

Bluesletter

Washington Blues Society January 2023



Happy Blues Year 2023!
Best of Luck to our IBC Entrants
Blues News & Reviews

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Hi Blues Fans,

The start of a new year brings us many new and exciting opportunities! One of those is we are adding a second monthly Blues Bash! We had a long and successful run at Collector's Choice Restaurant and Old Man Brewing up in Snohomish and really enjoyed our time there.

But, due to the requirements of a grant that we received, we had to move our monthly Second Tuesday Blues Bash down to the Aurora Borealis in King County. It has been wildly successful and well attended, but we found that the majority of our members and guests who were regulars at our old Snohomish venue didn't follow us to the new location, or only came occasionally. However, we still have good attendance of members and other guests at our new location. This is due to our large membership base, and that they are spread out all over the tri-county area, and the Pacific Northwest! So due to continued growth and wanting to share more fun events we are adding a "Fourth Tuesday Blues Bash!"

This Fourth Tuesday Blues Bash will feature a different line up of talent, a different Blues Bash host, but all of the traditional activities of our successful Second Tuesday Blues Bash! We hope to have many of our former attendees return and hopefully many more come and enjoy this new event at our old location!

This new monthly event will feature Mary McPage as our Blues Bash host! She is a long-time member of the Washington Blues Society, and held several different positions on the Board of Directors as well as a frequent volunteer at many of our events. She recently approached me with a desire to return in some capacity, and this seems like a perfect fit! Don't worry, Bear Drury will still be our Second Tuesday host, still be involved in many different activities and needs of the Washington Blues Society, and being the "Blues Warrior" that he is, I know we will see him out in Snohomish and at other events!

Each Blues Bash on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month will have different musical acts, CD and ticket raffles, and lots of fun! We suspect that many of our former regulars will return and who knows, we may even create a few more "Blues Warriors" who attend both events, doubling their chances of winning tickets to upcoming shows, new release CDs and much more during our popular free blues raffles!

I've reached my word limit this month, and I'll have even more new opportunities for you next month! Be sure to check out both of the Blues Bash previews in this issue, and get out and support live music!



Tony Frederickson
President, Washington Blues Society
Board of Directors Blues Foundation (2017-2019)

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This month, the Bluesletter sends our 2023 International Blues Challenge entrants, **Eric's Maine Connection** and **Lonesome & Pine to Memphis!** The issue also previews two very special shows at Seattle's Jazz Alley featuring the Elvin Bishop Big Fun Trio and the Highway 99 All-Stars, celebrates this year's Keeping the Blues Alive Award recipients, and encourages readers to celebrate 33 years of live blues at the Salmon Bay Eagles in Seattle's historic Ballard neighborhood. We also honor the memories of Dave Nichols and Boyd Small, and thank the Rolling Stones for some great Blues Bash giveaway swag thanks to the Alliance for Lifetime Income, the sponsor of the 2021 and 2022 No Filter tours!

Above: The Rolling Stones
(2017 Tour Photo by Dave Hogan)

Cover: Eric's Maine Connection
(Photo by Gordy Mitchell)

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FEBRUARY DEADLINES

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

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Editorial 5PM on 1/5/2023
Please send to editor@wablues.org

Camera-Ready Ad Art 5PM on 12/5/2023
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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) and 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.

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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,

This issue went to press just prior to our December Blues Bash. At that meeting, members elected the blues society's 2023 Board of Directors: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Bluesletter Editor.

I hope members elected Polly O'Keary to be the next Bluesletter editor. I met with Polly "during the deadline dash" and offered

to provide assistance in this new position should she take on this opportunity in addition to her doctoral studies at the University of Washington.

This month, I wanted to specifically thank Rick J. Bowen and Malcolm "Yard Dog" Kennedy for material that I thought was of interest to our readers. I had wanted to run my interview with long-time volunteer Rocky Nelson, and hope to do so in a future issue this year.

An Attitude of Gratitude

I wanted to thank our 2023 International Blues Challenge entrants, Eric's Maine Connection and Lonesome Pines, for their contributions to the first of two Blues Bashes this month! This issue will represent the Washington Blues Society in Memphis, along with the Washington Blues Society's Best Self-Produced CD, *Stuck Inside* from Eric's Maine Connection.

I also wanted to thank the Alliance of Lifetime Income, the sole sponsor of the Rolling Stones' 2021 and 2022 No Filter tours. The Alliance sent the Washington Blues Society a box of tour swag that will be included in our monthly, free raffle ticket giveaways at each of our two monthly Blues Bashes. For more information on our first-ever two Blues Bashes in a single month, please see the preview page.

Finally, I wanted to thank each writer, photographer and proofreader

who worked on my final issue as editor. My last day as volunteer editor was December 31, 2022, and I look forward to contributing articles, stories (and that interview with long-time volunteer and former Washington Blues Society Secretary Rocky Nelson) this next year. I also look forward to writing grants for the society, too.

Happy 40th Anniversary, Lee Oskar Harmonicas!

I'll close my final Letter from the Editor with a hearty congratulations to Lee Oskar Harmonicas, which is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year. Lee Oskar's music was the sound track to my youth, particularly with "Why Can't We Be Friends?", "Low Rider," and "All Day Music." Turn to the back cover for Lee Oskar Harmonica's 40th anniversary ad, which includes new, eco-friendly packaging for each of his signature harmonicas!

All best for a better blues year in 2023!

Eric Steiner, Editor

Washington Blues Society Bluesletter

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

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1/25 Tom Buenger and Rafael Tranquilino

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1/7 The Seattle Houserockers 1/14 Joel Astley Band
1/28 Dana Osborne Band

Saturday 1/21 UFC #283 \$10 6-11

Thoughts on Dave Nichols

“... he could play blues, funk, jazz, really anything...”

By Mark Hurwitz

The Washington blues community suffered a major loss on October 7, 2022, with the passing of Dave Nichols. Dave was a skilled musician and a kind and gracious human being, and I feel fortunate that I had the opportunity to play many shows with him over the past few years.

I first became aware of Dave shortly after I moved to Gig Harbor from Seattle in 2016 and walked into the Stonegate on South Tacoma Way one Sunday afternoon. Dave hosted a weekly country jam there. I didn't get to play as he did not have a keyboard and I wasn't toting mine, and I spent some time listening to the music, and really enjoyed Dave's tasteful playing.

I made a mental note that I would like to play with him sometime. I ran into Dave a few times at local music venues, and he always had a smile and warm hello.

When my band needed a sub guitarist for a gig, I reached out to Dave and finally got the chance to play with him. Dave's versatility as a guitarist - he could play blues, funk, jazz, really anything - made him a great fit. I also asked him to sing a few songs, and I loved his choices, which ranged from Merle Haggard ("Swinging Doors") and Albert King ("Crosscut Saw") to Delbert McClinton ("Mr. Smith is Back in Town").

Not longer after that, my regular guitarist cut

back on live performing because of health reasons, so there were more opportunities to play with Dave. I also discovered that he was an outstanding bass player. As I began to experiment with a no-guitar line-up, I could turn to Dave to play bass.

When the local music scene first began emerging from the COVID-19 shutdown, there were more opportunities to play in a small group format rather than with a full band. I got to play a couple of duo shows with Dave at McMenamins Anderson School in Bothell. With just the two of us having to play and sing for three hours, my appreciation for Dave's versatility and musicianship grew even more.

When Dave first went into the hospital, he contacted me to cancel on a couple of gigs he was scheduled to play with me. He initially seemed optimistic about getting back to playing soon, but sadly, that was not to happen.

Like many of the best musicians I know, Dave was a humble human being who seemed genuinely touched and surprised when you complimented him on his playing.

So, he might've been embarrassed by the outpouring of love on Facebook that followed the news of his passing.

He clearly meant a lot to a lot of people as a musician, but even more so as a friend.

At our recent show we played the John Hiatt/



Buddy Guy tune "Feels Like Rain" in Dave's honor.

It was a song I learned from him, and one of his favorites. It made me realize how much I'll miss hearing him play guitar.

RIP Dave Nichols.

Above: Dave Nichols (right) on bass.
(Photo Courtesy of Mark Hurwitz)

Editor's Note: Please visit the following link for Dave Nichols' obituary which first appeared in the Tacoma News-Tribune on October 27, 2022:

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/tribnet/name/dave-nichols-obituary?id=36911249>

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Celebrating 2023 Keeping the Blues Alive Award Recipients

The Blues Foundation honors blues achievement through the annual KBA luncheon in Memphis!

By Eric Steiner (award copy courtesy of The Blues Foundation)

I've been very lucky to serve on the review committee of the Keeping Alive Awards process at The Blues Foundation. Last year marked my 10th anniversary on the committee, and I missed this year's annual conference call as I did not have telephone access on my first Princess Cruise back across the Atlantic.

I also will miss this year's Keeping the Blues Alive Award luncheon, which I consider one of the hottest tickets during the International Blues Challenge, as I'm staying home to help family after my granddaughter's open heart surgery at Children's Hospital in Seattle in mid-December. I look forward to returning to Memphis next year!

The Blues Foundation will celebrate the Keeping the Blues Alive Award recipients during IBC week with a ceremony and brunch on Friday, January 27, 2023, at 10:30 am at the DoubleTree Hotel in downtown Memphis.

Please read about each of this year's recipients courtesy of The Blues Foundation.



 Little Village

Left: Jim Pugh

THE LITTLE VILLAGE FOUNDATION

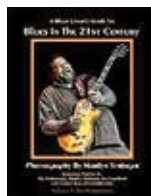
The Little Village Foundation, formed as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit in 2015 by Grammy-award-winning keyboardist Jim Pugh, focuses on seeking out, recording, and promoting artists whose music has not yet been discovered outside of their communities. Little Village artists all share a common goal of exposing their music to audiences

they would not have otherwise reached without LVF support. All LVF artists are provided with the tools to launch a successful album at no cost. Notably, the LVF artists also own all their intellectual property, unlike artists signed to a traditional record label. Little Village arranges to record the artists, coordinates with the artist on album artwork, manufactures one thousand CDs for the artists to sell or give away as they please, hires a publicist to promote the project, and secures online distribution for the recording – all at no cost or indebtedness for the artists. Donations to Little Village cover all expenses; the artists retain one hundred percent of the proceeds from CD sales and do not need to reimburse Little Village for any costs or share of CD sales. Once an artist sells the initial thousand CDs provided by Little Village, they can continue to press as many additional copies as they like, paying only the actual cost of the CDs directly to the manufacturer. Among the fifty-one recordings released by Little Village to date, the majority are blues related, including BMA nominee Wee Willie Walker's comeback album and later live recording, posthumous releases from Paul DeLay and Ron Thompson, and fresh recordings by Junior Watson, Diunna Greenleaf, Chris Cain, and Kevin Burt. CDs nominated for recent Blues Music Awards include albums by Tia Carroll, Memphis Sounds, and Sonny Green; and a special release from United By Music, an organization that supported rising blues star Christone "Kingfish" Ingram well before his international breakout success. The Little Village Foundation offers previously unheard-of opportunities for artists and is very deserving of this Keeping the Blues Alive award.



JOHN GUREGIAN

For more than forty years John Guregian has been spinning the blues on his radio show, Blues Deluxe, hosted on WUML-FM in Lowell, Massachusetts. Starting in 1979, when Guregian was still a student, the show aired for four hours on Saturdays. This led to a stint as blues director for station, along with subsequent work emceeing many blues festivals and club shows. John has invited dozens of blues artists to be interviewed on Blues Deluxe, including John Hammond Jr, Luther Allison, Chris Thomas King, Johnny Winter, Kim Simmonds, Ronnie Earl, Walter Trout, Selwyn Birchwood, Kat Riggins, Coco Montoya, Rick Estrin, Joe Louis Walker, JJ Grey, Chris Cain, Curtis Salgado, Jimmy Johnson, James Harmon, and many others. Blues Deluxe is now on the air every Saturday from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. at www.wuml.org. In 2020, when Covid hit, Guregian expanded his interview schedule and now has live online interviews every week with artists around the world. Just a small sample of those recently interviewed includes Fiona Boyes from Australia, JT Laretson from Norway, and Ian Parker from the U.K. With over four decades on the radio, and a deep commitment to helping advance the visibility and careers of artists from around the country and throughout the world, Guregian is a most worthy recipient of a Keeping the Blues Alive award.



MARILYN STRINGER

Marilyn Stringer is among the most prolific photographers currently documenting the blues. An avid music fan all her life, she began covering the blues in earnest in 2006 and has since become the head photographer for some of the most prominent blues festivals in America. Her work promotes the genre worldwide through various magazines, promoters, record labels, venues, and big-name performers. Stringer estimates that she has covered more than five thousand performances over the years through her extensive travels to festivals, events, and live music clubs. Meanwhile, she has also published three books in her Blues In The 21st Century series. The proceeds from these works have been donated to various charities and organizations supporting the Blues and Blues artists. Blues In The 21st Century Volume I explored the careers of more than one hundred performers with interviews and photos. At the same time, Volume II covered ten years of images from the Portland Waterfront Blues Festival. Volume III, specifically put together during the COVID shutdown to raise money for The Blues Foundation's COVID Relief Fund, covered the Blues Music Awards performances and related events in Memphis. She recently started her fourth book, Blues Souls, which will feature black & white photos of renowned blues performers. Notably – and in keeping with the generous spirit that she has demonstrated for years – the future proceeds of Blues Souls have been earmarked for The Blues Foundation's HART Fund. Along with her books, Stringer

has worked closely for many years with The Blues Festival Guide. Her photos appeared on six of the last seven covers of that publication. Working with Back To The Roots magazine, she has earned seven covers over the last six years. Other leading blues publications that rely on Stringer's talent include Blues Music Magazine, Blues Blast Magazine, and Living Blues. When asked about her attitude toward her work, Stringer says, "If I am going to take these photos, I am going to share them with the world. I want the blues to stay alive and keep the excitement for these performers going. And I don't just photograph the main person in the band; I make sure I get photos of all the performers. They are all important to me!" Such sentiments and her incredible body of work make it clear that Stringer deserves a 2023 Keeping the Blues Alive Award.



THE SIERRE BLUES FESTIVAL

In 1995, capitalizing on his deep passion for the blues, Swiss native Silvio Caldelari established the Blues Bar music club in Sierre, Switzerland, a small mountain town known as "the city of the sun." Fourteen years later, in 2009, Caldelari and a group of dedicated volunteers further strengthened the blues scene in Switzerland by founding the Swiss Blues Society. After affiliating their new organization with The Blues Foundation, Caldelari's group boldly decided to launch the first-ever Sierre Blues Festival. Since that inaugural event, the three-day festival has steadily grown in popularity, and today hosts internationally renowned artists such as the Mannish Boys, Ana Popovic, Playing for Change, Shemekia Copeland, Marco

Pandolfi, Janiva Magness, Eric Gales, and Shakura S'Aida. In 2022, the 13th version of the Sierre Blues Festival attracted an estimated 11,000 fans by featuring popular Italian headliner Zucchero, along with regional and international talent such as Sara Zaccarelli's Nu Band, Guts, One Rusty Band, Nigeria's Justina Lee Brown, and Emir Kosturicas & The No Smoking Orchestra. North America was well represented with a lineup that included Larkin Poe, Mike Zito & Kat Riggins, and Sugaray Rayford. Every year, the Sierre Blues Kids share the stage with blues luminaries, building on the festival's Blues in the Schools program launched by Michael "Hawkeye" Herman and other notable blues educators. Through the years, Caldelari has continued to work with European blues leaders to nurture the European Blues Union and its partnership with The Blues Foundation. As a result of these successes and Caldelari's energy, passion, and collaborative spirit, the Sierre Blues Festival has attracted a wide range of partners and sponsors, including Canton of Valais, the City of Sierre, Loterie Romande, the La Nouvelliste newspaper, Rhone FM radio, and a constellation of more than sixty national and local businesses, ranging from hotels and nightclubs to major Swiss and European companies. In 2020, the European Blues Union honored Caldelari with a "Blues Behind the Scenes Award," recognizing his decades of work promoting and celebrating blues music in Switzerland. Given the longevity and ongoing success of the Sierre Blues Festival and the event's importance to the larger European blues scene, the festival is most certainly worthy of a 2023 Keeping the Blues Alive Award.

(Continued on page 10)

Celebrating 2023 KBA Recipients (continued)

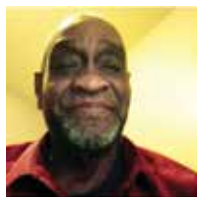
Congratulations to each awardee!



FRANKY BRUNEEL

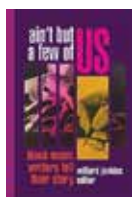
In 1982, at age 15, Franky Bruneel started his blues radio show, *Back to the Roots*. His show ran on several local and national radio stations throughout Belgium, his native country, and it grew in popularity. In 1991, Franky began organizing Blues concerts and created a link that brought American artists to Europe for short tours. For over 30 years, Franky has been a tour organizer and made European bookings for many blues artists, including Carey Bell, Rod Piazza & The Mighty Flyers, Bob Corritore & The Rhythm Room All-Stars, Kim Wilson's Blues Revue, Mud Morganfield, and many more. In 1995, Franky created a modest fanzine named after his old radio show, *Back To The Roots*. It contained Blues news and tips for new CDs. There was no Blues magazine in Belgium, and people started subscribing, and other Blues writers joined the team. What began as a radio show and a small fanzine grew into a full-fledged, glossy, 64-page, full-color Blues magazine. The magazine currently produces five issues yearly, featuring Blues News, interviews, and reviews of books, CDs, and DVDs. It has the most extensive Blues concert calendar in the Benelux, the geographic area encompassing three neighboring countries: Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg. 'Back To The Roots' is now the only printed Blues magazine in the Dutch language and is read in Belgium and the Netherlands. It is also one of the most important Blues magazines in Europe. Franky Bruneel has acted as a consultant for festivals, helped negotiate recording agreements, and has released three compilation albums on the Back

To The Roots label. His 40 years of work in the blues as a DJ, writer, photographer, editor, and publisher of his own blues magazine, website, and record label, as well as his direct work with blues artists, make him a valued resource in the worldwide blues community.



RON WYNN

The Grammy-nominated blues journalist Ron Wynn has been writing about music for more than forty years. A brilliant writer and intellectual, as well as a living encyclopedia of the blues, Wynn began his career in the 1980s as the chief music critic for the Memphis Commercial-Appeal, where he profiled both national and regional blues greats, ranging from B.B. King and Buddy Guy to Jim Dickinson and Bobby Rush. Wynn went on to chronicle the careers of important blues artists for Boston's Bay State Banner, Connecticut's Bridgeport Post-Telegram, the Memphis Star, and Nashville's City Paper. He currently writes for the Nashville Scene, the Tennessee Tribune, the Tennessee Jazz and Blues Society, and Jazz Times, among other publications and websites. Wynn took part in fellow Memphis journalism legend Robert Gordon's documentary, *Muddy Waters: Can't Be Satisfied*, and was interviewed for the 1994 film, *Rhythm, Country & Blues*. His liner notes for *From Where I Stand—The Black Experience in Country Music* received a Grammy nomination in 1998, and, in 2005, he contributed writing for the Grammy-winning compilation album, *Night Train to Nashville, Vol 1*. Wynn has made countless appearances on panels, at conferences, and in concert programs, and has contributed to three books, including *Ain't But a Few of Us: Black Music Writers Tell Their Story*, slated



for publication in December 2022. Since 1994, he has also worked as a beloved DJ, leading a variety of blues, soul, and gospel radio shows. Along with writing about famous blues artists, Wynn has championed up-and-coming musicians, and has also told the tales of the songwriters, producers, promoters, and others whose work tends to stay behind the scenes. Overall, he has had a remarkable career and penned many thousands of compelling pieces.



BLUE FRONT CAFE

Located on Highway 49 in Bentonia, Mississippi, the Blue Front Café has been the home of the great "Bentonia School" blues tradition since 1948, when Jimmy "Duck" Holmes' family first opened the Café. During the Blue Front Café's earliest years, it regularly featured performances from the likes of Henry Stuckey and Skip James, both of whom became musical mentors to Holmes. Today, the café is still open daily and presents live blues performances every weekend, making it the oldest continually operating juke joint in the United States. The Blue Front Café is in an incredibly colorful and historic locale—well maintained and welcoming, but essentially unchanged for more than seventy years in its location across from the town's railroad tracks. As the headquarters of the free Bentonia Blues Festival, which Holmes started in 1972 and has run ever since, the Café has become a beacon for blues fans from around the world. The beloved juke joint is also the home of its own annual anniversary celebration—a smaller festival held every September. Holmes, now 74, is regarded as a living blues legend and the leading practitioner of the distinct Ben-

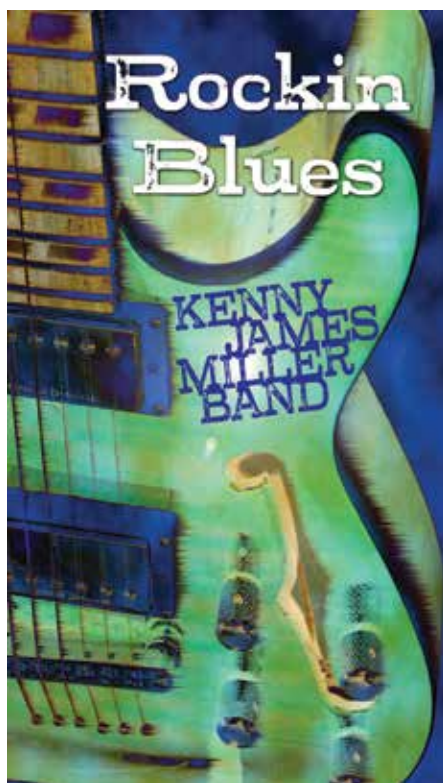
tonia style. A Mississippi Blues Trail Marker and series of videos shot at the Café for the Black Key's Mississippi hill country-inspired album, Delta Kream, have put even more focus on the Blue Front as a musical mecca, and a perfect citadel of authentic, enduring blues.



TEDDY'S JUKE JOINT

Lloyd "Teddy" Johnston, proprietor of Teddy's Juke Joint, will tell you he's only ever had one address. It's here, at the end of a dirt road off Highway 61—one of the last remaining juke joints on the Chitlin' Circuit. Teddy was born in this shotgun shack in the thick woods north of Baton Rouge. After touring the country in the 50s and the 60s as a DJ, he returned to Zachary, Louisiana in the early 70s to expand his childhood home into a bar. He allowed gospel groups to practice in the building, but when they began to form blues bands of their own and needed a place to perform, Teddy's Bar & Lounge became Teddy's Juke Joint. By the late 1970s, blues musicians from around the Delta and the World lined up to perform at Teddy's. A visit to Teddy's Juke Joint is like stepping into the past. It's like walking back into 1979. Once a little shotgun house, Teddy's has evolved into an "Authentic Louisiana Juke Joint." On the walls, you'll find old photographs, bar signs, license plates, and relics from the past. Teddy is a "Slim Harpo Ambassador" recipient of the Baton Rouge Blues Foundation and other notable recognitions by local and worldwide publications. Teddy sits behind his music throne, spinning the best of rhythm and blues, and

"Nancy's Kitchen" is always open for some of the best food you'll ever put in your mouth. The club books world-famous and home Blues acts 2-4 nights per week, and classic spins the rest of the time. With just one visit, you will feel the warmth and hospitality of Teddy's and will be sure to return.



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Like a Rolling Stone!

Special thanks to the Alliance for Lifetime Income for some great Washington Blues Society Blues Bash swag!

By Eric Steiner

When I last saw the Rolling Stones at Seattle's CenturyLink Field in 2019, I picked up a colorful and fanciful bandana after signing up on an email list to learn more about annuities by the Alliance for Lifetime Income, the tour's sponsor.

It was a very memorable show, and I'm glad the set list included my favorite Rolling Stones songs, "Beast of Burden," "Tumbling Dice" and "Honky Tonk Women."

At my daughter's wedding later that year, I wrapped that bandana around a boot that covered my broken foot as I wanted guests not to focus on me hobbling around.

I was very lucky to lead her around the dance floor near the end of the reception, boot, bandana, and all.

Fast forward to the band's 60th anniversary tour last year. According to Concerts West AEG, the European tour hosted 14 sold out shows, welcomed over 710,000 fans, and grossed \$120M.

Yes, that's millions.

The Summer 2022 tour began in June in Madrid, played two dates in London at Hyde Park, returned to Europe and ended in August in Berlin.

I'd like to think of this tour as a far cry from the Stones' early days 60 years ago at the Marquee Club in London.

During the production of this issue, I also learned that Britain's Royal Mint has released new five-pound commemorative coins celebrating six decades of the Rolling Stones, "'62-'22."

I emailed the Alliance for Lifetime Income and asked for an extra bandana from the 2019 tour to give to long-time Washington Blues Society volunteer Rocky Nelson.

Long story short: A month after I wrote that email, the Alliance sent me a big box of great stuff from the 2021 No Filter Tour,



as well as an informative article about planning for retirement, "7 Tips for Living the Full Life Like the Rolling Stones."

I think the article imparts some pretty good advice and encourages readers to learn how the Stones have followed these seven paths in 60 years as working musicians.

1. Keep changing with the times. The Stones dabbled in disco, were in heavy rotation on MTV, and played one of the earliest rock concerts broadcast online. In 1994!
2. Time is on your side, especially if you're still in your 50s (in terms of saving for retirement).
3. The show must go on, especially when faced with adversity.
4. Do the numbers, plan for the future, and find something bigger than yourself.
5. Be open to new ideas and focus on what's next.
6. Adopt a regimen for success that incorporates health, gratitude, and exercise.
7. Don't quit. I think that's self-explanatory, but a good reminder just to "keep on keepin' on."

The full article is online at <https://www.protectedincome.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/7-Tips-for-Living-the-Full-Life.pdf>. The article not only taught me something new, but also offered some

pretty good reminders on the importance of planning for the future (even though I'll celebrate my 65th birthday next July).

Full disclosure: I have had a recent, positive experience with an annuity.

Two years ago, I redeemed an annuity from my retirement savings to help pay part of the down payment for my new home on Whidbey Island. The transaction took a little longer than I had expected, but in the end, it worked out fine thanks in part to some pretty good communication channels established by the annuity holder, my bank, and real estate agent. I was very, very lucky.

Coming to a Blues Bash near you in 2023 will be some pretty exciting gift bags from the 2021 No Filter tour by "the world's greatest rock and roll band" that include t-shirts, COVID-19 masks with the band's logo, drink koozees, colorful bandanas, collapsible shot glasses and Rolling Stones-branded hand sanitizer.

The Alliance for Lifetime income is a non-profit educational organization based in Washington, D.C., that creates awareness and educates Americans about the value and importance of having protected lifetime income in retirement.

For more information: <https://www.protectedincome.org/about-us/>

Remembering Boyd Small (1960-2022)

"Boyd lives on in all our hearts forever..."

By Kathy Rankin

Boyd Small passed away peacefully in his sleep on August 2, 2022, after a battle with early-onset dementia for several years. He remained happy and played music when he could.

"Boyd's huge personality, a great sense of humor, will be missed," said soulmate Eloise Donovan. "We all knew Boyd as a kind man with a beautiful soul. Boyd lives on in all our hearts forever, but we miss him so much!"

Boyd's friends and family gathered on September 11, 2022, to celebrate his life. Lucas Small, Boyd's son, sang and played guitar. His mother, Anita Donk, was also present.

"Lucas did not fall far from the tree as his exceptional vocal ability was in a similar vein to his father's," said Music Millennium's Terry Currier. "It was a highlight of the day."

Lucas shares Boyd's good looks!

Andy Strange, Henry Cooper, Dennis Ayres, Randy Haines, Julie Strange, and others played that day at the Trinity Vineyards in Salem, Oregon, a beautiful place.

"Boyd was smiling down on us," said Eloise.

Boyd's longtime friend Leon Knappwrote Boyd's eulogy and Eloise shared a heartfelt poem as she held back tears and struggled through each word. Drummer and vocalist Boyd Small earned five out of six Muddy Awards for Best Drums, a 1995 Cascade Blues Association Hall of Fame Inductee for Best Drums, recorded three critically acclaimed albums, including two with the nine-piece Boyd Small Band entitled "This Time No Lies," "So Easy," "Diamond Boy," and he recorded one with his four-piece band titled "Boyd Small Four + One."

In 2005, Boyd brought a new collaboration with Monti Amundson and Rouser Europe for the release of "Something Happened to Our Love." Small also co-founded Cool

Buzz, an alternative roots and modern blues record label.

He co-produced albums for both Dutch and American Artists, including Monti Amundson, Jim Wallace, Drippin' Honey, and the Cuban Heels.

Later, Boyd was the band leader in his new venture, the Boyd Small Big Band. Small toured in 1997 with Monti Amundson and subsequently moved to Amsterdam and joined the Benelux blues scene. From 2007 to 2013,

Boyd established himself as a singer, drummer, and producer with his Dutch band.

In 2014, Boyd Small returned to touring and released "More Love and Trouble," featuring Monti Amundson, Josh Fulero, Roelof Meijering, Arthur Ebeling, Kai Straus, and Marc T.

Terry Currier recalled meeting Boyd Small.

"When Henry Cooper moved to Portland from Eugene, he played guitar in the Explorers," he said.

"Henry introduced me to Boyd Small and Boyd admired Henry's guitar work. After the Explorers broke up, Henry and Boyd went on to form the Los Falcons."

Eventually, Boyd moved to Portland to join Henry along with another Eugene transplant, Andy Strange. They became the popular Terraplanes and included Eugene guitarist Jimmy Cochran (later replaced by Rockin' Razorbacks guitarist Chris Miller). The Terraplanes were a mainstay at the fabled Southeast Portland live music venue, the Belmont Inn. The Terraplanes stayed together for 11 years. Cory Wheeler later replaced Chris Miller.

Henry Cooper spoke fondly about Boyd Small.

"At 22, Boyd was already a talented and



educated musician," said Henry.

"He studied percussion with the legendary Charles Dowd at the University of Oregon. He also played country music on the weekends. Boyd was particularly fond of an old Johnny "Guitar" Watson and Larry Williams LP I had, and we wore that record out."

"We formed a band called the Milkmen with Randy Haines on guitar, and vocals and Carl Lohse, then later Michael Miller, on bass, me on guitar, and harp vocals, and Boyd on drums, and vocals," continued Henry. "The Milkmen were a good-time party/dance band, and we were always working. Boyd, a great lead singer, harmonizes so well, he earned the nickname "Harmony Man." Later, they formed the Los Falcons."

"It was New Years' Eve 1986," recalled Henry. "The Los Falcons were hired to play at the Pine Street Theater in Portland."

Michael Quinn of Monqui Productions needed a backup band for Screamin' Jay Hawkins: The Lost Falcons with Boyd, Andy Strange, John Barley, and myself. I'm very thankful he thought of us! After that amazing night, The Los Falcons were Jay Hawkins' backing band for many great adventures. With Hawkins, we played the legendary Palomino Club and The Whiskey, touring Europe and playing throughout Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, Switzerland, the Netherlands, and Finland. I could write a book about it. That was the beginning of Boyd's fame in Europe lasting until this day. RIP old pal, Love Ya!"



Page 12: Graphics from Monqui Presents & the Belmont Inn's websites
(Downloads by Eric Steiner)

Above: Boyd Small at the 2018 Safeway Waterfront Blues Festival in Portland, Oregon
(Photo by Kathy Rankin)



Salmon Bay Eagles Celebrates 33 Years of Blues!

Great shows this month at Seattle's longest-running venue for live blues music!

By Malcolm "Yard Dog" Kennedy

Mark your calendar right now for Thursday January 19th and make plans to be at the 33rd anniversary of blues at Salmon Bay Eagles featuring the pinnacle of R&B, Red House. This event is also a membership drive, and the doors are open to the public to attend.

Salmon Bay Eagles, F.O.E. 2141, has been supporting the blues in Ballard now for 33 years. It all started out back in December of 1989 when the late Jimie Jean Tuttle along with then Worthy President Dave Duff went to 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 on sax, among others, sitting in whenever he could make it.

This then moved to Thursday nights and evolved from a hosted jam into bands performing. 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 December 1999 and we also lost Jimie Jean in July 2009 followed soon by KT.

When Jimie Jean got too ill to work, Dennis "Zab" Zyvoloski took over as the music coordinator booking the music in July 2008, continuing her legacy. Salmon Bay Eagles Past Worthy President Mike Haldeman also deserves recognition for all he has done for keeping the blues at Aerie 2141 as well.

I know there are probably many others too, not to mention all the fantastic musicians over the years. In October 2017 Zab retired from doing the booking, then Curtis Terry and I took over. We had both started helping Zab with booking and public relations prior to taking over fully as the booking team at Salmon Bay, and I have been doing it solo now since 2019.

Salmon Bay Eagles hosted the third and fourth Washington Blues Society BB Awards and has also hosted a few of Raven's Jam For Cans back in the early days of the event prior to its multi-award winning run at the Highway 99 Blues Club.

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 membership pricing for the event. Seriously folks, you probably spent more on your last pizza night than the cost of a yearly membership, and in addition to the fine music, Salmon Bay Eagles hosts events that benefit many local and national charities, including Medic One and the Ballard Food Bank. Your Eagles membership card 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!

Red House has been storming stages around the region for some time and has made a name for themselves as one of the top soul and funk outfits around. This all-star lineup features the world class vocal talents and journeyman bass talents of Tim Scott, the highly accomplished Mark Noftsgger on guitar, and Robin Crane on drums playing a mix of R&B and blues with feeling and style. With the sad passing of singer/keyboardist James "Jimmy" Holden, the task at hand was to fill Jimmy's seat. We're excited to share that Tacoma's own Michael Jaap, one of most talented musicians in the Pacific Northwest, has joined forces with Red House. A fine singer & multi-keyboardist, Mike will contribute greatly to the band.

Tim Scott on bass and vocals is a founding member of Red House, and for over two decades, he has also supplied bass, vocals & songwriting as member of national recording artists, Jack Mack & the Heart Attack. Tim's résumé boasts collaborations with Tower of Power, Huey Lewis, Robben Ford, Robert Cray, as well as writing for major films, T.V. soundtracks & advertisements (incl., Jaime Foxx's "Held



Up," T.V. series "Friends," and national ads for Toyota, U.S.A.).

Guitarist and songwriter Mark Noftsgger worked with Tim and Robin in their first pro band, Glory, then played in Sluggo with Robin. He later moved to Hawaii and put together an R&B/soul horn band, opening for Sea Wind and Tina Turner. Back in Seattle, Mark played in various local bands, including News and Transit. When Robin moved back to the Northwest, they formed Pale Men, which later became the Dick Powell Band. They played various blues clubs and festivals, including Bumbershoot and were nominated for Washington Blues Society Best of the Blues Awards ("BB Awards" for Best New Blues Band. Mark most recently played as featured soloist with the Curtis Hammond Band.

Singer and songwriter Robin Crane-Drummer played with Tim and Mark in their first club band, Glory. Robin also played with popular local bands of the era, including Sluggo, Shirley Lorrone, Jeff Simmons (Frank Zappa), Epicenter and Clear Logic. In California, various original projects included session guitarist/producer Louie Shelton (Seals & Crofts), opening for Cold Blood, The Grass Roots and Larry Graham. Back in Seattle, blues/rock band Pale Men (nominated for Best New Blues Band) and the Dick Powell Band winner of the

(Continued on Page 28)

Elvin Bishop Big Fun Trio & Highway 99 All-Stars at Jazz Alley

Mark your calendars & save the dates!

By Rick J. Bowen

The Washington Blues Society is proud to be a sponsor of two big blues shows from Elvin Bishop and the Big Fun trio and the Highway 99 All Stars at Dimitriou's Jazz Alley in Seattle in January of 2023.

Rock & Roll and Blues Hall of Famer Elvin Bishop returns for four nights with his Big Fun Trio featuring band members Robert Welsh (guitar/piano), and Willy Jordan (vocals/cajon/drums) along with Bishop's legendary guitar playing and storytelling.

Bishop first hit the scene with the Paul Butterfield Blues Band back in 1965, he's blazed his own musical trail. Whether he was playing raw, eye-popping blues, or penning the evergreen radio hit "Fooled Around and Fell in Love", or toured the world for decades delivering his original, good-time countrified blues. Bishop has always inspired his fans with his rowdy guitar playing and witty, slice-of-life songs.

Late in 2015, Elvin Bishop formed The Big Fun Trio, soon after playing just a handful of live dates, the group's instantly crowd-pleasing music and undeniable chemistry took the blues world by storm. With the release of their self-titled CD in 2017, media and fan response was immediate and overwhelming. Shows are January 19 thru 22nd 2023.

The Highway 99 All Stars began with the opening of Seattle's award-winning Highway 99 Blues Club in 2004. Since then, the All -Stars have played numerous shows in and around Seattle; at its namesake club, fairs, festivals and special events. The line-up for their shows features players from Seattle and the greater Pacific Northwest. While some of the players have done multiple shows over the years, the line-up is a roving cast of "all-stars" bringing solid rhythm and blues and deeply rooted blues music to the stage.

For the upcoming Jazz Alley shows, the band will feature six musicians from Seattle,



Portland and New Orleans for the 2023 lineup: Bob Corritore, Lisa Mann, Ben Rice, Robin Moxey, Jeff Conlin and Steve Sarkowsky. With four different singers, harmonica, guitars, bass, keys and drums, the show will feature solo spots, duo turns and full band numbers that are sure to bring the house down. Shows are January 31st and February 1st 2023. For more info go to <https://www.jazzalley.com>



Middle Left: Highway 99 All-Stars
(Photo by Steve Sarkowsky)
Above: Elvin Bishop's Big Fun Trio
(Photo Courtesy of Elvin Bishop)

Elvin Bishop is Back On the Road!

Sat, 1/14/23: Elvin Bishop Big Fun Trio, Sweetwater Music Hall, Mill Valley, CA

Thurs, 1/19/23: Elvin Bishop Big Fun Trio, Jazz Alley, Seattle, WA

Friday, 1/20/23: Elvin Bishop Big Fun Trio, Jazz Alley, Seattle, WA (Early Show)

Friday, 1/20/23: Elvin Bishop Big Fun Trio, Jazz Alley, Seattle, WA (Late Show)

Sat, 1/21/23: Elvin Bishop Big Fun Trio, Jazz Alley, Seattle WA (Early Show)

Sat, 1/23/23: Elvin Bishop Big Fun Trio, Jazz Alley, Seattle, WA (Late Show)

Sunday, 1/24/23: Elvin Bishop Big Fun Trio, Jazz Alley, Seattle, WA

Saturday, 3/11/23: Elvin Bishop Big Fun Trio, Walla Walla Guitar Festival, Walla Walla, WA

Thursday, 5/25/23: Elvin Bishop & Charlie Musselwhite at Edmonds Center for the Arts, Edmonds, WA

Friday, 5/26/23: Elvin Bishop & Charlie Musselwhite at The Shedd, Eugene, OR



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† 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.

January Blues Bash I



Lonesome Pines & Eric's Maine Connection
Tuesday Jan 10th—7pm
Aurora Borealis

January Blues Bash II



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14. Conway Muse - Conway
21. The Barn at Wilson Farm - Lake Tapps
February

3. Pub 282 - Camano Island
25. The Mill - Milton

stacyjonesband.com
www.facebook.com/stacyjonesband
www.youtube.com/StacyJonesBand

JAZZ ALLEY - SEATTLE

January Shows

Pearl Django
JAN 3-4, 2023



Elvin Bishop Big Fun Trio
JAN 19-22, 2023

Manhattan Transfer
JAN 26-29, 2023



Highway 99
All Stars
JAN 31- FEB 1, 2023

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January 2023 Live Music Calendar!

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

JANUARY 1 – HAPPY NEW YEAR

Peabo's, Mill Creek: Sunday Music Revue 7 PM

JANUARY 2

Madison Ave Pub, Everett: MaD BoJo 7 PM

Royal Room, Seattle: Collective Music Ensemble 7:30 PM

Blue Moon, Seattle: Andy Coe Band 9 PM

JANUARY 3

The Central, Seattle: Blues Tuesday 7 PM

Madison Ave Pub, Everett: Uncle Doug Cooper 7 PM

Jazz Alley, Seattle: Pearl Django 7:30 PM

Billy Blues Bar & Grill, Vancouver WA: Ben Rice & the Hustle 8 PM

JANUARY 4

CCR Sport & Entertainment, Snohomish: Usual Suspects 7 PM

Jazz Alley, Seattle: Pearl Django 7:30 PM

Engels Pub, Edmonds: St. John & the Revelations 8 PM

JANUARY 5

Spada Farmhouse Brewery, Snohomish: Whitewing Duo 6 PM

The Rabbit Box, Seattle: Dusty 45's 7 PM

Slippery Pig Brewery, Poulsbo: Front St Blues Revue 7 PM

Jazz Alley, Seattle: Peter White 7:30 PM

Nectar, Seattle: Golden Road 8 PM

JANUARY 6

Rockfish Grill, Anacortes, Whistle Lake Jazz Quartet, 6 PM

The Repp, Snohomish: Norris and Nicely 6 PM

Bellevue Crossroads, Bellevue: Three Guitars 7 PM

Third Place Commons, Lake Forest Park: File Gumbo 7 PM

Jazz Alley, Seattle: Peter White 7:30 PM

Pub 282, Camano Island: Joe Cook Blues Band 7:30 PM

Strum Guitars, Portland: Kim Field & the Perfect Gentlemen 7 PM

Jazzbones, Tacoma: Stacy Jones Band 8 PM

Looking Glass Coffee, Snohomish: Michele D'Amour & the Love Dealers 8 PM

JANUARY 7

Sigillo Cellars, Snoqualmie: Toby Brady 6 PM

Third Place Commons, Lake Forest Park: Blue Notes 7 PM

The Spar, Tacoma: Tim Cox Band 7 PM

Madison Ave Pub, Everett: Seattle House Rockers 7 PM

Eagles, Snohomish: Sheri & Jo Mama 7 PM

Jazz Alley, Seattle: Peter White 7:30 PM

Rockfish Grill, Anacortes: Polly O'Keary & the Rhythm Method 7:30 PM

Nectar, Seattle: Wheel in the Sky NW/Soul Sacrifice 8 PM

Aurora Borealis, Shoreline: Heartbreaker 8 PM

Engels Pub, Edmonds: Lone State 8 PM

Conway Muse, Conway: Joe Cook Blues Band 8 PM

JANUARY 8

Peabo's, Mill Creek: Sunday Music Revue 7 PM

Jazz Alley, Seattle: Peter White 7:30 PM

JANUARY 9

Madison Ave Pub, Everett: MaD BoJo 7 PM

Royal Room, Seattle: Collective Music Ensemble 7:30 PM

Blue Moon, Seattle: Andy Coe Band 9 PM

JANUARY 10

The Central, Seattle: Blues Tuesday 7 PM

Aurora Borealis, Shoreline: Washington Blues Society Blues Bash w/Eric's Maine Connection & Lonesome Pine 7 PM

Madison Ave Pub, Everett: Lee Harris and Friends 7 PM

Jazz Alley, Seattle: The Delfonics 7:30 PM

Billy Blues Bar & Grill, Vancouver, WA: Ben Rice & the Hustle 8 PM

JANUARY 11

Catfish Lou's, Beaverton OR: Cascade Blues Association 6 PM

Rockfish Grill, Anacortes, Mike Faast Quartet 6 PM

CCR Sport & Entertainment, Snohomish: Usual Suspects 7 PM

Jazz Alley, Seattle: The Delfonics 7:30 PM

Nectar, Seattle: Unsinkable Heavies w/Jimmy James 8 PM

Engels Pub, Edmonds: Matlock & Keys 9 PM

JANUARY 12

Bad Alberts, Seattle: Annie Eastwood & Friends 6 PM

Spada Farmhouse Brewery, Snohomish: Michele D'Amour & the Love Dealers 6 PM

The Rabbit Box, Seattle: Dusty 45's 7 PM

Slippery Pig Brewery, Poulsbo: Front St Blues Revue 7 PM

Jazz Alley, Seattle: Chris Botti 7:30 PM

JANUARY 13

Third Place Commons, Lake Forest Park: Swing Bringers 7 PM

Tapped, Mukilteo: Sheri & Jo Mama 7 PM

Jazz Alley, Seattle: Chris Botti 7:30 PM

Looking Glass Coffee, Snohomish: The Hipocrats 8 PM

Jazzbones, Tacoma: Soul Sacrifice 8 PM

The Shanty, Seattle: Kimball & the Fugitives' w/Stick Shift Annie 9 PM

Engels Pub, Edmonds: The Industrials 9 PM

The Lime, Kirkland: Rockfish & Friends 9 PM

JANUARY 14

192 Brewing, Juanita: Michele D'Amour & The Love Dealers 7 PM

Third Place Commons, Lake Forest Park: Emerald City Horns 7 PM

Madison Ave Pub, Everett: Joel Astley Band 7 PM

The Spar, Tacoma: Ailment & O'Neil 7 PM

Blue Frog Studios, White Rock B.C.: Sarah Smith Band 7 PM

Jazz Alley, Seattle: Chris Botti 7:30 PM

Conway Muse, Conway: Stacy Jones Band 8 PM

Rockfish Grill, Anacortes, Pacific Twang 7:30 PM

Salmon Bay Eagles, Ballard Seattle: Joe Cook Band 8 PM

The Mill, Milton: Billy Stapleton's Powerhouse 8 PM

Mirkwood, Arlington: Joe Hellmore 8 PM

Engels Pub, Edmonds: Midnight Hour 9 PM

JANUARY 15

Peabo's, Mill Creek: Sunday Music Revue 7 PM

Jazz Alley, Seattle: Chris Botti 7:30 PM

JANUARY 16

Madison Ave Pub, Everett: MaD BoJo 7 PM

Royal Room, Seattle: Collective Music Ensemble 7:30 PM

Blue Moon, Seattle: Andy Coe Band 9 PM

JANUARY 17

The Central, Seattle: Blues Tuesday 7 PM

Madison Ave Pub, Everett: Acoustic Avenue 7 PM

Jazz Alley, Seattle: Yellowjackets 7:30 PM

Billy Blues Bar & Grill, Vancouver WA: Ben Rice & the Hustle 8 PM

JANUARY 18

Rockfish Grill, Anacortes: Christina Atteberry 6 PM

CCR Sport & Entertainment, Snohomish: Usual Suspects 7 PM

Jazz Alley, Seattle: Yellowjackets 7:30 PM

Engels Pub, Edmonds: Bad Gavel 8 PM

JANUARY 19

Spada Farmhouse Brewery, Snohomish: Sheri Roberts Greimes 6 PM

Bolo's, Spokane Valley: Inland Empire Blues Society Blues Boogie 6 PM

The Rabbit Box, Seattle: Dusty 45's 7 PM

Slippery Pig Brewery, Poulsbo: Front St Blues Revue 7 PM

Jazz Alley, Seattle: Elvin Bishop's Big Fun Trio 7:30 PM

JANUARY 20

Pizza Coop, Woodinville: Toby Brady 6 PM

Third Place Commons, Lake Forest Park: Joe Cook Band 7 PM

Crossroads, Bellevue: Michele D'Amour & the Love Dealers 7 PM

Brewminatti, Proser: Lonesome Pine 7 PM

Jazz Alley, Seattle: Elvin Bishop's Big Fun Trio 7:30 PM

Admiral Theater, Bremerton: Booker T Jones 7:30 PM

Looking Glass Coffee, Snohomish: Ezekiel's Bones 8 PM

Bake's Place, Bellevue: Annie Eastwood & Her All Star Band 9 PM

JANUARY 21

Big Stick BBQ, Bellingham: Lykins - Adams Duo 5 PM

Lauren Ashton Cellars, Woodinville: Toby Brady 5 PM

Sigillo Cellars, Snoqualmie: Ian Jones 5 PM

The Repp, Snohomish: Eastwood & Stevens 6:30 PM

Third Place Commons, Lake Forest Park: Portage Bay Big Band 7 PM

Tracyton Theater, Bremerton: Dusty 45's w/Hot Spring Water 7 PM

The Spar, Tacoma: Twang Junkies 7 PM

Jazz Alley, Seattle: Elvin Bishop's Big Fun Trio 7:30 PM

Admiral Theater, Bremerton: Booker T Jones 7:30 PM

Rockfish Grill, Anacortes, CD Woodbury 7:30 PM

The Barn at Wilson Farm, Lake Tapps: Stacy Jones Band 8 PM

Conway Muse, Conway: Michele D'Amour & the Love Dealers 8 PM

The Mill, Milton: Retro Gruve 8 PM

JANUARY 22

Peabo's, Mill Creek: Sunday Music Revue 7 PM

Jazz Alley, Seattle: Elvin Bishop's Big Fun Trio 7:30 PM

JANUARY 23

Madison Ave Pub, Everett: MaD BoJo 7 PM

Royal Room, Seattle: Collective Music Ensemble 7:30 PM

Blue Moon, Seattle: Andy Coe Band 9 PM

JANUARY 24

The Central, Seattle: Blues Tuesday 7 PM

CCR Sport & Entertainment, Snohomish: Washington Blues Society Blues Bash w/CD Woodbury & Selena Mac 7 PM

Madison Ave Pub, Everett: Leanne Trevalyan & Sheryl Clark 7 PM

Jazz Alley, Seattle: Fred Hersch & Esperanza Spaulding 7:30 PM

Billy Blues Bar & Grill, Vancouver WA: Ben Rice & the Hustle 8 PM

JANUARY 25

Rockfish Grill, Anacortes, Fidalgo Swing, 6 PM

The Mill, Milton: Toby Brady 7 PM

CCR Sport & Entertainment, Snohomish: Usual Suspects 7 PM

Jazz Alley, Seattle: Fred Hersch & Esperanza Spaulding 7:30 PM

Aurora Borealis, Shoreline: Emerald City Jazz Orchestra 8 PM

JANUARY 26

Bad Albers, Seattle: Annie Eastwood & Friends 6 PM

Spada Farmhouse Brewery, Snohomish: Norris & Nicely 6 PM

The Rabbit Box, Seattle: Dusty 45's 7 PM

Slippery Pig Brewery, Poulsbo: Front St Blues Revue 7 PM

Jazz Alley, Seattle: The Manhattan Transfer 7:30 PM

High Dive, Seattle: Boot Juice 8 PM

JANUARY 27

Third Place Commons, Lake Forest Park: Generashun 7 PM

Port Gardner Bay Winery, Everett: Norris & Nicely 7 PM

Jazz Alley, Seattle: The Manhattan Transfer 7:30 PM

Admiral Theater, Bremerton: Blind Boys of Alabama w/Charlie Musselwhite 7:30 PM

Looking Glass Coffee, Snohomish: Larry Murante 8 PM

JANUARY 28

The Garage Bar & Grill, Bremerton: Mark Hurwitz & Gin Creek 6 PM

Third Place Commons, Lake Forest Park: Sound of Swing Big Band 7 PM

The Spar, Tacoma: Groove Colony 7 PM

Madison Ave Pub, Everett: Dana Osborne Band 7 PM

Jazz Alley, Seattle: The Manhattan Transfer 7:30 PM

Admiral Theater, Bremerton: Blind Boys of Alabama w/Charlie Musselwhite 7:30 PM

Pub 282, Camano Island: Mary Ellen Lykins & the CC Adams Band 7:30 PM

Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle: The Charles White Revue w/Tim Turner Band 8 PM

Engels Pub, Edmonds: Joe Cook Band 8 PM

Big Lake Bar, Big Lake: Leo Bootes & Co. 8 PM

Jazzbones, Tacoma: Janis Lives 8 PM

JANUARY 29

Peabo's, Mill Creek: Sunday Music Revue 7 PM

Jazz Alley, Seattle: The Manhattan Transfer 7:30 PM

JANUARY 30

Madison Ave Pub, Everett: MaD BoJo 7 PM

Royal Room, Seattle: Collective Music Ensemble 7:30 PM

Blue Moon, Seattle: Andy Coe Band 9 PM

JANUARY 31

The Central, Seattle: Blues Tuesday 7 PM

Madison Ave Pub, Everett: Unbound w/Kevin Sutton 7 PM

Jazz Alley, Seattle: Highway 99 All Stars 7:30 PM

Billy Blues Bar & Grill, Vancouver, WA: Ben Rice & the Hustle 8 PM

PLEASE CHECK WITH THE VENUE TO CONFIRM DATE, TIME & PERFORMERS!



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
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2023 IBC Best Self-Produced CD Entry



Eric's Maine Connection
 Stuck Inside

The 2022 release from Eric's Maine Connection was chosen to represent the Washington Blues Society at the International Blues Challenge in Memphis in January 2023.

Stuck Inside' - Eric's Maine Connection
<https://ericricelive.com/eric-s-maine-connection>




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Blues CD Reviews

Exceptionally good releases from Buddy Guy and Corky Siegel's Chamber Blues



Buddy Guy
The Blues Don't Lie
(RCA/Silvertone)

I first discovered Buddy Guy's newest CD in music maven and curmudgeon (I type that respectfully) Bob Lefsetz' *Lefsetz Letter* last year when he reflected on "Gunsmoke Blues," a song that compassionately laments yet another school shooting in America. Despite our best hopes and actions responding to each and every school shooting, I think that Buddy's observations are spot-on (regrettably): "A million thoughts and prayers won't bring back anyone." The autobiographical "I Let My Guitar Do the Talking" rocks assertively with a full-band sound and Buddy in fine (read: delightful, high-octane solo wizardry) form, and I particularly liked "Symptoms of Love" featuring Elvis Costello. When Buddy and Mavis Staples reminisce about their younger days in the latter half of the 20th century, when "Coffee was a nickel, a newspaper cost a dime, and \$1 bought smokes and a bottle of Mad Dog wine," the spark they ignited in the studio is absolutely infectious. I really enjoyed "Follow the Money," featuring James Taylor, as it reminded me of growing up in and around Chicago Heights in the 60s and 70s, where I learned from journalists like Mike Royko, Len O'Connor and Walter Jacobsen about legendary, "entrepreneurial" Illinois politicians like Chicago alderman "Fast Eddie" Vrdolyak, Secretary of State Paul Powell, and "Hizzoner" himself, Mayor Richard Daley (the elder). The title tune is a four-minute master class in blues history buoyed by both Buddy's guitar and the horn section, and this song honors the memories of Sonny Boy Williamson, Junior Wells (Buddy's long-time harmonica partner), and Chicago's legendary Regal Theatre, home to B.B. King's seminal blues textbook, *Live at the Regal*. "Left Well Enough Alone" is an electric blues tour-

de-force that touches on most, if not all, of the traditional blues archetypes, including a black cat bone, a mojo hand, and a chance meeting with the devil. I enjoyed the sly and suggestive "Rabbit Blood," not only for the content of the song, but also for the way award-winning producer Tom Hambridge balances the keyboards on the left side of my laptop with the guitars on the right side. While there are many, many bright spots on this CD, my favorite song on this truly exceptional CD is "King Bee," because it's just Buddy Guy, an acoustic guitar, and a mic. No histrionics (although I like them just fine, thanks Buddy!), and no extended electric guitar solos. I'm sure that his mentor from Mississippi, Muddy Waters, would be proud of this understated version of this classic blues song. *The Blues Don't Lie* is up for a 2023 Grammy Award in the Best Traditional Blues Album category, and I hope this living blues legend will add another Gramophone award to his award display case at Buddy Guy's Legends in Chicago. The CD was released on the 65th anniversary of Buddy Guy's arrival in Chicago from Louisiana in late 2022, and I look forward to his return to the Pacific Northwest this Fall. Eric Steiner.



Corky Siegel's Chamber Blues
MORE Different Voices
Dawnserly Records

MORE Different Voices is Corky Siegel's newest album fusing chamber music with the blues, and it's a delight from start to finish. I'm sure that purists on each side of those musical aisles will listen askance at first play, like I did, but over time, Corky Siegel and his Chamber Blues won me over for the way they stretch blues, and classical, music. Corky's been doing this since 1966, when another bandleader asked him if he could play with his band. That bandleader was Seiji Ozawa, and his band was the Chicago

Symphony Orchestra. I first discovered Corky when I was in high school back home near Chicago Heights and primarily knew him for his work with the legendary Siegel-Schwall Blues Band. Corky Siegel's Chamber Blues has since expanded my musical horizons, in a great way, and on this CD, he's also recruited Tracy Nelson (Mother Earth), Frank Orrell (Poi Dog Pondering), and Lynn Jordan (3Arts). On *MORE Different Voices*, I particularly like the way Corky Siegel's Chamber Blues core team wraps several traditional blues songs in viola (Rose Armbrust), cello (Jocelyn Shoulders), violin (Jamie Gorgojo & Chihsuan Yang), harmonica (Corky Siegel), and percussion (Kalyan "Johnny Bongo" Pathak). Toronzo Cannon's plaintive "Insurance" tells the difficult, real-life story of what many Americans firmly believe is a right (health insurance), and Corky Siegel's harp steps in at the right place at the right time with Kaylan "Johnny Bongo" Pathak providing a strong foundation. I first discovered "Insurance" on Toronzo Cannon's Alligator CD, *The Preacher, the Politician or the Pimp*, and Corky Siegel's Chamber Blues opens this song with new musical dimensions. Jazz sax player Ernie Watts, a two-time Grammy winner, contributes a 10+ minute instrumental, "Oasis," and this song traces a delightful musical and cultural journey from blues, to jazz, with stops in the Middle East and "Johnny Bongo's" native land. Long-time collaborator Marcella Detroit updates "There Goes My Man," first through a classical lens, and then she takes the song straight down to the Mississippi Delta (or Chicago's far South Side) before it's done. In 2014, Corky recorded "Hine Ma Tov" with Ukrainian-American Cantor Pavel Roytman, and I read that, at the time, Corky didn't know of Pavel's connection to his native Ukraine. I'll be the first to admit that I don't what they're singing, but their shared passion through music is undeniable and unforgettable. Eric Steiner

Blues CD Reviews (Continued)

New releases from Mississippi MacDonald, Teresa James & The Rhythm Tramps, and Dennis Johnson



Mississippi MacDonald
Heavy State Loving Blues
(APM Records)

British musicians have long had a burning passion for American roots music, and none more than Mississippi MacDonald, who earned his moniker for displaying his love for American blues at an early age. The guitarist, singer-songwriter with a whiskey-soaked baritone, doesn't waste time on his latest record, *Heavy State Loving Blues*, as he launches into a tight Chicago blues rebuke of "would be" music fans on the horn driven opening number "Howlin Wolf," emphasizing his point with sharp guitar leads. This month's *Heavy State Loving Blues*, McDonald's eighth album, is once again produced by Phil Dearing, and features two inspired cover songs and eight great new originals. The title track is a chunk Hi Records soul that could have been in the Al Green catalog. Acclaimed vocalist, and Memphis scion Vaneese Thomas, joins McDonald for the fiery duet on "Blind Leading the Blind," trading barbs over a driving groove from the solid rhythm section of Elliott Boughen on bass and "Texas" Joe McRoury on drums. The excellent arrangement from Dearing comes into play on the spacious soul number, "Heading South," and the smooth burning "Lie No More" feature tasteful horn lines and keyboards propping up McDonald's pleading vocals and gritty guitar solos. The first cover song is a pure rundown of O.V Wright's "I've Been Searching," from his 1973 *Memphis Unlimited* album delivered as a loving tribute to MacDonald's Gospel soul hero. The emotional blues ballad, "I'll Understand," finds him digging deep into his softer side. The country tune, "Trouble Doing the Right Thing," from Zach Logan, is remade here as an easy going blues ramble. The mysterious "The Devil Wants Repayment" has a lazy bayou feel and a touch of voodoo charm. In the album notes,

MacDonald played a Fender Albert Collins Stratocaster, naturally, he was moved to write "Blues for Albert," on which he professes the origin of his obsession and the devotion to the art as a blues benediction to close the set. Mississippi MacDonald continues to carry the torch as a next generation bluesman on yet another strong album. Rick J Bowen



Teresa James and the Rhythm Tramps
With a Little Help From Her Friends
(Blue Heart Records)

The Beatles' songbook has been interpreted and reimaged in a multitude of ways, transforming British invasion pop into musical styles ranging from Big Band jazz, bluegrass, funk, to techno, classical and opera. For their own deep dive, Texas-born, and Los Angeles-based keyboardist Teresa James and her band, the Rhythm Tramps, take the music of the Fab Four on a coast to coast magical musical tour. Their January 2023 release, *With a Little Help From Her Friends*, is loving tribute to the songs of Lennon and, and the musical styles of the great American landscape of blues, roots, and soul. The 10-track collection opens with a Texas roadhouse-soaked "Ticket To Ride" and "Taxman," is given a full Haight Ashbury psychedelic treatment. The deep cut from Hard Day's Night, "I'm Happy Just to Dance With You," is almost unrecognizable from the original as the Tramps remake it as a sweet 70s Memphis soul number with a touch of B.B King. James spars with Yates McKendree on the whiskey-soaked take of "Oh, Darling." Originally an acoustic track, "Hide Your Love Away" is given a fuller arrangement flavored with touches of Motown. The swampy feel of "(Everybody's Got Something to Hide Except) Me and My Monkey," is more Muscle Shoals than Abbey Road. James and the Tramps give

the song "You Won't See Me" a sultry, sophisticated vibe smoothing its pop edges. Their cover of John Lennon's song from 1964, "No Reply," successfully mirrors New York City's Brill Building sound of the same era by fusing influences of Latin, traditional Black Gospel, and rhythm and blues, achieving what the Beatles sought out to do. Many regard The Beatles as the most influential band of all time, this music has been with us for 60 years. Veteran musicians Teresa James and the Rhythm Tramps have undoubtedly felt that influence in their lives and share that affection with the world on this brilliant, new project that her fans (and Beatles fans!) will love. Rick J Bowen



Dennis Johnson
Revelation
(Self-Released)

Bay Area guitarist Dennis Johnson released one of my top 2022 CDs: *Revelation* has a mix of originals and covers that piqued my interest. Dennis has an all-star band in Bob Fridzema (Walter Trout) on keys, Anton Fig (Joe Bonamassa) on drums, and Jonathan Stoyanoff (Joe Craven) on bass. The title tune is a contemplative instrumental that's all over the fretboard, and the raucous "Salvation Bound" is ready for blues and Christian radio. I liked Dennis' take on Don Nix' "Going Down" and his cover of Robert Johnson's "32-20 Blues." The closing "Don't Owe You a Thing" is filled with swagger, and I hope fans will catch Dennis in Oregon this month and Montana's Big Sky Blues Fest in this year. *Revelation* shows me why I appreciate blues slide guitar, and it's on my CD shelf with CDs from slide players like Bonnie Raitt, Ry Cooder, Nick Vigarino, and Sonny Landreth. Eric Steiner.

Whom to Hire, Get in Touch

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

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John "Scooch" Cugno's Delta 88 Revival
360.352.3735
John "Greyhound" Maxwell 360.685.6006
John Stephan Band 206.244.0498
John Stephanus 206.459.3278
Jolene Gayle 509.433.4944
JP Hennessy 425.273.4932
Julia Francis & 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
Kenny James Miller Band 406.253.7439

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
 King Kom Beaux 253.732.0618
 Kosta Panidis (Kosta la Vista) 509.991.7623

L

La Roca Boom 206.920.6776
 Lady "A" & The Baby Blues Funk Band 425.518.9100
 Larry Hill 206.696.1789
 Leanne Trevalyan 253.238.7908
 Lee Oskar & Friends 425.258.3585
 Leo Muller 206.300.6802
 Linda Carroll & Retro Gruve 253.606.1500.
 Little Bill & the Bluenotes 425.774.7503
 Lori Hardman Band 425.218.5341
 Lucille Street cynmoring@gmail.com

M

Madison Ave Blues Revue MAD BOJO 425-422-5062
 Maia Santell & House Blend 253.983.7071
 Margret Wilder Band (360) 380-2250
 Mark A. Noftsger 425.238.3664
 Mark Hurwitz & Gin Creek 206.588.1924
 Mark Riley 206.313.7849
 Marty Vadalabene 206.914.3026
 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
 Midnight Hour 360.661.5782
 Mike Haley 509.393.5838
 Miles from Chicago 206.440.8016
 Miles Harris 360.708.2166
 Mitch Pumpian 206.276.9737
 Monster Road Band (253) 797-9503
 Moon Daddy Band 425.923.9081
 Mule Kick 216.225.1277

N

New Rhythmatics 425.299.3028
 Nick Vigarino 360.387.0374
 Nick Mardon Trio 425.208-6616
 Nancy Veltkamp 915.222.6401
 Norm Bellas & the Funkstars 206.722.6551

P

Paul Green 206.795.3694
 Phil Mitchell (425)870-5018

Polly O'Keary & The Rhythm Method 206.384.0234
 Porterhouse Blues Band 425.381.7649

R

Rafael Tranquilino Band 312.953.7808
 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
 The Rece Jay Band (253) 350-9137
 Red House 425.377.8097
 Reggie Miles 360.793.9577
 Reji Marc (206) 486-0386
 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
 Rob Moitoza 206.401.2856
 Robert Baker 425.870.7683
 Robert Patterson 509.869.0350
 Robert and Randolph Duo 509.216.0944
 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
 Scott Mallard 206.261.4669
 Scotty FM and the BroadCasters 206.261.4669
 Scotty Harris 206.683.9476
 Shadow Creek Project 360.826.4068
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 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
 Steve Peterson 206.799-8196
 Steve Pearse 360.661.5782
 Steven J. Lefebvre 509.972.2683 or 509.654.3075
 Stickshift Annie Eastwood 206.941.9186
 Studio Rob 425.870.7683
 Susan Renee "La Roca Soul" Sims 206.920.6776
 Suze Sims 206.920.6776

T

TJ Read 206.380.6638
 Tamys Hoffman Band 406.570-2303

Terraplane Band (425)870-5018
 Terry Hartness 425.931.5755
 The 509s 509.423.0032
 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 Pat Stilwell Band 503.481.6823
 The Rece Jay Band 253.350.9137
 The RooTsters (Acoustic Duo) 206.890.6176
 The Soulful 88s/Billy Spaulding 206.310.4153
 The Spinoffs/Dawnzella Gearhart 206. 718.1591
 The VuDudes 206.999.0729
 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
 Town Hall Brawl 206.940.9128
 Two Scoops Combo 206.933.9566
 Two Trains Runnin' 206.225.9684

U

Unbound 425.231.0565
 Under the Puddle 425-512-3153

V

Virginia Klemens Band 206.632.6130

W

West Coast Women's Blues Revue 206.940.2589
 Whitewing 360.393-1687
 Willie B Blues Band 206.451.9060
 Willie & The Whips 206.781.0444

Salmon Bay Eagles January 2023 Preview (continued)

Celebrating 33 Years of Live Blues at the Salmon Bay Eagles in Seattle's Historic Ballard Neighborhood!

(Continued from Page 16)

Washington Blues Society Best Keyboard and nominated for an award for Best Blues Harmonica).

Keyboardist and signer W. Michael Jaap, AKA "Doctor Jop" is widely known as the "musician's musician" around the Pacific Northwest, where he was born and raised. Mike has worked in virtually every area in the music industry around the planet including studios, cruise lines, churches, concert/club venues, United Service Organization and US Department of Defense tours.

For the last 50 years, Mike has performed and recorded, produced, composed, arranged for a plethora of groups and artists. His latest work includes teaching in K-12 classrooms, college level jazz bands and

improvisation, and private lessons. As a pianist, percussionist, bassist, and keyboard artist, "Doctor Jop's" prowess is legendary. He has also played with such blues/R&B greats as B.B. King, James Brown, Al Jarreau, The Temptations and Elvin Bishop, with a musical score so broad to include repeat engagements with jazz greats Bud Shank, George Benson, Ernie Watts, Larry Coryell, Eddie Harris, Stanley Turrentine and many others.

There is a lot of other great music coming to the Salmon Bay Eagles this month, starting with Billy Spaulding and the Soulful 88's, followed by Glen Stewart and Blue 55. Week two features multi BB Award winning harmonica player, singer, songwriter Jeff Herzog & the Jet City Fliers. Later in the month, Salmon Bay Eagles will have

the Vududes and "The Kitchen Wench" is cooking up a very special show for January 28th.

The artwork for the event poster and both the Salmon Bay Eagles blues logo were all done by nationally-recognized and multi BB Award-winning graphic artist, photographer, and writer Phil Chesnut.

Among other things Bluesletter readers may recognize is the artwork for both the Washington Blues Society and the Inland Empire Blues Society logos, and several album covers, poster and business card art for local artists, among other graphics projects.



January 2023 Blues Bash I & II Previews

Two Washington Blues Society Blues Bashes Celebrate the New Year!

By Rick J. Bowen

The monthly Washington Blues Society Blues Bash continues with in-person live blues events on two Tuesdays beginning in January of 2023! The first Tuesday on the 10th at 7 PM at Aurora Borealis, 16708 Aurora Ave North in Shoreline, and on the fourth Tuesday the 24th at CCR Sports and Entertainment at 215 Cypress Avenue in Snohomish.

The first Blues Bash features music from our entrants in the 2023 International Blues Challenge: Eric's Maine Connection (band) and the Lonesome and Pine (duo). This Blues Bash is traditionally a send-off party with the opportunity to wish our International Blues Challenge representatives' success in Memphis and raise some last-minute funds to help them on their way.

Our first-ever Blues Bash II will be held on Tuesday, January 24th featuring music from Selena Mac and the CD Woodbury Trio at 7 PM at CCR Sports and Entertainment in Snohomish.

Both monthly Blues Bashes are presented free, and all are welcome. Aurora Borealis is an all ages venue, but CCR Sports is 21 & over only. We will have a door prize raffle with prizes including tickets to Jazz Alley in Seattle, and cool swag from the Rolling Stones' tour sponsor, the Alliance for Lifetime Income. Yes, you read that right. The Rolling Stones. We encourage everyone to "Tip the Band," in support of their volunteer performances.

More about January's Blues Bash performers

Lonesome & Pine is a folk-blues duo that hails from Vashon Island. Their music is inspired by the rich tapestry of blues and folk music of the American South, the open roads of the American West, and the tangible comforts of home. Their duo features Steve Itterly, an award-winning songster and country-blues guitarist, and Michael J.



and colorful harmonica virtuoso. Together, they capture the true spirit of down-home porch music that can be both boot-stomping fun, and deeply soul moving.

Eric's Maine Connection is blowing up Seattle!. This trio creates its magic in songwriting and blues classics with the grace that only legends create. Eric Rice travels the Pacific Northwest and spreads the blues Gospel forging the sweetest guitar tone, Eric's slide guitar has earned multiple awards. With Scotty Harris on bass and Andrew Cloutier on drums, these boys from Maine are the connection to a freight train groove. As servants of the tune, when they perform, it is like friends having an intelligent conversation.

Selena Mac is a newcomer to the music scene in the Pacific Northwest. She makes her home in Skagit Valley where she supports local music. Selena draws inspiration from local musicians who strive to keep live music



going strong here in this upper left hand corner of the state. Her songwriting and powerhouse vocals bring a unique style of progressive blues. She enjoys jamming and performing at local venues, too.

CD Woodbury is an award-winning contemporary blues, roots, rock, and multi-genre guitarist, vocalist, songwriter who was inducted into the Washington Blues Society Hall of Fame in 2022. He has been a fixture of the Pacific Northwest blues scene for decades as an esteemed sideman and leader of his own band, who have represented Washington State at the International Blues Challenge on Beale Street in Memphis three times. Woodbury is backed by the stalwart rhythm section of Robert Baker on bass and Matt Williams on drums.

Middle top: Eric's Maine Connection

Middle: Lonesome & Pine

Top: Selena Mac

(Above Photos Courtesy of Each Artist)

Above: CD Woodbury (Photo by TS Sutherland)

How I Found the Blues

"I also knew that Eric Clapton, Jimmy Page and Jeff Beck each had deep roots in the blues."

By Malcolm "Yard Dog" Kennedy

Like many, if not most, of you I came to the blues by way of reading the album covers of my favorite artists of the 60s and 70s. I figured that if these artists held these blues men in such high esteem as to cover their songs that they must be the real deal.

I was aware of the likes of Muddy Waters, Howlin' Wolf, BB King, T-Bone Walker, John Lee Hooker, Robert Johnson, and Sonny Boy Williamson (II), I knew little about them, nothing of their contemporaries or the bluesmen or blueswomen before them. Regarding Sonny Boy Williamson II, I didn't know there were two men using that name.

Of course, I was well aware of Chuck Berry and Bo Diddley, who both had one foot firmly in the blues and the other in R&B. I was also pretty well aware of Pacific Northwest artists like Robert Cray and Isaac Scott.

On albums by Led Zepplin, The Rolling Stones, The Doors, Foghat, Cream and others I saw the names Willie Dixon, McKinley Morganfield, Chester Burnett, and Robert Johnson, I quickly traced these back to some of the aforementioned historical records.

On the Allman Brothers *At the Fillmore East*, they mentioned T-Bone Walker and Elmore James. I also knew that Eric Clapton, Jimmy Page and Jeff Beck each had deep roots in the blues.

I had a compilation record, *Guitar Boogie*, that featured these three among a few others, but it didn't have the gravity of post-war Chicago electric blues, but it sure was a lot of fun to hear these early sessions.

I also had copies of The London Howlin' Wolf Sessions and The London Chuck Berry Sessions which featured "London Berry Blues" and Hendrix in the West with "Red House." I also had a pair of cassette tapes of Robert Johnson (even then, I knew he was an important figure in the history of the

blues.)

By the end of the 70s, the radio was saturated with disco, Fleetwood Mac, the Eagles, REO Speedwagon, Journey and mostly mediocre pop (in my opinion).

I started listening to reggae, punk, and blues (eclectic and musically diverse, yes, but much better, sonically.)

One of my best friends turned me on to Rory Gallagher and Johnny Winter. A roommate I had was really into Eric Clapton. I wasn't a fan of his pop stuff like "Lay Down Sally," "Bell Bottom Blues," or "Wonderful Tonight," but my friend insisted that Eric Clapton was a bluesman and selected blues cuts like "The Sky is Crying," "Double Trouble," "Have You Ever Loved a Woman," "Ramblin' On My Mind," and "Further On Up the Road." He also turned me on to Elmore James, Freddie King, and a fantastic live album featuring Eric Clapton on several cuts.

Soon I had copies of T-Bone Walker's *The Imperial Years*, *The History of Elmore James*, *Freddie King: 1934-1976*, and later, *The Best of Freddie King: The Shelter Years*, and the seminal Vanguard Records releases *Chicago/Blues/Today Vol. 1 & 2*. I also had *The Best of Albert King*, an excellent 3 disc compilation "The Blues Guitar Box," and started to build up a collection.

In the mid-80s, I lived in Ballard, and I knew that if you wanted good party music and ladies to dance with, you should either head over to Ballard Avenue or go down to Seattle's Pioneer Square. On Ballard Avenue, you walked along until you heard a blues band, paid the cover charge, more often than not The Owl, and you were set.

Pioneer Square often had a single cover charge that got you into 8-12 clubs, so you could mosey about, and it was great.

When I turned 21, I had my first legal drink at Larry's Greenfront Cafe. I also went to see

blues bands play at the Ballard Firehouse, The Backstage Theater, The Jolly Roger, Edmonds West, Parker's Ballroom, and the Fabulous Rainbow.

I remember going to see the Isaac Scott Band open for a reggae band from Jamaica at the Moore Theater downtown, maybe the band was the Wailing Souls or the Mighty Diamonds and being very excited about that. I didn't know the names of many of the local bands I saw around town, I just knew that they played good music.

I did know the Charles White Band, Tim Casey & the Blues Cats, the Dick Powell Band, Stevie & the Blue Flames and Little Bill, but their CDs were hard to find in record stores. I did get Charles Whites Band's CDs *Not Easily Amused* and *High Livin'*, and Dick Powell's *Blue Plate Special*, and one or two others.

I would pick-up a copy of the *Blues to Do* and the Washington Blues Society's *Bluesletter* whenever I could find one. I would stop by Silver Platters at Northgate and drive to this bar out in Kenmore to see if there were any. That got me interested in writing my own CD reviews. I frequented Salmon Bay Eagles for Thursday Night Blues regularly, and eventually bought a subscription to Marlee Walker's *Blues To Do Magazine* and became a member of both the Washington Blues Society and the Salmon Bay Eagles.

Now, with 10 years volunteering on the Washington Blues Society Board of Directors, five years booking bands at Salmon Bay Eagles and over 1,000 CD reviews, 100 show/festival previews, reviews and a few dozen interviews later in a number of publications, I consider myself a true blue bluesman.

Please see my article in this issue on the 33rd anniversary of live blues this month at Seattle's Salmon Bay Eagles, and look at the outstanding opportunities to experience live blues in Ballard at the Salmon Bay Eagles!

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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