

Blueletter

Washington Blues Society

May 2025



CELEBRATING
NICK
VIGARINO

EXPERIENCE
HENDRIX

PLAYING
FOR CHANGE
AT THE
CROSSROADS

Letter from the Editor



Hello Blueslovers!

There have been some exciting changes at the Bluesletter, with more to come in the next few months. The most exciting of them is this: The Washington Blues Society has a new website at www.wablues.org, and it is much more modern.

We are adding blog functionality to it so that, instead of publishing PDFs of entire issues, we can post up stories to the Bluesletter online like most newspapers and magazines (and blogs) do.

There is a lot about this that is exciting. For one thing, blog platforms like Wordpress provide analytics about what gets read the most. This will tell us what stories people find the most interesting, and that will help shape our editorial agenda. The result will be a more interesting Bluesletter than ever! The print version will feature several all-new, unpublished stories per month, but other articles, like the calendar and the reviews of shows, etc., may go out the website and social media on a more frequent basis.

Another thing that is exciting about this is that we can include multimedia! It's awful to be the editor of a publication about music and not be able to include links to performances, songs, and videos. Now we can! You'll be able to see and hear the acts we describe in the Bluesletter! You can preview coming shows!

We also have a new intern! Wyatt Stubblefield won't be in Seattle this summer, so he's elected to take on a spring internship. He is a student in my Introduction to Journalism class at the University of Washington, and he is excited about producing multimedia content.

You may also notice that this Bluesletter is shorter than usual. To keep the Bluesletter affordable and financially viable, we have reduced it to 24 pages. That will allow us to concentrate on high quality over high quantity, which is a worthy goal. If we are successful in increasing our circulation, perhaps that may change in the future.

We plan to establish a formal Bluesletter committee as well, which will meet once a month to discuss what to include in the next edition. I'm very excited about this burst of professionalization.

On another note, I plan to defend my dissertation around May 25. I just drafted the last full chapter. All that remains is a five page conclusion and then a whole lot of formatting, proofreading, and prettifying. It's been a long journey, and Eric and the Blues Society have been very accommodating of my limited time and energy.



I'm excited to start getting out and doing some reporting for the Bluesletter.

Also, thank you to Christi Michelle for taking on writing reviews of the Blues Bashes.

Go see the new website, everyone !

Cheers!



Polly O'Keary, Editor
Washington Blues Society Bluesletter



This is an exciting time for the Washington Blues Society. For starters, the May issue is our first 24-page edition that's packed with content, such as a new column, Carrie's Corner, from longtime volunteer Carrie Parduhn. In her inaugural Carrie's Corner, we meet "Cover Man" Tim Sutherland (and it's a lot of fun!) Frequent contributors Keith Scott and Kirk Anderson add to the mix, and for the first time, many listings like our Talent Guide, Membership Form and Jams/Open Mic guide that used to be in print will now live online.

Please visit www.wablues.org for these listings. We're working more efficiently behind the scenes here at the Bluesletter to give members and readers a more focused product with blues reviews, content, and previews than ever before.

I read Tanya Lee Hodel's preview on blues in the South Sound (& Beyond, and thought about how I missed seeing the legendary Mark DuFresne in these pages. Many years ago, I was in the front row whenever he played Grinders in Shoreline, and I'm glad Tanya's included him in this month's preview (and Alex Brikoff's exceptional photo captures Mark and Billy Stapleton above).

Welcome back, Mark & Staples!

Speaking of reviews, this issue features Keith Scott's review of the Experience Hendrix show in Indianapolis, Washington Blues Society Blues Ambassador Christi Michelle's take on the April Blues Bash at Aurora Borealis, and Kirk Anderson's reflections on the Sons of Cream show at Seattle's Triple Door. I'm also pleased to recommend the Seattle Theatre Group Archives in this issue and think it's a great destination for blues fans looking to explore Seattle blues history. Finally, I'm pleased we could feature the Washington Blues Society's first President, Nick Vigarino, when I spotted him on the cover of *Whidbey Life Magazine* - and special thanks to photographer Dennis Brown & publisher Allyson Meyer for their permission to reprint Dennis' cover photo! Don't forget to vote in this year's Best of the Blues ("BB Awards") this month and enjoy the May Bluesletter! (Eric Steiner (Co-Editor & Editor Emeritus).

Above: Mark DuFresne & Billy Stapleton. Check out their shows this month in the South Sound & Beyond preview courtesy of LTD Promotions (Photo by Alex Brikoff).

Cover: Welcome Angelique Francis to this year's Winthrop Rhythm & Blues Festival Artist Courtesy Photo & Cover design and layout by Sean Donovan of Gator Boy Productions, www.gatorboyproductions.com)

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THE WASHINGTON BLUES SOCIETY BLUESLETTER
MAY 2025 - Volume XXXVI, Number V

PUBLISHER

Washington Blues Society - www.wablues.org

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PRINTER

Pacific Publishing Company
(www.pacificpublishingcompany.com)

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MAY BLUESLETTER DEADLINES

Ad Reservations	5 PM on 4/5 to editor@wablues.org
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Editorial	5 PM on 4/5 to editor@wablues.org
Camera-Ready Ad Art	5 PM on 4/10 to editor@wablues.org

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Photos: Only 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.

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THANKS TO OUR 2025 STREET TEAM

(NOTE: UNDER RECONSTRUCTION MORE DETAILS IN A FUTURE ISSUE)

SPECIAL THANKS

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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.. The Washington Blues Society received the Keeping the Blues Alive Award from The Blues Foundation in 2009.



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History in Your Hands at the Seattle Theatre Group Archives

"Thankfully, Ms. Cole's steadfast leadership resulted in a sustainable resource for the arts in our region."

By Eric Steiner

Before we saw the first Allman Betts Band Family Revival at the Moore Theatre late last year, Washington Blues Society volunteer Kirk Anderson and I visited the Seattle Theatre Group's archives in the Paramount Theatre building in downtown Seattle. They're open from 10 AM to Noon on Tuesdays, and we marveled at what we saw, read, touched, experienced and learned thanks to volunteer docents Ginny and Peggy. I'll more fully describe our visit after a quick history lesson.

The Seattle Theatre Group is a nonprofit organization that manages three historic venues in Seattle: The Paramount, Moore, and Neptune theatres. In 2023, the group added Remlinger Farms, a working farm in Carnation, Washington, for additional live shows and other cultural experiences. Full disclosure: I am a Broadway at the Paramount subscriber and member of the Paramount Club (and I shouted about this privilege in my review of Buddy Guy's farewell performance at the Paramount in these pages).

The Seattle Theatre Group hosts a range of cultural activities from Seattle to Portland in a variety of arts disciplines and partners with community-based resources like the Garfield Community Center, Kerry Hall, the Crocodile, and the Francis Russell Center. Space prohibits me from listing their diverse array of arts camps, master classes and residencies, and I encourage readers to visit www.stgprepresents.org for more information. I also have included their annual fundraiser at the Paramount, Opening Doors to the Arts 2025, featuring Lucinda Williams and the Alvin Ailey Dance Company on May 3rd, in my "Blues on the Road" preview in this issue.

The Washington Blues Society has worked with the Seattle Theatre Group for over 25 years as it has frequently staffed merchandise and/or resource booths at select blues shows. More recently in 2014, the blues society partnered with Snohomish County producer Dyann Arthur of the MusicBox

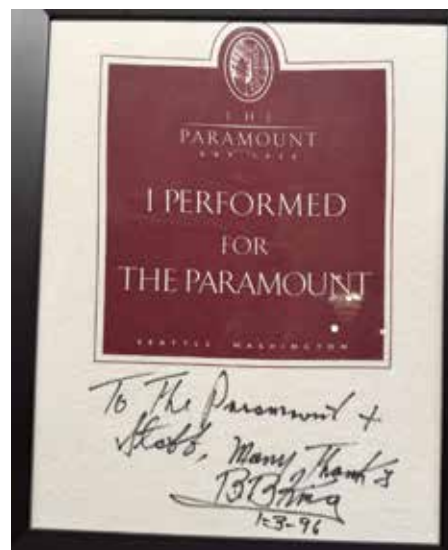
Project and staged "Time Marches On," an evening of blues music with a grant of in-kind services from the Seattle Theatre Group at the Neptune Theatre called "Nights at the Neptune." Former Advertising Director and Board member Roy Brown MC'd the show, which showcased Dyann's work with a group of youth that reflected six weeks of rehearsals. I'm particularly proud that a few of the youth involved in "Time Marches On" represented the blues society in Memphis at the International Blues Challenge youth competition.

Since then, the blues society's Passing the Torch education initiative has developed youth performers through blues challenge events to bring blues elders and youth together. Passing the Torch builds on the blues society's successful work with youth. In partnership with local schools, the blues society has sponsored youth, such as Nick Mardon and Miranda Kitchpanich, at the world's largest gathering of blues bands at the International Blues Challenge in Memphis.

The Seattle Theatre Group archives are displayed in the Neptune, Paramount and Moore rooms in the Paramount building, and they contain photos, posters, signed memorabilia, and binders of concert programs, press coverage and art since the original Seattle Theatre (Paramount) opened in 1928.

I particularly enjoyed reading news stories from legendary Seattle journalists like Roberta Penn, Patrick MacDonald and John Hinterberger. The archives tell a compelling story through the correspondence between builder L.N. Rosenbaum and his wife Bella, and I was surprised that noted Hollywood producer Adolph Zukor was very influential in the early days of the theatre.

The archives do an exceptional job of documenting the ups and downs of the Paramount Theatre, especially during the 1990s when a retired Microsoft Vice President, Ida Cole, made it her life's work to restore it to its former place as one of America's premier theatres. Volunteer



Special Thanks from BB King!
(Photo by Eric Steiner)

docents Ginny and Peggy gave me a book, *Seattle's Paramount Theatre: From Birth to Rebirth and Beyond* (Seattle Theatre Group, 2012), that chronicles not only the storied history of the venue of stage and screen, but also internecine battles of court hearings and lots of finger pointing amongst various parties. Thankfully, Ms. Cole's sharp vision and steadfast leadership resulted in a sustainable resource for the arts in our region that is the Seattle Theatre Group.

My first exposure to the Paramount Theatre was on an LP by the Guess Who in 1972 that I bought with my paper route money near Chicago Heights, *Live at the Paramount* (RCA Victor). That record introduced me to Seattle, Canada, and Saskatoon ("Runnin' Back to Saskatoon") from a record player I bought at Radio Shack.

I highly recommend that Washington Blues Society members learn more about the Seattle Theatre Group and consider supporting this fellow nonprofit arts organization.

Playing for Change: Uniting the World Through Music

"The things that divide us are never as strong as the things that bring us together...that's the power of music."

By Kirk Anderson

Playing for Change is a global initiative that unites musicians from diverse backgrounds to promote harmony. Its flagship project, "Songs Around the World," brings together artists from various cultures to create familiar and unfamiliar songs, showcasing the universal power of unity through music. A prime example is their version of "Stand By Me," which features musicians from Santa Monica, New Orleans, Amsterdam, Brazil, Russia, Venezuela, South Africa, and more. This collaboration exemplifies the project's spirit.

Playing for Change has produced 400+ videos, featuring more than 1,400 musicians from over 70 countries, reaching an audience of over 2 billion people.

Mark Johnson, co-founder of Playing for Change shared an important insight about this initiative.

"The things that divide us are never as strong as the things that bring us together," said Mark. "That's the power of music."

In addition to music, the initiative produces documentaries that tell musician's stories, from street performers to internationally recognized stars. The Playing for Change Band, consisting of artists involved in "Songs Around the World" performs globally.

Founded in 2007, the Playing for Change Foundation's first project was to build a music school in Gugulethu, South Africa. Since then, it has expanded to 18 programs, 35 schools in 13 countries, empowering underserved communities through music education. This work highlights how music transcends cultural, linguistic and political boundaries, fostering unity worldwide.

Crossroads: A Blues Collaboration

"Cross Road Blues" written by Robert Johnson in 1932, is a cornerstone of the Delta blues tradition. The song has been famously covered by artists like Elmore James, Cream, and Eric Clapton, the latter

of whom named his rehab center after the song. The latest "Songs Around the World" compilation features a new version of "Crossroads," released on March 27, 2025. This release joins other blues collaborations, such as Johnson's "Walking Blues" with Keb' Mo', and "When the Levee Breaks" with John Paul Jones and Derek Trucks.

"Crossroads" opens with Mississippi bluesman Vasti Jackson playing his National Steel guitar in front of the Ground Zero Blues Club in Clarksdale. It traces legendary Robert Johnson's footsteps, including the myth that he made a pact with the devil at a crossroads, which gave him unmatched musical talent. While historians argue Johnson's skills came from intense practice, the myth persists, transforming him from an unknown musician to a blues icon.

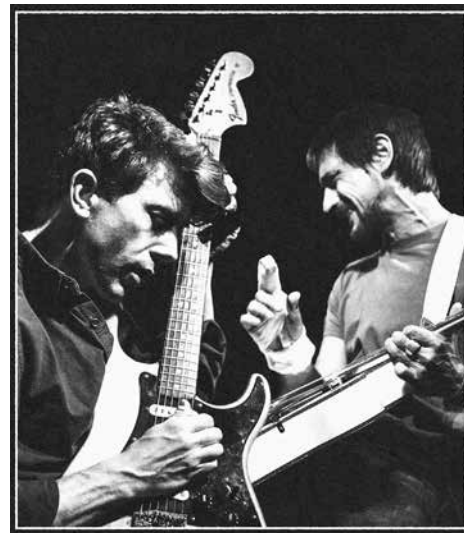
Mark has spent years traveling the world to gather music. His work on "Crossroads" came together in just four months. Johnson reflected on the humanity he encountered on the road, particularly in Mississippi and Congo.

"Out of incredible tragedy comes incredible art," he said. This also is a theme he experienced while documenting music in Mound Bayou, one of America's first all-black towns.

Crossroads traces the Mississippi Delta, and stops at landmarks like Dockery Farms in Cleveland, B.B. King's hometown of Indianola, and Mound Bayou. It then extends globally, with musicians offering unique interpretations of the Delta blues on instruments from around the world. One guitarist even performs on a Gibson SG in Mali. Keb' Mo', Christone "Kingfish" Ingram, Charlie Worsham and Cedric Burnside join Vashti Jackson, and other musicians, as they shine a light on the Delta blues' global influence.

A Personal Connection

This project captured my attention after a conversation with Polly O'Keary, bassist and



Luke Winslow-King & Roberto Luti of Playing for Change will be at Winthrop This Year!
(Artist Courtesy Photo).

editor, during rehearsals for the Highway 99 All-Star gigs in January. Polly and Robin Moxey, a musician with a 20-year history with Playing for Change, shared stories about Robin's upcoming trip to the Mississippi Delta to record for *Crossroads*. It was clear this project had to be highlighted in an article.

In my interview with Robin, conducted just before "Crossroads" release, he talked about his upbringing in California and his work with Playing for Change. His passion for cross-cultural projects was evident, and his experiences underscored the connections music fosters across cultures. Robin also spoke about Lee Oskar's involvement with Playing for Change, a story I plan to explore in a future article.

Mark Johnson also spoke highly of Lee Oskar, calling him one of his heroes. Oskar, who tours with the Playing for Change Band and donates harmonicas to the foundation's schools, carefully matches each harmonica to each community. This personal touch shows the connection Oskar has with the initiative, further emphasizing how music can bridge gaps and unite people worldwide.

Experience Hendrix Live in Indianapolis!

"If you love Jimi Hendrix' music, or just blues in general, I highly recommend Experience Hendrix."

By Keith Scott

Editor Emeritus Eric Steiner asked me to review the March 20th Experience Hendrix show at the historic Murat Theater at the Old National Centre in Indianapolis and I hope my fellow Washington Blues Society members will enjoy this article.

First of all, I want to thank frequent contributor, and former blues society Board Secretary, Rocky Nelson, for sending two very informative links to Editor Emeritus Eric Steiner about this year's Experience Hendrix tour. Eric's article in last month's *Bluesletter* nicely captured not only the tour, but also Buddy Guy's return to the Fox Theatre in Atlanta and his latest recording with the alt-rock band Switchfoot, "Last Man Standing." I was pleasantly surprised (and really honored) that Eric included a photo of me and Buddy Guy in his preview informed by two great links from Rocky Nelson. Thanks, Rocky!

My journey to Indianapolis began back in February when I attended Buddy Guy's last residency in Chicago at Buddy Guy's Legends. My good friend Orlando Wright has played bass in Buddy's band for over 25 years and we've been friends for almost four decades. I am very lucky to have him play some gigs with me from time to time.

Orlando added my Mom, artist Ginny Scott and me to the guest list at Legends for an awesome show that featured special guest Bobby Rush.

Then, I was performing at Reggie's in Chicago on Fat Tuesday, and reached out to Orlando to play the show and that's when I found out he was going to be part of the Hendrix Experience tour. I saw that the March 20th show in Indianapolis was my one possibility, so I drove down to Indy and surprised him.

I picked up a great lower level seat in the theatre, grabbed a big pretzel, and settled in for the show. Before the concert began, they showed an incredible montage of Hendrix

performing at Woodstock, the Atlanta Pop Festival, and Hawaii's Rainbow Bridge concerts. These film clips also featured the history of the legendary Electric Lady Studios in Greenwich Village, which Hendrix opened in 1970 (and I later learned it was the only artist-owned recording studio in the world at the time).

Jimi lived to create music with little regard for finances, and I'm proud to say I'm trying to keep that tradition going.

Anyway, the lights went down and Janie Hendrix, CEO of Experience Hendrix and Authentic Hendrix, came out and gave a beautiful speech. She manages the Hendrix legacy.

Then, it was showtime.

Singer Henri Brown, Jimi Hendrix' cousin, was the MC and lead performer. I got lucky and met him in the hallway during the concert.

Orlando Wright was the first bassist along with Indigenous' lead guitarist Mato Nanji, and they launched into a raucous version of "Foxy Lady." Then, Ally Venable crushed a version of "Fire." When she played, I realized that us "blues dudes" simply don't have a chance against her. The audience agreed and gave her a standing ovation.

Next up, Los Lobos' Cesar Rosa's and David Hidalgo played "Can You See Me?" and "Are You Experienced?" while film clips of Jimi played behind them on screen.

I'll be honest. I really had no idea who was up next, so I was floored when Eric Johnson walked out and launched into "The Power of Soul." He did it justice to say the least.

Then, Dylan Triplett came out and sang "The Burning of the Midnight Lamp" with Eric, and this was guitar overload on steroids!!

Greg Allman's son Devon then laid down a beautiful version of "Little Wing." Devon has continued to channel his father's spirit and art through his vocals and guitar work. I had heard Marcus King was a great new



Cesar Rojas, Jimi Hendrix & Orlando Wright
(Photo by Keith Scott)

artist, so when he walked out and nailed "Crosstown Traffic," I can see what all the fuss has been about.

Los Lobos came back out with awesome versions of "Killing Floor," "Rock Me Baby," and "Can You See Me?" I watched how Orlando Wright's bass complemented drummer Tony Beard's groove to give the music a real infectious feel.

Kenny Wayne Shepard and Noah Hunt then played an amazing version of "Voodoo Chile" twice: On acoustic, and then on electric when they brought the house down. It was great to see Kenny Wayne Shepard as a true blues star as I first saw him at Buddy Guy's club when he was just 16 years old. I was hoping to see Christone "Kingfish" Ingram in Indianapolis, but he was on a different itinerary of the tour. There are currently three different versions of the Experience Hendrix tour traveling around the country.

If you love Jimi Hendrix' music, or just blues in general, I highly recommend Experience Hendrix.

Around the South Sound & Beyond with LTD Presents

"May has many fun & varied performances to choose from all around the South Sound & Beyond!"

By Tanya Lee Hodel

May is blooming with great shows around the South Sound and beyond.

Zesty's Steakhouse at 9905 Bridgeport Way Southwest, formerly a Black Angus, in Lakewood has jumped on board the blues and R & B bandwagon with three shows in May. On the 2nd, The Carter Brothers bring their smooth style with sax, guitar and vocals. Featuring Kevan (bass & vocals), Keith (sax & vocals) and Butch Carter (guitar & vocals) with Jim Cochran on keys and Dale Catlett on drums, this band brings contemporary and old school favorites sure to keep you swaying all night long. On the 23rd, Zesty's features the Familya R&B Band, and on the 31st, the Tim Hall Blues Band hit the stage. All shows start at 8 PM

Sunday Blues at The Spar in Old Town Tacoma starts at 7 PM and their featured line up for May has The Seattle Houserockers on the 4th, Chad Rupp on the 11th and the multiple Washington Blues Society BB Award-winning Mark DuFresne Band featuring Billy Stapleton on the 25th. Grammy-nominated Mark DuFresne wows audiences with his harmonica stylings and his vocal range. Slide guitar master Billy Stapleton with Fender bassman Kelly Liefer and Steve "Boom-Boom" Peterson round out this blues band. It's always a great night of blues at The Spar and those in the know show up early for the best seats. In addition, Washington Blues Society and South Sound



Billy Stapleton & Mark DuFresne
(Photo by Tanya Lee Hodel)

Blues Association members, and former Highway 99 Blues Club house band, The Trailer Park Kings, bring their 70s goodness to The Spar on the 31st at 7 PM.

The Kimball Coffeehouse in Gig Harbor has Michele D'Amour & The Love Dealers on the 9th and the entertaining Annie Eastwood and Her All-Star Band, featuring Billy Stapleton, on the 23rd. Michele D'Amour's show is sponsored in part by the South Sound Blues Association, doors open at 6 PM, and the music starts at 7 PM.

Heather Jones & The Groovemasters have three shows this month with Rock the Dock at 535 Dock Street in Tacoma on the 10th. Then, they play Stockton's at 23220 Maple Valley-Black Diamond Road SE in Maple Valley on the 17th, and then return to Dawson's Bar & Grill on South Tacoma Way on the 31st. All shows start at 8 PM.

The Queen Street Gang with Rick Estrin & The Nightcats' keyboardist, Lorenzo Farrell, returns to Tacoma's, Cider & Cedar at 744 Market Street on the 22nd. Lorenzo is joined by Zak Stoldt of the John Stephan Band on drums. The Queen Street Gang feature a variety of local, special guest artists at each of their shows. Music runs from 6-9 PM.

Mark Hurwitz, the award-winning Washington Blues Society keyboard player, currently nominated for a Best Keyboard award, brings his Gin Creek band on the 3rd from 4-7 PM to Urban Elk, at the Allenmore Golf Course at 2013 South Cedar Street in Tacoma. Urban Elk features a variety of blues and other bands every month.

On the 16th, Mark will be at Olalla Wine at 13176 Olalla Valley Rd Southeast in Olalla with his Trio at 6:30 PM, and on the 24th, Mark Hurwitz & Gin Creek will play The Floatation Device at 14511 Sherman Drive Northwest in Gig Harbor from 9 PM to 1 AM.

May has many fun and varied performances to choose from all around the South Sound and beyond. From traditional blues to R&B, and with a little classic blues-based rock thrown in for good measure, you can't help but be entertained.

See you out there!



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Carrie's Corner: Meet "Cover Man" Tim Sutherland

Welcome to a new Bluesletter feature highlighting images of local blues musicians, fans, and more!

By Carrie Parduhn

I met up with Tim Sutherland, a graphic artist responsible for some of Washington's most iconic blues album covers, including CD Woodbury's, 'World Gone Crazy', Polly O'Keary's "Black Crow Callin'", and for Michele D'Amour and the Love Dealers, "Hot Mess". He has no ego; he is just an artist seeking to help musicians get their music SEEN! We talked about his current and past graphic art work.

Currently he's working on a drawing for Gabriela Gomes's album cover. Her rock band, Ghost Jaguar, was formed in 2024.

His new logo for Chris Eger's 8th annual "Burning in Mt. Vernon" show is approved and soon to be revealed. Tim has also created several of Chris Eger's logos including his new logo for the Chris Eger Band.

Tim also has developed a series of functional art objects called Guitar:45, including clocks made from 45-rpm records and repurposed guitar bodies. He made one for music artist Eric Heatherly representing his song, "Wrong Five O'Clock." Recently Tim created a new Guitar:45 clock features the "3 O'Clock Blues", a song that launched B.B. King's career in 1951, becoming his first hit. It was originally a 1946 Lowell Fulson recording.

This beautiful artwork, originally intended for auction to support the WBS Musician Relief Fund, is slated for donation to the Washington Blues Society.

Check out Tim Sutherland's website for more info at tssutherland.com



Above left: Tim Sutherland, an artist in multiple media including digital design, pencil, charcoal, and sculpture, designs an album cover for local rock artists Ghost Jaguar (Photo by Carrie Parduhn). Below, left to right: Guitar:45, a clock Sutherland made from a guitar body and a vintage 45; the cover of Michelle D'Amour and the Love Dealers' 'Hot Mess', and the cover of Polly O'Keary and the Rhythm Method's 'Black Crow Callin' CD, which won Sutherland the Best Blues Image award from the WBS in 2017.



The Chronicles of Christi Michelle: The March Blues Bash!

"I'm grateful for the opportunity to co-host the monthly Blues Bash with Kevin Sutton..."

By Christi Michelle, Washington Blues Society Blues Ambassador

As someone who is passionate about giving back to my community, I'm ecstatic to share that the Washington Blues Society has become a vital part of my life, bringing me immense joy and fulfillment. The blues society's March 2025 blues bash was truly unforgettable! The sensational Jeff and The Jet City Flyers, along with the outstanding acoustic duo of Trouble at Home, delivered electrifying performances that, without question, resonated deeply with the audience.

Each set showcased unique harmonies and exceptional showmanship, and demonstrated the profound impact of music on how it can unite and inspire our growing community.

I feel fortunate to be part of a team that harnesses the universal language of the blues to bring people together in so many ways.

We started the night with the dynamic duo of John Marshall and Dan Newton. Their captivating set as Trouble at Home was fascinating to see them play with such affection.

Each of these blues artists is an incredible multi-instrumentalist. Dan Newton's lap steel, acoustic guitar, and accordion, supported by impressive singing and songwriting, complements John Marshall's mesmerizing stage presence and velvety vocal harmonies. Their set left a lasting impression on me. Their clever songwriting skills showcased Dan's guitar and John's harmonica playing and their talents sustained the audience's enthusiasm throughout their set.

After their set, I had the pleasure of speaking with these two gentlemen, and learned something special about the band's history and clever name that I'm eager to share with Bluesletter readers.

Trouble at Home has been making music since 1988 from Seattle's Fremont neighborhood. Founded by John Marshall, ironically enough, John told me that Trouble at Home was honored with the first Washington Blues Society's Best of the Blues Award as Best New Band during the inaugural years of the blues society. What an absolute delight it was to learn about that "full circle" story to share with Bluesletter readers.

Trouble at Home will perform as a five-piece on June 13th and as a duo on July 19th at Seattle's Salmon Bay Eagles. Dan and John value face-to-face connections, live performances, and encourage fans to experience their music in person.

Keeping the party going, Jeff and The Jet City Flyers played an exceptional second set. They have played together for an impressive 25 years! Most bands last five, maybe ten years (if they're lucky). This type of longevity must mean that they are excellent at what they do, and that they might even like one another a little bit, too.

Jeff Herzog on vocals and harmonica and Billy Lovy on guitar and vocals are the founding fathers of this rockin' project. They have nurtured an impressive two and a half decades of collaborations, including many top-notch, revolving players from our deep well of local blues talent.

Drummer John Rockwell has been with the Flyers for 17 years, bassist Mark Dalton has given them 15 years, and keyboardist Curtis Moore is the junior Flyer with 10 years' experience. At the Blues Bash at Aurora Borealis, Curtis simply couldn't sit still! These guys are tight knit and it shows.

Together, they have created a truly special sound. Their passion for music is infectious, and their performances are not to be missed.

Catch Jeff & The Jet City Flyers live on June 29th at the Spar, on July 26th for the Salmon Bay Eagles Motorcycle Poker Run,



Bill Lovy & Jeff Herzog
(Photo by Rick J. Bowen)

and on August 29th during Labor Day weekend at the Best of the Blues Award-winning Engle's Pub in downtown Edmonds.

As one of the newly appointed Washington Blues Society Blues Ambassadors, I'm grateful for the opportunity to co-host the monthly Blues Bash with Kevin Sutton, an wonderful blues educator, singer-songwriter, and member of the nationally recognized, International Blues Challenge winning WIRED! Band.

I get to connect with blues society members face-to-face and witness for myself the incredible talent that our community has to offer. Then, I get to tell the tales of my experiences to Bluesletter readers. I'm thrilled that Editor Polly O'Keary asked me to contribute articles like this one in support our evolving monthly Bluesletter.

Stay tuned next month for lots more from where this came from! Until next time my friends, take care of yourselves.

Nick Vigarino is on the Cover!

"Whenever Nick Vigarino plays slide guitar, I feel that same magic I felt over 40 years ago in Ballard!"

By Eric Steiner

Earlier this year, I was shopping at Bayview Farm and Garden, next to the historic site of the Bayview Cash Store less than 10 minutes from my home in Freeland on Whidbey Island. I noticed a very familiar face on the cover of the latest *Whidbey Life Magazine*, and I immediately put it in my shopping cart.

It was Nick Vigarino!

In 2023, former Washington Blues Society Secretary Rocky Nelson brought his friend Dan Ventura, who wears many hats as the President of the North Hood Canal Chamber of Commerce and owner-operator of the Cove RV Park and Country Store in Brinnon, Washington, to one of Nick's shows at Bailey's Corner Store in the woods near Clinton on Whidbey Island.

Photographer Dennis Browne captured Nick bending another note within an inch of its life with his gas can slide guitar on the *Whidbey Life Magazine* cover, and Dennis' interior photos caught musician and local Yoga entrepreneur Lauren Flynn and the Sunflecks band in performance. I've written about Lauren's band, Buried Blonde, in these pages and highly recommend her as a solo artist or bandleader.

Kiersten Miller's photos of Trivia Night at Bailey's Corner Store and the driveway leading up to Bailey's capture a unique sense of community and place of this venue nestled deep in the woods. I particularly liked Kiersten's photos of the elevated porch and owner Ken Stange next to Dennis' second photo of Nick.

Russell Clepper's article does a nice job of conveying the sense of community I felt when I watched Nick work his slide guitar magic as I enjoyed one of the best burgers I've had since relocating to Whidbey Island in 2021.

For me, that night at Bailey's Corner Store was just another "typical Nick Vigarino live blues show" from one of the world's slide

guitar masters. I also had the opportunity to reconnect not only with Rocky and meet Dan, but also long-time music promoter (and fixture at Seattle Mariners home games), Shannon Love.

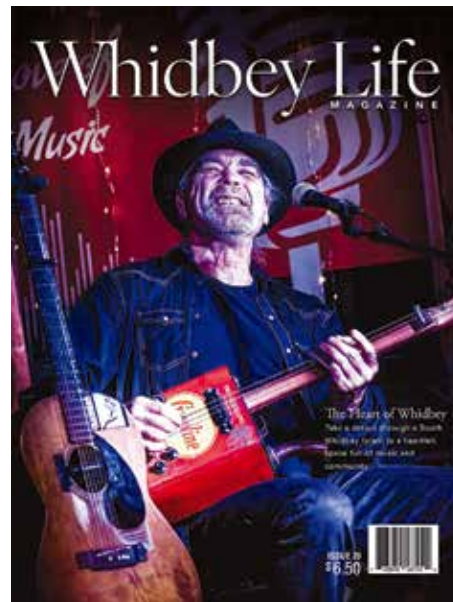
We marveled at Nick's exceptional sleight of hand on his gas can slide guitar as he played songs from his three outstanding CDs: *Temptation Road*, *The Ghost of Time*, and *Victims of Cool*. My favorite songs from the set include "Monday Woman," "Zihua Stomp," and "Whatever Happened to Bo Diddley's Money?" That second song is one of the finest examples of world music and is based on Nick's experience at the Zihuantanejo International Guitar Festival.

Every show, Nick does a "walk about" through the audience and uses fans' cell phones, plates or glasses instead of his metal slide on his left hand. After using plate and a cell phone, Dan proffered his hunting knife, and true to form, Nick sliced through several verses of the song before he gave Dan back his knife and walked to the next table.

Nick is a member of the Washington Blues Society Hall of Fame, has earned dozens of awards in three different countries, and made it to the finals of the 2011 International Blues Challenge in Memphis. He's no stranger there. He's represented the Washington Blues Society either as a solo performer or with his duo, Back Porch Stomp.

Nick will also headline this year's ShrimpFest, a 32 year old legacy event on June 21st at Brinnon Town Center from 9 AM to 10 PM managed by the Brinnon Fire Association. As of our deadline, current sponsors include The Halfway House Restaurant ("Halfway Between Here & There"), Johnston Realty, NW Cold Treats, and this year's ShrimpFest features a new Shrimp "Iron Chef" Competition that showcases Peninsula restaurants. ShrimpFest is free to all and dogs are welcomed only if they're on a leash!

"Nick's appeal to locals and visitors at the 2023 Brinnon Fire Association benefit at the Cove RV Park made his return for this year's



Nick Vigarino is on the Cover!
(Photo by Dennis Browne)

ShrimpFest a natural," said Rocky. "Nick rearranged his national touring schedule to play ShrimpFest, a popular and time honored Hood Canal event."

Nick was instrumental in starting the Washington Blues Society in the late 1980s as one of its very first presidents. In those days, he was a fixture at legendary Seattle blues clubs like the Owl Tavern in Ballard and the Central Saloon in Pioneer Square. He's received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the blues society as well as a number of Best of the Blues Awards ("BB Awards") from the Washington Blues Society.

Nick was one of the first bluesmen I met when I arrived in Seattle. Whenever Nick Vigarino plays slide guitar, I feel that same magic I felt over 40 years ago in Ballard!

Editor Emeritus' Note: Special thanks to Whidbey Life Magazine Editor & Publisher Allyson Meyer and photographer Dennis Browne for their permission to reprint the cover of Issue 20 of Whidbey Life Magazine!

Sons of Cream at Seattle's Triple Door

"It's about reinventing the music, not just capitalizing on our parents' success..."

By Kirk Anderson

Seattle's Triple Door, with its intimate setting and stellar acoustics, was the ideal venue in March for the Sons of Cream's 1st US tour.

Cream debuted in July of 1966. Known for their mastery of musical instrumentation, the band had a tumultuous run before breaking up two years later. They briefly reunited for two shows in 1968 at the Royal Albert Hall in London, which were filmed and released in 1977 as *Farewell Concert*. Their legendary status led them into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in 1993, followed by a 4-show reunion at Royal Albert Hall in 2005.

Before Cream, Jack Bruce and Ginger Baker played together in the Graham Bond Organization, though they often clashed during their strained relationship. These conflicts continued with Eric Clapton in Cream (yet the trio's chemistry produced timeless rock music).

The Sons of Cream lineup includes Malcolm Bruce (Jack Bruce's son) on bass and vocals, Kofi Baker (Ginger Baker's son) on drums and vocals, and Rob Johnson (grandnephew of Ginger Baker), on lead guitar and vocals.

Kofi Baker injured his hand a few nights earlier in California. He apologized for not being able to play at his usual level, but still delivered an impressive performance. He demonstrated professionalism and an ability to adapt. Watching his augmented style, it was clear how much of his father's influence is present in his playing.

During the show, I closed my eyes for a brief moment to focus on the interplay between the musicians. While I never saw Cream live, I could tell that Sons of Cream paid faithful homage to the recorded music and injected their own creativity.

I spoke with Rob Johnson at the Musicquarium, the Triple Door's upstairs bar and small stage. I asked about his thoughts on "sons of" projects and shifted the conversation to the band's future. Rob

made it clear that Sons of Cream is not a tribute band.

"Sure, we pay homage to our ancestors, but we take opportunities to make the music our own," he said. He also mentioned that the band was working on original material and, after the tour, would discuss future plans, including recording and more touring.

The Sons of Cream set stayed true to the spirit of Cream and Blind Faith, with ample room for improvisation and fresh interpretations. The songs, legendary for their influence on rock music, were given new life by the next generation of musicians. The set list shows how the band mined the Cream and Blind Faith record catalogue, with songs like "Sleepy Time Time," "I'm So Glad," "Had to Cry Today," "Can't Find My Way Home," "Pressed Rat & Warthog," and "Sunshine of Your Love."

Malcolm Bruce shared his thoughts with me after the show.

"We're winding up our 28-date US tour, traveling about 12,000 miles over seven weeks," he said. "I'm always learning something new about this big country, and I'm grateful for the opportunity."

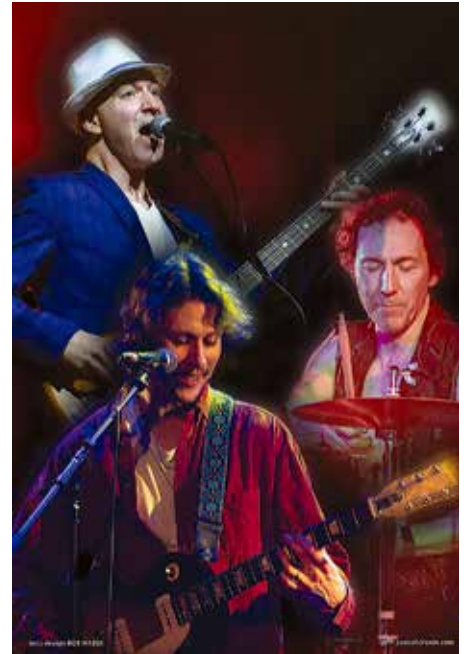
He reflected on the legacy of Cream and their mission to keep the spirit of improvisation alive in the music they play.

Blues-based music is a form of unrestricted emotional expression, and Sons of Cream continue that tradition. The band's chemistry, blending influences from their fathers and their own unique approaches, creates something transcendent.

"If we tried to fit into some pre-existing notion of what it 'should' be, we would stop being ourselves," Malcolm said. "That's why we're not a tribute band. We honor our family legacy through improvisation, not repetition."

He also discussed the future.

"We'll take a break from touring at the end of March, then start planning for another US



The Sons of Cream Official Collage
(Photo Art by Bob Massey)

tour in late 2025 and early 2026," he said. "We're signing a deal to record an album and plan to enter the studio in May. It's exciting to explore original music, but we're not ready to announce specifics yet."

"Each of us is also working on individual projects," Malcolm continued. "I have a blues trio, and a new album project called *Fake Humans*. Rob has Motel Sundown, and Kofi has other projects. We hope to balance these with Sons of Cream, allowing for growth and development."

The band's goals include honoring their family's legacy while forging their own path.

"It's about reinventing the music, not just capitalizing on our parents' success," Malcolm said. "We may come up with something new, and that's exciting."

As they continue their journey, Sons of Cream remain committed to exploring the limitless possibilities of music, transcending the past while staying true to their heritage.

Winthrop Blues Fest 2025 to Put the World on Stage

With artists from Australia, Italy, Canada and the UK, this year's festival is markedly international



This year, Winthrop blues fest is bringing the world to the stage. From the deep soul of Canada's Angelique Francis, to the powerhouse Aussie organ-shredder Lachy Doley, to the vintage swagger of the UK's The Heavy Heavy and the guitar virtuosity of Italy's Roberto Luti, these international artists are keeping rhythm & blues alive and well.

They'll join a powerhouse lineup of homegrown legends and rising stars: Samantha Fish, Robert Randolph, Tab Benoit, Sugaray Rayford, CJ Chenier & the Red Hot Louisiana Band, Diggin Dirt, Luke Winslow-King & Roberto Luti, Ben Rice & The PDX Hustle, Too Slim & the Taildraggers, Caitlin Kristo & The Broadcast, Joel Astley and our very own

Methow Juke Joint Allstars.

The festival takes place July 18-20, 2025 at the Blues Ranch in Winthrop, WA. Images courtesy of the artists. Montage by Sean Donovan.

Help Us Build a Better Bluesletter

Reminders about formatting photos and stories for current & prospective contributors

By Eric Steiner

During the preparation of this month's issue, editor Polly O'Keary and I have received many photos and stories we could not use as contributors submitted material incompatible with Adobe's In Design, the "coin of the realm" program in magazine production.

I wanted to, again, reinforce the fine print on page four of every issue regarding the publication's submission guidelines for articles and stories.

I wish I had a nickel for each story submitted to us as a PDF or embedded in an email.

While I wouldn't necessarily be affluent, I'd have enough for a special dinner at Seattle's Space Needle.

The best way to get an article published in the Bluesletter is to submit a story as an

attachment in Microsoft Word or Rich Text Format on or before the deadline of the 5th of the month for the following month's issue.

Our deadline for June is May 5th, and for July is June 5th. The same deadline also applies to pictures and graphic arts as well.

Images are bit more complicated because our partners in printing, Pacific Publishing, use standard high resolution press formatting for all images. That's CMYK (shorthand for Cyan-Magenta-Yellow-Key Color, or Black). It's not the traditional primary colors of red, blue, and green (RGB images).

CMYK, as I understand it, taps into a broader color palette than RGB and reflects a traditional four-color printing process.

Images from social media tend to be low resolution at 96 dots per inch, and traditional print media requires all images not only

be formatted using the CYMK four-color process, but also higher resolutions at 300 dots per inch or greater.

As a result, the hundreds of images Polly and I receive every year from social media, while looking great online, they aren't suitable for print.

Also, Polly and I get photos from cell phones "shot on the fly" with no formatting or even titling according to our printer's specs on page 4. So, please, if you have a story or photo, review our printer's specs on page four before dashing off a quick pic from your cell phone!

Finally, I'll end with an attitude of gratitude to our proofreaders for this issue. For the first time since 2023, Polly and I had the benefit of two rounds of proofreading and incorporated edits we received prior to our printer's deadline! Thank you!

WBS Presents
HISTORY OF THE Blues
May 27th at the TEN-01
Blues Ambassadors
• Antoine Dooron
• Kevin Sutton
• Jonathan Pitman
• Christi Michelle Weiss
1001 Hewitt Avenue, Everett, WA
WaBlues.org

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley
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Jazz Alley is a fixture of the Seattle live music and dining scene, family owned and operated since 1980
May 2025 SHOWS
Joey Alexander Trio 1-1
Sean Kuti & Egypt 80 6-7
Spyro Gyra 8-11
The Bad plus 13-14
Robert Glasper Trio 15-18
Shemekia Copeland 20-21
Bella Fleck, Edmar Castaneda, Antonia Sanchez 20-23
Lindsey Webster 27-28
The Miracles 29-31
2023 8th Avenue Seattle WA 98121
Phone (206) 443-9729
jazzalley@jazzalley.com
JAZZALLEY.COM

Best of the Blues Awards: Bigger & Better in June at Apex in Everett

Please vote in this years awards by May 13th either online, by mail or in person at our Blues Bash!

By Polly O'Keary

The Washington Blues Society's annual Best of the Blues Awards ("BB Awards") will take place June 8 this year, rather than in April, which has been the norm for the last several years.

The award celebration honors musicians, artists, events, and venues nominated by blues society members in 30 award categories.

The 2025 BB Awards show will be presented at the Kings Hall at Apex in Everett. The event will also be broadcast on YouTube and Facebook. .

The move to June was done in an effort to get more votes from members before the event, as the number of ballots received has declined since the COVID-19 pandemic.

Although the nominees for the awards were announced in this issue, voting will take place only online through mid-May.

The paper ballot, which will run again next month, will be accepted beginning in May.

This is being done to familliarize more blues society members with the website and with online voting, which could streamline the ballot count considerably for voters and for the volunteers who tabulate the ballots.



Answers to the puzzle on page 14:

1. Samantha Fish
2. Robert Randolph
3. Tab Benoit
4. The Heavy Heavy

5. Sugaray Rayford
6. Lachy Doley
7. Diggin Dirt
8. Angelique Francis
9. CJ Chenier

Madison Ave Pub

Mondays 7 till 9-ish
Mad Bojo

Wednesday Unbound Blues Jam
7 till 10-ish

5/7 Mark Dufresne, Billy Stapleton, Jon Sayre
5/14 Ben Johnson
5/21 Billy Appleton
5/28 Scott E. Lind 16th Anniversary Jam

Rockin' Fridays 8-12

5/2 Outside The Lines
5/9 the Roc Martens
5/16 Andie Whitewing Band
5/23 Dana Osborn Band
5/30 the Shortcutz

Sunday Night Karaoke presented by
Rob Bramblett Entertainment
Have fun with friends singing your favorites!

905 Madison St. Everett 425-348-7402

Tuesday Night Dinner Show 7-9

5/6 Dana Lupinacci & friends
5/13 Flightline
5/20 Unbound
5/27 The Problem

Thursday Night 7-9
Singer-Songwriter Showcase

Kevin Sutton with special guest 5/1
Stacy Jones with special guest
5/8, 5/15, 5/22, 5/29

Red Hot Saturdays 7:30-11:30

5/3 Cold 102's
5/10 Jesse James and the M.O.B.
5/17 Mojo Cannon with Jealous Minds
5/24 Signal Flags
5/31 Steven Taylor and Friends

CD Reviews

New music from Ron Hendee and Kim Field and the Perfect Gentlemen



Ron Hendee
Love One Another
(Self-Released)

Love One Another is a perfect album for 2025. It has a heaping helping of uplifting messages and the songs on the album are thoughtful, well-crafted, original, and diverse.

The title track, “Love One Another,” has an Earth, Wind and Fire vibe, with a big choir in the background, and Wilton Rabb turns in bright, crisp, and blues-forward guitar work. Hendee has a nice tenor, and he does a good job presenting well-constructed lyrics.

“Turned It Over” is a bouncy tune with big, brassy horn parts, about turning things over to a higher power and letting go. Hendee plays a delightful horn part with flamboyant New Orleans flair.

Fans of Cutris Salgado, Sugaray, and old Muscle Shoals recordings will appreciate “Grown Ass Man” and “Peacefu.” The first is a bit sassy as Hendee’s pleasantly gravel-tinged voice tells a lover to stop talking down to him. “Peaceful,” with a smoldering sax, sounds like Otis Redding could have sung it.

Then Hendee is off to the Caribbean for the calypso/reggae-flavored funk banger “Jamaica Bound.” Hendee’s long time collaborator, drummer Michael Rogers, (John Lee Hooker, Jr.) works well with percussionist Juan Escoveda, providing an authentic island sound.

“Southern Fried Meets East Bay Grease” starts with drums with a New Orleans second line feel, and then a funky bass and rhythm guitar step in. The groove-heavy song is ornamented by nice sax work from Charles McNeal.

“I’ll Be Missing You” is a pretty ballad with contemplative, smooth walking bass work that shines through a sparse arrangement, masterfully mixed to create a lot of space for a cool Hendee horn solo that brings midnight jazz sensibility to the song.

“What Will Jesus Say,” the funkiest track on the album, is a righteous screed against avaricious televangelists. This is Ron Hendee’s grittiest vocal, calling out preachers with private jets and mansions.

“Your Truth” starts out with straight up contemporary Christian gospel sounds, salted with what sounds like a Black gospel choir, Hendee’s rough voice, a surprisingly biting blues rock guitar solo, and a tinge of country. The truly outstanding production by Larry D. Baptiste shines particularly brightly on this one.

The album concludes with the instrumental “Funk Schwei,” featuring sweet horns and some nice percussion work involving hand drums and shakers.

Hendee is a fine songwriter who works with some excellent musicians and this album is a great choice for lovers of funky, horn-driven blues and roots. -by Polly O’Keary



Kim Field and the Perfect
Gentlemen
Don't Need But One
(Self-Released)

This album took me by surprise. The first half of the album is straightforward blues, but as the album progresses, it increases in musical sophistication, bringing in big band sounds, complex jazz progressions, Blues Eyed Soul, and even Hawaiian slack key and pedal steel sounds.

The title track, “Don’t Need But One,” introduces Kim Field as a talented singer with a weathered edge that gives his performances authority. The song’s message is that an honest man “don’t need but one woman,” a charming sentiment that tracks with the band name of the Perfect Gentlemen.

“Please Don’t Ask Me” sounds like it was recorded using equipment from a blues club stage in Chicago in the 1960 with brittle-toned guitar, slappy drums, and the nasal twang of a harmonica through a fat boy mic into a 30-watt tube amp.

“Black Diamonds” is a standard 12-bar you-

did-me-wrong ballad, and” What Kind of Fool,” written by guitarist Vyasa Dodson, is a catchy blues with a rock-a-billy flavor and a very singable chorus. “Dress the Monkey” has a little Texas BBQ sauce on it. It’s a rollicking instrumental with a clever intro and some cool structural innovations. “All These Little Things” is a peasant, loping blues that is a good showcase for Field’s harmonica work.

At this point, halfway through the record, I was drawing the conclusion that I was listening to a very capable, radio-friendly blues album bound to get appreciative reviews from blues traditionalist critics.

Then “I Give In” spilled from the speakers like a gin martini from a speakeasy. The song featured an exceptional lounge jazz vocal from guitarist Vyasa Dodson, who also wrote the song. The guitar work nearly brought tears to my eyes, played on a Telecaster made to sound like a Hawaiian lap steel guitar.

From that track through the end of the album, the album took a sharp turn into a lush New York nightclub frequented by Lauren Bacall and filmed in black and white. “Emergency” featured some of the supremely accomplished bassist Dennis Bixby’s finest work, and “So Dark In Here” features a sinful Chris Mercer sax part and some terrific organ work in a song that could well be a Freddy Fender ballad.

“Flower Shop” is another instrumental, also penned by Vyasa Dodson, that nods deeply to jazz guitar masters of the past, including Django Reinhardt and Joe Pass.

The album finishes with “The Man That Got Away,” a big band torch song from the *A Star Is Born* soundtrack by Gershwin. It brings back that narcotic Hawaiian lap steel, and is performed as an instrumental that preserves the orchestral feeling of the original.

This surprising album is a massive flex for Kim Field and the Perfect Gentlemen, who demonstrate a creativity, musical sophistication, and versatility far above the common run. -by Polly O’Keary

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38th Annual
**Winthrop
Rhythm & Blues
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JULY 18-20 2025

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SUGARAY RAYFORD ★ DIGGIN DIRT
CJ CHENIER & THE RED HOT LOUISIANA BAND
THE HEAVY HEAVY ★ LUKE WINSLOW-KING & ROBERTO LUTI
ANGELIQUE FRANCIS ★ LACHY DOLEY
BEN RICE & THE PDX HUSTLE ★ TOO SLIM & THE TAILDRAGGERS
CAITLIN KRISKO & THE BROADCAST ★ JOEL ASTLEY
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Blues on the Road: Select Previews of Nationally Touring Acts

By Eric Steiner

As I typed on page three's "teaser, introductory paragraph," the May 2025 issue of the Bluesletter is a 1st for many reasons. First of all, it marks our 1st 24-page print issue, and that many sections like our Blues Jam & Open Mic Listing, Talent Guide, and Membership Form will now live online. Due to the reduced page count, I'm lucky that my "Blues on the Road" preview is "still a thing" (as many young people say). So, here's an abbreviated set of recommendations of touring bands playing in our region this month!



Blue Moon Marquee

During the first week of May, Blue Moon Marquee play the College of South Idaho in Twin Falls on the 6th, the Idaho Falls Arts Council on the 7th, and the Shine Social Club in Boise on the 8th. Last year, Blue Moon Marquee was honored with a Best Blues Album in Canada's prestigious Juno Awards for *Scream, Holler & Howl* (Stony Plain), and this year, the duo is nominated in the same category for a CD they recorded live, with no overdubs, in New Orleans' 9th Ward, *New Orleans Sessions* (Stony Plain). In 2020, Blue Moon Marquee reached the semi-finals of the International Blues Challenge representing the Washington Blues Society. .category.,.

Charlie Musselwhite & Elvin Bishop

On the 15th, blues legends Charlie Musselwhite and Elvin Bishop kick off their 11-date late spring/early summer tour at the Historic Everett Theatre in Everett. For me, their 2020 Alligator CD, *100 Years of Blues*, was an instant classic, and when guests ask me to play the blues, I'll usually just press play and let Charlie and Elvin work their magic. (Photos of Elvin Bishop & Charlie Musselwhite by Eric Steiner).



Shemekia Copeland

Shemekia Copeland returns to Seattle's Jazz Alley on the 20th and 21st before a short European tour. Save the date: Shemekia returns to the Pacific Northwest for the Second Kitsap Blues Music Festival in Bremerton on the last weekend August with Christone "Kingfish" Ingram, Eric Gales, Zach Person, Duffy Bishop and the James Howard Band. (Photo of Shemekia Copeland by Jim Summaria).

Ayron Jones

Fresh from last month's SMASH Benefit in Seattle and his support of Robert Cray's show at the Tulalip Amphitheatre in Marysville, Ayron Jones plays Seattle's Showbox in SoDo on May 21st. I encourage all musicians to learn about SMASH thanks to South Sound Blues Association President Susie Campbell's article online and in these pages. This innovative organization, Seattle Musicians Access to Sustainable Healthcare, provides tangible wellness and healthcare to artists throughout our region.



May 2025 Live Blues Music Calendar

Our www.wablues.org calendar is the most current & contact the venue for start time + additional details

MAY 1

North City Bistro, Shoreline: Frank Kohl 4:30 PM
Flight Path, Burien: Billy Joe's Roadhouse 6 PM
Black & Tan, Seattle: Live Lounge 7 PM
Madison Ave Pub, Everett: Songwriter Showcase 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Joey Alexander Trio 7:30 PM
Royal Room, Seattle: South Hudson Music Project Presents: May Day! Songs of Resistance 7:30 PM
Lincoln Theater, Mount Vernon: KT Tunstall 7:30 PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle: Ryan T Higgins w Joe Cook 8 PM
Snapdragon, Vashon: Steve Itterly and Friends 8 PM

MAY 2

Kirkland Performance Center, Kirkland: LeRoy Bell and his Only Friends 7 PM
Kimball Coffeehouse, Gig Harbor: Melanie Vail 7 PM
Third Place Commons, Lake Forest Park: Jazz Misfits 7 PM
Blues Frog, White Rock B.C.: Jack DeKeyser 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Joe Alexander Trio 7:30 PM
North City Bistro, Shoreline: Sugar Time Trio 7:30 PM
Royal Room, Seattle: Cami Voss and the Acme Roundup 7:30 PM
Arcadian Public House, Conway: Petunia and the Vipers 8 PM
Aurora Borealis, Shoreline: Stacy Jones Band 8 PM
Hidden Hall, Seattle: Babes In Canyon, Shred Kelly 8 PM
Madison Ave Pub, Everett: Outside the Lines 8 PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle: Youfourc 8 PM
Seamons, Seattle: Jazz Overhaul 8 PM, Funky2 Death 10 PM

MAY 3

North City Bistro, Shoreline: Frank Kohl 4:30 p.m.
Dreadnought Brewing, Monroe: Mama Mags 6 PM
Smokesmith BBQ, Sandpoint ID: Doghouse Boyz 6 PM
Third Place Commons, Lake Forest Park: Commander Mojo and the Horns of Discontent 7 PM
North City Bistro, Shoreline: Lee Oskar and Friends 7 PM
Madison Ave Pub, Everett: Cold 102's 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Joey Alexander Trio 7:30 PM
Pub 282, Camano Island, Mary Ellen Lykins & the CC Adams Band 7:30 PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle: Alki Heathens 8 PM
Arcadian Public House, Conway: Cascade Cody & His Warshington Apples + Kevin Alexander & The Garden St Boys 8 PM
Boundary Bay Brewing, Bellingham: Hot Damn Scandal 8 PM
Engels Pub, Edmonds: McPage & Powell 8 PM
Royal Room, Seattle: Justified 8 PM

MAY 4

Seamons, Seattle : Randy Weeks and the Silent Treatment 4 PM
Boundary Bay Brewing, Bellingham: Jazz in the Taproom w Scott Ranney 6 PM
Royal Room, Seattle: Dylan Hughes YIN Band and Mach X 7 PM
Peabo's, Mill Creek: Sunday Music Revue 7 PM
Spar, Tacoma: 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: 7:30 PM

MAY 5

Blue Moon, Seattle: Andy Coe Band 9 PM
Owl n Thistle, Seattle: Aquilizer 9 PM
Seamons, Seattle: La Luz 10 PM

MAY 6

Bishop Block Bottle Shop, Port Townsend: Jazz w Jonathan Doyle & Friends 5 PM
Madison Ave Pub, Everett: Dana Lupinacci 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Seun Kuti & Egypt 80 7:30 PM
Triple Door, Seattle: Jimmie Messina 7:30 PM
Billy Blues Bar and Grill, Vancouver: Ben Rice and the Hustle 8 PM
Seamons, Seattle: Joe Doria Presents 10 PM

MAY 7

North City Bistro, Shoreline: Shape Shifter 4:30 PM
Mekong Bistro, Portland: CBA showcase w Stacy Jones Band 6 PM
Ten 01, Everett: Bruce Govan 6 PM
CCR, Snohomish: Usual Suspects 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Seun Kuti & Egypt 80 7:30 PM
North City Bistro, Shoreline: Angela Petrucci 7:30 PM
Spar Tavern, Tacoma: Jazz Wednesdays 7 PM

MAY 8

North City Bistro, Shoreline: Frank Kohl 4:30 PM John Pinetree 7 PM
Bad Albert's, Seattle: Miles From Chicago 6 PM
Flight Path, Burien: Billy Joe's Roadhouse 6 PM
Black & Tan, Seattle: Live Lounge 7 PM
Madison Ave Pub, Everett: Songwriter Showcase 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Spyro Gyra 7:30 PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle: McPage and Powell 8 PM
Snapdragon, Vashon: Steve Itterly and Friends 8 PM

MAY 9

NSmokesmith BBQ, Sandpoint ID: Carl Rey & Truck Mills 6 PM
Kimball Coffee, Gig Harbor: Michele D'Amour and the Love Dealers 7 PM

Third Place Commons, Lake Forest Park: Centerplay 7 PM

Jazz Alley, Seattle: Spyro Gyra 7:30 PM

North City Bistro, Shoreline: Pearl Django 7:30 PM

Arcadia Public House, Conway: Robert Sarazin Blake & The High, Wide & Handsome Band 8 PM

Jazzbones, Tacoma: Stacy Jones Band 8 PM

Nectar, Seattle: The Wooten Brothers 8 PM

Madison Ave Pub, Everett: The Roc Martens 8 PM

Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle: Tumbling Dice 8 PM

Seamons, Seattle: Funky2 Death 10 PM

MAY 10

Watershed Pub, Seattle: Danny Godinez 12 PM
Smokesmith BBQ, Sandpoint: Benny Baker and Sheldon Packwood 6 PM
Third Place Commons, Lake Forest Park: Two Scoops Combo 7 PM
Melody Lynn Wine bar, Kirkland: Kimball and the Fugitives w Annie Eastwood 7 PM
North City Bistro, Shoreline: 7 PM
Triple Door, Seattle: 7 PM
Madison Ave Pub, Everett: Jesse James and the MOB 7 PM
George's Bonney Lake Tavern, Bonney Lake: Reji Marc 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Spyro Gyra 7:30 PM
Royal Room, Seattle: Golden West, Randy Weeks and The Silent Treatment, and The Enthusiasts 7:30 PM
Aurora Borealis, Shoreline: Blue Velvet Groove 8 PM
The Mill, Milton: Two For The Apocalypse 8 PM
Arcadian Public House, Conway: Friends for the Ghost + Her Name Was Princess + Louis Ledford 8 PM
Mirkwood, Arlington: McPage and Powell 8 PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle: Ron Bailey and the Tangents 8 PM

MAY 11

Seamons, Seattle : 4 PM
Airport Tavern, Tacoma: Vicci Martinez 6 PM
Boundary Bay Brewing, Bellingham: Jazz in the Taproom w Scott Ranney 6 PM
Aurora Borealis, Shoreline: Greta Matassa 7 PM
Peabo's, Mill Creek: Sunday Music Revue 7 PM
Spar, Tacoma: Sunday Blues 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Spyro Gyra 7:30 PM
Hidden Hall, Seattle: Al-Qasar 8 PM
Seamons, Seattle: Ron Weinstein Trio 9 PM

MAY 12

Royal Room, Seattle: New Music Mondays: Royal Room Collective Music Ensemble 7:30 PM
Madison Ave Pub, Everett: Mad Bojo 7 PM
Blue Moon, Seattle: Andy Coe Band 9 PM

Owl n Thistle, Seattle: Aquilizer 9 PM
Seamonster, Seattle: Al Luz 10 PM

MAY 13

Peabo's, Mill Creek: Sunday Music Revue 7 p.m.
Royal Room, Seattle: New Music Mondays: Royal Room Collective Music Ensemble 7:30 PM
Madison Ave Pub, Everett: Mad Bojo 7 PM
Blue Moon, Seattle: Andy Coe Band 9 PM
Owl n Thistle, Seattle: Aquilizer 9 PM
Seamonster, Seattle: Al Luz 10 PM

MAY 14

North City Bistro, Shoreline: Shape Shifter 4:30 PM
Ten 01, Everett: Bruce Govan 6 PM
Bolos, Spokane: Inland Empire Blues Society Blues Boogie Featuring Alison Joy Williams 6:30 PM
CCR, Snohomish: Usual Suspects 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: The Bad Plus 7:30 PM
Spar Tavern, Tacoma: Jazz Wednesdays 7 PM

MAY 15

North City Bistro, Shoreline: Frank Kohl 4:30 PM
Flight Path, Burien: Billy Joe's Roadhouse 6 PM
Black & Tan, Seattle: Live Lounge 7 PM
Madsion Ave Pub, Everett: Songwriter Showcase 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Robert Glasper Trio 7:30PM
Royal Room, Seattle: Stephanie Chou 7:30 PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle: Dana Lupinacci 8 PM
Snapdragon, Vashon: Steve Itterly and Friends 8 PM
Sunbanks Resort, Electric City: Sunbanks Music Festival 8 PM

MAY 16

APEX, Everett: Fisherman's Village Music Festival 4 PM
Sunbanks Resort, Electric City: Sunbanks Music Festival 4 PM
Big Stick BBQ, Bellingham: Michele D'Amour and the Love Dealers 5:30 PM
McCormick Woods Golf Club, Port Orchard: Reji Marc 6 PM
Third Place Commons, Lake Forest Park: The Loose Heels 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Robert Glasper Trio 7:30 PM
Lincoln Theater, Mount Vernon: Blind Boys of Alabama 7:30 PM
Hidden Hall, Seattle: i///u 8 PM
Historic Everett Theater, Everett: Charlie Musslewhite and Elvin Bishop 7:30 PM
Arcadian Public House, Conway: Mama Dirty Skirt 8 PM
Substation, Seattle: Maggie Baugh 8 PM
Madison Ave Pub, Everett: Whitewing 8 PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle: Quicknine 8 PM
Seamonster, Seattle: Funky2 Death 10 PM

MAY 17

Sunbanks Resort, Electric City: Sunbanks Music Festival 1 PM
APEX, Everett: Fisherman's Village Music Festival 4 PM
Smokesmith BBQ, Sandpoint: Justin Harris and the Pocket Aces 4:30 PM
The Vault Taphouse Bistro & Beer Garden, Black Diamond: Reji Marc 6:30PM
Third Place Commons, Lake Forest Park: Blue Notes 7 PM
North City Bistro, Shoreline: 7 PM
Triple Door, Seattle: 7 PM
Madison Ave Pub, Everett: Mojo Cannon w Jealous Minds 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Robert Glasper Trio 7:30 PM
Aurora Borealis, Shoreline: DoctorFunk 8 PM
Arcadian Public House, Conway: Savannah Woods 8 PM
North City Bistro, Shoreline: Clave Gringa 8 PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle: Seattle house Rockers 8 PM
Spanish Ballroom, Tacoma: Kuinka 8 PM

MAY 18

Sunbanks Resort, Electric City: Sunbanks Music Festival 1 PM
Seamonster, Seattle: Randy Weeks 4 PM
Boundary Bay Brewing, Bellingham: Jazz in the Taproom w Scott Ranney 6 PM
Peabo's, Mill Creek: Sunday Music Revue w Amanda Fish 7 PM
Spar, Tacoma: Sunday Blues 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Robert Glasper Trio 7:30 PM
Seamonster, Seattle: Ron Weinstein Trio 9 PM

MAY 19

Royal Room, Seattle: New Music Mondays: Royal Room Collective Music Ensemble 7:30 PM
Madison Ave Pub, Everett: Mad Bojo 7 PM
Blue Moon, Seattle: Andy Coe Band 9 PM
Owl n Thistle, Seattle: Aquilizer 9 PM
Seamonster, Seattle: Al Luz 10 PM

MAY 20

Bishop Block Bottle Shop, Port Townsend: Jazz w Jonathan Doyle & Friends 5 PM
Madison Ave Pub, Everett: Unbound 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Shamekia Copeland 7:30 PM
Billy Blues Bar and Grill, Vancouver: Ben Rice and the Hustle 8 PM
Seamonster, Seattle: Joe Doria Presents 10 PM

MAY 21

North City Bistro, Shoreline: Shape Shifter 4:30 PM
Ten 01, Everett: Bruce Govan 6 PM
Sparrow, Kirkland: Annie Eastwood and Billy Stapleton 6 PM

CCR, Snohomish: Usual Suspects 7 PM
Spar Tavern, Tacoma: Jazz Wednesdays 7 PM
Bing Crosby Theater, Spokane: Diana Krall 7 PM
Aurora Borealis, Shoreline: Cascadia Big Band 7:30 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Shamekia Copeland 7:30 PM
North City Bistro, Shoreline: Duet Marianna 7:30 PM

MAY 22

North City Bistro, Shoreline: Frank Kohl 4:30 PM
Rebecca James 7:30 PM
Bad Albert's, Seattle: Annie Eastwood and Friends 6 PM
Flight Path, Burien: Billy Joe's Roadhouse 6 PM
Black & Tan, Seattle: Live Lounge 7 PM
Madsion Ave Pub, Everett: Songwriter Showcase 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Nela Fleck 7:30PM
Paramount, Seattle : Dianna Krall 8 PM
Pono Ranch, Seattle True Romans 8 PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle: Johnny Atomic & the Silver Tongue Devils 8 PM
Snapdragon, Vashon: Steve Itterly and Friends 8 PM

MAY 23

Seattle Center, Seattle Northwest Folklife 12 PM
The Keg and I, Chimaquum: Michele D'Amour and the Love Dealers, 6 PM
Smokesmith BBQ, Sandpoint: Jackson Roltgen Duo 6 PM
Kimball Coffee, Gig Harbor: Annie Eastwood's All-Stars 7 PM
Third Place Commons, Lake Forest Park: Guitar Gill 7 PM
Blue Frog Studios, White Rock B.C: Wide Mouth Mason 7 PM
Port Gardner Bay Winery, Everett: Ryan T. Higgins and Joe Cook 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Bela Fleck 7:30 PM
Aurora Borealis, Shoreline: 24 Madison 8 PM
Nectar, Seattle: Golden Road, 8 PM
Arcadian Public House, Conway: Jammin' Afternoon 8 PM
Madison Ave Pub, Everett: Dana Osborn Band 8 PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle: Pinetree & The Yellin' Degenerates 8 PM
Seamonster, Seattle: Luca Benedetti trio 8 PM
,Funky2 Death 10 PM

MAY 24

Seattle Center, Seattle Northwest Folklife 12 PM
Velvet's Big Easy, Spanaway: Reji Marc 6 PM
Smokesmith BBQ, Sandpoint: Jay Snow and the Tone Keepers 6 PM

(Continued on Page 22)

May 2025 Live Blues Music Calendar (cont'd)

Our www.wablues.org calendar is the most current & contact the venue for start time + additional details

(Continued from Page 21)

MAY 24 (CONTINUED)

Blue Frog Studios, White Rock B.C.: Wide Mouth Mason 7 PM
Third Place Commons, Lake Forest Park: Portage Bay Big Band 7 PM
North City Bistro, Shoreline: McPage and Powell 7 PM
Triple Door, Seattle: 7 PM
Madison Ave Pub, Everett: Signal Flags 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Bela Fleck 7:30 PM
Pub 282, Camano Island: Michele D'Amour and the Love Dealers, 7:30 PM
Arcadian Public house, Conway: City of Pines w Shannon Patino and Dr Sweets 8 PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle: Chris Stevens Band 8

MAY 21

North City Bistro, Shoreline: Shape Shifter 4:30 PM
Ten 01, Everett: Bruce Govan 6 PM

MAY 25

Seattle Center, Seattle Northwest Folklife 12 PM
Gilkey Square, La Conner: Mary Ellen Lykins & the CC Adams Band 1 PM
Seamonster, Seattle: Kimball and the Fugitives 4 PM
The Gorge, George: Outlaw Music Festival 2 PM
Boundary Bay Brewing, Bellingham: Jazz in the Taproom w Scott Ranney 6 PM
Peabo's, Mill Creek: Sunday Music Revue 7 PM
Spar, Tacoma: 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Bela Fleck 7:30 PM
Seamonster, Seattle: Ron Weinstein Trio 9 PM

MAY 26

Seattle Center, Seattle Northwest Folklife 12 PM
Royal Room, Seattle: New Music Mondays: Royal Room Collective Music Ensemble 7:30 PM
Madison Ave Pub, Everett: Mad Bojo 7 PM
Blue Moon, Seattle: Andy Coe Band 9 PM
Owl n Thistle, Seattle: Aquilizer 9 PM
Seamonster, Seattle: Al Luz 10 PM

MAY 27

NBishop Block Bottle Shop, Port Townsend: Jazz w Jnathan Doyle & Friends 5 PM
Madison Ave Pub, Everett: 7 PM
The Ten-01, Everett: Blues 101 7 PM
Purdy's, Sumner: Blues redemption 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Lindsey Webster 7:30 PM
Hidden Hall, Seattle: Terrapin Flyer 8 PM
Billy Blues Bar and Grill, Vancouver: Ben Rice and the Hustle 8 PM
Seamonster, Seattle: Joe Doria Presents 10 PM

MAY 28

North City Bistro, Shoreline: Shape Shifter 4:30 PM
The Ten 01, Everett: Bruce Govan 6 PM
CCR, Snohomish: Usual Suspects 7 PM
Blue Frog Studios, White Rock B.C.: Colin Linden 7 PM
Aurora Borealis, Shoreline: Jazz Punishments Big Band 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: Lindsey Webster 7:30 PM
Spar Tavern, Tacoma: Jazz Wednesdays 7 PM

MAY 29

North City Bistro, Shoreline: Frank Kohl 4:30 PM
Flight Path, Burien: Billy Joe's Roadhouse 6 PM
Black & Tan, Seattle: Live Lounge 7 PM
Madison Ave Pub, Everett: Songwriter Showcase 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: The Miracles 7:30PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle: Salmon Dan 8 PM
Snapdragon, Vashon: Steve Itterly and Friends 8 PM

MAY 30

Smokesmith BBQ, Sandpoint: Liam Russell 6 PM
Kirkland Performance Center, Kirkland: The Wallflowers 7 PM
Third Place Commons, Lake Forest Park: Smilin' Scandinavians 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: The Miracles 7:30PM
Arcadian Public House, Conway: Under the Puddle 8 PM
Madison Ave Pub, Everett: The Short Cutz 8 PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle: John Stephan Band 8 PM
Seamonster, Seattle: Funky2 Death 10 PM

MAY 31

North City Bistro, Shoreline: Shape Shifter 4:30 PM
Ten 01, Everett: Bruce Govan 6 PM
Smokesmith BBQ, Sandpoint: Sammy Eubanks 6 PM
Third Place Commons, Lake Forest Park: Take Seventeen 7 PM
North City Bistro, Shoreline: 7 PM
Historic Everett Theater, Everett: Stevie Ray Visited w Randy Hansen 7:30 PM
Madison Ave Pub, Everett: Steven Taylor 7 PM
Jazz Alley, Seattle: The Miracles 7:30 PM
Boundary Bay Brewing, Bellingham: Swindler & Lost Ox 8 PM
Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle: Stacy Jones Band 8 PM



Artist Ginny Scott with Bobby Rush at Buddy Guy's 2025 Residency at Buddy Guy's Legends in Chicago (Photo by Keith Scott)

For the rest of the story behind this photo, please see Keith Scott's review of the Experience Hendrix show in Indianapolis is this issue!



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2025 Washington Blues Society Best of the Blues “BB Awards” Voting Ballot

All voting ballots must be received at the Washington Blues Society PO Box, by a Board member, or online, no later than Tuesday, May 13, 2025. Please note: All voting ballots must be received (and not postmarked) on May 13, 2025. Please vote for one nominee in each category by circling the name of the nominee.

Mark Dufresne Male Vocalist

Joel Astley
Kevin Sutton
Anthony Estrada
Brian Butler

Kathi McDonald Blues Female Vocalist

Diane Forsythe
Mary McPage
Stacy Jones

Patti Allen Blues Performer

Joel Astley
Lady A
Kevin Sutton

Electric Blues Guitar

Anthony Estrada
Billy Stapleton
CD Woodbury

Slide Blues Guitar

Billy Stapleton
Eric Rice
John Stephan
Joseph Barton
Nick Vigarino

Acoustic Blues Guitar

Brian Butler
Jevon Powell
Kevin Sutton

Blues Bass

Polly O'Keary
Rob Baker
Scotty Harris

Chris Leighton Blues Drummer

Aaron Hennings
Don Montana
Rick Bowen

Paul Green Blues Harmonica

Bill Davis
Joel Astley
Johnathan Pitman

Blues Piano/Keyboard

Billy Reed
Mark Hurwitz
Sheri Roberts Greimes

Blues Horn

Cliff Colon
Lonnie Williams
Mike Marinig
Ron Hendee

Blues Instrumentalist-Other

Angelo Ortiz
Marc Largen
Mike Marinig

Best Blues Band

CD Woodbury Trio
Cold 102'S
Joel Astley Band
Stacy Jones Band

Best Little Bill & The Blue Notes Traditional Blues Act

Joe Cook Blues Band
Joel Astley Band
Marc Largen

Best Solo/Duo

Blues Healers
Brian Butler
John Greyhound Maxwell
Kim & Brian
McPage & Powell

Best New Blues Act

Dianne & The Blue Hearts
Ryan Higgins Project
Taylor Hardin Blues Band

Blues Songwriter

Jevon Powell
John Stephan
Ryan Higgins

Washington Blues Recording

Jevon Powell: Hate To See You Cry
John Stephan Band: Talking Out Loud
Stacy Jones Band: Christmas in County

Best Blues Club

Aurora Borealis
Madison Ave Pub
Salmon Bay Eagles

Best Blues Jam

Tommy Wall's Sunday Night Blues Jam at Lucky 7 Bar & Grill
Unbound Blues Jam at Madison Avenue Pub
192 Blues Jam with The Groove Tramps at 192 Brewing

Blues Writer

Rick Bowen
Kirk Anderson
Polly O'Keary

Best Blues Image (Photo/Video)

Carrie Parduhn
Dan Hill
Gordy Mirchell

Best Blues Graphic

Gordy Mirchell
LTD Presents Live
Phil Chestnut
Sean Donovan
Tim Sutherland

Best Blues DJ

Clancy Dunigan
John Kessler
Leo Schumaker
Leslie Fleury

Best Regional Blues Festival

PB&J Poulsbo Blues And Jazz Festival
Sunbanks
Winthrop Rhythm & Blues Festival

Community Blues Festival

PB & J Poulsbo Blues & Jazz Festival
Freedom Festival
North Bend Blues Walk

Best Non-Festival Event

Jones Family Christmas
City of University Place Music On The Square
WBS Blues Bash

Keeping The Blues Alive

Mary McPage
Billy Stoops
Judy Abernathy

Blues Hall Of Fame (Band)*

Jeff & The Jet City Fliers
Mark Hurwitz and Gin Creek

Blues Hall Of Fame (Individual)

Steve Bailey
Billy Stoops
Tony Frederickson

Lifetime Achievement Award

Mark Hurwitz
Steve Bailey
Rick Bowen

*The previous ballot listed Stevie and the Blue Flames in this category. Stevie and the Blue Flames were inducted into the Blues Hall of Fame in 2015



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