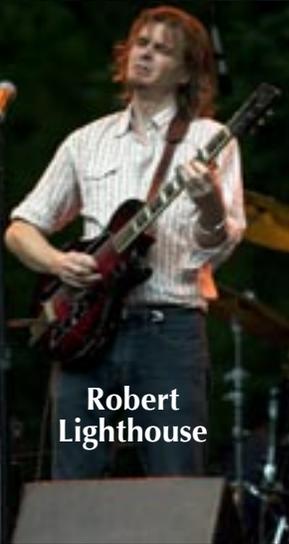




OCTOBER 2006 DC BLUES FESTIVAL RECAP

DC BLUES CALENDAR



Robert
Lighthouse



Junkyard Saints



Memphis Gold



Marva
Wright

Board Members Wanted!

The DC Blues Society is an all-volunteer organization, and that includes its officers and board members. The Society currently has a board comprised of four people -- entirely too small for an organization of this size. If you appreciate the work the Society does, and wish it to continue, I would strongly urge you to consider becoming a board member. Board members serve for one year terms, with officer elections held each December. Please contact Kathy Lestsantear at vp@dcblues.org for more information.

THE DC BLUES SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 77315

WASHINGTON DC 20013-7315

202-962-0112

<http://www.dcblues.org>

President: Felix McClairen

Vice-President: Kathy Lestsantear

Secretary: Celina Wood

Treasurer: Vallie Dean

Honorary Directors: John Cephas, Barry Lee Pearson, Joseph Wilson.

Webpage: Paul Cutrona

Jams: Sam'i Nuridden

Festival: Felix McClairen; Amanda Sweet

Blues in School: Chet Hines

Membership Coordinator: Kathy Lestsantear

Volunteer Coordinator - Jazs

Public Relations:

Newletter: Ron Weinstock

Newsletter Listings: Steve Levine

Contributors : Jazs, Kathy Lestsantear, Felix McClairen

The D.C. Blues Society is a non-profit section 501(c)(3) organization. Annual membership: Student \$15 (send copy of photo id); Individual \$25, Family \$35, Canada \$35 (US), other countries \$50 (US). Members receive the D.C. Blues Calendar, discounts at Society events and some clubs, and other benefits. Contributions (not dues) to the D.C. Blues Society are tax-

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DC Blues Society Jams

Reminder that our monthly jam takes place the First Sunday of the month at Chick Hall's Surf Club. This month, it is on Sunday, October 1 and it starts at 4:00PM. Our October jam always seems to conflict with the Takoma Park Street Festival but hopefully those of you who go to that festival will make out to the Surf Club.

Our acoustiuc jam at Ellington's is scheduled for Thursday, October 12.

deductible. To join, send a check & address to the P.O. box above. There is an application on page 11.

The DC Blues Calendar is usually published monthly (except for a combined December-January issue and occasional other double issue). It contains information on Society events, blues listings and other items of interest. Recent issues are also downloadable as PDF files from the Society's website, www.dcblues.org.

This issue is © 2006 DC Blues Society.

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES -Please note, changes in your name and address and/or membership status should be forwarded to membership@dcblues.org or mailed to the postal box.

Note - The next issue is the October DC Blues Fest issue and has an **November 17 deadliine**. Listings should be sent to **Steve Levine, 5910 Bryn Mawr Rd, College Park, MD 20740** or to Steve's e-mail address is (cypressgrove@hotmail.com).

Articles, news items and other material for publication should be sent to **Ron Weinstock, 2862 Dover Lane, #202, Falls Church, VA 22042**. Ron's e-mail address is rbluesw@yahoo.com.

Advertising rates and information related to advertising in the DC Blues Calendar is on page 6.

All photos in this issue © by Ronald Weinstock

Rain Doesn't Stop DC Blues Fest Celebration of New Orleans & Louisiana

The Junkyard Saints



Terence McArdle



Marva Wright



The Westcott Brothers



Robert Lighthouse



Rain may have cut down the attendance at this year's DC Blues Festival, but it did not cut down on the quality of the music as we saluted the music of the Crescent City and environs with Laissez les bon tons rouler at the Carter Barron, September 2.

The Westcott Brothers, winners of last year's Battle of the Blues, got the afternoon off with a rocking set. Terence McArdle and Jumpin' Tonite followed with a set of hot jump blues with a New Orleans flavor and was followed by the Junkyard Saints coming out as a brass band while a small second line parade snaked through the Carter Barron.

Robert Lighthouse played a typically fine set with the Westcott Brothers drummer sitting in until Robert's regular drummer arrived from Baltimore after fighting traffic. The Junkyard Saints followed with some really nice New Orleans R&B and zydeco, saluting some of the musics that birthed in the region the Katrina and Rita devastated last year.

Memphis Gold was perhaps the highlight of the festival with

a strong set comprised mostly of originals. Having been a fan of the band when they frequented such clubs at Fleetwood's, JVs, Smokehouse Blue and Whitlow's on Wilson, one can appreciate the level this group has reached performing. A friend of mine that also remembers the frequent shows they used to have at Smokehouse Blue agreed with me on this. Charlie Sayles was back with Memphis Gold for this performance.

Last up was Marva Wright who belted out the blues with authority with a fine band that included Jackie Hairston on keyboards, Robert Lighthouse on guitar and B.T. Richardson on bass. Marva was scheduled to return to New Orleans at the end of September, so we were pleased that she was able to close out our festival this year so well.

After the festival, the music continued at the AfterParty. As usual we had workshops going on and thanks to Chet Hines for organizing those as well as the various participants. Anyway, join us next year for our 19th Annual DC Blues Festival.

2006 DC Blues Society's Battle of the Bands

21 October 2006- Chick Hall's Surf Club

Hear some of the best Blues bands from DC, Maryland, and Virginia when the DC Blues Society presents the Battle of the Bands on Saturday October 21st at Chick Hall's Surf Club 4711 Kenilworth Ave in Bladensburg, Maryland. Competing are Clarence 'The Bluesman' Turner & Band; The Roustabouts; The Sherwood Blues Band; MSG The Acoustic Blues Trio; and The Eddie Becker Band. The bands will be evaluated using criteria set forth by the Memphis-based Blues Foundation and the winning band will represent the Society at The International Blues Challenge in Memphis, in 2007 where it will compete with blues bands from around the country and around the world. Come out and cheer on your favorite band! For advance tickets call the Surf Club at 301-927-6310 or 301-322-4808. You can also send payment to the Society's postal box using the application on page 11.

November 18, the Society will hold a Fundraiser to help raise additional funds to defray the costs of the Society representatives going to Memphis to compete next February 1 through 3. You can also save money by purchasing your tickets in advance. Call 302-322-4808 or mail in your order and application using the form on page 11.

Get more information on the DC Blues Society's Battle of the Bands at <http://www.dcb Blues.org>. For information on the International Blues Challenge, check out The Blues Foundation's website, www.blues.org.



You Make the D.C. Blues Society Happen

The D.C. Blues Society has been expanding our activities to promote and preserve America's blues music: improving our website, more shows with local and current bands, expanding our Blues in the School Program, and continuing our free open jams, our newsletter and more. The annual Free **DC Blues Festival** remains our major undertaking. If you enjoy what we do, please make a donation. Send a check to: DC Blues Society, PO Box 77315, Washington DC 20013-7315. We will acknowledge all persons making contributions in our newsletter (and/or Festival Program) and on our website (www.dcb Blues.org). Premiums are available for persons making larger contributions.

Blues Patron. For a \$25.00 donation, you will receive recognition in official festival program and on the DC Blues Society's website

Blues In Your Heart Patrons. For \$50.00 + you will receive recognition in official festival program and on the DC Blues Society's website, a free CD and an one-year Society membership.

Friends of DC Blues Society. For \$125 + you will receive recognition in official festival program and on DC Blues Society's website along with a logo with click through to your website, two free CDs or a Blues DVD, a free pass to festival after party (location TBD) with an option to purchase extra tickets at a discount and an one-year Society membership.

Blues Lover. For \$250 - 1000 you will receive two Festival VIP seats for entire day; two passes to the festival after party, location TBD; recognition in official festival program and on DC Blues Society's website with a logo with click through to your site; Three free CDs or Blues DVDs and an one-year Society membership.

For information on Sponsorship see the Society's webpage at www.dcb Blues.org.



October Blues Listings

**1 DCBS Jam @ Chick Hall's Surf Club
Takoma Park Street Festival @**

Downtown Takoma Park
Shack Breakers, Junk Yard Saints @
Baltimore Book Festival
Tom Principato @ Taste of Great Falls
Jeff Lang @ Jammin' Java
Grandsons, Saffire @ Virginia Wine
Festival, Morven Park Equestrian Center
Sykla Burrell Band @ Journey's
Jam w Piece by Piece Band @ Bangkok
Blues

2 Phil Wiggins & the Defibrillators @
St. Mark Presbyterian Church
ACME Blues Company @ National Theatre

3 Daryl Davis @ Clarendon Ballroom
Dave Chappell @ JV's

4 Esther Haynes Trio @ Laporta's
Automatic Slim @ Cat's Eye
Indigenous @ Rams Head

6 Nighthawks @ Chick Hall's Surf Club
Night Street @ Cat's Eye
Dangertones @ Spargos

7 Ike Turner @ Sweet Caroline's Melanie
Mason Band, Janine Wilson @ In the
Streets Festival, Frederick, MD
Nighthawks @ Back To Bethesda
Rick Franklin @ Del Ray Farmer's Market
Charles Big Daddy Stallings @
Baltimore Music Conference
Toshi Reagon @ Jammin' Java
Mary Shaver w/Smokin' Polecats,
Hokum Jazz @ Art on the Avenue,
Alexandria, VA

Archie Edwards Blues Heritage
Foundation @ Brookland Festival
Leroy Thomas & Zydeco Road Runners
@ Catonsville Barn Theater
Dangertones @ Beach Cove
Night Street @ Cat's Eye
Brian Gross @ Ruby's Cafe

8 Eli Cook @ Madam's Organ
Jam w Bad Influence @ Bangkok Blues
Sykla Burrell Band @ Journey's
Cathy Ponton King @ Fells Point Festival
Rick Franklin & Alan Byrd @ Arlington
County Courthouse

9 Delbert McClinton @ Birchmere
Roger Edsall w Robert Frahm @ JVs

10 Jeff Sarli Memorial Benefit Show @
Chick Hall's Surf Club

Eric Clapton, Robert Cray @ Verizon Center

11 Melanie Mason @ Bangkok Blues
12 DC Blues Society Acoustic Jam at
Ellington's

Dirty Dozen Brass Band @ 8X10
Muleman @ Frisco Grill
Skyla Burrell Band @ Cat's Eye

13 The Boonesfarmers @ JVs
ACME Blues Co. @ Bangkok Blues
Rick Franklin & Mike Baytop @ USDA
Headquarters

Charlie Sayles @ DC Blues Fest



Smokin' Polecats @ McGinty's
Tom Principato @ Stonewall's Tavern
Acme Blues Co @ Bangkok Blues
Sherwood Blues Band @ Olney Tavern
Automatic Slim @ Frisco Grill
Deb Callahan @ Clyde's, Chevy Chase
Albert Cummings @ Surf Club

14 Catfish Hodge @ JVs
Mary Shaver w/Smokin' Polecats @ Zoo Bar
Hey Norton @ Bangkok Blues

Dirty Dozen Brass Band @ State Theater
Sherwood Blues Band @ Unitarian
Universalist Church of Silver Spring

15 Roomful of Blues @ 8X10
Sykla Burrell Band @ Journey's
Maria Muldaur @ Jammin' Java
Hillbilly Jazz w Chick Hall
Jam w Smokin' Polecats @ Bangkok Blues

17 Jacques 'Saxman' Johnson @
Bangkok Blues

18 Junkyard Saints @ Los Arrieros

20 Ruby Hayes @ National Cathedral
School (Blues in the Schools)
Brian Gross @ Ruby's Cafe
Nighthawks @ 8X10
Shambells @ Cat's Eye

Marianna Previti & Smoking Polecats @ JVs
Little Ronnie & Grand Dukes @ Chevy
Chase Ballroom

Robert Lighthouse @ Bangkok Blues

21 DCBS Battle of the Bands @ Chick
Hall's Surf Club

Kelly Bell @ Sweet Caroline's
Deb Callahan Band @ Madam's Organ
ACME Blues Company @ B&G Tavern
Rick Franklin @ Cassatt's Cafe & Gallery
Sherwood Blues Band @ Flanagan's
Harp & Fiddle

Channel Cats @ Bare Bones

22 Sykla Burrell Band @ Journey's
Blues Jam w Acme Blues Company @
Bangkok Blues

23 Patty Reese & Dave Chappell @ JV's
26 Deb Callahan Band @ Cat's Eye
Roger Edsall @ JV's

Billy Hancock @ Bangkok Blues

27 Dangertones @ Apehanger's
Nighthawks @ Chevy Chase Ballroom
Long Distance Blues Band @ JVs

28 Dr. John @ Rams Head
Night Street @ Beachcomber
Flatfoot Sam @ Zoo Bar

Rhodes Tavern Troubadours @ JVs
Dangertones @ Krug's Place
Sykla Burrell @ Austin Grill, Baltimore
ACME Blues Company @ Mom's in
The Kitchen

Tom Cunningham Orch. @ Glen Echo
Brian Gross Trio @ Sala Thai, Bethesda

29 Hovey, Elliott, Arthur, Westcott &
Chappell @ JVs

30 Taj Mahal @ The Birchmere

31 Joe Bonomassa @ Rams Head
Generally Weekly Blues Events

Sun Pulverizers Jam @ Surf Club
(except 1st Sunday)

Big Four Combo Brunch @ Gordon
Beirsch

Steve Kraemer (other Sunday bands
listed those days) @ Cat's Eye
Hardway Connection @ Thai Seafood
House

Mark Mandel's All Star Jam @
Bangkok Blues

Bobby Smith @ Firehouse Cue
Jim Bennett & Lady Mary w. Unique
Creation Band @ Lamont's

Detroit Slim @ Full Moon
Automatic Slim Jam @ Wahoo's

Matt Bishop @ Zoo Bar

Pro Blues Jam @ Sully's
Mon Blues jam @ Surf Club
Blues Jam @ Bangkok Blues

Tue Ben Andrews @ Madam's Organ
Doug Parks open mic @ Downtown
Saloon

Wed Big Dog Band @ Cat's Eye
Robert Lighthouse @ Chief Ike's
Mambo Room

Blue Lou's Jam @ Surf Club

Thu Ronnie Ray Jam @ Cactus Flats
Big Boy Little Band Jam @ Zoo Bar

Jam @ New Vegas Lounge
Unforgiven @ The Saloun
Ronnie Ray jam @ Cactus Flats

Fri Blue Flames @ Bertha's
Open Mic @ Pharoah's

Sat Jam @ Archie's Barbershop
Red Jones @ Full Moon

Walter Robinson Band @ Pharoah's

Places to Hear Blues

Bookings get cancelled so check with the venue as the show gets closer.

219 Basin Street Lounge, 219 King St., Alexandria, VA (703) 549-1141
8 X 10, Baltimore MD
Afterwords Cafe, 1517 Connecticut Ave NW, D.C. (202) 387-1462
Allegro, 13476 New Hampshire Ave, Silver Spring
Arlington Cinema & Draft,
Armadillos, 132 Dock St., Annapolis, MD (410) 268-6680
Apehangers, 9100 Crain Hwy (Rt. 301), Bel Alton, MD, 301-753-1650
Austin Grill, Silver Spring MD
B&G Tavern, 14602 Livingston Rd., Accokeek, MD, 301-292-4188
Ball's Bluff, 2 Loudon Street, SW, #2D, Leesburg, VA (703) 777-7577
Bangkok Blues, 926 W. Broad St., Falls Church, VA (703) 534-0095
Bare Bones, 9150 Baltimore Nat'l Pike, Ellicott City, MD 21042, 410-461-0770
Barefoot Pelican, 156 Enterprise St., Sterling, VA (703) 444-2208
Bay Cafe, 2809 Boston St, Baltimore, MD
Beach Cove Lounge, Chesapeake Beach Md.
301 855 0025
Bertha's, 723 S. Broadway, Baltimore, MD
(410) 327-0426
Berwyn Cafe, 5010 Berwyn Rd., College Park,
MD (301) 345-9898
Birchmere, 3901 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria,
VA (703) 549-5919
BlackRock Center for the Arts, 12902 Town Com-
mons Ave Germantown MD (301) 528-2260
Blues Alley, 1073 Rear Wisconsin Ave. NW, DC
(202) 337-4141
Bohemian Gardens, 2001 11th St NW DC
Bravo Bravo, 1001 Connecticut Ave NW DC.
Cactus Flats, 10026 Hansonville Rd., Frederick,
MD (301) 898-3085
Caribou Coffee-7629 Old Georgetown Rd
Bethesda MD
Cat's Eye, 1730 Thames St., Fells Point, Balti-
more, MD (410) 276-9866
Chick Hall's Surf Club, 4711 Kenilworth Ave,
Bladensburg (301) 927-6310
Chuck & Billy's Lounge, 2718 Georgia Ave.,
NW, DC (202) 232-0924
Clarendon Ballroom, 3185 Wilson Blvd.,
Arlington, VA (703) 218-6585
Club Rio 2335 Bladensburg Rd. N.E. Washington DC 20018
Dead Eye Saloon, Hanover Street, Baltimore, MD (410) 539-7784
Diamond Grill, 800 W Diamond Ave Gaithersburg, MD (301) 963-4847
Dr. Dremó's, 2001 Clarendon Ave. Arlington VA 703-528-4660
Ellington's on Eighth, 424A 8th St., SE, Washington, DC, 202-546-8308
Famous Dave's, 917 Quince Orchard Rd, Gaithersburg, MD
Fat Tuesday's, 10673 Braddock Rd, Fairfax (703) 385-5717
Finewine.com, Gaithersburg, MD, 20A Grand Corner Ave. (301)987-5933
Firehouse Grille. 3988 University Drive, Fairfax, VA, 703-383-1030
Firestone's, 105 N Market Street, Frederick MD (301) 663-0330
Fish Bowl, 4802 Benson Ave., Baltimore, MD (410) 247-2474
Flanagan's Harp & Fiddle, 7637 Old Georgetown Rd, Bethesda, MD, 301-986-1007
Frisco Grille, 8865 Stanford Blvd., Columbia, MD 410-312-4907
Full Moon, 1710 Aliceanna St, Baltimore, MD (410) 558-2873
Gee's, 3415 52nd Ave., Cheverly, MD (301) 927-2582
Glen Echo Park, MacArthur Blvd & Goldboro Rd, Glen Echo, MD
Grand Marquis, 18320 Village Mart Dr, Olney, MD (301) 260-0500
HR-57, 1610 14th Street, NW, Washington, DC (202) 667-3700
Holiday House, 6427 Harford Rd., Baltimore, MD (410) 426-6794
Hull Street Blues, 1222 Hull St, Baltimore, MD (410)727-7476
Hunter's, 10123 River Rd, Potomac, MD (301) 299-9300
Ice House Cafe, 760 Elden St., Herndon, VA (703) 471-4256
Iota, 2832 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA (703) 522-8340
IMT, Unitarian-Universalist Church of Silver Spring, 10309 New Hamp-
shire Ave., Silver Spring, MD (301) 588-7525
J.J.'s Grill, 2005 Viers Mill Road, Rockville, MD (301) 309-6388
Jammin' Java, 231 Maple Ave, Vienna, VA (703) 255-1566
Jay's Saloon & Grille-3114 N 10th St Arlington VA 703-527-3093
Journeys, 10034 Hansonville Rd., Frederick, MD 21703, 301-898-7003
Junction Station, 1705 Edmonson Ave., Catonsville, MD (410) 747-6437
JV's, 6666 Arlington Blvd, Annandale VA (703) 241-9504

**The next issue is November 2006
deadline - October 17
Listings should be sent to Steve
Levine, 5910 Bryn Mawr Rd, College
Park, MD 20740.**

E-mail: cypressgrove@hotmail.com

Ad rates: Business card \$20; 1/8 page \$25;
1/6 page \$30; 1/4 page \$40; 1/3 page \$55;
1/2 page \$70; 2/3 page \$100; full page
\$125. Discount for consecutive placement
of ads. Column width is 3.65 inches for a 2-
column page, or 2.4 inches for a 3-column
page. Height for 1/2 page is 4.85 inches.
To place ad, contact Ron Weinstock, 2862
Dover Lane, #202, Falls Church, VA 22042.
Ron's email address: rbluesw@yahoo.com.
**Send payment for ads to the D.C. Blues
Society postal box.**

King of France Tavern, 15 Church St, Annapolis, MD (410) 216-6340
King Street Blues, Alexandria VA
Lamont's, 4400 Livingston Rd, Pomonkey, MD (301) 283-0225
Madam's Organ, 2641 18th St., NW, DC (202) 667-5370
Magic Cue, 13032 Middlebrook Rd., Germantown, MD (301) 916-7665
Mayo's Yacht Club, 1246 Mayo Rd., Edgewater, MD 410-956-2722
Mexicali Blues, 2933 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA (703) 812-9352
Memories, 2360 Old Washington Rd., Waldorf, MD, 301-932-7200
Michaels Cafe 2119 York Rd Timonium MD
Michael's Pub, Kings Contrivance Ctr, Columbia, MD (410) 290-7878
Mom's in the Kitchen, 114 S. Solomons Island Rd., Prince Frederick, MD
410-535-4355
Murphy's Pub, 6971 Indian Head Hwy (Rt.
210), Bryans Road, MD, 301-375-9230
New Deal Cafe, Roosevelt Center, Greenbelt, MD, 301-474-5642
New Haven Lounge, Northwood Shopping Ctr, Baltimore, MD (410)
366-7416
New Vegas Lounge, 1415 P St., NW., DC (202) 483-3971
Okra's Louisiana Bistro, Center and Battle St., Manas-
sas, VA (703)330-2729
Olde Towne Tavern, Frederick MD
Oliver's Saloon, 531 Main St., Laurel, MD (301)
490-9200
Oliver's Carriage House, 5410 Leaf Treader
Way, Columbia, MD, 410-370-1336
Outta the Way Cafe, 17503 Redland Rd., Der-
wood, MD (301) 963-6895
Perry's Restaurant, 1210 Annapolis Rd., Oden-
ton, MD, 410-674-4000
Pharoah's Rock N' Blues Bar & Grill 1817 Co-
lumbia Rd NW DC 202-232-6009
Ram's Head, 33 West St., Annapolis, MD (410)
268-4545
Ram's Head Live, 20 Market Place, Baltimore MD
Rappahannock Coffee & Roasting, 2406 Columbia
Pike, Arlington, Virginia 703-271-0007
Recher Theatre, 512 York Rd., Towson, MD
(410) 337-7210
Rendevous Inn, 362 Front St., Perryville, MD
(410) 642-0045
Riverdale Pizza Pub, 6258 Kenilworth Ave, River-
dale MD (301) 927-1060
Robinettes Coffee, Ashburn, VA, 20693 Ashburn
Rd. (703)729-1050
Roots Cafe, 27th & Paul Streets, Baltimore, MD (410) 880-3883
Rosedale American Legion, 1311 Seling Ave., Rosedale, MD
Round Table, 4859 Wisconsin Ave., NW, DC (202) 362-1250
Santa Fe Grill, 216 William St., Fredericksburg, VA (540) 371-0500
Shilla Bakery & Cafe, 10800-D Rhode Island Ave, Beltsville, MD
Spanish Ballroom, Glen Echo, MD
Squire Rockwell's, 8700 Little River Turnpike, Annandale VA (703) 560-3600
St. Elmo's Coffee, 2300 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria, VA (703) 739-9268
St. James Pub, 48579 Mattapany Rd., Lexington Park, MD, 301-737-0667
Starland Cafe, 5125 MacArthur Blvd, NW (202) 244-9396
State Theatre, 220 N. Washington St., Falls Church, VA (703) 237-0300
Sully's, 14513 Lee Jackson Hwy, Chantilly, VA (703) 818-9292
Summit Station, 227 E. Diamond Ave., Gaithersburg, (301) 519-9400
Sunset Grille, 7250 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA (703) 658-0982
Sweet Caroline's, 29 W Cork St, Winchester VA (540) 723-8805
Thai Seafood House, 2732 Crain Hwy, Waldorf MD (301) 932-4388
Truffles, 1001 Olney-Sandy Spring Rd Sandy Spring, MD (240) 774-7309
Twins, 1344 U St, NW DC (202) 234-0072
Union Hotel, 1282 Susquehanna Rd., Port Deposit, MD 410-378-3503
Waterman's Crab House, Rock Hall, MD (410) 810-2631
Whitlow's on Wilson, 2854 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA (703) 276-9693
Whispers, Glen Burnie MD
Wild Azalea, 1648 Crystal Sq Arcade, Arlington, VA (703) 413-2250
Wolf Trap, Vienna, VA (703) 255-1900
Zoo Bar, 3000 Connecticut Ave., NW, DC (202) 232-4225

If you know of clubs that do have blues on a regular basis (at least once a month) that we do not list, please send an update to Steve Levine at cypressgrove@hotmail.com.

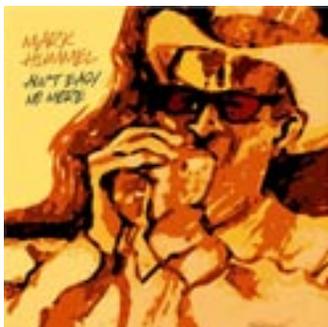
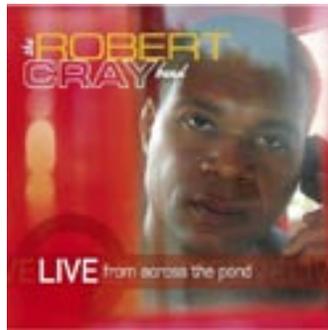
The Robert Cray Band

Prior to the release of Robert Cray's breakout recording, **Strong Persuader**, I happened to listen and record off the radio a live broadcast of the 1982 Long Beach Blues Festival among whose highlights was a young Robert Cray. One could hear a definite Albert Collins influence even if Cray's guitar playing didn't quite have Collins' fretful sound. Yet Cray's serpentine guitar playing had its own charms. Over two decades later, Cray remains one of the few blues acts to break through and reach a pop audience in that period. After many studio albums, Cray and his Band has just issued **Live From Across the Pond** (Nozzle) from shows at Royal Albert Hall where he was opening for Eric Clapton. He perhaps has left behind the Jesse Fortune number *Too Many Cooks*, but still performs *Phone Booth*, and several songs from **Strong Persuader**, including *Right Next Door (Because of Me)*, *I Guess I Showed Her* and *Bad Influence*, along with other numbers that he has added over the intervening years such as *Poor Johnny*, and his anti-Iraq War number *Twenty* from his recent studio recordings. Perhaps because of his success, Cray has been criticized by some for the clean sound. Some would accuse his music of being antiseptic, although the performances here belie that claim as Cray does invest quite some passion into his performances. Cray's clean, urbane delivery of songs and his guitar playing should be viewed as more of style than relating to the substance of his performances. This music comes off much more successfully than the heavy metal sound of some blues rockers and comes off as a nice summing up of what he has meant musically for over two decades. A very nice release that will please his fans and even some who have shied away from his more recent work.

Mark Hummel

West Coast harmonica wizard Mark Hummel has been increasing his visibility with his annual blues harmonica packages which have brought together a number of harmonica legends and led to several outstanding CDs documenting the tours. The shows are anchored around Hummel and his fine band of guitarist Charlie Wheel, bassist Steve Wolf and drummer Marty Dodson. Electro-Fi has just issued Hummel's Third album for the label, **Ain't Easy No More**, that will delight his fans and blues harp fans. A mixture of Hummel's originals and some choice rearrangements of previously recorded blues, Hummel impresses most as a harp player and his band (augmented by horns on several tracks) is terrific supporting him. Hummel also writes some strong originals, including the topical *Big Easy (Ain't Easy No More)*, based on his reaction to the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Hummel is a pleasant vocalist but his delivery does not match the outrage of the lyrics here nor does he have the forcefulness to be completely convincing on Muddy Waters' *She's Got It*. But on other tracks his delivery works better and there is really little to fault listening to his reworking of a Ray Charles jump blues *Get on the Right Track*, and a couple of fine Eddie Boyd songs, *You Got to Reap* and *Blues is Here to Stay*. Harp features include his originals *Harpoventilating*, and *Bird Brain*, and Little Sonny's *The Creeper Returns*, all of which showcase his driving, full-bodied playing. Overall quite a fine album and my quibbles about his vocals on

Notes Hot & Blues by Ron Weinstock



a couple tracks should not be taken too far as his vocals are easy to take. Recommended highly.

Chick Willis

Its been close to forty years since this writer acquired a 45 by one Chick Willis that included a solid rendition of Guitar Slim's *The Things I Used to Do*. Shortly thereafter, Chick recorded another single that would generate his career defining song, *Stoop Down Baby*. Such a song can be a blessing and a curse because it does provide work but it is also an albatross that prevents folks from appreciating just how good and varied a blues performer he is as opposed to be limited to bawdy double entendre numbers. Jacques 'Saxman' Johnson and Dr. Bill Clark had Chick come in to the Washington, D.C. area for a gig at Blues Alley as well as a recording session. The result is the new Old School Productions CD, **Cookin' the Blues: A Tribute to Albert King featuring Chick Willis**. As the album title suggests, Chick is heard on a number of songs associated with the late blues giant including *Can't You See What You Are Doing to Me*, *I'll Play the Blues For You*, *Angel of Mercy*, *Laundromat Blues*, and *What the Blues is All About*. Willis sings and plays his distinctive guitar in a straightforward fashion and Johnson leads a punchy and brassy horn section supporting Willis' fine performances. Four of the ten tracks are instrumentals that give the Saxman a chance to stretch out including a rousing rendition of *The Hucklebuck*, with Bill Clark getting some space to show his Hammond B-3 skills and Johnson's son, Jacques Jr. being featured quite admirably on guitar. In summary, **Cookin' the Blues** is delightful with solid Willis interpretations of classic Albert King recordings with the Saxman's tenor sax features for an added treat. For information on how to order contact Old School Records at Jacques Johnson's website www.jacquessaxmanjohnson.com or email sax251@aol.com. A website that carries some of the Old School Records and hopefully will have this one is www.rightonrhythm.com. Look forward to Chick

and Jacques headlining some CD release parties this fall.

Deanna Bogart

Returning to Blind Pig after a number of years, Deanna Bogart has produced a new CD that shows how she has matured as a performer, **Real Time**. While known as a blues and boogie woogie artist, I would suggest this disc transcends easily categorization although her musical roots are never far from the surface. The disc opens with the title track, an intriguing lyric about not being their when the musical greats of the forties and fifties sprouted their musical innovations, wondering what it would have been to discover them in *Real Time*, not years later from books and recordings. Its followed by *Everybody has a Story*, a nice rocker with a bit of country and folk in its lyric and melody that is nicely developed followed by a lovely ballad, *Blue By Night*. There are two covers here, *Are You Lonely For Me Baby* and *Baby You Got What It Takes*, that Bogart reworks and transforms almost into completely new songs with some fine singing and playing (nice, earthy sax on the latter number). More gritty sax can be heard on the very fine instrumental, *Blues in the Bine*. *Tender Days* is a lovely ballad, soulfully sung, whereas *Bite the Bullet* is a solid boogie woogie, with some unusual twists. The remainder is equally entertaining and captivating album that will be welcome by any of her fans or anyone who loves strong blues and blues-rooted songs and terrific singing and musicianship. Highly recommended.

Notes Hot & Blue Continued

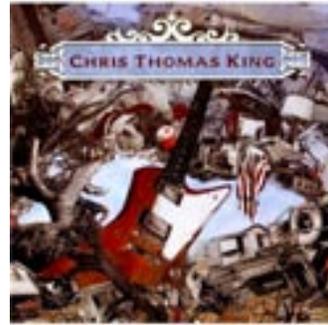
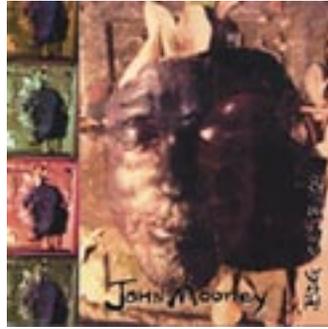
John Mooney

Its been four years since John Mooney had a new album out, and he has produced his latest on LML Records (Live Music Lives), *Big Ol' Fiya*, which should satisfy fans of his unique musical gumbo of Son House-influenced delta blues with Crescent City grooves. This album also includes the keyboards of Jon Cleary along with the bass of the late Jeff Sarli, percussionist Alfred 'Uganda' Roberts and drummer Raymond Webber although Bernard 'Bunche' Johnson is on two tracks and engineer Mark Bingham picks up the bass for one track. Opening with a hot groove on the opening *2 Get 2 Heaven*, where the band kicks into high gear as Mooney sings "I didn't come here, to preach & pray; I ain't here to soothe you; 'Cause you works all day; I ain't here, to kiss & tell; I'm just tryin' to getta out this hell." as Mooney adds some driving, crying slide. The title track follows as the tempo slows a bit with Cleary on organ as Mooney adds some nice slide runs with a lyric about what was love at first sight and how she is on his mind all day long but she left him and broke his heart. Voice and slide are in harmony as Mooney starts *Dig My Way 2 China*, how his woman left him so low he is digging his way down to China. Few attempt to rework Son House songs, but Mooney's interpretations carry an authority that in part reflect what he learned directly from the archetypical blues legend, as he provides us a strong small band rendition of House's *Louis McGhee*, with Sarli, Roberts and Webber providing the strong complimentary backing for Mooney. A Mooney original, *Do You Love Me*, is another strong performance rooted in the delta blues of House and his friend Willie Brown. The remainder is in a similar vein and is a most welcome addition to Mooney's strong discography. For more information can check Mooney's website, www.johnmooneylive.com which will link you to www.cdbaby.com which is where your reviewer obtained this strong release.

Automatic Slim

One of the pleasures of the 2006 Hot August Blues fundraiser was an opportunity to see Lea Gilmore backed by an terrific local band that included one David Carreon on guitar. Carreon is better known as Automatic Slim and has been playing around the Baltimore-DC area for some time now. He has a CD, **What Did I Do Wrong** on Baltimore's La Chica Records, which he provided a copy of at Hot August Blues. For this session he is accompanied by the late Lazy Lenny Rabonovets on harmonica, Jack DiPietro on bass (Steve Potter is on four tracks) and Little Scotty Stump on drums with Jim Harrell adding guitar on several tracks and Seth Kibel on baritone for one. This is a tightly played disc of some originals and some covers played with feeling and a nice touch. I might compare Slim to the bluesy side of The Fabulous Thunderbirds as his originals are rooted in the classic Gulf Coast and Chicago blues traditions. He does not rush his songs and the rhythm section can swing. The opening *My Little Country Boy* starts with a hard guitar riff before Slim opens with a nice slightly laid back vocal over a simple boogie groove as he sings about listening to Slim Harpo on his phonograph, while *Do the Pelican*, is a solid instrumental with a nod to the legendary Freddie King. The title track is a nice slow swamp-flavored blues with melodic echoes of Jimmy Reed's *Honest I Do*. His covers include a rocking reworking of Hip Linkchain's *On My Way*, James "Wee Willie" Wayne's *Junko Partner*, with Kibel guesting here and Lazy Lenny playing strong harp. Perhaps Slim lacks the voice to pull

Notes Hot & Blues by Ron Weinstock



off the Irma Thomas classic *It's Raining*, but he does a more than credible take of Mississippi John Hurt's *Trouble I Had All My Days*, while *The Train Don't Stop Here*, is a vehicle for Slim's friend Dirk Wieringa to take the lead vocal while Slim jams on acoustic guitar. *Juicy* is a feature for Lazy Lenny. The CD closes with Slim's nicely played instrumental *John Hurt*. Slim tells me that a Lazy Lenny CD is coming out soon and he will be having a Christmas CD out this year as well. If these recordings are 1/2 as good as this gem, they will be well worth checking out. His website is www.automaticslim.com where one can find information on his schedule and how to purchase his cds by mail.

Chris Thomas King

Chris Thomas King, the Baton Rouge born son of Tabby Thomas, has issued a most impressive recording reflecting on the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, **Rise** (21st Century Blues). From the opening *What Would Jesus Do?* to the closing *What a Wonderful World*, Thomas interprets classic songs associated with New Orleans and gives us originals covering a wide range of musical styles, although not the incorporation of hip hop that King has utilized on other recent recordings. He is on an almost traditionalist mode here. The CD's tracks include several where Thomas plays all the instruments along with several musicians assisting

Thomas. These include Mike Finnigan and Tony Braunagel of the Phantom Blues Band, and drummer Jason Marsalis.

There is country flavor to the opening *What Would Jesus Do?*, as he sings "Tell Me America, What Would Jesus Do (2x) If he had to walk a mile in my shoe," with haunting lyrics. There is a bit of modern gospel-soul flavor in the backing for *Faith* told from the standpoint of someone on a rooftop waiting to be saved. *Baptized in Dirty Water* is a modern electric guitar blues as he shouts in the manner of a young Buddy Guy or Otis Rush (and the song suggests Rush's *I Can't Quit You Baby*), "When the levee broke down baby and dirty water came rushing in (2X), it washed away my happy home, I hope it washed away my sins," with a tough guitar solo followed by the wistful *Flow Mississippi Roll*, singing about having no place to go and wanting to drown on my own tears as a businessman is making plans for his land. *St. James Infirmary* is handled as a modern blues with more fine guitar as King updates the lyric as he asks that they "put a good jazzband on my tailgate to raise hell as we roll along." a jazz band and a second-line as his body is taken to its grave. Joni Mitchell's *Big Yellow Taxi*, I believe was recorded a few days before Katrina in New Orleans, and Thomas' performance makes the lyric "Don't you know what you got 'til its gone, they paved paradise and put up a parking lot," prescient in terms of the destruction of wetlands that helped contribute to Katrina's devastation. Its not the only tune that is so in place even if not directly alluding to Katrina, as does the gospel number *Deepest Ocean*. His rendition of the Irish ballad, *'Tis Last Rose of Summer*, a tribute to his mother, is full of warmth and tenderness as is the rendition of the closing chestnut, *What a Wonderful World*. *Rise* is a remarkable recording that transcends any limitation of genre. Heartfully sung and played with an eye to the losses he and so many others have suffered yet he also has an eye for that part of the human spirit that enables people to work together to overcome such traumatic and devastating natural disasters. It will undoubtedly be on many Best Recordings of 2006 lists.

Win a Festival Cruise!

The DC Blues Society presents the chance to party on:

13th Annual Sandy Beaches Cruise with Delbert McClinton & Friends January 7-14, 2007

1 winner = 2 tickets = \$5000 value
Win double occupancy aboard the Holland American Line's ms Westerdam Cruise Ship and receive:

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Get your raffle tickets for only 25.00 each.

With only 300 tickets available, the chances of winning are excellent!

Increase your chances of winning by buying more than one raffle ticket. There is no limit.

The winning raffle ticket will be drawn during the DCBS Battle of the Bands Competition:

October 21, 2006

Chick Hall's Surf Club

Sell Tickets: Contact me (Jazs) at: contest@dcblues.org to sell and/or buy tickets! The volunteer who sells the most tickets by Oct. 5 will receive: two tickets to Delbert's Oct. 9th show at the Birchmere; a \$50 Birchmere dinner/drink voucher and the chance to meet Delbert, take a picture, & get an autographed CD.

Call 301-322-4808 or the DCBS Hotline 202-962-0112 for more information. We encourage businesses to buy blocks of tickets as employee incentives.

You do not have to be present to win. The winner will be notified by both telephone and mail. Remember to complete the contact information on the returned portion of the raffle ticket. Visit www.dcblues.org for more information about this great Roots & Blues Cruise and other DCBS events. See the lineup and more about the cruise at <http://delbert.com/genrinfo.htm>.

Cruisers under the age of 21 must be accompanied by an adult. Winner is responsible for all taxes due from winning the prize.

Jeff Sarli Tribute at Surf Club October 10

Jeff Sarli passed away August 29 in Nashville from complications associated with kidney disease at the age of 48. Born in White Plains, NY, Sarli moved his family to Anne Arundel County when his father became air traffic manager at BWI Airport. Not long out of high school he began a very productive musical career that lasted until his death.

Your editor first became aware of Jeff when he backed Boogie Bill Webb and others at a Folklife Festival. Not too long after



that, Jeff was part of Tom Principato's reformed Powerhouse that also included Joe Maher on drums and young Kevin McKendree on keyboards. That band later became Big Joe & the Dynafloes when Tom went back to a more power guitar format on his own. Later Jeff would anchor Bill Kirchen & Too Much Fun and would also play with Ben Andrews and Marc Wenner as the Blue Rider Trio (who performed at City Blues during the Society's 10th Anniversary series of shows). In more recent years Jeff was part of John Mooney's Band and is on Mooney's most recent CD. While with Mooney he met drummer George Recile who introduced him to Keith Richard with whom he recorded and arranged to have Sarli play on the Stones' Bridges

to Babylon album. Sarli played and recorded with countless other musicians. In recent months living in Nashville he had a regular gig with Mike Henderson and Kevin McKendree. Anyone who was part of the DC area's blues and roots music scene came across Jeff and if you had a chance to meet him you understood he was not simply a wonderful bassist, but a terrific person and will be missed by many.

Tuesday October 10 there will be a tribute concert for Jeff with a number of his musical associates at Chick Hall's Surf Club. The concert will be a benefit for Music Cares. Celebrate Jeff's musical life with **Bob Margolin, Tom Principato, Mark Wenner, Big Joe Maher, Tom Mitchell, Jim Stephanson, John Cocuzzi, Joe Stanley, Ivan Appelrouth** and MANY, MANY MORE! Admission is a minimum donation of \$15 to Musicares.

From the Volunteer Coordinator

Thank you to our Festival Volunteers!

Huge THANK YOU's to all the volunteers who braved the rain and came out to the Annual DCBS Festival to welcome the other 1,800+ dedicated blues fans, hand out brochures and beads, help the artists, sell merchandise, serve artist/volunteer's food, help make masks, set up / cleanup, assist with second stage productions, dance and inspire the crowd, and so much more! Without you, the day wouldn't be the same. Thanks for keeping the blues alive!

Volunteer with the DC Blues Society

- > get discounted tickets
 - > meet fun people and your favorite musicians
- Contact volunteer@dcblues.org
Visit the DCBS site at <http://www.dcblues.org>.

Book Briefs

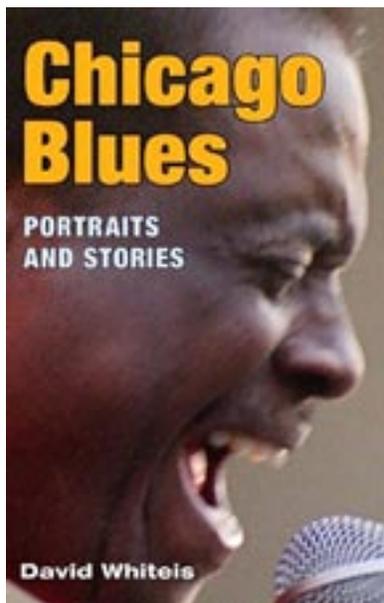
Chicago Blues: Portraits and Stories, by David Whiteis, (University of Illinois Press 2006)

David Whiteis' new book, **Chicago Blues: Portraits and Stories**, is a collection of portraits of blues performers and venues that provides a sense of the diversity of the Chicago blues scene with an emphasis on its evolution as a living tradition among the city's African-American community. There are chapters devoted to departed masters to a number of contemporary performers representing a diversity of approaches to the blues, and in the process provides an enlightening overview of a still evolving blues scene and tradition. The portraits are derived from articles that Whiteis wrote for a variety of publications including the *Chicago Reader*, *Juke Blues* and *Living Blues*, and it would be welcome for no other reason than making these available, but the book is more than that.

The first part of **Chicago Blues** is devoted to *Elder Spirits*, and includes chapters on Junior Wells, Sunnyland Slim and Big Walter Horton. What is surprising is how little has been written on these three and Whiteis' chapters are welcome for recounting these the lives of these pioneers and masters of the post-war Chicago blues scene. As Whiteis notes, these three mentored him as he developed an knowledge and love of the blues, and his affection for them is obvious as can be gleaned from what he states about Sunnyland Slim, "We weren't what you would call blood brothers. I don't claim to have been his intimate confidant.

Nevertheless, I honestly believe that no one else ever taught me so much about life than Sunnyland Slim did. To hear that voice growl through the octaves, build into a lionine roar, and then soar into a leonine roar, and then soar into high-tenor declarations of freedom-bound blues passion — or just spend time in the presence of this tender-hearted giant of a man — was to learn life lessons of the most profound and lasting kind."

The Second Part, "*We Gon' Pitch a Boogie Woogie!*" is an examination of blues venues past and present. There is a chapter on Florence's Lounge, the neighborhood lounge where Hound Dog Taylor and Magic Slim had held regular gigs before they began their years of touring which closed in the early 1980s; the celebrated Maxwell Street Market whose rich history is recounted along with the gentrification of Chicago, expansion of the Chicago campus of Maxwell Street and its destruction of this historical area with a promise of a restored and improved, but ultimately sanitized, area. Whiteis' bittersweet account of the last day of Maxwell Street brings the community that the University destroyed alive for us. The final chapter of this part, *Clubbing the Current Chicago Scene*, provides sketches of different venues including the Delta Fish Market and its successor, Wallace's Catfish Corner; the Starlite Lounge and the late Harmonica Khan who was a star in this neighborhood juke; and then taking in Denise LaSalle's show at East of the Ryan which includes a nice overview of her career in addition to his perceptive analysis of her oft salty performances that like those of other modern soul and blues artists transcend the dichotomy between sacred and profane.



The Next Part, *Torchbearers* is in Whiteis' words, "the heart of the book." The portraits of currently active performers who carry on the traditions of the elders. Perhaps these are not all major stylists but each "is representative of the music that remains prevalent on the contemporary scene, and each one's story exemplifies important facets of the 'blues life' as it is lived by contemporary artists... ." Chapters devoted to Jody Williams, Bonnie Lee, Billy Branch, Sharon Lewis and Lurrie Bell, give us an insight into their personal histories, the ups and downs they have faced and how they continue to preserve with their art. It is a reminder that blues is more than

"just notes" or "just a feeling," devoid of any broader context. Of course, one has to be a bit careful in objecting that the music's cultural history is obscured and challenging the success of some teenage white prodigies while veteran blacks stay in obscurity and then be labeled as an 'ignorant racist,' as Billy Branch, one of the most eloquent teachers of the blues as well as a blues performer of the highest order. Chapters on Bonnie Lee, who first came up under Sunnyland Slim and later was associated with the late Willie Kent and Sharon Lewis were revelatory about two women who keep doing what they love to do the most, while the chapter on Lurrie Bell detailed the travails of his life as well as his triumphs (musical and personal).

Part IV, *The Soul Side of Town*, is devoted to Artie 'Blues Boy' White (who notes even down south some of the venues he used to play have closed), Cicero Blake and Little

Scotty (the later a social activist as well as singer). The book concludes with a Coda, as Whiteis ruminates on the current state of the music and its future, observing that their seem to be new obstacles today to the music surviving, but also reminding us that the blues seems to have this ability to reinvent itself, and its new manifestations and performers may confound us and our expectations what the blues should be, "yet again reveal itself to be a musical language that, once incubated and nurtured in its cultural milieu, can expand its scope and speak to a universal audience."

Chicago Blues: Portraits and Stories, is invaluable for its lively, informative portraits of a variety of performers that help us appreciate aspects of the blues life. Furthermore, it raises significant questions of what the blues is, that goes beyond the current trend of focusing on playing notes and ignoring the culture and community the blues arose out of. As Whiteis reminds us, the music is still deeply rooted there and continues to live and evolve, aiding us to appreciate the music in a deeper and more knowledgeable manner.

DC Blues Society Jams

Reminder that our monthly jam takes place the First Sunday of the month at Chick Hall's Surf Club. This month, it is on Sunday October 1 and it starts at 1:00PM. For the first time we had a jam on the Sunday after our Festival and your editor trusts it went well. Our acoustic jam at Ellington's is scheduled for Thursday, October 12.

DC. Blues Society Membership Application/Order Form

MEMBER DISCOUNTS

The following companies offer discounts to DCBS members. In order to take advantage of these discounts, you must present your current membership card.

*1/2 price discount at **Blues Alley** (select shows)*

DCBS members receive half off the normal admission for blues shows that do not have advance ticket sales.

1073 Wisconsin Ave., NW
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www.bluesalley.com

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The DC Blues Society is a nonprofit section 501(c)(3) all volunteer organization! It is devoted to promoting and perpetuating blues music, one of America's most important cultural gifts to the world. In furtherance of this, the Society engages in a variety of activities including (but not limited to):

- Free Annual DC Blues Festival
- Open Monthly Blues Jam
- Shows with noted National and local acts
- Best Unsigned Blues Band Competition
- Blues in the School Program
- Monthly newsletter, the D.C. Blues Calendar



Members receive the Society's newsletter, The D.C. Blues Calendar, with information on upcoming Society events and other blues in the Washington area and other material of interest; discounts on society events & merchandise, some clubs, and other benefits. Membership proceeds play an important part in making our activities happen.

Contributions (not membership dues or merchandise) to the D.C. Blues Society are tax-deductible

Date: _____ Renewal _____
enter check mark if renewal: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State _____

Zip Code: _____ Phone Number: _____

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Dues per year -Circle appropriate one:

Student: \$15.00 Individual: \$25.00 Family: \$35.00

Corporate: \$50.00 Canada- \$ 35.00 (US) Other countries: \$50.00

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Interested in volunteering? _____ We will get back to you!

Advance Tickets

October 21 Battle of the Blues at Surf Club

Tickets \$15 at door - Call 301-322-4808 for tickets

* Member tickets. _____ times \$10/ticket \$ _____

* Non-member tickets _____ times \$12/ticket \$ _____

IBC Battle of Bands Winner Fundraiser

Nov. 18 at Surf Club - \$15 at Door

* Member tickets. tickets _____ times \$10/ticket \$ _____

* Non-member member _____ times \$12/ticket \$ _____

Annual Holiday Party w. David Coles

Dec. 15 at Surf Club - \$15 at Door

* Member tickets. tickets _____ times \$10/ticket \$ _____

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Total for tickets \$ _____

Donations for the DC Blues Festival/Society

See page 7 for levels and premiums

Level of donation _____

Amount donated \$ _____

Other donation for DC Blues Festival/Society \$ _____

Total enclosed: \$ _____

Mail to DC Blues Society, PO Box 77315, Washington DC 20013-7315

Marva Wright



“Moody” Combest

As I was finalizing this issue, Chet Hines called me with the news long-time DC Blues Society volunteer, Luevenia Turner Combest who we all knew as Moody, passed away September 19. Many longtime members remember Moody and her sister Virginia (who survives her sister) who would come out to the Jams at Food For Thought or hosted the Festival Hospitality and provided food for the performers and volunteers for many years. Moody brought so many smiles to everyone with their love of people and the fact she loved the blues was a bonus. We extend our condolences to Virginia and other surviving members of Moody's family.

The Junkyard Saints come out as Brass Band for Festival Second Line



Eleanor Ellis and her friend Pearl



DC Blues Society

PO Box 77315

Washington DC 20013-7315

DC Battle of the Blues

Order Advance Tickets on inside back cover (p.15)

Monthly Jam at Surf Club October 1

Monthly Acoustic Jam at Ellington's on October 12