

Capital Blues Messenger

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

July 2011 Volume 5 Issue 7



Kenny Neal by Mary Knieser

July DCBS Events

**7th Annual
Fish Fry 'n
Blues 'n
Bike Contest
Saturday
July 16**

**Kenny Neal
Show at
Surf Club Live
Thursday
July 28**

**Plus More Blues News
Photos & Reviews**

Keeping the Blues Alive

THE DC BLUES SOCIETY

**P.O. BOX 77315
WASHINGTON, DC
20013-7315
www.dcblues.org**



The DC Blues Society is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to keeping the Blues alive through outreach and education. The DC Blues Society is a proud affiliate of the Blues Foundation.

The Capital Blues Messenger is published monthly (unless otherwise noted) and sent by e-mail or U.S. mail to members. Past newsletters are available at www.dcblues.org.

Send changes in name, address or membership status to membership@dcblues.org or mail to DCBS Attn: Membership at the address listed above.

The Capital Blues Messenger is your publication and members are encouraged to submit articles, photos, and ideas for articles, reviews, cartoons and photography. Please submit material via e-mail to: newsletter@dcblues.org.

Blues listings for bands should be sent to calendar@dcblues.org.

Note: The deadline for all submissions is the 15th of the month prior to publication. DCBS reserves the right to edit or refuse any content, including advertising, that it deems inappropriate.

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Become a DCBS member!

Members are key to the livelihood of the DCBS. Member's 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 discounts on advance sale tickets to DCBS events, DCBS merchandise and from area merchants and clubs when you present your DCBS membership card (see p.11). Members also receive the monthly *Capital Blues Messenger* (CBM) newsletter and those with e-mail access get the CBM via e-mail plus additional e-mail updates about DCBS events.

Becoming a member is simple, quick and easy:

- Use the mail-in application
- Apply on-line at www.dcblues.org, or
- Sign up at DCBS events or DCBS-sponsored events/venues where you see the DCBS booth.

Members are invited to attend the monthly DCBS Board meetings. For information, send an e-mail to president@dcblues.org.

D.C. Blues Society Membership Application/Renewal Form

Date: _____ If renewal, check here _____

Name (please print clearly above) _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip Code _____

Telephone _____

E-mail _____

Dues per year (circle appropriate one):

Student: \$15 (Include photocopy of student ID)

Individual: \$25 Family: \$35

Corporate: \$200 Canada: \$35 (US funds)

Other Countries: \$50 (US funds)

Contributions (not dues) are tax-deductible. Please allow up to six weeks for processing

If Family, list member names: _____

Your volunteer time/talent is always welcome. If interested in volunteering, check interest(s):

Update Website

Work a shift at a show (DCBS table, door, etc.)

Promote shows (distribute flyers, handbills, etc.)

Raise funds (sell ads, organize auctions, etc.)

Write reviews or take photos for Newsletter

(see your name in print!)

Other? _____

Mail with check to
THE DC BLUES SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 77315
WASHINGTON, DC 20013-73

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Unless noted, photos & articles were contributed by DCBS board members and newsletter editor. Printer: Quick Printing Inc. Wheaton, MD qpi@qprintingincs.com

Corporate DCBS Memberships

DCBS offers a Corporate membership option that provides small and large businesses the opportunity to advertise through DCBS while supporting DCBS programs. For only \$200 per year, businesses receive the same benefits of individual DCBS members (see above) PLUS 6 postings of any combination of 1/4 page ads in the DCBS monthly newsletter and/or web icons on the DCBS website. Each web icon/event posting will remain on the DCBS website for one week per posting.— for a total of 6 weeks presence on the DCBS website. **This is a \$240-\$280 value, for only \$200.** To get more information, or to establish corporate membership, visit: www.dcblues.org/memb/mbr_join.php.

ADVERTISE IN THE DCBS CAPITAL BLUES MESSENGER

AD RATES

Business card	\$20
1/8 page	\$25
1/4 page	\$40
1/3 page	\$55
1/2 page	\$75
2/3 page	\$110
Full page	\$140

Rates are based on camera-ready artwork and must be received by the 7th of the prior month. Design service is outsourced and a fee will be charged. Ads should be at least 300 dpi in either PDF or JPG. Submit in B/W and color when possible. Ad size and space allocation contingent on prior commitments and editorial content. DCBS reserves the right to refuse advertising it deems inappropriate. Ad specs and on-line rates: www.dcblues.org
Questions? E-mail: ads@dcblues.org



Photo by Connie Oleksak Warner

Hope everyone's having a great summer so far. There's been a lot of quality music in the area, and it's getting better. I hope you've made plans to come to our 7th Annual Fish Fry 'n' Blues 'n' Bike Contest on Saturday, July 16. It's being held at the Silver Spring American Legion again this year. We'll start at 4 o'clock, but come early and get a good seat for the music.

On Thursday, July 28 at the Surf Club, we'll have Blues Music Award winner Kenny Neal showing why he's a Blues winner. We'll follow up this show in August, having the great Ronnie Baker Brooks at the Surf Club on Thursday, August 25. Don't miss either of these shows, as you know they're going to be the Shows to see.

Speaking of the Surf Club, Surf Club Live to be exact, well to quote a famous movie (somewhat) "We're Back!" Starting now, Surf Club Live will feature live Blues music on the weekend. That's right, no more ugly Friday mornings after dancing the night away at our Thursday Surf Club shows. Yes, it's too late for Kenny and Ronnie but wait, there's more, so you'll have to stay tuned. While DCBS hasn't yet scheduled any additional shows at the Surf Club (other than Kenny Neal and Ronnie Baker Brooks), the Surf Club is offering DCBS members discounted admission to several of their upcoming events.

Soap Box Time. Volunteers - We're always soliciting our membership to donate some of their time at the various events we sponsor, co-sponsor, or support in other ways. We are always in need of folks who are willing to "man" one of our hospitality tables. If you're going to attend a show, could you commit to a couple of hours to help? We often can provide free admission for our volunteers as an incentive, but as you know volunteers are often needed where the incentive comes from within. If you're the person, contact the Volunteer Coordinator at volunteer@dcblues.org and ask that your name be placed on the Volunteer list, or see the specific volunteer needs for the September 3 Festival on p. 12, and for the Fish Fry on p. 4. We Need You!

Enjoy Yourself and Thanks,

Sam'i

Congrats to DCBS Ticket Giveaway Winners!

DCBS gave away 4 pairs of 2-day tickets (a \$180 value) to the Briggs Farm Blues Festival (July 8-9, 2011, featuring Eddie Shaw & the Wolf Gang, Teeny Tucker, Jimmy "Duck" Holmes and many more).

- Trevor Swales – a pair of tickets for both days
- Marty Atias - a pair of tickets for both days

Remember to check the DCBS website (www.dcblues.org) to learn about other ticket giveaway contests.

Are You a Veteran of the Armed Services and a Local Professional Blues Musician?



The 4th Annual College Park Blues Festival will be held Saturday, November 12, the day after Veterans Day, and the organizers would like to recognize veterans during the Festival and ensure veterans are represented among the performers. If you meet this criteria, please contact cp@dcblues.org. Vendors and sponsors are also encouraged to apply. The free Festival will be held at Ritchie Coliseum, on Rt. 1 in College Park, MD.

Welcome to the Following New and Renewing DCBS Members

NEW FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS:

- Michael McMaster
- Steve Wilson

NEW INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS:

- Naila Scott
- Thomas Cizaurskas
- Eric Weiner
- Kosta Veljko
- Lindsey Tharp
- Gerry Ryan
- Clyde Raines
- Potomac Motion
- Michael Meneiro
- Eileen Manchester
- Mike Koczot
- Gina DeLuca
- Thomas Oelschlaeger
- Sharon Baskerville

RENEWING INDIVIDUAL & FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS:

- Connie Warner
- Daniel Jackson
- Brian Spence
- Stefan Gunther
- Craig Coffield
- Janet Quigley
- Patricia Vucich
- John Reale, Jr.
- Debra Frederick
- Forrest Pafenberg
- Judy Dulaney
- Eugene Carroll
- Ann Larsen
- Eddie Johnson
- Bill Brouillette

If you have any questions regarding your DCBS membership, please send an email to membership@dcblues.org.

DCBS MEMBERS CORNER

The DCBS newsletter, *The Capital Blues Messenger (CBM)*, welcomes updates and articles from its members. The Members Corner is a new section of the newsletter that will be used to convey short items of information/member updates that will likely be of interest to *CBM* readers. Send your updates to newsletter@dcblues.org, and the information/photo will be included in the *CBM*, space permitting and as deemed appropriate by the Editor.



Ruby Hayes recently completed a three-month singing engagement at a 5-star hotel in Japan. This DCBS member and veteran Washington-based blues vocalist was one of the featured performers at the 2005 DC Blues Festival, "Divas Stir Up the Blues" at the Carter Barron Amphitheatre. *Photo provided by Ruby Hayes*



Congratulations to DCBS member, Emma Ward, for being crowned as the 2011 Ms. Senior DC. Emma earned the title on Sunday, June 12, when she competed, as the Ward 6 representative, against 10 other contestants in a pageant sponsored by Family Matters of Greater Washington. If you attend DCBS events, then you've undoubtedly seen Emma on the dance floor! The next time you see her, wish her luck when she competes in the Ms. Senior America Pageant in Atlantic City, NJ, October 2 - 7, 2011. *Photo from www.dcoa.dc.gov*



Vote for Blues Blast Awards

Blues Blast Magazine has announced the 2011 Blues Blast Award nominations. Voting is open to anyone who is a Blues Blast Magazine subscriber, and subscriptions are FREE. Vote anytime from July 1 until August 31. Visit www.TheBluesBlast.com.

Get Ready, It's Nearly Here! DC Blues Society 7th Annual Fish Fry 'n' Blues 'n' Bike Contest

Here's an event that offers something for everyone. Blues all day and night, fish fry and other great food, the camaraderie of other fun- and music-loving partiers, and motorcycles! Here's the schedule:

- Blues Music 4 pm to 10:30 pm
- Fish Fry 4:30 to 9 pm - Bring a potluck dish & get a copy of the *Blues in My Kitchen* cookbook.
- Register Bikes 4 pm to 5 pm - Motorcycles must be registered for the contest by 5 pm
- Vote on Bikes 5 pm to 7 pm - All paying customers can vote
- Bike Winner Announced 8 pm - Winner gets \$50

If your band wants to perform at this popular event, contact jams@dcblues.org as soon as possible. If you are available to volunteer for a one, two, or even a four-shift (to collect money, serve food, sell raffle tickets, etc.), contact volunteer@dcblues.org. Those interested in being a vendor or sponsor for the event, should contact ads@dcblues.org.

As the newsletter went to print, there were six bands signed up to play, and more are expected.

- Blues Obsession**
- In Lay Man Terms**
- Larry Younkins Band**
- Stacy Brooks Band**
- Steve Remy Blues Band**
- Unruly Blues Band**

To whet your appetite for the music, here are the bios and photos which have been received to date for the performing bands:

Blues Obsession

Avid supporters of the DC Blues Society, Blues Obsession features Dick Culp and Jeff Hawkins on guitar and vocals, with rhythm and groove provided by drummer Scott Chadwick and bassist Holly Culp. These Washington DC area musicians form a tight and entertaining band, which unites the sounds of modern and traditional electric blues, funk, and rock 'n' roll. Their performances include the works of BB King, Elmore James, Eric Clapton and JC Rico.



Stacy Brooks Band

The Stacy Brooks Band was formed in February 2007, and Stacy was nominated for a WAMMIE Award in the "New Artist of the Year" category by The Washington Area Music Association (WAMA) that year. Fast Forward to 2011, in her short span on the blues circuit she has shared the stage with blues legends GRAMMY Award Winner Sugar Blue, Guitar Legend Bobby Parker,

The Nighthawks, GRAMMY-nominated Billy Branch, Kenny Neal, and Memphis Gold to name a few. Her highly anticipated debut studio CD, *Love Peace & The Blues*, is coming soon. Her single, "My name is Stacy" is currently in rotation at WPFW 89.3 FM in DC, WTMD 89.7 FM in Baltimore, WPXN, 88.5 FM in Philadelphia, & several internet Blues Stations worldwide. Recently, she was nominated for a WAMMIE Award in the Blues Female Vocalist category 2009, 2010 and her Live @ The Surf Club CD was also nominated in the Blues Recording Category in 2009 by WAMA. www.stacysmusic.org

Steve Remy Blues Band

Steve has played in various bands in Arizona, Delaware, Virginia, Maryland and Washington DC for more years than he cares to share. Steve is one of the original founding members of the BMI Artist Wammie

7th Annual DC Blues Society Fish Fry 'n' Blues 'n' Bike Contest Saturday July 16, 2011 4 pm -11 pm It's an ALL NIGHT blues party



American Legion Post 41
905 Sligo Avenue
(entrance on Fenton by parking lot)
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Food ~ Music ~ Fun
DJ: Dr. S.O. Feelgood

Interested in playing?
Sign up at First Sunday Jams
or e-mail jams@dcblues.org



Admission: \$12 (includes fish sandwich)
Bike Contest Registration: \$5
Grand Prize Winner: \$50



Information and tickets
www.dcblues.org
or call 301-322-4808



Nominated Blues Band, "The Acme Blues Company," and helped co-write the 2006 Wammie Nominated CD by The Acme Blues Company, *I Think I Made It*. You may remember them from the 2008 DC Blues Society Blues Festival at Carter Barron Amphitheatre. Steve brings the blues alive as a vocalist as well as an accomplished guitar player. You can hear influences of Freddie King, Albert Collins, Johnny Winter, Albert King, Buddy Guy, Tommy Castro, Jimi Hendrix and Stevie Ray Vaughan in his playing, just to name a few. He played last year as the last act in the DC Blues Society Fish Fry and made a Special Guest appearance with the DC Blues Society Band at the IBC Fundraiser for Anthony "Swamp Dog" Clark at the Surf Club in January of this year.



Unruly Blues Band

The Unruly Blues Band provides their very unique brand of blues and blues covers. Their goal is to bring the less often heard styles of blues to their audiences. They perform many "flavors" of blues including Swing, Rumba, Zydeco, Rock, Chicago, Delta, Memphis and

even a bit of Country blues. Their lead vocalist, Saskia, is known for her ability to connect with the audience using her soulful voice and sense of humor. A good time by all is guaranteed with this band! For more info about the Unruly Blues Band and a link to a five page magazine article go to www.unrulyblues.com.

Bluesman Kenny Neal - His History and a Recent Conversation

The esteemed Blues Master Kenny Neal will perform at a special DCBS-show on Thursday, July 28 at the Surf Club Live. See details in the poster at the right. Kenny performed at a standing-room only DCBS show last summer, and DCBS member Kirk Jackson had the opportunity to interview him. Excerpts from that interview and Kirk's blog (BBP) article (<http://beldonsbluespoint.blogspot.com/>) follow:

Guitarist/harmonicist Kenny Neal has the beginnings most musicians only dream about. He was born and raised in Louisiana, the cradle of American blues and jazz. His father Raful — a well-known harmonica player and singer in his own right — kept regular and casual company with some of the most influential blues musicians in history. As a toddler, Neal received his first harmonica from harmonica legend Slim Harpo. As a teenager, Neal played bass for blues icon, Buddy Guy.

Now 53, Neal has spring-boarded himself from those beginnings to make his mark on the music world. He has shared the stage with some of the world's most influential musicians, among them B.B. King, Bonnie Raitt, Muddy Waters, Aaron Neville, and John Lee Hooker.

Neal began forging his identity while working as a young musician out of Toronto, where he and brothers Raful, Jr., Noel, Larry and Ronnie formed the Neal Brothers Band to back up touring blues stars. He returned to Baton Rouge and in 1988 began releasing albums through Alligator Records. Those recordings, which showcased the Louisiana sound he had grown up with, drew praise from critics.

In 1991, Neal appeared on stage in another medium: acting. He took the lead role in "Mule Bone," a 1930's play written by Langston Hughes and Zora Neale Hurston. Neal's run featured music written by Taj Mahal, and he himself would later set two Hughes poems to music.

Neal then began releasing albums through Telarc Records, collaborating with fellow harmonicist Billy Branch in 2004 to record *Double Take*, which won the W.C. Handy award the following year. He relocated to California in 2004, where he launched "Neal's Place," a cable television program that features him jamming with national and local musicians. The troubles he endured afterwards, including the loss of his father, a brother and a sister, and his treatment for hepatitis C, inspired one of his most critically-acclaimed albums, 2008's *Let Life Flow*.

Neal discussed his life last August (2010) while in the Washington, DC area to play a fundraiser for the DC Blues Society. We started the conversation by asking Neal about his then soon-to-be-released album, *Hooked on Your Love* (issued in September 2010).

Neal: I'm very excited about the new album.. You know my last CD was *Let Life Flow*, so I got a couple of years out of that and now I'm back again with a new one.

BBP: Is there something about this CD that's taking you in a different direction?

Neal: Well this CD here, I just wanted to keep in mind some of the guys that I come up with that a lot of the folks don't know about. I wrote, you know, seven or eight songs on the CD, but also, people like O.B. Wright, Bobby Bland, Little Milton. I wanted to hit a little bit of that blues style as well, because on my circuit you don't hear it that often. And I grew up with it. So I just want to share that with my fans. And I'm really happy about the way it turned out.

BBP: I heard a rumor that when you were three years old Slim Harpo put a harmonica in your mouth to keep you quiet.

Neal: I was a little older than three (laughing). But he and my dad Raful Neal, Slim Harpo from Baton Rouge, they were all friends. And he was coming over to the house one day and they was unloading the trailer and he told me—pickin' on a little kid—to go inside the trailer and see if any instruments were left. I went in and he closed the doors on me and I freaked out. I got a phobia. And it freaked him out so bad, to cheer me up he got a harmonica and gave to me and said. "Son, I'm so sorry I didn't mean to..." But I never thought I'd end up playing that thing...

BBP: What were some of the lessons you learned from your dad? What were some of the most important things you learned from him?

DC Blues Society
presents
Blues Master
**Kenny
Neal**

Winner
2009 Blues
Music Award for
Best Song
"Let Life Flow"



Info: www.kennyneal.net

Thursday, July 28, 2011

8 pm - Midnight

Surf Club Live!

4711 Kenilworth Ave.
Hyattsville, MD 20781
Tel: 301-927-6310



Advance tickets:

\$15 members ~ \$18 non-members

Door: \$20

Purchase on-line: www.dcb Blues.org
or call 301-322-4808



Neal: To make sure I get all of my residuals (laughs), like he didn't get. No, but I learned from my dad to enjoy the music and I don't know, just treat everybody the way you want to be treated and that's one of the main things I really carry with myself.

BBP: So how does it feel to be in a family that has a musical tradition? I mean that's something that the average person can't really understand.

Neal: Well the music just makes us closer, 'cause normally you have to have a meeting and reunions to get the family together. But all I do is get a gig (laughs), call everybody up, and that's all the time, you know what I mean? So that music keeps us together and keeps us under control and keeps the love in the family as well. Because we're always together doing something that we love.

BBP: Buddy Guy, what was it like to play bass for him?

Neal: You know Buddy is from Baton Rouge and his brother Phil and Sam Guy and all of them and his sister down south, she still lives in Baton Rouge, so they've always been family to me. It was a pleasure to play for a guy who used to play for my dad, because Buddy was my dad's guitar player back in the fifties before he left home. So it was like, wow, man, I'm part of the crew now. So it was all good...

BBP: Who are some of your influences, and I know you play several instruments: the trumpet and the piano, and uh, bass I believe and the guitar. Who are some of your favorite musicians of all time?

Neal: Well, Muddy Waters, Jimmy Reed, Howlin' Wolf, Little Walter, Son House. Man, they was all the folks I come up listening to and then I had a chance to play with Muddy Waters and had a chance to know John Lee Hooker and all of these guys that my dad used to talk about. I ended up being close friends with them. I just did a documentary called "American Blues Man" on growing up in Louisiana and my life's story. So I'm happy to share that but I just grew up with a lot of the folks and all of my great guys are gone. So I'm just trying to carry that legacy...

3rd Annual Silver Spring Blues Festival Thank You Performers, Supporters & Helpers

Downtown Silver Spring was bluesin' up and down Ellsworth Drive and Fenton Street on Saturday, June 18, 2011. The all-day festival, on two stages, featured The Kinsey Report, Big Boy Little Band, the DC Blues Society Band featuring Stacy Brooks, Ida Campbell (Festival MC) & the Blues Nation (with special guest Melvin Taylor), Jonny Grave & the Tombstones, Gina DeSimone & the Moaners, School of Rock, Ayaba Bey, Cooking with Gas, The Social Ramble, Choo Choo Charlie's Harmonica Workshop, and the Archie Edwards Blues (AEB) Ensemble (featuring 9 AEB Heritage Foundation musicians).

Big thanks goes to Silver Spring Town Center, Downtown Silver Spring, Fenton Street Market, Atomic Music, Anheuser-Busch Companies, The DC Blues Society, McGinty's Silver Spring, Potbelly, ArtSpring, & more. As always, the Dale Music Instrument Petting Zoo was a hit with the kids and their parents. Appreciation also goes to Courtyard by Marriott, Pyramid Atlantic, Monument Bank, Lee Development Group, Home Properties, Barwood Transportation, Comcast, Montgomery Community Media, and Silver Spring Voice.....

Special thanks to the following individuals:

- Lillian and Jennifer with Downtown SS
- Louis / Eric / Mick at Atomic Music in Beltsville, MD
- Chris and crew at ArtSpring Community Arts Store
- Greg and Debbie at McGintys Public House
- Ross at Potbelly Sandwich Shop
- Pamela at Anheuser- Busch Companies
- Jessica at Courtyard by Marriott in Silver Spring
- Hannah and Chantelle and vendors at the Fenton Street Market
- Creative Dude Mike for the awesome map
- Rob Rebozo, & AEBF Mike & Willie for sound equipment/assistance
- Jeff Bollettino of School of Rock
- Carol and Mary at Dale Music
- Andrea and Mark for all-day assistance
- Raffle Girl Cathy and Time Girl Tina
- Assistants - Victor the Mover/Alan Gray the Watcher/Mike Gorman the Deliverer
- DCBSers- Celina/Pat/Tish/CJ/Ida/Sam'i/Felix
- Chris and Natasha for overseeing acrobatics & customer relations
- Michael Peck for Daisy Blues Festival raffle tickets & advertising
- Joe Boyd for bringing the Winchester Blues Festival booth

Add your name to this list! Help turn the Silver Spring Blues Festival into an all-weekend blues festival next year! Volunteer by contacting ss@dcblues.org and/or silverspringtowncenter@gmail.com. Also visit www.silverspringblues.com and for many more photos of the 2011 Festival, see www.dcblues.org.

The Kinsey Report



DCBS Band



Volunteers



Ayaba Bey



Jonny Grave

School of Rock



Ida, Bret, & Matt



Article by Jazs. Photos at left, School of Rock Band, Jonny Grave & the Tombstones (by Pat Bransford)
Photos above, from top to bottom: The Kinsey Report (by Pat Bransford), DCBS Band w/ Stacy Brooks (by Cat Nguyen); Raffle Girl Cathy & All Day Helper Andrea, Ayaba Bey, Ida Campbell interviewing Bret Littlehailes (Big Boy Little) & Matt Kelley, (by Alan Bowser).



SATURDAY

AUGUST 20

TEDESCHI TRUCKS BAND

ROBERT RANDOLPH AND THE FAMILY BAND

KINGS GO FORTH

J. RODDY WALSTON AND THE BUSINESS

TOM LARSEN BAND

AT OREGON RIDGE PARK - COCKEYSVILLE, MD

TICKETS ON SALE STARTING MARCH 17

HOTAUGUSTBLUES.COM

Daisy Blues Festival

Saturday, August 6
Noon to 9pm

Tickets: \$20 in advance
\$25 at the gate

Children under 12 Free

For tickets/info:
240 855 2834 or 240 342 2294



Memphis Gold

Guitarist for James Brown and Martha Reeves

featuring **Andrew Padula**
Bassist as seen with Carlos Santana
Seth Kibel
and **Michael Peck**
formerly of Mark Greene "The Moments"



The Tommy Lepson Band

Wammie Award Winner



Patty Reese and Dave Chappell

Wammie Award Winners



The Andy Poxon Band

Wammie Nominee

WIN Autographed Guitar!

Food and Beverage Available

5230 Daisy Road ♦ Woodbine, MD 21797
Gates Open at 11:30 Free Parking

"A dynamic, take-no-prisoners blues and soul party that jumps out of your speakers" -BLUES REVUE



Available at finer music retailers everywhere, amazon.com, iTunes and alligator.com. Receive tour info and special online offers by subscribing to the Alligator Mailing List at alligator.com

See the May issue of the Capital Blues Messenger for a review of the above CD, *The Legendary Rhythm & Blues Revue*. To hear this music live, visit the State Theatre, 220 N. Washington St., Falls Church, VA 22046, on Thursday, July 14 for a show that features The Tommy Castro Band, Deanna Bogart, Rick Estrin, and Theodis Ealey.

Volunteer to staff the DCBS booth at the Daisy Blues Festival or win tickets in the raffle at the July 16 DCBS Fish Fry.

Big Bill Broonzy Biographer Bob Riesman Coming to Politics and Prose

On Thursday evening, July 7, Bob Riesman, author of "I Feel So Good: The Life and Times of Big Bill Broonzy" (2011 University of Chicago Press) will be appearing at Politics and Prose bookstore to discuss his biography of the Chicago blues legend who passed away over half a century ago, but whose music and life still influences the blues world of today. He is scheduled to speak starting at 7:00 pm.

On its website, Politics and Prose (www.politics-prose.com/event/book/bob-riesman-i-feel-so-good) notes "Riesman's life of Big Bill Broonzy (1903-1958) encompasses the bluesman's many pivotal roles. From melding the traditional, rural blues of his native Arkansas Delta region with the urban sound in 1930s Chicago, to influencing the resurgence of folk music after World War II and inspiring the blues-rock musicians of the 1960s, Broonzy was a key figure for 20th-century popular music."

Riesman, in compiling this biography, did considerable research as well as interviewed countless people including blues man Billy Boy Arnold (who was mentored by Big Bill and is scheduled to have an album of Broonzy's music released); members of Broonzy's family; Bill Randle, who produced the last interviews of Broonzy; Studs Terkel; David 'Honeyboy' Edwards; B.B. King; Eric Clapton; Pete Seeger; Rambling Jack Elliott; Jody Williams; Jimmie Lee Robinson; and Ron Sweetman. He also explored the archives of Yannick Bruynoghe, and Jim O'Neal provided tapes of an interview with Blind John Davis and a transcript of one with Memphis Slim.

In his research of Broonzy, Riesman was able to ascertain that Big Bill Broonzy's real name is Lee Bradley and he was born in Jefferson County, Arkansas on June 26, 1903, the fourth and last boy of Frank and Mittie Bradley. The Bradley Family lived in Jefferson County outside Pine Bluff from the 1880s through the 1920s. Riesman traces Broonzy's musical and recording career, including his prominence in the Chicago blues from the thirties until his death, the significant role he played in establishing the folk music circuit, and his pioneering tours of Europe.

In a May 2 review of this book, which is posted on my blog, <http://inablue mood.blogspot.com>, I concluded "I Feel So Good was a compelling read and a biography worthy of the subject, whose blues are timeless. Highly recommended." Politics and Prose is located at 5015 Connecticut Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20008 (202-364-1919 or 800-722-0790). Article by Ron Weinstock



<i>July</i>		<i>July cont.</i>	
1	Chris Bell & 100% Blues Band @ Madam's Organ; Andy Poxon Band @ Capital Ale House; Nighthawks @ Wheaton TGIF Summer Concert; Over the Limit @ Zoo Bar	23	Big Daddy Stallings @ Surf Club ; Big Boy Little Band @ Bayou; N.Va. Shag Dance Club Evening in Paris Dinner Dance @ Dulles Hilton; Jay Summerour & Rick Franklin @ Beale Street Grill; Billy Thompson Band with Gene Monroe & Eric Selby @ Outta The Way Cafe; Biscuit Miller & Mix @ Madam's Organ
2	Old Man Brown @ Madam's Organ; Nighthawks @ Patriot Harley-Davidson; Nighthawks @ Glen Echo Ballroom; Big Boy Little Band @ Zoo Bar; Rick Franklin, Jay Summerour & Eric Selby @ Beale Street Grill; Paul Mastradone & the Pulverisers @ Surf Club; Bobby Lewis Band and others/Benefit Concert @ Hershey's	24	Stacy Brooks @ Madam's Organ
3	DCBS Blues Jam @ Silver Spring American Legion; Nighthawks @ Columbia Lakefront; Stacy Brooks Band & Jam After Party @ Surf Club	26	Over the Limit @ Woodrow Wilson Live!, Ronald Reagan Bldg.; Tinaz Blues @ Westminster Presbyterian Church
4	Independence Day Blues with Queen Aisha @ Westminster Presbyterian Church; Tom Principato with Tommy Lepson @ Washington DC Smoke In	27	Congressional Blues Festival @ National Building Museum
5	Anthony "Swamp Dog" Clark @ Bullpen	28	DCBS Presents Kenny Neal @ Surf Club
7	Bad Influence Band @ Kentlands; Nighthawks @ 7th Street Landing	29	Over the Limit @ Stan & Joe's; Skyla Burell @ Madam's Organ
8	Briggs Farm Blues Festival ; Liz Springer & Built 4 Comfort @ JVs; Eric Culberson @ Madam's Organ; Sookee Jump Band @ Zoo Bar; Tom Principato with Tommy Lepson @ Broadlands Live	30	Pennsylvania Blues Festival @ Blue Mountain Resort; Doug Parks @ Liganore; Wine Cellars; Liz Springer & Built 4 Comfort @ Cactus Flats; Over the Limit @ Ebb Tide; Bobby Parker @ Madam's Organ; Stacy Brooks @ Chef Mac's
9	Briggs Farm Blues Festival ; Doug Parks & Lonewolves @ Clyde's Alexandria; Eric Culberson @ Madam's Organ; Smokin Polecats @ Zoo Bar; Bad Influence Band @ Bullpen; Anthony "Swamp Dog" Clark @ Ebb Tide; Over the Limit @ Blue Dog; 2nd Annual Lake Anne Ukulele Festival @ Lake Anne Plaza, Reston, VA	31	Pennsylvania Blues Festival @ Blue Mountain Resort; Joy Bodycomb @ JVs; Tom Principato @ Frederick Summer Concert Series
10	Doug Parks & Lonewolves @ Port Tobacco Marina; B.T. Richardson Band @ Madam's Organ; Tom Principato @ Concerts on the Green, Great Falls VA	Early August	
11	Mike Wescott @ Westminster Presbyterian Church	1	Linwood Taylor Band @ Westminster Presbyterian Church
13	Andy Poxon @ Madam's Organ	3	Tom Principato @ Mason District Park
14	The Legendary Rhythm & Blues Revue w/ Tommy Castro, Deanna Bogart, Rick Estrin, Theodis Ealey @ State Theatre; Johnny Lang @ Rams Head Live; Bad Influence Band @ "Alive @ 5" Concert Series; Regina Belle @ Rams Head On Stage; Leroy Thomas & the Zydeco Roadrunners @ Surf Club	4	Tom Principato @ WTMD Summer Concert Series
15	Hot Rods & Old Gas @ JVs; Andy Poxon Band @ Westminster Library; Red Hot Blues 'n BBQ @ Glen Echo	5	Over the Limit @ Zoo Bar; Tom Principato @ Inner Harbor Amphitheatre
16	DCBS Fish Fry 'n' Blues 'n' Bike Contest @ Silver Spring American Legion; Big Boy Little Band @ Bare Bones; Big Daddy Stallings @ Baltimore Inner Harbor Amphitheatre; Deb Callahan @ Madam's Organ; Andy Poxon Band @ Artscape; Bad Influence Band @ 219; Red Hot Blues 'n BBQ w/ Kim Massie, Sean Morse @ Glen Echo	6	Daisy Blues Festival @ Woodbine; Big Boy Little Band @ Zoo Bar; Andy Poxon Band @ Bare Bones
17	Doug Parks @ Running Hare Vineyard; Big Daddy Stallings @ Artscape; Red Hot Blues 'n BBQ w/ Stacy Brooks @ Glen Echo	7	DCBS Blues Jam @ Silver Spring American Legion
18	Clarence Turner @ Westminster Presbyterian Church	Regular Blues Events	
20	Janiva Magness @ Rams Head On Stage	Sunday	DCBS Blues Jam @ Silver Spring American Legion (1 st Sunday); NRBK Open/Mic Jam @ Old Fire Station No. 3 (Fairfax, VA); Blues Jam w/Dogfather Blues Band @ The Whiskey; Blues Jam @ Bangkok Blues, Blues Jam @ Benny's Pub (every other Sunday); Stacy Brooks Open Mic/Jam @ Surf Club
21	Ruthie & Wranglers @ Kentlands	Monday	Blue Mondays @ Westminster Presbyterian Church; Wolf's Blues Jam @ JV's (2 nd and 4 th Mondays)
22	Big Boy Little Band @ L.A. Bar & Grill; Joy Bodycomb @ Thai Jasmine Bistro; Jay Summerour, Eric Selby & Friends @ Cugini's; Biscuit Miller & Mix @ Madam's Organ; Andy Poxon Band @ New Deal Café	Tuesday	Old Man Brown @ Madam's Organ (alternating Tuesdays)
		Wednesday	Wolf's Hot Rods & Old Gas Blues Jam @ Beach Cove (2 nd and 4 th Wednesdays); Blues Jam @ Old Bowie Town Grille; Blues Jam @ Pickled Herring (North East, MD)
		Thursday	Patrick Alban or Johnny Artis @ Madam's Organ; Open Mic w/Fast Eddie @ Spanky's Shenanigans; Big Boy Little Band Blues Jam @ Zoo Bar; Slow Blues & Swing Dance @ Glen Echo
		Friday	Glen Moomau & Blue Flames @ Bertha's; Wolf's Blues Jam @ Fat Boys (2 nd Friday); John Guernsey @ New Deal Café; Brian Gross Trio @ Café Ole
		Saturday	Acoustic Blues Jam @ Archie's Barbershop; John Guernsey @ New Deal Cafe; Brian Gross & Steve Levine @ Sala Thai, Bethesda (2 nd Saturday)

See p. 11 for notes regarding calendar resources and listings.

Attention bands: Send your August & Sept. gigs to calendar@dcblues.org by July 15

CD Review**Grady Champion *Dreamin'***

By Ron Weinstock

In the liner notes of his new CD *Dreamin'* (GSM), Grady Champion recalls the year that followed his winning the 2010 International Blues Challenge presented by the Blues Foundation. It was a year that brought him recognition, both locally and internationally. *Dreamin'* is a follow-up to *Back In Mississippi Live at the 930 Blues Cafe* which was rereleased on Earwig last year. This recording was produced by Zac Harmon and Christopher Troy who provide most of the backing for Champion on this.

About the earlier record, I wrote "The albums strengths include the fact that Grady is a terrific vocalist who exhibits considerable personality and enthusiasm as he sings. He is an effective, credible harp player if not a virtuoso, with Rice Miller being an obvious influence." These comments apply (although I might suggest Detroit's Little Sonny is a similar harp stylist to Champion) to the present recording opening with a strutting "My Rooster Is King" where he forcefully sings, backed by his overdubbed harp, about the rooster that spreads his wings and rules the roost. The title song, has an effective employment of a vocal chorus, as he sings about dreaming of loving his girl like no one before. There is some effective tremolo-laced guitar backing his vocal.

"Weight of the World" is an attractive soul ballad with Troy adding accordion sounding fills on his keyboards. "Guilty As Charged," with an emphatic accompaniment, has an intriguing lyric about proclaiming his love while cheating and breaking his woman's heart as a harp riff punctuates his vocal. Harmon and Champion collaborated on "Same Train" with an urgent vocal of waiting at the station for the train to bring his baby back. "Make That Monkey Jump" is a simple dance number while "Cross That Bridge" is a southern soul number about a couple sneaking behind their spouses and knowing it's wrong but unable to stop. A straight down in the alley groove frames "Thank You For Giving Me the Blues," with a strong vocal. Harmon is striking on guitar here. The backing vocals detract from the country flavor of "Laugh, Smile, Cry Sometimes" (whose melody suggests Ray Charles' "I Got a Woman"). Zac Harmon takes a spoken vocal on the closing "Walk With Me Baby," that sounds like a funky 2011 equivalent of "Scratch My Back," as Champion's harp adds atmosphere.

Grady Champion brings an animated, fervent style to his music and with a varied program of material. If not a world class harp player, his playing does complement his strong singing. *Dreamin'* will undoubtedly please his fans and make him new ones.

Editor's Note: Grady Champion will be performing at the DC Blues Festival, Saturday, September 3, at the Carter Barron Amphitheatre in Washington, DC. Buy the CD there and get it autographed!

The 23rd Annual DC Blues Festival**... it's a party in the park****Saturday, September 3, 2011****Noon - 7:30 pm****Carter Barron Amphitheatre in Rock Creek Park****16th St & Colorado Avenue NW****Washington, DC 20008****FREE****FREE**

♪ Family-Friendly Fun ♪ Workshops ♪

♪ Instrument Petting Zoo ♪

***It's FUN... It's FREE***

Preston Shannon ♦ Grady Champion

Nadine Rae & The Allstars ♦ Anthony "Swamp Dog" Clark

DC Blues Society Band and so much more . . .

♦ ♦ Festival After-Party with Preston Shannon ♦ ♦

8:30 pm - 12:30 am**American Legion Post 41****905 Sligo Avenue (entrance on Fenton by parking lot)****Silver Spring, MD 20910****Purchase tickets on-line or call 301-322-4808****Advance: \$10/member \$12/non-member \$15 Door**

Festival sponsors: DC Blues Society ♦ DC Commission on the Arts & Humanities ♦ National Park Service

Media sponsor: WPFW 89.3 FM

Photos: Sheryl Adams, Pat Bransford, www.gradychampion.com, www.prestonshannon.com**Northern Virginia Shag Dance Club****July 23, 2011****AN EVENING IN PARIS DINNER DANCE******* Nation's Capital Beach Party Blast *******Dulles Hilton Hotel Ballroom, Herndon, VA**

ALL jitterbug, shag, swing, and hand dancers are invited who like R&B, blues, Carolina beach, and southern soul dance music!

Full day includes: dance workshop, silent auction, hospitality suite, hors d'oeuvres, dinner, open dance on a large dance floor in a smoke-free facility plus more.**Full Day:** 2:30 pm - 12 am for \$60 pp**Open Dance:** 7:30 pm - 12 am for \$20 pp**Music:** Top East Coast DJ, Craig JenningsFor more information: www.nvshag.org or call 571-340-0043**DCBS Members: Remember to Check the DCBS Website (www.dcblues.org) for Ticket Giveaways & Discounts**



DCBS Members Get These Great Discounts! Show your current DCBS membership card to get these discounts on food and entertainment (🎵), and on services (😊). Restrictions may apply and discounts may be withdrawn at any time.

<p>Half-price Admission 🎵 Blues Alley Many Blues Shows Sun. - Thurs. 1073 Wisconsin Ave., NW Washington, DC 20007 202-337-4141 www.bluesalley.com</p>	<p>20% Discount 🎵 Royal Mile Pub 2407 Price Ave. Wheaton, MD 20902 301-946-4511 Discount applies to food www.royalmilepub.com</p>	<p>10% Discount 😊 J & J Automotive 9160 Euclid Court Manassas, VA 20110 703-368-3600 www.ijautoservices.com</p>	<p>10% discount 😊 GOT YOGA? Customized for you: Individual or group sessions available at your residence/office or our office. Includes gentle yoga, breathing techniques, meditation, poses, and laughter yoga. Call to schedule: 301-802-1879</p>
<p>20% Discount Three Brothers Italian Restaurant 4521 Kenilworth Ave. Bladensburg, MD 20710 🎵 301-864-1570 Until 9 pm. Not valid holidays or w/ other discounts. Restrictions may apply</p>	<p>10% Discount 🎵 New Deal Café 113 Centerway Road Greenbelt, MD 20770 Discount applies to food and non-alcoholic beverages www.newdealcafe.com</p>	<p>10% Discount 😊 Empire Plumbing Plumbing Services "Take The Blues Out Of Your Plumbing" 202-438-4461</p>	<p>15% Discount 😊 BOK Custom Framing 5649 Lee Highway, Arlington, VA 22207 703-534-1866 Hours: M-F 10-6, Sat. 10-5</p>
<p>15% Discount 🎵 LA Bar & Grill 2530 Columbia Pike Arlington, VA 22204 703-682-1560 www.lowerarlingtonbarandgrill.com</p>	<p>JV's Restaurant 🎵 Drink Special 🎵 Buy one & get 2nd drink free 6666 Arlington Boulevard, Falls Church, VA 22042 703-241-9504 www.jvsrestaurant.com</p>	<p>10% Discount 😊 Capitol Hill Books Across from Eastern Market 657 C Street, SE Washington, DC 20003 202-544-1621 www.capitolhillbooks-dc.com</p>	<p>10% Discount 😊 The Logo Shack Logo Design & Branding Marketing Consulting Silkscreening & Embroidery Promotional Products Call Michael Tash 301-910-8551 Or visit www.mylogoshack.com</p>

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Tinner Hill Blues Festival: Not Just Another Day in the Park

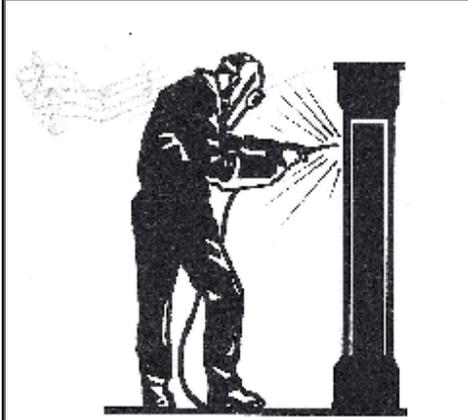


If I hadn't volunteered to staff the DCBS booth at the Tinner Hill Blues Festival on Saturday, June 11, I probably wouldn't have made the trek from my home in Silver Spring, MD to Falls Church, VA. However, that clearly would have been my loss.

Tinner Hill is a jewel of a Festival. It's small but packed with activities that span the entire weekend. The Saturday concert in Cherry Hill Park is the main event, and from noon to 8 pm, there was one musical act after another in a family friendly, casual setting. The Yorktown Youth Band opened the concert, I finally got to see Curtis Blues perform (he was the DCBS' entry in the 2010 International Blues Challenge solo category), the Pluckerland Band with Paul Cleague got their funky groove on, guitar master Tom Principato delivered his rich brand of blues, and then four lovely ladies performed (in photo above, L- R, Nadine Rae, Deanna Bogart, Gaye Adegbalola, and Patty Reese) - first individually with their respective bands, and then in a "Ladies Singing the Blues" showcase that was the highlight of the day. Jr. Bynum & the Groove Masters wrapped up the park festivities, and attendees were encouraged to hear more blues the next day at a Blues Brunch Tribute at Bangkok Blues. *Article and photo by Pat Bransford*

Attention dancers: See DCBS homepage for link to dance-friendly venues. To subscribe to a weekly e-mail newsletter "So Many Choices" with dance-specific information, often with a blues twist, send an e-mail to DCBS member and Blues fan Robin: hc1829@aol.com

Bolded items on the Blues Calendar on p. 9 are picks by calendar editor, Mike Wolk, and include DCBS, BBS, and other events. **Musicians, promoters, and venues: Send calendar listings to calendar@dcb Blues.org by the deadline, the 15th of the month prior to publication.** Events listed are based on the best information possible. DCBS cannot be held liable for errors in schedules, places or performances listed. It is recommended that you contact the venues to verify the event. See the DCBS website, www.dcb Blues.org, for additional music links and information.



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**Thursday, August 25, 2011
8 pm - Midnight**



Surf Club Live!

4711 Kenilworth Ave.
Hyattsville, MD 20781
Tel: 301-927-6310

Advance tickets:
\$15 members
\$18 non-members
Door: \$20



Purchase on-line: www.dcblues.org or call 301-322-4808

Volunteer for the DC Blues Festival!

This year's Annual DC Blues Festival will be held on Saturday, September 3 at the Carter Barron Amphitheatre (see p. 10 for more information). Please consider volunteering & help recruit volunteers.

Interested volunteers, who can help for at least 2 to 4 hours between 11:00 am through 11:00 pm on September 3, or who can help with pre-Festival activities, should send the following information to: fest-volunteer@dcblues.org with the subject line **Volunteer for DC Blues Festival**:

1. Assignment Preferences (please send 3, in order of preference) from the list below.
 2. Include any special messages that the Volunteer Coordinator should know (e.g., if your health limits you to sit-down work).
 3. Your name / phone / email / DCBS member (yes or no)
- Here's what is needed this year:

Pre-Festival

- Flyer distribution – print the flyer, pass it out & post everywhere it's free to post!
- Decorators & sign makers

Front Gate near Workshop Stage:

- Hand out brochures, welcome attendees
- Errand runner

Back Stage

- Heavy equipment movers
- Errand runner

Back Gate

- Monitor parking (load in/out only), watch gear in garage

Stage Front:

- Sell merchandise
- Side path monitor
- Errand runner
- Writer/reviewer/interviewer – interview audience, write article for DCBS newsletter

Hospitality

- Assist with room set up/serve & monitor food/ensure artists receive meals

- Heavy equipment movers

After Party

- Door monitor
- Raffle ticket sellers

Volunteer names need to be supplied to the National Park Service at the beginning of August, so sign up soon!



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