



# Capital Blues Messenger

Celebrating the Blues in the District of Columbia, Maryland & Virginia  
January 2020  
Volume 14 Issue 1

## “Blues Warriors” Bring in the New Year in Style!

By Pete Salsbury



A packed hall at American Legion Post 41 in Silver Spring, MD was the place to be to wrap up 2019 and start 2020 off just right! The DC Blues Society held its annual New Year’s Eve party and the crowd was treated to a night of outstanding music and good times by Mark Wenner’s Blues Warriors. The band, made up of some of the best musicians in the area, included (in photos at left from top to bottom) Mark Wenner and Mark Stutso from the legendary Nighthawks, Steve Wolf on bass, Clarence “the Blues Man” Turner on guitar and vocals and special guest Paul Bell sitting in for Zack Sweeney on guitar and vocals. Leading the festive event all night was special MC, Lady Myrrh, from WPFW-FM (in the photo at bottom right, with yours truly).



You can’t have a party without a lot of help to make it happen. Huge “Thanks” go out to the following people: Adam Oppenheim for running 1<sup>st</sup> class sound all night (in photo top right with wife Nancy); Robert Anderson for setting up and tearing down the equipment (especially the drums); Pat Bransford, Dorothy Hines, Miss Ann for decorations; Debbie Bucci, Michelle Hannahs, Nick Dale for working shifts at the ticket table, Dorothy for running the merch table, Jazz for selling tickets for the Mike Zito autographed guitar; Wayne Botts for photography, including photos on this page; PJ Eason for carrying in food and drinks before the party and Richard Briggs, Daniel Eshete and Wayne Botts for helping with decorating, setting up tables, carrying stuff and doing whatever was needed. Thanks also to Brandy, Matt and Mike from Post 41 for their work keeping the crowd moving through the bar line.



Extra specials thanks go to Carol Salsbury and Dana Eason (in middle photo on the right) for coordinating the food and the



beverages that were served for the midnight toast. It took many hours of work to plan, buy and set up the food and drinks to be ready to serve to the crowd.

As you can see from the pictures, a great time was held by all. Happy New Year!



### Mark Your Calendar for These Upcoming DCBS Events

- Jan. 24 4th Friday Happy Hour**  
w/ Robbin Kapsalis & Vintage #18 (p. 5)
- Feb. 9 February Jam and HART Fundraiser**  
(p. 10)

# DC BLUES SOCIETY

P.O. Box 6289  
Washington, DC  
20015-0289



[www.dcblues.org](http://www.dcblues.org)

The DC Blues Society (DCBS) was founded in 1987 and is dedicated to keeping the Blues alive through outreach and education. Its mission is to celebrate, preserve, and promote the Blues as an original American art form. DCBS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, all-volunteer organization that depends on grants, membership, contributions, and volunteers to operate. The DC Blues Society is a proud affiliate of the Blues Foundation.

DCBS is governed by its Board of Directors. Only

DCBS Officers and designated board members are authorized to speak, represent and make commitments on behalf of the organization.

The CAPITAL BLUES MESSENGER is published monthly (unless otherwise noted) and sent by email to members. Back issues are available at [www.dcblues.org](http://www.dcblues.org).



**THE BLUES FOUNDATION**  
AFFILIATED BLUES SOCIETY

DCBS members are encouraged to submit articles, photos, cartoons, reviews and suggestions to the newsletter. Please submit material via email to [newsletter@dcblues.org](mailto:newsletter@dcblues.org). Listings from bands and venues should be sent to [calendar@dcblues.org](mailto:calendar@dcblues.org). Deadline for all submissions is the 15th of the month prior to publication. Articles should be submitted in MSWord; logos and graphics should be in vector format (.eps or .ai); and photos should be in color in high resolution .jpg format. DCBS reserves the right to edit or refuse any content, including advertising, that it deems inappropriate.

## DCBS Board Members

### OFFICERS

**President:** Peter Salsbury  
[president@dcblues.org](mailto:president@dcblues.org)  
**Vice President:** Nick Dale  
[vp@dcblues.org](mailto:vp@dcblues.org)  
**Secretary:** Pat Bransford  
[secretary@dcblues.org](mailto:secretary@dcblues.org)  
**Treasurer:** Nick Dale  
[treasurer@dcblues.org](mailto:treasurer@dcblues.org)

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Adam Oppenheim  
John Neumann  
Russell Scott  
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**President Emeritus:**  
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Chet Hines (1946–2016)  
Felix McClairen  
Sam'i Nuriddin  
Barry Lee Pearson  
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## Enjoy the Benefits and Fun of DCBS Membership

Members are key to the livelihood of the DCBS. Members' dues play an important part in helping DCBS fulfill its mission to promote the Blues and the Musicians who keep the music alive, exciting and accessible. Members receive many benefits for their nominal DCBS investment:

- ▲ Discounted rates on advance tickets to DCBS events
- ▲ Friendship of fellow Blues enthusiasts at DCBS's many events
- ▲ Monthly editions of THE CAPITAL BLUES MESSENGER sent by email
- ▲ Priority notices of the latest scheduled area Blues concerts, events and news sent by email
- ▲ Eligibility to win free tickets to area Blues concerts and performances (e.g., City Winery, DC; The Sundry; The Hamilton and more)
- ▲ Opportunities to "get close to the action and the music" by volunteering at DCBS events
- ▲ Taking a supporting role in DCBS's Blues in the Community program, an outreach effort to educate and encourage the rich heritage of Blues music

## Join or Renew Today!

Date \_\_\_\_\_  New  Renewal

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Family email \_\_\_\_\_ Second Email \_\_\_\_\_

If family, list name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

### Annual Dues

- Student: \$15 (include copy of student ID)
- Individual: \$35 per year \$60 two years
- Family: \$45
- Corporate: \$200

### Volunteer

- Update Website
- Work shift at a show (DCBS table, door, etc.)
- Promote shows (Distribute fliers, handbills, etc.)
- Raise funds
- Write reviews or take photos for monthly newsletter

*Contributions (not dues) are tax deductible. Please allow up to 6 weeks for processing. DCBS accepts*



Return this form with your check or credit card information to:  
DC Blues Society  
P.O. Box 6289  
Washington, DC 20015-0289

*Becoming a DCBS member is quick and easy! Use the mail-in application on this page, sign up at the DCBS table at any DCBS event or apply online at [www.dcblues.org](http://www.dcblues.org)*

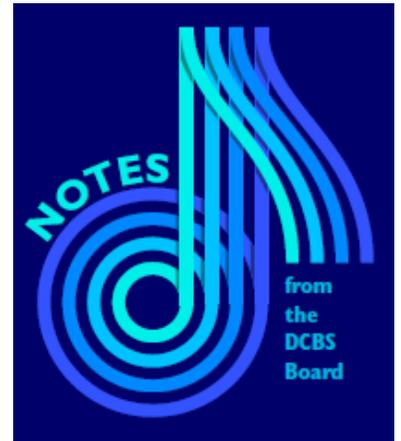
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## Happy New Blues Year!

**What a Happy New Year's Eve party!** See page 1 for pictures and the story on what happened at the New Year's Eve party with Mark Wenner's Blues Warriors!

**What a year in 2019.** See p. 4-5 for a full listing of the DCBS 2019 activities. Some analytics - last year DCBS hosted 12 monthly jams, 12 blues happy hours, a special St. Patrick's day show with international-touring star Selwyn Birchwood, a FUNraiser, a Battle of the Bands, a great New Year's Eve party in 2019, 6 Blues shows at Ri Ra Irish Pub, put on the DC Blues Festival and College Park Blues Festival, were partners and had a booth at the Tinner Hill, Silver Spring, Big Funky, Greenbelt and Bluebird Blues Festivals! (= 41 events!) The DCBS couldn't be involved in so many events without the support of the Board of Directors, key volunteers and members who give their time and energy to make sure these events are a success. Thanks to all who helped and hope you will do it again. The DCBS is always looking for more volunteers to help at these events! Send me an email if interested.



**4th Friday Blues Happy Hours.** On Friday, January 24, please make plans to see the incredible **Robbin Kapsalis and Vintage #18!** Robbin and the band recently had a successful tour that included a show at Buddy Guy's Legend's in Chicago. Don't miss seeing her in Silver Spring! **See the notice on page 5 for more details.**

**Check out the list of Ticket Giveaways and the recent winners!** The DCBS keeps getting more tickets to giveaway to our members. Thanks to members who have sent in reviews for the shows they have seen. See p. 10 & 12.

**Important note on the February jam!** The monthly February Sunday blues jam will be moved to the 2nd Sunday, February 9 because of the Super Bowl on February 2. The February 9 jam will also be a benefit to collect donations for the Blues Foundations HART Fund. **See story and more info on p. 10.**

**Coming up in February: Cadillac Blues Jump Band** makes their return appearance at the 4th Friday Blues Happy Hour show on February 28.

**Buy tickets for the DCBS Guitar Raffle:** Blues man Mike Zito (see interview on p. 8) had hoped to raffle off a guitar at his December show at the City Winery. When those plans hit a snag, he still gave DCBS a guitar to give away as a DCBS fundraiser. See info on the right and be sure to buy a raffle ticket.

**DCBS Board Elections:** The DCBS by-laws call for an annual election of Board members and officers. I am pleased to report that at the December DCBS Board meeting, each of the members of the 2019 Board were re-elected as members and the officers are also continuing unchanged for 2020. All of these members have made a tremendous commitment to the organization and I thank them for their continued support. If you are interested in joining the DCBS Board, we can entertain accepting additional members at any time. Those continuing on the Board are: President Pete Salsbury, Vice-President/Treasurer Nick Dale, Secretary Pat Bransford, and members Dorothy Hines, John Neumann, Adam Oppenheim, Russell Scott, Larry Spiwak, and President Emeritus Felix McClairen.

Thank you for your support!

Pete Salsbury  
president@dcblues.org

### DC Blues Society Guitar Raffle Fundraiser

Enter to win an autographed Fender Squire Guitar and #1 CD on Billboard Charts donated by award-winning Blues musician Mike Zito to the DC Blues Society!



\$5 for 1 ticket or 5 tickets for \$20

Winner will be picked at the March 27, 2020 DCBS 4th Friday Happy Hour (you don't need to be present to win)

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## DC BLUES SOCIETY - A YEAR IN REVIEW - 2019

*It's been an incredibly busy year for the DC Blues Society, as is evident from the Year In Review summary below. Given that DCBS is an all-volunteer organization with a relatively small number of active volunteers, the list of activities is all the more impressive.*

*Not a member? Join today! Not a volunteer? Contact [president@dcblues.org](mailto:president@dcblues.org) to review DCBS volunteer needs. Have limited time to volunteer? Consider donating to DCBS. It's tax-deductible and can be done online at [www.dcblues.org](http://www.dcblues.org).*

*Here's what happened in 2019. More good things are to come in 2020. Thanks for your support!*

### January 2019

- 1/6 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Blues Jam
- 1/25 4<sup>th</sup> Friday Happy Hour w/ DC Mudd

### February 2019

- 2/10 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Blues Jam (moved to 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday due to Super Bowl) and Day of HART Fundraiser (money was raised for HART (Handy Artist Relief Fund), a Blues Foundation charitable program)
- 2/22 4<sup>th</sup> Friday Happy Hour w/ Sol Roots Trio
- 2/28 Last Thursday Blues, at Ri Ra Irish Pub, w/ Linwood Taylor

### March 2019

- 3/3 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Blues Jam
- 3/17 Special St. Patrick's Day Show featuring Selwyn Birchwood & Clarence "The Blues Man" Turner
- 3/22 4<sup>th</sup> Friday Happy Hour w/ Bad Influence
- 3/28 Last Thursday Blues, at Ri Ra Irish Pub, w/ Clarence "The Blues Man" Turner

### April 2019

- 4/7 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Blues Jam
- 4/25 Last Thursday Blues, at Ri Ra Irish Pub, with Fast Eddie & The Slowpokes
- 4/26 4<sup>th</sup> Friday Happy Hour w/ Built 4 Comfort

### May 2019

- 5/5 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Blues Jam
- 5/24 4<sup>th</sup> Friday Happy Hour w/ The Crossfire Band

### June 2019

- 6/2 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Blues Jam
- 6/27 Last Thursday Blues, at Ri Ra Irish Pub, w/ Linwood Taylor
- 6/28 4<sup>th</sup> Friday Happy Hour w/ The Mojo Priests
- And on 6/8, 6/15, & 6/16 - DCBS staffed a booth at the Tinner Hill Music Festival, Silver Spring Blues Festival and Big Funky Blues Festival, respectively.

### July 2019

- 7/7 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Blues Jam
- 7/20 DCBS "FunRaiser" w/ Carly Harvey (solo), Crossfire Band, 3 Song Sadie, Cadillac Jump Blues Band, & Jose Ramirez Band
- 7/26 4<sup>th</sup> Friday Happy Hour w/ Carly Harvey's Kiss & Ride

### August 2019

- 8/4 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Blues Jam
- 8/23 4<sup>th</sup> Friday Happy Hour w/ Cooking with Gas

### September 2019

- 9/1 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Blues Jam
- 9/14 Annual DCBS Battle of the Bands & Solo-Duo Competition, w/ 5 bands and 2 solo-duo acts competing
- 9/26 Last Thursday Blues at Ri Ra Irish Pub, w/ Linwood Taylor
- 9/27 4<sup>th</sup> Friday Happy Hour w/ Fast Eddie & The Slowpokes
- And on 9/7 and 9/28, DCBS hosted a booth at the Greenbelt Blues Festival and Blue Bird Blues Festival respectively.



*The DCBS Jam Team makes it happen each month! Thanks Robert, Adam, Pete & Larry!*



*Selwyn Birchwood never disappoints, and his performance on March 17 was "electric!"*



*DCBS loves its dancers!  
Photos this page by Pat Bransford*

## DCBS A Year In Review continued from p. 4

### October 2019

- 10/6 1st Sunday Blues Jam
- 10/13 30<sup>th</sup> Annual DC Blues Festival, held at the Wunder Garten, w/ Matt Kelley & Ian Walters, Carly Harvey's Kiss & Ride, Bad Influence Band, and The Nighthawks
- 10/24 Last Thursday Blues at Ri Ra Irish Pub, w/ DC Mudd
- 10/25 4th Friday Happy Hour w/ Clarence "The Blues Man" Tuner

### November 2019

- 11/3 1st Sunday Blues Jam
- 11/9 12<sup>th</sup> Annual College Park Blues Festival w/ J.P. Reali, Jose Ramirez Band, Patty Reese Band w/Dave Chappell, and King Solomon Hicks
- 11/22 4th Friday Happy Hour w/ The Smokin' Polecats w/ Marianna Previti

### December 2019

- 12/1 1st Sunday Blues Jam
- 12/27 4th Friday Happy Hour w/ the Linwood Taylor Band
- 12/31 New Year's Eve Party w/ Mark Wenner's Blues Warriors

In addition, DCBS established or re-established partnerships with 9 venues, offering ongoing or special ticket giveaways, discounts to DCBS members for select blues shows, and in one case (Ri Ra Irish Pub) a once-a-month blues night featuring a local blues band. Those venues include City Winery, The Hamilton, The Soundry, AMP by Strathmore, The Birchmere, JVs, Blues Alley, Wolf Trap, and as mentioned, Ri Ra Irish Pub.

In 2019, DCBS also:

- Continued to publish its newsletter each month, sending electronic copies to members via email and printing a small number of black-and-white copies,
- Sent out weekly e-blasts to promote blues activities and ticket giveaways.
- Maintained an active website and Facebook page and established an Instagram page
- Held competitions in order to send a Band and Solo-Duo act to compete in the International Blues Challenge in Memphis, TN, and submitted a nomination for the IBC's Best-Self Produced CD category
- Submitted a Keeping the Blues Alive (KBA) nomination for JV's Restaurant to the Blues Foundation.
- Upgraded some of the DCBS sound equipment
- Continued to have a weekly Internet Blues Show on Caldonia's Crossroad Radio, with key DCBS volunteer Chris DeProperty as DJ Cadillac Chris.

Thanks to the volunteers and musicians who made these activities happen, and all the DCBS members and others who supported and attended the DCBS events!

As a final note, many of the DCBS events listed in this recap of 2019 were free to attendees, but DCBS incurred a cost (e.g., room rental fees, performance fees). Memberships fees help somewhat, but donations large and small are always appreciated. It's easy to join and easy to donate - just visit [www.dcblues.org](http://www.dcblues.org). Interested in having a bigger impact? DCBS is seeking sponsors for the 2020 Annual DC Blues Festival. Contact [president@dcblues.org](mailto:president@dcblues.org).

**DCBS - Celebrating the blues in DC, MD, & VA for over 32 years!**



*The Nighthawks headlined the Annual DC Blues Festival at the Wunder Garten.*

*Photo by Brian Waranauskas*

DC BLUES SOCIETY PRESENTS

# BLUES HAPPY HOUR

FEATURING  
**ROBBIN KAPSALIS & VINTAGE #18**

**1/24 FRIDAY** | **FREE ADMISSION** | **MUSIC 6:30PM-9:30PM**

**AMERICAN LEGION POST 41**  
905 SLIGO AVE., SILVER SPRING, MD 20910  
CONTACT US : 240 876 8295

ENTRANCE ON FENTON ST. ADJACENT TO PUBLIC PARKING LOT  
\*FREE PARKING AFTER 7 PM

[WWW.DCBLUES.ORG](http://WWW.DCBLUES.ORG)

## Mike Zito Brings Texas Blues and Chuck Berry Tribute to the City Winery

By: Pete Salsbury

Mike Zito brought his award-winning band and Texas-style blues to the City Winery DC on Dec 17, 2019. I got to enjoy the show and then interview Mike. The following are some highlights.

Mike Zito started off the show at the City Winery with a rocking "One More Train to Ride" followed by Chuck Berry's "Living in the USA." This is from the new "Mike Zito and Friends – Rock n Roll: A Tribute to Chuck Berry" record that's #1 on the Billboard Blues charts. Mike dedicated "First Class Life" to the audience. This is a true story about Mike's life and getting a second chance. The song showed off the excellent rhythm section with Terry Dry on bass and vocals and Matthew Johnson on drums and vocals. Mike and the band tore into a Texas-style blues, "Wasted Time," that reminded me of Stevie Ray Vaughan and got the crowd dancing.

Chuck Berry's blues classic, "Wee Wee Hours" is a reminder that Chuck started out playing the blues. Next was "I Wouldn't Treat A Dog the Way You Treated Me" that featured amazing guitar and powerful vocals.

"Dying Day" is a swinging blues that got the crowd dancing again and featured soulful blues guitar by Mike and solid support from Terry and Matthew that built to a crescendo with screaming guitar licks from Mike. "30 Days" and "St. Louis Blues" from the Chuck Berry album filled the dance floor with swing dancers. "Gone to Texas" is a beautiful song that Mike recorded with his former band "The Wheel" and has very emotional vocals and tasty guitar licks that had the crowd cheering and wanting to go to Texas. "Make Blues Not War" was dedicated to everyone who came out to support live music. The show ended with Chuck Berry's "Johnny B. Goode" – a perfect ending to a wonderful night with the crowd dancing and singing along. Don't miss Mike and his band when they are in the area.

**Pete:** Hello and welcome to DC. What a great show! Where have you been?

**Mike Zito:** We've been on the road about 3 weeks; been all over the Northeast. We'll be back in Texas Friday.

**Pete:** Congratulations on the new Chuck Berry tribute! You're getting great reviews and it's #1 on the Billboard charts again. How long did it take you to make it with the 21 guest guitarists?

**Mike Zito:** It was a year-long project to arrange and coordinate. The band recorded the tracks in January and we sent it out to the artists to record their tracks. When they came in, I re-did my

parts to match what was sent in. Very lucky to be friends with these guys; I'm a fan of all of them.

**Pete:** Did you ever meet or play with Chuck?

**Mike Zito:** Yes! I got to open for him a few times at the Duck Room in St. Louis. I worked at a music store and Chuck, his son, his piano player, Johnny Johnson, would come in. Growing up in St. Louis, Chuck was a part of what you do. Kind of like Austin when Stevie Ray Vaughan was there...Everyone played like Chuck Berry in St. Louis.

**Pete:** I first heard you with the Royal Southern Brotherhood. What a band. Did you know those guys? Who decided to get you, Devon Allman, Cyril Neville, Charlie Wooton, Yonrico Scott together back in 2011-12?

**Mike Zito:** We knew each other and a manager put the band together. I knew Devon since he was 19 and living in St. Louis. We worked together in the music store. We've been friends for years. Cyril and I had recorded a song, "Pearl River," together, so the manager thought it

would be good to get everyone together... threw us in a room and said "make some music" (Laughs). It was a great band. I left after 4 years.

**Pete:** You have your own record label, Gulf Coast Records, started in 2018. How are you fitting that in, producing and writing?

**Mike Zito:** I have a great partner, Guy Hale, and we have several people working for us. We have a good team. I produce and write when I can. I'm producing a live Albert Castiglia record in January.

**Pete:** Your blog, "Mike Zito, a Bluesman in Recovery," is powerful, uplifting and personal. I could relate to the new one, "Time to Make a Change." What kind of response do you get?

**Mike Zito:** I'm in recovery from drugs and alcohol for over 16 years. I'm very involved in recovery groups back home. This is an outlet to share; I have over 100 entries and found most people can relate; we're all going through stuff.

**Pete:** Anders Osborne has his "Send me a Friend" network. You guys do great stuff personally & musically. Any chance we might see you play together?

**Mike Zito:** We're great friends! We've worked and recorded together but we're both real busy. His version of "Memphis" on the album is phenomenal! It was his Dad's favorite song.

*Continued on p. 7*



Mike Zito played to an appreciative City Winery audience. Photo by Pat Bransford

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## Vanessa Collier: A Local Favorite Comes Back to the Area (Often!)

By Pete Salsbury

"There's a young lady (Vanessa Collier) came onstage with me, I forget where I was, but she's playing an alto saxophone, and man, she was amazing." These are the words of Buddy Guy in a recent issue of *American Blues Scene*, describing an impromptu performance with Vanessa Collier on the Legendary Rhythm & Blues Cruise. If you haven't been fortunate enough to meet Vanessa and witness one of her head-turning, fiery and passionate performances, you should definitely make sure you do so soon. As a master musician and multi-instrumentalist, Vanessa weaves funk, soul, rock and blues into every powerful performance and she is downright impressive. With soulful vocals, searing saxophone and witty songwriting, Vanessa is blazing a trail, racking up an impressive arsenal of honors and has already singled herself out as an artist of distinction and one we would all do well to watch. She has recorded several albums, has won numerous honors, most recently the Blues Foundation's 2019 Blues Music Award for Instrumentalist of the Year-Horn.



You may not know that when Vanessa is not touring somewhere around the world, she can be found giving music lessons in Howard County, MD. In a recent interview with Katie Jones for the *Howard County Times*, Vanessa, now 29, and a graduate of River Hill High School, discussed her successful teaching career and how she travels from her home in Delaware weekly to teach private lessons in Howard County. While she fondly remembers attending 6:30 a.m. jazz band rehearsals as a sixth-grader, Vanessa was seriously thinking about becoming a professional women's basketball player and was a varsity player all four years at River Hill. "It was a good learning experience for me. I learned a lot of work ethics and pushing through when tired," Collier said. Music, however, was what she turned to for expressing herself. She attended Berklee College of Music in Boston, and she had the opportunity to tour with Blues Hall of Fame musician Joe Louis Walker, while completing her degree.

Collier says she's happy performing on stages across the world, hoping that she can make a difference with fans and followers along the way. "I love connecting with an audience and feeling their energy and I hope to inspire people to follow their dreams and passions, to find what brings them joy, and then to pursue it doggedly." Don't miss seeing Vanessa when she returns to the area for a show at **The Hamilton Live on January 17, 2020**, where she continues her year-long 'Honey Up' U.S. Tour, named for her recent album of the same name.

*The Hamilton Live is at 600 14<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Washington, DC. For tickets go to: <https://live.thehamiltondc.com/>. The Hamilton and the DC Blues Society also have a ticket giveaway contest for this show. Enter for a chance to win a pair of tickets (see p. 12).*

### Mike Zito Interview -

*Continued from p. 6*

**Pete:** What's next?

**Mike Zito:** We have a big show in the Cleveland area with Samantha Fish. Then back home for a few Texas shows. Not on the road until February, then to Europe in the spring.

**Pete:** Thanks very much for taking time to meet and for donating the beautiful autographed Fender Squire guitar and CD's to the DC Blues Society to raffle off! (See p. 3)

*Thanks to Mike Zito, Doug Deutsch, Daniel Martchek and Danielle at the City Winery for helping arrange the interview.*

**Bolded** items on the Blues Calendars in this newsletter are picks by calendar editor and include DCBS, BBS, and other events.

**Musicians, promoters, and venues: Send calendar listings to [calendar@dcblues.org](mailto:calendar@dcblues.org) by the deadline, the 15th of the month prior to publication** of the newsletter.

**DCBS also has an online Blues Calendar at [www.dcblues.org](http://www.dcblues.org). Check it out and submit your gigs to [calendar@dcblues.org](mailto:calendar@dcblues.org).**

Events listed are based on the best information possible. DCBS is not liable for errors in schedules, places or performances listed. It is recommended that you contact the venues to verify events.

**See the DCBS website, [www.dcblues.org](http://www.dcblues.org), for additional music links and information.**

### DCBS Offers Web, CBM, & Eblast Advertising

The DC Blues Society advertising rates for the *Capital Blues Messenger* (CBM) monthly newsletter are posted to the DCBS website, [www.dcblues.org](http://www.dcblues.org). Ads can also be placed in DCBS eblast emails; for only \$50 for postings on two eblasts. Or ads can be placed on the DCBS website. Visit the DCBS website for more info or contact [ads@dcblues.org](mailto:ads@dcblues.org).

## JANUARY 2020 BLUES

1	<b>HAPPY NEW YEAR!</b>
2	Chris Thomas King @ Blues Alley ▲ Wolf's Open Blues Jam @ New Deal Cafe
3	Chris Thomas King @ Blues Alley ▲ Little Bit 'A Blues @ Hershey's
4	Chris Thomas King @ Blues Alley ▲ The Smokin' Polecats @ Hershey's ▲ The Crimestoppers @ Celtic House Irish Pub ▲ Little Red & The Renegades @ Kilroy's, Springfield
5	<b>DCBS 1st Sunday Jam @ Silver Spring American Legion</b> ▲ Chris Thomas King @ Blues Alley ▲ Linwood Taylor Band @ JVs ▲ Along for the Ride @ 219
6	Memphis Gold & The Playlist Band @ Westminster Church
7	
8	
9	Smokin' Polecats w/ Marianna Previti @ Jimmy's Old Town Tavern, Herndon
10	Bad Influence @ Clydes, Chevy Chase ▲ Fast Eddie & The Slowpokes @ Twin Valley Distillers, Rockville ▲ Vintage#18 @ Hamilton Loft ▲ Bobby Thompson Trio w/ Darren Blessman & Chris Brown @ The Music Cafe ▲ Patty Reese @ Falls Church Distillers ▲ Bruce Ewan Blues @ Lahinch Tavern
11	<b>Tab Benoit, Josh Garrat @ The Hamilton (DCBS Ticket Giveaway)</b> ▲ <b>Jose Ramirez Band IBC Fundraiser @ JVs</b> ▲ Bad Influence @ Hamilton Loft ▲ The Crimestoppers @ Lahinch Tavern ▲ <b>King Soul @ The Sundry (DCBS Ticket Giveaway)</b> ▲ Flatfoot Sam & The Educated Fools @ Hershey's ▲ Little Red & The Renegades @ Haydee's ▲ Blues Night w/ The Archie Edwards All Stars @ Maryland Meadworks, Hyattsville
12	Junior Watson & Dean Shot, Fast Eddie & The Slowpokes @ Old Bowie Town Grille ▲ The Nighthawks @ Hershey's ▲ Marsh Brothers Band @ New Deal Cafe ▲ Stacy Brooks @ Madam's Organ
13	Queen Aisha Blues @ Westminster Church ▲ The Nighthawks @ IMT at St. Mark's Church, Bethesda
14	Matt Kelley & Swangbang @ JVs
15	Patty Reese @ Ayse Meze
16	
17	<b>Vanessa Collier, Jose Ramirez @ The Hamilton (DCBS Ticket Giveaway)</b> ▲ Carly Harvey & Kiss & Ride @ Hamilton Loft ▲ The Nighthawks @ Old Bowie Town Grille ▲ Patty Reese Band @ The Music Cafe
18	Linwood Taylor & Still Standing @ Lahinch Tavern; Dangerbird: A Tribute to Neil Young @ Old Bowie Town Grille
19	<b>Benefit Concert for Hank Dietle's Tavern w/ The Nighthawks, Rock-A-Sonics, King Soul, others @ Rosensteel Hall, Silver Spring</b>
20	Eddie Jones & The Young Bucks @ Westminster Church
21	Mark Wenner's Blues Warriors @ JVs
22	
23	Dave Chappell Band @ JVs ▲ Still Standing w/ Linwood Taylor @ Babes Boys Tavern
24	<b>DCBS 4th Friday Happy Hour w/ Robbin Kapsalis &amp; Vintage#18 @ Silver Spring American Legion</b> ▲ Cadillac Jump Blues Band @ Bertha's, Baltimore ▲ Jose Ramirez @ Jojo's ▲ The Power Trio @ Mark's Pub, Falls Church ▲ The Mojo Priests @ New Deal Cafe ▲ Patty Reese @ McCormick's & Schmick's, Reston
25	<b>Newmeyer Flyer Presents The Best of Janis Joplin &amp; Jimi Hendrix @ Birchmere</b> ▲ Cadillac Jump Blues Band @ Holiday House, Baltimore ▲ The Crimestoppers @ Twin Valley Distillers ▲ Dave Chappell Band @ Old Bowie Town Grille ▲ Junior Watson & Dean Shot @ Madam's Organ ▲ Rhythm Bandits @ Hershey's ▲ Still Standing w/ Linwood Taylor @ Londontowne Pub
26	Memphis Gold @ JVs
27	Full Power Blues @ Westminster Church
28	<b>G Love &amp; Special Sauce, Jontavious Willis @ Rams Head, Annapolis</b> ▲ Sol Roots & Guests @ JVs ▲ Along for the Ride @ 219
29	Patty Reese @ Ayse Meze
30	<b>G Love &amp; Special Sauce, Jontavious Willis @ The Hamilton (DCBS Ticket Giveaway)</b> ▲ New Blue Soul @ New Deal Cafe
31	<b>Billy Price Charm City Rhythm Band @ AMP by Strathmore (DCBS Ticket Giveaway);</b> Bad Influence @ Lahinch Tavern ▲ Carly Harvey @ Smithsonian American Art Museum Winter Showcase ▲ Hard Swimmin' Fish @ Hershey's ▲ Tony Stramella Band @ Old Bowie Town Grille

## EARLY FEBRUARY 2020

1	Phil Wiggins @ Black Rock ▲ Cadillac Jump Blues Band @ Bertha's, Baltimore ▲ The Crimestoppers @ Bungalow Billiards, Chantilly ▲ Built 4 Comfort w/ Heather Haze @ Hershey's ▲ Soul Crackers @ The Soundry
2	Stacy Brooks @ Madam's Organ
3	Dave Chappell, Steve Abshire Band @ Blues Alley ▲ Stacy Brooks Band @ Westminster Church
4	Patty Reese @ Hilton Garden Inn, Falls Church
5	
6	Wolf's Open Blues Jam @ New Deal Cafe ▲ Vanessa Collier @ Ram Head, Annapolis
7	Patty Reese @ Hershey's

### Regular Blues Events – Blues All Week!

The Regular Blues Calendar below is provided each month to convey information on recurring blues jams/performances/dances. The Regular Blues Calendar is in addition to the monthly calendar prepared by DCBS.

<b>SU</b>	<b>1st Sunday DCBS Blues Jam</b> @ Silver Spring American Legion ▲ Along for the Ride @ 219 (most Sundays) ▲ Dirty Ed & The Collaborators Sunday Blues Jam @ Paradiso Italian Restaurant
<b>M</b>	Blue Mondays @ Westminster Presbyterian Church ▲ Wolf's Blues Jam @ JV's ▲ Capital Blues Ensemble @ 219 Basin St. Lounge (alternates Mondays w/Johnny Artis)
<b>TU</b>	Clusterfunk @ Madam's Organ ▲ Hell's Bottom Blues Jam @ Takoma Park VFW Post 350
<b>W</b>	Wolf's Blues Jam w/ Linwood Taylor or Big Boy Little @ Blair's Londontowne Pub ▲ Jesse Shifflet Open Mic @ Station Ale House, North East, MD (freq. varies) ▲ Blues Jam @ Old Bowie Town Grille ▲ Patty Reese @ Ayse Meze Lounge, Frederick
<b>TH</b>	Wolf's Open Blues Jam @ New Deal Cafe; (1st Thursdays) ▲ Johnny Artis @ Madam's Organ ▲ Slow Blues & Swing Dance @ Glen Echo
<b>F</b>	<b>DCBS 4th Friday Happy Hour</b> @ Silver Spring American Legion ▲ Cadillac Jump Blues Band @ Bertha's (4th Fridays)
<b>SA</b>	Archie Edwards Acoustic Blues Jam @ New Location – 4502 Hamilton St., Hyattsville, MD

## Good Luck at the IBC - Jose Ramirez Band, J.P. Reali, & Bad Influence



The Blues Foundation will host the 36th International Blues Challenge (IBC) in Memphis, TN from Jan. 28 to Feb. 1, 2020. The IBC represents the worldwide search for those blues bands and solo/duo blues performers ready for the international stage, yet just needing that extra big break. Each affiliated Blues Society of The Blues Foundation has the right to send a band and solo/duo musician(s) to represent its organization at the IBC, and the DC Blues Society is pleased to be among the 114 Blues Societies which have an entrant(s) in the 2020 band and/or solo/duo competition. Jose Ramirez Band won the DCBS Battle of the Bands and will be competing at the IBC along with about 100 other band entrants from all over the globe, and J.P. Reali won the DCBS Solo/Duo competition and will also

compete at the IBC, against about 87 other entrants. Twenty-nine Youth category entrants will also be performing at the IBC, gaining exposure and experience, although the Youth category is not a competition (DCBS did not have a Youth entrant this year).

The IBC also includes a competition (but not live performances) for Best Self-Produced CD, and DCBS was pleased to be among the 53 Blues Societies with an entrant this year. Bad Influence's well-received CD *Got What You Need* is the DCBS entrant for Best Self-Produced CD.



Photo of J.P. Reali & Jose Ramirez Band by Pat Bransford



Good luck to all the DCBS entrants!

If you are going to the IBC, as a fan or musician, take some photos and share them with DCBS along with a note about your experience. As one prior attendee said:

*"Didn't make it into the competition? GO ANYWAY. The opportunities out there are not just for the contestants. I made friends and contacts that have served me well, and will continue to serve me, I believe, for the duration of my career." Erica Brown, 2013 IBC Finalist (Colorado Blues Society)*

## CONGRATS TO ALL THESE TICKET WINNERS

*You've Got to Play to Win!!*

The DC Blues Society has some great partnerships with local venues. In exchange for DCBS helping to publicize their blues shows, DCBS receives some complimentary tickets to those shows to give away to its members and special entrants. The President or another DCBS designee is also often given the opportunity to interview the featured musician. Below are the names of those who won tickets to the shows listed. All DCBS members are encouraged to enter these contests. Read the DCBS eblasts for updates on available tickets and see p. 12. Many thanks to these participating venues.

Show Date	Performer	Ticket Winners
<b>City Winery</b>		
10/18	Jimmy Thackery	Marcia Coffelt Gayle Cinquegrani
11/7	Sonny Landreth/Cindy Cashdollar	Reggie Stout Jean Abinader
11/12	CoCo Montoya	Lena Jones Daniel Eshete
11/15	Jontavious Willis/Blind Boy Paxton	Adam Oppenheim Gayle Harrod
11/2	Booker T. Jones	Marvin Rosskopf Judy Dulaney
12/7	Corey Harris w/ Todd Albright	Joan Patterson, Marvin Rosskopf
12/12	Los Lobos	David Hershfield. John Vierra
12/	Mike Zito: Rock & Roll, A Tribute to Chuck Berry	Richard Briggs, Ruth Gallant, Mark Smith, Joan Cayrampoma

<b>The Hamilton</b>		
10/15	California Honeydrops	Shradha Jaiswal
11/13	North Mississippi All Stars	Randy Shannon Phil Reinke
11/22	Deanna Bogart	Michael Tate Paul Levy

<b>The Sundry</b>		
11/2	Toronzo Cannon/Bad Influence	Henry Tate Dothlyn Houston
11/15	Albert Cummings	John Riley Tom Naulty
11/16	Vanessa Collier	John Riley Henry Tate
11/23	Deanna Bogart	Henry Tate Alice Harr
12/28	The Nighthawks	Paul Brockway Nina Minaye

<b>The Birchmere</b>		
11/1	Delbert McClinton	John Vierra
12/14	Southside Johnny & The Ashbury Jukes	Debbie Bucci

**Join, Play,  
& Win!**

### Feb. Jam is a Special Date & Fundraiser

The DC Blues Society has been challenged again! February is The Blues Foundation's Month of HART, when affiliates are challenged to hold a special event to raise money for the **HART Fund (Handy Artist Relief Trust)**, which helps ensure the health and well-being of Blues musicians. The Feb. Sunday Jam (which will be held **Sunday, Feb. 9** to avoid the Super Bowl) is the DCBS Day of HART Fundraiser. All proceeds collected will go directly to HART Fund for Blues musicians and their families in financial need due to health concerns. The Blues Foundation will reward the affiliate that raises the most funds during its HART Fundraiser by arranging for free health screenings in the community for the society's musicians and members. Join DCBS members & fellow Blues fans for the special Feb. 9 Sunday Jam: Day of HART Fundraiser. Music: 4 pm to 8 pm. Admission is free. See notice on right for details.



**1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY  
BLUES JAM  
4 - 8:00 PM  
FREE • FREE • FREE**

AFFORDABLE CASH BAR  
OUTSIDE FOOD PERMITTED

**SPECIAL JAM DATE**

**JAM & DAY OF HART  
FUNDRAISER!!!**

**month of  
HART  
February 2020**

**FEBRUARY 9, 2020**

**AMERICAN LEGION POST 41**  
905 SLIGO AVENUE, SILVER SPRING, MD 20910  
ENTRANCE ON FENTON ST. NEAR PUBLIC PARKING GARAGE

*All donations and raffle proceeds collected  
will go directly to the HART Fund  
(Handy Artists Relief Trust)  
for Blues musicians and their families  
in financial need due to health concerns.*

 [WWW.DCBLUES.ORG](http://WWW.DCBLUES.ORG)  
240-876-8295

## Key DCBS Volunteers

DCBS is an all-volunteer organization. The contributions, energy, ideas and time from our key volunteers keep DCBS running. Behind every event, jam, newsletter, ticket giveaway and e-blast are the efforts of key volunteers and board members. Several positions are currently open. If you are interested in helping, please contact [president@dcblues.org](mailto:president@dcblues.org).

**Advertising Coordinator:** Jazz  
[ads@dcblues.org](mailto:ads@dcblues.org)

**E-Communication Coordinator:**  
Mary Luceri, Walter Lamar  
[publicity@dcblues.org](mailto:publicity@dcblues.org)

**Festival Coordinator:** John Neumann

**Hospitality Coordinator:** Carol Salsbury

**Jam Team:** Robert Anderson, Adam Oppenheim, Pete Salsbury, Larry Spiwak  
[jams@dcblues.org](mailto:jams@dcblues.org)

**Marketing/Ticket Giveaways**  
Cynthia Vierria  
[marketing@dcblues.org](mailto:marketing@dcblues.org)

**Media Coordinator:** Cassandra Behler  
[media@dcblues.org](mailto:media@dcblues.org)

**Merchandise Coordinator:** Dorothy Hines  
[merchandise@dcblues.org](mailto:merchandise@dcblues.org)

**Membership Coordinator:**  
Chris DeProperty  
[membership@dcblues.org](mailto:membership@dcblues.org)

**Newsletter Editors:**  
Primary - VACANT  
Assistant: Pat Bransford  
[newsletter@dcblues.org](mailto:newsletter@dcblues.org)

**Website Administrator:** Chris Adams  
[webmaster@dcblues.org](mailto:webmaster@dcblues.org)

**Vacant Positions:**  
Blues Calendar Coordinator  
Blues in the Schools  
Fundraising/Sponsorships  
Newsletter Editor  
Volunteer Coordinator

**DCBS on Facebook:** Jazz  
**DCBS on Instagram/Twitter:**  
Russell Scott  
**DCBS on Paypal:** Fred Morser

## DCBS Membership Campaign 400 Members is our Goal. Help Us Get There!

In the fall of 2019, DCBS announced its membership campaign to reach 400 members by October 2020. **Current membership, as of January 1, 2020, is 293.** If you are a current member, thank you for your continued support. If you are not a member, please join. And help encourage others to do the same. Your membership and donations are needed to support all our events including the FREE DC Blues Festival, the monthly Blues Happy Hours and the monthly jam. Your membership only costs about \$3 a month. If you're the lucky winner of tickets to giveaway contests, the cost savings will probably pay for your year's membership!

**JOIN TODAY!**

## DISCOUNTS for DCBS Members

Show your current DCBS membership card to obtain discounts from our supportive vendors, and show the vendor this newsletter to confirm the discount. Restrictions may apply, and discounts may be withdrawn at any time.

Would your business like to increase sales by offering discounts to DCBS members? For more information, visit the DCBS website or contact [ads@dcblues.org](mailto:ads@dcblues.org)

### Caldonia's Crossroad Radio

Playing Blues, Roots, Soul & Jazz

Listen Every Friday, 4 - 6 pm, US Eastern Time  
DC Blues Society Internet Radio Show w/ DJ Cadillac Chris

## Shop at Amazon - Donate to DCBS

If you, your family and friends shop at Amazon.com, you can help support the DC Blues Society by using this link to the Amazon Smile Foundation:  
<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/52-1517733>

This link takes you directly to smile.amazon.com to support the DC Blues Society. AmazonSmile is operated by Amazon and lets customers enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices and convenient shopping features as on Amazon.com. When customers shop AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation donates 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to DCBS.

You log on using your regular Amazon.com account information at the AmazonSmile site. There is no cost to charitable organizations like DCBS or to AmazonSmile customers. **The shopping experience is identical to Amazon.com with the added benefit that the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate to DCBS.**

Please help spread the word about this great fundraising activity. Happy shopping and thanks for supporting the DC Blues Society.

### JV's Restaurant

6666 Arlington Blvd., Falls Church, VA 22042 • 703-241-9504  
[www.jvsrestaurant.com](http://www.jvsrestaurant.com)



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## DC Blues Society Ticket Giveaway Contests (Members Only)

Win Tickets to Great Blues Shows from these DCBS Partners (Tickets available as of 1/1/2020)

### City Winery (<https://citywinery.com/washingtondc/>)

1350 Okie St NE,  
Washington, DC 20002

No tickets currently available.



### The Hamilton Live (<https://live.thehamiltondc.com/>)

600 14th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20005  
2 pairs / 4 tickets are for standing room/back bar area only  
(limited seating)

1/11 - Tab Benoit  
1/17 - Vanessa Collier, Jose Ramirez  
1/30 - G Love and Special Sauce  
3/5 - Roomful of Blues



### The Sundry (<https://www.thesundry.com/>)

10221 Wincopin Circle, Columbia, MD 21044  
2 pairs / 4 tickets (limited seats in back bar area)

1/11/20 - King Soul  
3/6 - Roomful of Blues



### The Birchmere (<http://www.birchmere.com/>)

3701 Mount Vernon Avenue  
Alexandria VA 22305

No tickets currently available.



### The Amp by Strathmore ([www.AMPbyStrathmore.com](http://www.AMPbyStrathmore.com))

11810 Grand Park Avenue  
North Bethesda, MD 20852  
2 tickets (seats)

1/31 - Billy Price  
3/27 - Poppa Chubby



#### To Enter to Win Tickets ,

Email: [Entry@dcblues.org](mailto:Entry@dcblues.org)

In the Subject line type: Name of show, date & location

In the email type:

1. I am a member (not a member? Select "Join DCBS" button at [www.dcblues.org](http://www.dcblues.org) )

2. Your name. 3. Your phone number

Deadline to win tickets is usually 5 days before the show.

**Please check the schedules of all of the DCBS partners and buy tickets to upcoming shows . Support these live music venues which are keeping the blues alive in the area!**

**Venues:** Would you like to join the growing list of DCBS partners? Let DCBS promote your blues shows in exchange for tickets that can be given to members who enter ticket contests. Contact [president@dcblues.org](mailto:president@dcblues.org) for more information.



## CAPITAL BLUES MESSENGER

### DC Blues Society

Celebrating the Blues in the District  
of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia

P.O. Box 6289

Washington, DC 20015-0289

[www.dcblues.org](http://www.dcblues.org)

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