



Blues News

Of Central Pennsylvania

May/June 2009



"With my little band, I did everything they did with a big band. I made the blues jump."
Louis Jordan

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Membership

Dot Grubb

Merchandise

Betty Fenicle

Members at Large

Ray Santanna

Kevin Kline

Buster Grubb

Bill Hines

Treasurer's Picnic on May 24th **The band lineup is as follows:**

Time	Main Stage	Acoustic Stage
12:00 - 1:00	(setup)	(setup)
1:00 - 1:45	Acoustic Stew	
1:45 - 2:00	(setup)	Jimbo Sage
2:00 - 2:45	Wyzer Trio	
2:45 - 3:00	(setup)	Bob & Mike
3:00 - 3:45	Nate Myers/Aces	
3:45 - 4:00	(setup)	Dr. Mo
4:00 - 4:45	Jimmy D	
4:45 - 5:00	(setup)	Open
5:00 - 5:45	Krypton City	
5:45 - 6:00	(setup)	Don Judy
6:00 - 6:45	Don Johnson Project	
6:45 - 7:00	(setup)	Mitch & Lee
7:00 - 7:45	The Corn Lickers	

BSCP Events 2009

May 2

Harpalooza - ABC Brewery, Harrisburg

May 24

Treasurer's Picnic - 40&8 Club Pavilion, Harrisburg

June 13

Fort Hunter Blues Day - Fort Hunter Park, Harrisburg

June 20

Lost Found, Dearly Departed - Postal Picnic Grounds, Harrisburg

July 19

Mississippi Railroad Event - 40&8 Club Pavilion, Harrisburg

August 15

Harrisburg Blues in the Night - Reservoir Park, Harrisburg

September 27

International Blues Competition - Steelton VFW

December 6

BSCP Christmas Party - Steelton VFW

December 31

BSCP New Years Party - Sheraton Harrisburg/Hershey

President's Message

Dear Members,

A few friends and I go to Scott's almost every Friday night after work for happy hour. There are ½ price appetizers and cheap beers, so we have dinner and wind down from the week. Last week the weather was beautiful, so we wanted to sit outside but, unfortunately so did everyone else. Since we couldn't find a seat, we decided to stand awhile and see if anything would open up. As we were standing there, a man rode by on his bicycle. It was obvious, that this man was a little down on his luck. He was dirty, his long hair a little greasy. He had a stuffed animal attached to the handle bars. He didn't have a shirt on and he had a large lump protruding out the side of his stomach. He also had a shiny bright blue prosthetic leg. To my amazement, the people standing around me starting laughing and pointing and taking pictures and even making fun of the lump on the side of his stomach. My friends and I got so disgusted we left. These weren't kids, these were grown people. They didn't know this man's story, they didn't even care. They just saw the way he looked and laughed. Maybe he had been injured in the war defending their country. Who knows? I do know, though that he was a human being and hadn't done anything other than ride by on his bike. I truly regret not telling those people how ignorant they were.

I hear people say all the time that the younger generation has no manners. But, a few weeks ago I took my kids to the skate park for the day. I saw kids of all shapes, sizes, colors, and different backgrounds. They very politely took turns skating the bowl. If someone fell, several would ask if they were okay. They gave each other a hand when needed and showed each other different techniques. It didn't matter what they looked liked or what they wore, they were all friends because of their love of skateboarding. Maybe some of the older generation could learn a lesson from them!

That's what I love about the BSCP! We are all different. Come from different backgrounds and have different lives. But, we come together because of the love of blues. Our members lend a hand when needed and show each other different techniques. It doesn't matter what anybody looks like, we are friends because of our love of the blues. You know this world would be a lot better if we had more skateboarders and more blues fans!

I don't skateboard, but I do love the blues. And, I try to spread that love as much as I can. When we had the first Treasurer's picnic eleven years ago, there were 67 people there. It pretty much doubled every year as people spread the word, until now we have to limit the amount of tickets to 500. We're sharing the love....

I like to think we are making this world a place, one blues fan at a time!

Be kind, spread the love!

Peace always,

Carrie

TUESDAY BLUESDAY

Tuesday, May 5
Cinco de Mayo with
Greatest Funeral Ever

Tuesday, May 12
Little Ivory Blues Band

Tuesday, May 19
Pokey Lafarge
and The South City Three
MITCH IVANOFF & LEE CARROLL

Tuesday, May 26
Blue Elephant

Tuesday, June 2
Smoke the Groove

ALL SHOWS 7:30-10:30pm

der Maennerchor
tuesdaybluesday.com

PROGRAM SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Events and Friends

HARPAPALOOZA

5

Saturday
MAY 2, 2009
8pm

Appalachian
Brewing
Company

Special to the APPALACHIAN
50 N Cameron Street
Harrisburg, PA
(717) 221-1660

www.myspace.com/
harpapalooza

50/50
Drawing
& Silent
Auction

All proceeds benefit
**American
Diabetes
Association.**
www.diabetes.org

Featuring
performances by

Charlie Knight

Doekta D
Doekta D and The Infamous

Mikey Junior
Mikey Junior and Stone Cold Blues

Flat Foot Sam
Flat Foot Sam and the Educated Fools

Mike Mettalia
Midnight Shift

\$8

Donation
at the door

Note: **Music & the Arts**

Biltown Blues Festival

20th anniversary

June 14
2009

Irving Street Blues
Sean Carney
Gary Allegretto & Rich Del Grosso
The Campbell Brothers
Greg Piccolo & Heavy Juice Expansion Pac
Bob Margolin with Dianna Greenleaf
Uptown Music Collective Blues Band

KIDS HARMONICA WORKSHOP with Andy Barnhart & Mitch Ivanoff
ACOUSTIC TENT featuring Jack and Lilly,
Gary Allegretto & Rich Del Grosso

Lycoming County Fairgrounds, Hughesville, PA
Noon-10:00 pm, Rain or Shine - Gates open at 11:00

Free Parking - Great Food - Arts & Crafts

FREE BUS SERVICE FROM DOWNTOWN WILLIAMSPORT

Festival & Hotel/Ticket Packages
available. Info: 570-584-4480 or
biltownblues.org

Tickets:
\$18 Advance, \$23 Gate.
By mail:
BBA Tickets, PO Box 2,
Hughesville, PA 17737
(w/SAFE by 6/5)

www.vacationpa.com
www.visitpa.com
1-800-visitPA

Supported in part by the Pennsylvania Tourism Office, Lycoming County Visitors Bureau & PA Council on the Arts

Events and Friends

14th Annual Western Maryland

BLUES FEST MAY 28-31 2009 DOWNTOWN HAGERSTOWN & CITY PARK

FEATURING

The Derek Trucks Band
Roomful of Blues
Jimmy Thackery and The Drivers
Campbell Brothers
Lil' Ed & The Blues Imperials
Janiva Magness
The Mike Stern Band
Bonerama
The Nighthawks
Willie "Big Eyes" Smith
Ruby Hayes Blues Band
Chopteeth Afrofunk Big Band
Bad Influence Band
The Kelly Bell Band
Jumptown
Rhythm Kings
Ronnie Ray

**Listed artist roster is subject to change.*

Downtown Hagerstown will be jumpin' during the 14th annual Western Maryland Blues Fest, featuring four days packed with music from national, regional and local performers!

For Advance Tickets Call:
301-791-3246 or Visit www.blues-fest.org.

For more information call: 301-739-8577, ext. 116. Supported in part by: The City of Hagerstown, Maryland State Arts Council and Washington County Arts Council.

BLUES-FEST.ORG



BLUES REVUE

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.



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

WE Got's Da Blues Baby!!!
'n a little R&B
The Lost, the Found and the Dearly Departed
BYOB* 7th Annual PICNIC!!! *BYOB
Sat. June 20th 2009 - 12 noon til 10 pm



Willie "Big Eyes" Smith
with KRYPTON CITY



From Savoy Brown, **KIM SIMMONDS**

Plus GaryBelloma & The Blue Bombers, New Experience Band,
Dr. Ko & The House Rockers, Ursula Ricks and Thunder Blues.

Harrisburg Postal Employees Gun Club Picnic Ground, 1500 Roberts Valley Rd. Harrisburg, PA. 17110

Adults \$25 Advance / \$30 Door -- Children \$10

Admission includes: Fried Catfish, Chicken, Fries, Burgers, Salads and more!

Campers welcome plus convenient lodging!! Call for more info call 717 236-2382
Buy Tickets: Mr Mike's Music 3rd St Bldg / Triple B Guitar Lemoyne

ddblues.org

<http://www.brownpaper tickets.com/event/60369> or (800) 838-3006 / event 60659

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) 486-4194 Fax: (717)486-4659
[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

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



DON JOHNSON PROJECT

MAY 2009

Fri. 1st 9 PM **Don Johnson Project Weekend**
AND **MALONE'S**
Sat. 2nd 6200 Derry St., HBG

Sat. 9th 7 PM **Morgan's Place**
4425 N. Front St., HBG

Fri. 15th 10 PM **Flinchy's**
1833 Hummel Ave. Camp Hill

Sat. 16th 9:30 **Stock's on 2nd**
211 N. Second St., HBG

Wed. 20th 7 PM **Roosevelt Tavern**
50 N. Penn St., York

Thurs. 21st 8:30 **Rock Bass Grill – "3D TRIO"**
461 S. Front St., Wormleysburg

Sat. 23rd 8 PM **The Wharf**
6852 Derry St., HBG

Sun. 24th Noon **Blues Society of Central PA's**
Treasurer's Picnic
40 et 8 Club, Chambers Hill Rd

Fri. 29th 9 PM **Snapper's**
120 E. Allen St., Mechanicsburg

Sat. 30th 10:30 **Rosa Rosa**
398 Harrisburg Ave., Lancaster

BAND BOOKINGS:

Email **Karen** at donjohnsonproject@verizon.net

Website: www.myspace.com/djprojectband

NOTE: Schedule subject to change.

Events and Friends

Join us on the rolling hills of Briggs Farm
for our 12th annual show

JULY 10 & 11, 2009

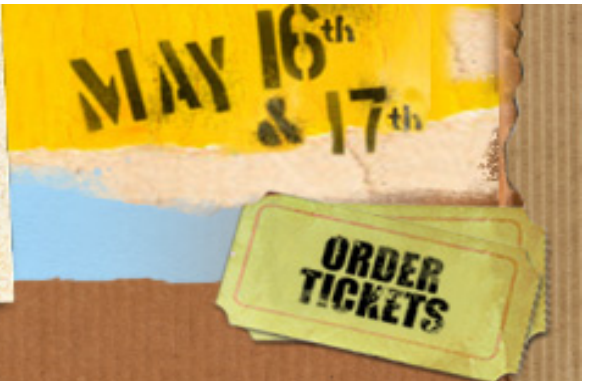
LOUISIANA RED
JOEY GILMORE
TOM LARSEN
JOHNNY DRUMMER
TEENY TUCKER
ALEXIS P. SUTER
LONNIE SHIELDS
SCOTT WEIS
BEV CONKLIN
MITCH IVONOFF
NATE MYERS
MARK ARMSTRONG
V. E. PAUL
SYMPHONIC HAZE
DEALER IN WARES

www.briggsfarm.com
570-379-2003

Briggs Farm BLUES FESTIVAL

Easy-Convenient-Fast
Buy tickets on-line
www.briggsfarm.com

NESCOPECK, PA.
RT 93 & 239
I-80 EXIT 256



Pssst...come closer...

General Admission tickets for the 2009 Bay Blues Festival are now on sale...but just for you. We wanted our favorite fans to know first. Get your tickets today! <http://www.bayblues.org>

And here's another special treat for you...Did you know that Jonny Lang's sister Jesse Langseth is on American Idol tonight? She's made it to Hollywood as one of the final 36 contestants and competes tonight on Fox at 8pm ET. Vote for Jesse tonight and keep it in the Blues family!

Thank you for your support, keep an eye out for our emails with important Chesapeake Bay Blues Festival information, and we'll see you in May!



DAUPHIN COUNTY

musicfestival

at Fort Hunter



Billy Price

Saturday, June 13
4:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Billy Price

also.....



Little Ivory Blue Band

Nate Myers & The Aces

Gates open at 4 p.m.
Headliners at 7:30 p.m.
Ticket Prices:
\$20 Weekend Pass - \$25 at the Gate
Children under 12 free
Tickets are available at:
DCP&R Offices at Fort Hunter
Mr. Mikes Music, 27 S. 3rd St., Hbg,
online at www.WhitakerCenter.org
or call 717-214-ARTS



JUKEBOXHEROESLIVE!

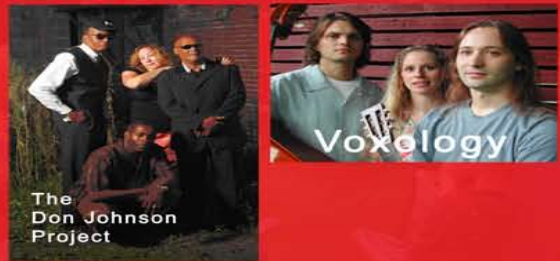
Mahoney Brothers

Sunday, June 14
4:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Mahoney Brothers

"World's Greatest Impersonation Band" presents

Jukebox Heroes Live
also.....



The Don Johnson Project

Voxology

Bring your chairs,
picnic basket, family & friends!!
All Events are Rain or Shine!



Dauphin County Commissioners

Jeff Haste Nick DiFrancesco George P Hartwick III

www.DauphinCounty.org

GRAMOPHONE PRESENTS

HOT AUGUST BLUES

SATURDAY

AUGUST 15



EARLY BIRD SPECIAL

\$25 TICKET WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

OREGON RIDGE PARK

COCKEYSVILLE, MARYLAND

The Derek Trucks Band, Joe Bonamassa
Davy Knowles and Back Door Slam
Chopteeth, Old Man Brown

1-877-321-fest www.hotaugustblues.com



Reviews

NICOLE HART : : TREASURE

review courtesy Blues Review

Coming to national attention just recently on the Blues, Soul & R&B scene, Nicole Hart made an impressive beginning completing three highly successful tours: she was the featured female performer of Jacksonville Beach, Florida's "Springing the Blues"; the featured female headline act of Laconia, New Hampshire's "Big Three Motorcycle Week"; and performed many more festivals throughout the year, including the Jersey Shore's "Red Bank Jazz & Blues Festival", among other renowned venues on the national circuit. Her independent CD release, "NICOLE HART & THE NRG BAND, LIVE!" received airplay on hundreds of radio stations worldwide & continues to receive airplay to this day. During a recording session for 2008 Blues Foundation Nominee Albert Castiglia's CD, "These Are the Days", she met up with Blues Leaf Records President Joseph Morabia, who later signed her to the label.



Her 2009 Blues Leaf debut, "TREASURE," featuring a duet with label mate Castiglia, is produced by Grammy award winner, Jack Kriesberg (Paquito D'Rivera, Elvin Jones), engineered and mastered by Grammy award winning engineer, Ben Elliott (Eric Clapton, Keith Richards) distributed by Allegro Distribution and is available nationwide on April 14th, 2009. Music Director & keyboardist extraordinaire, Lance Ong, who produced her previous CD, shines as musical arranger & on baby grand and B-3 organ.

As a modern day Blues woman, Nicole straddles a diverse musical terrain defined by such icons as Koko Taylor, Susan Tedeschi, Janiva Magness, & Bonnie Raitt. Renowned for her sultry vocals and electrifying stage presence, Hart's impressive resume also includes work in television, film & live performance outside the realm of Blues.

nicolehart.com



SISTA MONICA PARKER : : SOUL BLUES AND BALLADS

"If you like it slow and easy, provocative with strong, sensual and sassy vocals & passionate guitar, along with heart wrenching lyrics and phrasing, then this CD is the one for you".

Yvonne Clay

Mo Muscle Records' recording artist **Sista Monica Parker** releases her 9th CD "**Soul Blues & Ballads**" in May of 2009. It is a compilation of her soulful R&B and slow blues jewels. This project includes "I Don't Want To Hurt You Baby" featuring the masterful **Chris Cain**, "It's A Shame - It's A Mystery" featuring **Dan Caron** on guitar from the late **Charles Brown** band, "Behind My Back" with the soulful sound of **Mike Osborne** on guitar and veteran piano and Hammond B3 player - Danny "B", "Honey It's Your Fault" and "A Chance To Breathe" with the funky and deep-blues side of **Larry McCray** on guitar.

Known as the "**Lioness of the Blues**" Sista Monica is an award winning blues, soul and gospel singer/songwriter, speaker, & music producer. She is captivating and considered a dynamic show stopping festival performer. Today, Sista Monica is one of the most admired women on the international music scene. Visit her newly revised website. www.sistamonica.com/

Who: Sista Monica Parker

What: CD "Soul & Blues & Ballads"

When: May in 2009

Where: Cdbaby.com, Itunes.com, Amazon.com, and fine retailers

Publicity: Service to AAA, public and commercial radio, TV, blues and jazz societies world wide

Manager: Lesa Magee: (831) 566-7780, <mailto:lgmagee9@aol.com>

Reviews

TOMMY TALTON : : LIVE NOTES FROM ATHENS Review courtesy Blues Review

Live Notes from Athens, the highly anticipated new live CD by **Tommy Talton** on **Hittin' the Note Record**, was released on April 4, 2009. The CD was recorded live at the Melting Point, one of the southeast's premier live music venues, on June 7, 2008.

... Almost thirty-four years after "The Gregg Allman Tour" release, Talton has rolled tape on another epic live recording, **The Tommy Talton Band, Live Notes From Athens**. **Live Notes From Athens** will delight new music fans hungry for an extraordinary, original artist whose sound is dynamite burning with a short fuse.

- **Hittin' the Note Magazine, March 2009**

Talton has taken the southern music scene by storm in recent years with a new band, a new determination, and exceptional new music. **Live Notes From Athens** is Talton's sophomore release on **Hittin' the Note Records**, following the critically acclaimed **Tommy Talton in Europe, Someone Else's Shoes**. Talton's songs are cliché-free, completely original, and burn with an undeniable sexual tension. Even Talton's covers are unmistakably his. The dreamy laid-back grooves, punchy guitar-driven jams, and hook-laden melodies on **Live Notes from Athens** hint of 1970's-era Van Morrison, Allman Brothers, and Little Feat, but are not throwbacks as much as they are powerful, intelligent, thought-provoking contemporary compositions.

Talton is one of the best songwriters and guitarists of our time. He is best known for his smokin' slide guitar licks, distinct vocals and prolific songwriting with Capricorn Records' group Cowboy, founded by Scott Boyer and Talton in the 70s, and his undeniable guitar work on Gregg Allman's "Laid Back" album. **Live Notes from Athens** is released on the heels of Talton's guest performance with The Allman Brothers Band on March 17 at the Beacon Theatre in New York, and there is no doubt that Talton continues to deliver!



THE INSOMNIACS : : AT LEAST I'M NOT WITH YOU Review courtesy Blues Review

The Insomniacs seemed to literally explode onto the scene out of nowhere in 2007 as a fully formed and functional unit delighting audiences with their joyous, yet highly contagious musical sound and irresistible sense of swing. Their self-produced debut release "Left Coast Blues" recorded in the living room of bassist Dean Mueller's house was quickly snatched up and issued on Delta Groove Music, hitting a peak position of No. 5 on the national Living Blues radio charts. Critical praise and industry recognition from the blues community soon followed garnering the band a 2008 Blues Music Award nomination for Best New Artist Debut, as well as a 2007 Muddy Award presented by the Cascade Blues Association for Best Contemporary Blues Act.

Since the release of "Left Coast Blues," the band has been racking up the miles on their Sprinter van and introducing their fresh take on West Coast Blues to festivals and clubs up and down the coastline and into the Mid-West, continually expanding their reach as they conquer new towns and add to their ever growing list of adoring fans. The Insomniacs have in the process stylistically filled a void left by many of the pioneers and practitioners of this uniquely left coast music who are either no longer with us, or have decided to move on and explore other avenues within the musical realm.

In October 2008, The Insomniacs were once again caught off guard as they were whisked into the studio by Delta Groove to record the follow up to their critically acclaimed debut on what was thought to be just another routine pass through town. Unbelievably the album was recorded in only two days! The band led by 27-year old vocalist/guitarist Vyasa Dodson, together with bassist Dean Mueller, keyboardist Alex Shakeri and drummer Dave Melyan, laid down an astounding set of material that had been finely tuned night after night out on the road over the last two years; only this time the band had the benefit of utilizing a professional recording studio for superior sound with access to a grand piano and Hammond B-3. Joined by special guests Al Blake, Mitch Kashmar, Joel Paterson and Jeff Turmes, The Insomniacs expand on their original intoxicating formula and deliver what is sure to become an instant classic. A recipe guaranteed to provide the band with many more sleepless nights as they now must answer the call and respond to the demands of fans waking up everywhere with those left coast blues!



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

Mel Brown Passes:

Mel Brown passed away on March 20. He had been slated to open for Mavis Staples that night, but had been hospitalized in Kitchener, Ontario, for complications related to emphysema. He was 69.

Brown was born October 7, 1939, in Jackson, Mississippi. Raised in a musical family, his grandfather was a fiddle and guitar player and his father, John Henry "Bubba" Brown, played with Tommy Johnson and the Chatmon Brothers. Brown received his first guitar at the age of 14 while battling meningitis, spending hours each day studying the music of idols like B. B. King and T-Bone Walker from his sickbed. In late 1960, he toured with The Olympics, followed by two years of touring with Etta James. By 1963 Brown launched a session career, playing on records by everyone from Bobby Darin to Bill Cosby, as well as on T-Bone Walker's Funky Town album.

In 1967 Brown recorded his own album with producer Bob Thiele. Chicken Fat was a Blues-Funk outing with Jazz guitarist Herb Ellis. A series of impressive LPs, including The Wizard, I'd Rather Suck My Thumb, and Big Foot Country Gal, followed in quick succession before Brown joined Bobby "Blue" Bland's band in 1971, appearing on the singer's California Album two years later. He stayed with Bland until 1982, but also played with John Lee Hooker, Lightnin' Hopkins, and Roy Brown. Also during this time he began performing on the piano more.

In 1983 he joined the house band at Austin's Antone's until 1986 when he joined Albert Collins' Icebreakers. In 1989 he released the solo album If It's All Night, It's All Right and then moved to Kitchener. He formed his own band, the Homewreckers and recorded with them and with Snooky Pryor on the Electro-Fi label where he recorded for the rest of his life.

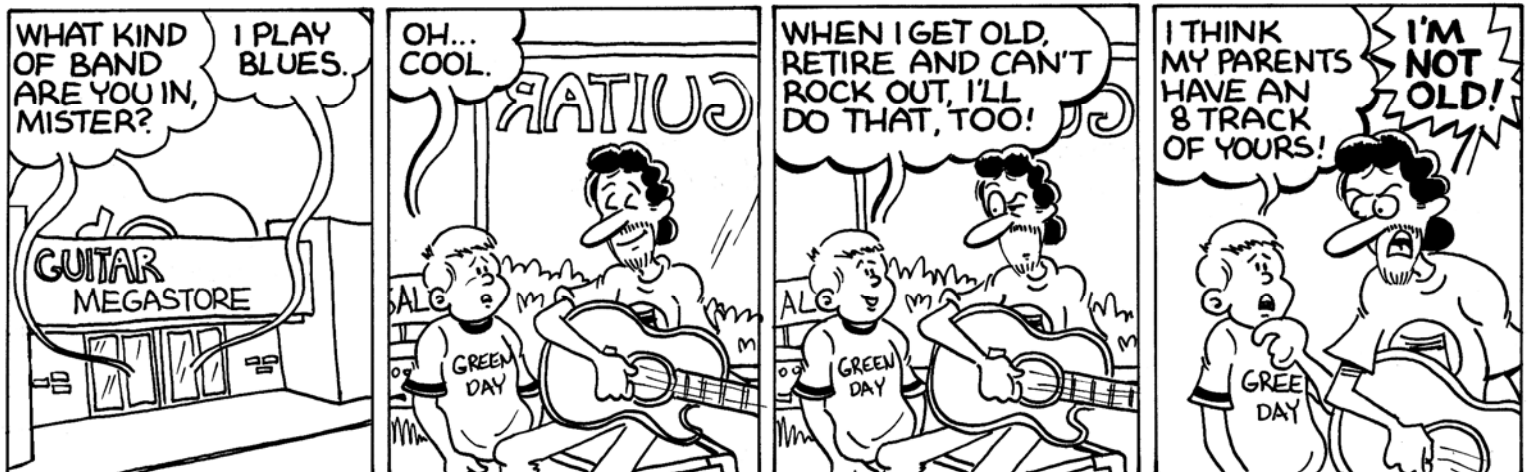
A visitation will take place on April 2 from 2 to 4 p.m. and April 3 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Ratz-Bechtel Funeral Home at 621 King Street West in Kitchener, Ontario. Information at 519-745-9495.

The funeral will take place on Saturday, April 4 at 1 p.m. at the Gig Music Hall at 137 Ontario Street in Kitchener, Ontario. A reception follows. A memorial tribute "Mel's Last Party" is in the planning stages.

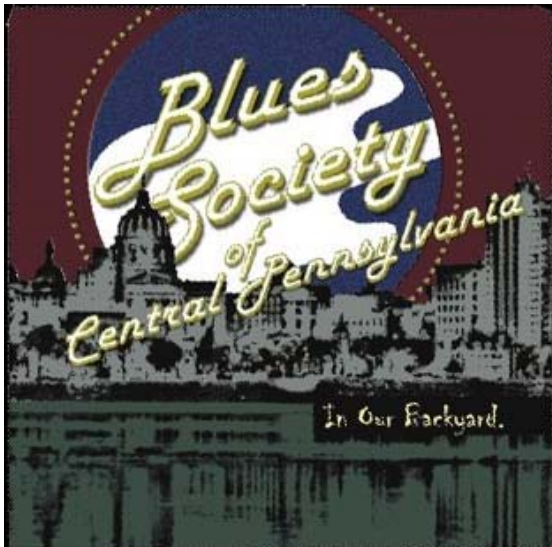


Buddy and Hopkins

By Jason Nocera (www.buddyandhopkins.com)



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

BSCP
PO BOX 453
STEELTON, PA 17113-7453

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