

Blues News

Of Central Pennsylvania

Celebrate 2008 with the Blues -
the 10th anniversary of the BSCP!

November/December 2008



BLUES SOCIETY OF CENTRAL PA INTERNATIONAL BLUES CHALLENGE 2009 WINNER **DON JOHNSON PROJECT**

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BLUES SOCIETY OF CENTRAL PA INTERNATIONAL BLUES CHALLENGE 2009

WINNER **DON JUDY,**
SOLO/DUO

President's Message

Year in review.... The bad, the good, and the greatest

They say there are some major stressors in life that can lead to depression. Some of those are death in the family, moving, ending a relationship, changing jobs, catastrophes, illness in the family, being President of a non-profit organization. (Ok, so maybe not so much the last one, but hey, it can be challenging). Well, I have experienced all of those in the past year. My beautiful niece died tragically last year, I moved to Wormleysburg (after living in the City forever), my mom lost her home to Hurricane Ike, my brother's homes were heavily damaged, and finally last week, my brother had a massive heart attack.

I don't feel depressed though, I feel really blessed. When my niece died, I was a complete mess; I'm not going to lie. It was one of the most horribly difficult things I have ever been through in my life. While trying to make arrangements to go back to Texas, I realized the newsletters were at the printer, needed picked up, folded, and mailed. Elaine and Mom I jumped in and took control, got the newsletters, and let me go to Texas without worrying about the BSCP and were there to give me a hug when I got back. I feel blessed to have such good people in my life.

When I moved last year, I found a house in Wormleysburg. It needed a whole lot of work, but it was a large house that my kids could have space and in the range that I could afford. Fourteen friends came and painted, cleaned, patched, and made it a great little place to live. Three BSCP members, Michael, Jayce and Bill, even surprised me and hired movers. I feel blessed to have such good people in my life.

When my mom lost her home a few weeks ago and my brother had twenty-six people to evacuate and take care of during Ike, my BSCP friends jumped in once again. I have sent out 36 packages in the last few weeks. Members George, Kathy, Dot, Krista, Mom, Chuck, and Barb donated clothes and toiletries and all the shipping was donated by NetPay Payroll. Further, members Jayce and Bill sent 50 lbs of dog food and toys for the three dogs. Member Michael sent a package from Omaha Steaks to carry them through. I feel blessed to have such good people in my life and that my family is safe.

When my brother suffered a massive heart attack as he was loading his car to go back to Galveston to start picking up the pieces from Ike, member and friend, Chris, sat with me for hours as I waited to hear if he was going to be okay. All my mother knew was that he was being airlifted to Waco, but it took awhile to find out he was okay. Thank goodness, from the time they called 911, it took 22 minutes to get him to Waco and in surgery. Otherwise, they said he would have never made it. I feel blessed to have such good people in my life and that everything happened just right with my brother, so he is well on his way to recovery.

Yes, it's been a tough year for the Baker family and it would be so easy to wallow in self pity about how difficult the world is, but I choose not to. I only have one life and I certainly don't want to waste it feeling sorry for myself. Nope, I rather look at the blessings that come my way everyday.

One of the biggest blessings this year has been being President of the BSCP. To be honest, I don't even feel like the President, I feel like I am part of the team with the rest of the board members. I could never take credit for all the great things that have happened with the BSCP this year. It truly has been a team effort and this is one of the hardest working boards I have ever worked with. Each member contributed in some very powerful ways.

With the creation of the jam committee, the complaints about the jam have decreased I would say by about 95%. In addition to our regular yearly events -- Circlefest, Treasurer's Picnic, Mississippi Railroad Members Only Picnic -- we also collaborated with the City of Harrisburg, Dauphin County, the Lost the Found and the Dearly Departed Festival, and even the Susquehanna Folk Society to put on some great additional shows. With the help of Jeff Lynch and the Greater Harrisburg Arts Counsel, the first Blues in Schools presentation was held at Camp Curtain Elementary School in Harrisburg City. Further, this year in addition to sending our Band and solo/duo act (Don Johnson Project and Don Judy) to Memphis to compete in the International Blues Challenge, we are also helping the Little Ivory Band go to Memphis to perform in the youth showcase that was added this year to honor the younger generation of musicians that continue the tradition of our music.

It's truly been a blessing...

Another blessing has been you, the members. None of these things could have occurred had it not been for you the members. Your participation, contributions, volunteerism, and enthusiasm. None of these things could have happened with out you – the BSCP is truly blessed to have you.

Next May, it is time once again to elect a new board. It's been a wonderful ride, but it's time for me to step down and let someone else take the reigns. I hope the next President and board are as blessed as I have been and continue to grow our organization as we have these past two years.

Thanks for the many blessings.....

Peace, Carrie

Events 'n Friends

UPCOMING BLUES SOCIETY EVENTS

IBC FUNDRAISER: for The Little Ivory Blues Band on Sunday, November 9th from 3pm to 7pm. Also featuring are the BSCP 2009 winners of our IBC Contest: The Don Johnson Project & Don Judy (solo) at the V.F.W. - 747 N. Front Street in Steelton. Tickets are \$10 (see a board member) and includes a buffet dinner & a cash bar. All proceeds from this event will go to the Little Ivory Blues Band to help with their costs to travel to Memphis to participate in the IBC Youth Showcase and will be representing the BSCP.

Members Only Christmas Party: Sunday, December 7th starting at 2pm. It's a great time to come & renew your membership. Lot of fun!! Free admission - please bring a dish to share.

New Year's Eve Party: Wednesday, December 31st starting at 8pm at the Harrisburg/Hershey Sheraton, 4650 Lindle Rd, Harrisburg, PA 17111. ****Important: If you purchase your tickets between now and Monday, December 1st, you will get a discount rate of \$55 for members & non- members.**** Starting December 2nd, tickets will be \$60 each per member and \$65 each per non-member. See Dot or Mom I for tickets on Thursday or call the hotline at 888-771-BSCP (2727). Tickets must be paid for before Wednesday, December 31st and will not be "held" at the door. Rooms are \$89 at the Sheraton - call 717-564-5511 and ask for the "BSCP" discount.

All blue membership cards expire 12/31/08. Renewals & new memberships will have a yellow membership card, which will expire 12/31/09. Please renew at your earliest convenience. Please take a moment to update your address information, along with your email address. You can email bluesmembership@comcast.net if you have any questions.



Dear Members,
Christmas is a time of joy, happiness and goodwill. It is a time of giving and helping those that are less fortunate than ourselves, especially children.

Starting Thursday, November 6th, the BSCP will once again be collecting toys for the Annual Toys for Tots Campaign. For over 50 years, one organization... the US Marine Corps Reserve, is the unchallenged leader

in providing hope to needy children at Christmas time.

A large bin will be available at the Thursday Jam at the 40 & 8 Club for donations of new unwrapped toys. The toy drive will end on Sunday, December 7th at our annual Members Only Christmas Party at the VFW. Thanks, Carrie

Buddy and Hopkins

By Jason Nocera (www.buddyandhopkins.com)



Gig's 'n Such

BSCP MONDAY ACOUSTIC JAM at The Little Coffeehouse in Camp Hill



THE ACOUSTIC JAM IS BACK!!!

Due to issues with the Appalachian Brewing Co, we have decided to move the Acoustic Jam to a new location. We will be jamming at the Little Coffeehouse which is located at 115 Saint Johns Road, Camp Hill, PA 17011. This is just off of the Carlisle Pike on St. John's Road. From the ABC, go west toward Carlisle to the third traffic light and turn left onto St. John's Church Road. The Little Coffeehouse is in the first block on the left. It is a nice room with good acoustics and very relaxed atmosphere. We think this will be a good change for the jam.

The Acoustic Jam will resume this Monday, November 3 from 7:30 to 9:30, so please bring your instruments and join us.

Who: Blues Society of Central PA

What: Acoustic Jam - The theme is blues, but we are a bit more flexible than the Thursday jam on song selection. We have a small sound system so bring your instrument cables if you want to plug in. We also have a guitar pickup if you need one.

When: 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month 7:30 to 9:30 pm

Where: The Little Coffeehouse, 115 St. Johns Church Road, Camp Hill phone: (717) 763-6863

The Little Coffeehouse has a nice limited menu, excellent coffee and a nice intimate atmosphere. Please stop by this Monday for some good food and acoustic music. And remember to bring your instrument!

Hope to see you there!

the regulators

solid r & b entertainment

11/4 Tue - der Maennechor 7:30 - 10:30

11/8 Fri - Flinchy's 9 - 1

11/11 Tue - Malone's 8 - 12

11/14 Fri - The Roosevelt 8 - 11

More dates to follow!

Uncle Bill Tribute Jam CD Now Available!

'Just wanted to let folks know that I have the Uncle Bill tribute show on CD. I cannot make multiple copies, but I can make one for someone who'll promise to start a copying tree so that everyone who wants one can have one. Let me know who wants to go first.

also, if you go to my page on <http://www.river973.com/pages/mas.html>

if you scroll down, you'll see a recap on this weekend's OMN, and there are two live in the studio tracks that Mitch Ivanoff and Lee Carroll played... Just click and listen.

Thanks.,
Your humble servant.

Blues in the Schools- Camp Curtain Show October 23rd

This past thursday morning there was a performance by Don Johnson, Gary Harrington, Vinny Hunter and Scott Powell at the Camp Curtin Elementary School. It represented the first collaboration between the bscp and the greater harrisburg arts council. The presentation was a part of an ongoing music in the schools program that the greater hbg arts council has been presenting for quite sometime - but they've never presented blues, just chamber music or jazz. I was out of town and couldn't make the gig, but according to Dottie Anderson, who's on the board of the GHAC and approached me about pulling this gig together "It was a rousing performance. The kids loved it and were certainly excited and animated. The artists were terrific and knew how to engage the students. A great time was had by all."

Personally, I'm pretty proud of this one, and deeply grateful to all the players for working with the kids and spreading the good word of the blues.

I'm pretty confident that we'll be seeing more opportunities do stage events like this going forward.

Jeff.

ps: one of the very nice aspects of this program is that the greater harrisburg arts council *insists* that the players are paid, and paid fairly.

Blues Threads

Do you listen to your bass player?

jwisot01wrote: Let's talk about blues for a minute? As a bass player I try to support my guitarist. During certain parts of the song I play the same thing each time (recognizable riff). During other parts especially guitar solos, I play something different each time, depending on what the guitarist is doing. Sometimes I do a nice job and sometimes I stink up the joint for a little bit. I try to support him and seem like I am playing the same song he is? My question is for guitarists out there. Do you listen to the bass? It is not a loaded question. I have no agenda, just curious what every ones thoughts are on this. For us, I would say that sometimes my guitarist is listening to me and other times he just trusts that I am there in the groove, while he does his own thing. What would say you like in a bass players playing and what irritates you?
Jeff W.

ktome wrote: I'm not a guitar player, but I've listened to a few and I want to put my 2 cents in. I like bass players to be subtle, and then when my ears wander away from the guitar solos, I want them to be "on". If I notice the bass up front when I first start listening, then the bassist isn't doing the job correctly, unless he is Victor Wooten or George Porter, Jr. :D

jwisot01wrote: Sorta like no one appreciates the bass until it stops... I agree, it usually plays a supporting role. Sometimes I step out a bit though... Quite the opposite of no appreciation. Last year I decided I would try and see what I could do with a bass. I had one lying around for 15 years or so, but only very occasionally would it see the light of day when it came out to put a bass track on a little home recording. So last year I got a nice bass and I've been having a go at. It immediately became apparent that even after a lifetime of lovin' the blues, I was really in the dark as to what a bassist does. I know my way around the fingerboard a little bit, and with a guitar I can usually figure out something to contribute, but a bass is sooooo different. It's such an integral part of the music, heck, it IS the music to such a huge degree, it's almost like it's too big to see! (or hear in isolation). When the bass is out of whack with everything else it's horribly evident, but when it's being done right, it's like the earth under your feet. No don't pay attention to it. But one little tremor of the earth as in 'quake' and your totally focused. Sometimes we don't easily see the biggest tree in the forest, all we see is the forest ~

pjnchz wrote: (Let me start by saying that my opinion is refering to a more traditional blues setting...)
As a bass player, I follow the kick drum for the groove and the vocalist/soloist for the chord progression. When I (attempt to) play guitar, what sticks out to me is whether the bass player is groovin' or "going off." If the bass player isn't laying a foundation then it REALLY limits the guitar/accompaniment from doing fills, syncopation, creating harmony, etc. Then, I feel the need to take that role on guitar and the result is nowhere NEAR as strong as it would be if the bass provided it. IMO, the bass must be fairly consistent throughout the song and provide something EVERYONE can understand and follow - the singer, the other players, even the audience! From strictly a rhythm guitar perspective, I always lean toward the relationships of Bass-to-Kick Drum and Rhythm Guitar-to-Snare/ HH (Ride). When working together, the Drums/Bass/Rhythm Guitar create such a POWERFUL force that nothing can derail. And if it's kept relatively simple, all the easier it is to have a TIGHT, SOLID foundation for the vocalist/soloist to go where ever he/she feels...and most importantly, find their way back home! So in a sense, "listening to the bass player" becomes subconscious and automatic. That's not to say bass has to be boring, monotone and always in the background...just not too abstract. CHEESE

Richard J. Smith wrote: Cheese describes it exactly, in my opinion. Cheese plays well with others. That's why everyone enjoys playing with Cheese. Later, Rick

pjnchz wrote: Thanks Rick. :o) CHEESE

groovedrums wrote: Oh geez Rick - what did you do?!? How are we going to get his head in the van tonight now??? I can hear it now all the way to Reading "I play well with others - that's why people like to play with me..." Oh boy!

Jeff Lynch wrote: just set his bass on fire. prob won't burn, tho.

groovedrums wrote: That thing is so old I doubt it would burn... I'm convinced it's equal parts petrified wood and dinosaur dung.

tomm dunn wrote: are you sposed to listen to you bass player?????? ??????

don judy wrote:

Listen to my bass player? I *am* my bass player. Bass with thumb, treble parts with fingers, although not strictly delimited due to change, dynamics and whim. So if the thumb gets out of line the fingers just give him a little tap to remind him that they are the ones who get to show off. "Stay in the groove, dude". They don't call him little dude because of all the years he spent pumping phosphor/bronze or nickel and steel. But seriously, evvybody should be listening to evvybuddy and after a few years and some attention to detail all the players get to let go a bit. One of the tough things to do initially is indeed playing and listening to others at the same time and then there's the issue of actually responding accurately what's happening.... it's a wonder anybody ever plays anything decent together. If you have to concentrate on your guitar, look at it to see where you are, that's taking away from the ability to play with others. Ears open. Now! Achtung! Learn to play *with* your friends. Learn to play *with* your bscp brethren and sistren. Learn to play with your dang BSCP practice along to the blues cd! An' remember, the word is play! It ain't work!

Web Cruisin' Our Bands

Clarksdale Mississippi:
http://www.clarksdalewebinfo.com/jsp/user_page.jsp?pageid=3754 and <http://www.cathead.biz>

Scranton Blues: [http:// www.bluesstreetscranton.com](http://www.bluesstreetscranton.com)

Baltimore Blues Society: <http://www.mojoworkin.com/>

Acoustic Stew: <http://web.mac.com/acousticstew/iWeb/Site/Welcome.html>

Blues City Blues Band: <http://www.tommalafarina.com/>

Blue Condition: <http://www.myspace.com/blueconditionusa>

Blue Light Special: <http://www.bluelightspecialblues.com/>

Curbstone and the Rock Hard Horns: <http://www.curbstoneonline.com/sched.htm>

Dave Holt Band: <http://www.daveholtband.com/>

Don Johnson Project: IBC Winner! <http://www.myspace.com/djprojectband>

Mike "Fathead" Easton: <http://www.harmonicarepair.com/>

Mike Guldin and "Rollin' & Tumbin'": <http://www.rollinandtumblin.com>

Krypton City Blues Review: <http://web.mac.com/kcbr/iWeb/KCBR%20website%20/>

Jeff Lynch: <http://www.jefflynch.net/>

Malkum Gibson and the Mighty Juke: <http://www.handlebarproductions.com>

Nate Myers & The Aces: <http://www.natemyers.com/>

Octavia: <http://octaviablues.com/menu.html>

The Phipps Brothers: <http://www.phippsbrothers.com/>

The Regulators theregulatorsband@yahoo.com

Robert Allen Blues Band: <http://www.robertallenbluesband.com/>

Ronnie Ray and the Coolers: <http://www.ronnieray.com/>

Skyla Burrell Blues Band: <http://www.skylaburrell.com/>

Slaughterhouse Blues: <http://www.slaughterhouseblues.com/>

Three Trains Comin': <http://www.3trains.com/>

Reviews and Releases

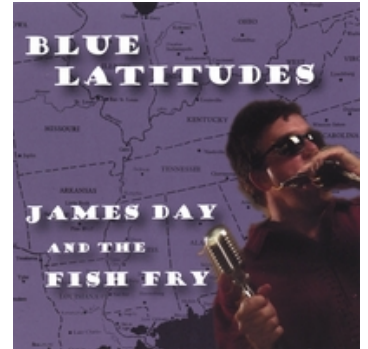
"BLUE LATITUDES" By James Day and the Fish Fry

Visit his website at <http://jameswday.com>

Review by Rick Smith

"James Day and the Fish Fry is your full-service jump blues band that loves all styles of the blues and shares this affection with their audience. This five-piece band specializes in West coast Jump blues, classic Chicago blues, and early New Orleans R and B. The Fish Fry have performed in festivals and venues along the East coast and Canada." (from the band's website)

For this, their debut CD released in 2006, James Day has written 12 original tunes, featuring their take on every Blues style. Presenting a musical journey, beginning in Chicago with a West side and East side shuffle, then floating on down the Mississippi River, with stops along the way to sample a variety of local musical fare. From Kansas City Swing to Piedmont, from West Coast to Swamp Pop, down into New Orleans, out into the Gulf of Mexico, and finishing up with a Cuban Rumba.



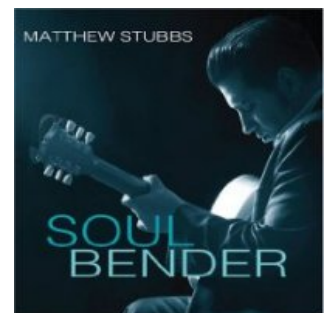
James Day provides vocals and harmonica, with Mark A. Shewchuk on guitar, Ron Baldwin on keyboards, Mike Lampe on bass, and Charles Plaughter on drums. Their particular brew of influences comes together in the form of backbeat drums, slapping upright bass, boogie-woogie piano, fat-toned guitar, and honking harmonica. Five fun loving musicians dedicated to playing traditional blues with a modern twist.

I had heard a lot of buzz about James Day and the Fish Fry, lately, so I was really looking forward to listening to this CD. After listening to it several times, I have to say my feelings are mixed. There's no doubt that this is solid, workman-like blues by a tight, energetic band: the rhythm section builds a solid pocket, the guitar playing is tasteful, and the piano fills things out nicely, but - - at the same time, I did not feel that special something. That something different. That spark. I didn't hear any one song that got stuck, going 'round and 'round in my head. None that gave me that feeling of "Wow, that song is so good that I've got to learn to play it". Also, if I'm to be completely honest, I was a bit disappointed in the harmonica playing. After all the buzz about this well-known harmonica player, I expected more. But, these are very personal things, regarding what I look for in new music - - and of course, your "mileage" may vary. All in all, I feel that this is a decent blues album, and will be sure to satisfy your appetite for the Blues, of many different styles.

MATHEW STUBBS : : SOUL BENDER

Review courtesy Blues Festival E-Guide

Hailing from a small **New England** town, **Matthew Stubbs** is quickly gaining a reputation as one of the premier Blues guitarists. Whether performing with his own band or as a sideman to some of the best singers in the business, the 25 year old always delivers a mesmerizing performance. Currently, Matthew Stubbs is performing with **The Legendary Charlie Musselwhite Band**. Before joining The Charlie Musselwhite Band Stubbs did time with R&B Sensation **John Nemeth** and also spent a year and a half touring North America with diva **Janiva Magness**. Matthew Stubbs can also be found doing select tours/shows with Lynwood Slim, Junior Watson, Sax Gordon, Brian Templeton and many other top acts. Stubbs has earned himself a reputation for his ability to write tremendously catchy instrumentals. He even went so far as to form a band just to focus strictly on writing instrumentals. The songs are a cocktail of **Memphis Soul, Blues, R&B, Surf, Rock n' Roll and Groove**, all perfectly mixed together. His real knack is being able to blend all of these styles without overwhelming the listener. Matt's new CD, "**Soul Bender**" features 11 soulful all-original instrumentals. Blues guitarist **Rick Holmstrom** sums it up best: "The thing I like best about Matt Stubbs playing is that he leaves space. There are plenty of young blues guitarists who can play a whole lot of guitar, and Matt can hang with 'em all, but there are very few who understand that it's important to let it breathe. I dig the economy and simplicity of Matt's playing. He's got an old soul.



<http://www.matthewstubbs.net/home.html>

Events 'n Friends

Just thought you might like to pass this on to your folks... Cost is only 10.00. Need more information contact Marty's Music Store in Annville. thanks...rubbyred800@aol.com

**MARTY'S MUSIC STORE IS PROUD TO PRESENT
STEVE CRETER AND FRETWORK
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THE LOFT
ONE NIGHT ONLY BLUES CLINIC
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH 6:00 PM**

Join us For a one night event, where you will enjoy the blues styling of Steve Creter and Fretwork.
This event will be a very informative event in which you will learn techniques on Blues Guitar.

Guitar Repair

Anyone looking to have some repair or set up work done on your guitar should check out Forrester Kustoms in Baltimore. I know it's not exactly around the corner from HBG, but, it's well worth the drive imo & Mike Forrester does incredible work at very reasonable prices.

Mike did some work on my Goldtop (inlays popping up) and his work is outstanding just as if the guitar was coming out of the Gibson Custom Shop the way it should have! he also worked around my hectic schedule via BWI flights after hours.

check out his website...he does it all from the most intricate restorative work (broken headstocks, etc) to setups to finishes at very reasonable prices and provides an estimate before any work is done. He's not only a true professional but also a great guy and I cannot recommend him highly enough. Well worth the drive imo especially if you have major work to be done.

Recommendation by Jeffrey Cameron

Blues Radio Station bellyup4blues.com

I've been a BSCP member for a few years and really look forward to the newsletter. The other day while looking for radio stations on the internet I found one that is really superb. It is commercial free modern blues rock! The website is: bellyup4blues.com. Not only do they play the well known artists like Stevie Ray or Kenny Wayne, they also play artists like Josh Kirkland, Rhett Tyler and Todd Wolfe. I think putting the web address in the newsletter would turn a lot of people on to more great blues. The only break in the music is about once an hour for about 5 - 15 seconds to remind their audience that they are listener supported.

Best regards, Doug McGuire

25th INTERNATIONAL BLUES CHALLENGE
The World's Largest Gathering Of Blues Bands
February 4-7, 2009
tickets at blues.org

"...better than any festival I have ever attended"
Eddie Bagwell, VP, Tuba Blues Society

"...continue to be amazed at how well an event this big comes off"
Mike Dew, WNCW Radio

Logos at the bottom include FedEx, Memphis, and The Blues Foundation (www.blues.org).

Events & Festivals



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[Pre-Booking is underway](#) for the October 17-24, 2009
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Initial Band Announcement in November.



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**PRE-BOOKING NOW for
January 23rd-30th, 2010**
Legendary Caribbean sailing on Holland America's ms Eurodam



Road Tales

KING WILLY AND THE LITTLE BLUES PEOPLE By Bill Hines

Dateline: September, 2008 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Recently I had the opportunity to travel to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia for work. I found the people there to be small in stature but large in heart. Towering over the local commuters on the trains each day, I declared myself Willy, King of Malaysia, the baddest mofo in the land. Well, quietly, I did. I've learned often in my life that a healthy intake of alcohol by myself and running off at the mouth is a good way to get embarrassingly smacked down by women and little people, especially when said person have martial arts, Mu Thia, broken bottles, guns, breasts or other such advantages (see: Vegas Rock Paper Scissors, Pittsburgh Midget Mondays, and The Stories That Must Not be Told). I did briefly consider forming up my little army and sailing to America to invade, restore peace, love and live music, and solve other various problems before building a castle fortress on a beach somewhere in retirement with my wives and concubines.



A frequent traveler, it was my "worst trip ever" trying to get there. I was kicked around to three separate airports (MDT, BWI, IAD) just trying to depart and delayed 12 hours. Fortunately, this gave me the opportunity to attend the BSCP IBC Competition (well, most of it), so maybe the blues gods were with me, or I just made it happen through kinesis. Or the whole trip was invented in a state of delusion, in a flashback related to past chemical abuse. In any account, here is my story (the part I can tell anyway) and I'm sticking with it.

Wherever I go, I try to find the blues. And in these times, it's not usually too tough. I knew this trip would be a challenge though. Kuala Lumpur?? I think I had that once in the military, but got a shot at the free clinic. I found that the convenience stores (ubiquitous 7-11) there all stocked my favorite pick-me-up soft drink, Pepsi Max and my favorite Asian beer (Tiger), so that was encouraging. And unlike India, they have McDonalds. Ah, Tiger beer - the wicked brew that has gotten me into some interesting situations in this part of the world before (see: Crazy Elephant, Singapore and Stories That Must Not be Told).

So I eventually found Malaysia's only blues club, called The Duke (<http://www.klblues.com>) and saw the killer band Purple Haze (wait – I remember that name - WAS this a flashback?). What a great night of inspired blues and rock, complete with their creepy shaman raspy voiced singer/harp/percussion player and incredible lead guitarist. Those guys were awesome. I sat with some other American ex-pat dude and his 15 year old son (we don't need no steenking drinking age...), who proceeded to attempt to match me Tiger beer for Tiger beer. He was making some gurgling noises when I left. Sorry son, it takes practice to be this good. I talked to the band on breaks, about IBC Memphis and our local jam and things like that. They said "we can only dream of such things", and that they had attempted a blues festival and it was a bust. All of that was very, very sad for me. They asked me to play but by then I was pretty hopped up on Tiger, so I declined. I now regret that, as there was a great enthusiastic crowd. Well, as usual in many of these countries the crowd consists of hookers swarming like flies, so that makes for some interesting cocktail discussions. Another lost playing opportunity, but I had a great night of blues in Malaysia. Who'd a thunk it.
(continued on next page)

Road Tales

KING WILLY AND THE LITTLE BLUES PEOPLE (concluded)

Dateline: October 2008 Montreal Quebec Canada

Ok, well does Canada qualify as a foreign country? Or Quebec? Was there some invasion or was that only on South Park? Blame Canada! Actually, I have much experience there from my days in the military in the 70's. I was stationed along the Canadian border at one of our primary Strategic Air Command bases defending the likes of you slackers against the evil empire in the Cold War. Well, that and raiding the bars and running from police on both sides of the border on a nightly basis (see Arrested at the Montreal Forum 1978, Stories That Must Not Be Told), seeking out live women and hard music. Or is it the other way around?



Anyway, those days and that area is special to me, because as a 70's rocker teenager who thought it all began and ended with Led Zeppelin I was introduced by my black roommate in the barracks to The Source of it all – delta and Chicago blues. Back then I sat back in a thoroughly induced stupor as LP after LP spun out the magic of these gods I had never heard of – Muddy, Lightnin', John Lee, Junior, Butter, Sonny Boy, Wolf and on and on. It was where I first picked up a blues harp, long ago, and unfortunately put it down for more beer, or I'd be one hellish mofo right now.

So after arriving in Montreal, I was pleased to find that my co-conspirator had already lined up a blues venue for Thursday night – Bistro a JoJo. After a fine Italian dinner with my partner in crime we ducked in and began the first of a long night full of Molson and tequila (was argued all night – salt, shot, lemon?). Featuring that night were Carl Tremblay and Friends and I don't know if I've ever seen a band that wired. These guys were bouncing all over the small stage in the packed subterranean club in old Montreal. The keyboard player was spinning and pounding on his Hammond, waves of wiry long hair flying all around him. Young guitar player stepping forward and blasting out massive slide riffs. Carl wailing on harp, pounding out vocals, reaching over to gliss the keyboard and using his harp on the guitar player's frets as a slide, laying out on the keyboard and singing to the house lights. I approached him on break to talk about harp, I forget what he said, I forget what I said. I'm not sure who was higher. I think I was trying to sit in but at least I didn't Gus. Blame it on the Molson, blame Canada.

King Willy, of Malaysia

Gigs 'n Happenings



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**SUNOCO
PERFORMANCE
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The Derek Trucks Band
November 21, 8pm
Sunoco Performance Theater
Tickets are \$37.50



Southside Johnny & The Asbury Jukes
November 28, 8pm
Sunoco Performance Theater
Tickets are \$36



**Celebrating the Magnificent Men starring
Class Act featuring Rita**
November 29, 8pm
Sunoco Performance Theater
Tickets are \$38

Recording Studio

My brother recently got his website up and running. He opened a professional quality recording studio in Lancaster last year. Abbeyville Road Studios. You can check it out here. <http://mysite.verizon.net/vzewntwl/index.html>

For anyone that has been to Memphis it's about the size of the Stax recording room. There are enough live tracks available that a big band can be recorded without the need to overdub. The room is cozy enough though to do single and duo acoustic acts.

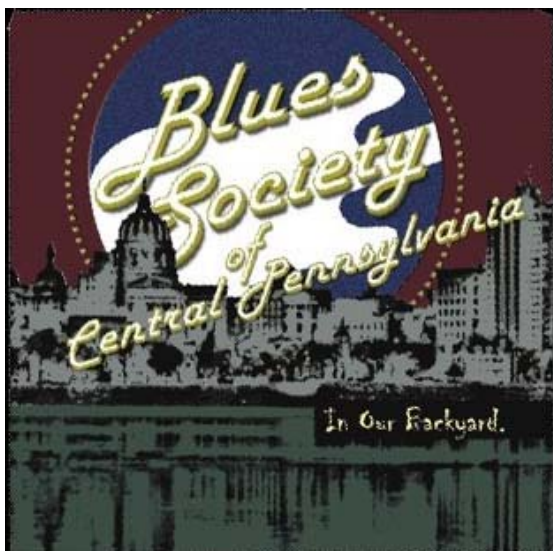
He use to be a blues guitarist but has been involved in the regional jazz scene for almost 30 years. He also has a resource of professional studio musicians that can help you fill in that needed sound whether be a horn player(s), keyboardist, arranger etc.

mike

IBC COMPETITION



BLUES FESTIVAL GUIDE



Ask an old-time musician and he'll likely tell you that the blues is a "feeling." Ask a musicologist and you might hear something about the "12-bar" blues. Ask a contemporary blues performer and you might still hear about 12 bars, but now more in terms of where and how often they play in the span of a good week or two.

The collection is a tribute to the working blues musicians of South Central Pennsylvania who crisscross the Mason-Dixon line on a regular basis playing the circuit of bars, hotels, clubs and showrooms that run from Harrisburg to Philly, straight south to Baltimore, down to Washington, D.C., and back around again.

Tickle My Senses
312 Bridge St.
New Cumberland, PA 17070
717-774-1168

The CD is also available at Tickle My Senses in New Cumberland!

You can order In Our Backyard through our website at www.bscpblues.org

The blues started working its way out of the South in the 1920's riding on the backs of itinerant musicians and spreading even further via phonograph records and radio. Blues music that "began as an expression of African Americans' rural southern experience," writes the nation's leading blues scholar, David Evans (who has, by the way, family ties in Harrisburg), "migrated to the urban north" and evolved in myriad directions, though always maintaining its essential character as an "intensely personal music." *

As you listen to the tracks on this CD, you'll experience blues across a range of eras and genres, a true reflection of the best players and the kinds of blues popular in Harrisburg's own backyard. Acoustic ragtime, piedmont and Mississippi Delta, Chicago blues, full-tilt boogie, soul and gospel blues, Texas jump, swamp blues it's all here, ingredients in the quintessential South Central Pennsylvania blues mixture.

"The standard misconception about the blues is that it's sitting-around, crying-in-your-beer music," says Mitch Ivanoff of Krypton City Blues Revue. "It is quite the antithesis of that... It's about sharing in the human experience and the joy of knowing you're not alone in this world... Blues is about life, and we're all living it." **

So, with ace bass-player and producing whiz Harry Werner at the helm, drop this "coin" into the slot and take a ride on the South Central blues line.

-- Jerry Zolten
 Author, biographer of "The Dixie Hummingbirds"
 Producer, Fairfield Four and Isaac Freeman

* The NPR Curious Listener's Guide to the Blues by David Evans, Perigee Press, 2005.

** Interviewed by Jon Ferguson in "Catching The Blues," Central PA Magazine, July 2003.

**Blues Society of Central
Pennsylvania**
PO Box 453
Steelton, PA 17113
Phone
(888) 771-2727



*"Volunteers are not
paid -- not because
they are worthless,
but because they are
priceless."
Author Unknown*

Membership Information

Members of the Blues Society of Central Pennsylvania include musicians, fans, retailers, club owners and folks who just love to listen to the blues. To become a member simply mail your check for \$10.00 to the following address:

Blues Society of Central Pennsylvania
PO BOX 453
Steelton, PA 17113

Be sure to include the following information about yourself:

Name, address, telephone number and e-mail address.

Any special skills you'd be willing to volunteer.

BSCP Member Benefits

Just some of the BSCP Member Benefits:

- A Bi-monthly newsletter
- 10% Discount to all BSCP members at J&W Music (Mechanicsburg & Carlisle Stores)
- Special "Members Only" events – notification sent via e-mail or regular post.
- \$2.00 discount off the cover @ Kclinger's in Hanover
- 20% Discount on Entrée's at Malones

For further information, contact the membership committee at:

bluesmembership@comcast.net

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