

Bluesletter

Washington Blues Society

January 2019



Best of Luck to Sheri Roberts-Greimes & Sammy Eubanks
at the 2019 International Blues Challenge in Memphis!

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Hi Blues Fans,

It's January, the start of a new year, and there is so much to do the next few months to set up the Washington Blues Society for this year's festival season. But first, we have our last International Blues Challenge Fundraiser on January 12th at Louie G's in Fife at 5219 Pacific Hwy East. The event will run from 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM and feature Miranda Kitchpanich & Nick Mardon, Blues Avenue, Hop Sol, Reji Marc, and Polly O'Keary & the Rhythm Method. Some of these names are probably new

to many Bluesletter readers, but for the next generation of fans, these are some of the younger musicians who will be a big part of the music scene in the Seattle-Tacoma area! The talent of each of these young people is very deep and well worth your time and support! We will have a silent auction and raffle! We really need your support and I hope you come to Louie G's to support our IBC efforts and meet and hear these gifted musicians!

We are well under way with planning for our Musician's Relief Fundraiser and the Best of the Blues Awards. The February Bluesletter will have details about these events. The nomination ballot for the BBs is on page 31 of this issue, so if you're a dues current member don't forget to nominate your favorites! This is the second month of nominations and they are due on Tuesday, February 12th! You can bring them to the Blues Bash. Remember: you don't have to nominate in each category if you don't have a favorite in that category, but please take the time to nominate the musicians, venues, writers, radio personalities, festivals, etc. The first festival of the season is the Walla Walla Guitar Festival (See the ad this issue), so please start making plans to attend, and soon after that, the Coeur D'Alene Festival will celebrate all things blues in the Gem State.

I hope to see you out and about at these and other fun events coming up. As always stop by and say "Hi," and save me a seat!

Tony Frederickson, President
Washington Blues Society
Member, Board of Directors
The Blues Foundation (2015-2017)

WASHINGTON BLUES SOCIETY

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



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MISSION STATEMENT

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

WASHINGTON BLUES SOCIETY

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This month, the Bluesletter features a report from the Legendary Rhythm and Blues Cruise from first-time contributor Mike McNett, a preview of our blues society's representatives at the 2019 International Blues Challenge, a reason to celebrate the 29th anniversary of live blues at the Salmon Bay Eagles and a fond farewell to Seattle's Highway 99 Blues Club.

ABOVE: The Pro-Am jam aboard the Legendary Rhythm & Blues Cruise featuring "Jet City" Jeff Herzog and Randy Oxford (Photo by Mike McNett)

COVER IMAGE: Sammy Eubanks & Sheri Roberts Greimes leading our band & solo/duo acts at this year's International Blues Challenge in Memphis (Photo by Denise Hathaway)



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editor@wabluessociety.org

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Submit to www.wabluessociety.org

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Camera-Ready Ad Art 12th of the month
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SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Please send only attachments.

Please do not embed stories or photos in emails.

Photos: High-res only in the following formats:

PDF, tiff, or .psd (*.psd preferred*) —

300dpi, CMYK (for color) or grayscale (for B&W).

Articles: Plain text (.txt) or Microsoft Word (.doc or .docx)

AD SPECS & COSTS

SIZE	B/W	COLOR	HT x W in mm
full pg	\$300	\$375	238 x 187.3
½ pg vertical	\$175	\$220	238 x 91.3
½ pg horizontal	\$175	\$220	116.66 x 187.3
back ½ pg horizontal	\$260	\$325	116.66 x 187.3
¼ pg vertical	\$100	\$125	116.66 x 91.3
1/3 pg vertical	TBA	TBA	238 x 59.3
1/6 pg vertical	TBA	TBA	116.66 x 59.3
1/12 pg square	TBA	TBA	56 x 59.3
business card	\$30	\$38	56 x 91.3

BLUESLETTER ADVERTISING DISCOUNTS

20% off 12-month pre-payment

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Dear Bluesletter Readers,

Welcome to the first Bluesletter of the Washington Blues Society's 30th year. The blues society was initially registered with the State of Washington as a non-profit organization in February of 1989 and produced its first Bluesletter in the spring of that year.

Beginning with our next issue, the Bluesletter will include information about those early days when live blues was popular at places like the Owl Tavern in

Ballard, Larry's Greenfront in Pioneer Square or the Mountaineers on Lower Queen Anne. It will be much more than a stroll, or stumble, "down memory lane." Instead, I want to include not only looks back at how our blues community used to look but also look forward at how it is adapting to the ever-changing pressures of life in one of the world's most tech-savvy regions.

This issue contains many informative articles about the past, present and future of the blues. There's a preview of an exceptionally rare evening featuring two blues legends, Elvin Bishop and Charlie Musselwhite in Everett and a preview of a special anniversary evening featuring Mark DuFresne celebrating the 29th anniversary of Seattle's longest-running venue hosting live blues, the Salmon Bay Eagles Club in Ballard. First-time contributor Mike McNeff takes us bluesin' on the high seas on the Legendary Rhythm and Blues Cruise and Little Bill takes us on the road earlier in his career at an eventful gig in Billings, Montana.

Perhaps the most difficult pages for me to fill in this issue were those devoted to Seattle's Highway 99 Blues Club, which will have turned out the lights for the last time along the waterfront. I reprinted the email notice I received from Ed Maloney and Steve Sarkowsky in this issue along with memorable photos from The Blues Boss and Suzanne Swanson. I fondly remember the 2017 Keeping the Blues Alive award luncheon when Steve and Ed received this coveted award and I just wish that they could have worked out another deal to keep Seattle's downtown blues club open.

This issue also will represent the Washington Blues Society at the International Blues Challenge in Memphis along with our solo/duo competitor Sheri Roberts-Greimes and band Sammy Eubanks & The Work'n Class. John "Greyhound" Maxwell's CD, Even Good Dogs Get the Blues, will also represent us in the Best Self-Produced CD Competition and Nick Mardon and Miranda Kitchpanich will participate as our youth representatives. If you haven't experienced the International Blues Challenge in Memphis, mark your calendars for January of 2020 and start saving now! The International Blues Challenge and its related evenings, including the Keeping the Blues Alive award ceremony, belong at the top of every Washington Blues Society member's "to-do" list.

Finally, I encourage each and every Bluesletter reader to support live blues music by going out to see live music. Start by reviewing this month's updated calendar pages, talent guide, jam night and venue listings to find live blues near you. Perhaps more importantly: Tell your friends! As my friend Rod Dranfield from the White Rock Blues Society continues to remind me every chance we have the opportunity to reconnect, "If no one knows, no one goes."

Until next month, go see live blues!

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

Annie Eastwood Live Music Schedule

Wed Jan 2	Bake's Place Bellevue 8-10pm Billy Stapleton and Annie Eastwood Duo
Thurs Jan 3	Bad Albert's with Beth Wulff Ballard 6-9pm Annie and Larry Hill, Tom Brighton, James Middlefield
Wed Jan 9	Bake's Place Bellevue 8-10pm Billy Stapleton and Annie Eastwood Duo
Thurs Jan 10	Bad Albert's with Billy Stapleton Ballard 6-9pm Annie and Larry Hill, Tom Brighton, James Middlefield
Sat Jan 12	Elliott Bay Pizza & Pub Mill Creek 7-9pm Chris Stevens and Annie Eastwood Duo
Thurs Jan 17	Bad Albert's with Beth Wulff Ballard 6-9pm
Thurs Jan 24	Bad Albert's with Kimball Conant Ballard 6-9pm
Wed Jan 30	Madison Avenue Pub Jam Everett 7:30-11pm Featured Guests Kimball Conant and Annie Eastwood
Thurs Jan 31	Bad Albert's with Billy Stapleton Ballard 6-9pm Annie and Larry Hill, Tom Brighton, James Middlefield

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http://wallawallaguitarfestival.com

Blues Review: Taj Mahal @ Seattle's Jazz Alley

“Satisfied... and tickled, too!”

By Malcolm Kennedy

On Friday, November 16th for his second set at Seattle's Jazz Alley, Taj Mahal was resplendent in an off-white wide-brimmed hat, a short sleeved tapa cloth print-styled shirt in black on white and cream colored slacks. He was supported by a four-piece band of Roger Glenn on wind instruments, percussion and concert xylophone, Bill Rich on bass, Kester Smith on drums, and master Hawaiian slack-key guitarist Bobby Ingano on Fender Strat and lap steel guitars.

The 12-song set featured several selections from his second and third releases. Taj opened with John Lee “Sonny Boy” Williamson’s “Good Morning Little School Girl,” which Taj included on *Giant Steps/De Old Folks at Home* from 1969, playing his custom copper National guitar, with Bobby on Strat and Roger on alto sax. He then sang “Corrina,” featured on *Natch'l Blues* from 1968.

The third song was “Stagger Lee,” also from *Giant Steps* and the band played it in an island style. Roger then switched over to soprano sax and Bobby laid down a pleasant guitar solo. The fourth song, “Loving in My Baby's Eyes,” was from *Phantom Blues* from 1996 and was played with a lilting reggae beat.

With hundreds of recorded songs to choose from, and probably just as many unreleased, Taj played the two songs I had hoped to hear. The first was the title track to his release *Satisfied 'n Tickled Too* from 1976. Roger played a marvelous clarinet solo near the end. The ladies in the crowd in particular reacted to the salacious new lyric “love me pretty baby, don't love nobody else/I get home mama don't put your juicy lovin' on no shelf/no don't do that/ said, I love you pretty baby, more than myself/ when I get home don't put your juicy lovin' on the shelf.”

Yes, I was satisfied!

Taj then traded his National for a Gibson ES-175, placing a capo half way down the neck. He called out “A natural” and went into “CC Rider” with the band playing a brisk shuffle, Roger now on tenor sax and both Taj and Bobby taking solos. For the next tune Taj switched out to a ukulele as he introduced the song as “an old jug band song with some pepper sauce on it.” He then said that “the hand that rock the cradle rocks the world!” to the delight of the audience. Taj then introduced “Bring It with You When You Come,” a song recorded in 1930 by the Cannon Jug Stompers. Taj and his band performed it in double time in a Hawaiian style and Roger thrilled the audience by trilling away on his piccolo. That garnered a big round of applause.

For his eighth song, Taj, Bobby and Roger changed up instruments. Taj went to the keyboard, Bobby sat down with a lap steel guitar and Roger returned to tenor sax. Taj introduced it as a straight up blues as they went into a medium-paced shuffle. Taj made the song up on the fly, but I was later able to get the title “Hear Me Holler, Hear Me Moan” as Taj sang “hear me holler, hear me when I moan/looking for a heaven I can call my own.”

Taj announced that the next song as “now for something entirely different,” which it certainly was. “Twilight in Hawaii,” is a song he recorded with the Hula Blues Band that Taj formed upon moving to Kauai in 1981, from the 2015 release *Taj Mahal & the Hula Blues Band: Live from Kauai*. Taj played acoustic guitar, Bobby played slack-key mode on his lap steel and Robert picked up his mallets on his concert xylophone. In my multiple trips to the Hawaiian islands, I've heard a lot of really fine slack-key played and I must say that Ingano played

some authentic “kine hemolele” stuff.

Taj told a short story about a buddy back in the day who had an Oldsmobile Rocket 88, and how the song they would perform next had completely mesmerized them when they would go driving around listening to tunes on the radio.

Then, they simply knocked our collective socks off performing an outstanding version of Santo & Johnny's #1 charting hit from 1959, “Sleep Walk.” Roger played a rambunctious xylophone solo at the bridge. This rendition gave me shivers! The next song was the other one that I had most hoped he'd play, “Fishin' Blues,” from *Giant Steps* (which I associate with *The Real Thing*, the double live album recorded at the Fillmore East in 1971). It was the opening track on side one, and my friends and I listened to that LP frequently in the 1970s. Taj picked his copper National back up and Roger wowed the crowd a bit more with his piccolo.

Taj and crew closed out their set with “Queen Bee,” from the 1977 release *Evolution*. With Bobby still on lap steel, Taj on his National and Roger on the xylophone and each traded solos during the song. They gave it an island feel that was a hybrid of Caribbean and Hawaiian music and Taj's vocalizations, pauses and style reminded me a bit of Bob Marley's delivery.

Born Henry Saint Clair Fredericks Jr. in Harlem, New York, Taj Mahal grew up in Springfield Massachusetts. At home, young Henry was exposed to jazz, Caribbean, African music through his musician father and gospel (through his mother) and the many traveling artists coming through their home. Henry was trained on piano, clarinet,

(Continued on page 23)

Blues Preview: Elvin Bishop & Charlie Musselwhite

Two legendary bluesmen with deep Chicago blues roots play Everett this month!

By Rick J. Bowen

Two Blues Hall of Fame bluesmen on one stage – and that’s just the start of what’s in store when Elvin Bishop and Charlie Musselwhite join forces on January 19th at the Historic Everett Theater.

Between them, there are more than 100 years of the blues, and this promises to be a front-porch session that shimmers with history and that rarest musical quality: authenticity. Bishop, with his Gibson guitar, and Musselwhite, with his wailing harmonica, will show us the roots of Chicago blues in this rare meeting of musical minds.

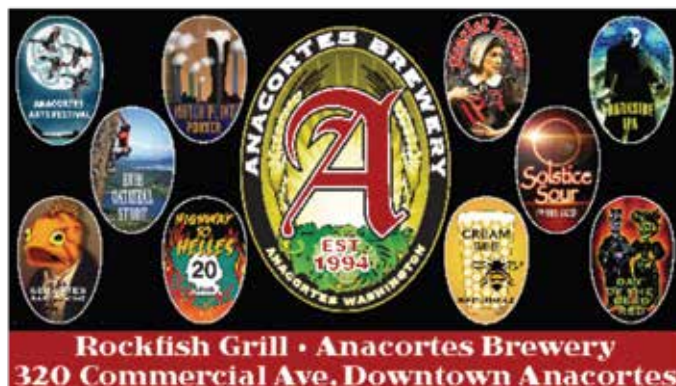
This exceptional show features 2019 Grammy Award nominees. Elvin Bishop

has been performing his rollicking brand of front porch blues for a half-century and is as vital and creative today as he was when he first hit the national scene in 1965 with The Paul Butterfield Blues Band and he’s perhaps best known for his solo chart-topping hit “Fooled Around and Fell in Love.”

American electric harmonica player, bandleader and fellow Blues Hall of Fame inductee Charlie Musselwhite (reportedly the inspiration for Dan Aykroyd’s character in the Blues Brothers) is celebrating the 50th anniversary and re-release of his legendary debut album on the Vanguard label, *Stand Back*.

The Historic Everett Theater, the largest of Everett, Washington’s eight historic theaters, opened its doors for the first time in 1901, as the Everett Opera House. In addition to the opera, the venue featured legitimate theater and vaudeville which were the programming of the day. Silent movies also played on this classic venue’s screen shortly after World War I. Among those to grace its stage in those early years were some of the biggest names in early 20th century entertainment, such as Lillian Russell, Al Jolson, Eddie Foy and the Seven Little Foys, and George M. Cohan.

For more information, please visit www.historiceveretttheatre.com



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1/30 Annie Eastwood & Kimball Conart

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Road Stories from Little Bill & The Blue Notes

Blues on the road in Billings, Montana...

By Little Bill Englehart (Photo of Little Bill at the Gray Sky Music Festival by Alex Brikoff)

Tom, Buck and I were playing at a bar in Billings, Montana. The owners were an older man and his wife. No problem. Same routine, play the tunes and hope they pick up your option. The first night started off like all the other first nights. Well, not really.

When we took a break, the owner's wife, I'm thinking late 40 or late 50s, comes to our table. She points at the three girls at the bar and says "we should get to know them."

Tom, being a man about town, says "they look like hookers." Her giveback was, "yes, they are and they are very good for business."

OK, the cards are on the table. She didn't care about our musicianship. Just be nice to the hookers. One of them by the name of Candie got into an argument one night with a cowboy and he started to take her out the door. Tom, being a man about town, steps up and tells the guy that Candie didn't want to go.

Well, Roy Rogers picks Tom up by his neck and says "you sure you want to get involved?" End of story.

A booker stopped by one night and invited us to a room where a group from South Dakota he had booked was opening. He also fed us. Now this is where the fun started! The MC was a real jive black dude. More

about him later. Now the drummer only used mallets the entire night. Out first, the girl singer.

She was wearing what looks like a prom dress and sang "Blue Moon" over and over and over. When she was done out comes "Mister Show Business" to introduce the next act.

Are you ready? We weren't. It was a bit over weight, too much makeup. Exotic Dancer. She wasn't on too long as one of her pasties fell to the floor.

By now, the audience had lost interest and were talking amongst themselves. Along with this we couldn't help but hearing the owner yelling at the booker regarding the act he had booked. Turns out the best was yet to come.

Here he comes. The MC dressed in a bright pink suit. He tries to get the audience to watch him. By now we don't want to miss the big end of the show.

Actually, everyone is up on their feet and all eyes are glued to the bright pink suit. It's very quiet as he explains what is about to happen. He puts the chair a ways out from himself and says: "I am going to jump over the chair and land on the seat!"

So, there he was dancing around and



walking toward the chair. THEN HE RUNS TOWARD THE CHAIR and jumps! He comes up short and lands on the dance floor. Now picture this. He is on his butt in a pink suit and picking up the change that is all over the floor. Now we can really hear the owner!

for your

**Washington Blues Society
Membership Perks!**

see page 24

Blues Review: The Legendary Rhythm & Blues Cruise

It's even better than you think!

Story and Photos by Mike McNett

"You have to go on this cruise!" friends would exclaim after returning from a week aboard the Legendary Rhythm and Blues Cruise. They would then go on to describe fantastic performances and luxurious living. The common theme was that, however great one might expect the experience to be, it was far better than that! I was convinced, but work and life kept getting in my way. Finally, we got on the mailing list, selected a cruise almost a year in advance, made a deposit, and picked a cabin for LRBC Cruise #31—Sea of Cortez, sailing down the Baja from San Diego on the Holland America Eurodam.

I quickly found that my friends were not wrong! On board the ship, I soon found myself constantly grinning like a fool. This was only abated by sheer exhaustion in the late-night hours and resumed anew each morning. I cannot adequately describe the cruise but will attempt to provide a glimpse into the experience.

Living in the large, but confined, space aboard a cruise ship creates a sense of community. I'd read in advance about costumes, crazy parades and themes, door decorations, and wild goings-on. As a moderately-outgoing introvert, I wasn't sure whether I was fully ready for such things. As it turned out, everyone can just be themselves on the cruise. Blues fans are great people, wherever you find them, and no one really cares what you do or wear so long as you're having a good time.

There is also another dimension of holding a major blues festival in a small floating city, and that is the opportunity for interaction with the performers and among the pros themselves. This takes place not just on stage or briefly in a signing booth, but more often in buffet lines, elevators,

passageways, the dining room, or together as off-duty musicians become part of the audience enjoying other bands.

The LRBC doesn't just feature a few bands, nor are there performances just now and then. The performance schedule is a veritable onslaught of the blues! The roster boasted no less than thirty-five bands and solo acts. Performers included the likes of Taj Mahal, Booker T, Tommy Castro, Billy Branch, Ruthie Foster, Toronzo Cannon, Rod Piazza, Los Lobos, Southern Avenue, Mindi Abair, Tab Benoit, Roy Gaines, Debbie Davies, Mike Zito, Rev. Peyton, and more.

Each act played three or four shows in various venues onboard and sometimes on shore. The ship has a large indoor theater with a balcony located low in the bow. Additionally, a festival stage was assembled on the pool deck high on the stern, providing a second large performance area with spectacular views and lots of fresh, usually warm, air. Down below on the lower decks was a B.B. King's Blues Club, a large piano bar, and a couple of other small and medium lounge areas, also used for performances.

The result of this rich mix was that, at any given moment, there were generally three performances happening at once all over the boat and sometimes more. The official schedule began around 10:30 or 11:00 a.m. and ran till a little after midnight. I wanted to hear every performer and began each day by diligently plotting a course through time and space that theoretically would allow this to happen. I can't claim to have ever followed my own plan very closely, but I did hear almost everyone and a few favorites again and again. It was often a tough choice to decide between a set that was merely amazingly good and another that was absolutely fantastic.

At the end of each day's official schedule was the nightly Pro Jam, starting shortly after midnight. This was often the most amazing show of the day as top professionals and talented sidemen who seldom have a chance to play together trade blistering licks or step outside of their usual performance style. I can't report on how late it continues as I was usually completely exhausted by 3:00 a.m. and returned to the cabin. Word has it that sometime before dawn, impromptu jams would spring up in various areas of the ship and those with the youth and vitality to do so then go up on deck to welcome the rising sun. I wouldn't know!

A special mid-cruise treat was a workshop about harmonica legend Little Walter Jacobs. The session was presented by Billy Branch, a slightly later product of the Chicago school of harp players, and his wife Rosa. Their featured guest was Little Walter's daughter, Marion Diaz, who told stories of her early childhood and of her struggle to gain recognition as his rightful heir. I later had the opportunity to speak with Ms. Diaz on a ship's tender as we motored into Loreto. I told her how much her father's music has meant to me as an aspiring harp player, and that I keep uncovering layer after layer of nuance in his solos as I struggle to capture elements of his style.

I've seldom in my life had such a good time! So, as it turned out, my friends were right—I did have to go on this cruise, and perhaps you do too!

For information about future cruises check out bluescruise.com.

Images from the Blues Cruise:

Marion Diaz (left), Selwyn Birchwood and Billy Branch (below right).

Bottom: Tommy Castro, Dave Forte, Rev. Peyton, G. Love & Randy Oxford! (Photos by Mike McNett)



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Kick the New Year into High Gear @ the Blues Bash!

The January Blues Bash features our IBC representatives headed for Memphis

By Amy Sassenberg, Music Director

International Blues Challenge Regional Winners Sammy Eubanks & the Workin' Class and Sheri Robert-Greimes will grace the stage at Collector's Choice in Snohomish from 7 to 9:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 8, 2019. This is a special night with incredible talent. Both Sammy and Sheri are known as vocal powerhouses, often evoking a spectrum of emotions, from heartfelt heartbreak to lively laughter.

With a hand-picked crew of award-winning pros, Sammy Eubanks is bringin' the Workin' Class to Memphis. Widely known as "the voice," Sammy's songs are delivered with unmatched charisma, style and a knowing wink. His playful, sassy lyrics and soulful tones are evident on his latest recording, *Sugar Me*. A 12-time winner for Best Blues Vocalist in the state of Washington, he's been leading bands since the age of 20. His versatility and popularity have earned him spots opening for Merle Haggard, Pat Travers, Robert Cray and B.B. King. An IBC 2013 semifinalist, Sammy Eubanks and his big band are revved up and ready, with Eubanks on vocals and guitar, Ken Danielson on drums and vocals, Steve Lime on keys, Mi-

chael Lenke on trumpet, Charles Swanson playing sax, and Scotty Harris on bass. You can find out more at sammyeubankslive.com

Sheri Roberts-Greimes (pronounced Grimes) won the Best Female Vocalist Award in 2017 and Best Solo/Duo Performer earlier this year at the Washington Blues Society's Best of the Blues Awards. She's also been nominated for Best Songwriter and Best Blues Album for her second recording, *Bleeding Heart*. Her bio describes her voice as seeped in raw emotion and tender control, with honest, vulnerable lyrics of love and loss that cut straight to the heart. Yes and yes. One cannot help but be moved by the words, the delivery and the dynamics of this bright talent. Her approachable style and quick smile wins the rest. Sheri admits she's a bit scared but prepared to have the time of her life in Memphis. She says she feels like the underdog because of all the talented people competing. "I am such a very small fish in this big blues pond," she says, "but I'm enjoying the swim!"



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Stacy Jones Band

Seattle Southern Rock & Blues

Washington Blues Society - 2018 BB Award Winner - Best Band

January

5. Old Edison Inn - Bow/Edison 8 PM

11-12 Village Tap House - Marysville 9 PM

25. Stewart's - Snohomish 9 PM

February

16. CCR Lounge - Snohomish 8 PM

23. Grinders - Shoreline 8 PM

March

8. Walla Walla Guitar Festival- Walla Walla WA

WWW.STACYJONESBAND.COM

www.facebook.com/stacyjonesband

A Fond Farewell to the Highway 99 Blues Club

Thanks for some exceptional blues memories...

Editor's Note: During the production of this Bluesletter, I learned that Seattle's award-winning blues club, the Highway 99 Blues Club, was closing its doors. I've had 15 years of great blues memories at this club, and each time I went, I was treated as "part of the family." That's the kind of hosts Ed Maloney, Steve Sarkowsky and their staff are. One night, Los Angeles-based bluesman Terry Evans turned to me and Ed and said: "Man, this club is home to me when I'm here." The food, the people and the entertainment all contributed to a genuine juke joint on Seattle's waterfront. I'm reprinting the notice that I received from KBA recipient Jef Jaisun in an email and a few memorable photos from the Blues Boss to honor one of America's finest blues destinations. - Eric Steiner

From Ed Maloney & Steve Sarkowsky...

July 2004 - January 2019. Highway 99 Blues Club. Seattle, Washington.

This is a note that we used to think would someday have to be written; we were never quite sure of when, but it seemed to always be in the back of our minds.

By now maybe you have already heard, if not - as of January 1 - 2019, we will be suspending operations of the club and closing our doors. We were not able to work out a manageable lease extension with our current landlord, and in light of the pending demolition of the viaduct, followed by a few years of construction on the waterfront, thought that the unknown elements of the future were going to be just too much for the business to bear.

Thanks to all of you. We accomplished more than we thought at times possible. The awards we won, the friends we have made and the artists that we have brought to our stage, all seemed impossible to imagine when this started. None of this

happens without the support of all of our fans.

Thanks to all of you. For treating us and our staff with respect and friendship. Our staff makes this place what it is; their commitment to the vision of the club and the effort they put out night after night will always be what we and our customers remember.

The Blues Foundation presents the KEEPING THE BLUES ALIVE (KBA) awards to organizations that have made significant contributions to the Blues world. In 2017, the Highway 99 Blues Club won this award.

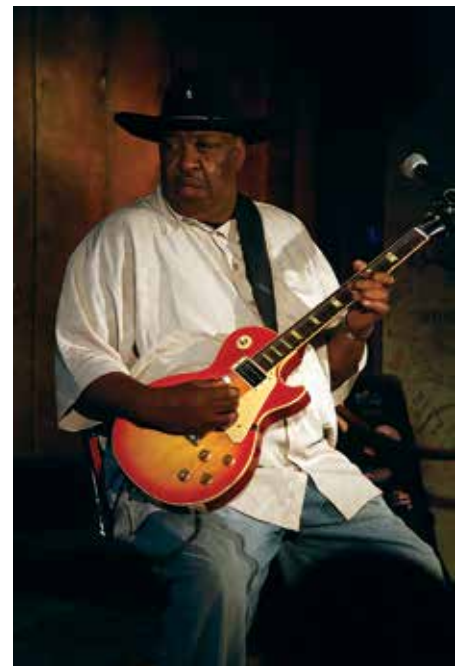
With over 200 shows a year presented in the club, the number of artists to have hit the highway is huge. They represent the best; collectively they have won Grammy's; BMA's; KBA's and Best of from their respective Blues societies and even Canada's Maple Blues award. International, National, Regional and Local bands all brought their best to our stage.

We have our favorite all time shows. We bet you do too. We were always about the music first. Unforgettable performances, surprise guests, bands and artists you had never heard of, styles of music that you didn't know you liked. That's what makes a club special. They bring you the favorites along with the new stuff to get you excited about what you just heard.

We hope that you get a chance to make one last visit before we go; sign the wall, talk to the staff, see one or all of the remaining shows.

It's been an amazing run. Your support for all these years is truly remarkable. We can't say thank you enough.

Ed and Steve



Top: "Kid" Andersen & Rick Estrim
Middle: Duke Robillard
Above: Magic Slim
(Photos by the Blues Boss)



Top Left: Ed Maloney & Highway 99 Staff in Memphis, Top Right: KBA Recipient Barbara Hammerman, Middle Right: United By Music (Photos by Eric Steiner) Middle & Lower Left: James Harmon & Kirk Fletcher (Photos by Blues Boss) Above: The Fabulous Wailers at Highway 99 (Photo by Suzanne Swanson)



Dean Haitani
47 Stones
(Self-Released)

Dean Haitani is an internationally touring blues artist from Melbourne and Sydney, Australia. He has been inducted into the Australia Blues Hall of Fame, worked many of the country's major blues festivals, was a finalist in the Sony/BMG Songwriting contest and his songs have received international radio airplay. *47 Stones* is Dean's 14th studio release. I was tuned into Dean through Dennis "Blues Boss" Dudley and Mark Riley some years back when Dean was in town and I was very impressed. Dean's influences are many and varied, from Mark Knopfler and Sonny Landreth to George Benson, Willie Nelson to Metallica and his music is a distillation of it all. The 12 selections on *47 Stones* feature nine originals and the CD opens with bristling slide guitar and tinkling ivories on "Sweet Little Angel." The title track is an ambling paced song with muted trumpet and the chorus has a country and western feel. The sounds of Chicago can be heard in the biting guitar lines that open the lightly funky "Starting Time" and "Gotta Find My Way" has a jazzy, soulful feel. Dean's take on BB King's signature song "The Thrill is Gone" makes it his own and Dean puts a harder edge on Tad Benoit's "Georgia." The fast-paced "One More Cup" had my toes tapping as Dean sang "well, the joint was jumping, and the band began to swing, they asked me to the stage to do my thing," followed by a deft guitar solo. An interesting choice is Little Feat's "Dixie Chicken," where Dean stays faithful to the original, until the bridge when he lays down a zesty slide solo. Moaning blues harp opens "Following the Sun" and blues harp also sets off "Times Like This," which is punctuated by slithering slide work. Very highly recommended. Malcolm Kennedy



Mark Hummel
Harpbreaker
(Electro-Fi)

Harpbreaker, Mark Hummel's ninth release on Toronto's Electro-Fi label, is a master class on just how versatile blues harp can be. He's been plying the harpman's trade since the 1970s and has released nearly 20 CDs. Since 1991, he's assembled a "who's who" of bluesmen and blueswomen on his stellar "Blues Blowout" series of touring revue shows that have featured line-ups that honor Chicago, Texas and California-style blues. In addition to CDs released as a bandleader or solo artist, Mark's work has also landed on more than a dozen other blues compilations. I've been fortunate to experience two of his "Blues Blowout" shows at Seattle's Jazz Alley that featured legends like Billy Boy Arnold and Anson Funderburgh, and *Harpbreaker* includes songs from several "Blues Blowout" sessions, including a pair of songs from the Golden State Lone Star Blues Revue, Lee Allen's "Walkin' with Mr. Lee" and Little Walter's "Crazy Legs." There are 13 standout cuts on this collection of all instrumentals, and while several of the songs tend to veer off into jazz, they work with Mark at the helm. The kinetic opener, "Harpoventilatin," was recorded live with Charles Wheel on guitar, Bob Welsh on keys and Steve Wolf on bass and Marty Dodson on drums (and I simply marvel at the way the rhythm section propels this song forward). Long-time Hummel bandmates R.W. Grigsby on bass, Wes Star on drums, and guitarists Christoffer "Kid" Andersen, Little Charlie Baty, Billy Flynn, Rusty Zinn and Anson Funderburgh each contribute to an CD that will capture the attention of both harp and guitar fans alike. I particularly liked Mark's unique interpretation of "Cristo Redentor" and understated "See See Rider." I think that *Harpbreaker* is essential listening for all blues fans. Eric Steiner

Editor's Note: Mark Hummel will kick off his 2019 Southern Blues Harp Blowout

tour in Seattle at The Triple Door w/Bobby Rush, James Harman, Kenny Neal, Johnny Sansone and the Golden State - Lone Star Revue with Anson Funderburgh on January 12th & 13th!



Nora Michaels
Blues Lullaby
(Self-Released)

Seattle has long been known as the hometown of jazz pioneers from the Jackson Street era with Quincy Jones, Ray Charles and Ernestine Anderson getting their start in the district decades ago. The "Blues Chanteuse," AKA Nora Michaels, also got her start in the Emerald City, and has been singing ballads and torch songs in nightclubs for over 50 years. To celebrate her 71st birthday Michaels released her latest EP, *Blue Lullaby*, in December of 2018. The seven new tracks feature her Blues Chanteuse Band and special guests on a collection of classic jazz lounge-styled originals. The set opens with the title track, "Blue Lullaby," a glorious jazz ballad that evokes the great ladies of song, written by Portland's Chris Carlson, long time partner of blues legend Duffy Bishop, and features the fine saxophone of Ron Baker. Award-winning northwest songwriter Michele D'Amour lent Michaels one her songs, the slow burning jazzy blues lament "Worthy." Croatian-born classically trained folk and blues musician, Radoslav Lorković, delivers tasty accordion to the cabaret rhumba "Waiting On Love," while Michaels pays tribute to Edith Piaf on the tune penned by Duffy Bishop. The smooth walking bass of David Salonen holds all the pieces of the swinging "Rest Assured," together in a tight package. Sam Weis adds Spanish guitar to the mix on the gentle tango "It's Not Over," as Michaels pleads with her lover on the dynamic track. The sentimental sway of "Turn the Lights Down Low," has a Phil Spector "Wall of Sound," 60's girl group vibe. The album's closer, "No More Pain," is a slice from the Nancy Sinatra playbook of that saucy lady's Rat Pack jazz sizzle and snap. Rick J Bowen



John Greyhound Maxwell
Even Good Dogs Get The Blues
 (Slowly I Turn Music)

The Washington Blues Society recently named John “Greyhound” Maxwell the 2018 award recipient for Best Acoustic Blues Guitar. His acclaimed skills are on display on his new self-produced album, *Even Good Dogs Get the Blues*, released in October of 2018. The Chicago-born bluesman recently relocated to Port Ludlow, Washington, from the San Francisco Bay area and has made fast friends in the Northwest of some the region’s top players, several of which join him on the new all acoustic CD. The dozen new tracks feature eight originals and four classic covers. Maxwell is a specialist on the Resonator guitar with a mastery of fingerpicking and slide technique that accompany his silky tenor vocals. The opening track, “Bus Drivin’ Man,” is sweet little ramble that explains his life philosophy and how he earned the moniker “Greyhound.” The first of several instrumentals, “Bella’s Romp,” is a master class in thumb picking. He then kicks up the tempo on Tapa Red’s depression era blues “Missed A Good Man.” Maxwell deftly picks up the mandolin for “St Louis Woman,” and is quickly joined by the fat thump of Guy Quintino on string bass, Jon Parry on fiddle and Steve Maxwell on blues harp for a old fashioned back porch stomp. The lovely “Salish Sea Slide” was obviously inspired by his new home on the Olympic Peninsula, and Maxwell expertly delivers a reading of “Yonder Come the Blues.” Paul Rogers adds piano to the work song from the Mississippi Sheiks catalog “Thins About Comin’ My Way” allowing Maxwell to solo freely over the blues form. The little folksy blues ditty “My Town” has delightful Appalachian vibe, and the solo on acoustic guitar “Capturing the Humility Vote,” begins as Scott Joplin and ends as Mozart. Then, he takes on Alfred Reed’s testimony to our troubled world from 1929 “How Can A Poor Man Stand Such Times and Live,” a song both timely and timeless in its poignant rebuke.

The fellas join him again and lift the mood for the slinky tale of a man smitten by a women’s charms “Moon Shinning Bright” with the fiddle and blues Harp trading solos with Maxwell’s greasy slide. Maxwell closes the set by covering a mournful tome from Charlie Patton, “Some of these Days I’ll Be Gone,” thus declaring his discipleship to the great grandfather of the Delta Blues who purportedly taught Robert Johnson and Howlin’ Wolf to play. Rick J Bowen

Editor’s Note: *Even Good Dogs Get the Blues* will represent the Washington Blues Society in the 2019 Best Self-Produced CD Competition at the International Blues Challenge in Memphis this month. For more information on John Greyhound Maxwell and this exceptional CD, please see the December 2018 Bluesletter.



The Proven Ones
Wild Again
 (Roseleaf Records)

The Proven Ones feature Mannish Boys and Fabulous Thunderbirds alumni Kid Ramos on guitar, Willie J Campbell on bass and Jimi Bott on drums along with Anthony Geraci on keys and Brian Templeton on vocals. Collectively, the players on this CD have 30 Blues Music Award nominations combined. Add to that a three-piece horn section of Joe McCarthy on trumpet, Renato Coranto on tenor sax and Robert Crowell on baritone and you have a top flight outfit. The 10 selections include several originals, including the opening “Cheap Thrills” written by Bott. It’s a fun “down-at-the-club” song and the title track to Bott’s excellent 2005 Roseleaf Records release. This is followed by a driving soul song “City Dump” by lesser known R&B artist Arlester Christian and included on his 1966 Dyke & the Blazers album *Funky Broadway*. “Don’t Leave Me This Way” is very true to the Otis Redding version with the addition of a stinging guitar solo by Ramos. Ramos channels Peter Green on this standout performance on “If You Be My Baby” which Green and Fleetwood Mac released on their 1968

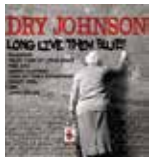
Mr. Wonderful album. Geraci wrote the up tempo “Why Baby Why” with the full horn treatment and Templeton singing “why did you break my heart/I felt it from the very start/I’d be with you forever and a day.” The title cut was written by Bott, Ramos and Dan Berkery (of Rose City Kings fame), and is a driving 4/4 rocker with pounding piano and crunchy guitar chords, horns, Hammond organ and searing lead guitar lines. Tenor sax man Chris Mercer (Freddie King, John Mayall, Paul DeLay) puts his own unique stamp on “Right Track Now” and this clearly sounds like classic Thunderbirds (because it is, in a way). Originally done as a T-Birds demo back in 1996, Jimi put the finishing touches on it for this album, and I’m glad it’s finally out! The pace, Geraci’s organ playing and Ramos’ guitar work on Fenton Robinson’s classic “Somebody Loan Me a Dime” reminds me of the version by Boz Scaggs and Duane Allman from their Muscle Shoals session recorded in 1968. In short, it is another epic reading of a classic blues song. The Proven Ones close out Wild Again with their take on the Beatles “Don’t Let Me Down” extending the songs groove with “Proven Fugue in E Major.” Very, very highly recommended. Malcolm Kennedy



Mick Kolassa & the Taylor Made Blues Band
149 Delta Avenue
 (Endless Blues Records)

Kolassa’s last release, *Double Standards*, highlighted covers, and for 149 Delta Avenue, Mick wrote nine of the CD’s 12 tracks. On *149 Delta Avenue*, Mick is supported by the Taylor Made Blues Band featuring David Dunavent on guitar, Chris Stephenson on keys, Leo Goff on bass, Lee Andrew Williams on drums and backing vocals by Daunielle Hill & Susan Marshal plus special guests including Toronzo Cannon, Jeff Jensen and Eric Hughes among others. The album title refers to Kolassa’s Clarksdale, Mississippi studio featured on the cover and CD artwork. *149 Delta Avenue* opens with “I Can’t Slow Down” a rocking 4/4 with a self-explanatory message as Mick sings “I can’t slow down or I’m afraid I’ll stop.....”

Hughes opens the fast-paced “US 12 to Highway 49” with some vibrant harp lines and adds a reed bending solo at the bridge. Cannon adds his impassioned string-bending guitar to “Cotton Road,” the lament about the brutal the “King Cotton” era. “Whiskey in the Mornin’” features articulate blues harp by JD Taylor and slippery trombone of Suavo Jones. “Pulling Me Down” and the classic “I Don’t Need No Doctor” feature Marc Franklin on trumpet and Kirk Smothers on sax rounding out the sound and adding considerable punch and guitarist Jeff Jensen is also playing on both adding his finesse. “The Viper” aka “You’s e a Viper” was originally released in 1936 by jazz violinist Stuff Smith and was notably covered by Fats Waller. “Viper” was mid-30s Harlem Street slang for a pot smoker and the song has numerous cannabis references. It is a languidly-flowing old-timey number featuring Franklin’s trumpet, Jones on trombone and Alice Hansen on violin. Recommended. Malcolm Kennedy



Dry Johnson
Long Live Them Blues Vol. 1
(Conner Ray)

The interesting array of contributing artists on *Long Live Them Blues Vol. 1* got my attention. The duo of Matt Johnson on drums and Terry Dry on bass form the backing rhythm team on the 10 cuts with Dry writing nine and co-writing another. Mike Zito and Annika Chambers sing a duet on the opening track “Daddy’s Got a Cadillac” with Mike Zito and Terry Dry on guitars. Steve Kruse adds some blues harp fills and a restrained solo, and labelmate Mighty Orq puts some spicy guitar on the title track sung by Trudy Lynn. Although true to the original on Johnny “Guitar” Watson’s “Hit the Highway,” Jonn Del Toro Richardson plays guitar and sings and puts his own stamp on it. “Juke Joint” shows Terry Dry to be an adept vocalist on this percolating number with James Wilhite on guitar and the Mighty Orq on Nashville style lap steel. Wilhite gets deep and dark on the blues of “I Walk Alone” and Zito struts his considerable stuff on the instrumental “Fried Chicken.” Terry performs all instruments on the closing track “Little Bird” as he sings, “momma died young, daddy stayed

drunk/everybody went away/ them blues ain’t nothing a cheap suit drinking in a beer joint, with a whole lot of dues to pay/ the tabs on the way.” Highly recommended. Malcolm Kennedy



Taj Mahal and Keb’ Mo’
TajMo
(Concord Records)

Tajmo is a long-anticipated collaboration between Taj Mahal and Keb’ Mo’ that has took the blues world by storm. Although he had been in the business since the early 1970s, Keb’s eponymous debut was released in 1994 and solidified him as a Delta blues-style performer. His 1996 follow-up, *Just Like You*, earned him his first of four Grammy Awards. He performed at Eric Clapton’s Crossroads Guitar Festival in 2010 and 2013, at the Whitehouse in 2012 and 2015, and received additional Grammys in 1998, 2005, and again this year for *TajMo*, plus five other album and two song nominations. His style has emulated Taj Mahal since his debut and this pairing is a perfect fit. Taj has a long and storied career also including many awards and accolades, also with four Grammys. His debut was in 1968 and he has released 27 studio albums, eight live records and a multitude of collaborations, soundtracks, etc. over the years. The album opens with the original, radio-ready hit “Don’t Leave Me Here” informing you immediately that this record is a monster. It features blues harp by Billy Branch and fills by a three-piece horn section. They follow this with Piano Red, aka Dr. Feelgood’s, “She Knows How to Rock Me” with a stripped down band with Keb’ on acoustic and Taj on resonator guitar backed by drums and bass. “Om Sweet Om” features Lizz Wright sharing vocals with Keb’ and Taj and features Lee Oskar on harp playing a smooth solo. Next up is Mississippi soul songwriter Billy Nichols’ “Shake Me in Your Arms” with horns, a thumping beat and a guitar solo by Joe Walsh. On this exceptional CD, Taj also recalls John Estes “Diving Duck Blues” which was featured on his debut. Possibly the most surprising track selection is the Who’s “Squeeze Box”

replete with accordions. Very, very highly recommended. Malcolm Kennedy



Mark Wenner’s Blues Warriors
(EllerSoul Records)

I first discovered Mark Wenner as the front man of The Nighthawks, a legendary Eastern Seaboard blues band, as an undergraduate over 40 years ago at Illinois State University. Much to the chagrin of Waterston Towers’ residence hall monitors, I loudly burned through classic 70s Nighthawks LPs on most weekends like *Open All Night*, *Live at the PsycheDelly* and *Jacks & Kings*. The Nighthawks have released over 28 albums since 1972 and Mark has channeled this bar band’s energy par excellence on Mark Wenner’s *Blues Warriors* that feature exceptional blues players from the Washington, D.C. area. Guitarists Clarence “The Bluesman” Turner and Zack Sweeney and a talented Nighthawks engine room of drummer Mark Stutso and upright bass player Steve Wolf join Mark on the CD’s 11 cuts. The lone original, “Just Like Jimmy” keeps Jimmy Reed’s sound very much alive and the remainder of the CD is a treasure trove of songs from Big Joe Turner, Muddy Waters, Elmore James, Fats Domino, Slim Harpo, BB King and Sonny Boy Williamson (the second). I particularly liked how Mark has reinvented Muddy’s “Diamonds at Your Feet,” Fats’ “Hello Josephine” and Elmore’s “Dust My Broom.” Mark’s voice is showing its age at the edges and I mean that as a compliment (just like I always refer to The Nighthawks as being a first-class bar band 40 years on). Mark Wenner’s *Blues Warriors* bring back some great blues songs on this CD, including a surprisingly enjoyable take on “Teddy Bear.” Mark Wenner’s *Blues Warriors* was one of my favorite releases of 2018 (but I’m admittedly biased because The Nighthawks influenced my earliest days discovering the blues). I first heard many classics on those early Nighthawks LPs and they piqued my curiosity enough to drive me to the masters. If you can’t find those early releases on Adelphi Records from the

Best of Luck at the IBC in Memphis!

Introducing the blues society's youth participants

Compiled by Nick Mardon and Miranda Kitchpanich

1970s like *Open All Night*, *Live at the PsycheDelly* and *Jacks & Kings*, check out The Nighthawks' other EllerSoul Records releases like *444*, *Back Porch Party* and *All You Gotta Do*. Eric Steiner



Eric Bibb
Global Griot
(Stony Plain)

Eric Bibb's late 2017 release on Stony Plain is a cause for celebration, not only for fans of acoustic blues music but also world music as well. *Global Griot*, a twin-CD release, features 24 songs that range from folk protest songs, authentic African music played on indigenous instruments to select, choice cuts of contemporary blues from Eric Bibb's collection of Stony Plain CDs. This CD builds upon his interest in and affinity for West African music and traditions. According to the liner notes, a West African griot "is a member of a caste responsible for maintaining an oral record of tribal history in the form of music, poetry and storytelling." Over the two CDs, labelled Act One and Act Two, Bibb engages more than 50 like-minded and talented musicians in 12 studios and seven countries, including long-time Malian collaborator Habib Koite, Canada's "Chairman of the Board" Harrison Kennedy, Senegalese kora master and fellow griot Solo Cissokho and many of Eric's friends from his home in Sweden, such as Per Lindvall. I keep coming back to songs from Act One: "We Don't Care," "Black, Brown and White" and "Mami Wata/Sebastian's Tune" and songs from Act Two: "Race & Equality," "Michael, Row the Boat Ashore" and "Needed Time," because these songs help me reflect that no matter how difficult my life may seem on any given day, Eric Bibb's message of resilience, faith and hope in a positive future will carry me farther than my initial reactions to the day's newspaper headlines whether they are from Seattle, Washington or Bamako. This release is another exceptional collection of world music and blues from one of the world's master troubadours. Eric Steiner



The duo of Miranda Kitchpanich and Nick Mardon displays the best of Washington's young talent. Miranda Kitchpanich (17), a dynamic vocalist, songwriter, bassist, and guitarist.

Vocally influenced by Beth Hart and Etta James, Miranda has been representing the Washington Blues Society for three years as

the youth showcase.

Accompanying Miranda is Nick Mardon (18), a talented multi-instrumentalist, performer, songwriter, and teacher. Nick plays around 200 gigs a year throughout the Pacific Northwest while running his own private instruction studio and recording his music.



December 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.

JANUARY 1 TUE

Conor Byrne Pub: Smoke Tough Johnny, 9pm

JANUARY 2 WED

Bake's Place: Billy Stapleton & Annie Eastwood Duo, 8pm
Engels Pub: Town Hall Brawl, 8pm

JANUARY 3 THU

Bad Albert's: Annie Eastwood & Friends ft Beth Wulff, 6pm
Conway Muse, Back Room: Lit Lab, 6:30 pm
Salmon Bay Eagles: Groovetramps, 8p

JANUARY 4 FRI

Conway Muse: Louis Ledford w/ Kristin Allen Zito, 7pm
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Nearly Dan, 730 PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle: Jimmy Free 8PM
Scotsman Bistro, Mukilteo: Blue Healers Duo. 8pm
The Cliffhanger, Lynnwood: Lori Hardman Band, 9pm
The Haven Event Space, Mill Creek: First Funk Friday, 8 PM

JANUARY 5 SAT

Conway Muse: Town Hall Brawl Trio, 7:30pm
Musicquarium: Michele D'Amour & the Love Dealers, 9pm
Old Edison Inn: Stacy Jones Band, 8p
Sea Monster Lounge, Seattle: Barret Martin Group, 10PM
Stewart's, Snohomish: Third Rock, 9 PM
The Amarillo, Monroe: Brett Benton, 730PM
The Black Dog Arts Cafe, Inc, Snoqualmie: Paula Boggs Band, 8 PM
The Oxford Saloon, Snohomish: Stone Blue 830 PM

JANUARY 6 SUN

Black Dog Arts Café: Sheri & Da Boyz, 11am

JANUARY 7 MON

Madison Ave Pub: Monday Blues Review, 7pm

JANUARY 9 WED

Bake's Place: Billy Stapleton & Annie Eastwood Duo, 8pm

JANUARY 10 THU

Bad Albert's: Annie Eastwood & Friends ft Billy Stapleton, 6pm
Conway Muse- (Parlor Piano): Steve Meyer, 7:30pm
Salmon Bay Eagles, Ballard: Soulful 88's

JANUARY 11 FRI

13 Coins Restaurant, SeaTac: The Side Project, 830PM
Conway Muse: Sheri Roberts Grimes w/JoMomma, 7:30pm
Lake Trail Taproom, Kenmore: High Divide, 8PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Ballard: Mark Riley Trio, 8pm
Third Place Commons: Mark Hurwitz & Gin Creek, 7:30pm
Tula's Restaurant & Jazz Club, Seattle: Stephanie Porter Quintet
Village Taphouse Bar & Grill: Stacy Jones Band, 9pm

JANUARY 12 SAT

Angel of The Winds Casino Resort, Arlington: Heart by Heart, 8 PM
Anthony's Woodfire Grill, Everett: Sheri Roberts Greimes, 8pm
Conway Muse: Jaspar & Kale Lepak, 7:30pm
Conway Muse: Mojo Cannon & the 13th St. Horns, 8pm
Elliott Bay Pizza & Pub: Chris Stevens & Annie Eastwood Duo, 7pm
Engels Pub, Edmonds: Dream Wreck, 9PM
Louie G's Pizza, Fife: Washington Blues Society Benefit for Youth Showcase Duo: Beale Street Bound! 1PM - 6PM
Nectar Lounge, Seattle: School of Rock Seattle Presents: Motown, 2 PM
The Brick, Roslyn: Reji Marc, 7 PM
The Triple Door: Mark Hummel 2019 Harmonica Blowout, 7pm
VFW Post 318, Olympia: Laura Lowe & the Mud Bay Blues Band, 730PM
Village Taphouse Bar & Grill: Stacy Jones Band, 9pm
Watershed Pub & Kitchen, Seattle: The Speakeasy Jazz Cats, 8PM

JANUARY 13 SUN

The Triple Door: Mark Hummel 2019 Harmonica Blowout, 7pm

JANUARY 14 MON

Madison Ave Pub: Monday Blues Review, 7pm
Oxford Saloon: Sheri Roberts Greimes, 5pm

JANUARY 17 THU

Bad Albert's: Annie Eastwood & Friends ft Beth Wulff, 6pm
Conway Muse: SVER (Norwegian folk music) 7pm
Salmon Bay Eagles, Ballard: 29 Years of Blues-Mark DuFresne

JANUARY 18 FRI

Bethel Saloon, Port Orchard: Rhinos, 9PM
Darrell's Tavern, Shoreline: Joey Houck Band, 930 PM
Elmer's Pub, Burien: Trailer Park Kings, 9 PM
Oxford saloon, Snohomish: The Spin Offs, 830 PM

JANUARY 19 SAT

Anthony's Woodfire, Everett: Lori Hardman Band, 7pm
Conway Muse: Birch Pereira & the Gin Joints, 7:30pm
Conway Muse: Duck Variations, 7pm
Grinders Italian Restaurant, Shoreline: Mark DuFresne, 8PM
Historic Everett Theater: Elvin Bishop and Charlie Musselwhite, 730 PM
Rock the Dock: Mark Hurwitz & Gin Creek, 8pm
Whidbey Island Center for the Arts, Langley, Le Roy Bell, 730 PM

JANUARY 20 SUN

Crossroads in Bellevue: Sheri Roberts Greimes w/JoMomma, 12:30pm
Oxford Saloon: Guy Johnson, 5pm

JANUARY 21 MON

Madison Ave Pub Monday Blues Review 7pm
Oxford Saloon Monday Night Madness Guy Johnson 5pm

JANUARY 24 THU

Bad Albert's: Annie Eastwood &

Friends ft Kimball Conant, 6pm

Conway Muse: Daddy Treetops, 7:30pm

Roaming Radish: Harpdog Brown & the Uptown Blues Band, 7pm

Salmon Bay Eagles, Ballard: Mark Hurwitz & Gin Creek, 8pm

JANUARY 25 FRI

13 Coins Restaurant, Seattle: The Side Project, 9 pm

Conway Muse: Harpdog Brown & the Uptown Blues Band, 7:30pm

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Seattle: WAR, 730 PM

Sigillo Cellars, Snoqualmie: Brett Benton Duo, 7PM

Stewart's On First: Stacy Jones Band, 9pm

JANUARY 26 SAT

The Conway Muse: Blue Moon Marguee, 8PM
 Whisky West Blue Healers, 8pm

JANUARY 28 MON

Madison Ave Pub: Monday Blues Review, 7pm

JANUARY 30 WED

Engels Pub, Edmonds: Sheri Roberts Greimes w/JoMomma, 8pm

JANUARY 31 THU

Bad Albert's: Annie Eastwood & Friends ft Billy Stapleton, 6pm

Smiles from our IBC fundraiser in Spokane!

Jeff “Drummerboy” Hayes behind the drum kit supporting our Memphis-bound acts...



Above Left & Right: International Blues Challenge Representatives
Sammy Eubanks & Sheri Roberts-Greimes
Middle Left & Right: Jeff Hayes at work (a sharp dressed man!)
Upper Right: Jeff Hayes, Joel Astley, Samantha Weston & Jesse Weston
Middle Right: Jesse Weston, Eric Rice, Jeff Hayes & Joel Astley
Lower Right: Jesse Weston, Eric Rice, Jeff Hayes, Joel Astley & Hamilton
(Photos Courtesy of Jeff Hayes - Formatting by Amy Sassenberg)



Whom to Hire, Get in Touch

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

#

44th Street Blues Band 206.714.5180 or 206.775.2762

A

A.H.L. 206.935.4592
Al Earick Band 253.278.0330
Albritten McClain & Bridge of Souls 206.650.8254
Alice Stuart & the Formerlys 360.753.8949
AlleyKatz 425.273.4172
Andrew Norsworthy andrewnorsworthy@yahoo.com
Andy Koch's Badd Dog Blues (formerly Badd Dog Blues Society) 360.739.6397
Annette Taborn 206.679.4113
Annieville Blues 206.994.9413
Author Unknown 206.355.5952

B

Baby Gramps Trio 425.483.2835
Back Porch Blues 425.299.0468
Backwoods Still 425.330.0702
Badd Dog Blues Society 360.733.7464
Bay Street Blues Band 360.731.1975
Bill Brown & The Kingbees 206.276.6600
Billy Barner 253.884.6308
Billy Shew Band 253.514.3637
Black River Blues 206.396.1563
Blackjack Kerouac 206.697.8428
Blackstone Players 425.327.0018
Blue 55 206.216.0554
Blue Healers 206.440.7867
Blues on Tap 206.618.6210
Blues Playground 425.359.3755
Blues Redemption 253.884.6308
Blues Sheriff 206.979.0666
Blues To Do Monthly 206.328.0662
Bobby Holland & The Breadline 425.681.5644
Boneyard Preachers 206.755.0766 or 206.547.1772
Brian Butler Band 206.361.9625
Brian Hurst 360.708.1653
Brian Lee & The Orbiters 206.390.2408
Bruce Koenigsberg / Fabulous Roof Shakers 425.766.7253
Bruce Ransom 206.618.6210
Bump Kitchen 253.223.4333 or 360.259.1545

C

C.D. Woodbury Band 425.502.1917
CC Adams Band: 360.395.8540
Charles White Revue 425.327.0018
Charlie Butts & The Filtertaps 509.325.3016
Charlie Saibel 360.357.8553

Chester Dennis Jones 253.797.8937
Chris Egar Band 360.770.7929
Chris Lord 425.334.5053
Chris Stevens' Surf Monkeys 206.236.0412
Coyote Blues 360.420.2535
Crooked Mile Blues Band 425.238.8548
Curtis Hammond Band 206.696.6134

D

Daddy Treetops 206.601.1769
Dana Lupinacci Band 206.860.4961
David Hudson / Satellite 4 253.630.5276
Dennis "Juxtamuse" Hacker 425.423.9545
Dick Powell Band 425.742.4108
Doug McGrew 206.679.2655
Doug Skoog 253.921.7506
Dudley Taft 513.713.6800

E

El Colonel 360.293.7931
Ellis Carter 206.935.3188
Eric Madis & Blue Madness 206.362.8331

F

Fat Cat 425.487.6139
Filé Gumbo 425.788.2776
Julia Francis & the Secrets of Soul 206.618.4919

G

Gary Frazier 206.851.1169
Greg Roberts 206.473.0659
Groove Tramps 720.232.9664
Gunnar Roads 360.828.1210

H

Hambone Blues Band 360.458.5659
Hambone Wilson 360.739.7740
Heather & the Nearly Homeless Blues Band 425.576.5673
Hot Mess Duo 206.214.7977
Hot Wired Rhythm Band 206.790.9935
Hungry Dogs 425.299.6435

J

Jack Cook & Phantoms of Soul 206.517.5294
Jam Animal (206) 522-5179
James Howard 206.250.7494
James King & the Southsiders 206.715.6511
JD Hobson 206.235.3234
Jeff "DRUMMERBOY: Hayes: 206.909.6366
Jeff & The Jet City Fliers 206.818.0701
Jeff Menteer and The Beaten Path 425.280.7392

Jeremy Serwer 520.275.9444
Jesse Weston 425.610.0933
Jill Newman Band 206.390.2623
Jim Caroompas (Rumpus) 925.212.7760
Jim McLaughlin 425.737.4277
Jim Nardo Blues Band 360.779.4300
Jimmy Free's Friends 206.546.3733
Joe Blue and the Roof Shakers 425.766.7253
Joe Cook Blues Band 206.547.1772
Joe Guimond 509.423.0032
Joel Astley 206.214.7977
John "Scooch" Cugno's Delta 88 Revival 360.352.3735
John Stephan Band 206.244.0498
JP Hennessy 425.273.4932
Julia Francis and the Secrets of Soul 206.618.4919
Julie Duke Band 206.459.0860
Junkyard Jane 253.238.7908

K

K. G. Jackson & The Shakers 360.896.4175
Keith Nordquist 253.639.3206
Keith Scott 773.213.3239
Kevin & Casey Sutton 314.479.0752
Kid Quagmire 206.412.8212
Kim Archer Band 253.298.5961
Kim Field & The Mighty Titans of Tone 206.295.8306
Kimball Conant & The Fugitives 206.938.6096

L

Lady "A" & The Baby Blues Funk Band 425.518.9100
Larry Hill 206.696.1789
Leanne Trevalyan 253.238.7908
Lissa Ramaglia 206.650.9058
Little Bill & the Bluenotes 425.774.7503
Lucille Street cynmoring@gmail.com

M

Maia Santell & House Blend 253.983.7071
Mark A. Noftsgar 425.238.3664
Mark Hurwitz & Gin Creek 206.588.1924
Mark Riley 206.313.7849
Mark Whitman Band 206.697.7739
Mary Ellen Lykins Band: 360.395.8540
Mary McPage 206.850.4849
Michael 'Papa Bax' Baxter 425.478.1365
Michael Wilde 425.672.3206 or 206.200.3363
Michal Miller Band 253.222.2538
Michelle D'Amour and The Love Dealers 425.761.3033
Miles from Chicago 206.440.8016
Moon Daddy Band 425.923.9081

Mule Kick 216.225.1277

N

Nick Vigarino 360.387.0374

Norm Bellas & the Funkstars 206.722.6551

P

Paul Green 206.795.3694

Polly O'Kerry and The Rhythm Method
206.384.0234

R

Rafael Tranquilino Band /Leah Tussing
425.329.5925

Randy Norris & Jeff Nicely 425.239.3876 or
425.359.3755

Randy Norris & The Full Degree 425.239.3876

Randy Oxford Band 253.973.9024

Raven Humphres 425.308.3752

Red House 425.377.8097

Reggie Miles 360.793.9577

Richard Allen & The Louisiana Experience
206.369.8114

Richard Evans 206.799.4856

Right Hand Drive 206.496.2419

RJ Knapp & Honey Robin Band 206.612.9145

Robert Patterson 509.869.0350

Rod Cook & Toast 206.878.7910

Roger Rogers Band 206.255.6427

Ron Hendee 425.280.3994

Roxlide 360.881.0003

Russ Kammerer 206.551.0152

Rusty Williams 206.282.0877

S

Sammy Eubanks 509.879.0340

Scott E. Lind 206.789.8002

Scotty Harris 206.683.9476

Scratch Daddy 425.210.1925

Shadow Creek Project 360.826.4068

Sheri Roberts Greimes 425.220.6474

Smokin' J's 425.746.8186

Son Jack Jr. 425.591.3034

Spencer Jarrett 510.495.4755

Stacy Jones 206.992.3285

Star Drums & Lady Keys 206.522.2779

Steve Bailey & The Blue Flames 206.779.7466

Steve Cooley & Dangerfields 253.203.8267

Steven J. Lefebvre 509.972.2683 or 509.654.3075

Stickshift Annie Eastwood 206.941.9186

Susan Renee "La Roca Soul" Sims 206.920.6776

Suze Sims 206.920.6776

T

Terry Hartness 425.931.5755

The Bret Welty Band 208.703.2097

The EveryLeaf Band 425.369.4588

The Fabulous MoJo Kings 206.412.9503

The Jelly Rollers 206.617.2384

The Mongrels 509.307.0517 or 509.654.3075

The Nate Burch Band 425.457.3506

The Naughty Blokes 360.393.9619

The Rece Jay Band 253.350.9137

The Soulful 88s/Billy Spaulding 206.310.4153

The Spinoffs/Dawnzella Gearhart 206.718.1591

The Tonic 206.214.7977

The Wired Band 206.852.3412

The Wulf Tones 206.367.6186 or 206.604.2829

Tim Hall Band 253.857.8652

Tim Turner Band 206.271.5384

Tommy Wall 206.914.9413

Two Scoops Combo 206.933.9566

U

Unbound 425.231.0565

V

Virginia Klemens Band 206.632.6130

W

West Coast Women's Blues Revue 206.940.2589

Willie B Blues Band 206.451.9060

Willie & The Whips 206.781.0444

Taj Mahal in Seattle (Cont'd from page 6)

trombone and harmonica before picking up a guitar in his early teens. After moving to Santa Monica, California in 1964 early in his career (now using the stage name of Taj Mahal) he played with Ry Cooder in a band called Rising Sons and cut an album in 1965-66, with a single including "Candy Man" and "The Devil's Got My Woman" in 1966. The full album was finally released in 1993 under the name *Rising Sons* featuring Taj Mahal and Ry Cooder, on Columbia/Legacy. Cooder also contributed to Taj's eponymous debut album in 1968.

Since then, Taj has released 27 studio albums, eight live albums, many compilations, movie and television soundtracks. Taj received four Contemporary Blues Grammy Awards starting with Senor Blues (1997), Shoutin' in Key (2000), his most recent solo studio release Maestro (2008) and the collaboration with Keb' Mo', *TajMo*, earlier this year. Taj received a Blues Foundation Blues Music Award in 2006 for Historic Album of the Year for *The Essential TajMahal*, among numerous other accolades.

Taj was animated throughout the second set talking and joking between songs and both he and the band appeared to be enjoying themselves as they performed to a nearly sold out house.

Taj Mahal is a legendary bluesman and we are fortunate that he's in residence at Seattle's Jazz Alley each November. I highly recommend Taj Mahal as one of the finest purveyors of not only traditional and contemporary blues, but also island-inflected world music that's sure to leave audience members "satisfied, and tickled, too" like I was during and after that second set on November 16th.

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



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- \$2 off the cover charge at the Highway 99 Blues Club (Seattle, WA)
- 10% off purchases at Silver Platters (any location)
- 10% discount at the Westport Inn (Westport, WA)
- \$1 off the cover and 25% off food at the Raging River Saloon (Fall City, WA)
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Band Name (if applicable) _____

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PLEASE CONTACT ME WITH VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

* 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 – 192 Blues Jam with The Groove Tramps 3-7 PM all ages –times vary on Seahawk games

Anchor Pub, Everett – Open Jam (Second Sunday of the month) 2-5 PM All Ages // Jazz Jam (Third and Fourth Sunday of the month) 5-8 PM All Ages

Blue Moon Tavern, Everett – jam with the Moon Dogs 7-10 PM

CCR/Collectors Choice, Snohomish – Acoustic Open Mic hosted by Patrick Thayer and the Reclamation Project 6-10pm

Club Crow, Cashmere Jam Session held the first Sunday of each month, 7-10 PM

Couth Buzzard Books Espresso Bueno Cafe, Seattle. Buzzard Blues Open Jam hosted by Kenny Mandell 7-9 PM

(First Sunday of each month- all ages)

Dawson's, Tacoma – Tim Hall Band 7-11 PM

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

Peabo's Bar and Grill, Mill Creek – Peace N Love Jam w/ Tommy Cook, Eric Rice & Scotty Harris 7-10 PM

The Royal Bear, Auburn – Sunday Unloaded Jam Session 6-10 PM

Darrell's Tavern, Shoreline, Jazz Jam 7-10 PM

MONDAY

Mac's Triangle Pub, Seattle 8-10 PM

Nectar Lounge, Seattle – Mo Jam Mondays 9 -11 PM

Dawson's, Tacoma- Music Mania Jam 7 -11 PM

The Swiss, Tacoma – Open Mic Hosted by Chuck Gay 7-10 PM

Red Dog Saloon, Maple Valley – Jam with Scotty FM and the Broadcasters 7-10 PM

Riverside Pub, Wenatchee – North Central Washington Blues Jam (Second and Fourth Mondays of the month) 7-10 PM

The Village Tap house and Grill, Marysville – Jam Night with Scotty Harris and Tommy Cook 7- 10 PM

Emerald of Siam, Richland – Open Mic/Band showcase hosted by Barefoot Randy/ Dirty River Entertainment 8pm (all ages until 1045)

TUESDAY

Royal Esquire Club, Seattle – Sea-Town All-Stars 8-10 PM

Antique Sandwich Co. Tacoma – Open Mic 7-10 PM

Dave's of Milton – Blues and Beyond Jam with Jerry Miller trio 7-10 PM

Elmer's Pub, Burien – Jam w/ Billy Shew 7-11 PM

Engel's Pub, Edmonds – Jam Night with Dano Mac 8-11 PM

Paragon, Seattle. Open Mic 9 PM – 12 AM

Pogacha, Issaquah -jam Hosted by Doug McGrew. 8 PM -21+

Poppe's 360 Neighborhood Pub, Bellingham – Open Mic Night w/Brian Hillman 6:30-9 PM

Oxford Saloon, Snohomish – Acoustic Open Mic Jam, all ages 7-10 PM

J&M Café in Pioneer Square, Seattle – Blues Jam 9-11 PM

Stewart's, Snohomish – Tuesday Jam night with the Shortcuts 8 PM

Stoneway Cafe, Seattle – Acoustic Open Mic, 7-10 PM

Tim's Tavern, Seattle – Open Mic 7-10 PM

Tweede's Café, North Bend – Open Mic 630-930 PM

North End Social Club, Tacoma – Open Mic Tuesdays w Kim Archer 8-11 PM

Ben Moore's, Olympia – Open Mic 7-10 PM

The Cherry Bomb, Port Angeles – Blues Jam with Big Al and the Gang 7-10 PM

WEDNESDAY

Black Dog Arts Cafe, Snoqualmie -all-ages open mic 7 pm

Blue Moon Tavern, Seattle – Open Mic 8-11 PM

Collectors Choice Restaurant, Snohomish – Blues Jam w/Usual Suspects 8-11 PM

Couth Buzzard Cafe, Seattle – Open Mic at 7:30-10 PM

Dawson's, Tacoma – Linda Myers Wicked Wednesday Jam 8-11 PM

Darrell's Tavern, Shoreline – Open Mic 830-11 PM

Dragon Gate, Des Moines – Open Jam 9-11 PM

Filling Station, Kingston – Open Mic 7 PM All ages, styles & instruments welcome.

Grumpy D's Coffee House, Seattle – Open Mic 630-9 PM

George's, Kirkland – HeatherB's open mic/jam 7-9 PM

Jazz bones, Tacoma – Live It Out Loud All Ages Jam 3rd Wednesday of each month 6-930PM

Nickerson Street Saloon, Seattle – Open Mic 9 PM to midnight -Open Jam last Wednesday of each month

Madison Ave Pub, Everett – Unbound Blues Jam 730-11 PM

Muk Cafe, Langley – Open Mic 700 PM

Old Triangle, Seattle – w/ Jeff Hass Open Mic & Jam 8-11 PM

Skylark Café, West Seattle – Open Mic 8-11 PM

Stoneway Cafe, Seattle – Acoustic Open Mic, 7-10 PM

Tony V's Garage, Everett – Open Mic 9-11 PM

Twin Dragon, Duval Open Jam 7:30-11pm

The Tin Hat, Kennewick – Open Mic & Jam w Mondo Ray Band 7-11 PM

The Living Room Coffee, Marysville – Open Mic, 6-9 PM

Rhythm and Rye, Olympia – Open Mic Night hosted by Scott Lesman 8-11 PM

The Roadhouse, Spokane – Open Jam 730-11 PM

THURSDAY

Anchor Pub, Everett – Open Mic 9-11 PM all ages

The Cedar Stump, Arlington – Open jam w/The Usual Suspects 7 PM

Port Gardner Bay Winery, Everett – Open Mic 630-930 PM

Dave's of Milton – Open Jam with Power Cell 8-11 PM

Dawson's, Tacoma – Blues Jam w/Billy Shew 730-11 PM

Drunk Two Shoes BBQ – White Center – Uptown All-stars jam 730-1100 PM

Oxford Saloon, Snohomish – Haunting Rock Jam 730-11 PM

JB Bungalow, Juanita, Kirkland – Heather B Blues' open mic/jam 8-11PM

The Village Inn Pub, Bellingham – Jam w/Jimmy D 8-11 PM

Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle – Blues Jam w/Mark Whitman (Last Thursday of the month) 8-11 PM

Slippery Pig Brewery, Poulsbo – Blues and Brews Jam Night w/Thys Wallwork (All ages) 7-11 PM

Gordon & Purdy's Pub, Sumner – Open Blues Jam 7-11 PM

Stoneway Cafe, Seattle – Acoustic Open Mic 7-10PM

Loco Billy's Wild Moon Saloon, Stanwood –

Tightwad Thursday Jam 8-11 PM

Rhythm and Rye, Olympia – Olympia Jazz Jam hosted by Tarik Bentlemsani 7-9 PM

The Dam Bar, Port Angeles – Open Mic 7 PM

Stewarts, Snohomish – Open Jam w Pole Cat and Co. 7-1130 PM

Rolling Log, Issaquah- open Jam hosted by Doug McGrew, 8pm – 12am

San Juan island Brewing Co, Friday Harbor – open mic 6-8 PM

FRIDAY

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

The Living Room Coffee, Marysville – Student Jazz Jam (Last Friday of each month) 630-930 PM all ages

Urban Timber Coffee, Sumner – Open Mic 6:30-10 PM all ages

Dragon Gate, Des Moines – Open Jam 9-11 PM

Dread Knott Brewery, Monroe – Open Mic 7-10 PM

Kana Winery, Yakima – open mic 7-10 PM

Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle/ Ballard – Open Mic with Linda Lee (third Thursday of the month) 8-11PM

Wicked Cider, Kennewick WA – Wicked jams/open mic every other Friday 6-10 PM

SATURDAY

Café Zippy's, Everett – Victory Music Open Mic (Every First Saturday) 5:30 – 8:30 PM all ages

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.

SEATTLE

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

El 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

Jazz Alley
206.441.9729

Little Red Hen
206.522.1168

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

Seamster 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 Musicarium
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 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 & 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, Auburn
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, Suquamish
360.598.8700

Disco Bay Detour, Discovery Bay
360.379.6898

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

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

Northshore Performing Arts Center, Bothell
425.984.2471

Northwest Cellars, Kirkland
425.825.9463

Pogacha of Issaquah, Issaquah
425.392.5550

Rolling Log, Issaquah
425.392.2964

Sky River Brewing, Redmond
425.242.3815

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, Marys-
ville 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
360.755.0165
Veterans of Foreign Wars
Post #2100, Everett
425.422.8826
Wild Buffalo, Bellingham
360.392.8447
13th Ave Pub, Lynnwood
425.742.7871

CENTRAL & EASTERN WA

*Yakima, Kennewick,
Chelan, Manson, Roslyn, and
Wenatchee*
AntoLin Cellars, Yakima
509.961.8370
Branding Iron, Kennewick
509.586.9292
Brews & Cues, Yakima
509.453.9713
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
Gilbert Cellars, Yakima
509.249.9049
Hop Nation Brewing, Yakima
509.367.6552
Ice Harbor Brewing
Company, Kennewick
509.586.3181
Icicle Brewing Co.
Leavenworth
509.548.2739
Kana Winery, Yakima
509.453.6611
Main Street Studios, Walla
Walla
509.520.6451
Old School House Brewery,
Winthrop
509.996.3183
Riverside Pub, Wenatchee
509.888.9993

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
Points*

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
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
509.315.8497
John's Alley Tavern, Moscow,
ID
208.883.7662
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,
ID
208.773.1611
The 219 Lounge Sandpoint,
ID
208.263.9934
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

A Very Merry December Blues Bash!

All photos taken by Amy Sassenberg (except the one of Santa and Amy) taken by Neal Fallen

Our December Very Merry Blues Bash ended the year on a sweet high note. It was a jubilant night with great energy provided by Willie & the Whips (lower right photo) and Mary Ellen Lykins and CC Adams Band (top right photo) complete with a righteous horn section (Mike Marinig & Ron Hendee) that sat in with both bands.

The audience was up on their feet dancing all night, except when they were winning CDs and fun items like holiday mugs, earbuds and chocolate covered cherries. We'd like to thank Collector's Choice Restaurant Owner Barry Galen and his staff for a fantastic night and a wonderful year of Blues Bashes. Thanks to all the bands who donated their time and talents. Thanks to the volunteers who help set up and support events, and



and thanks to all the members who come out every month to support live blues. We appreciate you.

FROM TO

The Washington Blues Society proudly presents a showcase of excellent live Blues music, and a Benefit to help send the Pacific Northwest International Blues Challenge Acts to Memphis, Tennessee. All Washington Blues Society Members and their Guests are invited to attend!

Featuring the expressive talents of

Miranda Kitchpanich & Nick Mardon

Blue Avenue

HOP SOL

Reji Marc

Polly O'Keary & the Rhythm Method

Please Join Us! Bring a Friend!

Saturday, Jan. 12, 2019 1:00 to 6:00

Louie G's Pizza, 5219 Pacific Hwy S.

Fife, WA 98424 (253) 926-9700






Blues Preview: Salmon Bay Eagles

Celebrating 29 years of live blues in Ballard at the Salmon Bay Eagles on January 17th!

By Malcolm Kennedy

Mark your calendar for Thursday, January 17th and make plans to be at the anniversary big show featuring internationally-renowned bluesman Mark DuFresne. This notable blues event is also a membership drive and the doors are open to the public!

Salmon Bay Eagles Aerie 2141 has been supporting the blues in Ballard now for 29 years. It began back in December of 1989 when the late Jimie Jean Tuttle along with then Worthy President Dave Duff asked Kevin Wallace to put together a house band for a Sunday evening blues jam which consisted of Jimie Jean's husband, the late Kirk "Spiderman" Tuttle on drums, Jeff Davies on bass, Fast Freddie and Kevin on guitars and Raven Humphres sitting in on sax whenever he could make it.

The event then moved to Thursday nights and evolved from a hosted jam session into an evening featuring local, regional and nationally-touring blues bands. Marcia Jackson, AKA "The Kitchen Wench," has also strongly supported these weekly blues nights for much of the run with her tasty home style cooking. Sadly, Kevin passed away in 1999 and we also lost Jimie Jean in 2009 followed shortly by KT. When Jimie Jean got too ill to work, Dennis "Zab" Zvoloski took over as the music coordinator booking the music in 2008 continuing her legacy.

Salmon Bay Eagles Trustee Mike Haldeman also deserves recognition for all he has done for keeping the blues at Aerie 2141 as well. There are many, many others as well, including each musician who has contributed to Seattle's longest-running home for live blues music. Zab retired from booking in 2017 and, since then, Curtis Terry and I continue to book acts at the aerie.

Mark DuFresne is one of the premier talents in the region. He has toured internationally

on several occasions and spent 4 ½ years as the front man on vocals and blues harp with the national touring act Roomful of Blues, recording a pair of critically acclaimed releases on Alligator records. Their 2003 album *That's Right* was Grammy nominated, and Roomful won a Blues Foundation W.C. Handy Award (now Blues Music Award) for Best Blues Band in 2004. Their 2005 follow-up *Standing Room Only* was also particularly well received. Mark is also no stranger at the Washington Blues Society's Best of Blues Awards (commonly called the BB Awards) having won 26 so far including induction into the Hall of Fame in 2001. The third and fourth BB Awards festivities were held at Salmon Bay Eagles and DuFresne received one of his awards right here at Salmon Bay.

In fact, several years back the Washington Blues Society choose to name a few select awards after multi-time winners. Each with multiple awards in both categories, Mark DuFresne and Paul Green were both considered for the Male Vocals and Blues Harp awards, respectively. Mark had won the first BB for Blues Harp, and seven in all, and Paul edged him out with nine in total.

Mark had won 10 for Male Vocals including four-in-a-row from 1997-2000 and three in-a-row '07-'09, and the award is now titled the "Mark DuFresne Male Vocal Award." He also has BB Awards for Entertainer of the Year, Best Band and Best Songwriter. Mark has three solo releases featuring all original songs, and *There's a Song in There* was recorded with the Hollywood Fats Band, and also received a BB Award for Best Blues Album. This all adds up to outstanding vocals and virtuoso blues harmonica presented with superior showmanship.

Marcia will be at it in the kitchen serving up delicious food and the bartenders will be plying their trade to serve you as well.

This event is also a membership **drive and is**

open to the public, so invite all your friends to attend. Salmon Bay Eagles will be offering special reduced priced memberships on this night only.

Seriously folks, you probably spent more on your last pizza than the cost of a yearly membership! As a member of the Eagles, Salmon Bay supports many local and national charities including the Medic One Foundation and the Ballard Food Bank. Your Eagles membership can be used at any of the thousands of Aeries across the United States and Canada, and there are over 50 in Western Washington alone!

There is lots of other great music coming to Salmon Bay in January too starting with The Groovetramps on the 3rd, the Soulful 88s on the 10th, the Mark Riley Trio on the 11th, Linda Lee's Open Mic on the 18th, Mark Hurwitz & Gin Creek on the 24th, the Women's Rockin' Blues Jam hosted by Cheri Adams and the Whitman Jam on the 31st hosted by the Mark Whitman Band.

The blues rolls on at Salmon Bay in 2019!

The artwork for the event poster was done by nationally-recognized and multi-BB Award-winning graphic artist, photographer and writer Phil Chesnut. Phil also designed the logos for the Washington Blues Society and the Inland Empire Blues Society as well as several album covers, and posters and business card art for local artists.

2019 Best of the Blues ("BB Awards") Nominations Open!

By Malcolm Kennedy

Participation in nominating artists in the Washington Blues Society's annual awards program is one of the many privileges of membership in the Washington Blues Society. The most important things are to exercise your right to, 1) nominate, and 2) vote. Your participation is important to the process.

Who can participate?

Washington Blues Society members in current standing: See your renewal date on your membership card or the label on the back cover of this issue

How to Nominate

Simply write the name of the Washington artist or party in the category on the ballot on page 31 of your Bluesletter.

We encourage you to nominate in as many categories as you can; however, leaving some blank will not disqualify your nomination.

Your nomination must be on the Bluesletter mailed to you with your mailing label attached. For couples, a photocopy used for the second ballot should be included in a sealed envelope along with the original ballot that has your mailing label attached. Ballots received without the mailing label attached will not be counted unless membership has been verified by the Board of Directors.

Please mail your ballot to the Washington Blues Society, PO 70604, Seattle, WA 98127 or hand your ballot to a Board member on or before the February Blues Bash.

Deadline: Tuesday, February 12th

Ballots received after this date either by hand or by post will not be counted.

Not Eligible for Election

Previous recipients of both the Lifetime Achievement Award and the Blues Musicians Hall of Fame are not eligible for a second award in these categories, so don't waste your vote. See list of recipients at the Washington Blues Society web site www.wablues.org.

The BB Awards has several categories where a particular artist or event has won the award many times. We have chosen to honor four of those artists by naming those awards after them. This is in keeping with the Blues Foundation and those individuals are no longer eligible for nomination of these eponymous awards.

You must be a member of the Washington Blues Society to nominate in our Best of the Blues Awards Process! All nomination ballots must be received at our PO Box or by a Board Member no later than Tuesday, February 12, 2019 (February Blues Bash). Nominations received after that date won't be counted. The ballot will be reprinted next month to provide members with two full months to participate in the nomination process. Please Mail Your Ballot to: WBS, PO Box 70604, Seattle, WA 98127





PITCHING A WANG DANG DOODLE?

**Check out our huge updated,
accessible, upstairs party room**

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



AMERICANA AND ROOTS MUSIC

For Bookings & Info
206-818-0701
JETCITYJEFF@AOL.COM

2019 Washington Blues Society Best of the Blues "BB Awards" Nomination Ballot

Deadline for all nomination ballots must be received at our PO Box or by a Board Member no later than Tuesday, February 12, 2019 (February Blues Bash).

Please nominate one in each category.



- Mark Dufresne Male Vocalist Award: _____
- Blues Female Vocalist: _____
- Electric Blues Guitar: _____
- Slide Blues Guitar: _____
- Blues Bass: _____
- Chris Leighton Blues Drummer Award: _____
- Blues Horn: _____
- Paul Green Blues Harmonica Award: _____
- Blues Piano / Keyboard: _____
- Acoustic Blues Guitar: _____
- Blues Instrumentalist - Other: _____
- New Blues Band: _____
- Blues Band: _____
- Little Bill & The Blue Notes Traditional Blues Band: _____
- Solo/Duo Blues Act: _____
- Blues Performer: _____
- Blues Songwriter: _____
- Washington Blues Recording: _____
- Blues Club: _____
- Blues Writer: _____
- Blues Photo Image: _____
- Blues Graphic Image: _____
- Blues DJ: _____
- Keeping the Blues Alive Award: _____
- Lifetime Achievement Award: _____
- Washington Blues Society Hall of Fame (Individual): _____
- Best Non-Festival Blues Event: _____
- Best Regional Blues Festival: _____
- Best Community Blues Festival: _____
- Open Blues Jam: _____



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

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WWW.JAZZALLEY.COM

January 2019

Pearl Django Happy 25th! 1/2 - 1/3

Kat Edmondson 1/8 - 1/9

Peter White 1/10 - 1/13

John Sebastian 1/14

Chris Botti 1/17 - 1/20

WAR 1/24 - 1/27

James Hunter Six 2/5 - 2/6

January 2019
 Pearl Django 1/2 - 2/3
 Kat Edmondson 1/8 - 1/9
 Peter White 1/10 - 1/13
 John Sebastian 1/14
 Chris Botti 1/17 - 1/20
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 James Hunter Six 2/5 - 2/6

GRAPHICS ~ EDITOR@WABLUES.ORG