



# Capital Blues Messenger

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

April 2016

Volume 10, Issue 4



photo by Pat Bransford

Reggie Wayne Morris Band rocked the house at a 2015 DCBS event last year.

## Reggie Wayne Morris Band Brings Blues + Soulful Core to DCBS Fundraiser

### May 7 Performance Benefits DC Blues Festival

Raise the roof and raise some money! That's the formula for an outstanding evening of music, dancing and fun.

DCBS hosts a fundraiser from 7:30 pm to 12 am, Saturday, May 7 featuring the Reggie Wayne Morris Band at the Silver Spring American Legion. Proceeds from this event help defray expenses of the free 28th Annual DC Blues Festival. It's the only major Blues festival presented in Washington, DC.

Guitarist/Singer/Songwriter Reggie Wayne Morris brings his infectious passion for the blues, his charm, his humor and his cowboy boots to the stage in a performance that puts the "show" in "show business."

Raised on Gospel and Blues, Morris is a Baltimore-based artist who rocks the Blues with a soulful core. His rock-edged style was inspired by Jimi Hendrix and B.B. King, and he's fused those influences into his unique "Boggie Woogie Rhythm and Rockin' Blues." His 2015 CD, *Don't Bring Me Daylight*, has received national airplay and rave reviews in the music press.

The Reggie Wayne Morris Band has toured throughout the country and internationally. The Band is also a popular fixture at the Baltimore Blues Society events. Last April, they rocked the house and stole the show, opening for the Nick Moss Band at a DCBS fundraiser.

James Walker wrote in *BLUES BLAST MAG*, "Reggie Wayne Morris should soon be nationally and internationally festival famous."

Funds raised from this event help the DC Blues Festival to remain a free event. This year's festival is Saturday, Sept. 3 at the Carter Barron Amphitheatre, Washington, DC. The grant from the District of Columbia government that has provided financial support for the festival is no longer available. We encourage you to attend this fundraiser to help DCBS keep the annual festival as a venue for presenting some of the best talent in the region and country at no cost to the public.

American Legion Post 41 is located at 905 Sligo Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20910, convenient to Metro. Ample parking is available in an adjacent county lot.

Fundraiser tickets are on sale now. Advance tickets are \$15 members, \$20 non-members and \$20 members, \$25 non-members at the door. Call 301-322-4808 or visit [www.dcblues.org](http://www.dcblues.org)

## FREE Tickets ▲ FREE Tickets

Now that we have your attention: Yes, free tickets to upcoming area Blues shows can be yours!

One of the many benefits of DCBS membership is access to our ticket giveaways. DCBS has established relationships with area venues and artists, and we are able to offer a limited number of tickets to selected performances. In the next few weeks, tickets to upcoming shows at Madam's Organ, The Hamilton and the State Theatre will be offered. Watch for the DCBS eblasts in your email with instructions to enter to win tickets.

Priority for ticket giveaways goes to DCBS members, be sure to keep your membership current. Open and read those eblasts so you don't miss any great opportunities.

DCBS will have tickets to give away to the following shows:

### The Hamilton

600 14th St., NW, Washington, DC 20005

- ▲ Jimmy Vaughan, Tuesday, Apr. 12
- ▲ Shemekia Copeland, Saturday, Apr. 16
- ▲ Janiva Magness, Tuesday, May 3
- ▲ Albert Cummings, Wednesday, May 11
- ▲ Marcia Ball, Saturday, June 4

### State Theatre

220 N. Washington St., Falls Church, VA 22046

- ▲ Buddy Guy, Wednesday, Apr. 13

### Madam's Organ

2461 18th St., NW, Washington, DC 20009

- ▲ Skyla Burrell, Friday, Apr. 1
- ▲ Ashleigh Chevalier, Saturday, Apr. 2
- ▲ JP Soars & the Red Hots, Friday, Apr. 8
- ▲ Brent Johnson & the Call Up, Saturday, Apr. 9
- ▲ James Armstrong, Friday, Apr. 15
- ▲ Ursula Ricks Project, Saturday, Apr. 23

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 email or US mail to members. Past newsletters are available at [www.dcblues.org](http://www.dcblues.org)

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 email to [newsletter@dcblues.org](mailto:newsletter@dcblues.org)

Blues listings for bands should be sent to [calendar@dcblues.org](mailto:calendar@dcblues.org)

Note: 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.

## DC BLUES SOCIETY

P.O. Box 77315  
Washington, DC  
20013-7315



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

## DCBS Offers Web, CBM & Eblast Advertising

The DC Blues Society advertising rates for the **CAPITAL BLUES MESSENGER** monthly newsletter are shown below. Ads may also be placed on the DCBS website, [www.dcblues.org](http://www.dcblues.org)

Ads also may be placed in DCBS eblast emails for only \$50 for postings on two eblasts. Visit the DCBS website for more or contact [ads@dcblues.org](mailto:ads@dcblues.org)

### CAPITAL BLUES MESSENGER Advertising Information

Business Card: \$20 > 3.5"w x 2"t

1/8 page: \$25 > 4"w x 3"t

1/6 page: \$30 > 2.375"w x 4.75"t

1/4 page: \$40 > 4"w x 4.75"t

1/3 page: \$55 > 5.25"w x .4.75"t

1/2 page: \$75 > 7.5"w x 4.75"t horizontal  
3.75"w x 9.25"t vertical

Full page: \$140 > 7.75"w x 9.25"t

Eblast: \$50 for 2 blasts

Rates are based on camera-ready artwork. **CBM** ads must be received by the 7th of the month prior to publication. **CBM** ads must be 300 dpi or greater in .pdf, .ai or .eps format. Ad size and space allocation are contingent on prior commitments and editorial content. DCBS reserves the right to refuse advertising it deems inappropriate. For more info, email: [ads@dcblues.org](mailto:ads@dcblues.org)



Before your next online search, go to [www.dcblues.org](http://www.dcblues.org) click on the GoodSearch link, and designate DC Blues Society as your favorite cause. DCBS earns 1¢ for each time you search the web using [www.GoodSearch.com](http://www.GoodSearch.com). It's easy — just click, search and support. Looking for the perfect gift? Try [www.GoodShop.com](http://www.GoodShop.com) with 600+ stores. A percentage of each purchase is donated to DCBS and its mission to preserve and promote the Blues. Grab your mouse, click the link, and shop guilt-free!

## DCBS Board Members

**President:** Felix McClairen  
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**Volunteers:** Margo Hope  
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**Honorary Directors:**  
John Cephas (1930–2009)  
Barry Lee Pearson  
Joseph Wilson (1938–2015)

## Key Volunteers

**Advertising:** Jazs  
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**DCBS on Facebook:** Jazs  
**DCBS on PayPal:** Fred Morser

The DCBS Board is looking for volunteers to help with the following positions:



**Secretary**

**Acoustic Jam Coordinator**

**Blues in the Schools Coordinator**

**Grants Manager**

If you can step up to help promote the Blues and keep the organization running smoothly, email [president@dcblues.org](mailto:president@dcblues.org)

# President's DRUM



## April Happy Hour

This month's DCBS 4th Friday Happy Hour features The Mojo Priests, a favorite of the Happy Hour crowd at the Silver Spring American Legion. The Mojo Priests were originally scheduled for January, but the big snow froze them out. Snow should not be a threat on Apr. 22 when the music starts at 6 pm. If you haven't heard the Priests' big-voiced frontman, Darren Johnson, belt out funky Blues to rollicking rock tunes, this is the perfect chance. See page 8 for more information.

We created the 4th Friday Happy Hour as a mission-based service to our members and other lovers and supporters of the Blues. Bands perform for the same reason, without pay from DCBS. The low-cost drinks, affordable food and earnestly entertaining bands make for the perfect antidote to any drudgeries of the workweek. That is what's in it for you.

What's in it for the bands and DCBS? Your coming out and supporting our efforts to bring you free live entertainment—and of course, tipping the band. That's the only thing that will keep this event going. There may be other "free" happy hours in town with live bands, but you'll pay big time in the end with over-the-top drink prices and overpriced food. (Somebody tell me where are these free happy hours with live bands. I'm allowing that there may be some that I just don't know about.)

## Festival Fundraiser Update

The DCBS Festival Fundraiser on Saturday, May 7 features Reggie Wayne Morris. Reggie opened for Nick Moss at our last year's fundraiser. (However, too many of you missed a helluva lively show.) We hope to do better this year. I'll remind you again that without the DC Government grant, we rely on this fundraiser and other paid events to support the FREE Annual DC Blues Festival.

Reggie fuses the influences of Jimi Hendrix and B.B. King into his own unique approach to songwriting, guitar playing and singing. He's toured Italy, France and the U.S and has three recordings under his belt. His latest, *Don't Bring Me Daylight*, is original songs composed by himself and Gerald "Gypsy" Robinson with lyrics appealing to Blues and Southern Soul fans. LIVING

BLUES said: "Morris and his band are competent and deeply satisfying... a welcome addition to the scene." Our own DCBS VP, Nick Dale, says Reggie is "...an artist that deserves wider exposure."

Expose yourself (clean up your mind) to Reggie and help keep the free DC Blues Festival free! See you at the Fundraiser on May 7 at the Silver Spring American Legion. Learn more about Reggie and hear his music at <http://www.rwmband.com> See pages 1 and 4 for more details.

## 28th Annual Festival Lineup Finalized

It's always tough trying to come up with an interesting and dynamic Festival lineup on a shoestring budget. But because there is a wealth of undervalued talent out here, I think we've come up with a powerfully entertaining mix of talent for the Carter Barron Amphitheatre on Saturday, Sept. 3, from 12 pm to 7:30 pm. As it turned out, the line-up features three women band leaders in the middle of two male-led acts. That ought to build the fire real hot before the last act blasts off.

The Festival opens with DC Mudd, the 2015 Battle of the Bands winner. DC Mudd performed to much acclaim at the 2015 College Park Blues Festival and has been gigging around the area since they formed a short time before the 2015 Battle. Check 'em out: <https://www.facebook.com/DCMuddBluesBand/>

Next on the stage is the Countess Williams Band. Countess is a newcomer to the DMV, but has proven herself in Chicago, performing at venues that include Buddy Guy's Legends and Kingston Mines, and sharing the stage with Carl Weathersby and highly regarded Chicago-based bands, the Mike Wheeler Band and the Charlie Love Band. Countess' passionate delivery and versatile voice will woo you. If you don't know her now, you surely will not forget her after seeing her Festival performance. More on Countess at <https://www.reverbnation.com/ladycountess>

The Lauren Mitchell Band out of South Florida is up next. Lauren is a tour de force, performing around 250 dates per year, nationally and internationally. BLUES MUSIC MAGAZINE calls her, "A mesmerizing performer with a voice for the ages." Her latest CD, *Live! From The Bradfordville Blues Club*, was released in May 2014 and will give you a good taste of what to expect from her.

Jackie Scott & The Housewreckers from the Hampton Roads area fills the stage next with her big, bold voice and sometimes sassy delivery style. Jackie has opened for the likes of B.B. King,

Keb' Mo', Taj Mahal and Lyle Lovett. On stage, Jackie is a dynamo, who will infect you with the powerful spirit of the Blues.

Rounding up the Festival lineup is the Omar Coleman Band out of Chicago. Omar Coleman has recorded three full albums, performed 30 international dates in 12 countries, and performed as featured vocalist for more than 10 professionally touring bands.

At a youthful 35 years old, Omar Coleman, a Chicago native, has established himself as one of the nation's premier harmonica players and blues vocalists on the scene today. He has been billed on festivals with legends like Robert Cray, Buddy Guy, Koko Taylor, Ruth Brown and Robert Randolph. Omar is known for mixing it up with his audience to share more intimately his Blues love. See what they're talking about and check out the tracks on his latest CD, *Born & Raised*, at [www.omarcoleman.com](http://www.omarcoleman.com)

## The Annual DC Blues Festival & Volunteering

Lately there has been some controversy about the nexus of bands' volunteering to perform free for some DCBS events and the Annual DC Blues Festival. Allow me to clarify once again: there is no nexus between the two.

Some performers think or assume that by volunteering to play for no fee at DCBS events, they should be rewarded with an appearance at the Annual Festival. I never make such a promise and explain on such occasions that a DCBS group makes the final decision on the Annual Festival lineup. I cannot predict the outcome of such decisions—the group members (DCBS Board members and Key Volunteers) listen to the Festival candidates and vote on each. The candidates with the most votes in each cost category win a slot.

For paid performances, we do consider acts who support our mission. But there is never a quid pro quo—stated or implied. We strive to get 'em in where they fit in. Ideally, musicians should support the DCBS mission by being members and volunteering their talents on occasion. DCBS is a public institution dedicated to the education and enjoyment of Blues fans and a showcase for regional acts in the DMV—a worthy objective for Blues musicians and the general public.

So, the word to all is support DCBS for what it does for the Blues not just for what it can do for you.

Blues Always,  
Felix

# DC Blues Society

FESTIVAL



presents  
**Reggie  
Wayne  
Morris  
Blues Band**

FUNDRAISER

**Saturday, May 7, 2016  
7:30 PM - 12 Midnight**

**American Legion Post 41  
905 Sligo Avenue ♦ Silver Spring, MD 20910  
Entrance on Fenton Street adjacent to public parking lot  
Free Parking ♦ Cash Bar**

**Advance: \$15 members ♦ \$20 non-members  
Door: \$20 members ♦ \$25 non-members**

**WWW.DCBLUES.ORG  
TEL: 301-322-4808**

◆◆◆ **SAVE THE DATE** ◆◆◆  
**28th Annual DC Blues Festival**  
**Saturday, September 3, 2016**  
**Carter Barron Amphitheatre**  
**16th St. & Colorado Ave. NW**  
**Washington, DC 20008**



featuring  
**Omar Coleman Band**  
**Jackie Scott & The Housewreckers**  
**Lauren Mitchell**  
**Countess Williams Band • DC Mudd**



Photo: Wolgemuth Photography

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, MAY 21 & 22

CHESAPEAKE BAY EVENTS INCORPORATED PRESENTS



2 DAYS OF KILLER BLUES FOOD & DRINK

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**JOHN MAYALL**  
**THE MAVERICKS**  
**CANNED HEAT**

PLUS...TAB BENBIT  
SONNY LANDRETH  
DANA FUCHS  
DANIELLE NICOLE  
HERITAGE BLUES ORCHESTRA  
MUD MORGANFIELD  
RONNIE BAKER BROOKS  
CHESAPEAKE BAY DIXIE BAND  
WITH PATTY REESE  
MICHAEL MCHENRY TRIBE

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& INFO GO TO  
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BEER WINE BEACH PLAYGROUNDS

## Mark Your Calendars for Warm Weather, Hot Music

# Guide to 2016 Local & Nearby Blues Festivals

From late Spring through early Fall each year, there are many blues and other music festivals in the DC area and surrounding states. This guide is intended to help DC area blues fans plan their weekends and trips to include some great festivals that support the Blues. A number of festivals are also fundraisers for charities.

The DCBS-sponsored 28th Annual DC Blues Festival, at the Carter Barron Amphitheatre, will be held the Saturday of Labor Day Weekend, Sept. 3. See page 3 for the outstanding lineup to be featured at this event.

Mark your calendars now for some of these great festivals! Visit the individual festival websites to see what performers will be featured at each.

## MAY 2016

### ▲ Friday–Saturday, May 6–7 Naptown barBAYq Contest & Music Festival 🎵

Anne Arundel Co. Fairgrounds  
Crownsville, MD 21032  
www.barbayq.com  
Tix: \$15 before Apr. 30, \$15 at gate

### ▲ Saturday, May 7 Derby-Q BBQ, Blues, Bourbon & Brews Festival

Old Town Sq., Fairfax, VA 22030  
http://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/special-events/derby-q  
Tix: \$10 general admission, tasting tickets \$25 or \$65

### ▲ Saturday–Sunday, May 21–22 Chesapeake Bay Blues Festival

Sandy Point State Park  
Annapolis, MD 21409  
www.bayblues.org  
Advance tix while available: \$65 for Sat., \$75 for Sun., \$125 for both days  
**Visit or volunteer for the DCBS table!**  
See festival ad on page 5

## JUNE 2016

### ▲ Thursday-Sunday, June 2-5 21st Annual Western Maryland Blues Fest

Downtown Hagerstown, Central & City Park  
Hagerstown, MD 21741  
www.blues-fest.org or 301-739-8577, ext. 116  
Tix: info pending  
**Visit or volunteer for the DCBS table!**

### ▲ Friday–Sunday, June 3–5 24th Annual Capital Jazz Fest 🎵

Merriweather Post Pavilion  
10475 Little Patuxent Pkwy.  
Columbia, MD 21044  
www.capitaljazz.com  
Tix: early bird before April 29, prices vary by seating

### ▲ Saturday–Sunday, June 4–5 36th Annual Washington Folk Festival 🎵

Glen Echo Park  
Glen Echo, MD 20812  
www.fsgw.org **FREE!**

### ▲ Friday–Sunday, June 10–12 23rd Tinner Hill Blues Festival—A Tribute to John Jackson

Cherry Hill Park and Other Venues  
Falls Church, VA 22046  
www.tinnerhill.org  
Tix: info pending  
**Visit or volunteer for the DCBS table!**  
See festival ad on page 12

### ▲ Saturday, June 11, 2016 1st Annual John Cephas Piedmont Blues Festival

Main St., Bowling Green, VA 22427  
www.johncephasfestival.com **FREE!**

### ▲ Saturday-Sunday, June 11-12 5th Annual St. Georges Blues Festival

Commodore Ctr., 1701 S. DuPont Hwy.  
St. Georges, DE 19733  
www.diamondstateblues.com or 302-836-8202  
Tix: www.bluehorizonpromotions.com, \$35 one-day, \$60 two-day, before June 10

🎵 Listings with this designation include blues and other music genres

Some festivals are free; others have admission fees and offer early bird and advance ticket sales.

If we've missed listing a blues festival, please let us know so we can share this with DCBS members. Send this information to: [newsletter@dcblues.org](mailto:newsletter@dcblues.org)  
The DCBS booth will be set up at some of these events, so watch your DCBS emails for volunteer needs and also for ticket giveaways/discounts.

If you want to volunteer to provide a written review of a festival or photos for the DCBS newsletter, please send an e-mail to [newsletter@dcblues.org](mailto:newsletter@dcblues.org)  
Please feel free to share this festival listing with others. Help keep the Blues alive!

### ▲ Friday–Sunday, June 17–19 High Tides Blues Fest

Black Pearl Tiki Bar, 205 Taylor St.  
Colonial Beach, VA 22443  
www.hightidez.com/blues  
Tix: Fri. \$20, Sat. \$27, Sun. \$23 or \$55 all events.

### ▲ Saturday, June 18 8th Annual Silver Spring Blues Festival—A Blues Block Party

Silver Spring Library, Wayne Ave. & Downtown Silver Spring, Ellsworth Dr.  
**Blues Week, June 13–17**  
**Blues Inside & Out**  
Silver Spring, MD 20910  
www.silverspringblues.com

**FREE!**  
**Visit or volunteer for the DCBS table!**

### ▲ Saturday, June 18 Columbia Pike Blues Festival

Walter Reed Dr. at Columbia Pike, Arlington, VA  
www.columbia-pike.org **FREE!**

### ▲ Saturday, June 18 27th Annual Billtown Blues Festival

Lycoming County Fairgrounds  
Hughesville, PA 17737  
www.billtownblues.org or 570-584-4480  
Tix: Early bird \$20 before April 30, \$25 after May 1, \$30 at gate.

### ▲ Saturday-Sunday, June 25-26 24th Annual Giant National Capital BBQ Battle 🎵

2011 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, between 9th & 14th Streets, Washington, DC 20004  
www.bbqdc.com  
Tix: \$12 one-day, \$20 two-day advance; \$15 one-day, \$30 two-day at gate  
**Visit or volunteer for the DCBS table!**



# 2016 Local & Nearby Blues Festivals

## JULY 2016

### ▲ Friday–Saturday, July 8–10 19th Annual Briggs Farm Blues Festival

Briggs Farm, Nescopeck, PA 18635  
www.briggsfarm.com  
or 570-379-2003

Tix: Early bird tickets until May 7, 1-day for \$23, 2-day for \$40 & 3-day for \$55; May 8–July 7 \$25, \$45 & \$60 respectively; camping fee \$90 before May 7, \$95 after, includes 3 days of music. Gate prices, add \$5.



### ▲ Saturday, July 9 DCBS Hotter Than July Fish Fry 'n' Blues

Silver Spring American Legion  
*Area bands sign up now!*  
www.dcblues.org

### ▲ Saturday, July 16 17th Annual Winchester Blues House Festival

Winchester Eagles Club Aerie 824  
700 Baker Ln., Winchester, VA 22601  
www.winchesterblueshouse.com or 540-662-7066  
Tix: \$15 advance, \$20 at gate

### ▲ Saturday, July 16 3rd Annual Roadhouse BluesFest

Jonathan's Landing  
1309 Ponderosa Dr., Magnolia, DE 1962  
www.centraldelawareblues.com  
Tix: \$30

### ▲ Saturday, July 23 Steppingstone Summertime Blues Festival

461 Quaker Bottom Rd.  
Havre De Grace, MD 21078  
www.stepsingstonemuseum.org or 410-939-2299  
Tix: info pending

## AUGUST 2016

### ▲ Friday–Saturday, Aug. 5–6 13th Annual Snowshoe Mountain Brews, Blues & BBQ Festival

10 Snowshoe Dr., Snowshoe, WV 26209  
www.snowshoemtn.com or 877-441-4386  
Tix: info pending

### ▲ Friday–Sunday, Aug. 5–7 Riverfront Blues Fest

Tubman-Garrett Riverfront Park  
S. French & Water Sts., Wilmington, DE 19801  
www.riverfrontbluesfest.com  
Tix: info pending

### ▲ Friday–Sunday, Aug. 12–14 Heritage Music BluesFest 2016

Heritage Port, Wheeling, WV 26003  
www.heritagemusicfest.com or 304-238-6064  
Tix: 3-day advance for \$75, \$115 for VIP

### ▲ Saturday, Aug. 20 Hot August Music Festival

Oregon Ridge State Pk., Cockeysville, MD 21030  
www.hotaugustmusicfestival.com  
or 877-321-3378  
Tix: info pending

## SEPTEMBER 2016

### ▲ Saturday, Sept. 3 DC Blues Society 28th Annual DC Blues Festival

Carter Barron Amphitheatre  
Washington, DC 20011  
www.dcblues.org **FREE!**

**Visit or volunteer for the DCBS table!**



### ▲ Sunday, Sept. 4

### Baltimore Blues Society Alonzo's Memorial Picnic

Rosedale American Legion Hall  
1311 Seling Ave., Rosedale, MD 21237  
www.moworkin.com or 410-744-2291  
Tix: info pending

### ▲ Sunday, Sept. 11 39th Takoma Park Folk Festival

Takoma Park Middle School  
Takoma Park, MD 20910  
www.tpff.org or 301-589-0202 **FREE!**

### ▲ Friday–Sunday, Sept. 16–18 Pennsylvania Blues Festival Celebrating 25 Years of Blues in the Poconos

Split Rock Resort, Lake Harmony, PA 18624  
www.pennsylvaniaibluesfestival.com  
Tix: \$30 one-day; \$50 two-day until June 30; \$35 one-day, \$60 two-day July 1–Sept. 15; \$40 one-day, \$70 two-day at gate

### ▲ Saturday, Sept. 17 24th Annual Bluebird Blues Festival

Prince George's Community College  
301 Largo Rd., Largo, MD 20774  
www.pgcc.edu **FREE!**

**Visit or volunteer for the DCBS table!**

## OCTOBER 2016

### ▲ Sunday, Oct. 2 35th Annual Takoma Park Street Festival

Takoma Park, MD 20912  
www.takomaparkfestival.com or 240-535-0187  
**FREE!**

## NOVEMBER 2016

### ▲ Saturday, Nov. 5 9th Annual College Park Blues Festival

Ritchie Coliseum, University of MD  
College Park, MD 20740  
www.dcblues.org **FREE!**

**Visit or volunteer for the DCBS table!**

*Area bands: Enter the DCBS Solo/Duo Competition on Sept. 23 or the DCBS Battle of the Bands on Oct. 1 for a chance to perform at the College Park Festival Blues Festival, details at www.dcblues.org*



# John Mayall at The Hamilton, March 16, 2016

by Craig Karp

I had to walk past the White House to get to The Hamilton to be a DC Blues Society volunteer for what turned out to be a great John Mayall show. The Hamilton, at the corner of 14th and F Sts., NW, and one of the DMV's top venues, is lately running more blues shows. Arlene Goldberg-Gist and I set up the Society's table and just next to us sat a serene John Mayall, who had his own table for selling and signing CDs. Between his sales and our member inquiries we were able to chat briefly.

Mayall helped inspire my own interest in the blues, back in the 1960s. He told me his earliest influences were American blues and jazzmen and he had the chance to see some in the UK in the 1950's. Perhaps inspired by that American music, he has lived in California for decades. Asked by one of the many who came up to buy his latest CD, *Find a Way to Care*, who his most important influence was, the gentlemanly Mayall said he couldn't pick one; he similarly declined to specify which of his own albums or which of his many collaborators were his favorite. Fan after fan thanked him for introducing them to the blues.

The remarkably spry 82-year old Mayall really came alive when he hit the stage, on time. He easily shifted between electric organ (Hammond/Wurlitzer sound style), electric piano, guitar, and harmonica. On each, he showed continuing command of the instrument. On one number he made his piano sound like a vibraphone and it fit right in. As he has done forever, he sometimes played both harmonica and keyboard at the same time.

The material spanned much of Mayall's long career beginning with a cover of the 1962 Sonny Boy Williamson standard, "Help Me," and included "Walking on Sunset," from the *Blues for Laurel Canyon* album, the 1970 ecological anthem; "Nature's Disappearing" to "I Feel So Bad" and "Mother-in Law Blues,"



photo by Craig Karp

*The legendary John Mayall admires a DCBS shirt before his March 16 performance at The Hamilton.*

from the classic-sounding new album *Find a Way to Care*. Mayall has always been a bit autobiographical in his songwriting, and a song about being sober, which included the admonition, "just one more day," was

a likely continuation. He delighted the crowd with a well-constructed version of "Room to Move," his harmonica and scat calling card that has become a harp standard. Chick-a chick-a boom.

Mayall's band, with which he has been playing since 2008, consisted of Texan Rocky Athas on guitar, Greg Rzab on bass, and Jay Davenport on drums, the latter two from Chicago. The band was tight, deferring to the master when he took the lead, but shining on their own during their solos. In response to a shout from the crowd, Rzab joked that Mayall's guitar, a 1979 Gibson, was



for sale for \$750,000. He later played a tasty bass solo that drew from funk, jazz and R&B inspiration. Athas, who played both lead and rhythm, laid down a skein of tasty licks, especially on the set closer "Hideaway," a Freddy King cover from the 1960s.

The highly listenable, even danceable, single set lasted the better part of two hours. When it was over, more satisfied listeners lined up for CDs and a picture with this seminal figure of the blues. We really enjoyed John Mayall's show, and when this historic, but still lively bluesman returns, I am sure you will too.

DCBS-SILVER SPRING AMERICAN LEGION  
4<sup>TH</sup> FRIDAY BLUES HAPPY HOUR  
APRIL 22, 2016  
FEATURING  
THE MOJO PRIESTS



HAPPY HOUR: 5:00 - 10:00 PM  
MUSIC: 6:00 - 9:30 PM

American Legion Post 41  
905 Sligo Avenue ♦ Silver Spring, MD 20910  
Entrance on Fenton Street adjacent to public parking lot  
Free Parking AFTER 7 PM  
No Cover ♦ Door Prizes  
Affordable Cash Bar & Food



WWW.DCBLUES.ORG  
TEL: 301-322-4808



PHOTO: THE MOJO PRIESTS

## Win Tickets!

Watch your DCBS Eblasts and visit [www.dcblues.org](http://www.dcblues.org) and Members Only page to enter to win tickets to select Festivals and Blues shows, and obtain available discounts. Priority for ticket giveaways goes to DCBS members, be sure to keep your membership current. Please open and read those Eblasts so you don't miss any great opportunities.

# DCBS Volunteers Needed for Black Memorabilia Show

by Margo Hope

This is a FABULOUS event! I worked the booth with my son last year, and we had a blast. This is a great volunteer opportunity. Great African/American artists presenting amazing work, antique collectibles, all kinds of interesting people and information and great food. A fun day. Come out and volunteer and enjoy the experience of a lifetime. You'll have a fabulous time, or I'll eat my Kufi!

YES! free admission to all volunteers for this event. Please indicate which Saturday or Sunday shift you prefer. Exact times will be updated asap.

Saturday, Apr. 9: Morning, Mid-day or Late Afternoon Shift, event closes at 7pm. Morning shift needs to pick up booth items at the Silver Spring American Legion prior to the event. Tables and chairs are provided at event.

Sunday, Apr. 10: Morning or Afternoon Shift, event closes at 5pm. Afternoon shift will need to collect booth items and return to the Silver Spring American Legion.

My sister, an award winning artist from the DMV

area, will be set up next to our DC Blues booth! She will be displaying her original sculptures,

porcelain work, and hand made African style walking sticks!!

**NATIONAL BLACK MEMORABILIA**  
*Fine Art & Crafts Show*  
**April 9-10, 2016**  
 Saturday: 10 AM–7 PM ▼ Sunday: 10 AM–5 PM  
 Montgomery County Fairgrounds ▼ 16 Chestnut St. ▼ Gaithersburg, MD 20877  
*"32nd Year Celebrating African American History"*

**Purchase Black Memorabilia + Collectibles** from vendors including slavery artifacts, historical documents, books, autographs, stamps, advertisements, kitchen collectibles, coins, magazines, Civil War, toys, art, dolls, political, jewelry, entertainment, paintings, civil rights, sports + more. **View Educational Exhibits** including Slavery Artifacts, Buffalo Soldiers, Jim Crow, Black Panther Party, Marcus Garvey, Tuskegee Airmen, Malcolm X, George Washington Carver, Dorothy Dandridge + others.  
**Meet + obtain autographs** from Negro League Baseball Players, Tuskegee Airmen + other celebrities.

**Admission: \$7 ▼ Students admitted free**  
 All Indoors ▼ Good Food ▼ Free Parking  
**(301) 649-1915 ▼ www.johnsonshows.com**  
 facebook.com/blackmemorabiliashow

## Become a DCBS Member

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
- ▲ Comraderie 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
- ▲ Chances to win free tickets to area Blues concerts and performances
- ▲ Discounts from area clubs and merchants when you present your DCBS membership card; see the list of participating businesses on page 11
- ▲ 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

Becoming a DCBS member is quick and easy:

- ▲ Use the mail-in application on this page
- ▲ Apply online at [www.dcblues.org](http://www.dcblues.org)
- ▲ Sign up at a the DCBS booth at a DCBS event

## Join or Renew Today!

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

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

### Annual Dues

- Student: \$15  
(include copy of student ID)
- Individual: \$35
- 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 77315  
 Washington, DC 20013

# APRIL 2016 BLUES

- 1 **Skyla Burrell** @ Madam's Organ **DCBS TICKET GIVEAWAY** ▲ Joy Bodycomb with Wharf Rats @ Chapalas Blue Beetle Rock Bar
- 2 **Ashleigh Chevalier** @ Madam's Organ **DCBS TICKET GIVEAWAY** ▲ Bad Influence @ Gaithersburg Dogfish Head ▲ King Soul, Texas Chainsaw Horns @ Bethesda Blues & Jazz ▲ Crimestoppers @ Rhodeside Grill ▲ Built 4 Comfort @ Music Cafe ▲ Vintage #18 @ New Deal Cafe ▲ The Mojo Priests @ Hershey's ▲ Full Power Blues @ Old Bowie Town Grille
- 3 **DCBS 1st Sunday Blues Jam** @ Silver Spring American Legion ▲ Bill Pappas & Wolf Crescenze & Along for the Ride @ 219 ▲ Stacy Brooks @ Madam's Organ ▲ Shari Kane Guitar Workshop @ Archie's Barbershop
- 4 Anthony "Swamp Dog" Clark @ Westminster Church
- 5 **Santana** @ Warner Theatre
- 6 **Santana** @ Warner Theatre
- 7 **Mavis Staples** @ Hamilton ▲ Big Boy Little's Open Blues Jam @ Old Bowie Town Grille ▲ **Roomful of Blues, John Nemeth** @ Bethesda Blues & Jazz Supper Club
- 8 JP Soars & the Red Hots @ Madam's Organ **DCBS TICKET GIVEAWAY** ▲ Tom Principato with Tommy Lepson @ Bright Box Theater ▲ Smokin' Polecats @ New Deal Cafe ▲ Robert Randolph & Family Band @ State Theatre ▲ Fast Eddie & Slowpokes @ Old Bowie Town Grille
- 9 **Anacostia Delta: The Legacy of Danny Gatton Show with Tom Principato & more** @ AMP by Strathmore ▲ Brent Johnson & the Call Up @ Madam's Organ **DCBS TICKET GIVEAWAY** ▲ Crimestoppers @ JV's ▲ Built 4 Comfort @ Bare Bones
- 10 Joy Bodycomb @ Winery at Olney ▲ Bill Pappas, Wolf Crescenze & Along for the Ride @ 219
- 11 Tom Newman Blues Band @ Westminster Church
- 12 **Jimmie Vaughan** @ Hamilton **DCBS TICKET GIVEAWAY VISIT OR VOLUNTEER @ DCBS BOOTH**
- 13 **Buddy Guy** @ State Theatre **DCBS TICKET GIVEAWAY VISIT OR VOLUNTEER @ DCBS BOOTH** ▲ JJ Grey & Mofro @ Birchmere
- 14 Full Power Blues @ Glen Echo
- 15 **James Armstrong** @ Madam's Organ **DCBS TICKET GIVEAWAY** ▲ Bad Influence @ Stein Room ▲ Wolf's Blues Jam with Linwood Taylor & Lisa Lim @ Cryer's Back Road Inn
- 16 Bill Pappas, Wolf Crescenze & Along for the Ride @ 219 ▲ **Shemekia Copeland** @ Hamilton **DCBS TICKET GIVEAWAY VISIT OR VOLUNTEER @ DCBS BOOTH** ▲ Crimestoppers @ Bill Mulronev Tribute at Rockville American Legion ▲ Zydeco Jed @ New Deal Cafe ▲ **Baltimore Blues Society presents Lone Star Blues Revue with Anson Funderburgh, Mark Hummel, Little Charly Baty, Terry Hanck** @ Rosedale American Legion
- 17 Freestate Blues Review @ Villain & Saint
- 18 Mark Wenner's Blues Warriors @ Westminster Church
- 19 Mark Wenner's Blues Warriors @ JV's
- 21 Big Boy Little's Open Blues Jam @ Old Bowie Town Grille
- 22 **DCBS 4th Friday Happy Hour with The Mojo Priests** @ Silver Spring American Legion ▲ Wolf's Blues Jam w/ Robert Frahm @ Ruddy Duck ▲ Moonshine Society @ Hamilton Loft
- 23 **Ursula Ricks Project** @ Madam's Organ **DCBS TICKET GIVEAWAY** ▲ Big Boy Little Band Crawfish Boil @ Acadiana ▲ Crimestoppers @ Branded 72 ▲ Built 4 Comfort @ New Deal Cafe ▲ **B.B. King Tribute with Slam Allen** @ Art Space, Herndon
- 24 Bill Pappas, Wolf Crescenze & Along for the Ride @ 219
- 25 Jacques & Margie Live! Jacques "Saxman" Johnson & Lil' Margie Clark @ Westminster Church
- 26 Steve Jacobs Band with Big Boy Little @ JV's
- 28 Big Boy Little Band @ Babe's Tavern
- 29 Ursula Ricks Project @ New Deal Cafe ▲ Donna Herula with Tony Nardiello @ Archie's Barbershop
- 30 Slide Guitar Workshop w/ Donna Herula @ Archie's Barbershop

## EARLY MAY 2016

- 1 **DCBS 1st Sunday Blues Jam** @ Silver Spring American Legion ▲ Bill Pappas, Wolf Crescenze & Along for the Ride @ 219
- 2 Electrified Blues Band with Charlie Sayles @ Westminster Church
- 3 **Janiva Magness** @ Hamilton **DCBS TICKET GIVEAWAY VISIT OR VOLUNTEER @ DCBS BOOTH**
- 5 Big Boy Little's Open Blues Jam @ Old Bowie Town Grille
- 6 Crimestoppers @ Villain & Saint
- 7 **DCBS Festival Fundraiser with Reggie Wayne Morris** @ Silver Spring American Legion ▲ Bad Influence @ Gaithersburg Dogfish Head

DCBS salutes its many volunteers, who keep the organization running. This month, DCBS salutes volunteer

## Crawlin' Kingsnake

for his work to keep the DCBS Online Forum running smoothly.

**Bolded items** on calendars of upcoming events are picks by calendar editor, Mike Wolk, 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. 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 events.

Visit [www.dcblues.org](http://www.dcblues.org) for additional music links and information.

# BLUES ALL WEEK

## Regular Blues Events

The Regular Blues Calendar, below, is included in the Capital Blues Messenger each month to provide information on recurring blues jams/performances/dances. See also the April Blues Calendar on page 10.

<b>SU</b>	1st Sunday DCBS Blues Jam @ Silver Spring American Legion ▲ 4th Sunday DCBS Acoustic Jam @ Mansion on O St. <b>(CANCELLED — Seeking New Jam Leader)</b> ▲ Sunday Afternoon Jam @ Old Firestation #3, Fairfax ▲ Blues Jam @ Battlefield Brew Works, Gettysburg, every other Sunday
<b>M</b>	Blue Mondays @ Westminster Presbyterian Church ▲ Wolf's Blues Jam @ JV's ▲ Capital Blues Ensemble @ 219 Basin St. Lounge
<b>TU</b>	CrawStickers @ 219 Basin St. Lounge ▲ Johnny Artis Band @ Madam's Organ ▲ Swampcandy @ Rams Head Annapolis ▲ Hell's Bottom Blues Jam @ Takoma Park VFW Post 350 ▲ Moonshine Society Blues Jam @ Villain & Saint, 2nd Tuesday
<b>W</b>	Wolf's Blues Jam @ Blair's Londontowne Pub ▲ Jesse Shifflet Open Mic @ Pickled Herring Pub, Northeast, MD ▲ Blues Jam @ Old Bowie Town Grille
<b>TH</b>	Patrick Alban & Noche Latina @ Madam's Organ ▲ Slow Blues & Swing Dance @ Glen Echo ▲ Open Mic @ El Gavilan, last Thursday of month ▲ Big Boy Little's Open Blues Jam @ Old Bowie Town Grille, 1st & 3rd Thursdays
<b>F</b>	4th Friday Happy Hour @ Silver Spring American Legion ▲ Glen Moomau & Juke Drivers @ Bertha's ▲ John Guernsey @ New Deal Cafe
<b>SA</b>	Acoustic Blues Jam @ Archie's Barbershop ▲ John Guernsey @ New Deal Cafe

## 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.

**NEW DEAL CAFE**  
  
**New Deal Cafe**  
 113 Centerway Rd., Greenbelt, MD 20770  
[www.newdealcafe.com](http://www.newdealcafe.com)  
**10% Discount**  
 Discount applies to food and non-alcoholic beverages

  
**Rose Recording**  
**3 Hours Studio Time \$90**  
 2103 Bermondsey Dr., Mitchellville, MD 20721  
[www.roserecording.com](http://www.roserecording.com) • 301-249-0007

**Half-Price Admission** to select shows  
**Blues Alley**  
 1073 Wisconsin Ave., NW  
 Washington, DC 20007 • 202-337-4141  
[www.bluesalley.com](http://www.bluesalley.com)  
 Many blues shows, Sundays–Thursdays

**Three Brothers Italian Restaurant**  
 4521 Kenilworth Ave., Bladensburg, MD 20710 • 301-864-1570  
[www.threebrotherspizza.com](http://www.threebrotherspizza.com)  
**20% Discount**  
 Until 9PM, not valid holidays or w/other discounts. Restrictions may apply.

  
**Empire Plumbing**  
 202-438-4461  
**10% Discount**  
 "Take the Blues Out of Your Plumbing"

**Got Yoga?**  
 Customized for you: Individual or group sessions available at your residence/office or our office. Includes gentle yoga, breathing techniques, meditation, poses & laughter yoga. Call to schedule: 301-802-1879  
**10% Discount**

  
**The Logo Shack**  
 Logo Design & Branding • Marketing Consulting • Silkscreening & Embroidery Promotional Products  
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[www.capitolhillbooks.com](http://www.capitolhillbooks.com)  
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 6666 Arlington Blvd., Falls Church, VA 22042 • 703-241-9504  
[www.jvsrestaurant.com](http://www.jvsrestaurant.com)  
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 Buy 1 drink, receive a 2nd drink FREE

  
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**LA Bar & Grill**  
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 Arlington, VA 22204 • 703-682-1560

**15% Discount**  
**BOK CUSTOM FRAMING**  
 5649 Lee Hwy., Arlington, VA 22207  
 703-534-1866 • [www.bokframing.com](http://www.bokframing.com)

**FRI. JUNE 10 • SAT. JUNE 11 • SUN. JUNE 12**  
**ALL BLUES • ALL WEEKEND • ALL OVER TOWN!**

**23rd ANNUAL TINNER HILL BLUES FESTIVAL 2016**  
 FAVUS CHURCH, VA

A TRIBUTE TO *John T. Jackson* **www.TinnerHill.org • Tel: 703-534-4627**



**CAPITAL BLUES MESSENGER**  
**DC Blues Society**

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

P.O. Box 77315  
 Washington, DC 20013-7315

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

Your membership renewal date is shown on the address label.

Renew today and stay in the Blues!

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**