



Mount Baker Festival: Blues Past & Present

Blues News & Reviews!



Hi Blues Fans,

Our IBC Semi-Finals have been completed for this year and our Finals out in Snohomish on Sunday, August 19th will be full of talent hoping to head to Memphis and representing Washington State and the Washington Blues Society. It was a lot of work to get here, but no matter what happens, we will be well-represented.

Coming out of the Semi-Final at Collector's Choice in Snohomish in the band category is Harpdog Brown

& the Uptown Blues Band, and in the Solo/Duo is Hot Mess (Jessie Weston and Joel Astley). Our second Semi-Final in Spokane at the Roadhouse will have Sammy Eubanks & the Working Class in the band category and DA Blues (Dave Allen) in the Solo/Duo heading to the Taste of Music. The third Semi-Final was at H2O in Anacortes and has Arsen Shomakhov Band in the band category and Sheri Roberts Greimes in the Solo/Duo. Our fourth Semi-Final was at Club Crow in Cashmere and the Rootsters moved on from there in the Solo/Duo category. Unfortunately, there were no bands entered there and we canceled the Vancouver, Washington competition as there was only one entry and they graciously agreed to move to on Semi-Final in Anacortes.

The Snohomish Semi-Final has Randy Oxford's Blues in the band wild card and Will Morgan in the Solo/Duo wild card. Spokane has Papa D & Studebaker Road in the band wild card. The Anacortes event has Michele D'Amour & the Love Dealers in the Band and Miranda Kiichpanich & Nick Mardon in the Solo/Duo advancing into the wild card drawing. The Cashmere competition sends James Brunner into the wild card.

Our wild card drawing will be held soon and we will announce the three wild card acts that will be joining all of the Bands and Solo/Duos already in our Finals. It will be a very good day of "Blues" and one I highly recommend putting on your calendars as a don't miss event!

Tony Frederickson, President Washington Blues Society

Board of Directors, The Blues Foundation (2014-2017)

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WASHINGTON BLUES SOCIETY P.O. BOX 70604 SEATTLE, WA 98127



This month, the Bluesletter includes blues news about a new Summer Concert Series in Olympia, a

European tour report from the Stacy Jones Band, blues history from Rocky Nelson, a preview of the Mount Baker festival and a rememberance of the Seattle Peace Concert's Don Glenn.

COVER IMAGE: The Pimps of Joytime include Kimberly Dawson, Brian Jay and Mayteana Morales - Welcome to Winthrop! (Photo by Shervin Lainez)

ABOVE: Rocky Nelson and Janiva Magness at Jazz Alley. When Rocky's not writing about the blues, he's at a blues show! (Photo by Eric Steiner)

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



Hi Bluesletter Readers,

Welcome to blues festival season! This month, we have two articles on the Mount Baker Rhythm and Blues Festival and a followup to last month's preview of the Winthrop Rhythm and Blues Festival.

Rocky Nelson submitted a review of the festivities in at the Deming Log Show grounds almost 10 years ago. That was probably two or three computers ago for me. Luckily for our readers, Rocky

found that piece of Mt. Baker festival history and it's in this issue. This issue also includes a preview from frequent contributor Malcolm Kennedy along with photos that the Yard Dog took of Bobby Patterson and Chris Eger.

Following up on her excellent preview of the Winthrop Rhythm and Blues Festival in the last issue, Polly O'Keary sat down with one of the Pimps of Joytime, Brian Jay, and her conversation with Brian is in this issue. Brian's on the cover between Kimberly Dawson and Mateana Morales and this cover is special (at least to me, because

Have paint will travel Dennis "Juxtamuse" Hacker juxtamuse@gmail.com Live Art to Blues Jazz & Funk! #



it's my first cover using our newest format and cover font thanks to volunteer Rosie Gaynor).

This issue also includes a preview of a new Summer Concert Series at Charlie's Bar & Grill in downtown Olympia. This series will feature nationally-touring blues artists, including Popa Chubby and Ethan Tucker, Curtis Salgado and some special guests, and Albert Castiglia and Anthony Gomes.

Rick J. Bowen recaps the 2018 European tour of the Stacy Jones Band and Little Bill Engelhart tells a memorable story when he was working as an opening act in Missoula, Montana. I also would be remiss if I didn't recognize the contributions of the late Don Glenn, the spark behind the Seattle Peace Concerts. This year, the Washington Blues Society is a proud partner with this important arts and cultural event at some of Seattle's greatest parks and this issue features a fond remembrance from Ed Portnow.

Until next month, go see some live blues!

En ste

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



Concert Series Preview: Charlie's Bar & Grill

National blues headliners play a new Summer Concert Series in Olympia!

By Eric Steiner.

I was pleasantly surprised to discover Charlie's Bar this past Spring with frequent contributor - and Middle East correspondent - Rocky Nelson.

I was in Olympia for a meeting in March and not far from the Doubletree by Hilton, was one of the most eclectic sports bars and live music venues I've discovered in our state's capital city.

While I was in class, Rocky made it his business to distribute Bluesletters to nearby restaurants and clubs. While I was learning something new thanks to a training course sponsored by the Superior Court of Thurston County, Rocky was playing "advance man" promoting the blues as he's done as a promoter in such far-flung places like Nepal, Afghanistan, Memphis, New Orleans, Ballard and Lewis County.

Before I knew it, he introduced me to blues jammers in places like Charle's Bar & Grill in downtown Olympia. These players keep the blues very much alive in the South Sound.

I was impressed with the quality of the blues jam and even more impressed with the menu. Charlie's doesn't feature traditional "bar food." I thought that the menu was surprising diverse for a sports bar.

As Rocky and I walked back to the Doubletree, I didn't know last March that national headliners would soon play this endearingly quirky venue.

The pub's summer line up has something for fans of all types of music, but I was very pleasantly surprised that Popa Chubby, Curtis Salgado, Albert Castiglia and Anthony Gomes would play Charlie's Bar & Grill on their respective west coast tours. I've seen Curtis, Albert and Anthony play at places like Buddy Guy's Legends in Chicago, the main stage of the Chicago Blues Festival or holes in the wall along Beale Street in Memphis, and each time, they left everything on the stage.

At the Washington Blues Society, we have worked very hard to overcome a long-held misperception that we are "the Seattle Blues Society."

By featuring blues from throughout the Pacific Northwest and British Columbia in the Bluesletter, I am trying to show readers that there many opportunities to experience live blues no matter where readers pick up this magazine.

This preview of the 2018 Summer Concert Series at Charlie's Bar & Grill in Olympia is one example of how the Bluesletter is working to inform readers of blues shows away from the Seattle-Tacoma area.

The line up

Charlie's Bar & Grill, 620 4th Avenue East in downtown Olympia, kicks off its 2018 Summer Concert Series with blues powerhouse Popa Chubby and Ethan Tucker on Friday, July 13th.

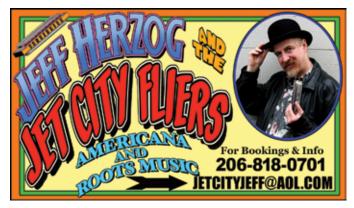
All shows are \$15 advance, \$18 day of and tickets are available at www.eventbrite.com

Fri. July 13 - Co-Headline Show...w/Popa Chubby and Ethan Tucker - 7:30pm Sat. July 14th - Hell's Belles -7:00pm Sat. July 21st - Thin Air - Widespread Panic Tribute with special guests - 7:30pm Fri. July 27th - Curtis Salgado with special guests - 7:30pm

Fri. Aug 3rd - Albert Castiglia/Anthony Gomes - 7:30pm

Sat. Aug 4th - KISSM - A Tribute to Kiss with special guests - 8:00pm

For more information, please visit www.charlieson4th.com









Places I have been and things I have seen...

Billings, Montana

By Little Bill Engelhart

So, you think bikers are bad? Book a job in Billings, Montana and check out the cowboys.

We were playing at a "let's get drunk and raise some hell" bar called the Bent Wheel. The stage wasn't enclosed with chicken fencing, but it should have been. Turned out the cow guys had a weird sense of humor. Bringing a full grown steer into the room was evidence of that. Now this was a real big cow dead set on destroying whatever got in his was in his way. Tables, chairs, customers...you get the picture.

I couldn't believe the owners' reaction.

They sat up on the bar and laughed their you know what's off. Both of them were elderly folks that definitely seemed out of place. On our first night one of them pointed out three working girls and said we should hang out with them. Said that "they were good for business."

Being true to the wives back home, we passed.

The best country band I had ever heard was playing right around the corner. On guitar no one other than Thumbs Carllile. He had played with every country picker. I kept wondering what he was doing in Billings. I was also starting to give some thought to what I was doin' there myself. What really capped it of was the night Marvin Rainwater was booked into the room.

Marvin's time in the spotlight was almost over. But come hell or high water (I don't think I have ever said that before), he was going to do his show. Along with all of his hits (one to be exact), he ended his show with a story about how he lost his finger.

I swear this is exactly what he said: "I was picking my nose and a booger bit it off"

We saw Marvin hitch hiking out of town the next day.

The Black and Tan

I have no idea how I talked the owner of the B&T to let me be part of the floor show along with Guitar Shorty, Tequila Lopez and Miss Willy, but I did. The floor show started at 11:00 PM. The audience would take a seat around the bandstand. I was the opening act. Actually, I have always been the opening act. Never bothered me. You do your show, get the money and go home. One of the nights when I decided to stick around almost got me shot. There I was, standing in the spotlight, singing my but off when I saw an old guy waving a gun in the air.

Once the crowd saw what was going on, the place emptied out leaving the band, Shorty, Tequila, Willy and little old white me. Like I said: In the SPOLIGHT!

He was close enough for me to hear him yelling "I'm gone kill somebody." The way it ended was the owner came out of his office, walked up to Wyatt and told him he couldn't bring a gun into the place.

COULDN'T BRING A GUN INTO THE PLACE!!!

With that, he put the piece in his pocket, velled "F--- it." And walked out.

Did I come back the next week?

Absolutely!

Hey, I was the opening act!

for your

Washington Blues Society Membership Perks!

see page 24

Mount Baker Blues Festival: Blues History

By Rocky Nelson

The Mt. Baker Blues Festival 2007. Head north on I-5 until you reach Bellingham. Head east on Hwy 542 until you think you are lost. Turn north just before the bridge, go down river on the Nooksack and pull into the Deming Logging Show Grounds. That just appealed to this old Alaskan logger. There you will meet a great group of volunteers waiting to show you a good time. The 12th annual Mt Baker Blues Festival, hosted by Lloyd Peterson, featured a fantastic line up of solid music. I arrived Saturday and set up my tent next to the stage, Washington Blues Society Beer Garden and Merchandise Booth. Doesn't get any better than that! Lloyd's hospitality section was in full swing. Gracious hosts, friendly staffers, fantastic food and beverages in unlimited supply and good vibes were the order of the weekend. Clean flush toilets, 180 acres of flat camping grounds with food and craft vendors made leaving unnecessary. Hard working (or long suffering) blues society volunteers satisfied thirsts and musical necessities. The recipient of 3 "Best Blues Festival" awards and a "Keeping the Blues Alive" award, Lloyd, wife Marsha and crew did a journeyman's job in the production of this event. Said Lloyd, "this Festival is like my child, nothing I wouldn't do for her." It shows.

True Tone Audio did a killer job on sound and stage production for the weekend. Everyone agreed that the sound was "awesome." Access to the musicians was not a problem. Many were more than happy to sign autographs and sell their CDs in the merchandise area. The Grey House Band, the Fat Tones and Anthony Gomes started the event on Friday. On Saturday, it was Back Beat Revival, Brian Feist Band, Cathouse Blues Band, Bump Kitchen, D. K. Stewart and Band, Coco Montoya and the Jeff Healy Blues Band. What a lineup! Bump Kitchen had everyone bumpin' to a funked-up set. Coco Montoya, former Bluesbreaker with

John Mayall, satisfied with blistering guitar solos and smooth delivery. He amped up the energy and set the stage for Jeff Healy to close the show. Lloyd gave me a VIP pass that read "Coco Montoya" and it didn't fool anyone. Coco stayed up on stage with Jeff Healy to really bring the house down. Always the consummate entertainer, Jeff had the people eating out of his hand. He, like many others, stayed at the blues society booth for a very long time talking and signing autographs.

On Sunday, The Fat Tones, the only band to play two days during the festival, started Members of the Inland things going. Empire Blues Society, Washington Blues Society and hailing from the Spokane area, The Fat Tones, broke blues society sales records and brought in over \$1700 in CD sales. "Best sales ever!" crowed tireless Merchandise Director Malcolm Kennedy. They would "like to break into the Western Washington blues scene" said drummer Mike Hayes. The door looks open to them. They were a crowd pleaser and got the joint jumpin' for Tinsley Ellis. With Mike Lowry on guitar, the "Evil One" on bass, and Jeff Burch on drums, Tinsley's crew ripped it up. Said Tinsley later, "we could use another Stevie Ray Vaughn to attract the young people to the blues" when I asked him what the new blues scene needed.

British Columbia's Kal David and the Real Deal was the real deal. Kal, also a former Bluesbreaker and guitarist for Bonnie Raitt, did a great rendition of "Red House" that was spine chillin'. "B.I.G." came on stage like a cool breeze in the hot afternoon sun. B.I.G. (Blues Industrial Giants) featured Mark Whitman on guitar, (Lo-fat) Fat James onguitar, John Lewis on vocals (on his reunion tour), Keith Wohlford on bass, Dave Delzotto on drums, Dick Powell on Hammond B-3 and 10-year old blues

protégé, "Jumpin' Josh" hung in there with the B.I.G. boys on guitar.

To close the event, Savoy Brown did not disappoint. Savoy Brown's 2007 line-up had Mario Staiano on drums and Gerry Sorrentino on bass. Having seen them many times in my 53 years on the planet, I was struck with how little Kim Simmons has changed both in appearance and musically. Entertaining the crowd with stories of his life, he played hit after hit from past LP's, including: "Hellbound Train" and "Tell Mama" with a sprinkling of new stuff. He did not have any CD's for sale citing, "a grueling schedule and airplane problems". Sounds reasonable. "But you can go to my web site, www. savoybrown.com". He was good hearted and entertaining when I interviewed him before the set. "The band was based around different kinds of energy that couldn't be found in the blues... energy coming from across the ocean, the "British Invasion." I learned from the American rock and rollers of the 50's. I tried to be myself and I let whatever influence I had come out in my music. I also followed the crowd. The underpinning of Savoy Brown was to have the band be nonconformist". Cool. I knew I liked him for a damn good reason.

Remember the Mt Baker Blues Festival when you plan your blues festival schedule. Clear your calendar for the entire three days and your auditory nerves will thank you. Easy to get to, fun to be at and far out people to be with makes it an inexpensive tasty blues treat right here in the Evergreen State.

Editor's Note: Rocky turned in this article before the deadline of the September Bluesletter in 2007 and I think Rocky's article captures a memorable Mount Baker festival that included many blues artists that left us too soon.



Iron Mountain Music Festival - July 14-15 in Mission, British Columbia

Performers include Elvin Bishop (upper right), Coco Jafro (upper middle) Dana Fuchs (upper left) Nikki Hill (left), Sundae & Mr. Goessl (above middle) and the Fabulous Thunderbirds (middle right). Please see the preview of the inaugural festival in the June Bluesletter at www.wablues.org. (All photos courtesy of the Iron Mountain Music Festival).



Tour Report: Stacy Jones Band in Europe

By Rick J. Bowen

Fresh from receiving an unprecedented 10 "Best of the Blues" awards at the 2018 Washington Blues Society blues awards show at Everett's Northwest Music Hall, the Stacy Jones Band embarked on its second European tour on May 1st, 2018. Our tour included seven shows over 15 days in Switzerland, Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany.

After a harrowing snafu with his passport, bassist Tom Jones joined the band in Amsterdam on our second day right before we hit the road. Our first show was a return trip to Bar Paleo in the headquarters of the acclaimed Paleo Festival on the shore of Lake Geneva in the lovely city of Nyon Switzerland. The Paleo Festival is one of the world's largest music festivals as it attracts over 230,000 attendees from around the world. This year's festival, held July 17th through the 22nd, features headliners Depeche Mode, The Killers, MGMT, Lenny Kravitz and Gorillaz alongside acts from around the world that play pop, classical, EDM, hip hop and reggae.

After Bar Paleo, we returned Northwest to play two shows in Belgium, the blue collar center of Europe. First at "Cowboy Up," an American-styled steak house built in an old dairy farm you are more likely to find in Wisconsin, and then on to the Den Iris Pub in Dendermonde. This special show was produced by Tineke's Music Project and featured special guests Bart Buls and Erik van Biesen on guitars from the infamous Belgium band Gorki. Gorki was a groundbreaking Flemish band in the 1990s and these two artists are keeping the legacy of Gorki's late founder, Luc De Vos, very much alive.

We then spent a quiet night in Strasburg before traversing to the country town of Kendern, Germany and playing a sold out show at Club Cha Bah. Life on the road isn't entirely as glamourous as fans think. The van had no working air conditioning and summer had arrived early in Europe with temperatures in the high 80s. We also had logistics challenges, too. Upon arriving at Club Cha Bah, we discovered we left the keyboard stand behind and had to improvise a way to set it up for Stacy!

Fate then lent a hand as we headed into the Swiss alps to the mountain vacation destination of Interlaken for a packed show at the Happy Inn lodge on a cool and misty night.

Our itinerary back to Germany had us playing in clubs on opposite ends of the spectrum, first at Rockjungfer in Arstadt, a gritty club built from a converted bakery and coffee roasting plant used by the Nazi's in what our host Mr. Udo proudly declared was East Germany. Arnstadt was founded in 704 and is one of the oldest towns in German's Thuringia region.

Then, we went on to one of the most superb venues we've ever

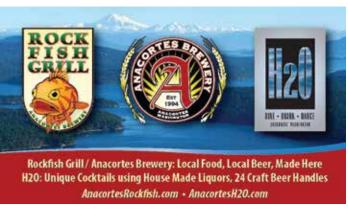
seen: The Blues Garage in Isernhagen. This warehouse space has been reimagined in the style of a Hard Rock Café' just outside of Hanover is world class and has hosted a who's who of blues and rock stars for over 20 years, winning the Best Club from the German Blues Awards in 2012. Later this year, The Blues Garage will host Dana Fuchs, 170 Split (featuring Leo Lyons of Ten Years After), Brian Auger's Oblivion Express, Thorbjorn Risager & The Black Tornado, Popa Chubby and Walter Trout.

We concluded our 2018 European tour at Cafés DenS in Rotterdam for the venue's "Blues On Sunday" as the finale of their afternoon concert series.

This second European tour found us much more at ease with the pace of Europe and satisfied with the response from all the clubs who simply said to "See You Next Year," as an open invitation for a return engagement.

We look forward to working on our third European tour next year!







Above: Stacy Jones Poster is Switzerland! (Photo by Rick J. Bowen) Above Right: Brielle, The Netherlands (Photo by Jeff Menteer) Right: The Stacy Jones Band in Nyon, Switzerland (Photo Courtesy SJB) Below: The Stacy Jones Band at The Blues Garage (Courtesy The Blues Garage)







Remembering Don Glenn

This year, celebrate the 38th annual Seattle Peace Concert series By Ed Portnow

Seattle Peace Concerts Founder Don Glenn passed away May on 22nd 2018. .He guided the Seattle Peace Concert series for 38 years. He will be missed.

In 1959 as a young man, Don left high school, enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps Air Wing and served as an aircraft electrician. After completing service, Don returned to college to major in Math, Physics & Astronomy. He was hired by a company in California -IBM- to help in the upstart computer division. Due to his military experience he was given a job requiring "high security clearance."

Don was part of the dawn of the computer revolution and earned a good living with the promise of a very bright future. Life was going well, however, he found himself at a moral crossroad. His awareness shifted during the war in Vietnam and the Nixon era. Don became disillusioned and decided to move to Washington state where he lived communally until he took over the Seattle Peace Concerts in 1981.

He founded and developed the Seattle Peace Concerts to be a free concert experience in the beautiful setting of the outdoor spaces in Seattle Public Parks, The idea was, and remains, that these events are to celebrate the idea that Peace can happen because Peacefulness is a state of mind. The concerts were designed to be non-political in nature and welcoming to all in the community as a place to gather, meet new people, talk, dance and enjoy live music. A miraculous achievement in that he was able to it for 38 years with almost no budget and powered all by volunteer efforts.

Interview with the Don Glenn

Q: What are the Seattle Peace Concerts? A: All Volunteer Free Summer Park Concerts and food bank benefits. Celebrating peace through music.

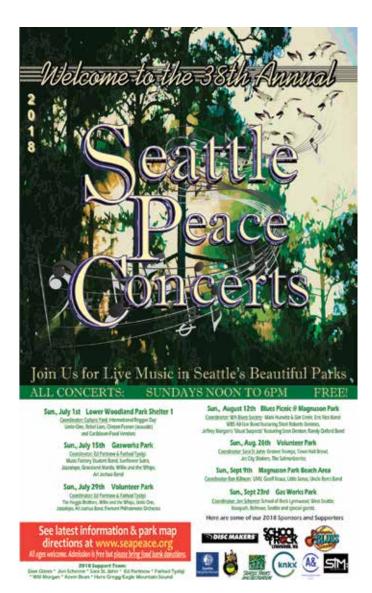
Q: Where do the Seattle Peace Concerts take place? A: We rotate through various Seattle Parks, Gas Works, Volunteer, Magnuson, and Woodland Park.

Q: Why did you create the Seattle Peace Concerts?

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

Q: How have you managed to keep the Seattle Peace Concerts series alive for all these years? A: Some of the best of Seattle's musicians volunteering their time. And the kind folks in Seattle leaving the parks in better condition after our events than before. We used to advertise we had the largest cleanup crew of any other event- everyone in attendance. Later it evolved to the smallest cleanup crew because no one was making a mess.

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



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

In recent years, Don found and assembled a group of people to inherit the Seattle Peace Concert mission. In order to keep the Seattle Peace Concerts alive, healthy and moving forward, we have reformed the series as a non-profit organization and have created a partnership with the Seattle Parks Foundation as a fiscal sponsor. The Seattle Parks Foundation can accept much needed donations on behalf of the Seattle Peace Concerts and we are also working together with the Washington Blues Society to help present concerts in the future.

The best way to support the Seattle Peace Concerts is to come to the events and to live daily with peacefulness in mind, heart and spirit. We welcome volunteers to help out with organizing, logistics and promotional outreach. Seattle Peace Concert gratefully welcomes donations to continue providing these events.

If interested in volunteering the please contact: https://www.facebook.com/groups/SeaPeace/about/

If interested in donations then please visit: "for donations contact: https://www.seattleparksfoundation.org/project/seattle-peaceconcerts/

Left: Remembering Don Glenn (Left) Blues Art by Phil Chesnut - Seattle Peace Concerts Logo









Cover Story: The Pimps of Joytime

The Pimps of Joytime draw on global sounds to bring local joy to Winthrop By Polly O'Keary

Brian Jay didn't name the band. But when a friend recorded a spoken introduction for their first album, into which he threw the words "pimp of joy time," Brian knew that was it.

"There was no question after that," he said. "I said, 'that's it. That's the band name."

Joy was the whole reason Brian put the fun and funky project The Pimps of Joytime together 11 years ago.

"I wanted to have a joyous celebratory project," he said. "I wanted a dance party."

But there's more to the band, and to Brian, than a catchy funk sound, although the five-piece band has certainly mastered that form.

The sophisticated rhythms and sounds that Winthrop Rhtyhm and Blues Festival fans will see Sunday, July 22, at 5:30 on the main stage also draws on African and Caribbean rhythms, the percussion tradition of New Orleans, the Chicago blues masters, and even the dark, rich tradition of Hill Country blues.

It's a combination that Peter Dammann, one of the festival organizers, thinks lights the way for a new generation of artists.

"The Pimps are the poster children for where the blues is (or should be) headed," he said. "Pushing the boundaries of the genre, but in a way that stays true to the roots, and ultimately will help the genre evolve, stay relevant, speak to a new generation."

The band features Brian Jay, (who began his musical life as a drummer and is a multi-instrumentalist) on guitar and lead vocals, with Mayteana Morales and Kimberly Dawson providing sweet, powerful harmony and stellar percussion. Drummer John Staten plays complex and creative parts, and bassist David Bailis plays bass and keyboards, sometimes adding elements of electronica to the mix.

Overall, it is sonically much closer to the Meters than Muddy Waters, but Muddy Waters underpins everything Brian does, he says.

"When I was a kid, I listening to Muddy Waters, Howlin' Wolf, and the guitarists, Albert King, Freddie King, BB King, all the Kings," he said. "The blues is very much at the root of what I do. The funk felt like bringing the dance thing into it. It's the aspect of fun, the danceability, the cartoon nature of it. When you are a kid and you close your eyes and listen to '70s funk, it's so animated, all the parts fit together like clockwork, to make this rhythmic stew."

But the primal power that informs the blues is very present.

"Any time I take a guitar solo, there's blues in it, when I sing, there's blues in it," said Brian. "It's very much informed by the spirit of blues."

The spirit of blues is found in many genres, Brian believes, all over the globe.

"You hear it in other cultures," he said. "I love West African music and music from the Sahara, Taureg stuff. There's even Irish stuff that you feel the spirit of the blues in, a primal spirit."

Over the course of his career, Brian has immersed himself in various cultures of rhythm and sound.

"I went through an Afro-Cuban phase, and brass band arrangements," he said. "New Orleans is deeply ingrained, the second line, Mardi Gras Indian rhythms. And the funk, like Meters funk. It's fun, you never know how it's going to express itself, when you go write some music."

It was that eclectic, creative energy that first captured festival talent buyer Erika Olson years ago.

I went to the Tractor in 2011 when they opened for Dumpstaphunk, and I just knew they were a band from New York," she said. "My jaw dropped, my body moved and I instantly fell in love with the groove." She recruited the band for Portland Waterfront the next year, and they returned last summer.

As much as Western African rhythm influences the celebratory sound of the Pimps of Joytime, it also informs the much darker Hill Country blues Brian Jay loves. In fact, when he's not doing the bright, infectious music he does with The Pimps, he records Hill Country blues with some of its top artists.

"I'm working closely with Cedric Burnside, and I'm pretty psyched about that, because he's one of the few doing authentic Hill Country blues, straight up real deal stuff," Brian said. "It's very primitive, it has that spirit, the true spirit of blues."



Mayteana Morales and Kimberly Dawson blend smooth vocal parts on a tribute to Prince. The band's sound is built around the Brooklyn funk sound of the early 2000s, but draws on diverse influences from around the world. Photo courtesy of the Pimps of Joytime. (Photo courtesy of the Pimps of Joytime).

Brian, it happens, is absolutely passionate about Hill Country blues, the north Mississippi style rooted in complex West African rhythms that survived generations during which enslaved people were forbidden to play drums for fear of their communicative power, which, planters feared, could be used to plot uprisings.

"It's raw, it's got a feeling of danger, it's not clean, it's not Vegas," Brian said. "There are so few people doing that...R.L. Burnside, Junior Kimbrough, they almost have a punk vibe, super raw. When you hear it, you're like, 'I don't want to mess with them."

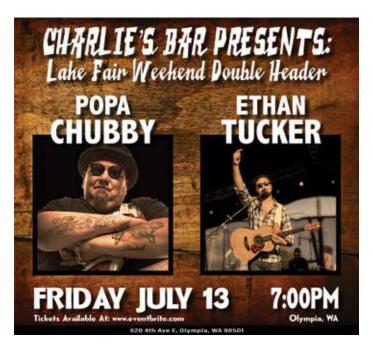
As for where the blues as a genre is going, Brian doesn't know, but he hopes that powerful, raw spirit is not lost, he said.

Dammann says he thinks he knows where the spirit of the blues is going, and it's about the Pimps of Joytime.

"I have dug them for years," he said. "Washington Blues Society Bluesletter readers should make the trip to Winthrop to see what the future looks and sounds like. Women percussionists, deep grooves, great vocals, songs with authentic content."



The Pimps of Joytime includes (L-R) John Staten (drums), Kimberly Dawson (vocals/percussion), Brian Jay (guitar/percussion/ vocals), Mayteana Morales (vocals/percussion), and David Bailis (bass/sampler). (Photo courtesy of the Pimps of Joytime).



Dana Fuchs Love Lives on (Get Along Records)

Gaining control of your own destiny is a hardwon battle for every artist and twice as hard for women. New York soul singer Dana Fuchs found herself at such a crossroads with the expiration of her contract with Ruf Records, the loss of several family members and a baby on the way, yet she fearlessly took the advice of a friend and pressed on, starting her own label to release her seventh album Love Lives On, released in May of 2018. Fuchs and longtime music partner guitarist John Diamond headed to the source and recorded 13 new tracks in Memphis, the birthplace of Stax and Sun Records. She enlisted Hi Records legend Reverend Charles Hodges to play the B3 and session master drummer Steve Potts to recreate that "Soulville" sound. The spot-on cover of Otis Redding's standard "Nobody's Fault But Mine, becomes the template for the album with a formula of driving rhythms, screaming guitars, hot horn punches and vocals that stretch sonic and emotional boundaries. Fuchs not only pushes the limits of a singer who already tackled the role of Janis Joplin onstage with national acclaim, but gains ground as a lyricist who deals with the heady subjects of grief, hate, mental illness, self-destruction and how love can prevail over adversity if you let it. Among the stand out tracks are the dedication to lost loved ones "Callin' Angels." the soul blues lament of the title track and the powerful anthem of personal triumph "Ready to Rise." Fuchs also reveals the influence of the country side of Memphis on the acoustic redemption song "Fight My Way," and a sultry cover of "Ring of Fire" that would make June Carter proud. Rick J Bowen

Peter Ward Blues On My Shoulders (Gandy Dancer Records)

For Blues On My Shoulder Peter Ward tapped a number of notable New England guests, including Sax Gordon, Ronnie Earl, Anthony Geraci, Sugar Ray Norcia and Monster Mike Welch and the rhythm team of Michael "Mudcat" Ward on bass and Neil Gouvin on drums. All but one of the 13 selections are originals from Ward, opening with the medium paced shuffle "She Took it All," with Sugar Ray adding his vibrant blues harp with Peter

singing "she took my records, my CDs, my mp3's, she would've taken my Pontiac if she found the keys/she took it all, yeah she took it all/I know I should be sad; but it don't bother me at all." "Which Hazel" is a rocker with a Chuck Berry feel as Peter asks "which Hazel should I choose?" and the pleasing instrumental "Shiprock" has a toe-tapping beat. The title track is a laid back shuffle featuring Sugar Ray's deft harp and Monster Mike's stinging guitar over Geraci's pounding piano. The jazzy groove of "Collaborate" features both Sax Gordon and Sugar Ray laying down the goods. The up tempo "It's On Me" features Sax Gordon blowing a tough solo and the distinctive guitar of Ronnie Earl. The lone cover is Jim Jackson's "Kansas City Blues" from Vocalion Records in 1927 and Peter with Joe Delia on bass and George Dellomo on the drums gives it a peppy update. Very highly recommended. Malcolm Kennedy

Al Basile **Quiet Money** (Sweet Spot)

Cornet player Al Basile has long worked with Duke Robillard, who produced and plays guitar on this CD. They go back to at least 1973 when they were in Roomful of Blues. Along with a number of solo releases and numerous other albums, Al was involved with all three of the acclaimed Knickerbocker All-Stars projects as well. Along with long time associates of Robillard; Brad Hallen on bass; Mark Teixeira on drums and Bruce Bears on piano; Basile is supported by Roomful alums Rich Lataille on tenor and Doug James on tenor and baritone sax rounded out by Jeff Chanonhouse on trumpet on these 13 original tracks. Al opens up with "Blues Got Blues" as he sings "blues got the blues for the players/they got bill, they all got debts to repay/when you got a mortgage and a family, why do people think you ought to play for free?" From the mellow shuffle "Simple Ain't Easy" to the catchy "True to Form" and the fast paced "Do You Even Know?," Al brings variety to the album's well-crafted tunes. Basille's music is steeped in R&B and jazz from the 40s and 50s; but he imbues his lyrics with current situations and *Quite Money* reflects this well, being both retro and poignant at the same time. One of the standout cuts is "Put Some Salt On It" to which Duke adds a tasty solo. Another is the fast-paced, bouncy horn-driven "The Time is Now." Very highly recommended. Malcolm Kennedy

Eric Tingstad Electric Spirit (Cheshire Records)

Northwest guitarist Eric Tingstad is mostly known for his acoustic playing that earned him a Grammy in 2003, but for his latest release, the acclaimed composer has chosen to explore the roots of his early influences from delta blues and country and soul on the Telecaster, lap and pedal steel and Resophonic, painting evocative landscapes with tube-driven power on a new disc titled Electric Spirit. The 12 new tracks, released in May of 2018 are a continuation of Tingstad's love affair with music that seeps up from the Mississippi, which was the title of his 2015 album. This time he adds three loving renditions of traditional songs and a guest vocalist to his original instrumentals. The album opens with the slinky soul blues "Electric City" that showcases his finger picking skills over a greasy bed of Hammond B3. The swampy blues of "French Quarter" is propelled by a lazy shuffle from drummer Ben Smith of Heart, then the gospel hymn "Oh Shenandoah." is given the Mark Knopfler and Dire Straits treatment modernizing the old chestnut. Tingstad reveals the influence Chet Atkins had on him on the swinging country blues "Bessie" and "Amazing Grace," soas over a fat back beat and the angels sing in the form of sweet hi lonesome pedal steel. Blue Eved soul singer from Miami, Chloe Dolandis, delivers the breathy vocals on the inspirational ballad "There's More," providing the album's "Disney Magic moment." The music travelogue continues as Tingstad then takes us down the sweet and spicy road of "South to Carolina," and the ultra-laid-back blues "Big River" that rolls into the reggae-tinged "Key West." His telecaster pops on the sizzling tango "Flamingo Club" and the reverb-soaked rambler "The Train of Thought" is full of sonic surprises and evocative melodic notions. The lovely reading of "Over The Rainbow" that closes the set is destined to become a classic. Tingstad once again proves he is a master who works with frets and strings the way the Impressionists worked with oil and canvas, drawing inspiration from nature and relying on imagination and feelings to guide his art. Rick J Bowen

Editor's Note: We look forward to a more robust CD review section next month complete with pictures of CD covers, too!

Buy Tickets Now at www.DrinkToMusic.org



DETAILS

Located in Des Moines Beach Park Meadow

Outdoor Event

(rain or shine) In the event of inclement weather music venue will be indoors

> **Tickets** \$35 in Advance \$40 at Door

Admission Includes FIVE Tasting Tokens and Tasting Glass

More Details at DrinkToMusic.org

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PLUS

Local Food Vendors

THE BANDS

Eric Rice Band 12:30 - 2:00

Randy Oxford Band 2:30 - 4:00

Rae Gordon Band 4:30 - 6:00

CD Woodbury Band 6:30 - 8:00



Ample Parking & Shuttle in Des Moines Marina . Must Be 21 Years of Age and Over . NO Pets Allowed

SPONSORS







July 2018 Washington Blues Society Calendar

Note: Please confirm with each venue the start time and price. We also apologize for any errors. Please submit all details to our online calendar at www.wablues.org.

JULY 1 SUNDAY

Centrum Foundation: Fiddle Tunes Workshop 4pm

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley: Acoustic Alchemy 7:30pm

Marymoor Concerts: Vance Joy 7pm

JULY 2 MONDAY

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley: Greg Adams & East Bay Soul 7:30pm

Madison Ave Pub: Monday Blues Review 7pm

The Oxford Saloon: Sheri's Monday Piano Bar Dinner Show 5pm

JULY 3 TUESDAY

Conor Byrne Pub: 1st Tuesday of the Month with Smoke Tough Johnny 9pm

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley: Greg Adams & East Bay Soul 7:30pm

JULY 5 THURSDAY

Cascade Playground: Cascade Summer Stage Concerts 4pm

Conway Muse: Quattlebaum -Southern Gent and Banjo Slinger 7:30pm

Conway Muse: The Resonant Rogues & Hot Damn Scandal 7pm

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley: Will Downing 7:30pm

Highway 99 Blues Club: Chris Eger Band 8pm

Hotel Bellwether: Blues, Brews, & BBQ at Hotel Bellwether 5pm

Salmon Bay Eagles: All Stars No Stripes Band 8pm

JULY 6 FRIDAY

Brewminatti: Sundae + Mr. Goessl 7pm

Collector's Choice Restaurant: The Davanos 8pm

Conway Muse: Gregory Rawlins 7:30pm

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley: Will Downing 7:30pm

Hard Rock Café: Carvin Jones Band

Highway 99 Blues Club: The Rolling Stones Concert Experience 8pm

Port Gardner Bay Winery: Sheri & Da Boyz 7pm

Salmon Bay Eagles: Cheri Adams Band 8pm

JULY 7 SATURDAY

Conway Muse: Petunia & The Vipers 8nm

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley: Will Downing 7:30pm

Downtown Bremerton: Rock the Dock - Summer Concert Series 5pm

Grumpy D's Coffee House: Jian Lakerson 7pm

Highway 99 Blues Club: An Evening with Seth Walker 8pm

J & M Café: Kenny Chesney After Party w/ Marlin James Band 9pm

Leif Erickson Hall: Stickshift Annie w/ Kimball & The Fugitives 8pm

Pono Ranch: Mark Hurwitz and Gin Creek 8pm

The Restaurant at Rhodes River Ranch: Doug Williams 6pm Timber Monster Brewing: Sheri Roberts Greimes 7pm

JULY 8 SUNDAY

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley: Will Downing 7:30pm

LaConner Gilkey Square: Stickshift Annie w/Kimball & The Fugitives 1pm The Shakedown: Quintron And Miss Pussycat 8pm

JULY 9 MONDAY

Madison Ave Pub: Monday Blues Review 7pm

The Oxford Saloon: Guy Johnson Dinner Show 5pm

JULY 10 TUESDAY

Collector's Choice Restaurant: Washington Blues Society Blues Bash 7:30pm – See preview this issue!

JULY 11 WEDNESDAY

Highway 99 Blues Club: Wasted Words - A Tribute to the Music of the Allman Brothers 8pm

JULY 12 THURSDAY

Cascade Playground: Cascade Summer Stage Concerts 4pm

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley: Steve Tyrell 7:30nm

Highway 99 Blues Club: Son Jack's Delta House with Special Guests: Mississippi MacDonald & Steve Bailey 8pm

Hotel Bellwether: Blues, Brews & BBQ 5pm

Salmon Bay Eagles: Soulful 88's

JULY 13 FRIDAY

Charlie's Bar: Popa Chubby & Ethan Tucker - Lake Fair Weekend Blues Bash 7pm

Conway Muse: Cubasere Presents SALSASERE Salsa Night 7pm

Conway Muse: Double Duo MuseBird Cafe w/Jennings & Keller & Ex Libris 7:30pm

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley: Steve Tyrell 7:30pm

Grumpy D's Coffee House: Sheri Roberts Greimes

Highway 99 Blues Club: Too Slim and the Tail Draggers 8pm

Salmon Bay Eagles: Jimmy Free 8pm Sigillo Cellars: The Teccas 6:30pm

The Restaurant at Rhodes River Ranch: Marcia Kester 6pm

JULY 14 SATURDAY

Brewminatti: Heather Maloney EP Release 7pm

Conway Muse: Fabulous Roof Shakers 7:30pm

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley: Steve Tyrell **Downtown Bremerton:** Rock the Dock - Summer Concert Series 5pm

Eighteen Pastures Golf Course: Iron Mountain Music Festival 1:30pm

Highway 99 Blues Club: Popa Chubby - Brooklyn's Baddest Bluesman 8pm

Marymoor Concerts: Sylvan Esso 7pm Music at the Marina: Stickshift Annie w/Kimball & The Fugitives 6:30pm

Old Town Tacoma: BLUES ON! in Old Town Tacoma 1pm

Rockin' The Alley: Stacy Jones Band 6pm

Salmon Bay Eagles: Ballard Seafood Fest-Seattle Houserockers 8pm

The Restaurant at Rhodes River Ranch: Burnt Breakfast 6pm

JULY 15 SUNDAY

Crossroads Mall Bellevue: Sunday Brunch Show with Two Guys & A Broad 11am

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley: Steve Tyrell 7:30pm

Grumpy D's Coffee House: Seattle Jazz Guitar Society 2pm

Wedgwood Arts Festival: Eric Madis & Blue Madness 4pm

JULY 16 MONDAY

Madison Ave Pub: Monday Blues Review 7pm

The Oxford Saloon: Sheri's Monday Piano Bar Dinner Show 5pm

JULY 17 TUESDAY

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley: Henry Kapono with Special Guest Johnny Valentine 7:30pm

JULY 18 WEDNESDAY

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley: Henry Kapono with Special Guest Johnny Valentine 7:30pm

Highway 99 Blues Club: Joe Blue & The Roof Shakers - East Coast Blues 7nm

JULY 19 THURSDAY

Cascade Playground: Cascade Summer Stage Concerts 4pm

Conway Muse: Brother Dege 7:30pm Dimitriou's Jazz Alley: Nearly Dan

Highway 99 Blues Club: Trailer Park Kings - Classic Rock Blues 8pm

Historic Shell Station Issaquah: Sheri Roberts Greimes at Gas Station Blues

Horning's Hideout: 17th Annual Northwest String Summit 12pm

Hotel Bellwether: Blues Brews & BBQ at Hotel Bellwether 5pm

Salmon Bay Eagles: Nate Burch Band 8pm

JULY 20 FRIDAY

Conway Muse: Mama Dirty Skirt 7:30pm

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley: Nearly Dan 7:30pm

Highway 99 Blues Club: Ben Rice's "Barrel Full of Blues" with Hank Shreve, Karen Lovely & Randy Oxford 8pm

Lake Tye Park: Stacy Jones Band 7pm
The Airport Tavern: Sunny Ledfurd

Twin Rivers Brewing Co.: Sheri Roberts Greimes 7pm

9pm

Winthrop Rhythm & Blues Festival: 31st Winthrop Rhythm & Blues Festival

JULY 21 SATURDAY

Bite of Seattle: Stickshift Annie w/

Kimball & The Fugitives: 1pm

Conway Muse Stardrums & Lady Keys with Lonnie Williams on sax **7:**30pm

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley: Nearly Dan 7:30pm

Duvall's McCormick Park: Sheri Roberts Greimes w/JoMomma at **Duvall Sandblast 5pm**

Elliott Bay Pizza: Stickshift Annie & The Fugitives 7pm

Highway 99 Blues Club: Live Louisiana Zydeco with Curley Taylor and Zydeco Trouble 8pm

Point Ruston Summer Concerts: Mark Hurwitz and Gin Creek 5pm Snohomish Downtown: Kla Ha Ya Days 1pm and 6:30pm

JULY 22 SUNDAY

Centrum Foundation: Jazz Port Townsend Workshop 4pm

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley: Nearly Dan

Gig Harbor Arts Festival: Two Guys and A Broad 1pm

Seattle Center Mural Stage: Stacy Jones Band at Bite of Seattle 4pm

JULY 23 MONDAY

IInterbay BBQ: Stickshift Annie w/ Kimball & The Fugitives 5:30 pm

Madison Ave Pub: Monday Blues Review 7pm

The Oxford Saloon: Guy Johnson Dinner Show 5pm

JULY 24 TUESDAY

Crossroads Bellevue Farmers Market: Two Guys and A Broad 1pm

JULY 25 WEDNESDAY

Highway 99 Blues Club: John Maxwell's Acoustic Juke Joint with Special Guests: Daddy Treetops and Jon Parry 8pm

Life Care Center of Kirkland: Mary, Jevon & Rob 12pm

The Oxford Saloon: New Venture 6pm

JULY 26 THURSDAY

Cascade Playground: Cascade Summer Stage Concerts 4pm

Conway Muse: Ira Wolf and Lee Henke 7:30pm

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley: John Pizzarelli Salutes Johnny Mercer 7:30pm

Highway 99 Blues Club: Patty Allen & Monster Road 8pm

Hotel Bellwether: Blues, Brews, & BBQ 5pm

JULY 27 FRIDAY

Anthony's Woodfire Everett: Sheri Roberts Greimes 8pm

Charlie's Bar: 2018 Summer Concert Series with Curtis Salgado and special

Conway Muse: Cary Morin 7:30pm Dimitriou's Jazz Alley: John Pizzarelli Salutes Johnny Mercer 7:30pm

Grumpy D's Coffee House: Abby K 7pm

Easy Monkey: Stickshift Annie w/ Kimball & The Fugitives 8pm

Highway 99 Blues Club: Duffy Bishop - Seattle's First Lady Of Blues! 8pm

The Restaurant at Rhodes River Ranch: Jim McLaughlin and Greg Murat 6pm

JULY 28 SATURDAY

Conway Muse: Duffy Bishop Band

6:30pm

Decibel Brewing: Siggie The Vintage

Man 7pm

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley: John Pizzarelli Salutes Johnny Mercer 7:30pm

Downtown Bremerton: Rock the Dock - Summer Concert Series 5pm

Dusty Strings Music: Acoustic Blues Classes 10:30am

Highway 99 Blues Club: John "Del Toro" Richardson 8pm

JULY 29 SUNDAY

Centrum Foundation: Port Townsend Acoustic Blues Festival Workshop 4pm

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley: John Pizzarelli Salutes Johnny Mercer 7:30pm

Evergreen Playfields: Stacy Jones Band at Tour de Terrace 5pm

The Oxford Saloon: New Venture 6pm

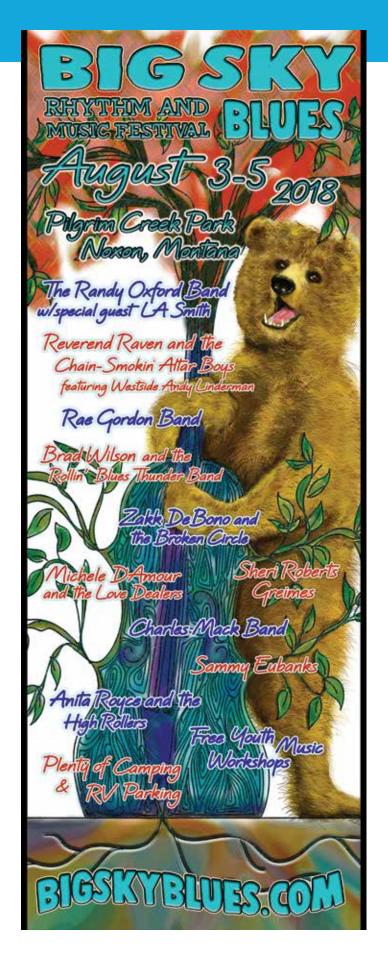
JULY 30 MONDAY

Madison Ave Pub: Madison Ave Pub Monday Blues Review 7pm

The Oxford Saloon: Sheri's Monday Piano Bar Dinner Show 5pm

JULY 31 TUESDAY

Lincoln Theater Mt Vernon: Robert Cray Band 7:30pm



Whom to Hire, Get in Touch

Please send any updates, additions or corrections to both Editor@wablues.org and ericrichd@aol.com. We're working to build a better Bluesletter!

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If you don't know your **googily moogily** from your wang dang doodle, join the Washington Blues Society!

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\$1 off the cover and 25% off food at the Raging River Saloon (Fall City, WA)

\$5 off the show admission for Friday 9:30 shows at Jazz Alley†

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☐ Musicians Relief Fund in the amount of \$		providing assistance to local musicians in their time of need				
\square Passing the Torch Fund in the amount of \$			_ educating the next generation of local musicians			
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^{*} Due to postage fees, non-US residents will receive their Bluesletter electronically

[†] With valid WBS membership card and advanced reservation. Reservations must be made by calling Jazz Alley at 206-441-9729 and requesting the WBS Special. This offer is not applicable to all shows.

Go Out and Support Local Live Music!

Jam hosts listed and Open mics are either blues-friendly or full band-friendly

SUNDAY

192 Brewing, Kenmore: The Groovetramps Sunday Afternoon Blues Jam, 3–7pm (All-ages)

Anchor Pub, Everett: Open Jam Hosted by Leah Tussing & Rafael Tranquilino (Second Sunday of the month), 2–5pm, all ages

Anchor Pub Jazz Jam: Third and fourth Sunday of the month, 5–8pm, all ages

Blue Moon Tavern, Everett: Jam hosted by The Moon Dogs, 7-10pm

Couth Buzzard Books Espresso Buono Cafe, Seattle: Buzzard Blues Open Jam hosted by Kenny Mandell, 7–9pm (first Sunday of each month)

Dawson's, Tacoma: Tim Hall Band, 7–11pm

Finaughty's, Snoqualmie Ridge – Tommy Wall's Wicked Blues Jam 7 – 11 PM

Peabo's Bar and Grill, Mill Creek: Peace N Love Jam with Tommy Cook, Eric Rice & Scotty Harris, 7–10pm

The Royal Bear, Auburn: Sunday Unloaded Jam Session, 6–10pm

Darrell's Tavern, Shoreline: Jazz Jam, 7–10pm

MONDAY

Mac's Triangle Pub, Seattle: 8–10pm

Nectar Lounge, Seattle: Mo Jam Mondays, 9 –11pm

Emerald of Siam, Richland: Open Mic/Band showcase hosted by Barefoot Randy/ Dirty River Entertainment 8 pm (all ages until 10:45pm)

Dawson's, Tacoma: Music Mania Jam, 7 –11pm

The Swiss, Tacoma: Open Mic hosted by Chuck Gay, 7–10pm

Red Dog Saloon, Maple Valley: Jam with Scotty FM and the Broadcasters,

Riverside Pub, Wenatchee: North Central Washington Blues Jam (second and fourth Mondays of the month), 7–10pm The Village Taphouse and Grill, Marysville: Jam Night with Scotty Harris and Tommy Cook, 7–10pm

TUESDAY

Royal Esquire Club, Seattle: Sea-Town All-Stars, 8-10pm

Antique Sandwich Co., Tacoma: Open Mic, 7–10pm

Dave's of Milton: Blues and Beyond Jam, 7–10pm

Elmer's Pub, Burien: Jam with Billy Shew, 7–11pm

Pogacha, Issaquah: Open jam Hosted by Doug McGrew., 8pm, 21+

Engel's Pub, Edmonds: Jam Night with Dano Mac, 8–11pm

Pogacha, Issaquah: Hosted by Doug McGrew, All musicians, full bands, and styles of music are welcome, 8-11PM

Poppe's 360 Neighborhood Pub, Bellingham: Open Mic Night with Brian Hillman, 6:30–9pm

Oxford Saloon, Snohomish: Acoustic Open Mic Jam, 7–10PM

J&M Café in Pioneer Square, Seattle: Blues Jam with Cory Wilds, 9–11pm

Stoneway Cafe, Seattle: Acoustic Open Mic, 7–10pm

Tim's Tavern, Seattle: Open Mic, 7–10pm

Tweede's Café, North Bend: Open Mic, 630–930pm

North End Social Club, Tacoma: Open Mic Tuesdays

with Kim Archer, 8–11pm Ben Moore's, Olympia: Open

Mic, 7–10pm

The Cherry Bomb, Port

Angeles: Blues Jam with Big
Al and the Gang, 7–10pm

WEDNESDAY

Blue Moon Tavern, Seattle: Open Mic, 8–11pm

Collectors Choice Restaurant, Snohomish: Blues Jam with Usual Suspects. 8–11pm

Couth Buzzard Cafe, Seattle: Open Mic, 7:30–10pm

Dawson's, Tacoma: Linda Myers Wicked Wednesday Jam, 8–11pm

Darrell's Tavern, Shoreline: Open Mic, 8:30–11pm

Grumpy D's Coffee House, Seattle: Open Mic, 6:30–9pm

Madison Ave Pub, Everett: Unbound Blues Jam, 7:30–11pm

The Mix, Seattle: Open Mic, 8–10pm

Old Triangle, Seattle: with Jeff Hass Jam, 8–11pm

Rocko's Fireside, Everett: Pole Cat's All Star Open Jam, 730–11pm

Skylark Café, West Seattle: Open Mic, 8–11pm

Sapolil Cellars, Walla Walla: Open Mic, 7–11pm

Tony V's Garage, Everett: Open Mic, 9–11pm

The Living Room Coffee, Marysville: Open Mic, 6–9pm

The Locker Room Tavern, Seattle: Open Jam Hosted by Power Cell 8–11pm

Oxford Saloon, Snohomish: Open Mic & Jam hosted by The Shortcuts, 830–1130pm

Rhythm and Rye, Olympia: Open Mic Night hosted by Scott Lesman, 8–11pm

The Roadhouse, Spokane: Open Jam, 730–11pm

The Emerald of Siam Thai Restaurant and Lounge: Jazz Jam Night 8PM

THURSDAY

Anchor Pub, Everett: Open Mic, 9–11pm

Dog House Bar and Grill, Seattle: Blues Jam with Up Town All-Stars, 730–11pm Port Gardner Bay Winery,

Everett: Open Mic, 630–930pm Dave's of Milton: Open Jam

with Power Cell, 8–11pm **Dawson's, Tacoma:** Blues Jam

with Billy Shew, 730–11pm

Oxford Saloon, Snohomish:

Haunting Rock Jam Hosted by Cuzin's Of Itt, 7PM

The Village Inn Pub, Bellingham: Jam with Jimmy D, 8–11pm

Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle: Blues Jam with Mark Whitman (last Thursday of the month), 8–11pm

Sapolil Cellars, Walla Walla: Jam Night, 8–11pm

Slippery Pig Brewery, Poulsbo: Blues and Brews Jam Night with Thys Wallwork (all ages), 7–11pm

Gordon & Purdy's Pub, Sumner: Open Blues Jam, 7–11pm

Stewarts, Snohomish: Open Jam w Pole Cat and Co. 7 PM

Stoneway Cafe, Seattle: Acoustic Open Mic, 7–10pm

Loco Billy's Wild Moon Saloon, Stanwood: Tightwad Thursday Jam, 8–11pm

The Hungry Pelican, Snohomish: Open Mic Acoustic Night with Jeff Crookall and Friends, 630–10pm

Rhythm and Rye, Olympia: Olympia Jazz Jam hosted by Tarik Bentlemsani, 7–9pm

The Dam Bar, Port Angeles: Blues Jam with House Band: Jeff Dale, Randi Bennett, Harry Bidasha, Al Owen, 7–10pm

Lee's Brickhouse Pub, Kirkland: Open Mic with Heather B Blues, 7–10pm

FRIDAY

The Living Room Coffee, Maryville: Student Jazz Jam (last Friday of each month), 630–930pm

Urban Timber Coffee, Sumner: Open Mic, 6:30–10pm

Dragon Gate, Des Moines: Open Jam, 9–11pm

La Copa Café, Seattle: Victory Music open mic 6:30 – 9:00 PM, all ages

Dreadknott Brewery, Monroe: Open Mic 7-10 PM

SATURDAY

Café Zippy's, Everett: Victory Music Open Mic (every first Saturday), 5:30–8:30pm

Great Fortune, Bellevue: Eastside Jazz and Blues Jam Session, hosted by Jerry Garcia and Kevin McCarthy, 8–11pm

Where the Music Is Happening

Please help us keep our talent guide, jam and open mic listing, and venue guide as up to date as possible: Editor@wablues.org & ericrichd@aol.com.

Downtown and West Seattle

Bad Albert's Tap and Grill 206.789.2000

Barboza 206.709.9442

Ballard Elks Lodge 206.784.0827

Blue Moon Tavern 206.675.9116

Café Racer 206.523.5282

Capitol Cider 206.397.3564

Café' Solstice, U-District 206.675.0850

Central Saloon 206.622.0209

Conor Byrne Pub 206.784.3640

Columbia City Theater 206.722.3009

C&P Coffee Company 206.933.3125

Darrell's Tavern 206.542.6688

Easy Monkey Tap House 206.420.1326

Egan's Ballard Jam House 206.789.1621

FI Corazon 206.262.0482

Hard Rock Café Seattle 206.204.2233

Highway 99 Blues Club 206.382.2171

J&M Café- Pioneer Square 206.402.6654

206.441.9729 Little Red Hen 206.522.1168

Jazz Alley

Mac's Triangle Pub 206.763.0714

Nectar Lounge 206.632.2020

Neptune Theater 206.682.1414

Neumos 206.709.9442

North City Bistro, Shoreline 206.365.4447

Owl and Thistle 206.621.7777 Paragon

206.283.4548 Salmon Bay Eagles

206.783.7791

Seamonster Lounge 206.992.1120

Skylark Cafe & Club 206.935.2111

Slim's Last Chance Saloon 206.762.7900

Stoneway Café' 206.420.4435

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 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 Tim's Tavern 206.789.9005

Town Hall 206.652.4255

88 Kevs 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 & Renton

Auburn Eagles 253.833.2298

Bob's Java Jive 253,475,9843

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

Delancey'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

Jazzbones, Tacoma 253,396,9169

Jeremy's Farm-to-Table **Restaurant and Market**

360. 748.4417

Johnny's Dock, Tacoma 253.627.3186

Junction Sports Bar, Grand Mound 360.273.7586

Louie G's, Fife 253.926.9700

Lucky Eagle Casino, Rochester 800.720.1788

Muckleshoot Casino,

800.804.4944

Nikki's Lounge, Covington 253.981.3612

Nisqually Red Wind Casino, Olympia 866.946.2444

Old General Store Steak House & Saloon, Roy 253.459.2124

Rhythm & Rye, Olympia 360.705.0760

Riverside Golf Club, Chehalis 360.748.8182

Royal Bear, Algona 253.222.0926

Silver Dollar Pub, Spanaway 253.531.4469

Stonegate, Tacoma 253.473.2255 The Spar, Tacoma

253.627.8215 The Swiss, Tacoma

253.572.2821

Uncle Sam's, Spanaway 253,507,7808

Yella Beak Saloon, **Enumclaw**

360.825.5500

PENINSULA Bremerton, Port Orchard, Sequim & Shelton

Bethel Saloon, Port Orchard 360.876.6621

Brother Don's, Bremerton 360.377.8442

Casey's Bar and Grill, Belfair 360.275.6929

Cellar Door, Port Townsend 360.385.6959 Cherry Bomb, Port Angeles

360.797.1638 Clear Water Casino, Suguamish

Disco Bay Detour, Discovery

360.379.6898

360.598.8700

Little Creek Casino, Shelton 800.667.7711

7 Cedars Casino, Sequim 360.683.7777

Halftime 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

Red Dog Saloon, Port Orchard 360.876.1018

Silverdale Beach Hotel, Silverdale 360.698.1000

Sirens Pub, Port Townsend 360.379.1100

Slaughter County Brewing Co., Port Orchard 360.329.2340

Swim Deck, Port Orchard 360.443.6220

The Dam Bar, Port Angeles 360.452.9880

Treehouse 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 & Woodinville

Bakes Place, Bellevue 425.454.2776

Beaumont Cellars. Woodinville 425.482.6349

Capp's Club, Kenmore 425.877.1512

Cypress Lounge & Wine Bar, The Westin -Bellevue 425.638.1000

Central Club, Kirkland 425.827.0808

Crossroads Center, Bellevue 425.402.9600

Grazie, Bothell 425.402.9600 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

Center, Bothell

425.984.2471 Northwest Cellars, Kirkland

Northshore Performing Arts

425.825.9463 Pogacha of Issaquah, Issaquah

Sky River Brewing, Redmond 425.242.3815

425.392.5550

Snoqualmie Casino, Snoqualmie 425.888.1234

Soul Food Coffee House, Redmond 425.881.5309

Chateau Ste. Michelle Winery, Woodinville 425.488.1133

The Black Dog, Snoqualmie 425.831.3647

The Den Coffee Shop, **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

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 360.416.7727ext.2

Mirkwood Public House, 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

Peabo's, Mill Creek 425.337.3007

Port Gardener Bay Winery, Everett

425.339.0293 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

Snazzy Badger Pub, Snohomish 360.568.8202

The Oxford Saloon, Snohomish

360.243.3060

The Repp, Snohomish 360.568.3928

The Madison Pub, Everett 425.348.7402

The Anchor Pub, Everett 425.374.2580

Tulalip Casino, Tulalip 888.272.1111

The Green Frog, Bellingham 360.961.1438

The Rumor Mill, Friday Harbor

360.378.5555 **The Shakedown, Bellingham** 360.778.1067

The Village Taphouse & Grill, Marysville

360.659.2305 **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

Wild Buffalo, Bellingham 360.392.8447

13th Ave Pub, Lynnwood 425.742.7871

CENTRAL & EASTERN WA

Yakima, Kennewick, Chelan, Manson, Roslyn, and Wenatchee

Bill's Place, Yakima 509.575.9513

Branding Iron, Kennewick 509.586.9292

Brick Saloon, Roslyn 509.649.2643

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

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

Sapolil Cellars, Walla Walla 509.520.5258

Seasons Performance Hall, Yakima

509.453.1888

The Vogue, Chelan 509.888.5282

Yakima Sports Center 509.453.4647

EAST OF THE CASCADE MOUNTAINS

Eastern Washington, Montana, Idaho, and Other

Arbor Crest Winery, Spokane Valley 509.927.9463

Barlows, Liberty Lake, WA 509,924,1446

Barrister Winery, Spokane 509,465,3591

Bing Crosby Theater, Spokane 509.227.7638

Bigfoot Pub, Spokane 509.467.9638

Bobbi's Bar, Plummer, ID 208.686.1677

Bolo's Bar & Grill, Spokane Valley

509.891.8995

Boomers Classic Rock Bar & Grill, Spokane Valley

Grill, Spokane Valley 509.368.9847

Bucer's Coffeehouse Pub, Moscow, ID 208.596.0887

Chateau Rive, Spokane 509.795.2030

Coeur d'Alene Casino, Worley 800.523.2464

Daley's Cheap Shots, Spokane Valley 509.535.9309

Dan & Jo's Bar, Valley, WA 509.937.4040

Eichart's, Sandpoint, ID 208.263.4005

Idaho Pour Authority, Sandpoint, ID 208.597.7096

Iron Horse, Coeur D'Alene, ID 208 667 7314

Jackson Street Bar & Grill, Spokane

John's Alley Tavern, Moscow,

208.883.7662

509.315.8497

Kamiah Hotel Bar & Steakhouse 208.935.0545

MAX at Mirabeau Hotel, Spokane Valley 509.924.9000

Red Lion Dam Bar Spokane, WA (Summer Concert Series)

509.326.8000 **Rico's Pub Pullman** 509.3326566 Scotty's Steakhouse, Kalispell, MT 406.257.8188

Templin's Resort, Post Falls,

The 219 Lounge Sandpoint,

208.263.9934

208.773.1611

The Bartlett, Spokane 509.747.2174

The Hop, Spokane 509.368.4077

The Moose Lounge, Coeur d'Alene, ID 208.664.7901

The Roadhouse, Spokane Valley

509.413.1894 Viking Tavern, Spokane

509.315.4547 **Whiskey Jacks, Ketchum, ID** 208.726.5297

Zola, Spokane 509.624.2416

Join us at the Blues Bash on July 10th at the Collector's Choice **Restaurant in Snohomish** at 215 Cypress Avenue!

Right: Rod Cook (Photo by Rocky Allen)

Below: Bobby Holland & The Breadline: Rick Star, Jim McLaughlin, Bobby Holland and Gary Porter (Photo by Denise Hathaway)





A Hot July Blues Bash in Snohomish

Featuring Bobby Holland & The Breadline and Rod Cook!

Compiled by Music Director Amy Sassenberg

Please join the Washington Blues Society for its monthly second Tuesday Blues Bash at the Collector's Choice Restaurant at 215 Cypress Avenue in Snohomish. This month, the Washington Blues Society presents Bobby Holland and the Breadline and Rod Cook. Showtime begins at 7:30pm.

Between sets, Washington Blues Society President Tony Frederickson raffles off CDs, blues merchandise and tickets to local blues shows and festivals (and other surprises including bling from our partners at the Seattle Mariners!).

Bobby Holland and the Breadline

Led by guitarist, Bob Holland, and featuring former world harmonica champion and Washington Blues Society "Best Harmonica" winner, Jim McLaughlin, the band "Bobby Holland and the Breadline" features top notch musicianship, four-part harmony and a catalog of excellent original material which they combine with their own unique interpretations of standards. Their latest release, Southern Fried and Bluesified, was nominated by the Washington Blues Society for Record of the Year and Rick Star and Bob Holland were nominated for Songwriters of the Year.

Jim McLaughlin is a two-time World Harmonica Champion and the winner of the 2013, 2014 and 2015 Washington Blues Society Harmonica Player of the Year award. In 2016, he was awarded the Washington Blues Society's Lifetime Achievement Award and was inducted into the organization's Blues Hall of Fame. Jim is ever popular for playing locally, nationally and internationally. He has performed with such notables as: The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, Bela Fleck and the Flecktones, WAR, James Cotton, Vassar Clements, Townes Van Zandt, Charlie Musselwhite and many more esteemed artists.

Rod Cook

Rod Cook is a well respected, in demand Seattle area guitarist/vocalist known for his stylistic versatility and soulful, melodic playing. Rod has worked as a professional musician for over forty years. He is known for his collaborations with former Mercury recording artist singer/songwriter/bassist Laura Love, former Steve Miller Band guitarist James "Curley" Cooke, The Voice finalist Vicci Martinez, Northwest icon Little Bill Englehart and many others as well his exploits with his band Rod Cook and Toast.

Rod has also backed up blues legend Taj Mahal and opened as a solo act for Todd Rundgren, Sonny Landreth, and Charlie Musslewhite. He has received numerous nominations and awards for the Washington Blues Society's "Best of The Blues" Awards, including the award for "Best Acoustic Guitar" (2004, 2006 and 2015) and "Best Electric Guitar" (2004, 2012, 2015 and 2016). In the spring of 2017, Rod released a solo acoustic recording "Uncooked." He currently performs in a variety of bands as well as solo acoustic engagements around the Northwest.







Blues Festival Preview: 2018 Mount Baker R & B Festival

What's new: No 60s or 70s class blues rock headliner... what's back? Lots & lots of guitars!

By Malcolm Kennedy (Photos of Bobby Patterson & Chris Eger by Malcolm Kennedy)

In 2013 the Mt Baker Rhythm & Blues Festival was honored by the Blues Foundation with a Keeping the Blues Alive Award in the Festival Category. There are many reasons; but the festivals commitment to a consistently elevated level of talent is a primary one, and 2018's line-up follows in suit with 14 mainstage acts. What's new: no 60s-70s classic blues rock headliner. What's back: lots and lots of guitars.

The 23rd annual Mt Baker Rhythm & Blues Festival kicks off on Thursday August 2nd, 2018 with Albert Castiglia playing from 8pm until midnight in the Deming Logging Show Museum building, which also hosts the Friday through Sunday nightly afterhours jams. As with recent past years there is only a \$10 charge for this special opening night event.

The mainstage opens at 5pm on Friday August 3rd with Brett Benton, the recipient of 2017 and 2018 BB Awards for Best Acoustic Guitar from the Washington Blues Society and half of the Benton-Townsend duo who represented the Washington Blues Society at the 2018 International Blues Challenge in Memphis. This is to be followed by one of the festivals "house bands" Chris Eger, the well-deserved winner of the 2018 BB Award for Best Male Vocals. Friday's mainstage entertainment closes out with Southern Hospitality. This southern roots rock super band features Victor Wainwright, Damon Fowler and IP Soars who all lead well acclaimed solo careers. Their 2013 Blind Pig Records release was Top Ten in the Blues charts and won a Blues Blast Award. Victor has been a performer on the Legendary Rhythm & Blues Cruise since 2012 and has won a handful of Blues Foundation Blues Music Awards with four Pinetop Perkins Piano Awards, BB King Entertainer of the Year and Best Contemporary Band. He is supporting his 2018 Ruf Records release, Victor Wainwright & the Train (see Bluesletter review in the April 2018 issue.) JP Soars, winner of the 2009 IBC and Albert King Gibson Guitarist Award is also supporting a 2018 release Southbound I-95. Besides his dates with SoHo Damon Fowler's busy solo career currently includes touring supporting Robin Trower and touring playing with Dickie Betts, legendary cofounder of the Allman Brothers Band. Then there is the ever popular and previously mentioned after hours jam.

Saturday's main stage show starts at 11am with Soulful Seven, the at 1pm the Michelle Taylor Band, 2013 BB Award nominee for Best New Band. At 3pm the Mark Riley Trio take the stage. Mark has enough BB Award nominations to wallpaper three sides of a large room and has won enough BB hardware to fill the forth wall, including being inducted into the Washington Blues Society Hall of Fame and receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award, both in 2014 and in 2013 winning the trifecta of the BB Awards for guitarists, Best Electric Guitar, Best Acoustic Guitar and Best Slide Guitar.

The Bay Area's Daniel Castro Band takes the stage at 5pm. Born in Ensenada, Mexico and raised in the L.A. area, Castro then moved on to the Bay Area. An outstanding showman and song-crafter; when I first saw him perform several years ago I was blown away. Castro is not to be missed when ever he's in the region.

The first of the evening's headliners is Sonny Landreth, who last played Mt Baker in 2009. Sonny started his career playing in zydeco legend Clifton Chenier's Red Hot Louisiana Band. He also did stints with both John Hiatt and John Mayall. Landreth won Blues Music Awards in 2016 and 2009 for Best Guitarist and other nominations include

best album twice (2009, 2016) and best song in 2009 for "Blue Tarp Blues," from the Billboard Blues #1 charting From the Reach. Sonny also gave us "Congo Square" on his 1985 release Down in Louisiana (rereleased in '93.) Sonny has been a guest of Eric Clapton's Crossroads Guitar Festival four times and is supporting his 2017 release Recorded Live in Lafayette Besides a highly acclaimed solo career Landreth has lent his talents to recordings by numerous others including the new release by Albert Castiglia.

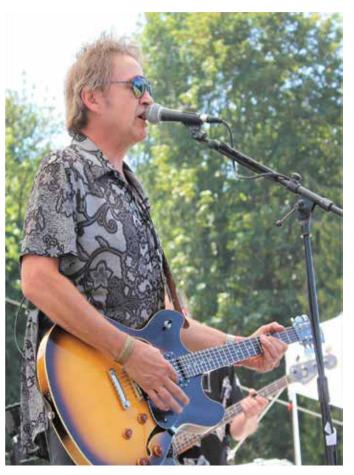
Albert closes out Saturdays mainstage. Castiglia also is no stranger to Blues Music Award nominations with one for best song, also in 2009 for "Bad Year Blues" and in 2017 for Best Contemporary Male Artist and Rock Album for *Big Dog*. Albert is also supporting a new Ruf release *Up All Night*

Sunday opens with a Gospel Hour in the Museum building at 9am featuring Joel Tepp.

The mainstage music opens up again at 11am with Moondaddy Band doing a Santana tribute. This will be followed by the top notch R&B of Red House (see review of *Over Yonder* in the July 2017 Bluesletter.)

Another "house band," the Bobby Patterson Band takes the stage at 3pm. Bobby has received a trunk load of Empire Awards from Spokane's Inland Empire Blues Society and is supporting the bands live release *All Along the Clocktower* (see review November 2017 Bluesletter).

Anthony Gomes will make his third Mt Baker appearance and first since 2013. A ferocious guitarist and blues scholar Anthony founded the Music is the Medicine Foundation in 2010, which funds songwriting scholarships, music education





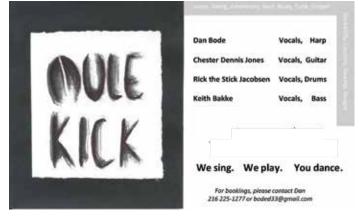
programs and donated instruments through private donations and grants.

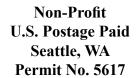
A quote from his web site sums things up nicely, "Peace, Love and Loud Guitars."

The mainstage closes with Ana Popovic, back by popular demand. This will be her fourth trip to Mt Baker and her first since 2015. Starting with a 2003 Blues Music Award nomination for her Hush! release (the first Blues Music Award/WC Handy Award nomination by a European) Ana has had five more including Best Contemporary Female Artist, Best Album and Best DVD. Popovic's most recent release is Trilogy a three-disc set with 23 songs of funk, rock, blues and jazz.

From rock to blues with all things in between the 2018 Mt Baker R&B Fest is shaping up to be a fantastic weekend with lots and lots of guitars.









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The Washington Blues Society is a Proud Recipient of a 2009 Keeping the Blues Alive from the Blues Foundation!

