been called a "next generation bluesman" with a style all his own.

Sunday is the last day of this great festival and the mood will be celebratory. Can it get much better than this? Hell, yes – there's a whole other day of festival magic and another collection of great blues acts.

Singer/songwriter James Coates starts things off at 1:00. Coming to us from Sumner, WA, James' heartfelt vocals, skilled acoustic guitar playing and showmanship enable him to connect with his audience.

Sara Brown and her powerhouse vocals have been honored multiple times by the Inland Empire Blues Society, as Best Female Blues Singer and Best Female Performer. Up-beat and full of sass, Sara Brown is backed by a fine group of veteran players. Their set starts at 2:30.

Then, at 4:00, Shoot Jake – a tasty three-piece band out of Yakima– steps up. With Ben Johnson on guitar, Lindsey Johnson on drums, and Dustin Radenmacher on bass, the band will very likely be playing tunes from their soon to be released CD.

Grammy-nominated James Harman and his Bamboo Porch Revue delivers what has been described as "rollicking, low-down, juke-joint blues," beginning at 5:30. Harmon's prowess on harp has earned him over 20 Blues Music Award nominations and two awards for his contributions to the Blind Pig release, "Remembering Little Walter," in 2014. His band, the Icehouse Blues Band, opened regularly for Canned Heat, and James was the harmonica player on many ZZ Top albums.

Closing out the festival is the very fun Hamilton Loomis Band. Originally from Galveston, Texas, Hamilton is a Sunbanks favorite. This compact band makes a big sound and stages a highly entertaining show, with rockin' guitar, sizzling harmonica, and smart, danceable music. What a way to end a four-day party!

Planning to attend the festival? You'll want to arrange for lodging soon. There is scenic tent camping, as well as lakeside rustic cabins, and villas with 1, 2, or 5 bedrooms and full kitchens. RV sites, which are sometimes reserved for YEARS, are a little harder to come by. There are some moderately priced motels nearby, as well. Check out the Sunbanks website for more information on accommodations.

And mark your calendars for September 8-11. With Too Slim, Mark Hummel w/Charlie Beatty and Anson Funderburgh, Leroy Bell and His only Friends, Courtney Marie Andrews, the Little Bill Trio, Junkyard Jane w/Sue Orfield and Lee Bob and the Truth already committed to perform, it's bound to be another great Sunbanks Festival. For more information, please visit: www.sunbanksfestival.com and www.sunbanksresort.com



Above: The Night Sky & Stage at Sunbanks (Photo by James Westveer)

Below: James Coates from Sumner, Washington (Photo by Bill Bungard)





### One Nominee's Reaction...

By Rocky Nelson

I wanted to take this opportunity in the Bluesletter to thank the membership of the Washington Blues Society for my first-ever nomination as the best blues writer for the Washington State Blues Society during this year's awards show! As Etta James said, "Blues is my business, and business is good!"

I entered the fray known as the Washington State Blues Society Board of Directors more than 10 years ago as Secretary. Since then, I have submitted articles for the Bluesletter and it's been a privilege for this old rock and roller to share his passion for the blues in print. Most of you have spent your lifetime and careers all about the blues and I naturally gravitated to the blues after learning more and more about the real roots of rock and roll.

I started out as your Secretary after being Shanghaied by none other than now my two good friends Rhea Rolfe and Eric Steiner from my post as Worthy Chaplin at the longest continuous running blues venue in Seattle, the Salmon Bay Eagles. I searched for the roots of rock and roll, so the fit was natural to me and Eric Steiner saw an opportunity to recruit another volunteer into the blues society fold. I blame him, really. It's all his damn fault.

Literally, within seconds of that first meeting, I was nominated and confirmed the Board Secretary. Before I knew it, I bought a tape recorder to transcribe minutes at some pretty convoluted Board meetings. I gotta tell you: some of those meetings rivaled tennis matches worthy of Rafael Nadal or Roger Federer: proposals and counter-proposals were bandied about back and forth; hell, I even called "time out" numerous times when Board members got in heated discussions about the minutiae of blues festivals, Blues Bashes and merchandise options. Despite agendas and meetings that would make Linda Blair's head spin, it was an honor to serve as your Secretary.

I have made many lifetime friends through my association with the blues society: you have taken me in as a member of your blues family. There are way too many people to mention that I have met, and can now call friends, as a result of my volunteer work for the blue society. Thank you for opening up to me; I was humbled just by receiving a nomination this year. You let me into your lives so I may know you personally, chronicle your Board business, attend your gigs, represent you as a Judge at the International Blues Challenge in Memphis and entertain people by my writing about your abilities entertaining the public about the blues.

Blues societies like the Washington Blues Society are keeping this musical tradition alive. Collectively, you bring joy and entertainment to the people. I hope that I entertained you also over the

years with my writing. You have given me a lot to be thankful for: I write this article with an attitude of gratitude simply for that reason.

I spent two years as Secretary and, from there, I went to war in Afghanistan as a civilian for the Army Corps of Engineers. I took the Washington Blues Society international by developing, producing and hosting the first officially-santctioned all blues radio program in a war zone on American Forces Network, the first of its kind in American armed forces' history.

Shemekia Copeland's manager, John Hahn, said that "He literally built this radio program, which was outstanding, from the ground up with minimal financial help, soliciting outside support from record labels and managers such as myself. It was a labor of love and its success was no minor accomplishment.

Bruce Iglauer, founder of Alligator records, added that "His passion for this non-mainstream form of American music is intense, which resulted in his founding his radio program to share his music with other service men and women."

I had the honor of having many American flags flown on missions for those people who helped me along the way. I would like to quote some very special people I met along the blues trail to have them tell my story.

Bill Luckett sent me a thank you for delivering one such flag to the Ground Zero Blues Club in Clarksdale Mississippi.

"I met Rocky Nelson a few years ago," said Bill. "I certainly appreciated his kindness and generosity for making this presentation. Although I have only known Mr. Nelson for a short time, he certainly left an indelible impression upon those who were witness to the flag presentation. The flag hangs in Ground Zero Blues Club to this day."

"I was honored to accompany Rock to the Ground Zero Blues Club where he presented a flag flown to club owner and Academy Award winner Morgan Freeman," continued John Hahn. "As I watched him make the formal presentation on stage, I felt proud that this country has men like Rock."

Due to a few health problems, my time volunteering for the Washington Blues Society is more limited than in the past. This, however, did not deter Eric Steiner and Malcolm Kennedy to visit me in Salkum, Washington to dispel me of this notion. They never gave up: each of these weasels kept talking in the future tense about me writing for the Bluesletter and helping out when I can.

However, I must tell you all that this nomination, although I am very, very grateful for, is not my

most crowning achievement on behalf of the Washington Blues Society.

I am blessed that I can call Bruce Iglauer a friend, I owe that to my involvement in the Washington Blues Society.

"When an elderly blues artist passed away, he was gracious enough to present her family with an American flag flown in her honor in Afghanistan," said Bruce. "He also wrote a heartfelt eulogy which was read at her funeral. This meant a great deal to the family, and is an indication or Mr. Nelson's quality as an individual. He did this without any request that his name be mentioned at the funeral service, or any spotlight be shined upon him; he did this simply because it was a good thing to do."

During R&R from Afghanistan, I was privileged to be a guest of The Blues Foundation at the Blues Music Awards in recognition of my "Blues Power Hour" radio program. At that awards show, I saw the last public performance of the artist to which Bruce referred.

It was an honor to meet the late Queen of the Blues and see hear sing "Wang Dang Doodle" for the last time.

Her name was Koko Taylor.





Top: Rocky Nelson with former Blues Foundation CEO Jay Sieleman (Photo by Eric Steiner) Above: Rocky Nelson hanging out with Johnny Winter at the Mount Baker Rhythm and Blues Festival.(Photo by Zab)

# Washington Blues Society 2016 Best of the Blues Awards ("BB Awards") Winners Announced!

The Washington Blues Society's annual Best of the Blues Awards ("BB Awards") was held at the Kirkland Performance Center on Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> to honor musicians and artists nominated by blues society members in 31 award categories.

Of the 17 nominations received by the Stacy Jones Band and its individual members, bandleader Stacy Jones took home the BB Award plaque in the Blues Songwriter category, and the band's latest CD, Whiskey, Wine and Water, was voted Best Washington Blues Recording. Drummer Rick Bowen received the BB Award for Best Blues Writer and Tom Jones received the BB Award for Best Blues Bass. Frequent Stacy Jones Band guest guitarist Kevin Sutton received BB Awards in the Mark DuFresne Male Vocalist, Acoustic Blues Guitar and Blues Performer categories.

Earlier this year, Ben Hunter and Joe Seamons represented the Washington Blues Society and the International Blues Challenge in Memphis and won first place in the solo/duo category in Memphis. At this year's BB Awards, Ben and Joe received BB Awards in the Solo/Duo Act and Little Bill and the Blue Notes Traditional Blues Act categories, and another first-time nominee, the CD Woodbury Trio, won the BB Award for Best New Blues Band.

Award-winning harmonica player community blues festival sponsor Jim McLaughlin received the Lifetime Achievement Award for his contributions to Washington's blues community, the Best Community Blues Festival Award for the Ebey Island Freedom Fest, and was inducted into the Washington Blues Society Hall of Fame. Tacoma's Junkyard Jane was inducted as a band into the Washington Blues Society Hall of Fame and Angelo Ortiz received the BB Award in the Instrumentalist - Other category for his work on the congas. Mike Marinig received the BB Award for Best Blues Horn, Mike "Papa" Baxter for Best Blues Piano/Keyboard, Nick Vigarino for Slide Blues Guitar and Mark DuFresne won the Paul Green Blues Harmonica Award.

Polly O'Keary received the Blues Female Vocalist award and the Rafael Tranquilino Band was voted Best Blues Act. Due to a tie, the Sunbanks Music Festival and the Winthrop Rhythm and Blues Festival each received a BB Award in the Best Blues Festival category.

"The BB Awards is a signature event of the Washington Blues Society and we are pleased to have returned to the Kirkland Performance Center," said Washington Blues Society President Tony Frederickson. "It was an outstanding night of music that honored the past, the present and the future of blues music in the Pacific Northwest. The evening featured many of the nominees and winners performing live and our after-party at Hector's in downtown Kirkland was amazing!"

The Washington Blues Society is an all-volunteer non-profit organization dedicated to promoting, preserving and advancing the culture of blues and roots music in Washington State and is affiliated with the Blues Foundation (<a href="www.blues.org">www.blues.org</a>) in Memphis, Tennessee.

Category and Award Recipient
Mark DuFresne Blues Male
Vocalist: Kevin Sutton
Blues Female Vocalist: Polly
O'Keary

Electric Blues Guitar: Rod Cook Slide Blues Guitar: Nick Vigarino

**Blues Bass: Tom Jones** 

Chris Leighton Blues Drummer:

Dave McCabe

Blues Horn: Mike Marinig Paul Green Blues Harmonica:

Mark DuFresne

Blues Piano/Keyboards: Mike

"Papa" Baxter

**Acoustic Blues Guitar: Kevin** 

Sutton

**Instrumentalist - Other: Angelo** 

Ortiz (conga)

**Blues Act: Rafael Tranquilino** 

Band

Little Bill & the Blue Notes Traditional Blues Act: Ben Hunter

and Joe Seamons

Solo/Duo Blues Act: Ben Hunter

and Joe Seamons

New Blues Band: CD Woodbury

Blues Performer: Kevin Sutton Blues Songwriter: Stacy Jones Blues Recording: "Whiskey, Wine

and Water," Stacy Jones Band

Blues Club: Highway 99 Blues Club

Blues Writer: Rick Bowen

Blues Image: Santa's Elves in the Bluesletter (Denise Hathaway)

Blues Graphic Artist: Dennis

Hacker

Blues DJ: Clancy Dunagin Keeping the Blues Alive: Eric Steiner

Lifetime Achievement Award: Jim McLaughlin

Washington Blues Society Hall of

Fame: Jim McLaughlin

Washington Blues Society Hall of Fame Band: Junkvard Jane

Non-Festival Blues Event

Raven's Jam for Cans

**Blues Festival (Tie)** 

**Sunbanks Music Festival** 

Winthrop Rhythm and Blues

**Festival** 

Best Community Blues Festival Ebey Island Freedom Fest Open Blues Jam: Madison Pub

## Chris Eager Band CD Release Party for *Show Me Where To Sign*March 19, 2016 at the Lincoln Theatre in Mount Vernon

Story and Photos by TS Sutherland (NW Groove)

Maria and I had already planned on attending The Chris Eger Band's "Show Me Where to Sign" CD release party, but a few weeks prior to the show she became ill and priorities changed. After a 14-day stay in the hospital, including three days in a coma, her priority was to get her life back. I agreed. When she said she wanted to see The CEB one day after her release, well, darn, she twisted my arm! Like the title track says: "Live free or die...Baby, show me where to sign!"

Now, I could easily turn this piece into an article about "The Healing Power of Music," but -- I'm not going to. This night, this party, this celebration was about the joy of music and sharing that joy with five-hundred of your closest friends at Mount Vernon's Lincoln Theatre.

Yes, five-hundred. Sold out. Packed.

At 29, Eger shows that his roots run deeper than his years, kicking things off with Cold Blood's "Valdez in the Country" and "Work" by Average White Band. The rest of the evening's set was peppered by covers of other notable classic tracks, such as Robert Cray's "Smoking Gun," "No, No, No" by Hamilton Loomis, Grand Funk's "I'm Your Captain," Vince Gill's "Liza Jane," "Awaiting Redemption" by Hal Ketchum and highlighted by songs from the new album, as well as a couple from the self-produced disc released a few years back. Throughout the show there were raffle drawings for baskets containing CEB swag and autographed/hand-written lyrics by Eger and the album's producer, Eric Heatherly (whom contributed as a writer on the project, as well).

On hooking up with Heatherly, Eger told me he saw him "for the first time at Winthrop, Washington (2 Days in the Valley Country music festival) in 2000, not long after watching SRV's Austin City Limits performance and being inspired to play guitar. Truly a life changing experience, and my Dad and I were instant fans. We went to half a dozen shows. whenever he toured the west coast, for the next seven or eight years and gained familiarity with him. Over the next few years, I started recording my own tunes and covers. A friend of mine that worked with Eric for a time would secretly forward him some of my music. One day in 2013, out of the blue, I got a message from Eric saying "When you're ready to record a top notch album down here in Nashville, I'll produce it for ya!" I was blown away!"

This message lead to a full-length, quality studio release, where he worked with some of the best session players in Nashville. "The recording process was amazing to me," Eger said. "These players listen to a demo of your song, give the chart a once over and hit the red button! It was

an honor to be able to play with them in the studio." Including co-writing "Eatin' Crow" with Heatherly and Stacy Mitchhart: "Stacy is such a cool guy. I have gotten to know him during my trips to Nashville, seeing him and his band at Bourbon St. Blues and Boogie Bar in Printer's Alley. Eric set up a writing session for the three of us at Fry Pharmacy Studio. I wanted to write a pretty straight-forward blues tune, and Stacy was definitely the man for the job!"

Eger (lead vocals, guitar) was backed by The CEB: Mark Clark (drums), his father Randall Eger (bass, vocals), and the Powerhouse Horns, Pete Kirkman and Mike West. His mother, Piper, sang back up on a couple numbers, while guest guitarist Johnny Brewer (from The Naughty Blokes) and "Uncle" Rick Jiles (from Midlife Crisis) on keys joined in on others. About his guests, I asked Eger to comment:

Of his mom, Eger says she has "always been a vocal hero of mine. She is a classically trained soprano, and can sing anything! Not to mention being a fine violinist, and pianist."

Johnny Brewer? "Johnny B is one of my best buds and a killer guitarist/guitarologist. He's my gear guru!"

And "Uncle" Rick Jiles? "Rick was a very important part of my support team on this project, as well as a great influence over the last decade. Was so glad he could be a part of this night!"

Rick Jiles also played keys this night on the Stevie Ray Vaughn tribute, "SRV" -- originally recorded on the new album by Reese Wynans, Stevie's keyboardist. Of the song, Eger told me the song was "written by Eric, not long after Stevie died, and never recorded or released. I heard him play it once live and watched as he tore it up on Austin City Limits, (the very show I saw Stevie for the first time) where he got a five minute standing ovation."

Behind the spotlight's glamour, Eger's longtime girlfriend, Lisa Maxey ran the show, quite literally. "Haha Lisa is amazing," Eger said." She takes on more work than anyone should have to and for the party, she was the star behind the scenes. Between logistics, merchandise, marketing, planning, and putting her plan in action, she went above and beyond for all who attended. We also had a great team of friends and family working hard: Katie, Diane, Sandy, Charlotte, Kenzie, Kyrah, Dameon, Kaitlyn and more...

Thank You!"

The aforementioned songs, "SRV," "Eatin' Crow"









and the title track, "Show Me Where to Sign" from the new CD were also joined by "Love Me Now," "Last Addiction" and a cover of Heatherly's "Wrong Five O'Clock" to round out the new tunes, while "Play On" and "Bad Intentions" were brought in from the independent release (on which "WFO'C" was also recorded).

The show closed with a rousing, rocking version of Stevie Wonder's "Superstition," and it was sweet. All musicians and guests (minus Piper) in full force, just shakin' the place to its foundation.

An awesome night that ended on with an ovation, nicely done guys! I wish you well with the new release.

## 29th Winthrop Rhythm and Blues Festival Adds The Fabulous Thunderbirds featuring Kim Wilson to 2016 Line-Up!

The award-winning, Winthrop Rhythm & Blues Festival has exciting news. In addition to our already stellar line-up we are pleased to announce the addition of The Fabulous Thunderbirds featuring Kim Wilson to this year's festival along with Seattle's award-winning Hot Wired Rhythm Band.

The line-up, as of the Bluesletter's "deadline dash" of April 5th, (with another major announcement to come soon) features:

Fabulous Thunderbirds featuring Kim Wilson. For over 30 years, The 'T-Birds' have been the quintessential American band. The group's distinctive and powerful sound, influenced by a diversity of musical styles, manifested itself into a unique musical hybrid via such barnburners as "Tuff Enuff" and "Wrap It Up". Co-founder Kim Wilson, the sole original member, still spearheads the group as it evolves into its newest incarnation.

Robert Randolph & the Family Band - 'Sacred Steel' jam/rock/blues phenomenpn has been captivating audiences for a decade

Dave Alvin & Phil Alvin with the Guilty Ones -The Blasters' co-founding brothers Too Slim and the Taildraggers - Perennial festival favorite

Wee Willie Walker - Legendary Memphis Soul Singer w/ The Randy Oxford Band's Allstar Slam

Randy Hansen – incendiary blues/rock guitarist and Jimi Hendrix emulator

Christone "KINGFISH" Ingram - Mississippi's brilliant young blues-guitar virtuoso

Grace Love & The True Loves; - Seattle's upand-coming neo-soul group

Ben Hunter & Joe Seamons - 2016 International Blues Challenge winners

Rose City Kings - named 'Best New Blues Act' by Portland's Cascade Blues Association

Hot Wired Rhythm Band – A blues super-group featuring bassist Polly O'Keary and guitarist Kevin Sutton won 2013 Best New Blues Band from Washington Blues Society

We will have even more to announce in coming

weeks but wanted to let you know the lineup is shaping up to be another spectacular Festival. Tickets can be purchased thru Ticket Tomato <a href="https://www.tickettomato.com/event/3391/29th-annual-winthrop-rhythm-amp-blues-festival/">https://www.tickettomato.com/event/3391/29th-annual-winthrop-rhythm-amp-blues-festival/</a>

Now in its 29th year, the Winthrop Rhythm & Blues Festival is the longest running, most successful blues event in Washington State, and takes place in one of the region's most spectacular festival settings— the Methow Valley of the North Cascades. A truly world-class event, the festival this past year received the coveted Keeping the Blues Alive award for Best US Festival from the Memphis-based Blues Foundation, which lauded the event for its strong, long-time commitment to its community and for presenting the best of the blues.

Check out our Facebook page! <a href="https://www.facebook.com/winthropbluesfestival/?fref=ts">https://www.facebook.com/winthropbluesfestival/?fref=ts</a>

Weekend Passes \$90 advance, \$100 at the gate. Camp Site is \$45.00 which includes camping for Friday, Saturday & Sunday. Camp Site for Thursday is \$25 additional with the purchase of a weekend camping pass <a href="http://winthropbluesfestival.com/camping.html">http://winthropbluesfestival.com/camping.html</a>.

### **June 2016 Blues Festival Updates**

Please contact the festival as the following information was posted on each event's website as of this month's deadline. Please note this is not exhaustive list and consider the Blues Festival Guide as the premier blues festival resource online and in print: http://bluesfestivalguide.com/

#### Yakima Blues and Local Brews Festival, Yakima, Washington

Historic Front Street in Downtown Yakima on June 11, 2016 CD Woodbury Band – Opera Stage (2:15 PM) Billy D and the Hoodoos – Main Stage (3:00 PM) Brian Lee and the Orbiters – Opera Stage (4:45 PM)

Walter "Wolfman" Washington and the Roadmasters – Main Stage (6:00 PM)

Scott Pemberton Trio – Opera Stage (7:15 PM)

Grammy Award Winning Rebirth Brass Band – Main Stage (8:30 PM)

Website: https://yakimablues.com/

#### Crossroads Blues Festival, Kettle Falls, Washington, June 16-18, 2016

Thursday June 16 @ Northern Ales Brewery: 7:00 p.m. - Royce - Goverdare High Rollers - No Cover Charge

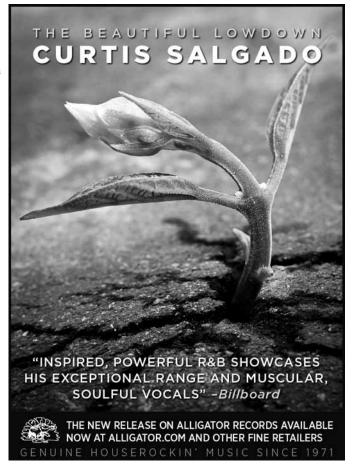
Friday June 17 @ The Crossroads Stage:  $6:00~\rm p.m.$  - Vantage Point,  $8:00~\rm p.m.$  - Charlie Butts & The Filter Tips,  $10:00~\rm p.m.$  - The Sara Brown Band

Saturday June 18 @ The Crossroads Stage: 1:00 p.m. - Borderland Blues Band, 3:00

p.m. - Northern Aliens, 5:00 p.m. - Bakin' Phat, 7:00 p.m. - Atomic Jive,

9:00 p.m. - The Bobby Patterson Band

Website: http://www.crossroadsstage.com/



## 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 passthrough 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.









## Gig Town: A Live, Local Music App That's Paying Musicians!

Courtesy of GigTown

Putting Local Music in The Palm of Your Hand:

Launched in January 2015, San Diego-based GigTown is a one-of-a-kind interactive, free mobile app that connects local musicians, venues and fans in a multitude of dynamic ways.

Conceived as an "Uber for Music," GigTown has evolved to incorporate band and fan-centric features similar to those popularized by Yelp and Pandora. Users, such as fans or venues, are able to discover local artists' original songs via GigTown Radio, see where they're playing next and even book them for gigs. According to GigTown's "Grand Poobah" Andy Altman, "We're creating a true win-win-win between artists, venues and fans,

with the firm belief that we can change the music industry for the better by doing so."

To sign up, artists simply create a profile and provide a photo, a link to a YouTube video and link to a song file at GigTown.com. They can then list their public shows on the app, plus get booked and get paid.

<u>The \$5 Check-In</u>: Altman says, "We really are pro artist and we're putting our money where our mouth is." To that end, whenever someone "checks in" at a show using the GigTown app, GigTown tips the artist \$5.

"We love spending our marketing budget this way," he says. "Recently, a band had 140 checkins in one week, and that netted them \$700. We're

paying \$10,000-plus in tips each month." Fans who check-in also gain access to a participating band's songs and show calendar and venue owners, festival managers and talent buyers can also book a participating band for private gigs.

Growing Influence and GigTown's Pacific Northwest Presence: GigTown's nationwide artist membership is over 3,000 and growing — with concentrations in Southern California, Austin, and Seattle. As Altman puts it, "We follow the interest from artists, and plan to increase our presence in Seattle, Portland, and the Pacific Northwest in general over the course of 2016." Altman expects to see added efforts when it comes to getting musicians opportunities, from house concerts to corporate gigs to venues and "everything in between."

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

Oroville, Washington's third annual Rally at the Border Blues Fest will take place May 20 and 21. The festival will feature six blues bands over two evenings and an afternoon of live music planned at multiple venues with no cover charge. This years event will be held downtown indoors and out around Oroville's Main Street.

The festival kicks off with a steak barbecue, the popular BBQ & Blues at the Beach at Veranda Beach Resort, Friday from 6 to 8 PM with music by the Jones St Boys. At 8:30 PM, Tuck Foster and the Mossrites perform at the Pastime Bar and Grill, followed by an all-star jam session.

Saturday at 2 PM, an outdoor downtown concert on The 14 th Street Stage by the Deepwater Blues Band will coincide with the arrival of some 200 motorcycles in the Run for the Border from Wenatchee. Polly O'Keary and the Rhythm Method performs at Alpine Brewing Company from 5 to 7 PM. Lisa Mann plays the Pastime beginning at 8:30 PM followed by another all-star jam session.

Lisa Mann hails from blues-soaked Portland, OR where she has been inducted into the Cascade Blues Association's Hall of Fame. In 2015 she

received the coveted Blues Music Award in Memphis for her skills on bass guitar and is a 2016 BMA nominee. Mann's voice spans the warmth of the South, rock and Memphis soul.

Multiple award-winning musician, vocalist and songwriter, Polly O'Keary received Washington Blues Society's 2004 Songwriter of the Year, Album of the Year and 'Best Blues Female Vocalist' five times including 2016. In Polly O'Keary and the Rhythm Method, she shares vocals with drummer Tommy Cook and Texas guitarist Dave Miller.

Tuck Foster and the Mossrites have performed over 400 concerts in the Pacific Northwest. Recently awarded 2015's award for "Best Blues Performer," "Best Male Blues Vocalist" and "Best Blues Harmonica" by the Inland Empire Blues Society, Tuck is proud to play along with Patrick "T" Moss on bass guitar, Jason Moore on guitar and D.B. "sticks" Thompson on drums.

Oroville's harmonica-fronted Deepwater Blues Band has roots spanning from Georgia to Germany. It is composed of Mark Morris, harmonica and vocals, Bart Traubeck, rhythm guitar, Ryan Dunn, guitar and vocals, Jake Pearce, drums and Ramiro Vijarro, bass guitar.

Spokane's popular Voodoo Church of Blues plays dirty blues with a bit of Texas bar rock. Gary Yeoman is on guitar and vocals, Ryan Dunn and Dennis Higgins play guitar with Scott Ratterman on bass guitar and Mark Stephens on drums.

The Jones St. Boys takes influences from blues, rock, soul and funk. It features guitarist and lead vocalist Ryan 'Toad' Dunn, harmonica and vocalist Mark 'The Don' Morris, bassist Ramiro 'El Jefe' Vijarro, and drummer/vocalist Mark 'Crazy Mike' Stephens.

This area also offers winding backroads and hiking trails along scenic rivers, lakes, meadows and streams, and as well as wineries on both sides of the border.

Please note all indoor attendees must be 21. Food and libations will be available at all venues for a fee. Follow the Festival on Facebook and www. rallyattheborderbluesfest.com

For more information, please contact: Victoria Hinze, 360-951-2926, victoriahinze@aol.com



lew Sounds at an Old Event: The April 2016 Blues Bash

(Photos by Alex Brikoff)

April showers may have kept some people away from April's Blues Bash, but a lot of blues lovers refused to be stopped from being where their souls are driven to be, at the Sound Check in Lynnwood Washington.

Some sounds there may have been new to some Washington Blues Society that night.

If you like Miriam Makeba or Tracy Chapman, you will like Naomi Wachira. Her gumbo of blues, folk, and African music tasted pretty good at the April Blues Bash. Naomi's songs always have something to say, as do Tracy Chapman's and Miriam Makeba's.

The first song she performed was one that she wrote after her father died, "Days Are Numbered," which was thought-provoking in that it definitely makes the listener think about life and how short it is.

Her next song was "I'm Alive" which is a perfect one to perform after the first one.

It was followed by one of her many songs that can be found on Youtube, "You Better", and that was followed by an a capella song.

Naomi played her acoustic guitar to other original songs coming from her life experience.

The list of songs performed at the Blues Bash included "Beautifully Human", "I am a Woman" and "African Girl". She accumulated some new fans from this audience at April's Blues Bash.

After she finished the opening set, Naomi helped Washington Blues Society president Tony Fredrickson pull raffle tickets out of a hat and handed out CDs to raffle winners.

The next band had a songwriter, harmonica player and vocalist that could be new to some music fans in the area (even though his life story includes spending a fair amount of time here). Joe Cook is well known to the Minneapolis blues scene where he was highly decorated with a number of local awards.

In Seattle, Joe performs with the band Mike Lynch had for some time, and instead of calling themselves the Boneyard Preachers, they are called the Joe Cook Blues Band.

The sound check at The Sound Check took a while, but anyone who left before it was completed missed some good music.

Joe writes his own songs, and if you like Rod Piazza (a great harmonica player and vocalist),



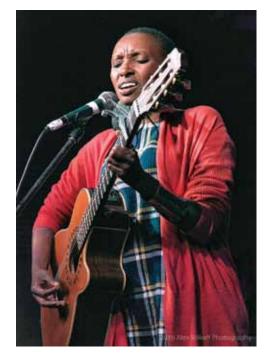
has good tone, and his vocals could very well help him garner some BB Award nominations as well. His songwriting could spark discussions about Chicago blues and West Coast blues. His vocals on "Hands Off My BBQ" sounded good, and so did some of the other originals on his set list.

The lone cover was the classic blues instrumental. "Blues After Hours," and Tim Sherman's great guitar was greatly appreciated on that one

The rhythm section of this band consists of experienced professionals who know how to build the foundation for audio castles. Conrad Ormsby has played drums for many great blues bands in the Puget Sound, and Patti Mey has as well, including Swamp Mama Johnson (a great band years ago). The sound of the bass and drums was perfect.

Tim Sherman was great as always. When people talk about the best guitar players in the Pacific Northwest, Tim Sherman's name comes up along with Rod Cook, Mark Riley, Tom Boyle and a few others in Washington State. Tim has his own style: we can't think of anyone he copies. The great ones are often that way. Visually, Tim also makes the audience pay close attention to the almost or completely sacred intention he puts into each note on the guitar.

Turn to the pages in the Bluesletter show the upcoming blues gigs in the state of Washington



!op: The Joe Cook Blues Band Above: Naomi Wachira (Photos by Alex Brikoff)

and look for the Joe Cook Blues Band. You will be glad you did if you go see and hear them.



ieblues.org

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## May 10th Blues Bash Preview @ The Sound Check

By Amy Sassenberg (with thanks to Doug Skoog, Brian Feist and Red House)

Acoustic Act: Doug Skoog & Brian Feist (Photo by Amy Sassenberg)

Doug Skoog & Brian Feist recently returned from Memphis where they represented the South Sound Blues Society in the International Blues Challenge. Skoog's lush sound and full-throttle playing style are a great compliment to Feist's soulful stylings on guitar. They take turns on vocals, which only highlights the stellar songwriting. When these two play, it's easy to tell they're feeling it, deeply, and as a result, so does their audience.

The guys have been playing on and off for five or six years, having both played in the award-winning band, Blues Redemption. They embrace a variety of music but are solidly steeped in the blues. Delta and Chicago blues are prominent, along with a gospel feel and a lyrical bent. Feist and Skoog are branching out with solo projects now, and also spreading their talents to other bands, but will come together again to play for the Washington Blues Society crowd at the May Blues Bash.

Electric Act: Red House (Photo by Tom Hunnewell)

Four of the baddest players/ singers in the Northwest, playing blues, R&B, soul and funk with fiery abandon; they do it "Their Way". Way back in 1969, a junior at Roosevelt High School in Seattle, who was a budding rock singer and bass guitarist, was approached by a couple of school mates to join their band. The singer was Tim Scott, who later established himself securely in the Northwest before embarking on a 25-year journey through the Music Mecca of Los Angeles. The bandmates were drummer/vocalist Robin Crane and guitarist Mark Noftsger, both of whom made their marks as veteran musicians, plying their craft up and down the West Coast. After graduation, these three forged their first pro working band in the Top 40 circuit before going their separate ways. In the early 80's, Tim founded a Seattle band with his friend, legendary guitarist Rich Dangel, called The Reputations. Highly respected in the NW musical community and heavily booked in the local bar scene, that band won the very first Seattle Music Award for Best R&B Band. Early on, the original keyboardist left, making way for singer and Hammond organist Jimmy Holden of the illustrious Holden musical empire. Together, they dominated the blues/R&B/Soul and Funk end of the NW scene until Tim embarked on a journey to Los Angeles, taking his career to the next level. A level that would have him sharing the stage with the likes of Stevie Wonder and Eric Claptontouring with Tower of Power, Robben Ford, Etta James and Dave Mason. Robin moved to Sacramento & LA, playing & studying recording techniques. Mark joined the US Army--serving





and playing in Hawaii. Jimmy spent several years touring Asia and Italy, living in Hong Kong for a time. Fast forward over 30 years, they have, one by one, returned to their native soil, their roots and as fortune and alchemy would have it, co-created a new project—Red House. Since forming, they have performed at Mt. Baker R&B Festival 17, Sunbanks R&B Festival 2015, 10th Porterhouse Brewfest, North Bend Blues Walk 2014 & 2015, Lincoln Theater w/ Coco Montoya, Snohomish Taste of Music, IBC Finals 2014, WBS Blues Bash, Indigenous Cultures Day @ EMP Museum and clubs all around the Puget Sound area.



#### Leah Tussing & Rafael Tranquilino Bluegrass (Flat Hat Productions)

Bluegrass by Leah Tussing and Rafael Tranquilino (T & T) is a six song EP which contains "a little bit Blues, a little bit Bluegrass" to which I would add "a little bit gospel." Leah is on vocals, banjo, sink faucet, and carrot; Rafael plays guitar and bass; Chris Tussing plays drums, a plastic cherry tomato container tapped with a spoons and scrap 2 x 6 boards and Dan "Sweet Danny Ray" O'Bryant provides a harp solo. The opening track Morning Song, penned by T & T, features Leah on vocals (with the water running behind as she peels a carrot giving it a vintage 78 sound,) Rafael is playing acoustic slide and Chris is tapping the beat on an on-hand beat provider(OBP.) The third selection is "Mudslide" penned by Rafael features him strumming, picking and playing some impressive slide with Leah on banjo plucking the melody and Chris beating on an OBP. Next is "Satellites" penned by Leah with her soaring vocals front and center and Sweet Danny Ray's subdued; but pleading harp solo. The first time I heard "I Wanna Go Back," co-written by T & T, I was knocked out and even a year later still sends shivers down my spine. Rafael's electric slide work starts the slow paced song off opening with a shimmering, ethereal bit that reminds me of the great Peter Green. Then Leah drops in with vocalizations before she starts singing with expressive heartfelt vocals, all the while Rafael's sublime slide is going on behind. Rafael's masterful solo is extraordinary as he picks out and bends notes, with grit and depth getting to a primal element. Leah's vocals soar and interplay with her own backing vocals then she sings "I wanna go back/back to your arms/back to the place I once loved/back where I/ was safe from harm/oh, I just want to fall in love again/feel warm inside/but death took you away from me/and it's coming, it's coming, it's coming for me/shadows of another life ghost of the past/ the feeling never left me/the feeling never left." Even as an instrumental with vocalizations this would be a fantastic song; but add the lyrics and it transcends into the stratosphere. My words are completely inadequate to describe this song, really you just need to hear it for yourself! The six selections on Bluegrass offer variety, marvelous song crafting, impeccable playing, truly amazing vocals and I really like it. I just can't shout loudly enough about this music. - Malcolm Kennedy

#### Aki Kumar Don't Hold Back (Greaseland Records)

Akarsha "Aki" Kumar's debut *Don't Hold Back* features 13 selections with four originals all recorded by Chris "Kid" Andersen (Charlie Musselwhite, Elvin Bishop, Rick Estrin) at his Greaseland Studio. Chris also co-produced the album with Kumar, plays guitar on two cuts, lays

### **Blues Reviews**

keys on two, and provides backing vocals to three; plus guitar, sitar and tabla to "Ajeeb Daastaan Hai Yeh (A Strange Story.)" The supporting players are Little Jonny Lawton and Johnny "Cat" Soubrand on guitars, Bob Welsh on piano, Vance Ehlers on bass and June Core on drums. Aki opens with a Snooky Pryor tune "Judgement Day," this may be the first time I have heard Snooky's songs covered. Next up is Hank Ballard's 1963 #3 R&B hit "Hoochie Coochie Coo" with Rusty Zinn on guitar and backing vocals along with Chris and Lisa Andersen. Frankie Ramos is on sax and blows a honking solo followed by Zinn's solo. Ramos blows more choice sax lines on the title track, cowritten with Aki by his wife Rachel, which has an infectious beat and Aki cuts loose on a harp solo showing some of his considerable chops. Other cover songs include songs by Slim Harpo, Little Walter, Jimmy Reed, Memphis Slim and Willie Dixon; but Aki delves deep into their song books selecting rare gems, like the Harpo instrumental "Buzzin'." The brisk paced original shuffle "Let Me Get Closer," also co-written with Rachel, has a familiar feel and Aki delivers the goods on his harp solo. You just have to love a good harp train song and Little Jonny's "Freight Train" fits the bill as Aki takes the train down the tracks. My favorite selection is Aki's brisk paced original instrumental "The Mumbai Express" and it just rips with Aki playing third position harp and Kid Andersen on guitar. The final track is blues as you have never heard them, Kid plucks and strums out the melody while Aki adds harp accents and a short solo, Ramos also adds pleasing sax accents and a short solo, the big difference is that Aki is singing in Hindi, with Lisa on backing vocals. Kid tosses in very short opening and closing teases on sitar. Don't Hold Back is a wonderful debut for a very talented artist. Aki's elite vocals are inviting and his full and vibrant harp playing is magnificent. The song selections were inspired and Aki's originals were very strong, fitting right in. Very highly recommended. - Malcolm Kennedy

#### John Németh & the Blue Dreamers Feelin' Freaky (Self-Released)

Feelin' Freaky (aka the Kool-Aid Pickle,) John Németh's ninth release since his 2002 debut Jack of Harps is the follow-up to, the Blues Foundation 2015 Blues Music Award-winning Soul Blues Album of the Year, Memphis Grease featuring the Bo-Keys. In 2014 John won the BMA for Soul Blues Artist of the Year. With Németh's 2016 BMA nomination for B.B. King Entertainer, he has received a total of 18 nominations in 10 categories, including five of his last six albums. John re-located to Memphis in 2013 from the Oakland where he had lived the previous 10 years after a move there from Boise where he was raised and started his career. Németh's new band, the Blue Dreamers are Johnny Rhodes on guitar, Matthew Wilson on bass and Danny Banks on drums and each sing backing vocals. Rounding out the band is a horn section with Art Edmaiston on tenor and baritone sax, Marc Franklin on trumpet and flugelhorn. Charles Hodges adds Hammond organ to three tracks and a string quartet on a few cuts. The 11 selections are all originals opening with "Long Black Cadillac," a song about young love and a mother putting a crimp on things, with John singing "yes a long black Cadillac took my baby away." "Rainy Day" gets the full soultreatment featuring strings, Hammond organ and the horn section and is reminiscent of Robert Cray. "Under the Gun" features horn accents and the bands harmony backing vocals as John sings "it's real hard living life under the gun." One of the stand out tracks is "Gave Up on You" which has a medium meter and again includes the Hammond and the horn punctuation plus a tasty guitar solo. "My Sweet Love" screams hit single and potential song of the year and "I'm Funking Out" has an infectious driving beat driven by John's harp. Feelin' Freaky is also known as the Kool-Aid pickle, due to the only thing on the cover, a bright red Kool-Aid-soaked pickle, and the true album title being on the back cover. About Kool-Aid pickles, John says, "that is just so wrong." Actually, there is a song that has the lyrics "I'm in a Kool-Aid pickle/life's gone from sweet to sour to wrong." This CD continues to showcase John Németh's vocals; I think that he is one of the best and most soulful vocalists on the blues scene today. I just have one complaint, John: we need more greasy harp solos! More harp! Feelin' Freaky is a little more edgy than Németh's previous releases and I recommend it highly. - Malcolm Kennedy

#### Fiona Boyes Box & Dice (Reference Recordings)

Fiona Boyes was born and raised in Melbourne, Australia. When touring North America, she calls Portlanad, Oregon her second home. In her 25 year career she has played many major stages across the globe. Along the way there have been numerous accolades including a Blues Foundation 2016 Blues Music Award Koko Taylor Award nomination for Traditional Blues Female Artist plus four nominations in the Australian equivalent the Chain Awards. Fiona incorporates many blues styles and other genres into her songs and her influences also have a wide range from the classic blues women Bessie Smith, Victoria Spivey and Ma Rainey to more contemporary artists. On Box & Dice Fiona uses four very different and unique instruments and the excellent liner notes inform you what she used on each track. The 11 songs feature eight originals and Box & Dice reunites Fiona with her long time Australian rhythm section of Dean Addison on upright bass and Mark Grunden on drums and percussion. Named for her cigar box guitar, Box & Dice appropriately opens with a pair of songs utilizing her six string 'Box & Dice' cigar box guitar. The first cut is "Juke Joint

on Moses Lane" a driving song featuring some pleasing slide. She also uses her custom built National Reso-lectric baritone guitar, one of two in existence, the other is in the National Factory Collection. The next track is "I'm a Stranger Here" as Fiona sings "well I'm a stranger here/ain't been in your town too long/I'm just to make my way here/well I'm just trying to get along." The first cover is Howlin' Wolf's seminal "Smokestack Lightning" featuring the full band and Fiona's Maton Mastersound custom electric guitar. Fiona has enough grit to pull off this classic with plenty of style. "Black Mountain Blues" is a song written by pianist J.C. Johnson for Bessie Smith and again features the full band with Boyes picking and strumming the National baritone. "Tiny Pinch of Sin" is one of two tracks Fiona uses the four string 'FB Australian Classic' cigar box guitar. It is a fast paced tune with the lyric "one shot of whisky, two shots of gin/life is filled with pleasance and a tiny pinch of sin." Two of my favorites are the mellow and melodic "Walk With Me" features Fiona solo on the baritone and Magic Sam's "Easy Baby" with the band and the Maton custom. There is a ton of reverb and echo as Fiona makes this blues classic her own bending the notes to the extreme. Box & Dice is all killer and no filler. Very highly recommended. Malcolm Kennedy.

#### Kim Simmonds & Savoy Brown The Devil to Pay (Ruf Records)

The Devil to Pay opens with "Ain't Got Nobody" a serious slow blues and informs you that Kim came to play. "Bad Weather Brewing" is a rapid paced Texas shuffle with Kim singing "there's bad weather brewing/better take shelter and hide." "Grew Up in the Blues" is a robust blues rocker and with these three opening track Kim and his three-piece band, with Pat DeSalvo on bass and Garnet Grimm on drums display some of the variety they bring to the 13 strong originals on this CD. Simmonds plays some piercing high end blues harp on "Oh Rosa," a medium paced shuffle and he sings "all my troubles/Rosa you have seen." Another standout is the title track, an "I done wrong/lying and cheating blues" with a chugging beat and choice guitar solo. The excellent instrumental "Snakin" recalls the fantastic Freddie King; but is not an imitation. "Got an Awful Feeling" is an amped up slow blues with fiery guitar lines over a steady beat. For "I've Been Drinking" Simmonds picks up his Gibson 335 and lays down some searing slide as he sings "I've got fog in my brain/I've got rocks in my head/now my sweet woman, won't get/in my bed/I've been drinking/I don't know what I was thinking/I've been drinking." For those looking for that three piece blues rocker Kim delivers with "Evil Eye" which struts and burns. On The Devil to Pay Kim never overplays or pushes the songs; but takes a more subtle approach giving each tune just the power it needs from mellow blues to rockers. Highly recommended. Malcolm Kennedy

#### Bob Margolin My Road (Steady Rollin' Records/VizzTone Label Group)

Bob Margoin's latest release, My Road, offers up a dozen songs from a blues power trio that delivers songs that range from traditional and contemporary blues, innovative plaintive slide guitar work ("Devil's Daughter") and one of my many favorites on this CD is the set's opener (the story of Bob's "day job," "My Whole Life). Joining Bob in the studio at Fidelitorium in Kennersville, North Carolina are Tad Walters and Chuck Cotton on drums with the steady eyes and ears of Grammy award-winning producer Michael Freeman. My Road follows on his earlier VizzTone Label Group release of In North Carolina (2007) and his work with Mike Sponza in Europe, Blues Around the World (2012). In a career that has spanned over 35 years as a working bluesman, Bob was a longtime sideman in Muddy Waters' band, a bandleader himself, a Keeping the Blues Award recipient as a journalist and three-time Blues Music Award winner (one for his collaboration with Ann Rabson, Not Alone and two awards for Best Instrument -Guitar). In 2007, he was a founding partner in the VizzTone label group and for many years, he has hosted jams during the International Blues Challenge and the Blues Music Awards at Rum Boogie in Memphis, Tennessee. On My Road, Bob's added skillful, honey-tinged and smooth vocals that can rival Howlin' Wolf's distinctive growl in live performance. Two other favorites on this CD are notable covers: "Bye Bye Baby" is faithful to Nappy Brown's original release in the 1950s and Sean Costello's "Low Life Blues" showcases Tad Walters' exceptional harp playing. I enjoyed this finely-wrong understated blues record and have recommended it to my friends (along with his earlier VizzTone Label Group releases). -Eric Steiner

#### Curtis Salgado The Beautiful Low Down (Alligator Records)

The Beautiful Low Down follows Curtis Salgado his Alligator Records 2012 debut, Soul Shot, which was honored with a Blues Music Award in 2013 in the Soul Blues Album of the Year. During that awards presentation, Curtis humbly accepted his second Soul Blues Male Artist of the Year and the B.B. King Entertainer of the Year. Later that year, Soul Shot received the Blues Blast Award in the Soul Blues Album category at Buddy Guy's Legends in Chicago. In 2014, the Oregon Legislature passed Senate Concurrent Resolution 205 honoring Curtis as a State Treasure. Curtis' career has taken him from the legendary Nighthawks, the Blues Brothers and Robert Cray to Roomful of Blues and Santana to a highly-skilled "old school entertainer" in his own right. On The Beautiful Low Down, Curtis Salgado's vocals are in top form, but what sets this CD apart from the remainder of his back catalogue is that he co-wrote 11 of the disc's 12 songs. The opening "Hard to Feel the Same About Love" has a solid soul groove that reminded me of early Stax recordings, and lone cover, "Hook Me Up," has a Marvin Gaye or Stevie Wonder vibe that's pretty faithful to Johnny "Watson's (but with Curtis' exceptional harp playing). On "Simple Enough," Curtis and Vyasa are joined by guest Stones Throw reggae vocalist Tippa Lee. This spot-on and memorable reggae song could have just as easily been recorded by Chris Blackwell at Tuff Gong Studios, Clement Seymour "Sir Coxsone" Dodd's Studio One, or Lee "Scratch" Perry's Black Ark or Secret Laboratories. While there a number of notable songs on this CD, I frequently return to Curtis' duet with Danielle Nicole, on her own after 13 years with Trampled Under Foot, which received a 2014 Blues Music Award in the Best Contemporary CD for Badlands on the Concord label). Last year, Danille received a well-deserved Blues Music Award in the Best Instrumentalist Bass category. I expect that "Is There Something I Should Know" will land on many "Best Song" lists of 2016. The Beautiful Low Down features 16 musicians, 10 guest and back-up vocalists and five horn players, including notable session players like Johnny Lee Schell on guitar, James "Hutch" Hutchinson on bass. and Tony Braunagel on drums. Rose City sidemen like guitarist Terry Robb, Tracy "Big Dog Arrington on bass and former Insomniacs' guitarist Vyasa Dodson. The Beautiful Low Down is another exceptional soul blues record from one of the best in the business of the blues touring today. - Eric Steiner

Editor's Note: Curtis Salgado returns to Washington on May 20<sup>th</sup> to play Studio Bob in Port Angeles, the 21<sup>st</sup> at the Triple Door in Seattle, followed by a show June 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Sapphire Room at the Riverside Hotel in Boise Idaho. This summer, he'll join Alligator Records labelmate Shemekia Copeland at the Chicago Blues Festival that will honor the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the label and also return to the Safeway Waterfront Blues Festival on the Delta Music Experience Rock the Boat Cruise, perform with Igor Prado at the festival, followed by a free concert (RSVP required) at Garden Home Park in Portland on July 7<sup>th</sup>.

#### Rob Stone Gotta Keep Rollin' (Vizztone)

Like several other East Coast harp players (such as Steve Guyger, Dennis Gruenling and Darrell Nulisch) I first heard Rob Stone as a side man adding superb harp lines as a supporting player. Like Steve, Dennis and Darrell, he is now on my radar. Half of the dozen selections are originals from Rob, Chris James and Patrick Rynn who also play throughout the album. Special guests include the late David Maxwell piano on seven tracks, John Primer guitar and Eddie Shaw sax, and Henry Gray on piano. Stone opens Gotta Keep Rollin' with "Wait Baby" a song by pianist Little Johnny Jones (Muddy, Wolf, Elmore) displaying grit and passion. This is followed by the jaunty John Lee

## Live Blues Review: The Seattle House Rockers at the Easy Monkey Tap House

By Malcolm Kennedy

A few years back when the Crossroads Band split up two new bands formed out of the nebula: the Seattle House Rockers and the T-Town Aces.

I had the pleasure of seeing the Seattle House Rockers on February 19th at the Easy Monkey Tap House in Shoreline's North City neighborhood. The Seattle House Rockers feature John "Mr. Solid" Lee on bass and vocals and Dan "Mr. Clean" Newton on guitar, keyboards and vocals and Marty "Der Guten Drummenbeater" Lockwood on drums (John Stephan Band, Blue Flames.) This nucleus then worked with guest harp and sax players and featured John Marshall on harp (Wild Rhododendrons, Trouble at Home.) The current line-up features Mike Lynch, "the Harmonica Playboy" on vocals and Mississippi saxophone (Isaac Scott Band, Harmonica Playboy & the Midnight Movers, The Boneyard Preachers.)

The Seattle House Rockers play a wide mix of songs, ranging from straight up blues to classic R&B, swing, boogie and the Crescent City beat. John Lee did a nice job singing "You Can't Judge a Book by the Cover," the old Bo Diddley song by Willie "I Am the Blues" Dixon that John sang on the 3J's album. Dan then sang "I've Got to Use My Imagination" a song by Gladys Knight & the Pips with Mike's superlative tone on blues harp. Marty also sings as he did on the slow shuffle by Freddie King, "Some Day After Awhile," which opened with a tasty guitar bit by "Mr. Clean." They got into some deep Chicago blues with Mike on vocals featuring alternating solos with Lynch's wailing blues harp and crack slide guitar solos with Dan playing a really cool early 1950s vintage Vega lap steel guitar. The Vega is about 2 ½ feet long, 2

#### Rob Stone Gotta Keep Rollin' (Vizztone) (Continued)

"Sonny Boy" Williamson's "Wonderful Time." John Primer plays guitar to "Lucky 13" and Rob cuts loose on a cracking solo. The swinging "Move Baby Move" comes from Billy "The Kid" Emerson who cut it on Sun in 1954 and features Eddie Shaw on tenor sax and Maxwell on piano. The instrumental "Strollin' With Sasquatch" is a shuffle with plenty of reed bending and features Ariyo on piano. "Wired and Tired" has Gray on rollicking piano as Rob sings "yes I'm wired and I'm tired/nearly dead on my feet/I don't need no hypnotizing/I just need some sleep" and then he blows some piercing harp. Blind Willie McTell's "Cold Winter Day" pairs Primer's tasty guitar with Rob's moaning harp. The hidden gem of Cornelius "Lonesome Sundown" Green's Excello ½ inches thick and at the neck maybe five inches wide with a regular size fret board laid on top and broadening out to about six inches at the bridge.

"Mr. Solid" was back on vocals for Earl King's "Mama & Papa," which was on the Washington Blues Society 2007 BB Award-nominated Crossroads Band's album I Want it ... Right Now. John sings "they don't want to see me with you/ they ought to tend to their business and I'll tend to mine/and everything gonna work out fine," and Dan lit up his frets for a solo. Dan shifted to keyboards and took things down to New Orleans channeling Professor Longhair on his song "Big Chief." Marty sang "Little Sister," a hit for Elvis Presley in 1961 by Doc Pomus and Mort Shuman. Then, the House Rockers took things into the swamps with "the Harmonica Playboy" singing Slim Harpo's "Scratch My Back" with Dan doing the chicken-scratchy solo and Mike using the heavy reverb. John did the Muddy Waters classic "Got My Mojo Workin" featuring tough harp and guitar solos. The House Rockers finished the first set with "I Want Some Love," one of Dan's songs from I Want it, with Dan singing "I want some love/and I want it right now." Mike laid down a stout harp solo with Dan playing a smooth guitar solo and "Der Guten Drummenbeater" delivered a furious solo. During the break I had to check out Dan's Vega lap steel guitar and also talked briefly with some of the band. After a short pause for the cause, they opened with Marty singing the Sam & Dave Stax pearl "Don't Turn Your Heater Down" penned by Steve Cropper. Strapping his guitar back on, Dan set up his song "Katrina" and told us how it was a song that combined an evil woman and the natural disaster that hit the Gulf Coast in 2005 saying "if you see her coming, it's already too late. "Dan plugged in his lap steel again for "Mercury Blues," a song from the 1940s covered by Steve Miller, Mark Riley and Robben Ford.

The House Rockers noticed some top local talent in the room and invited special guest "Lonesome Jerome" to sit in on harp and vocals. They did the mellow shuffle "Don't Talk to Strangers" with "Lonesome Jerome" playing acoustically through the vocal mike. Mike then came up to sing backed by Mark, who was now using Lynch's bullet mic, switching back and forth between diatonic and chromatic for a solo, then back to the diatonic as they did "Rock This House" with Dan on keys. The House Rockers were called back for an encore and did another original that Dan wrote, the title track from the Crossroads Band's 2010 WBS BB Award nominated *Up One Side - Down the Other*.

I understand that Dan has got a few new tunes he is working on: so, come out to a show and you might be one of the first to hear one of them. The Seattle House Rockers lived up to their name: they literally rocked the house and secured a couple of future gigs too!

The Easy Monkey Tap House is a great venue perfect for small combos and acoustic acts. The venue also has a large room downstairs with a kitchen, patio and seating for 120, which the Washington Blues Society has used for an earlier International Blues Challenge fundraiser.

I have seen a number of excellent bands at the Easy Monkey Tap House, such as Brian Butler, Little Bill, Tim Turner, Mary Mc Page, Mark DuFresne and Stickshift Annie.

Good beer, good room, great music!

### CD Reviews (Continued)

side from 1964, "It's Easy When You Know How" is delivered with style. Clear, emotive vocals, outstanding harmonica, top notch song writing and well-chosen covers equals a solid set. I very highly recommend this CD. Malcolm Kennedy

Brothers Brown
Dusty Road
(Funky Joint/335 Records)

Dusty Road has a couple of interesting things about it: each of the four members is an accomplished producers, Peter Young drums and David Santos are Nashville studio and touring musicians. The two Grammy-winning and nominated frontmen are both named Paul Brown, one a double Grammy winning guitarist, singer, songwriter and producer from Los Angeles and the other a Grammy nominated keyboardist, songwriter and producer from Nashville. The other thing is that the four did

not record together in the same room. They each played their parts in their own studios and traded music files online. L.A. Paul's playing has a jazzy sound: he's got seven jazz CDs out. Nashville Paul's keyboards have a soulful southern rock feel. The CD reminded me of The Band, Little Feat and Delbert McClinton. There is a touch of country on "Cup of Tea," "Love Sake" has some bluesy touches and "Sweet Cadillac has a funky jazz thing going on. Paul Barrere of Little Feat brings some of his expert side guitar work to "Hurricane," a driving up-tempo tune. One of the standout tracks is "Nothin' But Love" which sounds like it is going to be a tough funk number and then slips into a mellow flowing groove. For those who like genre classifications/pigeon holes: Good luck, File this under really good, well-crafted music. An apt local reference would be Junkyard Jane who mix many and varied forms into their own unique thing. 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

Malcolm Clark Band (253) 853-7749

Colonel (360) 293-7931

Kimball Conant & the Fugitives (206) 938-6096

Jack Cook & Phantoms of Soul (206) 517-5294

Rod Cook & Toast (206) 878-7910

Coyote Blues (360) 420-2535

Crooked Mile Blues Band (425) 238-8548

John Scooch Cugno's Delta 88 Revival

(360) 352-3735

Daddy Treetops (206) 601-1769

Dudley Taft (513) 713-6800

Julie Duke Band (206) 459-0860

Al Earick Band (253) 278-0330

Sammy Eubanks (509) 879-0340

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/Casev 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

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@wablues.org by the 5th of the month. We'll do our best to update your listing!

#### ATTENTION MUSIC PEOPLE!

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

## Washington Blues Venue Guide

**Seattle: Downtown and West Seattle** 

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

Thirteen Coins /13 Coins (206) 682-2513

Tula's Jazz Club (206) 443-4221

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

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

Auburn Eagles (253) 833-2298 B Sharp Coffee House, Tacoma 253-292-9969 Bob's java jive (253) 475-9843 CC's Lounge, Burien (206) 242-0977 Capitol Theater Olympia (360) 754-6670 Charlie's Bar and Grill, Olympia (360) 786-8181 Dave's of Milton, Milton (253) 926-8707 Dawson's, Tacoma 253-476-1421 Delancy's on Third -Renton (206) 412-9516 Destination Harley Davidson, Fife (253) 922-3700 Doyle's Pub, Tacoma (253) 272-7468 Elmer's Pub, Burien (206) 439-1007 Emerald Queen Casino, Tacoma (253) 594-7777 Forrey's Forza, Lacey (360) 338-0925 G. 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, Algona (253) 222-0926 Scotch and Vine, Des Moines (206) 592-2139 Silver Dollar Pub, Spanaway (253) 531-4469 Stonegate, Tacoma (253) 473-2255 Shuga Jaxx Bistro, Renton (425) 274-3074 The Spar, Tacoma (253) 627-8215 The Swiss, Tacoma (253) 572-2821 Uncle Sam's, Spanaway (253) 507-7808

#### Peninsula: Bremerton, Port Orchard, Sequim and Shelton

Yella Beak Saloon, Enumclaw (360) 825-5500

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

World Of Beer - Renton (425) 255-0714

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

Stanwood Hotel Saloon, Stanwood

(425) 673-7625

(360) 629-2888 Stewarts on First, Snohomish (360) 568-4684 Snazzy Badger Pub, Snohomish (360) 568-8202 The Oxford Saloon, Snohomish (360) 243-3060 The Repp, Snohomish, (360) 568-3928 The Wild Hare, Everett (425) 322-3134 The Madison Pub, Everett (425) 348-7402 The Anchor Pub, Everett (425) 374-2580 The Cravin' Cajun, Everett (425) 374-2983 The Old Village Pub, Lynnwood (425) 778-1230 Tulalip Casino, Tulalip 888-272-1111 Twin Rivers Brewing Co. Monroe (360) 794-4056

The Green Frog, Bellingham (360) 961-1438 The Roost, Bellingham (413) 320-6179 The Rumor Mill, Friday Harbor (360) 378-5555 The Shakedown, Bellingham (360) 778-1067 Tony V's Garage, Everett (425) 374-3567 Urban City Coffee, Mountlake Terrace (425) 776-1273 Useless Bay Coffee, Langley (360) 221-4515

Varsity Inn, Burlington (360) 755-0165 Village Inn, Marysville (360) 659-2305 Washington Sips, La Connor (360) 399-1037 Wild Buffalo, Bellingham (360) 392-8447 Wild Hare, Everett (425) 322-3134 13th Ave Pub, Lynnwood (425) 742-7871

#### Central and Eastern: Yakima, Kennewick, Chelan, Manson, Rosyln 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 Vallev (509) 368-9847 Bucer's Coffeehouse Pub, Moscow, ID (208) 596-0887 Buckhorn Inn, Airway Heights (509) 244-3991 Chaps, Spokane (509) 624-4182 Chateau Rive, Spokane (509) 795-2030 Coeur d'Alene Casino, Worley (800) 523-2464 Crafted Tap House & Kitchen, Coeur d'Alene (208) 292-4813 Daley's Cheap Shots, Spokane Valley (509) 535-9309 MAX at Mirabeau Hotel, Spokane Valley (509) 924-9000 Studio 107, Coeur d'Alene (208) 664-1201 The 219 Lounge Sandpoint, ID (208) 263-9934 The Bartlett, Spokane (509) 747-2174 The Big Dipper, Spokane (877) 987-6487 The Cellar, Coeur d'Alene (208) 664-9463 The Hop, Spokane (509) 368-4077 The Lariat, Mead WA. (509) 466-9918 The Shop, Spokane (509) 534-1647 Underground 15, Spokane (509) 868-0358 Viking Tavern, Spokane, (509) 315-4547 Waddells Neighborhood Pub, Spokane (509) 443-6500 Whiskey Jacks, Ketchum, ID (208) 726-5297 Zola, Spokane (509) 624-2416

#### **ATTENTION BLUES FANS:**

If you know of a venue that offers live blues music, please send the name of the venue and the venue's telephone number to editor@wablues. org and we'll make every effort to keep this new and improved listing of region-wide blues opportunities 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	☐ RENEWA	L o	ADDRESS CHANGE	□ VOLUNTEER		
Name						
Name (couple)						
Address						
City		State	Zip			
Phone		E-mail				
STANDARD MEMBERSHIPS:						
BLUES SPONSORS	(see pg. 14):	□Gold \$1,000	□Silver \$600	□Bronze \$400		
MUSICIANS (see po	j. 14):	□Band	□Solo/Duo			
MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS PERKS!						
<ul> <li>Receive monthly Bluesletter in your mailbox</li> <li>Monthly All Ages Blues Bash Email Blasts</li> <li>Member discounts for BB Awards &amp; Holiday Party</li> <li>Annual BB Awards Nomination AND Voting rights</li> <li>\$2 off the cover charge at the Highway 99 Blues Club (Seattle, WA)</li> <li>10% off purchases at Silver Platters (any location)</li> <li>10% discount at the Westport Inn (Westport, WA)</li> </ul> PLEASE TELL US HOW YOU HEARD ABOUT THE WBS: \$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 <u>tax-deductible</u> 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 ENCLOS	Se	end check or mo				

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

## Washington Blues Society Blues Jams & Open Mics!

#### Sundays

Anchor Pub, Everett: Open Jam Hosted by Leah Tussing & Rafael Tranquilino – 2-5pm 2nd Sunday of the month- All Ages

Conway Pub: Gary B's Church of the Blues 6-10pm

Dawson's, Tacoma, Tim Hall Band  $7\mathrm{pm}$ 

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 Echerverri, 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 th

The Old Village Pub, Lynnwood (3rd Thursday of the month); Chester Dennis Jones Band

## The Biggest Little Blues Society in the World!

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#### Mondays

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

#### **WEDNESDAYS**

Blue Moon tavern Seattle, open mic 8pm

Celtic Bayou, Redmond, open mic 8pm

Collector's Choice Restaurant, Snohomish, The Sean Denton Band jam,

Darrel's Tavern, Shoreline, open mic 830pm

Half Time Saloon, Gig Harbor

Madison Ave Pub, Everett; Unbound Blues Jam 730pm

May 4 Unbound with Nate Burch

May 11 Unbound with Kader Sundy

May 18 Unbound with Richard Allen & Mahiko Fujita

May 25 Unbound w/Ron Hendee, Mike Marinig and Scott Drexler

The Mix, Seattle, open mic 8pm

Skylark Café, West Seattle, open mic 8pm

Yuppie Tavern, Totem Lake/Kirkland; Heather B Blues Acoustic Jam 8pm

#### **FRIDAYS**

Urban Coffee Sumner, open mic 7pm

#### SATURDAYS

Old Village Pub, Lynnwood: Lou Echeverri & Friends





### May Washington Blues Society Bluesletter Calendar

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

#### Sunday, May 1

Johnny's Dock, Tacoma - Little Bill Trio 5PM Wild Hare, Marysville - West Coast Women's Blues Revue w/Lady A, Stacy Jones & Teri Anne Wilson 7PM

The Spar, Tacoma - Maia Santell & House Blend 7PM

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

Bake's Place, Bellevue - Kelly Ash Band 7:30PM

#### Monday, May 2

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle - Bothell & Mercer Island High Schools w/Dick Oatts 7PM

#### Tuesday, May 3

The Parliament, Seattle - Billy Joe Huels w/Rod Cook & Robin Cady 8PM Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle - Joey DeFrancesco Trio 7:30PM

#### Wednesday, May 4

Engels Pub, Edmonds - CD Woodbury Trio 8PM Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle - Joey DeFrancesco Trio 7:30PM

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

#### Thursday, May 5

Bad Albert's, Seattle - Annie Eastwood, Larry Hill, Tom Brighton w/Bill Chism 6PM Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle - Abdullah Ibrahim & Ekaya 7:30PM

Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle - Harmonious Funk Band 8PM

Bake's Place, Bellevue - Javier Anderson 6PM

#### Friday, May 6

Treos, Tacoma - Rod Cook solo acoustic 7PM Spinnaker Bay Brewing, Seattle - Alice Stuart 7PM

Third Place Books, Lake Forest Park - Stickshift Annie w/Kimball Conant & the Fugitives 7:30PM Engels Pub, Edmonds - Kader Sundy 9PM Pono Ranch, Seattle - The Paul Green Jazz/Blues Trio 8PM

The Conway Muse, Conway - Richard Allen & the Louisiana Experience 7:30PM

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle - Abdullah Ibrahim & Ekaya 7:30PM & 9:30PM

Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle - Mark DuFresne 8PM

Bake's Place, Bellevue - Stapleton & Wilhelm 6PM, Wired Blues Band 9PM

Sound Check Grill –Lynnwood: Washington Blues Society SAVE KPLU Bash at, 730pm.

#### Saturday, May 7 Gordon & Purdy's, Sumner - Rod Cook &

Toast 8PM

Conway Muse, Conway - Star Drums & Lady Keys 7PM

Poggie Tavern, Seattle - Right Hand Drive 9PM H2O, Anacortes - Red House 7:30PM Richmond Beach Rehab, Shoreline - Strawberry

Fest Car Show w/Brian Lee & the Orbiters 11AM Engels Pub, Edmonds - Who's Ur Daddy 9PM Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle - Abdullah Ibrahim & Ekaya 7:30PM & 9:30PM

Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle - Hot Wired Rhythm Band 8PM

Bake's Place, Bellevue - Doctorfunk 8PM

#### Sunday, May 8

The Spar, Tacoma - Gin Creek 7PM Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle - Abdullah Ibrahim & Ekaya 7:30PM

Bake's Place, Bellevue - Primary Colors 7PM

#### Monday, May 9

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle - Save KPLU w/SWOJO, Gail Pettis & the Ten O'Clock Trio celebrating women in jazz 7PM

#### Tuesday, May 10

The Parliament, Seattle - Billy Joe Huels w/ Rod Cook & Robin Cady 8PM

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle - Cyrus Chestnut Trio 7:30PM

Bake's Place, Bellevue - Gotz Lowe Duo 6PM Sound Check Bar & Grill, Lynnwood – Washington Blues Society Blues Bash 7PM - Brian Feist & Doug Skoog and Red House

#### Wednesday, May 11

The Swiss, Tacoma - Save KPLU w/Maia Santell & House Blend, The Billy Shew Band, John Hodgkin Group 7PM

Engels Pub, Edmonds - Tickle 8PM Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle - Cyrus Chestnut Trio 7:30PM

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

#### Thursday, May 12

Destination Harley-Davidson, Silverdale - Little Bill Englehart/Rod Cook duo Bad Albert's, Seattle - Annie Eastwood, Larry Hill, Tom Brighton w/Bill Chism 6PM Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle - Bettye LaVette

w/Walter "Wolfman" Washington 7:30PM Bake's Place, Bellevue - Javier Anderson 6PM

#### Friday, May 13

North City Bistro, Shoreline - Rod Cook & Toast 8PM

Rockfish Grill, Anacortes - Blues Union 8PM Engels Pub, Edmonds - Blues Playground 9PM Bake's Place, Bellevue - Stapleton & Wilhelm 6PM, Paul Green & Straight Shot 9PM Dawson's, Tacoma - Brian Lee & the Orbiters

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle - Bettye LaVette w/Walter "Wolfman" Washington 7:30PM

Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle - Chris Eger Band 8

Untapped Blues & Brews/Clover Island Inn, Kennewick - Bent on Blues 5PM, 3rd Date 7PM, Commander Cody 8:30PM

#### Saturday, May 14

**D**usty Strings, Seattle - Blues Bottleneck Slide Class w/Eric Madis 10:30AM, Delta Bottleneck Slide Class w/Eric Madis 1:30 PM

Grinders, Shoreline - Brian Lee & the Orbiters 8PM

Engels Pub, Edmonds - Tweety & the Tom Cats 9PM

The Conway Muse, Conway - Joe T Cook 7:30PM

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle - Bettye LaVette w/Walter "Wolfman" Washington 7:30PM Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle - Lisa Mann & Her Really Good Band 8PM

Bake's Place, Bellevue - Lee Oskar 7PM & 9:45PM

Untapped Blues & Brews/Benton County Fairgrounds, Kennewick - Lloyd Jones 12PM, Little Bill & the Blue Notes w/Rod Cook 1:15PM, Junk Belly 2:35PM, Ben Rice 4:10PM, DK Stewat Sextet 5:55PM, Delgado Brothers 7:30PM, Hamilton Loomis 9:30PM

#### Sunday, May 15

The Spar, Tacoma - Rod Cook & Toast 7PM Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle - Bettye LaVette w/Walter "Wolfman" Washington 7:30PM Sky Valley Bike Show, First St. Snohomish, -Stacy Jones Band 11-3pm

#### Monday, May 16

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle - Ballard High School 7:30PM

#### Tuesday, May 17

The Parliament, Seattle - Billy Joe Huels w/Rod Cook & Robin Cady 8PM

Columbia City Theater- Seattle - KPLU Benefit - Makini Magee, Jazz Night School Big Band, Stacy Jones Band -7pm

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle - Selwyn Birchwood Band 7:30PM

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

#### Wednesday, May 18

Pike Place Bar & Grill at the Market - Stickshift Annie w/Kimball Conant & the Fugitives 6PM

Engels Pub, Edmonds - Pushing Midnight 8 PM Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle - Selwyn Birchwood Band 7:30PM

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

#### Thursday, May 19

Destination Harley-Davidson, Fife - Little Bill Englehart/Rod Cook duo 5PM

Crossroads Shopping Center, Bellevue - Eric Madis Acoustic Trio 6:30PM

Bad Albert's, Seattle - Annie Eastwood, Larry Hill, Tom Brighton w/Bill Chism 6PM Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle - Spyro Gyra 7:30PM

Sunbanks Festival, Electric City - Adam Hendricks 8PM, Billy Stoops 9PM, Acoustic Noise 10PM, Forest Beutel 11PM

#### Friday, May 20

The Repp, Snohomish - Rod Cook solo acoustic 6PM

Easy Monkey Taphouse - Brian Lee & the Orbiters 8PM

Engels Pub, Edmonds - Red 9PM Tula's, Seattle - Dave Peck Trio 7:30PM The Conway Muse, Conway - CC Adams Band 7:30PM

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle - Spyro Gyra 7:30PM & 9:30PM

Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle - The Delgado Brothers 8PM

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

Sunbanks Festival, Electric City - Twang Junkies w/Bob Hill 4:30PM, Trevalyan Triangle 6:30PM, Stacy Jones Band 8PM, Billy Stoops & the Dirt Angels 9:30PM, Ken Derouchie Band 11PM

#### Saturday, May 21

Swedish Cultural Center, Seattle - Little Bill & the Blue Notes 8:30PM

H2O, Anacortes - Strange Tones 8PM Scotch & Vine, Des Moines - Brian Lee Trio 8PM Ben Moore's, Olympia - Blues County Sheriff 8PM

Grazie, Bothell - Annie Eastwood w/the James Bernhard Band 7PM

Engels Pub, Edmonds - The Dogtones 9PM Grinder's, Shoreline - Paul Green Blues Band 8PM

Tula's, Seattle - Dave Peck Trio 7:30PM The Conway Muse, Conway - Mark DuFresne 8PM

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle - Spyro Gyra 7:30PM & 9:30PM

Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle - James Harman's Bamboo Porch Revue w/Nathan James & the Rhythm Scratchers, Bonedaddy Tempo 8PM Bake's Place, Bellevue - Ventura Highway Revisited 8PM

Sunbanks Festival, Electric City - Vaughn Jensen Band 1PM, Franco & the Stingers 2:30PM, Barnyard Stompers 4PM, Matt Anderson & the Bona Fide 5:30PM, Karen Lovely Band 7PM, The Delgado Brothers 9PM, Selwyn Birchwood 11PM

#### Sunday, May 22

Immanuel Presbyterian Church, Tacoma - Blues Vespers w/The Delgado Brothers 5PM The Spar, Tacoma - Karen Lovely 7PM Sunbanks Festival, Electric City - James Coates 1PM, Sara Brown Band 2:30PM, Shoot Jake 4PM, James Harman's Bamboo Porch Revue 5:30 PM, Hamilton Lewis 7:30PM Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle - Spyro Gyra **7:30PM** 

Bake's Place, Bellevue - New Age Flamenco 6PM

#### Tuesday, May 24

The Parliament, Seattle - Billy Joe Huels w/Rod Cook & Robin Cady 8PM

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle - Donald Harrison 7:30PM

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

#### Wednesday, May 25

Engels Pub, Edmonds - Big O Zone 8PM Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle - Donald Harrison 7:30PM

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

Thursday, May 26

Crossroads Shopping Center, Bellevue - Little Bill Englehart/Rod Cook duo 7PM Bad Albert's, Seattle - Annie Eastwood, Larry Hill, Tom Brighton w/Bill Chism 6PM Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle - Artura Sandoval 7:30PM

Bake's Place, Bellevue - Javier Anderson 6PM

#### Friday, May 27

Bake's Place, Bellevue - Stapleton & Wilhelm 6PM, Rod Cook & Toast w/Suze Sims 9PM Rockfish Grill, Anacortes - Cee Cee James 8 PM H2O, Anacortes - Mark Hummel & the Blues Survivors w/Rusty Zinn & Jimi Bott 7:30PM Vern Burton Center, Port Angeles - Juan de Fuca Festival w/Leroy Bell & His Only Friends 8:15PM

Engels Pub, Edmonds - Guy Johnson Band 9PM Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle - Arturo Sandoval 7:30PM & 9:30PM

Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle - Dudley Taft Band 8 PM

#### Saturday, May 28

Trails End Saloon, Oregon City OR - The Sultans of Slide  $w/Rod\ Cook\ 8:30PM$ 

Shuga Jazz Bistro, Renton - West Coast Women's Blues Revue w/Patti Allen, Lady A & Teri Anne Wilson 8:30PM

H2O, Anacortes - James Howard Band 7:30PM White Horse Saloon, Arlington - Randy Norris & Jeff Nicely 8 PM

Easy Monkey Taphouse, Shoreline - Annie Eastwood, Larry Hill, Tom Brighton w/Bill Chism 8PM

Sage Creek Campgrounds, Quincy - Sage Creek Music Festival w/Guy Johnson 2PM, Brimstone Blues Band 3:30PM, Mason Turner & the Reign 5:20PM, Lost Dogma 7:10PM, Stacy Jones 9:10PM, Silver Gun 10:50PM

Waving Tree Winery, Kirkland - Paul Green Jazz/ Blues Quartet 7:30PM

The Conway Muse, Conway - Dudley Taft 8PM Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle - Arturo Sandoval 7:30PM & 9:30PM

Highway 99 Blues Club, Seattle - Mark Hummel Band w/Rusty Zinn & Jimi Bot,8PM Bake's Place, Bellevue - 313 Soul w/Darelle Holden 8PM

#### Sunday, May 29

The Spar, Tacoma - Brian Lee & the Orbiters 7PM

Sage Creek Campgrounds, Quincy - Sage Creek Music Festival w/Bucket List Blues Band 2PM, Soulful 88's 3:50PM, Michelle D'Amour 5:40PM, CD Woodbury 7:30PM, Kader Sundy - Safar Blues 9:20PM, Junk Belly 11:10PM Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle - Arturo Sandoval 7:30PM

Bake's Place, Bellevue - Geoffrey Castle Trio 7PM

#### Monday, May 30

Vern Burton Center, Port Angeles - Juan de Fuca Festival w/West Coast Women's Blues Revue 4PM

#### Tuesday, May 31

The Parliament, Seattle - Billy Joe Huels w/Rod Cook & Robin Cady 8PM

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle - Tuck & Patti 7:30PM

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

#### **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 wb-scalendar@yahoo.com in the following format: (Please, very important! No bold or ALL CAPS) Date-Venue, City-Band Name Time



### Welcome Back, Dudley Taft!

By Eric Steiner

On May 27th, the Dudley Taft Band will play the Highway 99 Blues Club in Seattle. As this issue went to press, I received an encouraging email from him regarding gigs in the works to benefit KPLU-FM. So, in the spirit of helping the home of the Keeping the Blues Alive-Award winning blues program hosted by John Kessler, I thought I'd copy and paste Dudley's email. Please note: Not all details have been confirmed; so, please check the venue's website and KPLU's website for further updates.

"For me, KPLU was certainly key to my discovery and education in the blues," emailed Dudley. "Before I met John Kessler, host of KPLU's All Blues show, I listened frequently to his carefully curated playlists. After John and I became friends, I realized the extent of his knowledge of blues music both new and classic, and came to regard him as a real professor of the genre. Luckily he agreed to join my band and was instrumental (pun intended) in selecting the repertoire and in producing the albums. So naturally, I am emotionally invested in the continuation of KPLU's autonomy. I am very happy to join in the Save KPLU movement

with a great lineup for the May 29th show at the Highway 99 Blues Club! We will be playing quite a few songs off the new album, Skin and Bones, and have added some tunes from previous albums that we have not played live. And of course, we always find a few classic blues songs to revive!

I hope you all will join us for two full sets of music on Friday, May 27th at the Highway 99 Blues Club and Saturday the 18th at the Conway Muse. The Save KPLU benefit on Sunday the 29th should not be missed; you never know what impromptu jams will happen!"

Flat 5 by Sylvia Breece





Do what you can. The time is short.



Vicki Welter, CPA vicki@welter-consulting.com

206-605-3113









Thank you for supporting blues festivals, blues clubs and blues musicians in the Pacific Northwest!





## The Coeur D'Alene Blues Festival through the Lens of Paul Brown!

Top - Sara Brown at the party on the lake (third from left)
Middle Left: Guitarist Tinsely Ellis and Promoter Craig Heimbinger Middle:
Neil Ellwell of The Doghouse Boyzz Right: Sara Brown
Bottom: Bakin' Phat!







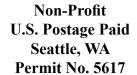














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## THE WASHNGTON BLUES SOCIETY IS A PROUD RECIPIENT OF A 2009 KEEPING THE BLUES ALIVE AWARD FROM THE BLUES FOUNDATION



