

DC BLUES CALENDAR NOVEMBER 2006

CLARENCE TURNER

Winner of the 2006 DCBS Battle Of The Blues also the Acoustic Blues winner Robert Lighthouse & the terrific harp player-vocalist Mikey Jr at the Surf Club November 18 - 7 PM DCBS IBC Benefit

Board Members Wanted!

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

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DC Blues Society Jams

Reminder that our monthly jam takes place the First Sunday of the month at Chick Hall's Surf Club. This month, it is on Sunday, November 5 and it starts at 4:00PM.

Check the website for the date of our acoustic jam at Ellington's on Eighth which may be tentatively scehduled for November 16.

THE DC BLUES SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 77315 WASHINGTON DC 20013-7315 202-962-0112

http://www.dcblues.org President: Felix McClairen Vice-Presiden: Kathy Lestsantear Secretary: Celina Wood Treasurer: Vallie Dean Honorary Directors: John Cephas, Barry Lee Pearson, Joseph Wilson. Webpage: Paul Cutrona Jams: Sam'i Nuridden Festival: Felix McClairen: Amanda Sweet Blues in School: Chet Hines Membership Coordinator: Kathy Lestsantear Volunteer Coordinator - Jazs **Public Relations:** Newletter: Ron Weinstock Newsletter Listings: Steve Levine Contributors : Felix McClairen; Daniel B McNeill, Sami Nuriddin, Bob Sekinger

The D.C. Blues Society is a non-profit section 501(c)(3) organization. Annual membership: Student \$15 (send copy of photo id); Individual \$25, Family \$35, Canada \$35 (US), other countries \$50 (US). Members receive the D.C. Blues Calendar, discounts at Society events and some clubs, and other benefits.

Contributions (not dues) to the D.C. Blues Society are taxdeductible. **To join, send a check & address to the P.O. box above. There is an application on page 11.**

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

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

Note - The next issue is the December 2006-January 2007 and has an *November 17 deadliine*. Listings should be sent to **Steve Levine, 5910 Bryn Mawr Rd, College Park, MD 20740** or to Steve's e-mail address is (cypressgrove@hotmail.com).

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

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

Note that there will be a combined December 2006-January 2007 issue. The issue after that is February 2007







The Bluesman wins DC Blues Battle

Clarence 'The Bluesman' Turner and his band won the DC Blues Society's Battle of the Blues, Saturday, October 21, at Chick Hall's Surf Club. It was an entertaining evening of blues with performances by The Roustabouts; MSG - The Acoustic Blues Trio; The Eddie Becker Band; The Clarence Turner Band; and The Sherwood Blues Band. MSG finished second and Sherwood third. This year each band performed for 30 minutes instead of the 20 minutes of prior years.

The Roustabouts opened with the interesting guitar and violin front line. A highpoint was the Etta James-Sugar Pie DeSanto classic, In the Basement, while another number showed a bit of southern rock flavor. Jackie Merritt, Miles Spicer and Reesa Gibbs performed a delightful set of acoustic blues that opened with an acappela holler and then some lively diverse acoustic performances marked by Jackie's wonderful harp, Miles' solid guitar and Reesa's absolutely marvellous singing and delightful washboard playing. The Eddie Becker Band performed a strong set of blues with originals from the pens of Eddie and Charlie 'Choo Choo' Williams. Becker is an exceptional guitarist and Williams is a fine harp player, especially on the big chromatic. Clarence Turner came on and was tight and full of personality. He did a fine cover of the Little Johnny Taylor classic, Everybody Knows About My Good Thing, and played some strong guitar. Sherwood came on for a set of what he calls "authentic bedrock blues," although time limitations prevented him from doing a number on acoustic guitar. His stroll into the crowd got the crowd excited.

As the evening went on, more folks got up and the dance floor got crowded during the sets by Turner and Sherwood. Sami Nuriddin did a marvelous job of emceeing the event. Also the winning raffle ticket for the Delbert McLinton cruise was picked and we congratulate the winner, Curtis Ingram of Thomasville, NC.

Special thanks to our judges Bob Sekinger from the Baltimore Blues Society; Tony Colter from XM Radio; Mae Brooks; William Witherspoon of the Blues Brothers club; Rick "The Gator' Bolen; and Thomas Bracy (Dee Jay Tom Tom). There are more Thank Yous on page 10.

After the competition, Clarence and Band did a set and then the entertainment continued with the Surf Club's host band, **Heroes and Friends.**



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I know I missed the blow by blow for the September Jam. Which was a monumental Jam, because we usually don't do a Jam after our Festival. Throwing caution to the wind, we knew you guys were still wired up so we did it and IT WAS FANTASTIC! You know who you are that came and supported it and We Thank You. Our October Jam overlapped with Takoma Park Festival and some of those revelers found there way to the Surf Club on First Sunday Jam day and tore the place up. Help came from the most talented Nadine Rae who we're going to love on a monthly basis. On Guitar Will Dickerson, Kevin Robinson and Jimmy Logie, on Bass Steve C., the Judge, on drums Chet Hines Ray Werwie, Chip Clemmer, Harp and Vocals Waverly, Anthony Clark harp and Joy the Silver Throated Sparrow on Vocals. The "Usual Suspects and Me". See you on November 5.

Sami Nuriddin



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Battle of the Blues Photos

Page 3 From the Top - The Roustabouts; The Judges for the Battle of the Bands; MSG - the Acoustic Trio; Bottom row from left- Miles Spicer; Reesa Gibbs; Eddie Becker; Sherwood.

This page left column- The Eddie Becker Band; The Sherwood Blues Band; Clarence Bluesman Turner.; Picking the Delbert cruise raffle winner. Photos © Ron Weinstock

October Jam pictures © Daniel B McNeill

November Blues Listings

1 Billy Hancock @ JVs 2 Joe Bonamassa @ Blues Alley Meteors @ Bangkok Blues Marianna Previti & the Polecats @ JVs Brian Gross @ Of Wine and Words Gala, (fundraiser), National Education Association

3 Susan Tedeschi, Derek Trucks @ Rams Head Live

Archie Edwards Blues Heritage Foundation Benefit Concert @ Rodeo Joe Bonamassa @ Blues Alley Melanie Mason @ Pesce Grande Tom Principato @ Band Sunset Grill Deja Blues @ Bangkok Blues Liz Briones @ Zoo Bar ACME Blues Company @ Memories 4 Bo Diddley, Alvin Youngblood Hart, Ruthie Foster @ George Mason University Joe Bonamassa @ Blues Alley Susan Tedeschi, Derek Trucks @ Birchmere

Mary Ann Redmond @ Sweet Caroline's Junkyard Saints @ Glen Echo Park Nighthawks @ Zodiac Lounge Code Blue @ Bangkok Blues Big Boy Little @ Zoo Bar Mary Shaver, Mariana Previti w/Smokin' Polecats @ Chick Hall's Surf Club Brian Gross Trio @ Sala Thai, Bethesda 5 DCBS Jam @ Chick Hall's Surf Club Joe Stanley Allstars @ JVs Joe Bonamassa @ Blues Alley 7 Dave Chappell's Blues Band @ JVs GE Smith & Hubert Sumlin @ Blues Alley 8 Melanie Mason @ Bangkok Blues GE Smith & Hubert Sumlin @ Blues Alley Bo Diddley, Alvin Youngblood Hart, Ruthie Foster @ Strathmore 9 Kelley Hunt @ State Theatre BreakAway Band @ Bangkok Blues Bad Daddy Band w Dan Hovey @ JVs 10 Shambells @ Andy's Catfish Hodge @ JVs ACME Blues Co. @ Bangkok Blues Sookey Jump Blues Band @ Zoo Bar 11 Shambells @ JV's Tom Principato @ Band Second Saturday Hey Norton @ Bangkok Blues Mary Shaver w/Smokin' Polecats @ Zoo Bar Blues On Board, Clarence Turner, ACME Blues Company @ Chick Hall's Surf Club 12 Nighthawks @ Arlington Cinema & Draft House (Hungry For Music Benefit) Eric Sardinas @ State Theater Lord of the Strings w Dan Hovey, Pauline Dross & Martha Capone @ JVs Rory Block @ The Mainstay Acme Blues @ Glen Echo Park 13 Waverly Milor & Mike Westcott @ JVs 14 Jamie Lynch Band @ Ice House Cafe Swing Professors @ Clarendon Ballroom 15 Junkyard Saints @ Los Arrieros 16 Shortness Of Breath @ Bangkok Blues

Saturday November 11 at 9:00 PM <u>3 BANDS for \$10</u> ACME BLUES COMPANY Clarence "The Bluesman" Turner Mike Westcott & Blues On Board

Chick Hall's Surf Club 4711 Kenilworth Ave Bladensburg, MD

www.chickhallssurfclub.com 301-927-6310

17 Reggie Wayne Morris @ Zoo Bar Brian Gross Trio @ Sala Thai, Bethesda Chris Beard @ Sweet Caroline's Flatfoot Sam & the Educated Fools @ IVs 18 DCBS IBC Benefit Show w. Robert Lighthouse, Clarence Turner & Mikey **Ir.** at the Surf Club Shambells @ Cats Eve Melanie Mason @ Dogfish Head Alehouse J Street Jumpers @ Glen Echo Park Roustabouts @ Zoo Bar Brinson Doc Reed @ IVs Jamie Lynch Band @ Fins **19** Hot Tuna @ Birchmere Billy Hancock Band @ JVs 20 Daryl Davis @ Bangkok Blues The Swooners w Danielle Westphall @ JV's **21** Heart Of Blue @ Bangkok Blues Dave Chappell's Blues Band @ JVs 24 Robert Lighthouse @ Zoo Bar Kim Capps, Michael Baytop @ Rodeo Souled Out Band @ Sweet Caroline's Nighthawks w. Hubert Sumlin @ State Theatre Joe Nipper's All Stars @ Bangkok Blues

The Cutaways w Dave Kitchen & Dan Hovey@ JVs

25 Baltimore Blues Society Blues Challenge, Lil' Ed & Blues Imperials @ Rosedale American Legion Marianna Previti & the Polecats @ IVs

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Souled Out Band @ Sweet Caroline's Deanna Bogart @ Rams Head Charles Big Daddy Stallings @ Lexington Market Clarence Turner @ Bangkok Blues Flatfoot Sam & Educated Fools @ Zoo Bar

Brian Gross Trio @ Sala Thai, Bethesda 27 IMT presents MSG -The Acoustic Trio @ St Mark Presbyterian Church 28 Nighthawks @ Clarendon Ballroom Jacques Saxman Johnson @ Bangkok Blues

30 Little Ronnie & the Grand Dukes @ JVs

Generally Weekly Blues Events

Sun Paulverizers Jam @ Surf Club (except 1st Sunday) Big Four Combo Brunch @ Gordon Beirsch

Steve Kraemer (other Sunday bands listed those days) @ Cat's Eye Mark Mandel's All Star Jam @ Bangkok Blues Bobby Smith @ Firehouse Cue Jim Bennett & Lady Mary w. Unique Creation Band @ Lamont's Detroit Slim @ Full Moon Automatic Slim Jam @ Wahoo's Matt Bishop @ Zoo Bar Pro Blues Jam @ Sully's Mon Blues jam @ Surf Club Blues Jam @ Bangkok Blues Tue Ben Andrews @ Madam's Organ Doug Parks open mic @ Downtown Saloon Wed Robert Lighthouse @ Chief Ike's Mambo Room Big Dog Band @ Cat's Eye Blue Lou's Jam @ Surf Club Shack Breakers @ Rodeo Thu Ronnie Ray Jam @ Cactus Flats Big Boy Little Band Jam @ Zoo Bar Jam @ New Vegas Lounge Unforgiven @ The Saloun Ronnie Ray jam @ Cactus Flats Fri Blue Flames @ Bertha's Open Mic @ Pharoah's Sat Jam @ Archie's Barbershop Red Jones @ Full Moon Walter Robinson Band @ Pharoah's

Hungry For Music Benefit

Please join Hungry For Music on Nov 12 for a screening of the film **Lightning In a Bottle** documenting an all-star New York blues concert at Arlington Cinema & Draft House. Theater doors open at 7:00 PM and the film starts at 7:30 PM. The Nighthawks will perform directly after the film. They expect to have DVDs of the film signed by Shemekia Copeland and other stars for a raffle at the theater. Proceeds will help Hungry For Music help feed those in need. To purchase tickets online go to http://www.arlingtondrafthouse. com/?page=event&eid=203. Tickets are \$15 advance, \$17 at the door.

Places to Hear Blues

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

219 Basin Street Lounge, 219 King St., Alexandria, VA (703) 549-1141 8 X 10, Baltimore MD

Afterwords Cafe, 1517 Connecticut Ave NW, D.C. (202) 387-1462 Allegro, 13476 New Hampshire Ave, Silver Spring

Arlington Cinema & Draft,

Armadillos, 132 Dock St., Annapolis, MD (410) 268-6680

Apehangers, 9100 Crain Hwy (Rt. 301), Bel Alton, MD, 301-753-1650 Austin Grill, Silver Spring MD

B&G Tavern, 14602 Livingston Rd., Accokeek, MD, 301-292-4188 Ball's Bluff, 2 Louden Street, SW, #2D, Leesburg, VA (703) 777-7577 Bangkok Blues, 926 W. Broad St., Falls Church, VA (703) 534-0095 Bare Bones, 9150 Baltimore Nat'l Pike, Ellicott City, MD 21042, 410-461-0770 Barefoot Pelican, 156 Enterprise St., Sterling, VA (703) 444-2208 Bay Cafe, 2809 Boston St, Baltimore, MD

Beach Cove Lounge, Chesapeake Beach Md. 301 855 0025

Bertha's, 723 S. Broadway, Baltimore, MD (410) 327-0426

Berwyn Cafe, 5010 Berwyn Rd., College Park, MD (301) 345-9898

Birchmere, 3901 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria, VA (703) 549-5919

BlackRock Center for the Arts, 12902 Town Commons Ave Germantown MD (301) 528-2260

Blues Alley, 1073 Rear Wisconsin Ave. NW, DC (202) 337-4141

Bohemian Gardens, 2001 11th St NW DC

Bravo Bravo, 1001 Connecticut Ave NW DC.

Cactus Flats, 10026 Hansonville Rd., Frederick, MD (301) 898-3085

Caribou Coffee-7629 Old Georgetown Rd Bethesda MD

Cat's Eye, 1730 Thames St., Fells Point, Baltimore, MD (410) 276-9866

Chick Hall's Surf Club, 4711 Kenilworth Ave, Bladensburg (301) 927-6310

Chuck & Billy's Lounge, 2718 Georgia Ave., NW, DC (202) 232-0924

Clarendon Ballroom, 3185 Wilson Blvd.,

Arlington, VA (703) 218-6585

Club Rio 2335 Bladensburg Rd. N.E. Washington DC 20018 Dead Eye Saloon, Hanover Street, Baltimore, MD (410) 539-7784 Diamond Grill, 800 W Diamond Ave Gaitherburg, MD (301) 963-4847 Dr. Dremo's, 2001 Clarendon Ave. Arlington VA 703-528-4660 Ellington's on Eighth, 424A 8th St., SE, Washington, DC, 202-546-8308 Famous Dave's,917 Quince Orchard Rd, Gaithersburg, MD Fat Tuesday's, 10673 Braddock Rd, Fairfax (703) 385-5717 Finewine.com, Gaithersburg, MD, 20A Grand Corner Ave. (301)987-5933 Firestone's, 105 N Market Street, Frederick MD (301) 663-0330 Fish Bowl, 4802 Benson Ave., Baltimore, MD (410) 247-2474 Flanagan's Harp & Fiddle, 7637 Old Georgetown Rd, Bethesda, MD, 301-986-1007 Frisco Grille, 8865 Stanford Blvd., Columbia, MD 410-312-4907 Full Moon, 1710 Aliceanna St, Baltimore, MD (410) 558-2873 Gee's, 3415 52nd Ave., Cheverly, MD (301) 927-2582 Glen Echo Park, MacArthur Blvd & Goldboro Rd, Glen Echo, MD Grand Marquis, 18320 Village Mart Dr, Olney, MD (301) 260-0500 HR-57, 1610 14th Street, NW, Washington, DC (202) 667-3700 Holiday House, 6427 Harford Rd., Baltimore, MD (410) 426-6794 Hull Street Blues, 1222 Hull St, Baltimore, MD (410)727-7476 Hunter's, 10123 River Rd, Potomac, MD (301) 299-9300 Ice House Cafe, 760 Elden St., Herndon, VA (703) 471-4256 lota, 2832 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA (703) 522-8340 IMT, Unitarian-Universalist Church of Silver Spring, 10309 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, MD (301) 588-7525 J.J.'s Grill, 2005 Viers Mill Road, Rockville, MD (301) 309-6388 Jammin' Java , 231 Maple Ave, Vienna, VA (703) 255-1566 Jay's Saloon & Grille-3114 N 10th St Arlington VA 703-527-3093 Journeys, 10034 Hansonville Rd., Frederick, MD 21703, 301-898-7003 Junction Station, 1705 Edmonson Ave., Catonsville, MD (410) 747-6437 JV's, 6666 Arlington Blvd, Annandale VA (703) 241-9504 King of France Tavern, 15 Church St, Annapolis, MD (410) 216-6340

Next issue is Dec. 2006—Jan. 2007 deadline - November 17 Listings should be sent to Steve Levine, 5910 Bryn Mawr Rd, College Park, MD 20740. E-mail: cypressgrove@hotmail.com

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

King Street Blues, Alexandria VA

Lamont's, 4400 Livingston Rd, Pomonkey, MD (301) 283-0225 Madam's Organ, 2641 18th St., NW, DC (202) 667-5370 Magic Cue, 13032 Middlebrook Rd., Germantown, MD (301) 916-7665 Mayo's Yacht Club, 1246 Mayo Rd., Edgewater, MD 410-956-2722 Mexicali Blues, 2933 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA (703) 812-9352 Memories, 2360 Old Washington Rd., Waldorf, MD, 301-932-7200 Michaels Cafe 2119 York Rd Timonium MD Michael's Pub, Kings Contrivance Ctr, Columbia, MD (410) 290-7878 Mom's in the Kitchen, 114 S. Solomons Island Rd., Prince Frederick, MD 410-535-4355 Murphy's Pub, 6971 Indian Head Hwy (Rt. 210), Bryans Road, MD, 301-375-9230

New Deal Cafe, Roosevelt Center, Greenbelt, MD, 301-474-5642 New Haven Lounge, Northwood Shopping Ctr, Baltimore, MD (410) 366-7416

> New Vegas Lounge, 1415 P St., NW,, DC (202) 483-3971 Okra's Louisiana Bistro, Center and Battle St., Manassas, VA (703)330-2729 Olde Towne Tavern, Frederick MD Oliver's Saloon, 531 Main St., Laurel, MD (301) 490-9200 Oliver's Carriage House, 5410 Leaf Treader Way, Columbia, MD, 410-370-1336 Outta the Way Cafe, 17503 Redland Rd., Derwood, MD (301) 963-6895 Perry's Restaurant, 1210 Annapolis Rd., Odenton, MD, 410-674-4000 Pharoah's Rock N' Blues Bar & Grill 1817 Columbia Rd NW DC 202-232-6009 Ram's Head, 33 West St., Annapolis, MD (410) 268-4545 Ram's Head Live, 20 Market Place, Baltimore MD Rappahannock Coffee & Roasting, 2406 Columbia Pike, Arlington, Virginia 703-271-0007 Recher Theatre, 512 York Rd., Towson, MD (410) 337-7210 Rendevous Inn, 362 Front St., Perryville, MD (410) 642-0045 Rodeo, Georgia Ave. Silver Spring MD Roots Cafe, 27th & Paul Streets, Baltimore, MD (410) 880-3883 Rosedale American Legion, 1311 Seling Ave.,

Rosedale, MD

Round Table, 4859 Wisconsin Ave., NW, DC (202) 362-1250 Santa Fe Grill, 216 William St., Fredericksburg, VA (540) 371-0500 Shilla Bakery & Cafe, 10800-D Rhode Island Ave, Beltsville, MD Spanish Ballroom, Glen Echo, MD Squire Rockwell's, 8700 Little River Turnpike, Annandale VA (703) 560-3600 St. Elmo's Coffee , 2300 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria, VA (703) 739-9268 St. James Pub, 48579 Mattapany Rd., Lexington Park, MD, 301-737-0667 St Mark Presbyterian Church, 10701 Old Georgetown Rd, Rockville MD Starland Cafe, 5125 MacArthur Blvd, NW (202) 244-9396 State Theatre, 220 N. Washington St., Falls Church, VA (703) 237-0300 Sully's, 14513 Lee Jackson Hwy, Chantilly, VA (703) 818-9292 Summit Station, 227 E. Diamond Ave., Gaithersburg, (301) 519-9400 Sunset Grille, 7250 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA (703) 658-0982 Sweet Caroline's, 29 W Cork St, Winchester VA (540) 723-8805 Truffles, 1001 Olney-Sandy Spring Rd Sandy Spring, MD (240) 774-7309 Twins, 1344 U St, NW DC (202) 234-0072 Union Hotel, 1282 Susquehanna Rd., Port Deposit, MD 410-378-3503 Waterman's Crab House, Rock Hall, MD (410) 810-2631 Whitlow's on Wilson, 2854 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA (703) 276-9693 Whispers, Glen Burnie MD Wild Azalea, 1648 Crystal Sq Arcade, Arlington, VA (703) 413-2250 Wolf Trap, Vienna, VA (703) 255-1900 Zodiac Lounge Gaithersberg, MD Zoo Bar, 3000 Connecticut Ave., NW, DC (202) 232-4225

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

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Specialty Profiles

Concord Music Group's release of six initial Specialty Profile budget reissues hopefully will introduce some to the great music that has been issued by Fantasy prior to Concord's acquisition of Fantasy last year. Originally called Juke Box, Specialty was one of the independent labels that emerged after World War II that was central in the release of so much rhythm'n'blues, gospel and blues as well as some of the most important pioneering rock'n'roll recordings. These releases have 14 performances by the featured artist and a second bonus CD with ten performances by Specialty artists.

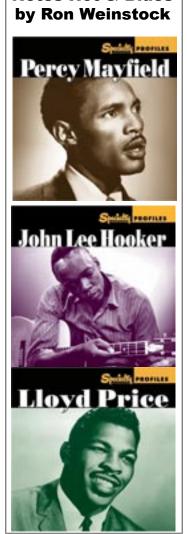
Roy Milton, inspired by the big bands led his Solid Senders, the prototypical jump blues band, that in its tight, punchy sound captured some of the flavor of the bigger bands on a programme of blues and jump numbers. Milton was a swinging drummer and an ingratiating vocalist with a terrific band that featured the wonderful pianist, Camille Howard. Milton had many charting records which became staples of the emerging rhythm and blues music. Two of his recordings Milton's Boogie, his version of Count Basie's Boogie Woogie and Milton's Hop Skip & Jump were recorded by Elmore James pianist Little Johnnie Jones while such numbers as R.M. Blues and Information Blues still appeal with the strong driving swing and superb musicianship. This is terrific stuff.

John Lee Hooker recorded prolifically between the late forties and early fifties for a variety of labels including Specialty who acquired sides produced by Bernie Besman in Detroit. The 14 selections presented by Specialty capture Hooker on his driving one-chord boogies such as his revisiting of his first hit, *Boogie Chillen*, his slow brooding lament about a cheating woman which he would later visit for Vee-Jay, *I'm Mad*, and the hot duet with harmonica player Eddie Burns, *Burnin' Hell*, where he proclaims "Ain't no heaven, ain't no burning hell" as he lays down a hot boogie guitar riff." There is a small combo version of Rosco Gordon's *No More Doggin'*. This is this writer's favorite period of John

Lee Hooker's recording with some of his most powerful recordings to which this disc is an excellent introduction.

After Fats Domino, probably no New Orleans artist had the impact of one **Lloyd Price** whose recording *Lawdy Miss Clawdy* was one of the first rhythm and blues hit recordings to cross over to a white audience in a massive fashion. Price went on to a celebrated recording and performing career. The 14 selections here come from two CDs of his music and is a reasonable sample of his earliest recordings, dating from 1952 or 1953 with the exception of 1956's *Rock 'n' Roll Dance*. Price's earliest recordings for Specialty had him backed by Dave Bartholomew's legendary studio band with Fats Domino on piano for the *Lawdy Miss Clawdy* session while later sessions included pianists Edward Frank and Huey 'Piano' Smith and such horn players as Wallace Davenport, Herb Hardesty. These tracks are classic New Orleans R&B with tracks like *Mailman Blues*, or *Where You At?*, being hot rockers. Price's youth perhaps leads to some vocals sounding as a bit overwrought (*If Crying Was Murder*).

Larry Williams was Lloyd Price's second cousin, and born in New Orleans although his family moved to the West Coast in his youth, returning to the New Orleans a couple of times, including stints with his cousin as driver and valet and then briefly with Fats Domino. He joined Specialty around the time Little Richard had quit music and with hits like *Bony Moronie, Short Fat Fanny* and *Dizzy Miss Lizzy,* which also influenced an imaginative John in Liverpool. He was a solid pianist, pounding out his boogie rocking licks backed by some of the best studio bands in Hollywood with transplanted New Orleans



Notes Hot & Blues

drummer Earl Palmer anchoring things. These were splendid rock and roll recording. There is a nice rendition of his cousin's *Just Because* along with Sonny Bono's *High School Dance* and *She Said Yeah*, the coupling *Bad Boy* and *Slow Down*, covered by the Beatles, and *Little School Girl*, a reworking of the blues classic, *Good Morning Little Schoolgirl*. Williams could not handle success leading to drug problems and an early death, but his legacy is these terrific recordings.

Percy Mayfield was labeled The Poet Laureate of the Blues, for his wonderfully crafted sophisticated blues. As a performer, he sang with an intimacy that matched the sophistication of his lyrics. Until disfigures in an auto accident he had the looks to make him a major star and still remained an major songwriter (hired by Rat Charles) as well as a performer who continued to make thoughtful and sophisticated recordings until his death. His songs, including Please Send Me Someone to Love, Strange Things Happening, The River's Invitation, Lost Love (aka Baby Please) and Lost Mind, have become blues standards and his original recordings are terrific. Given that only 14 selections were chosen, Mayfield's early demo of Hit the Road, Jack, might have been omitted along with the duet with Joy Hamilton, Sugar Mama-Peachy Papa, as they are below the level of these other included recordings.

The last of the reissues is devoted to the legendary Sam Cooke with the Soul Stirrers and includes of a nice sampling of his early gospel recordings along with several of his earliest pop recordings. Nine of the selections are Cooke as a member with the Soul Stirrers in which he shares the lead with Paul Foster whose vocals as remarkable as Cooke's. Listen to the closing *I'm Gonna Build Right on That Shore,* where Foster takes the first lead with Cooke taking the lead mid-song and then the two trade lead verses. Its a remarkable performance but just one of several classic gospel recordings here including renditions of Thomas Dorsey's *Peace in the Valley,* Cooke's *Touch the Hem of His Garment* and *Jesus Gave Me Water.* The five pop performances by Cooke include

I'll Come Running Back to You, Lovable and *I Don't Want to Cry,* but Cooke's mostly are overshadowed by Cooke's later pop recordings. Still, this is a fine overview of early Sam Cooke and the Soul Stirrers recordings sound fresh today.

Jackie Payne/Steve Edmondson

The Jackie Payne-Steve Edmondson Band had a critical success with their release of a couple years back, Partners in the Blues. It was on Burnside and did not receive the exposure it deserved. Delta Groove, quickly becoming one of the more significant blues labels, has issued their latest release, Master of the Game, a set of solid uptown blues with a hefty dash of Payne's soulful vocals and Edmondson's fleet modern blues guitar. Payne is a veteran who first came to the attention of some from his tenure with the legendary Johnny Otis. Otis's son, Nicky in fact anchors the strong band heard here who back Payne on a collection of mostly originals which cover a range of typical blues themes from the Mean Evil Woman, about a cajun woman who doesn't treat men any good but got loving so good, to the Woman in Kansas City, who will do anything for Jackie even selling her soul to the devil to keep him from me. Edmondson's crisp solo here evokes Magic Sam. On the title track, Payne sings fervently that when it comes to being a fool in love, he is the master of the game. Remakes include an enjoyable rendition of O.V. Wright's A Nickel & a Nail, that doesn't come close to the heat of the original or Otis Clay's marvelous recording, a strong rendition of Just the One and a rendition of I'll take Care of You, that might have been stronger with a slightly larger horn section and a bit more Joe Scott in the horn arrangement. Overall this is a very

Notes Hot & Blue Continued

solid effort. Payne is a real good singer and the band is tight and can swing as well as rock. It is easy to recommend this album of uptown blues although I do not think it is as good as **Partners in the Blues**.

Trudy Lynn

Trudy Lynn got notice with her marvelous soulful blues recordings on the Icihban label but since that label's demise her recordings have been less frequent. She appeared on some of trumpeterbandleader Calvin Owens project, had a CD on Ruf, but her new album on Owens' Sawdust Alley Records, proclaims I'm Still Here. With a variety of guests including clarinetist Michael White, guitarists Guitar Shorty and Clarence Holliman and zydeco accordionist, Jabo, this disc is compiled from sessions over several years. With Owens Big Band backing her, Lynn displays why she is such a highly regarded vocalist. She has a powerful voice but convinces with her command as a singer who can handle a soft ballad as she can blast out a jumping number. Unfortunately too much of the material here consists of generic blues songs about swinging or Trudy being a Blues Singing Woman. The material is not as strong as the authority which with Lynn invests her performances. Lynn's own song, which provides the album with its title, is stronger as she reflects on her life as a performer and a blues singer and her struggle to keep carrying on. Hands Off My Woman is one of two vocals by trumpeter Nelson Mills. It is an OK number but this is this is Trudy's album and why do I want to here some gentleman singing about his woman is his property even if he loves her. Saturday Night is an instrumental where Owens takes a solo. Since I Found You is one of the better songs here, a soul-ballad whose lyric matches Lynn's vocal. Another good number is Left Me Singin' the Blues about a man who left her with Charles Davis contributing a nice solo. A bit of big band zydeco can be head on Boogie Woogie Gumbo, an instrumental with a striking solo by the late Clarence Holliman. A nice track, but this is Trudy's album and its unfortunate that they did not have a selection of

Holliman playing behind Trudy. You're the Only One is a wonderfully sung love song, while Welcome Home Baby, has a nice lyric of getting past what happened in past while the closing Payin' the Price has a somewhat quicker tempo for a solid soul-blues performance. Trudy Lynn has one of those voices and is well worth listening to even on lesser material as here.

Book Bytes

Texas Zydeco by Roger Wood & James Fraher (photographer)

(University of Texas Press 2006)

Zydeco music is usually associated with Louisiana, but historically Texas, and especially the city of Houston has been central to the growth and development of the idiom from the more traditional la la music of the creole population that is concentrated in southwestern Louisiana and neighboring portions of Texas that include Texas. The place of Texas in the rise and evolution of zydeco is the subject of **Texas Zydeco**, the latest collaboration between writer Roger Wood and photographer James Fraher, who previously collaborated in **Down in Houston Blues in Bayou City**, the superb book on Houston's blues scene.

Like the previous volume, Wood does more than simply provide sketches of the history of the music. He takes us into the world of the zydeco as his first chapter introduces us to the various venues for zydeco and the audience and musicians there ranging from the clubs and church dances to the all day festivals at a rodeo arena. The history of the music as it was transformed from la la to zydeco and

Notes Hot & Blues by Ron Weinstock



some of the pioneering figures and recordings are presented and the fact that some of the recordings were made in Houston including a rare Lightnin' Hopkins recording on organ, *Zologo*. Folklorist Mack McCormick was responsible for the spelling of zydeco, but it was not until a Clifton Chenier recording used that spelling, that this spelling received the credibility until it became the established way to spell the term

A chapter is devoted to Chenier and his influence. Chenier's mix of traditional creole music with rhythm and blues as well as his use of the piano accordion and invention of the frottoir led to the emergence of zydeco as a musical genre. There are interviews with some of Clifton's contemporaries as well as some of the musicians who played with him, including his son C.J, and guitarists Philip Walker and Sherman Robertson. The latter three recall their experiences with Clifton and how he was a mentor to them which is reflected in the current careers.

Another chapter discusses some of the post-Chenier performers in the world of Texas zydeco, noting that many, but not all, have adopted the button accordion as opposed to the chromatic piano accordion, and provides an overview of these new breed performers including Corey Ledet, Dora and the Zydeco Bad Boyz, J. Paul and Skip Riteau, and in showing their individual maturation as artists how Texas remains a fertile ground for zydeco to continue to evolve.

James Fraher, certainly one of the most outstanding blues photographers alive, contributes some stunning photography. This book brings to life the world of zydeco, not simply reciting the lives of major figures, and joins **Down in Houston** as an important and engrossing book on African-American vernacular music traditions. You may just get inspired to buy some of the recordings discussed.

This coffee-table sized book would obviously make a wonderful present for any creole blues fans you may have, but do yourself a favor a pick up a copy for yourself.



I was not able to locate a picture of the late Moody Combest for last issue. Subsequently I found this one where she watches her sister Virginia be greeted by RL Burnside at Tornado Alley in the mid-nineties. I hope it gives a sense of the joy she brought to so many. I know I will miss her deeply.

NEW DCBS BOARD MEMBERS NEEDED Contact Kathy Lestsantear at vp@dcblues.org for more information.

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Blues in Passing Joe Shamwell

Washington native Joe Shambell, who teamed up with such legendary individuals such as Eddie Floyd and Issac Hayes as a songwriter, passed away on October 16 at the age of 62. He was also a popular radio personality in DC and the south and recently was research director for ABC radio He was also a past member the DCBS's Board of Directors.

Shamwell was working at the legendary Waxie Maxie's Record Store when in 1967 he befriended Eddie Floyd. He moved to Memphis and collaborated with Floyd on many songs. He also collaborated with Isaac Hayes, David Porter, Tommy Tate, Steve Cropper, William Bell, Homer Banks, and others. Among those who recorded his songs included Carla Thomas, Rufus Thomas, Eddie Floyd, Tommy Tate, the Bar Kays, William Bell, Con-Funk-Shun, Johnnie Taylor and Janet Jackson. Later he worked in radio and was known as The Soul Ranger worked in radio at WHUR, Washington D.C., WLOK Mem-

phis, and WOKJ, Jackson MS. For a time he was also a house songwriter for Malaco Records contributing songs to among others, Z.Z. Hill (*I'm a Blues Man, Shade Tree Mechanic*), Bobby Bland, Denise LaSalle and Little Milton. *Shade Tree Mechanic* is a regular part of The Nighthawks repertoire who met Shamwell at The 2002 DC Blues Festival where they in fact had performed the song. He will be missed by the many who had a chance to meet him.

Henry Townsend

St. Louis blues legend Henry Townsend, whose performing and recording career extended nine decades, passed away in late September in Mequon, Wisconsin where he was hospitalized after having had gone to perform and to be honored at the First Paramount Blues Festival in Grafton, Wisconsin. Townsend was the last living artist that had recorded for Paramount, the legendary 'Race Records'' label which had issued clas-

sic recordings by Charlie Patton, Tommy Johnson, Son House, Blind Lemon Jefferson, Ma Rainey and Ida Cox.

Born September 24, 1909 in Shelby, Mississippi, Townsend grew up in Cairo, Illinois and later moved to St. Louis. He first recorded in 1929 for Columbia included *Mistreated Blues* and *Henry's Worried Blues*. He recorded *Doctor Oh Doctor* for Paramount in 1931, *No Home Blues* for Victor and *She's Got a Mean Disposition* for Bluebird in 1935.

Townsend performed with many of the blues giants in the 1930s including Lonnie Johnson, Henry Spaulding, Robert Johnson, Walter Davis, Roosevelt Sykes, Big Joe Williams, and Sonny Boy Williamson. He brought Williams to Chicago in 1935 for Williams first recordings which included *Somebody's Been Borrowing That Stuff* and the first recording of *Baby Please Don't Go* In 1937 he returned to Chicago along with Robert Nighthawk and Sonny Boy Williamson for one of the most important and influential recording sessions of the pre-World War II blues. He would record in every decade until he passed and likely was the longest recording artist in history. The author of hundreds of songs and sideman on countless recordings, Townsend became the patriarch of St. Louis blues, was featured in a BBC documentary.

The DC Blues Society presented Henry Townsend with the Smithsonian in the late 1980s and he was featured with other contemporaries of Robert Johnson at the 1991 Folklife Festival. He continued to per-

form and record until his death. He was honored by the National Endowment of the Arts with a National Heritage Award in 1985.

Etta Baker

Etta Baker, one of the leading exponents of the Piedmont fingerstyle approach to guitar passed away in Fairfax, Virginia, on September 25. She was 93 and had been visiting an ailing sister. Baker grew up in North Carolina. Other members of her family were proficient in blues, hymns, and rags. She first gained notoriety in 1956 when she appeared on a compilation album called **Instrumental Music of the Southern Appala**-

chians. This album was highly influential on a number of persons during the folk revival including Bob Dylan and Taj Mahal. Taj was a student at UMASS in the early 60s when he first heard this LP in a college dorm: "I was immediately taken by her version of *Railroad Bill*. She is the greatest influence in my guitar playing."

She was also recorded by Stephen Michaelson (aka Delta X). He recorded Etta along with her sister Cora and his husband Theopolis Lacey Phillips. The album **Music From The Hills of Caldwell County**, was issued in 1975 on Physical Records and unfortunately the record has never been issued on CD, unlike **Instrumental Music**. In recent years she was associated with the Music Maker Foundation who issued an excellent CD in 2004, **Etta Baker with Taj Mahal**. She was also honored

with a National Heritage Award. Her death is another significant loss to the blues world

Snooky Pryor

Pioneering blues harmonica master, James 'Snooky' Pryor, passed away on October 19, at the age of 85. He started playing harmonica in his native Mississippi at the age of 8 and moved to Chicago in 1940. Pryor was perhaps the first blues harmonica player to play through a PA system and made a number of excellent pioneering recordings that were among the earliest examples of the post-war Chicago style including *Telephone Blues* with Moody Jones for Planet Records, *Raisin' Sand* for JOB and *Judgement Day* for Vee-Jay.

Not having commercial success he retired from active performing in the sixties although his career was revived in the mid-seventies and he toured Europe and recorded, often in the company of fellow veteran Chicago bluesman, Homesick James Williamson with several albums resulting. He was a more visible figure in the last couple decades. Besides touring and playing festivals, he recorded for Antone's, Blind Pig and Electro-Fi, with his last album being issued in 2002 in Electro-Fi.





Top- The late Joe Shamwell with the Night-

hawks backstage at 2002 DC Blues Festival.

Bottom - The late Henry Townsend'at 1991

Smithsonian Folklife Festival.



DCBS Holding IBC Winners Benefit Show November 18 at the Surf Club

Saturday, November 18, the DC Blues Society will feature the harmonica blues of Mikey Jr., as well as the Society's acoustic blues winner, Robert Lighthouse, and the Battle of the Bands winner, The Clarence Turner Band at Chick Hall's Surf Club. This show is a benefit to raise funds to help defray some of the costs Lighthouse and Turner will incur in competing in the Blues Foundation's International Blues Challenge in Memphis in February, 2007. Robert Lighthouse won the DCBS' 1st Battle of the Blues in 1993

and this year was the winner of the Society's acoustic blues challenge and will represent the Society in the solo-duo category. Bat-



tle of the Bands winner Clarence Turner was a runner-up when the Society revived the Battle of the Blues at the 2002 DC Blues Festival and has established himself in the DC blues community for his soulful singing and guitar.

Mikey Jr., is a 26 year harmonicaplayer and vocalist who has established himself as a solid traditionally rooted player in the classic Chicago vein. He is backed by a strong band, The Stone Cold Blues whose members include bassist Jimmy Pritchard, a veteran of the Sonny Rhodes band; drummer Adam Stranberg who has played

with a variety of jazz and blues masters including Johnny Rawls; and guitarist Matt Daniels who brings an old school approach to the music. With the leader's authoritative vocals and harp they won the Baltimore Blues Society's Battle of the Blues a couple years ago, and developed a following around through appearances at BBS events like the Alonzo's Memorial Picnic and Charm City clubs like the Cat's Eye. Mikey Jr. just won the Diamond State Blues Society's Blues Challenge and will be competing along with Clarence Turner at the IBC Band competition. Mikey has several cds out, one of which your editor has and it is an excellent no-nonsense recording of Chicago harmonica blues. This will be the first of what I am sure will be regular appearances in the DC area, so you do not want to miss them.

Advance tickets are \$10 members, \$12 nonmembers and you can use the coupon on the inside back cover or call (301)322-4808. Tickets will be \$15.00 at the door. Do come out for a great night of blues.

Mikey Jr. picture © Bob Sekinger; Robert Lighthouse from this year's DC Blues Festival © Ron Weinstock

Battle of Bands Thank-yous

Special thanks to those of you who came out to the very hot band competition. All the bands were outstanding, but there could only be one. The party-obsessed crowd danced tirelessly and a dollop of drama was added as MSG- The Acoustic Blues Trio nipped at the heels of the winning Clarence "The Bluesman" Turner & Band. I encourage readers to support Clarence & his band and our solo artist winner, Robert Lighthouse, as the DC area's representatives to the IBC in Memphis 1-3 February 2006. You can show that support by attending the fundraiser on 18 November at Chick Hall's Surf Club to help defray their expenses to Memphis. Hurry up and order tickets now. Use the form on page and mail it to us. Or call the Surf Club at 301-927-6310 or the DCBS ticket order line 301-322-4808.

Thanks again to everyone who helped make this competition a success especially the judges; Chris Hall & Surf Club for having us in the house; the Volunteers Blu Lou Rao for managing the stage; Mike on the sound Scorekeeper: Renee Kofi-Bruce; Timekeeper: Rosalind Hebron; Door: Sylvia Kiser, Paul Hayes & Roderick Hill; Jazs for running raffles with help from Norman Bowlding & Tori Schoppert. Thanks on behalf of DC Blues Society,

Felix McLairen, President

Blues News ISC Deadline Extended

The International Songwriting Competition (ISC) has extended its submission deadline, so if you haven't already entered, you still have a chance. If you already have entered and wish to submit additional songs, you can still enter. All entries must be posted on or before November 17, 2006. ISC will continue to take online entries, as well as entries through the mail; the online submission platform will be open until 11:59 P.M. EST, November 17. There is over \$150,000 in cash and prizes and open to all levels of amateur and professional songwriters throughout the world.

For more information go to www.songwritingcompetition. com to enter your songs.

Barbershop News

Our friends at the Archie Edwards Blues Heritage Foundation is having a CD release party for the **Peace and Forgiveness** CD that is a fundraiser for the Foundation's activities. Many of the Barbershop regulars will ne performing. It takes place on November 3 at Rodeo in Silver Spring.

Also MSG-The Acoustic Trio, comprised of Barbershop regulars Jackie Merritt, Miles Spicer & Reesa Gibbs, will be performing at The Institute of Musical Traditions concert in Monday, November 27 at the St. Mark Presbyterian Church in Rockville. For more information check IMT's website at www.imtfolk.org.

Santana Blues DVD Set Features Bobby Parker

Eagle Rock Entertainment has just issued a three DVD set **Carlos Santana Presents: Blues at Montreux 2004**. DVDs feature Bobby Parker, Clarence 'Gatemouth' Brown and Buddy Guy with each artist doing a set. Carlos Santana joins them on stage at the set's end. Bobby does a typical set for him with Santana joining him for three numbers including *Watch Your Self*. Parker also joins Santana at the end of Buddy Guy's set. With a list price of \$24.98, this three-DVD set looks like a bargain and from what I have

seen of this, it is fabulous.

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D.C. Blues Society Membership Application/Order Form

MEMBER DISCOUNTS

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

1/2 price discount at **Blues Alley** (select shows) DCBS members receive half off the normal admission

for blues shows that do not have advance ticket sales.



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

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

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

Contributions (not membership dues or merchandise) to the D.C. Blues Society are tax-deductible Renewal Date: enter check mark if renewal: Name: Address: City/State Zip Code: Phone Number: Email Address: Dues per year -Circle appropriate one: Student: \$15.00 Individual: \$25.00 Family: \$35.00 Corporate: \$50.00 Canada- \$ 35.00 (US) Other countries: \$50.00 Family members (list names): We will get back to you! Interested in volunteering? **IBC Battle of Bands Winner Fundraiser** Nov., 18 at Surf Club - \$15 at Door # Member tickets. tickets ____ times \$10/ticket # Non-member member___ times \$12/ticket Annual Holiday Party w. David Coles Dec. 15 at Surf Club - \$15 at Door # Member tickets. tickets ____ times \$10/ticket # Non-member member____ times \$12/ticket Total for tickets Ś **Donations for the DC Blues Festival/Society** See website for levels of donations and premiums Level of donation Amount donated Other donation

Total enclosed:

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



From the DC Blues Festival workshops. Top - MSG - The Acoustic Trio appeared as part of the Archie Edwards Barbershop Workshop; Bottom - The Zydeco Dance Workshop. Photos © Ron Weinstock

More Battle of the Blues Photos: Top- Clarence Turner and his harp player. Bottom - Sherwood takes his blues into the Surf Club crowd. Photo © Ron Weinstock



DC Blues Society PO Box 77315 Washington DC 20013-7315

IBC Benefit Show at the Surf Club November 18 DCBS Holiday Party December 15 Order Form for Advance Tickets - inside back cover

Monthly Jam at Surf Club November 5