



Blues News

Of Central Pennsylvania

July-August 2009



Blues is easy to play, but hard to feel. [Jimi Hendrix](#).

The Mississippi Railroad

Bringing the Blues From the Delta
to Central PA!

Mississippi Railroad
July 19th 2009 at
40 et 8 Club
featuring
"Cadillac" John Nolden
& Bill Abel!



BSCP Executive Board:

President George Bressler **Vice President** Buster Grubb **Secretary** Barb Garra **Treasurer** Bob Emrich

President's Message
Back in the saddle again

It's great to be back! The past two years provided a much needed break- & believe me I needed it. The great success we enjoyed in my first two years as Pres. came at a price- & the price was burnout. As with everything else in my life, I approached the President office full speed ahead and learned the hard way to just SLOW DOWN a little. I rekindled my love affair with vintage motorcycles and rode the wheels off one of them when I got laid off last summer- 11,000mi between the end of April & Labor day. As far as Blues festivals, I think I made it to Billtown and that was about it. There was about a month in there that I didn't even pick up the guitar.

All that riding actually made me realize how much I really did miss the whole blues thing- even though I did stay in touch by hangin' out at the jam every Thursday & going to (most) of the BSCP general membership meetings. But like I said- I needed a break from running things & WOW! Cleared my head right out.

Anyway- the new board hit the ground runnin' this year at the Fort Hunter festival- (now a two day'er!) & I was very fortunate to really get to know Larry Moore- The man responsible for putting the whole Ft. Hunter thing together. He told me that next year he would like the BSCP to have a much larger role in running the event- and I'm hoping that includes input from us concerning the lineup! Not that he needs help; Larry himself arranged for the Billy Price band- and IMHO they stole the show. I cordially invited Larry to attend one of our board meetings to discuss this year's event & his vision for the future. I'm looking forward to it.

Speaking of the board- I'm sure by now everyone knows the principals; Buster Grubb, (Vice Presidente), Bob Emrich (Treasurer), Barb Garra (Secretary), & Yours Truly. Buster is the seasoned veteran of hundreds of board/general membership meetings & has a crystal clear picture of how the BSCP runs. I feel so lucky to get two of the VERY BEST as my VP- Rocky Rothrock & BG. One other thing- if Buster recommends a band to go see, do not hesitate- OBEY.

Bob Emrich is on his second tour of duty babysitting the BSCP's purse strings; and the treasury is very healthy indeed as a result. Bob shoulders probably the biggest responsibility of all- & makes it look easy. The entire organization owes Bob a huge Thank You; all the cool stuff we do would absolutely not happen without a class act like Bob watching the \$\$\$.

The lovely Miss Barbara Garra is our new secretary- and we are SO HAPPY to welcome her to the board! Unfortunately, Barb got thrown under the bus immediately by having to straighten out the membership database (so we can send out mass emails). Thankfully Mari & Elaine (our two previous secretaries) have been wonderful helping her through this process. Something about transferring the database from one computer to another- I don't understand ANY of it; luckily they do. Buy them each a beverage- they richly deserve it!

Rocky returns as Jam chairman- actually DOUBLE duty for Rocky since he runs the acoustic AND the Thursday night jam! A Sonny award candidate if there ever was one. Don't forget his TWO terms as VP- his contribution to the BSCP is phenomenal. And can Rocky RIP that Gibson guitar- WOW! And, as a new member-at-large, but a familiar presence at all our Thursday Jams is Jack Bertollette.

Mom I retired as Events chairman- only to return as member-at-large! Mom- we just can't do it without you!!!

As you read this imagine all the work it takes to put this newsletter together. Chuck Hamilton did such a fantastic job with the newsletter the past two years- it just kept getting better each issue- he decided to come back for more. The BSCP is the fortunate recipient of his skill; & I for one am SO grateful. You should be too.

Two new faces (on the board anyway) are Greg Hogg & Rick Heffelfinger. Greg (member at large) must put 500mi/wk on his car attending BSCP events, meetings, jams, not to mention checking out the local talent in THREE STATES. Probably THE MOST hardcore blues fan I ever met. He is on the message board several times each week posting blues events from ALL OVER. A great addition; welcome aboard, big boy- you're the best.

Rick is the architect of his very own blues festival- The Lost, Found & Dearly Departed party, now in it's seventh (or eighth?) year. Rick very graciously offered to chair the Public Relations committee, which involves getting advertising for all of our events. His experience promoting the Lost & Found party speaks for itself- '09 will be remembered in blues circles as having BACK TO BACK festivals on CONSECUTIVE weekends!!! His event this year featured ex Muddy Waters drummer Willie "big eyes" Smith & Kim Simmonds of Savoy Brown. It's not only a festival- it's one of the BEST.

Last, but certainly far from least is Miss Hannah Sherman (MAL)- all the way from Delta, PA. (how cool is that?) Hannah is a die-hard Mississippi hill country fan and has been to Clarksdale countless times to hear the music she loves. She's also in the high-miler club- round trip (just to come to the jam!) is over 100mi! But she's usually there- most every week.

Holy smokes- I almost forgot Bill Hines who is running the IBC again this year! Hopefully, with Bill's efforts, one of our number will strike gold in Memphis & hit the big time! Heck Bill- it might even be YOU!!

I can't forget the man who more or less arranges whole Mississippi Railroad show- Dale Wise. How lucky are we to have a member who, on his own dime, travels all the way Clarksdale Miss. to search the jukes for his heroes- just so his friends in PA can hear real, honest to goodness delta blues, from the men who created it. Another Sonny award- any day of the week.

With a crew like this, my job becomes embarrassingly easy. I sit back & collect all the praise that I do not deserve. THESE are the people who make the BSCP great. But thanks for taking me along for the ride. George B

Events and Friends

The Mississippi Railroad

Bringing the Blues From the Delta to Central PA!

The Blues Society of Central Pennsylvania is proud to present the fourth annual Mississippi Railroad Picnic at 2:00 P.M. on July 19, 2009, at the picnic pavilion of the 40 et 8 Club, 4831 Chamber's Hill Road in Harrisburg. Admission is free for members of the Blues Society or \$10 for non-members. The picnic is BYO Food and BYOB.

The Mississippi Railroad is the brainchild of local musicians, Dale Wise, Dave Groninger, and Mitch Ivanoff who have played and recorded in Mississippi numerous times. By bringing the Delta musicians here, "The Railroad" is giving Central PA the opportunity to experience some of the last, truly original, Mississippi bluesmen. This is as close as you will get to experiencing Mississippi without actually going there.

This year we are very excited to bring back "Cadillac" John Nolden and Bill Abel.

"Cadillac" John Nolden is a blues harmonica player, songwriter, and vocalist from Renova, Mississippi. He was born in Sunflower, MS, on April 12, 1927, one of ten children. He has picked and chopped cotton, plowed with mules, and recalls that his family often went to work before sunrise.

He formed a gospel group called the Four Nolden Brothers with his siblings and sang baritone and first and second lead. They had a radio show on a Greenwood, MS station in the mid-forties. He also played blues with his brother Jesse James Nolden, a guitarist. After one brother died and two others left the area, he sang for 8-9 years with the gospel group, the Four Stars. He then stopped performing except for occasional solos at church until 1970 when he was inspired to take up the blues again to help alleviate the pain he felt after his wife abruptly left him. He bought a harmonica from the Simmons drug store in Cleveland, MS, and "went to hummin' a little then...I just couldn't hardly hold it back."

In the nineties he performed with a band that included guitarist Monroe Jones, and appeared under his own name at the Delta Blues Festival and the Sunflower River Blues & Gospel Festival. In 2000 Jones introduced Nolden to his current partner, guitarist Bill Abel, and they have played regularly at venues in the Delta area, as well as at the King Biscuit Blues Festival, The Sunflower River Blues & Gospel Festival, the Highway 61 Blues Festival, and the Yazoo Blues Festival. They released the 2000 CD, "Crazy About You," which contains five originals from Nolden in a vintage style, and in August, 2005, he left Mississippi for the first time to travel to Pennsylvania with Abel to perform for the Blues Society of Central PA.

Bill Abel, born and raised in Belzoni, MS, has played with blues legends such as Honey Boy Edwards, Henry Townsend, Hubert Sumlin, Paul "Wine" Jones, Sam Carr, Terry Harmonica Bean, and Big George Brock. Abel says it has been his privilege to play authentic Delta blues with many bluesmen in different settings from juke joints to blues festivals across the Delta, the Chicago Blues Festival, and all around the United States, Belgium, Italy, England, Wales, and Switzerland. In 2004, he taught the blues guitar workshop at the 2nd Annual International Blues Symposium with national recording artist Corey Harris. In 2006, he played guitar on the WC Handy nominated CD, "Round Two," with Big George Brock and was awarded the Blues Musician of the Year presented by the Mississippi Delta Blues Society of Indianola. In addition to recording with Hubert Sumlin, he played guitar on T-Model Ford's recent CD, "Jack Daniel Time," and the film "M for Mississippi," for which he also did engineering and production work.

Opening for the duo will be one of Harrisburg's own blues bands, The Cornlickers.

For additional information, please contact the BSCP at 1-888-771-BSCP (2727) or on the web at www.bscplblues.org.



**INTERNATIONAL SONGWRITING COMPETITION
NOW ACCEPTING ENTRIES FOR 2009
ENTER YOUR SONGS NOW!**

**\$150,000 IN CASH AND PRIZES
INCLUDING A \$25,000 CASH GRAND PRIZE
NEW JUDGES - NEW AC CATEGORY**

You still have time to take advantage of the Early Bird deadline and save \$ on your entries. Entries must be mailed or submitted online by midnight, July 15, EST in order to qualify for the Early Bird discount. After July 15, the regular entry fee will apply. The final deadline for entries is October 7, 2009.

ISC accepts entries from amateur and professional songwriters, artists, and musicians. More than \$150,000 in cash and prizes will be shared among the 65 winners, including an overall Grand Prize of \$25,000 (US) cash and \$20,000 in music equipment, services, and more. Not only is this the largest cash Grand Prize of any songwriting competition in the world, but ISC also has the most high-profile judges, the most categories, and the coolest winners (this could be you!)... Enter online (mp3) or mail in your songs (CD, tape, or DVD for music video entries). Entering ISC is easy. All you need to do is fill out an entry form and send us your songs! <http://www.songwritingcompetition.com/>

Gigs 'n Such

BSCP THURSDAY JAM

Thursday Night Blues Jam is being graciously hosted by the 40 et 8 Club of Harrisburg, every Thursday from 8pm until ??

40 et 8 Club, 5831 Chambers Hill Rd, Harrisburg, PA 17111

Directions: Take 83n to 322E toward Hershey. Turn right at light at Mushroom Hill Rd. Go to stop sign (top of the hill). Turn right onto Chambers Hill Rd. 40 et 8 is approx. 1 mile from stop sign on the left

Recordings of the Thursday Jams can be found at www.archive.org. The archive site provides many benefits - in addition to free storage it allows the recordings to be streamed and listened to online rather than have to download them individually and playing them. To find the recordings go to the archive.org site, enter BSCP in the search box, and choose Live Music Archive from the drop down, then press the Go! button.



der maennerchor 'minder!!!!

Here we go gang:

Tuesday, July 7: what promises to be an interesting matchup: Blue Elephant, with Mike Noll on drums, Jonathan Ragonese on tenor sax, EWI (that's an electronic wind controller), and some surprises. Electric.

Tuesday, July 14: Mitch Ivanoff and, "the fez-erator": Lee Carroll.

Tuesday, July 21: Pokey's back! Pokey Lafarge and the South City Three on the south end of their national tour they like us.

Tuesday, July 28: the chip off the ol' ray, mark santanna with mr. chris auxt.

Acoustic Stew will be playing under the pavilion at Negley Park, up on the hill in Lemoyne, on Sunday, July 5th. We'll be starting at 7:00pm and playing until the fireworks start at approx.

9:05pm. So come out and hear some of the Stew's blues while you wait for the start time, and then see the big fireworks show from an excellent vantage point. Sound like a good time? See you there!



Later,
Rick

Mt. Holly Inn , Carlisle **Open Mike & Jam @ 7:00pm Sundays**

Holly Inn
31 South Baltimore Avenue
Mount Holly Springs, Pennsylvania 17065
(717) 486-3823 or (717) 486-4659
(717) 486-4194 Fax:



[eMail:info@hollyinn.com](mailto:info@hollyinn.com)

I would like to invite anyone that loves live music to come on out here on Sunday evenings to join our Open Mic sessions. I've been going for over three years now and it's really very nice. Not too loud and it too is smoke free. They also have terrific food! Nice fella named Roy Bennet hosts it and has bass guitar, electric and acoustic guitars and a piano that you can play. Starts at 7:00pm. Hope to see some of my blues brotheren and sistas there!
J-bo Crawdaddy

Gonna have me a hootenanny tonite, some jammin' friends!
J-bo

in York

New Blues Jam Tuesdays in York at Ruby Jades (formerly Emerson's) in York every Tuesday from 8pm to 11pm. Hope to see you there!

Ruby Jades
1500 S. George St
York, PA 17403
(717) 845-RUBY

Gig's 'n Such

BSCP MONDAY ACOUSTIC JAM at The Little Coffeehouse in Camp Hill



THE ACOUSTIC JAM IS BACK!!!

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 is 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!

Rocky

THE REGULATORS AT HOLLYWOOD CASINO

The regulators with some new tunes along with Craig Barton our new keyboard guy will be laying down the groove at the Casino on July 11. Most of you have seen and hopefully have met Craig out at the jam on Thursdays and experienced watching this really talented player. Craig has also spent many years working with our drummer Scott Powell and the band can't wait to get this show on the road! Hope to see you out supporting the talent that our membership has out there for you to enjoy! Hey after the gig, you still have the rest of the evening to enjoy more LIVE MUSIC...

Ken S



DON JOHNSON PROJECT

JULY 2009

Fri. 3 rd	9:30	Field House Old Trail Rd., Etters
Sat. 4 th	5:30	Harrisburg Senators Game Metro Bank Park – City Island Harrisburg
Sat. 4 th	9:30	Stock's on 2nd 211 N. Second St., HBG
Sun. 5 th	2 PM	Moon Dancer Winery BLUES FESTIVAL 1282 Klines Run Road Wrightsville Visit web for band lineup at www.moondancerwinery.com
Tues. 7 th	8 PM	Malone's 6200 Derry St., HBG
Fri. 10 th	8:30	Lower Allen VFW 4545 Westport Dr., Mechanicsburg
Sat. 11th		Private Party
Sun. 12 th	2:30	Scozzaro's Steel City Pub – "3D TRIO" 4797 York Rd., New Oxford
Thurs. 16 th	8:30	Rock Bass Grill – "3D TRIO" 461 S. Front St., Wormleysburg
Fri. 17 th	8 PM	American Legion 214 Market St., New Cumberland
Sat. 18th		Private Party
Sat. 25 th	7 PM	The Wharf 6852 Derry St., HBG
Fri. 31 st	7 PM	Morgan's Place 4425 N. Front St., HBG

BAND BOOKINGS: Email **Karen** at donjohnsonproject@verizon.net

Website: www.mvspace.com/diprojectband

NOTE: Schedule subject to change.

Events and Friends

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Events and Friends

Our own "BSCP Ambassador" Debbie Giuliani offers these pictures from the Treasurer's Picnic...



Festivals



Pocono Blues Festival

The Pocono Festival is one of the biggest and best on the East Coast. When we started going many years ago, we would go up early Saturday morning, set up camp, and get to the festival gate by 11:30. We have evolved a little since then: from nine people and four tents in one campsite (nowhere near any facilities) three miles away from the festival to a three-bedroom townhouse with all amenities (including Jacuzzi, but who has time) within walking distance; from tail-gating with sandwiches in the hot, dusty parking lot to a prime site next to the acoustic tent with four pop-up canopies and a gourmet picnic. Every year we make it a little better and everyone is always welcome to stop by. This is one festival we never miss. It's only a two hour drive through the beautiful mountains of Pennsylvania from Harrisburg so it's possible to do a day trip, the music is always top-notch, and the company can't be beat. There are a couple of down-sides: it's not free and you can't take any food or drink into the festival but that's why we have such a great set-up. Tickets are much cheaper in advance and they'll hold them at the will-call for you. ~ **Hannah Sherman**

I haven't missed one yet. I've been to every one. The little bitty stage they started out with was about 8" off the ground. It was about 8x8 and we saw Johnny Clyde Copeland. A great time was had by all. We first tented at the campground, then we had the cabin for about five years and we used to get together with people from Philly and Jersey and jam 'till 4 or 5 in the morning. Then we'd get up and go to the festival again. Sitting in the rain, we have a great picture of Mom sitting in the rain and it never stopped us – we just

kept on going like the rabbit. Me with my festival umbrella that you can see through and my bare feet. Now we've moved up to the Marriott and then we hit the hot tub and loosen up those sore muscles from dancing so hard. Our roadside tent city with all the comforts (except for the bathroom). We still go into the first stage and the acoustic tent is next door so we don't even have to go in much. The music sounds good. We have an open door invitation to everyone who wants to come. It's such a great place to meet people from other areas and find out what blues society they're from. We have a lot of special memories – riding up over the mountain on the ski-lift, the sounds follow you up that mountain. ~ **Dot Grubb**

I went up very early on – one of the first. Started out as a one-day affair and escalated to campgrounds - cabin campground with Dot to wilderness camping. It was all good – even coming out breach from the tent with the help of Dodi. From there we went big-time and hit the Best Western with clean sheets and deluxe accommodations. Jacuzzi, pool, continental breakfast – almost too good to leave but the blues was pulling us out. The music is always the best. Been there through raging storms to blazing heat -wouldn't give it up for anything. Just when you thought it couldn't get any better we got the townhouse with our closest cherished friends. Good food, good booze, good music, excellent friends. ~ **Mary Mammola**

I started back in 2006. The first one was one of the best concerts ever. Koko Taylor, Hubert Sumlin, John Lee Jr, and one of my best favorites, Joe Louis Walker. That's where I met Nancy. I met so many good people and had so many good times. You get three stages. I took the ski-lift and of course Bob was in front of me taking pictures. We have a lot of good times. If it weren't for the festival I wouldn't get to experience all that different music and different people. Last year we saw Guy Davis and he was great. I could go on and on, but that's good. ~ **Karen Fetterolf**

It's like a yearly thing. Dot's been to every one. We do not miss it. Much as I dislike their pricing it's pretty special. I'll never forget when they turned the water coolers off so we had to buy bottled water. But the water in the bathrooms is ice cold. The music is always good even when you don't go inside. It's a lot more comfortable outside. The other cool thing about Pocono is you get to see people from all over the East Coast. You get to talk to Diamond State people, Baltimore people, and people from all over. ~ **Buster Grubb.**

ALONZO'S MEMORIAL PICNIC SUNDAY SEPT. 6

Eugene "Hideaway" Bridges
Robin Rogers
Mississippi Heat
Clarence "The Bluesman" Turner
Rosedale American Legion Hall
1311 Seling Ave.
Rosedale, MD 21237
BBS Info Line: 410-744-2291
\$25 Advance tix, \$30 at gate
Must be received by August 24th!
Send SASE to:
Baltimore Blues Society - Tickets
P.O. 4522
Baltimore, MD 21212
PUBLIC IS WELCOME
Coolers OK. Food and beverage available.
If it rains we go inside.



EUGENE "HIDEAWAY" BRIDGES



Humour 'n Stuff

[BSCP] Rules for the Blues

Bobby Schell (robertkschell@yahoo.com) Thu 6/25/09 12:47 PM BSCP@yahoogroups.com

Rules for the Blues

1. Most Blues begin, "Woke up this morning."
2. "I got a good woman," is a bad way to begin the Blues, 'less you stick something nasty in the next line, like "I got a good woman with the meanest face in town."
3. The Blues is simple. After you get the first line right, repeat it. Then find something that rhymes ... sort of: "Got a good woman - with the meanest face in town. Got teeth like Margaret Thatcher - and she weigh 500 pound."
4. The Blues are not about choice. You stuck in a ditch: You stuck in a ditch, ain't no way out.
5. Blues cars: Chevys and Cadillacs and broken down trucks. Blues don't travel in Volvos, BMWs, or Sport Utility Vehicles. Most Blues transportation is a Greyhound bus or a southbound train. Jet aircraft and state-sponsored motor pools ain't even in the running. Walkin' plays a major part in the blues lifestyle. So does fixin' to die.
6. Teenagers can't sing the Blues. They ain't fixin to die yet. Adults sing the Blues. In Blues, adulthood means being old enough to get the electric chair if you shoot a man in Memphis.
7. Blues can take place in New York City, but not in Hawaii or any place in Canada. Hard times in St. Paul or Tucson is just depression. Chicago, St.Louis, and Kansas City still the best places to have the Blues. You cannot have the blues in any place that don't get rain.
8. A man with male pattern baldness ain't the blues. A woman with male pattern baldness is. Breaking your leg cuz you skiing is not the blues.
9. Breaking your leg cuz a' alligator be chomping on it is.
10. You can't have no Blues in an office or a shopping mall. The lighting is wrong. Go outside to the parking lot or sit by the dumpster.
11. Good places for the Blues: a) highway b) jailhouse c) empty bed
Bad places: a) Ashrams b) gallery openings c) Ivy League institutions d) golf courses
12. No one will believe it's the Blues if you wear a suit, 'less you happen to be a' old black man, and you slept in it.
13. Do you have the right to sing the Blues? Yes, if: a) you're older than dirt b) you're blind c) you shot a man in Memphis d) you can't be satisfied.
No, if: a) you have all your teeth b) you were once blind but now can see c) the man in Memphis lived. d) you have a retirement plan or trust fund.
14. Blues is not a matter of color. It's a matter of bad luck. Tiger Woods cannot sing the blues. Gary Coleman could. Ugly white people also got a leg up on the blues.
15. If you ask for water and Baby give you gasoline, it's the Blues. Other acceptable Blues beverages are: a) bad wine b) bad whiskey or bad bourbon c) muddy water d) black coffee.
The following are NOT Blues beverages: a) mixed drinks b) kosher wine c) Snapple d) sparkling water
16. If it occurs in a cheap motel or a shotgun shack, it's a Blues death. Stabbed in the back by a jealous lover is another Blues way to die. So is the electric chair, substance abuse, and dying lonely on a broken down cot. You can't have a Blues death if you die during a tennis match or getting liposuction.
17. Some Blues names for women: a) Sadie b) Big Mama c) Bessie d) Fat River Dumpling
Some Blues names for men: a) Joe b) Willie c) Little Willie d) Big Willie
Persons with names like Sierra, Sequoia, and Rainbow can't sing the Blues no matter how many men they shoot in Memphis.
18. Make yer own Blues name (starter kit): name of physical infirmity (Blind, Cripple, Lame, etc.) first name (see above) plus name of fruit (Lemon, Lime, Kiwi, etc.) last name of President (Jefferson, Johnson, Fillmore, etc.)
For example, Blind Lime Jefferson, or Cripple Kiwi Fillmore, etc.
19. I don't care how tragic your life: you own a computer, you cannot sing the blues. You best destroy it - with fire, a spilled bottle of Mad Dog, or get out a shotgun. Maybe your big woman just done sat on it. I don't care.

Buddy and Hopkins

By Jason Nocera (www.buddyandhopkins.com)



Road Tale's

New Orleans Jazz Fest Showcases Music Variety

By Krista Jones

If you're planning a trip to New Orleans to enjoy the legendary architecture, food, streetcars and cultural heritage, you can find a cheaper time to go than during Jazz Fest, held the last weekend of April and first weekend of May. But if you want a bountiful, full-blown live music experience, day and night, that's your ticket, as I found out.

I got my first chance to visit the Big Easy this spring when I learned my friend Barb Garra (BSCP secretary) was leaving her job and heading out for a week's vacation in New Orleans to celebrate. She'd been to NO before and loved it, so I was eager to join her on this trip. I read travel books from January on, but nothing prepared me for the breadth of the music we discovered: on the street, in the bars, clubs, restaurants, and of course, at the Jazz and Heritage Festival.



Held at the Racetrack – a good walk and a 10 min. bus trip from our hotel in the French Quarter – the Jazz Fest featured all kinds of music performed continuously on 12 stages: jazz, blues, gospel, pop, hip hop, cajun, zydeco, country, funk and more, with artists ranging from Bonnie Raitt to Bon Jovi, **Allan Toussaint** (with a huge orchestra) to Sugarland, Tony Bennett to Los Lobos to Neal Young. Even if you focused on the blues performers, you still needed to decide which acts to catch that were happening at the same time – Buddy Guy or the **Neville Brothers**? Bonnie or (if you've seen her before) Walter "Wolfman" Washington, named New Orleans' best R&B musician of 2008?

Or you can walk around from stage to stage and listen for awhile, then move on.

It takes a whole day just to get the lay of the land because you have to traverse through large food areas, arts and crafts sections, beverage stands and rows of lavatories, among thousands of people. The big-name performers appear at the two large stages at either end of the track, where crowds assemble beneath the jumbotrons. You can get fairly close to the stage if you get there early, but then you're sandwiched in the crush of fans, and gettin' out ain't easy.



Meanwhile, the racetrack's grandstand stage offered traditional and contemporary jazz in air-conditioned comfort; the big blues and gospel tents were often packed and blasting their enticing grooves; the cajun and zydeco stages attracted couples in boots dancing the two-step, while the "roots music" stage drew a younger audience to its hip-hop beats.

Road Tale's

New Orleans Jazz Fest Showcases Music Variety (con't.)

By Krista Jones



We had decided to go to Jazz Fest for two of the four days that weekend because it can be overwhelming. Besides the artists mentioned, some of the Friday and Sunday line-ups that interested us included BeauSoleil with Michael Doucet, Marcia Ball, Julian Marley, John Scofield's band with Jon Cleary on keys (and for Bonnie Raitt), Gino Delafosse's French Rockin' Boogie and Kenny Neal Band (both at Poconos Blues Festival last year) and Cedric Burnside & Lightnin' Malcolm (previous Mississippi Railroad guests).

We also got to see other top performers who were in town, like **Susan Tedeschi**, whose band played at the House of Blues Sunday night after Jazz Fest. She rocked the place as only Susan can! New Orleans blues singer Marva Wright opened the show and wailed her heart out. And the Wednesday night before Jazz Fest, we went to Tipitina's in the French Quarter for Cyril Neville's CD release party, with guitarist Tab Benoit and harmonica player Jumpin' Johnny Sansone. They were joined by blues/funk musicians – dressed in full native Indian regalia – the Wild Magnolias with Big Chiefs Bo Dollis and Monk Boudreaux. Opening that show was the wonderful, red-suited Little Freddie King, named New Orleans' Best Blues Artist of 2008. I was amazed at the dynamic singing and guitar licks that drove that elderly gentleman's performance. His much younger harp player was barely an after-thought.



But that's not all of the live music we treated ourselves to. We visited the clubs on Frenchmen Street, where the New Orleans natives go to hear their favorite local bands. At the Apple Barrel, our first night in town, we danced to Harrisburg native Ken Schwartz' band – he had a great female singer. The night before we left, we went to Club Negril for several blues bands and to d.b.a., just down the block, for zydeco. Another night we went to dinner at Mulate's in the Quarter for gumbo and live cajun music.



A surprise venue we discovered was the **Music Factory**, a record store, which featured live bands all day the Monday after Jazz Fest. And of course throughout our stay, we encountered the famed street buskers, from solo guitarists to traditional jazz horn players to eight-musician ensembles.

Like true revelers, we tested our limits, stopping off in more places than I can remember, but our motto for the week was, "It's all about the music."

So forget Bourbon Street – better left to the puking frat boys and clueless tourists. If you go to New Orleans for Jazz Fest, you'll pay more for hotel rooms and cab fares, but you'll find a wealth of music memories to last till you can save up enough money to go again!

Reviews & Music News

THE HOMEMADE JAMZ BLUES BAND : : I GOT BLUES FOR YOU

Review courtesy Blues News

Their debut recording last year, *Pay Me No Mind*, led to the Homemade Jamz receiving a Blues Music Award nomination for Best New Artist Debut. Along the way, they appeared on the Today Show, were featured on NPR's "All Things Considered", and profiled on the CBS Sunday Morning News. Their new CD, *I Got Blues For You*, showcases some incredible songwriting, Ryan's fantastic lead guitar, Kyle's booming bass lines, and Taya's hard-hitting drums.



The Homemade Jamz Blues Band rocked the Blues world by coming in second in the 2007 International Blues Challenge in Memphis— competing against 100 other bands and are also the youngest blues band in America with Kyle (aged 14 on Bass guitar), Taya (aged 10 on drums) and Ryan (aged 16 on lead guitar and vocals) to ever be nominated for a Blues Music Award.

Music Maker Relief Foundation

May 15, 2009

Dear Friends,

We thank Steve Jones, Lori McGowan, Kate Muir and John Brandon for their recent donations that made it possible for Essie Mae Brooks to fix her kitchen floor. This is great news and a huge help to this wonderful gospel singer/songwriter. Big Ron Hunter (Winston-Salem, NC), Boo Hanks (Buffalo Junction, VA), Dr. G. B. Burt (Birmingham, AL), Pura Fe (Seattle, WA) and Ardie Dean (Huntsville, AL) arrived in Luxembourg on Wednesday to perform at the "Philharmonie/Salle de Muisque de Chamber." This is an acoustically perfect room that allows the musicians to perform with no amplifiers or PA system. This will be an amazing experience for this group and we look forward to listening to their stories of this trip. This marks the third overseas voyage for Dr. G.B. Burt; however, it is the first trip for Boo and Big Ron. Music Maker provided all the artists with CDs to sell at the show and great instruments for their performances. Music Maker also arranged every detail to make this experience the best possible. These are exciting days for MMRF musicians and we wish them the best of luck! Thank you, our donors, for helping us make such dreams come true for these artists.

Music Maker Relief Foundation, Inc. helps the true pioneers & forgotten heroes of Southern music gain recognition and meet their day to day needs. We present these musical traditions to the world so American culture will flourish and be preserved for future generations. Thank you for your continued support.

Tim Duffy

Music Maker Relief Foundation



ZACH PRATHER

Review courtesy of Dixon Landing Music

When you've got it...you've got it! And **Zach Prather** has it! With a career stemming back to the late '70s in Los Angeles, CA, Zach is no stranger to the blues scene. After several years of playing with artists such as **Cash McCall, Screamin' Jay Hawkins, Luther Allison, Etta James and Willie Dixon**, Zach Prather has four CD's under his belt. But, none can compare to his most recent release titled **FREAK**.

Already getting rave reviews from the likes of Living Blues Magazine and Southland Blues Magazine, it is just the beginning for this musical creation. "His sound is a wonderful blend of funk, soul, and blues with a modern twist" states Mark Camarigg of Living Blues Magazine. "He's got the chops, the voice, and the funk to garner a wide and modern blues audience."

Born in Chicago in 1952, **Zach Prather** grew up listening to many of the great Blues players. He began playing at the age of 13 and by the time he was 15 he had made his first record with **Curtis Mayfield's** label Curtom Records. During this time he had commenced playing at many of the well known clubs and venues in the Chicago area. At 17, Prather completed two years military service, after which he formed another band and returned to the club scene. However, it was not the local Blues players that influenced Prather then, rather the British invasion groups such as the **Rolling Stones, the Kinks, Small Faces** and **The Who**.

By teaming up with the Dixon legacy, the two are sure to generate a great buzz for Zach's music. "It's a breath of fresh air for the music industry. It turns the corner for the direction of blues music," says **Alex Dixon** on Zach's CD **FREAK**. "We are very happy to be working with him and look forward to great things to come."

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/>

Passings

Koko Taylor Passes

Hello Everyone-

It is with a heavy heart that I inform you of the passing of one of the truly legendary figures in music, the Queen of the Blues, Koko Taylor. Koko had surgery May 19 for some ongoing gastro-intestinal issues and developed an infection that ultimately could not be contained. This morning we were told she'd taken a turn for the worse overnight. She passed away around 3:15pm today. Born a sharecropper's daughter in Shelby County, Tennessee, Koko boarded a bus to Chicago in 1954 as part of the great migration of southern blacks to the urban centers of the north. For years she worked as a housecleaner until Willie Dixon discovered her in 1963 sitting in with a band at a South Side nightclub. She had an R&B hit with Dixon's Wang Dang Doodle in 1966 and was one of the first Chicago blues artists to work the white clubs on the city's North Side.

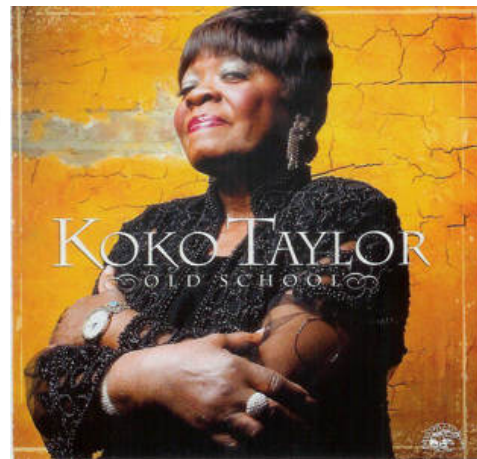
She signed with Alligator in 1975 and received Grammy nominations for eight of her nine Alligator albums (she won a Grammy in 1984 for the live multi-artist album *Blues Explosion* on Atlantic Records). She won a record 29 Blues Music Awards (the Grammy of the blues world) and in 1999 was inducted into the Blues Foundation's Hall Of Fame. "There are many kings of the blues", said *The Boston Globe*, "but only one queen." Koko's last release, 2007's *Old School*, was a fiery return to the gritty blues she sang upon first arriving in the Windy City. She was the modern-day version of female blues trailblazers like Bessie Smith and Memphis Minnie and as such influenced generations of artists from Janis Joplin and Bonnie Raitt to Susan Tedeschi and Shemekia Copeland. Our deepest sympathies go out to Koko's family and blues lovers everywhere.

Sadly-

Kerry

KERRY PEACE

Alligator Records



Former Teardrop Nick Holt, R.I.P.

Article courtesy

Reverend Keith A. Gordon

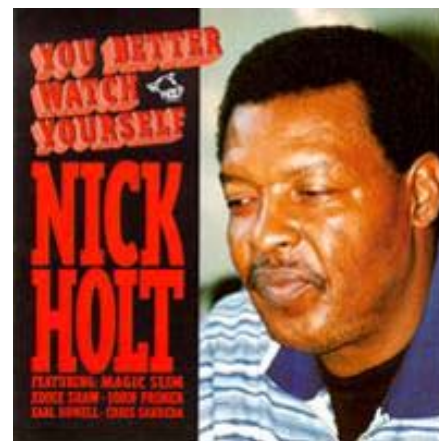
Formers Teardrops bassist Nick Holt, the brother of Chicago blues legend Magic Slim (a/k/a Morris Holt), died in Lincoln, Nebraska on Monday, June 22, 2009 from brain cancer. Holt was 69 years old at the time of his death. Born in Grenada, Mississippi in 1940, Holt accompanied his brother to Chicago in the late-1950s, and helped him form the popular Magic Slim & the Teardrops in 1960. The rock-steady bass player performed with his frontman brother for the next 40 years, both onstage and on the band's recordings through 2000's Blind Pig Records release *Snakebite*.

Holt moved with his brother to Lincoln in 1994, where Magic Slim & the Teardrops performed frequently at the Zoo Bar when they weren't on tour, and even recorded several live albums at the venue. Holt also received a 1999 W.C. Handy Awards nomination as "Best Blues Instrumentalist – Bass" for his work with the Teardrops.

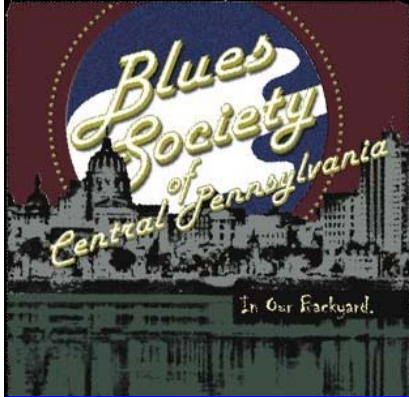
Nick Holt was also in demand as a session player, and he lent his bass skills to albums by Little Milton, Sun-nyland Slim, Vance Kelly, and former Teardrops' guitarist John Primer, among others. Holt also released three albums with his name on them: *You Can't Lose What You Never Had*, recorded with his brother Magic Slim and released by Austrian blues label Wolf Records; *We Do It For The Blues*, with Dutch bluesman "Little Boogie Boy;" and his lone solo album, *You Better Watch Yourself*, released by Wolf Records in 1998.

Holt had beat throat cancer in 1987, but he had been sidelined for the past several years with health problems. He will be missed by the many Teardrops fans in Chicago and across the world.

Photo courtesy Price Grabber



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 criss-cross 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.

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

Tickle My Senses
312 Bridge St.
New Cumberland,
PA 17070

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



Thursday Jammin' BSCP Shirts (pictured above) are the BSCP's new silk-screen design which is currently available on a gray T-shirt (\$15), and a ladies' V-neck shirt in light blue (\$18), as well as a gray tank top (\$17). The traditional BSCP logo is emblazoned on the front and the Thursday Jammin' image is displayed on the back.

The BSCP acquired licensing rights to this image from artist Dane Tilghman. Dane does some blues art work and he often displays his Jazz/Blues Music Series at music and arts festivals throughout the United States. In addition to being the featured artist for the billboards for the 2005 and 2006 Pocono Blues Festivals and the official Pocono T-shirt for 2008 & 2009, he also created the 2000 poster for the Bethlehem Music Festival, and the festival poster, brochure, and T-shirts for the Milford (PA) 2006 Music Festival. He has completed numerous portraits of blues and jazz musicians which can be seen on his website: <http://www.tilghmanenterprises.com>. Dane's work has also appeared on ESPN's website, in Sports Illustrated, and on TV shows such as "House," "The Cosby Show," and "Roseanne".

Dane uses the term "Tell Tale Art" to describe his style. He says that he paints because he must, because art is in his bones and it must come out. "I do art because I am the carrier of the dream." In an interview last summer at the Roots & Rhythm Festival in Honesdale (PA), Dane intuitively said, "To some, the blues is like a religion". Rather than playing or singing the blues, Dane Tilghman paints the blues.

If you did not visit the merchandise tent at the Treasurer's Picnic, the Dauphin County Blues & Wine Festival, or the Lost, Found & Dearly Departed event, please stop by and check out the Thursday Jammin' T-shirts and other BSCP merchandise when you come to Mississippi Railroad on Sunday, July 19, 2009. Merchandise will be available for purchase on the 1st Thursday of every month during the jam at the 40 & 8. If you are interested in a particular item of BSCP merchandise but unable to attend the events, please contact a Board member and arrangements will be made to accommodate you.

**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

BSCP
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We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.bscpblues.org