

Bluesletter

Washington Blues Society

December 2022



Kim Field @ Blues Vespers
A Special Holiday Bluesletter
It's Time to Vote!

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Hi Blues Fans,

It's been a crazy year, but we find ourselves in a good position.

Membership is still growing, we had a good festival season, and financially we have recovered, and while things could be better, we are in a good position. We are having elections for

board positions this month, and you will find a ballot in this issue with nominees and the opportunity to write in potential officers. If you are a current member, you are entitled to cast your vote, so please let us know your choices.

This month, we start our "Best of the Blues" award process. If you are a current blues society member, we encourage you to make your choices, to express your opinions.

You will find a nomination form on the inside of the back cover of this issue. You don't have to nominate in each category, just do the best you can, and choose in the categories you feel strongest about. Next year, we will hold our awards presentation in person, and it will be a very special fun-filled evening at a new venue for us! This will be a don't miss event, so please keep an eye out for more information!

Our annual holiday party is on again this year, and we will be celebrating on Friday, December 23rd at the Aurora Borealis club. We have three bands lined up, the CD exchange and who knows, Old St. Nick may even show up! The food is great at the Aurora Borealis, parking is plentiful, and it is easy access from North or South, just off of I-5. More information in this issue, online at our website, and our Facebook page!

We are still looking for a few more people who want to consider getting more involved in the Washington Blues Society. Please consider this opportunity to be a bigger part of your blues society! It is a fun and rewarding way to spend some time volunteering!

Hope to see many of you out and about supporting live music this month, and have a Happy Holiday season!



Tony Frederickson
President, Washington Blues Society
Member, Board of Directors, The Blues Foundation (2014-2017)



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This month, the Bluesletter honors Bruce Iglauer and Alligator Records for some very special recognition in the US Congressional Record. The issue also features a preview of the 11th annual Jones Family Christmas and an interview of Bluesletter Editor Eric Steiner by frequent contributor (and international blues raconteur) Rocky Nelson. Rev. Dave Brown remembers Lissa Ramaglia, Chad Stuart and Buck England in a new poem, and Eric Steiner presents a few of his favorite blues photos from his tenure as a Washington Blues Society volunteer. Don't forget to nominate candidates for the 2023 Best of the Blues "BB Awards" as well as vote for 2023 members of the Washington Blues Society Board of Directors.

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Above: Bruce Iglauer & Debbie Davies at the Kitchener Blues Festival
(Photo by Eric Steiner)

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(Photo Courtesy of Kim Field)

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JANUARY DEADLINES

Ad Reservations 5PM on 12/1/22 to eric@wablues.org

Calendar 5PM on 12/10/2022
Please submit @ www.wablues.org

Editorial 5PM on 12/5/2022
Please send to eric@wablues.org

Camera-Ready Ad Art 5PM on 12/5/2022
Please send to eric@wablues.org

Please Note: If the Editor receives enough editorial copy before the 5th, or camera-ready ads before the 10th, space may be filled and material may be saved for a future issue. Please send in contributions early!

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Please send articles and photos only as attachments.

Please do not embed images or stories directly in emails and please do not send links. Please only send attachments with each file titled with a unique file name instead of computer- or camera-supplied identifiers. All contributions not meeting these requirements will be returned for revisions by the contributor.

Photos: High-resolution PDF, tif, or jpg attachments saved as 300 dpi or greater in traditional print media CMYK format only (for color) or grayscale (for B & W). Cover size: 8.5 in x 11 in. Please do not send photos as RGB images. Please title photos with a unique file name and not use camera-supplied alpha-numeric file titles, and please do not include any watermarks or branding information on any photo. Please also do not send low-resolution, social media photos or collages.

CAMERA-READY AD SPECS & COSTS

SIZE	B/W	COLOR	HT x W in mm
full pg	\$360	\$450	238 x 187.3
1/2 pg vertical	\$210	\$264	238 x 91.3
1/2 pg horizontal	\$210	\$264	116.66 x 187.3
back 1/2 pg horizontal	\$312	\$390	116.66 x 187.3
1/4 pg vertical	\$120	\$150	116.66 x 91.3
business card horizontal	\$36	\$46	56 x 91.3
business card vertical	\$36	\$46	91.3 x 56

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20% off	12-month pre-payment
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10% off	3-month pre-payment



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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.. Our website is www.wablues.org.

WASHINGTON BLUES SOCIETY
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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



Dear Bluesletter Readers,

Happy Blues Holidays!

This year-end issue is filled with stories, photos, reviews, and previews, as well as my first-ever interview as a subject. I was once interviewed for a story when I was an undergraduate at Illinois State University in Normal, but since then, I've tried to avoid stuff like that. Until Rocky Nelson suggested that we talk several months

ago while staying on the Olympic Peninsula at the WorldMark by Wyndham Resort at Discovery Bay.

We met again to finish the article, and I hope that readers will enjoy Rocky's line of questioning as well as my responses.

It's Time to Vote!

Along these lines, I am very pleased that one Washington Blues Society member has stepped up and is on the official voting ballot in this issue to be your next Bluesletter editor, Polly O'Keary. By day, Polly is a reporter, and she has been a frequent contributor to these pages for many years. I hope that many members will join me in voting for Polly as your next Editor. I will still volunteer behind the scenes (and screens) to show her everything I know (such as it is) about the Adobe In Design program to help our print Bluesletter make a positive transition to the next Editor. When I heard that Polly was interested, I was thrilled. She's a real journalist, and I know that readers will be in good hands!

Welcome Back, Kim Field!

I've long been a fan of Kim Field as a bluesman and as an author. His textbooks on harmonica are classics, and I recommend each one: *Harmonicas, Harps and Heavy Breathers, Updated Edition: The Evolution of the People's Instrument*, *The Blues Dream of Billy Boy Arnold*, and *Harmonicas, Harps, and Heavy Breathers: The History of the Harmonica and Its Role in American Music*. Welcome Kim Field back to Tacoma at the end of this month for a very special Blues Vespers at the Spanish Ballroom at McMenamin's in Tacoma. Please see Rev. Dave Brown's preview of two special Blues Vespers and a touching poem remembering Lissa Ramaglia, Buck England, and Chad Stuart in this issue.

Congratulations to Bruce Iglauer & Alligator Records!

Sometimes, I am admittedly a little confused by the work of some of our elected officials in "the other Washington." However, and this is a big however, this issue celebrates recent recognition in the Congressional Record honoring the 50th anniversary of Alligator Records. You'll find a short summary of a special show that featured Shemekia Copeland in the new Recording Industry of America Association HQ plus a verbatim transcript of the Illinois' Congressional delegation's tribute to Bruce Iglauer and Alligator Records in this issue.

The Deadline Dash...

I am also very pleased that this issue has a preview of the 11th annual Jones Family Christmas show, which collects cash donations and new, unwrapped toys for the 75th annual Toys for Tots campaign of the US Marine Corps Reserve. Tom Jones, Rick Bowen, and I compiled a list of the performers who have donated their time over the past 11 years, and thanks to the Stacy Jones Band and many special guests, these events have raised well over 3,000 new toys and \$3,000 in donations for children in need.

Until next month, please go out and see some live blues music!

Eric Steiner, Editor

Washington Blues Society Bluesletter

Member, Board of Directors, The Blues Foundation (2010-2013)

Madison Ave Pub
905 Madison St. Everett 425-348-7402
Voted Best Blues Club - WA Blues Society

Mondays with Mad Bojo 7 till 9-ish

Tuesday Night Dinner Show 7 till 9
12/6 The Lucky Losers 12/13 Crushed Velvet - Jimmy Culler, Alexandra Seelye & Greg Murat 12/20 the Barela Brothers 12/27 Unbound with Kevin Sutton

Wednesday Unbound Blues Jam with special guests each week 7pm
12/7 Anthony Duron Estrada and Curtis Smith
12/14 Mark DuFresne & Billy Stapleton
12/21 Billy Spaulding & Tom Boyle
12/28 Joe Cook & Tim Sherman

Thursday Singer/Songwriter Showcase 7-9ish
Kevin Sutton with special guests 12/1
Stacy Jones with special guests 12/9, 12/16, 12/23, 12/30

Friday & Sundays Rob Bramblett Entertainment presents Everett's Best Karaoke

Red Hot Saturdays live music
12/3 Jones Family XMas 12/17 Polly O'Keary & the Rhythm Method 12/31 New Years Eve with the C.D Woodbury Trio

Saturday 12/10 UFC #282 \$10 6-11

Blues Preview: 11th Annual Jones Family Christmas

Join the Stacy Jones Band, Mad BoJo & the CD Woodbury Trio in a Toys for Tots benefit at the Madison Pub!

By Rick J. Bowen

This year 2022 marks the 75th anniversary of Toys for Tots, sponsored by the US Marine Corps Reserve, and the 11th year of the Jones Family Christmas and Toys for Tots drive concert.

Please join the Stacy Jones Band, Mad BoJo, and the CD Woodbury Trio on Saturday, December 3rd from 5:30 to 10 PM at the Madison Pub in Everett. Admission: A cash donation or a new unwrapped toy for this special 75th anniversary of Toys for Tots!

The Jones Family Christmas began as a month-long toy drive at the Old Village Pub in Lynnwood and grew into an all star holiday concert when Stacy Jones partnered with this neighborhood venue to put on a show with the Stacy Jones Band and special guests to boost the number of toys and donations collected for Toys for Tots.

The award-winning Stacy Jones Band has played host to a cavalcade of stars, from an up and coming Ayron Jones, Southern California guitarist Dennis Jones, Tacoma soul singers Heather Jones and Lara Lavi Jones, country gentleman Wes Jones, to the Jones and Fisher Band, along with adopted uncle, blues man Chester Dennis Jones. Other notable honorary Jones family members who have performed at the Jones Family Christmas include Lee Oskar, Jim McLaughlin, Lyle Ronglien Kevin Andrew Sutton, and more.

The event moved to the Rockin' M BBQ

when the Old Village Pub closed, and the Jones Family Christmas now has a home at the Madison Ave Pub in Everett and has won the Washington Blues Society Best of the Blues Award for Best Non Festival Event at the blues society's annual Best of the Blues Awards ("BB Awards").

When asked about the number of toys collected throughout the years, Tom Jones remarked "As far as how many toys we have donated over the years, I would just have to guess. My Wells Cargo trailer is six feet by eleven feet and holds eight large Toys for Tots donation bins. We have been filling it full for several years now, not to mention our cash donations. I would conservatively say that over the last 10 years we have donated well over 3,000 toys and another \$3,000.00 in cash donations to Toys for Tots."



Special Thanks to Jones Family Christmas Performers

(Compiled by Tom Jones & Eric Steiner)

- 2022 Stacy Jones Band, MaD BoJo, CD Woodbury Trio
- 2021 Sheri Roberts Greimes, Papa G & the J's, Stacy Jones Band
- 2020: Stacy Jones Band w/Special Guests Chris Eger and Polly O'Keary & The Rhythm Method (Streamed Online During COVID-19 Pandemic)
- 2019: Stacy Jones Band, Chester Dennis Jones, MaD BoJones
- 2018: Stacy Jones Band & Special Guests
- 2017: Laura Lavi Jones Band, Chester Dennis Jones, Madison Avenue Blues Review
- 2016: Stacy Jones Band & Special Guests
- 2015: Fisher & Jones, Wes Jones, Chester Dennis Jones, Stacy Jones Band
- 2014: Donny & Heather Jones, Blues Playground, Chester Dennis Jones, Stacy Jones Band
- 2013: The Dennis Jones Band, Chester Dennis Jones, Stacy Jones Band
- 2012: Ayron Jones, Chester Dennis Jones, Stacy Jones Band



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Farewell to Bluesletter Editor Eric Steiner

"It's been a long, hard slog..."

Interview by Rocky Nelson

Over the course of the last two decades, the Washington Blues Society, Bluesletter readership, and myself, have benefited by the hard work and steady hand of Eric Steiner at the helm of production of the Bluesletter as Editor. When I heard that he was stepping down as Editor on December 31, 2022, I thought that our blues society and readership would like to hear of his stories while helping to produce this publication. I also wanted to help frame his experience and work on the magazine for the next editor, too. I needed a job description. The following is a story of Eric the Editor, Eric the blues aficionado and blues historian. Eric has brought a ton of passion to his endeavors as Editor, and he continues to be very successful in grant writing for the society. It's the first time he has been interviewed, so he claims.

I called; Eric responded.

The interview began at the World Mark by Wyndham resort on beautiful Discovery Bay on the Olympic Peninsula. I took a short walk down memory lane with Eric over fried local oysters, and I offered a few recollections of my own. Like the end of an era, with sort of a "The Beatles are breaking up" feeling, I asked him a few questions to begin. Nostalgic like.

First, I felt a word of gratitude was in order.

RN: Eric, it's been a long, hard slog, but I'd like to be one of the first to thank you for volunteering as the Editor over all these years. I also want to thank you for making my writing better by your editing and suggestions for my articles I've written with you as Editor. You should be proud of your accomplishments, and the quality of the Bluesletter from your start to what we now appreciate today.

Knowing Eric and his bent towards an occasional brouhaha, I had to warn him...

RN: So that this conversation doesn't go

down a rabbit hole like a Firesign Theater skit, can you give us a serious thought about your tenure as Editor of the Washington Blues Society Bluesletter?" Please, don't let the truth get in the way of a good story, Eric!

ES: I've tried, ever since I volunteered to write for the Bluesletter over 20 years ago when we held board meetings at Seattle's Salmon Bay Eagles, to learn how to assemble a quality publication focused on blues music. Along the way, I've had great mentors, teachers and helpers, such as editors like Jim Vail, Mary McPage, Jesse Philips and Rosie Gaynor. We used to do mail outs in the game room off the bar at the Eagles where the blue ink rubbed off on our hands back in the day. Since then, thanks to the volunteers I just mentioned, we have a glossy, 32-page magazine printed at Pacific Publishing in South Seattle. I just wish I had even a modest amount of training and experience in graphics and layout to better capture the excitement I feel at a live blues show, and I also wish I could have recruited more volunteers to help me with the magazine.

RN: Great! That leads me to my next question about the importance of volunteers to the Washington Blues Society. Volunteers are the backbone of any non-profit organization. What are your feelings on that subject?

ES: One of the exciting things about volunteering for the Washington Blues Society is that volunteering is the lifeblood of our organization. Whether it's tearing tickets at one show once a year or contributing to the every second Tuesday of the month Blues Bash or writing articles for the Bluesletter, we need volunteers to help us out and we are grateful for their hard work. It's been a small core group of people who get the job

done, and you're one of them, and we hope to branch out to younger audiences and younger volunteers. With the Bluesletter in my rear view mirror shortly, I think we have contributed to an all-inclusive, all color publication and we have very few all color publications in the state of that breadth. I'd like to think it's a lively magazine that showcases what this state has to offer.

RN: How did you become the Editor in the first place?

ES: I went to a blues society board meeting at the Salmon Bay Eagles in Seattle. Jim Vail was the Bluesletter editor at that time. I really enjoyed getting the magazine in my mailbox in Edmonds every month, and I wanted to learn how I could get involved. I asked former Advertising Director Roy Brown, and he enthusiastically encouraged me to seek the editor position. I had no background in desktop publishing, but I did have a fair amount of experience writing about the blues. Before I knew it, Editor Mary McPage helped me learn about the In Design program along with Pacific Publishing Company staff.

RN: Yep, Ballard's Salmon Bay Eagles, that's where you and others hornswoggled me into the Secretary position twenty years ago, you pirate. Now I'm going to hit you with a few "old school" classic interview questions. It's my "Fab 4" of sorts, double time. What's your favorite local and national clubs?

ES: Locally, my favorite club is Jazz Alley. Nationally, I look forward to going back to Buddy Guy's Legends in Chicago, Biscuits and Blues in San Francisco as well as B.B. King's in Memphis.

RN: Who are your favorite blues musicians? Old and new?

ES: Rocky, we don't have space in the magazine for me to do this question justice. In terms of blues elders, I often listen to Buddy Guy, Lonnie Brooks, The Rolling Stones, and Bettye LaVette. Regarding younger artists, I gravitate to blues musicians like Tab Benoit, Ben Prestage, Shemekia Copeland, Jonny Lang, Janiva Magness, and Susan Tedeschi. I always return to records by Lonnie Brooks, The Rolling Stones, and Texas bluesman Omar Kent Dykes.

RN: What is your favorite blues organization? What is your favorite affiliate organization worldwide and why?

ES: I admire The Blues Foundation, and that's due in large part to the three years I served on the board when Jay Sieleman was President and CEO. It's undergoing another leadership transition, and I look forward to the new team's work. There are so many Blues Foundation affiliates that I admire. Again, I could fill up an entire magazine on this topic, but I think that the European Blues Union, the Kansas City Blues Society, and the Windy City Blues Society each play important roles in their local communities to bring people together who share our love for blues music. These three organizations have robust local competitions to send very talented acts to the International Blues Challenge, and I think each one does an exceptional job of keeping members informed through technology.

RN: What is your favorite LP? Blues LP?

ES: Far and away, my favorite LP is Exile on Main St. by The Rolling Stones, followed by Elmore James' Whose Muddy Shoes on Chess Records. "Tumbling Dice" and "Madison Shoes" still resonate with me. I hope

they always will.

RN: Thanks for sticking to our script Eric. Now let's talk story about being the Editor. You probably don't consider yourself as an entertainer but you have been entertaining us for years. I must say now, some of your "Letter from the Editor" pieces have been quite entertaining. What are your favorite remembrances of being the Editor?

ES: I don't have that many favorite memories of being the editor. One of my favorite moments was when I was one of two reporters who interviewed Quincy Jones at the Sorrento Hotel in Seattle. We talked about his days in Bremerton breaking into the building afterschool that housed the US Navy band's piano, and I knew I was well past my 15 minutes allotted by his manager. He was in town with Carlos Santana to open the Northwest African American Museum. Q (as he asked me to call him) turned to his handler and said, "Let's wait a few minutes. We're talking about the blues here and this is important." I was simply floored to be at the right place at the right time.

RN: Your 15 minutes of fame plus with "Q!" You can't beat that for a remembrance. You grew up in Chicago. Did that influence you at all in your decision to help out in the "trenches" with the Washington Blues Society?

ES: Growing up on Chicago's far South Side, I was exposed to the blues at an early age. My high school English teacher, Dennis Koutouzous, inspired a lifetime appreciation of the craft of writing. I'm eternally grateful to him. Before that, in junior high in the early 70s, our class bussed to downtown Chicago for an Operation PUSH Black Expo at the International Amphitheater. There were booths of businesses targeting African

Americans, and I remember hearing the Jackson 5 in that cavernous auditorium. I had heard blues on WVON-AM radio played by DJ Pervis Spann, and listening to that handheld Realistic transistor radio opened a new world for me. I worked as a bus boy in my teens at a local Sears store and was lucky to see Corky Siegel play at the Chicago Public Library in my teens and see many of Muddy Waters' bandmates while I was underage. Let's just leave it at that. I cherish memories of long-gone clubs like Somebody Else's Troubles, the Earl of Old Town, and Wise Fools Pub, because that's where I saw Barrelhouse Chuck, Sunnyland Slim, Lonnie Brooks, Steve Goodman, Bonnie Koloc, Fred and Ed Holstein, and Mike Jordan and the Rockamatics.

RN: Wow. That's a diverse and impressive list. Do you have a specific Chicago blues memory that you'd like to share?

ES: At former Mayor Bilandic's ChicagoFest in 1980, I saw a great line up of blues musicians and many of these performances were captured on Alligator Records' *Blues Deluxe* CD. Standout cuts include "Sweet Home Chicago" by the Lonnie Brooks Blues Band, "Hey Bartender" by Koko Taylor & Her Blues Machine, and "Wang Dang Doodle" by the Chicago Blues All-Stars, which featured Willie Dixon, Carey Bell, Koko Taylor, and other great musicians. I also briefly met Muddy Waters in the rain late one night, and later that same year, I relocated to Seattle to work for Randy Finley at his Seven Gables Theatres. For me, *Blues Deluxe* is a textbook Chicago blues recording.

RN: You once told me that you played blues music for your daughter Jessica when she was growing up. How did that go? Now, she has a baby of her own.

Farewell to Bluesletter Editor Eric Steiner (continued)

"Gimme Back My Wig" blared from the speakers..."

Congratulations, Grandpa!

ES: Well, when Jessica was about nine years old, we were in the front yard at our home in Edmonds. I turned up Hound Dog Taylor and the House Rockers, a classic Alligator Records band. "Gimme Back My Wig" blared from the speakers. I played the CD in the car when I drove Jessica to and from daycare. She heard the first few notes from Hound Dog and looked up at me in abject fear.

"Daddy!" She yelled. "Please no more Hound Dog. Please!", she pleaded.

I asked her what she'd like to hear. She smiled, "that BB man."

I put on Live at the Regal, and we continued working on the yard as she danced to one of BB King's best recordings.

RN: What about your new granddaughter, Parker? Have you followed the same learning curve with her?

ES: Absolutely. First, I played the Allman Brothers' piano-driven instrumental "Jessica," (her mother's name), Ramsey Lewis' "The In Crowd," and BB King's Live at the Regal. An absolute joy to watch a toddler move to this music.

RN: How do you want to be remembered as Editor?

ES: That's a tough question, Rocky. I want to be remembered as a blues society volunteer who tried to inform members. It hasn't been easy, because I have no training in magazine production. You're asking me about legacy, Rocky. I don't think about that all that much. I focus on filling 32 pages, month-in and month-out, with material readers might find informative. I have a playlist, though, for my memorial, and it includes Janiva Magness, Koko Taylor, Elmore James, Lionel Hampton, the Rolling Stones, Traffic, Rory Gallagher,

Shemekia Copeland..."

RN: For your "Memorial"? That's a strangely grave response, but I won't pry. I concur sir, I absolutely love Janiva and Shemekia's music. However, so that no one gets the impression that you're "leaving the band," what exciting things will you be doing for Washington Blues Society now that you will have... more time?

ES: I'm not leaving the blues society. I'm just not seeking reelection as Editor for another 12-month elected term in 2023. I won't be doing anything exciting for the blues society, and I plan to continue to write grants to raise money to pay musicians. I don't think that's particularly exciting. It means filling out a lot of forms online and doing boring stuff like that. However, should we get lucky enough to receive any grants like we have this year, that's when it gets exciting because we can offer a solo musician or a band a reasonable stipend for a show they probably wouldn't get, say, for a Tuesday night show at one of our blues bashes in Shoreline. gotta tell you, I've been very lucky and have had my share of exciting times with the blues society, from being a concert photographer at festivals, Bluesletter Editor, to catching exceptional shows at venues like Seattle's Jazz Alley or San Francisco's Biscuits and Blues, and I'm pretty much done with doing exciting stuff because I'm an old dog. Next year, I want to contribute articles to the next Bluesletter Editor for his or her review, write grants to pay for musicians at festivals and our blues bashes, and generally enjoy time away from the Bluesletter. I won't actually have more time, due to my caregiving schedule of my first granddaughter, Parker. I also help out with my father-in-law, who has an aggressive form of cancer. By the time

these words land in print, I hope to have made progress toward starting a nonprofit organization, initially called Parker's Blues, to raise money for my granddaughter's out-of-network medical bills due to her three heart defects. Just because I'm leaving the position of Bluesletter editor does not mean I'll automatically have more time to devote to the blues society. Far from it. As I typed in my October Letter from the Editor, I'm refocusing my life in the context of an untimely loss of my mother-in-law, her husband's cancer, and my granddaughter's heart defects.

RN: Wow Eric, that's a full emotional plate, God bless ya. Yet you still found time to produce a quality product full of great content and information for local and national consumption. Right on, brother! Everyone knows it takes a team with the Editor as ringleader but you've managed that position well over the years. It continues to benefit those hard working musicians who are looking for that one big break or to get their music heard and those interested in following that music. It's the who, what, when, where of blues music in the Pacific Northwest. You've set a high standard. That about wraps it up, Eric. What are your final words for the next Editor who steps into your shoes? A "job description" if you like.

ES: I'd give the same advice and encouragement to any volunteer in any elected position on the Board of Directors. Actually, I'd offer three suggestions, whether the volunteer is either President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, or Editor. Those are the five elected blues society board positions. First of all, I'd ask the volunteer to be as proficient as possible in the software pertinent to each role. The Treasurer must know QuickBooks as well as electronic city,

state and federal financial accounting and reporting systems. The Editor would be well served with three or more years' of increasingly responsible work experience in the Adobe In Design program as well as prior, formal training in visual and graphic arts in desktop publishing/ Secondly, I'd mention that we are all volunteers with varying amounts of time to devote to this work. Patience and the ability to accept fellow volunteers' foibles are crucial, must-have skills. Finally, I'd encourage each newly-elected board member to approach their position more creatively and more efficiently than I did (particularly the next Editor). Editing this publication is a lot of work, and I hope the next Editor will have a background in Adobe In Design, desktop publishing, and have prior experience in graphic design.

RN: Thank you for your time, Eric.

ES: Thank you, Rocky. It's always fun "Rollin' with Rock," and we've shared many great blues experiences in Memphis and Clarksdale together. I know that our readers have appreciated the many Bluesletter articles you've contributed from around the world. Your volunteer work for the Washington Blues Society, the Bluesletter, and The Blues Foundation continue to show that you are a true blues fan. That's why Keeping the Blues Alive Award recipient John Hahn (Shemekia Copeland's manager) and I nominated you for a 2023 Keeping the Blues Alive Award from The Blues Foundation. In that spirit, I'm drafting a few questions for your review for an interview with you that I'd like to run next year in these pages. As you well know, good deeds like this never go unpunished. Just so that you're not surprised, I'll ask you about your groundbreaking Blues Power Hour on Armed Forces Radio, time spent

with Morgan Freeman and Sonny Payne in Clarksdale, and your work with Washington blues community stalwarts Nick Vigarino, Alice Stuart, and Curtis Salgado.

With that last answer, I figured I had better get this copy back to Eric before it grew into a 6,000 word novella that he is so fond of writing. Eric surprised me that he wanted to interview me, and I knew I should have anticipated his request "from left field." Those that know him understand. He'll do nearly anything to get copy to print in these pages! I wanted to have this article "in his own words" to be used as a roadmap for the next Editor.

As I finished this article, no one had stepped up to fill his shoes. Working with prior Editors Jim Vail, Mary McPage, Rosie Gaynor and Jesse Phillips, Eric has taken the Bluesletter from a newsprint product to a glossy, colorful, and exciting magazine that is the envy of many blues societies. Thank you, Eric, from an admiring blues fan. I know I speak for all of those who have enjoyed the Bluesletter and who have appreciated your hard work of these past two decades, well done!



Rocky Nelson & Morgan Freeman backstage at the Ground Zero Blues Club in Clarksdale
(Photo by John Hahn)



Holiday Party

Friday December 23rd

at Aurora Borealis

7:00 - 8:00 • LA Roca Boom

8:15 - 9:15 • Stevie & The Blue Flames

9:30 - 10:30 • Joe Cook Band

All Ages Welcome

\$10 donation

Doors open at 6pm

Aurora Borealis

16708 Aurora Ave N,

Shoreline, WA 98133

Borealisaurora.com



Congratulations to Bruce Iglauer & Alligator Records

Special and well-deserved recognition in our nation's capital!

Courtesy of Alligator Records

Members Of Illinois Congressional Delegation Celebrate Cultural Legacy Of The Blues at a Special Private Event In Washington, DC Hosted By The Recording Industry Association Of America, The American Association Of Independent Music And Exceleation Music To Include Performance By Blues Icon Shemekia Copeland

Illinois Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky, with the support of 12 members of the Illinois Congressional delegation, entered a commemorative statement, entitled Honoring 50 Years Of Alligator Records, into the official Congressional Record. The statement celebrates blues music as a towering creation of African American culture, and praises Alligator Records and its president and founder, Bruce Iglauer, in honor of the pioneering blues label's 50th anniversary.

To further celebrate, Schakowsky, along with other dignitaries, will join Iglauer during a private event hosted by the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA), the American Association of Independent Music (A2IM) and Exceleation Music at the RIAA's state-of-the-art headquarters in Washington, DC on November 16, 2022. Longtime Alligator recording artist Shemekia Copeland, whom The Washington Post calls, "the greatest blues singer of her generation," will perform a stripped-down acoustic set for an exclusive list of invitees.

According to Congresswoman Schakowsky, "In 1971, at the young age of 23, Bruce Iglauer established Alligator Records. Using all the money in his savings, Bruce invested in his favorite Chicago blues band, Hound Dog Taylor and the HouseRockers, and the rest is history. Now, 50 years later, we celebrate Bruce, Alligator Records, and the magic that is Chicago blues. The rich, vibrant blues scene in Chicago is just one

of the many things that makes our city so great. Thanks to the strong leadership of Bruce Iglauer and Alligator Records, blues continues to play on in Chicago and across the entire world."

Iglauer is thrilled to be recognized, saying, "I'm incredibly honored that the blues and Alligator Records have been lauded by the wonderful Jan Schakowsky. This official recognition is not only for me as the label's founder, but it's also for all the dedicated staff, some of whom have worked at Alligator for over four decades, who are committed to supporting our artists and our music. Above all, this statement honors Chicago blues and artists like Hound Dog Taylor, Son Seals, Koko Taylor, Lonnie Brooks, Fenton Robinson, Buddy Guy, Jimmy Johnson, James Cotton, Lil' Ed & The Blues Imperials, Charlie Musselwhite, Carey and Lurrie Bell, Billy Branch, Luther Allison, Corky Siegel, Shemekia Copeland, The Cash Box Kings, Nick Moss and Toronzo Cannon -- who have cut timeless albums for Alligator. Those albums carry on the glorious Chicago blues tradition, keeping this deeply rooted music as charismatic and soul-healing for future generations as it has been for me."

Mitch Glazier, RIAA Chairman and CEO adds, "The new RIAA offices were built to celebrate the creative community, and we couldn't be more excited to welcome members of Congress to honor the blues and Alligator Records. Congratulations Bruce, on your vision and leadership that has inspired some of the biggest blues artists across decades."

A2IM President and CEO Dr. Richard James Burgess adds, "Alligator Records' incredible legacy of excellence highlights what independent labels do best: take huge risks to embrace underappreciated and poorly supported art forms. Many great blues artists might not have made the recordings that have contributed to American culture if



Bruce Iglauer had not believed and invested in them. Congratulations to longtime A2IM member and my friend, Bruce Iglauer, on such well-earned and richly-deserved recognition."

After highlighting Alligator's and Iglauer's storied history, Congresswoman Schakowsky's statement concludes:

Alligator Records has been a driving force in support of Chicago blues and blues music worldwide, and a glowing example of our country's rich tradition of musical and entrepreneurial spirit. Now, my colleagues in the House of Representatives and I honor Alligator Records on 50 years of business and celebrates the American cultural legacy of Chicago blues music.

Together we urge the United States Government to take all necessary steps to preserve and advance the art form of Chicago blues music; recommit itself to ensuring that recording labels like Alligator Records and their artists receive fair protection under the copyright laws of the US for their contributions to culture in the US; and reaffirm the status of Chicago blues as a unique national treasure.

Members who rose in support are Congressman Chuy Garcia, Congressman Sean Casten, Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi, Congressman Adam Kinzinger, Congresswoman Robin Kelly, Congressman Brad Schneider, Congresswoman Cheri Bustos, Congressman Bobby Rush, Congresswoman Marie Newman, Congressman Bill Foster, Congresswoman Lauren Underwood, and Congressman Mike Quigley.

A Special Thanksgiving Remembrance...

Honoring the memories of Lissa Ramaglia, Buck England and Chad Stuart

By Rev. Dave Brown

This poem came to me out of the blue. There was very little editing or rewriting. There are many fellow travelers in my heart when I wrote it. Lissa Ramaglia, Buck England, and Chad Stuart were particularly on my mind, so I dedicate it to them.

Thanksgiving

It seems to happen a lot these days.
I wake up and read that another
fellow traveler has left this world.

It comes with being a certain age, I guess.
You would think I'd get used to it
but I never do, I never do.

Parting is not a sweet sorrow.
The sweetness of memory sustains
but never erases the pain.

The phone calls stop
you miss his voice, the B-3 stilled,
her bass no longer finds a groove.

We say goodbye again and again
never to be the same. Grateful yes, thankful,
to be sure, yet the weight of grief remains.
It happens more often these days,
to those of us of a certain age.
We say goodbye, tears fall.

We wipe our eyes, remember in silence
and are thankful that when the sun
rises in the morning we get to see it.

©Dave Brown



Above: Chad & Jeremy CD, Before & After
Left: Lissa Ramaglia on the March 2022 Bluesletter Cover (Photo by Dave Corry)
Right: Buck England (Photo by ML Sutton)

Rev. Dave Brown is the creator/host of Blues Vespers now in its 24th year. Upcoming Blues Vespers events include the Kim Brian Band CD Release, Blues Vespers, at Immanuel Presbyterian Church on December 18th and the Kim Field Harmonica Showcase at McMenemy's Spanish Ballroom on December 29th.



2022 Washington Blues Society Holiday Party Preview

Celebrate the holidays at Aurora Borealis in Shoreline!

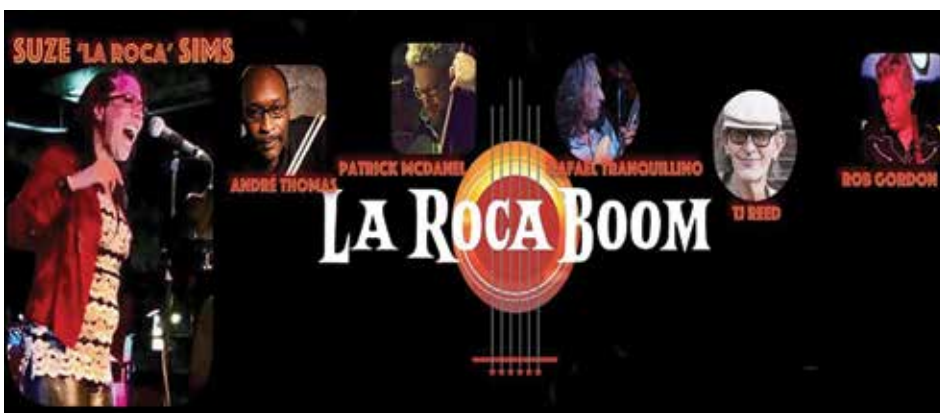
By Rick J. Bowen

The Washington Blues Society presents the 2022 Holiday Party on Friday, December 23rd at Aurora Borealis in Shoreline, Washington featuring music, dining, and dancing. All are welcome to the event and the doors open at 6 PM with the restaurant featuring a full dinner menu.

The music starts at 7 PM with sets from some of the best of the Pacific Northwest bands, including LA Roca Boom fronted by powerhouse vocalist Suze Sims, followed by Washington Blues Society Hall of Fame band Stevie & The Blue Flames and the Joe Cook



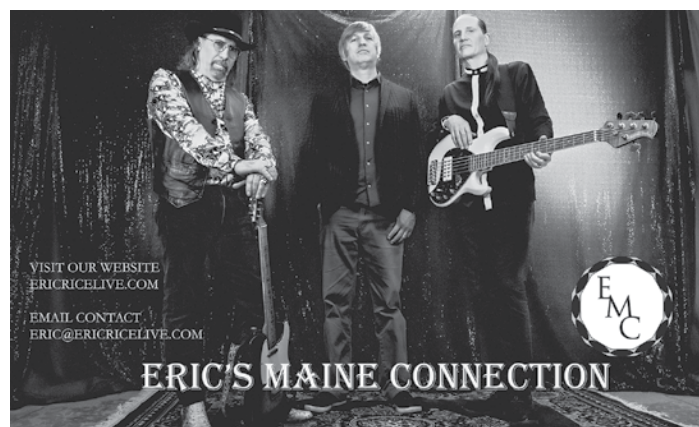
Band, multiple Best of the Blues nominees, who will close out the evening. The blues society asks for a suggested donation of \$10, but will not turn anyone away from the door.



Above Middle: Steve Bailey & The Blue Flames (Photo Art by Dan Hill)

Above Right: The Joe Cook Band (Photo by Joe Cook)

Above: La Roca Boom Art (Art by Suze "La Roca" Sims)



Special Blues Memories

A small, memorable sampling from Bluesletter Editor Eric Steiner's virtual blues photo gallery...

By Eric Steiner

As a Washington Blues Society volunteer, I often have been “in the right place at the right time,” especially with my camera. To complement Rocky Nelson’s interview of me in this issue, I’ve put together some of my favorite photos I could easily access among three external drives and 14 SD cards of photos.

It’s been a thrill to experience blues festivals as a photographer in Chicago and Kitchener, and on the island of St. John in America’s Caribbean.

When I first met Ground Zero Blues Club co-owner Bill Luckett over two decades ago in Clarksdale, introduced me to his friends. When Sam Carr, Willie “Big Eyes” Smith and Pinetop Perkins joined our rickety table not far from the bar, I thought I was the luckiest blues fan in the world.

I still am.

Rocky Nelson suggested that I layout the centerfold of this issue after my favorite LP, the Rolling Stones’ *Exile on Main St.*, and adapt my pictures using John Van Hamersveld’s iconic black and white style.

Last month, I started to do that, and quickly learned that it would have taken dozens of hours to convert and reformat each and every color image into a crisp grayscale image. So, I sorted through a few files, and selected a few that I thought readers might find interesting.

Please enjoy photos of Sam Lay, Bob Stroger, Eddie Bo, Bill Luckett and his friends, me and Hubert Sumlin, Janiva Magness, Dietra Farr, Curtis Salgado, and Elvin Bishop and Henry Gray, and several other blues luminaries, until the next issue!





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

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

And more! For the complete, most up-to-date list of membership benefits, visit wablues.org

PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT ARE APPLICABLE. THANKS!

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- ☐ Individual Member \$25
- ☐ Couple \$35
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- ☐ Sponsorship—Gold \$1,000 ☐ Sponsorship—Silver \$600 ☐ Sponsorship—Bronze \$400

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I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO MAKE A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION TO THE FOLLOWING FUNDS:

- ☐ Musicians Relief Fund in the amount of \$ _____ providing assistance to local musicians in their time of need
- ☐ Passing the Torch Fund in the amount of \$ _____ educating the next generation of local musicians

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____ . Please send check or money order to

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* Due to postage fees, non-US residents will receive their Bluesletter electronically

† With valid WBS membership card and advanced reservation. Reservations must be made by calling Jazz Alley at 206.441.9729 and requesting the WBS Special. This offer is not applicable to all shows.

December 2022 Live Music Calendar!

Our website has the most up-to-date live music calendar & listings online @ www.wablues.org/

DECEMBER 1

North City Bistro, Shoreline: Bret Jensen Trio 7 PM
Slippery Pig, Poulsbo: Front St Blues Revue 7 PM
Looking Glass Coffee, Snohomish: Stacy Jones Band 7 PM
Mount Baker Theater, B'ham: Storm Large 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Marcus Miller 7:30 PM
Paramount Theater, Seattle: Joe Bonamassa 8 PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle: John Stephan Band

DECEMBER 2

Market Place Square, University Place: Michele D'Amour & the Love Dealers 5 PM
Triple Door, Seattle: Squirrel Nut Zippers 6 & 9 PM
Old Stove Brewing (Ballard), Seattle: Sheri & Da Boyz 6-8 PM
Admiral Theater, Bremerton: Storm Large 7 PM
Kimball Coffeehouse, Gig Harbor: Billy Shew 7 PM
Port Gardener Bay Winery, Everett: Trish Himmel
Paramount Theater, Seattle: Pink Martini 7 PM
Black Angus, Puyallup: Roger Williamson Duo 7 PM
North City Bistro, Shoreline: Pearl Django 8 PM
Looking Glass Coffee, Snohomish: Ian Jones 8 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Marcus Miller 7:30 PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle: Town Hall Brawl 8 PM
Aurora Borealis, Shoreline: Brickhouse 8 PM

DECEMBER 3

Madison Ave Pub, Everett: Jones Family Christmas & Toys for Tots Drive w/CD Woodbury, Mad Bojo, Stacy Jones Band 5PM
Triple Door, Seattle: Squirrel Nut Zippers 6 & 9 PM
Paramount Theater, Seattle: Pink Martini 7 PM
Manor House At Pleasant Beach, Bainbridge Island: Brett Benton 7 PM
Blue Frog Studios, White Rock B.C.: Tony D Band w/ Special Guests the Mojo Stars 7PM
Looking Glass Coffee, Snohomish: 7 PM
Port Gardener Bay Winery, Everett: Rewind 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Marcus Miller 7:30 PM
Vino Bella, Issaquah: Eden 7:30 PM
Rockfish Grill, Anacortes: Harp Attack w/the Mark Dufresne Band, sp guests Shawn Devine & Steve Bailey 7:30PM
North City Bistro, Shoreline: Donna Dupras 8 PM
Engels Pub, Edmonds: Michele D'Amour & the Love Dealers 8 PM
Bella Femmina, Gig Harbor: Gin Creek 8PM
Conway Muse, Conway: Polly O'Keary Band 8PM

DECEMBER 4

Royal Room, Seattle: Jacqueline Tabor Holiday Blues 6 PM
Peabo's, Mill Creek: Peabo's Sunday Music Revue

The Spar, Tacoma: T Town Aces 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Marcus Miller 7:30 PM

DECEMBER 5

Madison Ave Pub, Everett: MaD BoJo 7PM
Royal Room, Seattle: Collective Music Ensemble
Blue Moon, Seattle: Andy Coe Band 9PM

DECEMBER 6

Looking Glass Coffee, Snohomish: Stella Prince
Madison Ave Pub, Everett: Lucky Losers 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Jose James 7:30 PM
Central Saloon, Seattle: Blues Tuesday 8 PM

DECEMBER 7

North City Bistro, Shoreline: Bruce Barnard Trio
Rockfish Grill, Anacortes: Joan Penney, 6 PM
Madame Lou's, Seattle: 45th St Brass, McTuff 7:30 PM
The Mill Milton: Billy Stoops 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Jose James 7:30 PM

DECEMBER 8

Bad Alberts, Seattle: Annie Eastwood & Friends 6PM
North City Bistro, Shoreline: McPage Powell Band 7 PM
Slippery Pig, Poulsbo: Front St Blues Revue 7 PM
West of the Waterway, Tacoma: Alabama Mike & Kid Anderson 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Average White Band 7:30 PM
Shanghai Room, Seattle: How Now Brown Cow

DECEMBER 9

Northwest Cellars, Kirkland: The Wednesday Club
Historic Everett Theater, Everett: The Fabulous Thunderbirds 7 PM
Third Place Common, Lake Forest Park: Michele D'Amour & the Love Dealers 7 PM
Port Gardener Bay Winery, Everett: Jazz Pearls 7PM
Grape and Grain, Everett: Blue Healers 7 PM
Kimball Coffeehouse, Gig Harbor: Go Four 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Average White Band 7:30 PM
North City Bistro, Shoreline: Adriana Giordano 8 PM
Aurora Borealis, Shoreline: Nite Wave 8 PM
Bake's Place, Bellevue: Billy Stapleton's POWERHOUSE Band 9:30 PM

DECEMBER 10

Corner Pub, Bow: Midnight Hour 5:30 PM
Café Con Leche, Seattle: Lady A's 7th Annual Red & White Affair 6 PM
Grape and Grain, Everett, Brian Butler, 7P M
BITS, Mukilteo: Blue Healers 7 PM
Port Gardener Bay Winery, Everett: Rich Rorex 7 PM

Royal Room, Seattle: Jim Campilongo 4-tet 7 PM
Historic Everett Theater, Everett: Geoffrey Castle's Celtic Christmas 7:30 PM
Gig Harbor Eagles, Gig Harbor: Gin Creek 7:30 PM
Rockfish Grill, Anacortes: The Unknowns, 7:30 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Average White Band 7:30 PM
Easy Monkey Taphouse, Shoreline: Billy Stapleton's POWERHOUSE Band 8 PM
Conway Muse, Conway: Star Drums & Lady Keys 8P
Engels Pub, Edmonds: Pay Day Rich 8 PM
North City Bistro, Shoreline: Eric & Encarnacion 8P
Aurora Borealis, Shoreline: Blue Velvet Groove 8 PM
The Mill, Milton: T Town Aces 8 PM
Stars Bar, Federal Way: Linda Myers Band 8 PM

DECEMBER 11

Looking Glass Coffee, Snohomish: El Colonel 12 PM
Spanish Ballroom, Tacoma: SSBA Holiday Party w/ Stevie & the Blues Flames and Heather Jones & the Groovemasters 5 PM
Peabo's, Mill Creek: Peabo's Sunday Music Revue
The Spar, Tacoma: Billy Stapleton's POWERHOUSE Band 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Average White Band 7:30PM

DECEMBER 12

Madison Ave Pub, Everett: MaD BoJo 7 PM
Royal Room, Seattle: Collective Music Ensemble 7P
The Spar, Tacoma: Billy Stapleton Powerhouse 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: David Benoit 7:30PM
Blue Moon, Seattle: Andy Coe Band 9PM

DECEMBER 13

Royal Room, Seattle: Seattle Women's Jazz Orchestra 7 PM
Aurora Borealis, Shoreline: Washington Blues Society Monthly Blues Bash feat. Billy Appleton Band
Madison Ave Pub, Everett: Crushed Velvet 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: David Benoit 7:30 PM
Central Saloon, Seattle: Blues Tuesday 8 PM

DECEMBER 14

North City Bistro, Shoreline: Frank Kohl 5 PM
Rockfish Grill, Anacortes: Dr Sweets & Ireland Woods 6 PM
The Spar, Tacoma: Lerch and Lowe 7 PM
The Mill, Milton: Maia Santell & House Blend 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Nearly Dan 7:30 PM

DECEMBER 15

Slippery Pig, Poulsbo: Front St Blues Revue 7PM
Looking Glass Coffee, Snohomish: The Hipocrats
North City Bistro, Shoreline: Greta Matassa Student

Showcase 7PM

Jazz Alley, Seattle: Nearly Dan 7:30PM

Royal Room, Seattle: Cyrus Nabipoor Quintet//
Dylan Hayes Organ Trio 7:30PM

DECEMBER 16

Northwest Cellars, Kirkland: Katie & Chris Morton
Port Gardener Bay Winery, Everett: Doug Williams
Tapped, Mukilteo: Blue Healers 7 PM
Kimball Coffeehouse, Gig Harbor: Northern Rebel
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Boney James 7:30 PM
North City Bistro, Shoreline: Susan Pascal Quartet
The Lounge at Moe's, Arlington: Norris & Nicely

DECEMBER 17

The Repp, Snohomish: Annie Eastwood & Chris Stevens 6 PM
Port Gardener Bay Winery, Everett: Outside the Lines 7 PM
Madison Ave Pub, Everett: Polly O'Keary & the Rhythm Method 7 PM
The Spar, Tacoma: Blumeadows 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Boney James 7:30 PM
Rockfish Grill, Anacortes: JoMomma w/Sherry Roberts Grimes, 7:30 PM
Aurora Borealis, Shoreline: Sweet Emotion 8 PM
North City Bistro, Shoreline: Lee Oskar & Friends
Looking Glass Coffee, Snohomish: Ella Molsee 8 PM
Conway Muse, Conway: Moon Daddy 8 PM
Easy Monkey Taphouse, Shoreline: Mark DuFresne Band feat. Billy Stapleton 8 PM
New Moon Craft Tavern, Port Angeles: Michele D'Amour & the Love Dealers, 8:30 PM

DECEMBER 18: HAPPY HANUKAH

Peabo's, Mill Creek: Peabo's Sunday Music Revue
The Spar, Tacoma: Steve Bailey & The Blue Flames
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Boney James 7:30 PM

DECEMBER 19

Madison Ave Pub, Everett: MaD BoJo 7 PM
Royal Room, Seattle: Collective Music Ensemble
Blue Moon, Seattle: Andy Coe Band 9 PM

DECEMBER 20

Madison Ave Pub, Everett: Barela Brothers 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Blind Boys of Alabama 7:30 PM
Central Saloon, Seattle: Blues Tuesday 8 PM

DECEMBER 21

North City Bistro, Shoreline: Bruce Barnard Trio
Rockfish Grill, Anacortes: Doug Schumde, 6 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Blind Boys of Alabama 7:30PM

Engels Pub, Edmonds: Super Tonix 8 PM

DECEMBER 22

Bad Alberts, Seattle: Annie Eastwood & Friends 6 PM
North City Bistro, Shoreline: Joan Penney Quartet 7 PM
Slippery Pig, Poulsbo: Front Street Blues Revue 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Blind Boys of Alabama 7:30 PM

DECEMBER 23

Aurora Borealis, Shoreline: Washington Blues Society Holiday Party 7 PM
Crossroads, Bellevue: JoMomma 7-9 PM
Black Angus, Puyallup: Kimball & The Fugitives Trio 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Blind Boys of Alabama 7:30 PM
Engels Pub, Edmonds: Tim Turner 8 PM
North City Bistro, Shoreline: Gail Pettis Quartet 8 PM
Looking Glass Coffee, Snohomish: Ashlee Tarro

DECEMBER 24

Spanish Ballroom, Tacoma: Mark Hurwitz & Gin Creek 7 PM
Chang Thai, North Bend: Lonnie Williams and the Then & Now Band 7 PM

DECEMBER 25: MERRY CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 26

Madison Ave Pub, Everett: MaD BoJo 7 PM
Royal Room, Seattle: Zony Mash 7 PM
Blue Moon, Seattle: Andy Coe Band 9 PM

DECEMBER 27

Royal Room, Seattle: Zony Mash 7 PM
Madison Ave Pub, Everett: Unbound w/Kevin Sutton 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Kenny G 7:30 PM
Central Saloon, Seattle: Blues Tuesday 8 PM

DECEMBER 28

North City Bistro, Shoreline: Frank Kohl 5 PM
Rockfish Grill, Anacortes: Janette West, 6 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Kenny G 7:30 PM

DECEMBER 29

North City Bistro, Shoreline: Casey MacGill 7 PM
Slippery Pig, Poulsbo: Front St Blues Revue 7 PM
Spanish Ballroom, Tacoma: Kim Field's Harmonica Showcase 7 PM

Looking Glass Coffee, Snohomish: Dry Goods Duo
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Kenny G 7:30 PM
Engels Pub, Edmonds: Sheri & Da Boyz 8 PM

DECEMBER 30

Northwest Cellars, Kirkland: Woodcreek Trio 5 PM
Kimball Coffeehouse, Gig Harbor: The Profits 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Kenny G 7:30 PM
North City Bistro, Shoreline: Darelle Holden Quartet
Engels Pub, Edmonds: The Shortcutz 8 PM
The Neptune Theatre, Seattle: Digable Planets 8 PM

DECEMBER 31: HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Madison Ave Pub, Everett: CD Woodbury 7 PM
Grape and Grain, Everett, Brian Butler, 7 PM
Molten Works, Woodinville: Blue Healers 7 PM
Useless Bay Country Club, Langley: Midnight Hour
The Lodge at St Edward Park, Kenmore: Jake Bergevin & the Javatown Swing Orchestra
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Kenny G 7:30 PM
Rockfish Grill, Anacortes: Tom Savage Blues Band
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle: McPage and Powell 8
Central Saloon, Seattle: Eric Blu & the Soul Revue
North City Bistro, Shoreline: New Rhythmatics
McMenamins, Bothell: Blue Velvet Groove
The Mill, Milton: Filthy Fifth 8 PM
Conway Muse, Conway: Mark DuFresne Band 9 PM
Normana Lodge, Everett: Stickshift Annie w/Kimball & the Fugitives 9 PM
Lincoln Theater, Mt Vernon: Kuinka w Savanah Woods 9 PM
Grape and Grain, Everett: Blue Healers 10 PM

Please check with the venue for specific start times!



Blues Jams & Open Mic Listings

Jam hosts listed & open mics are either blues-friendly or full band-friendly. Go out & support live music!

SUNDAY

192 Brewing, Kenmore: 192 Blues Jam with The Groove Tramps 3-7 PM (All ages –times vary on Seahawk game days)

Acorn Brewery, Edgewood: Blue Jam w/Retro Gruve 5-8 PM

The Bleu Note Restaurant & Lounge, Lakewood: Open Mic 6 PM

The Bennett Craft & Kitchen PoCo, B.C – Port Moody Sunday Blues Jam 3-7pm

Bullhead Saloon, Four Lakes: Open Mic/Jam 5-8 PM

Captain Jacks, Sumner: Open Mic hosted by Lady Carter & the Gents 7 PM

Collector's Choice Restaurant (CCR), Snohomish: Acoustic Open Mic 7PM

Club Crow, Cashmere Jam Session 1st Sun each month, 7-10 PM

Conor Byrne, Seattle: Open Mic 8pm

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

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

The Boom Boom Rom at the Point Casino, Kingston: Duff's Rockin' Jam 7-10pm

El Sarape Cantina, Shelton: Open Band Jam 3rd Sun 4-8 PM

Cafe Racer, Seattle: The Foundation Open Jam 4th Sunday 7-9pm

Headworks Brewery, Enumclaw: Open Mic 6-8 PM

Joseppi's, Tacoma: Sun jam Session w/Mo Betta Band 6-9 PM

Lucky 7 Bar & Grill, Kirkland: Tommy Wall Sun Blues Jam 7 PM

Mirkwood Public House, Arlington: Open Jam 7-10 PM

O'Malley's Lounge, Olympia: Blues Jam w/The Pleasure Hounds 6-9 PM

Purdy's, Sumner: Jerry Miller Blues Jam 7 PM

Queen Anne Beer Hall, Seattle: Open Mic 8 PM

Twin Dragon, Duvall: Open Jam hosted by Doug McGrew 7 PM

Red Dog Saloon, Maple Valley: Open Jam w/The Walkie Tacos 6 PM

Warehouse West, Yakima: Open Mic/Jam hosted by Rod Giles Band 4-7 PM

MONDAY

Conor Byrne, Seattle: BlueGrass Acoustic Jam 8 PM

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

Royal Room, Seattle: Jazz Jam Session hosted by Thomas Marriott 9 PM

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

Badger Mountain Brewery, Wenatchee: North Central Washington Blues Jam (1st, 3rd & 5th Mondays) 6 to 9 PM.

Riverside Pub, Wenatchee: North Central Washington Blues Jam (2nd & 4th Mon) 7-10 PM

Emerald of Siam, Richland: Open Mic/Band showcase hosted by Barefoot Randy/Dirty River Entertainment 8pm (All Ages until 1045)

HD's Bar and Grill, Belfair: Joe Faker Jam 6pm

Headworks Brewery, Enumclaw: Open Mic 6PM

Jazz Bones, Tacoma: Jam Night 7-10pm

TUESDAY

Brother Don's, Bremerton: Jam w/Tim hall Band 7-10 PM (All Ages)

Café Racer, Seattle: Open Mic 1st & 3rd Tuesdays 7 PM

Capitol Cider, Seattle: Tues Blues Jam w/ John Pine Tree 6:30-8:30 PM

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

Elmers, Burien: Jam Night hosted by The Cory Wilds Band 8pm to 12 AM

Antique Sandwich Co., Tacoma: Open Mic 7-10 PM

Double J Saloon, Ll=ake City/ Seattle Open Mic 1st & 3rd Tue at 8:30 PM

Burien Eagles Jam w/Billy Shew 7-11 PM

The Garages, Lake Oswego, OR: Garages Blues Jam w/Pat Stillwell Band 7:30 PM

The Hidden Door, Shoreline: Open Mic 7 PM

Odin Brewery, Tacoma: Open Mic 7 PM

Oxford Saloon, Snohomish: Acoustic Open Mic Hosted by Jerry Battista 6 PM

Slippery Pig, Poulsbo: Monthly All Ages Open Mic 7 PM

Tweede's Café, North Bend: Open Mic 6:30-9:30 PM

Zeeks Pizza, Bellingham – Every 1st Tues Live Music Night 6-9 PM

WEDNESDAY

Acorn Brewery Edgewood Blues Jam 7 PM

Capitol Cider, Seattle: Jam Night 9 PM

Bethel Saloon, Pt Orchard: Open Mic 8 PM

Black Dog Arts Cafe, Snoqualmie: All-Ages Open Mic 7 PM

Black Lab Gallery, Everett: Open Mic hosted by Jeff Crookall 6:30-10 PM

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

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

Stars Bar and Grill, Federal Way: Linda Myers Wicked Wednesday Jam 8-11 PM

Darrell's Tavern, Shoreline: Open Mic 8:30-11 PM

Filling Station, Kingston: Open Mic 7 PM All Ages, Styles & Instruments Welcome

The Hidden Door, Shoreline: Open Jam 7 PM

Jules Mae's Saloon, Seattle: Jazz Open Mic 7 PM

Madison Ave Pub, Everett: Unbound Blues Jam 7:30-11 PM

Mirkwood Public House, Arlington: One Take Weekly Jam w/ Chris Eger & Richard Williams 8-11 PM

Penn Cove Brewing Company, Coupeville: 6 PM

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

Soundbite Cider, Everett: Open Mic 7PM

Stockton's, Maple Valley: Jam Night w/ Billy Shew 6-9 PM

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

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

Brickhouse, Vancouver, WA: Open Mic hosted by Right as Rain Entertainment 8:30 PM

Whit's End, Seattle: 2nd & 4th Thursday All ages Open Mic 8 to midnight

THURSDAY

192 Brewing Company, Kenmore: Open Mic 10 PM

Bent Bine Brew Co., Belfair: Open Mic 6-9 PM

The Blue Room, Bellingham: Open Mic 6-10pm All Ages

Bridgepress Cellars, Spokane: All Genre Jsam 7-10 PM

Cruisers, Post Falls ID: Open Mic/Jam Night 6-10 PM

Port Gardner Bay Winery, Everett: Open Mic 6:30-9:30 PM

Dawson's, Tacoma: Blues Jam w/Billy the Pocket 7-11 PM

Dog House, Seattle Jam w/Uptown All Stars 7:30pm

The Growler Guys, Lake City Way Seattle: Jazz Open Mic 7 PM

Jack-sons Sports Bar & Clubhouse, Yakima: Open Jam 8-11 PM

Looking Glass Coffee, Snohomish: Open Mic 2nd & 4th Thurs 7:00 PM

Lucky 7 Bar & Grill, Kirkland: Pro Jam 8PM

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

Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle: Blues Jam Last Thurs 8-11 PM

Slippery Pig Brewery, Poulsbo: Front Street Blues Review Night w/Thys Wallwork (All ages) 7-11 PM

Gordon & Purdy's Pub, Sumner: Outlaw Blues Jam w/Boogie Chillin' 7-11 PM

Stars Bar & Grill, Federal Way: Jam Night w/Billy Shew 8pm

The New Moon Craft Tavern, Pt Angeles: Blues Jam 7 PM

New Frontier Lounge, Tacoma: Open Mic hosted by Chuck Muller 7 PM

The Spot, West Seattle: Blues Night 6 PM

SnoTown Brewery, Snohomish: Open Mic 7 PM

San Juan Island Brewing Co, Friday Harbor: Open Mic 6-8 PM

Station 18, Seattle: Jazz Jam hosted by Kevin McCarthy Trio 7-11 PM (All Ages Until 10 PM)

Red Dog Saloon, Maple Valley: Open Music Jam hosted by Iron Stallion Band 7 PM

The Loft Pub, Victoria B.C.: Open Jam 7-11 PM

Maverick's, Lakeside, MT: Blues Jam Thurs 8:30 PM

The Valley, Tacoma: Open Mic hosted by Elizabeth Ashbrook 8 PM

Thirsty Badger, Lynden: Open Mic 7-11 PM

FRIDAY

Bryant Corner Cafe, Seattle: Open Mic 6:30 PM
 La Copa Café, Seattle: Victory Music Open Mic
 6:30-9:00 PM, All Ages
 Dreadknott Brewery, Monroe: Open Mic 7-10 PM

Kana Winery, Yakima: Open Mic 7-10 PM

SoulFood CoffeeHouse & Fair Trade Emporium Jazz
 Jam 7M (Last Fri)

Wicked Cider, Kennewick WA: Wicked Jamz/Open
 Mic Every Other Friday 6-10 PM

SATURDAY

The Spot, West Seattle: Open Mic 6 PM
 The Hidden Door, Shoreline: Open Mic 7 PM
 Kiss the Sky Books, Sultan: Open Mic 7 PM

Inland Empire Blues Society
 Keeping the Blues Alive in the Inland Empire



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Preview: Blues Vespers

Two exceptional year-end live blues shows in South Puget Sound!

By Eric Steiner

When I received Rev. Dave Brown's newest poem published in this issue, I also learned about two upcoming, special Blues Vespers shows this month in South Puget Sound.

On Sunday, December 18th at the Immanuel Presbyterian Church in Tacoma, Blues Vespers will host a special Christmas show featuring the Kim and Brian Band, which will feature their newest CD. The church is located at 901 J Street in Tacoma and Blues Vespers begins at 5 PM.

On Thursday, December 29th at the Spanish Ballroom at the McMenamin's Elks Temple, Ted Brown Music will sponsor Kim Field's Harmonica Showcase, featuring Mark Dufresne and Joel Astley, with Tim Sherman, Brady Kish, and David Hudson. Tickets for all ages are \$8 in advance, \$12 day of show, and doors will open at 6 PM

and the show will start at 7 PM. The Elks Temple is at 565 Broadway in Tacoma.

Please consider adding each of these special Blues Vespers presentation to your year-end blues calendar.

I have always appreciated Rev. Dave Brown's compassionate insights and his thoughtful original poetry, and exceptional musicianship, at each Blues Vespers presentation I have attended.

Don't forget to find Rev. Dave's "Thanksgiving" poem honoring the memories of Chad Stuart, Lissa Ramaglia and Buck England elsewhere in this issue!

Right: Kim Field

(Photo by Kat Rose Photography PDX)



Blues CD Reviews

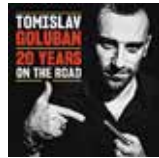
New releases from bluesmen Yates McKendree & Tomislav Goluban



Yates McKendree
Buchanan Lane
(Qualified Records)

When the legendary John Hiatt tells *Rolling Stone* magazine that your work on his album “Yates was our secret ingredient,” you know his debut record will be something special. Multi-instrumentalist and singer songwriter Yates McKendree is a Nashville scion who grew up in the Rock House studio run by his father, multi award-winning producer, engineer, and piano man Kevin McKendree. In January of 2020, the elder McKendree earned a Grammy™ Award for his role on Delbert McClinton’s *Tall Dark & Handsome*, so it was natural choice to name his album after their home on Buchanan Lane in suburban Franklin, Tennessee. The 13-song collection features original compositions Yates co-wrote with long-time McClinton collaborator Gary Nicholson. Two of Yates’ new instrumentals and a selection of deep cuts honor heroes of blues and soul whom he has studied since he began teaching himself to play guitar, bass, drums, and piano at three years old. The swinging rhumba on “Out Crowd” opens the set as a father and son pay homage to the classic 1965 Ramsey Lewis trio hit “The In Crowd.” McKendree then proclaims his dedication to traditional blues with a spot-on reading of B.B King’s “Ruby Lee,” and he then flexes his considerable muscles on the evocative 12 bar blues “No Justice,” delivering solid vocals and guitar, Hammond organ, bass, and drums on the track. He rounds up the Little Big Band for another gem from a lost R&B shouter on Fletcher Smith’s west coast jump blues “Brand New Neighborhood,” and McKendree demonstrates more devotion to blues guitar covering two T Bone Walker gems: “Papa Ain’t Salty,” and the crooning ballad “No Reason.” This impeccable debut album should launch Yates

McKendree further into the spotlight his young talent so richly deserves. Rick J Bowen



Tomislav Goluban
20 Years On The Road
(Blue Heart Records)

One of the treasured benefits of traveling the world playing music is you gather a wide circle of friends, like minded souls and collaborators on your journey. Croatian blues singer, songwriter and harmonica player, leader of his own band, blues educator, radio DJ, festival organizer and recording artist, the inexhaustible Tomislav (Tomi) Goluban celebrates two decades as a performer by bringing as many of those friends together as possible for his 14th studio album, *20 Years On The Road*. The music was recorded live in the studio using three different sets of musicians in Croatia and Austria along with eight guest vocalists from America who contributed original material. The Tobacco Road Blues Band steps up to help Goluban kick off the party with the ripping instrumental “Express Ride.” Naturally, he picked Chicago blues scion, and Blues Blast Award nominee, Skyler Rogers to trade call and response choruses with him on the “he done me wrong blues” of “Searching for My Baby.” Charismatic front man and soulful guitarist Mark Cameron beckons us to the dance floor during “Party Time Blues,” British vocalist Malaya Blues demonstrates her range on the contemplative Delta blues hybrid “Electric Lights.” Southern California singer songwriter Kelly Zirbes and Goluban collaborated on two songs for this project: First, the easy going celebration of the vagabond life “Hitting the Road Again” and second, a politically-charged plea for peace, “Everybody’s Fear.” Swamp pop king “Mac Daddy” Greg Martinez tantalizes with his smooth

tenor on the slinky rhumba “Disappear for Good,” and the Lone Star State lilt of Teresa James was a perfect choice to revamp “Speedin’ Train,” adding fuel to furnace of the fast-moving train beat. Nashville-based Crooked Eye Tommy throws down some whiskey soaked vocals on the snappy double shuffle “I Can’t Take It Anymore,” and Goluban and the Tobacco Road Blues Band close out set with a joyful rendition of “I Love You Baby,” from Sonny Terry, paying tribute to one of Tomi’s early heroes. Rick J Bowen

Editor’s Note: Next month, the Bluesletter will honor the memory of Oregon musician Boyd Small with a touching tribute (and photos) from Kathy Rankin, plus my overdue CD reviews of Corky Siegel’s and Buddy Guy’s latest CDs. Also, during the production of this issue, I learned that both Shemekia Copeland’s and Charlie Musselwhite’s latest CDs on Alligator Records received 2023 Grammy nominations. Shemekia Copeland’s *Done Come Too Far* is nominated in the Best Contemporary Blues Album Category and Charlie Musselwhite’s *Mississippi Son* is nominated in the Best Traditional Blues Album Category.

The Best Traditional Blues Album Grammy nominees are: *Heavy Load Blues* by Gov’t Mule, *The Blues Don’t Lie* by Buddy Guy, *Get On Board* by Taj Mahal & Ry Cooder, *The Sun Is Shining Down* by John Mayall, and *Mississippi Son* by Charlie Musselwhite

The Best Contemporary Blues Album Grammy nominees are *Done Come Too Far* by Shemekia Copeland, *Crown* by Eric Gales, *Bloodline Maintenance* by Ben Harper, *Set Sail* by the North Mississippi Allstars, and *Brother Johnny* by Edgar Winter.

I also like many nominees in the folk, Americana and roots categories and look forward to the awards show. Eric Steiner

Whom to Hire, Get in Touch

Send updates, additions & corrections to both Editor@wabluess.org and ericrichd@aol.com by the 10th!

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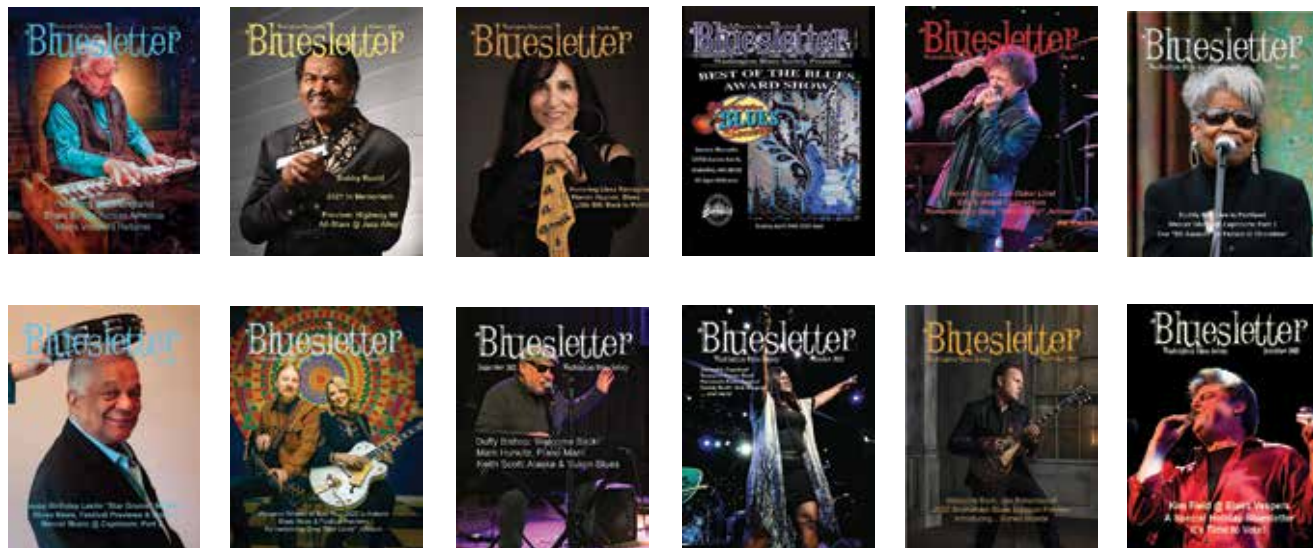
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The 2022 Bluesletter: A Look Back

Thank-You to Each Photographer, Writer, Artist & Reader for a Great Bluesletter Year



Time to Vote: Your 2023 Board of Directors

Please vote no later than the December blues bash for the 2023 Board of Directors

Courtesy of the Washington Blues Society

The 2023 Board of Directors nominations for the Washington Blues Society are in and the Bluesletter encourages current Washington Blues Society members to vote for the society's five elected positions on the Board of Directors no later than December Blues Bash.

The five Washington Blues Society volunteer Board positions are: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Bluesletter Editor.

For more information on suggested requirements for each position, please see the November 2019 Bluesletter online at www.wablues.org.

The current slate of nominees includes one new nominee, Polly O'Keary for Bluesletter Editor.

Washington Blues Society members may also write-in candidates for any position and votes will be tabulated during the

December Blues Bash.

Each elected volunteer Board member serves a one-year term.

In turn, the elected Board of Directors appoint the following volunteer Directors: Music Director, Membership Director, Education Director, Volunteer Director, Merchandise Director and Advertising Director.

To vote, circle one or all of the following (or submit the name of a write-in candidate).

President: Tony Frederickson

Vice President: Rick Bowen

Secretary: Marisue Thomas

Treasurer: Ray Kurth

Bluesletter Editor: Polly O'Keary

December 2022 Blues Bash Preview

Plus, a sneak peek at a very special Washington Blues Society show next month in Snohomish!

By Rick J. Bowen

The monthly Washington Blues Society Blues Bash continues with an in-person live event on Tuesday, December 13th at 7 PM at Aurora Borealis, 16708 Aurora Avenue North in Shoreline, Washington.

The Blues Bash features music from the Billy Appleton Band with a special opening act, the McPage & Powell duo. The monthly Blues Bash is presented free, and all ages are welcome. We will have a door prize raffle with prizes including tickets to Jazz Alley in Seattle and more. We encourage everyone to “Tip the Band,” in support of their volunteer performances.

Additionally, the Washington Blues Society is excited to announce by popular demand the addition of a second monthly Blues Bash on the 4th Tuesday of the month at CCR Sports and Entertainment in Snohomish in 2023. The first “Blues Bash II” will be Tuesday January 24th featuring music from the CD Woodbury Trio at 7 PM. Mark your calendars for two great Blues Bash events a month.

More about December bash performers:

Billy Appleton Band

The Billy Appleton Band is a Snohomish County, Washington-based band of local and nationally renowned veteran musicians. They have come together with one goal in mind: To perform southern rock and classic/modern blues based high energy rock featuring twin lead guitars at the absolute highest levels of musicianship. The five piece band is fronted by Billy Appleton on guitar and vocals with partner in crime guitarist Mark Benzion and the rhythm section of Larry Greenleaf on bass and Jon Sayre on drums, bolstered by Jeff Swanson on keyboards. They have been playing to appreciative audiences at many clubs and outdoor festival shows since May of 2019 in Western Washington and look



forward to entertaining their friends in the months and years to come.

McPage & Powell

Mary McPage & Jevon Powell have been making music together since 2003. McPage & Powell is just plain good! Purely acoustic music. No place to hide... No electric guitars, no drums. Great songs, great harmonies, entertaining and captivating. Their original compositions fuse Roots & Blues with Pop sensibilities. Their cover songs have been deconstructed, reassembled & remade entirely their own. McPage & Powell are not your typical duo... They are the core of a sometimes six piece full on, acoustic and electric band. Incorporating harmonica, acoustic bass, backing vocals & percussion. Mary McPage is a Washington Blues Society Best of the Blues Award winner, taking home Performer of the Year honors in 2009 at the BB Awards.



Top: The Billy Appleton Band
(Photo by Byrnes)

Above: Mary McPage & Jevon Powell
(Photo by Mary McPage)

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Formatted from the Congressional Record by Washington Blues Society Bluesletter Editor Eric Steiner



December 30, 2021 CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — *Extensions of Remarks* E1401

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 30, 2021

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my colleagues, Congressman CHUY GARCIA, Congressman CASTEN, Congressman KRISHNAMOORTHY, Congressman KINZINGER, Congresswoman ROBIN KELLY, Congressman SCHNEIDER, Congresswoman BUSTOS, Congressman RUSH, Congresswoman MARIE NEWMAN, Congressman Bill FOSTER, Congresswoman UNDERWOOD, and Congressman QUIGLEY, to honor the 50th anniversary of Alligator Records.

Chicago blues music has its roots deep in the Mississippi Delta and was carried north in the Great Migration of 1916 through 1970 by the millions of African Americans who migrated to northern industrial cities in search of good jobs and to escape from Jim Crow racism.

Chicago's blues community nurtured thousands of musicians and dozens of record labels, and the city became the world capital of blues and eventually gave birth to Alligator Records and the rich, soulful Chicago blues heritage and culture that we know and love today.

With nothing but his love of the blues and entrepreneurial spirit, Bruce Iglauer founded Alligator Records in 1971 at the age of 23, using all his savings to record his favorite Chicago blues band, Hound Dog Taylor and the HouseRockers, although the band had no national presence, no booking agent, no manager, no publicist, and played almost entirely in tiny neighborhood clubs on the South and West Sides of Chicago. Beginning with this one album, Iglauer built a blues record label that is now celebrating its 50th birthday.

Today, Alligator Records is the largest independent blues label in the world, with over 350 albums and an artist roster that ranges in age from 22 to 78, and has won three Grammy Awards and an astonishing 48 nominations, as well as over 150 Blues Music Awards and over 115 Living Blues Awards.

Alligator Records has been a driving force in support of Chicago blues and blues music worldwide, and a glowing example of our country's rich tradition of musical and entrepreneurial spirit. Now, my colleagues in the House of Representatives and I honor Alligator Records on 50 years of business and celebrates the American cultural legacy of Chicago blues music.

Together we urge the United States Government to take all necessary steps to preserve and advance the art form of Chicago blues music; recommit itself to ensuring that recording labels like Alligator Records and their artists receive fair protection under the copyright laws of the United States for their contributions to culture in the United States; and reaffirm the status of Chicago blues as a unique national treasure.

2023 Washington Blues Society Best of the Blues Award Nominations Now Open!



2023 Washington Blues Society Best of the Blues “BB Awards” Nomination Ballot

All nomination ballots must be received at our PO Box or by a Board member no later than Tuesday, January 10, 2023 (January Blues Bash).

Please nominate one nominee in each category. For more information, please refer to the December 2019 Bluesletter article online at www.wablues.org.

Mark DuFresne Male Vocalist

Blues Female Vocalist

Electric Blues Guitar

Slide Blues Guitar

Acoustic Blues Guitar

Blues Bass

Chris Leighton Blues Drummer

Paul Green Blues Harmonica

Blues Piano/Keyboard

Blues Horn

Blues Instrumentalist - Other

Best Band

Best Little Bill
& The Blue Notes Traditional Act

Best Solo/Duo

Best New Blues Act

Blues Performer

Blues Songwriter

Washington Blues Recording

Best Blues Club

Best Blues Jam

Blues Writer

Best Blues Photograph

Best Blues Graphic

Best Blues DJ

Keeping the Blues Alive

Blues Hall of Fame (Individual)

Regional Blues Festival

Community Blues Festival/Event

Lifetime Achievement

Non-Festival Blues Event



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KEEPING THE BLUES ALIVE AWARD

