

Capital Blues Messen

January 2009

Volume 3 Issue 1



Pre-Inaugural Party SATURDAY JANUARY 17, 2009 HARRINGTON

& BAND

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Lil' Dave & Whop Frazier Return	Back Cover



THE DC BLUES SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 77315 WASHINGTON, DC 20013-7315 www.dcblues.org Hotline: 202-962-0112



The DC Blues Society is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to keeping the Blues alive through outreach and education. It is funded in part by the DC Commission on the Arts & Humanities, an agency supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts. The DC Blues Society is a proud affiliate of the Blues Foundation www.dcblues.org.

The DCBS' newsletter, *The Capital Blues Messenger*, is published monthly (unless otherwise noted). Past newsletters are available on the DCBS website, www.dcblues.org

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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, cartoons and photography. Please e-mail to editor@dcblues.org.

Blues listings for bands should be sent to calendar@dcblues.org or mail to Steve Levine, 5910 Bryn Mawr Rd. College Park, MD 20740.

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

ADVERTISE IN THE DCBS CAPITAL BLUES MESSENGER

AD RATE	S
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1/4 page	\$40
1/3 page	\$55
1/2 page	\$75
2/3 page	\$110
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Ads should be at least 200 dpi; optimum 300 dpi. Print edition is in black & white. For on-line rates, go to www.dcblues.org.

Questions? Email ads@dcblues.org

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Annual membership: Student \$15 (send copy of photo ID), Individual \$25, Family \$35, Canada \$35 (US), other countries \$50 (US). You can join on-line or send your check to DC Blues Society, P.O. Box 77315, Washington, DC 20013-7315. Application on page 11. Contributions (not dues) are tax-deductible.

Become a member of DCBS—it's simple, quick and easy:

- Use the mail-in application on Page 11,
- Apply on-line at <u>www.dcblues.org</u> or
- Sign up at DCBS sponsored events and other venues where the DCBS booth is exhibiting.

New members signing up at DCBS events or at the DCBS exhibit booth will receive a special, limited edition CD featuring 17 tunes by some of the best bands in the DC area. Join today and get your copy of this exciting CD!

Members are invited to attend the monthly DCBS Board meetings. For information, contact president@dcblues.org.



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DCBS on MySpace: Stacy Brooks DCBS on PayPal: Fred Morser



Happy Birthday to Norman Bowlding who shows how easy it is to join!

and get involved . . .

Volunteers are the lifeblood of DCBS. Visit www.dcblues.org to learn more about all its volunteer opportunities and to apply. Here's a few examples of positions in need of your talents and time:

DCBS Street Team Representatives:

Contact: ads@dcblues.org

Blues in the Schools (BITS) Reps:

Contact: Dr. S.O. Feelgood 301-322-4808 Bookkeeper, Development Assistants, Grants

Writers, Newsletter Assistant: Contact: president@dcblues.org. Volunteer Coordinator Assistants:

Contact: volunteer@dcblues.org. **DCBS Websters:**

Contact: webmaster@dcblues.org.

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Happy New Year and thanks to all our contributing writers and photographers. Your help throughout the year make this publication possible.

President's Drum

Happy New Year!

One of the best reasons for celebration at the dawn of this new year is that the dismal past year is over. The greatest reason for pause, as we launch into 2009, is the knowledge that our country's economic malaise and its attendant woes (shrinking retirement accounts, growing unemployment, homelessness, domestic abuse and general anxiety) will not go away by next Christmas.

The New Year's Eve Dinner & Show

The DC Blues Society provided the perfect antidote to end the blahs of 2008. Our first New Year's Eve dinner and dance was a riproaring success, lifting spirits and that ain't all — I'll get to that in a minute. Clarence "The Bluesman" Turner, Mike Westcott, Wave Milor, and the rest of the band, Andrew Westcott (keyboard), Phil Westcott (bass) and special guest drummer Rod Gross [from the Shemekia Copeland band] laid down boogie Blues tunes and kept the packed house on the dance floor [see photo highlights on Page 4.] The band got rave reviews from the crowd with several guests asking me when the three front men would be playing together again. All I can say is that we have no current plans for the trio to return but will definitely keep that configuration in mind for future events.



By all accounts, the dinner was all that and a plate of black-eyed peas! The volunteers, who deserve to be called out, served up a delicious bounty that included those black-eyed peas (for luck), greens, green beans (for money), rice, ham, turkey and cornbread. Our thanks to Arneda Bowens, Ida Campbell, Linda Liner, Emma P. Ward, Dorothy Hines.

and Sylvia Kaiser [the two lovely ladies above], Mary Knieser, Alice Noe, Donald Nick Rogers and Miss Grace from the Surf Club Live.

Now, back to how high those spirits were lifted at 2008's closeout party. It seems [I had to rely on eyewitness accounts as I was elsewhere when this climactic moment occurred — darn!] that the music and the moment reached a fever pitch for one special woman who shimmied and gyrated on the dance floor. With her head bobbing and rocking, she reached under her clothes and, despite some obvious diminished motor control, deftly pulled out her bra and enthusiastically spun it over her head like a helicopter.

Nowhere else could Blues lovers bring in the new year with as much fun and gastronomical pleasures so economically. With the success of this first effort, we are likely to continue the event and make it a DCBS tradition along with our other great annual events.

We'll be looking for more volunteers to help spread the laborintensive effort of preparing so much good food. I hope some of you will pitch in when we come a' calling for this and our many other events throughout 2009.

Blues Time in 2009



Other great reasons to look forward to the new year are all the fun-filled activities DCBS plans to lay on you in the 0-9. Da Gator [WPFW 89.3 FM, Noon-2 pm] started his first show of the new year with a theme that celebrated the joy of the weekend. Kicking off the set with Roy C's "Living for the Weekend" and then a tune from Ms. Jody, talking about working hard all week and singing "It's Friday and I wanna get my groove on." The DCBS will be with you all year-long providing relief from the stress of the workaday world.

Come join us as DCBS celebrates

the inauguration of Barack Obama with its 2009 kick-off event on

Saturday, January 17 (doors open at 8 pm). **ObamaRama** will feature C.W. Harrington (bottom left column) and his six-piece band [including his horn section]. It's a guaranteed (have to say it) **barackin'** good time that will keep you on the dance floor!

Don't feel bad if you haven't heard of C.W. Feel bad if you miss him in this show. Advance ticket sales are robust and it may sell out soon. We guarantee seating to all advance purchases. As for the rest of you — you'll have to squeeze in around the bar. Get your tickets now at www.dcblues.org.

Then get ready for a double dose of the Winter Blues. It'll be a Friday night groove when Mississippi Delta Bluesman Lil' Dave Thompson (top right) returns to the Surf Club Live for a special pre-Valentine's Day show on February 13. If you remember the throw-down he sparked at last year's Festival After Party, you won't want to miss this one.

DCBS is also celebrating Black History Month with another "Best of 2008" revival show. Whop Frazier (bottom right) returns to the Surf Club Live on Saturday, February 28. His first-time Holiday Party appearance (photos on Page 4) was wildly popular and compelled us to bring him back so more of you could get a chance to see and hear him and guitar wizard, Tom Newman. They'll play the music that makes you move and want to keep right on moving.

Both of these shows are **must-see events** and again, I recommend buying advance tickets: \$10 members; \$12 non-members; \$15 at the door. There is a mail-in form on Page 7 or call 301-322-4808 or order on-line at **www.dcblues.org**.

DCBS promises many musical treats in 2009, from the First Sunday Open Blues Jams to the day-long Annual DC Blues Festival. Below is a tentative slate of events (some dates are subject to change).

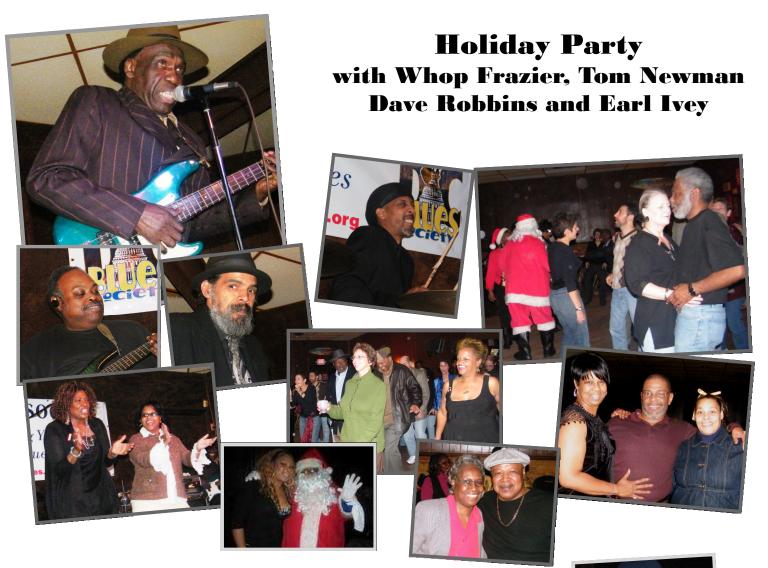


- April 4: Chick Hall Fest and Band Auditions. In honor of the former owner of the Surf Club and a true guitar legend, we've renamed this event in which the audience chooses a band or performer for a slot in the Annual DC Blues Festival on September 5.
- June 13 (Tentative): Festival Fundraiser with Bob Margolin and Diunna Greenleaf
- July 18: Festival Fundraiser with Bryan Lee
- August 2: 5th Annual Fish'n Blues & Bike Contest
- September 5: 21st Annual (free) DC Blues Festival and After Party Fundraiser
- October 10: Battle of the Bands
- October 31: Blues in the Schools Fundraiser with Eric Bibb
- November: WinnerFest featuring Battle of Bands winner
- December 19: Holiday Party
- December 31: New Year's Eve Party

We wish everyone a great 2009! Stick with the DC Blues Society and help make it so.

Blues Always,





New Year's Eve Party featuring Clarence "The Bluesman" Turner, Mike Westcott & Waverly Milor with Andrew Westcott. Phil Westcott & Rod Gross



Capital Blues Messenger





The 25th Annual IBC — Just Around the Corner

The program for the 25th International Blues Challenge (IBC), February 4–7, 2009 in Memphis, TN, is taking shape. This is the largest gathering of Blues musicians in the world and will feature more

than 100 bands and 60 solo/duo acts from 36 states and nine countries. IBC winners will receive cash prizes, professional services and bookings at top Blues festivals.

The DC Blues Society will be represented by Billy Thompson; Baltimore Blues Society by Clarence "The Bluesman" Turner and the Blue Ridge Blues Society (Roanoke, VA) by Mike Westcott and Blues on Board with Waverly Milor (harp). Events also include the International



L to R: Billy Thompson, Clarence "The Bluesman" Turner, Mike Westcott. Turner and Westcott photos © Ron Weinstock

Showcase and the Smokin' Bluz Youth Showcase with over a dozen acts whose members are under the age of 21. Fourteen year-old Ellicott City pianist, Matt Wigler, will be participating this year. A list of performers, schedules, venues, etc., can be found on the Blues Foundation website: www.blues.org.

Photo courtesy M. Joseph M. de Oliveira

Odetta - The Queen of American Folk Music

...that's what Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. called her. We called her Odetta. For more than 50 years, she influenced and inspired folk and blues music, continuing to tour and record right up until her recent illness, even preparing in her hospital room to perform at President-elect Obama's inauguration – but heart disease took her on December 2, 2008, at the age of 77.

Trained as a classical vocalist from the age of 13, but believing that racism would limit her opportunities, Odetta ventured into musical theater in college. While performing in the chorus of *Finian's Rainbow* in San Francisco, she was first

exposed to folk music and her life was changed. These quotes from some of her interviews sum up what folk music meant to her. The classical music and musical theater were "a nice exercise, but it had nothing to do with my life." "The folk songs were – the anger." "The words and music captured 'the fury and frustration that I had growing up'."

After teaching herself a few chords on the guitar, Odetta started singing traditional folk, blues and gospel at parties and in 1950, began singing professionally in San Francisco. In 1953, she moved to New York where Harry Belafonte was one of the first to discover and promote her. Her first album (1954), *The Tin Angel*, became a classic and directly influenced artists such as Belafonte, Bob Dylan and Janis Joplin.

In the 1960s, she marched with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Later she was described as "The Voice of the Civil Rights Movement." During this decade she recorded 16 albums. In her later years she did tribute albums to Ella Fitzgerald, Leadbelly and the blues singers of the 1930s.

Odetta's 50+ year career garnered her many, many honors and awards. President Clinton presented her with The National Endowment for the Arts' Medal of the Arts in 1999. In 2004, she was honored by The Kennedy Center. She received the "Living Legend Award" in 2005 from the Library of Congress. And a Grammy Award nomination in 2007 for her album *Gonna Let It Shine* was only the latest of a number of nominations and accolades she received throughout the years.

Freddie Hubbard - Jazz Trumpeter

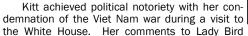
One of the jazz world's most innovative musicians, Freddie Hubbard died on December 29 at the age of 70. He recorded with Herbie Hancock, John Coltrane, George Benson, Ornette Coleman, Dexter Gordon, Poncho Sanchez, Billy Joel and many others. He was considered by many as a major influence on the jazz trumpet second only to Miles Davis.

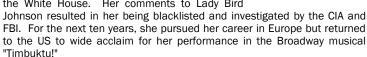
Robert Ward

Georgia blues man (guitar and vocals), Robert Ward died on Dec. 25 at the age of 70. He was the founder of the Ohio Untouchables, a singing group that later became The Ohio Players. Ward left before the group scored its big hits of the mid-70s. He was a sessions musician in Detroit and worked with Wilson Pickett, The Undisputed Truth and several Motown recording artists before returning to Georgia. In 1990, he recorded, Fear No Evil and revived his career as a blues and soul singer. His last album, New Role Soul, was released in 2000.

Eartha Kitt - C'est Si Bon

The very definition of the words "diva" and "sultry," Eartha Kitt was a gifted actress, singer and dancer who vamped and purred on grand stages, intimate nightclubs as well TV and movie screens. Her musical memory is forever preserved thanks to numerous recordings including her classic rendition of "Santa Baby." One of her earliest appearances in film was the 1958 W.C. Handy bio-pic, St Louis Blues. Look on YouTube for a clip of her singing the title song as well as other performances from movies and television.





Kitt appeared in several television series, movies, including *Boomerang* with Eddie Murphy, and stage plays. A consummate performer, she maintained an active performance schedule despite being treated for colon cancer. She died on December 25 at the age of 81.

Vernon "Chico" Banks

The son of Jesse Banks, the gospel guitarist for the Mighty Clouds of Joy, Banks combined blues with rock, funk and soul to create his distinctive guitar sound. He recorded his first CD, *Candy Lickin' Man*, in 1997 and was working on a new release just prior to his death on December 5, 2008 at age 47.

Sam "Bluzman" Taylor

Composer, guitarist, bandleader and vocalist, Sam "Bluzman" Taylor (74) died on January 4. A prolific songwriter, his tunes were recorded by Freddie King, Elvis Presley, Esther Phillips and many others. An in-demand sessions player with several recording companies including Stax and Atlantic, Taylor backed many well-known artists including Otis Redding (he provided the whistling at the end of *Dock of the Bay*), T-Bone Walker, The Isley Brothers and Albert Collins. He was also one of the original members and guitarist of Joey Dee and the Starlighters. He left the group in 1965 to pursue other musical options (note: his hand-picked replacement was Jimi Hendrix). In the 1970s, he wrote for the Beach Boys and also arranged and produced albums for B.T. Express.

Taylor was inducted into the Arizona Blues Hall Of Fame (1997) and the Long Island Blues Hall of Fame (2006). He was the son of jazz saxophonist Sam "the Man" Taylor and father of singer Bobby Taylor. He also hosted a blues radio show on WUSB-FM, Stony Brook, NY.

Delaney Bramlett

On December 27, 2008, blues singer/songwriter, Bramlett (69) performed with his wife as Delaney & Bonnie. He co-wrote "Let It Rain" with Eric Clapton and "Superstar" with Leon Russell. It later became a hit for The Carpenters. He also worked with Janis Joplin, Etta James, Elvin Bishop and others. In 2007, Bramlett released a CD entitled A New Kind Of Blues.



	January Calendar
2	Idle Americans Blues Jam @ The Country Store; Clarence Turner @ Bangkok Blues
α	Charlottesville AllStars , Rosslyn Mountain Boys, Nighthawks @ State Theatre; Big Boy Little @ Zoo Bar; Swinging Daves @ JV's; Leon Redbone @ Birchmere; Mardi Gras Jump Start w/ Grand- sons, Little Red & Renegades @ Surf Club Live
4	DCBS Jam @ Surf Club Live ; Idle Americans Blues Jam @ Bang- kok Blues; Oz Revue Blues Jam @ JV's; Leon Redbone @ Rams Head
5	Stacy Brooks Band @ Westminster Church
6	Idle Americans @ Cat's Eye; Gregg Allman @ State Theatre; BG & Mojo Hands @ Clarendon Ballroom
7	Idle Americans @ Bangkok Blues
8	Big Boy Little Blues Jam @ Zoo Bar; Tommy Lepson Band @ JV's
9	Idle Americans @ Frisco Grille
10	Brian Gross Trio @ Sala Thai, Bethesda; Bobby Parker @ Surf Club Live
11	Idle Americans Blues Jam @ Bangkok Blues; Lord of the Strings Show with Dave Chappell, Mike Ault @ JV's
12	Eddie Jones & Young Bucks @ Westminster Church
13	James Hunter @ Birchmere
14	Idle Americans/Paul Mastradone Blues Jam @ Beach Cove
15	Big Boy Little Blues Jam @ Zoo Bar; Johnny & Stingrays @ JV's
16	Idle Americans @ Stan & Joe's; Flat Foot Sam & Educated Fools @ JV's; Liz Mandeville @ Madam's Organ
17	DCBS presents ObamaRama Pre-Inaugural Party @ Surf Club Live; Sherwood Blues Band @ Potomac Grill; Idle Americans Blues Jam @ The Country Store; AllStars Show, Part 1 @ JV's; Clarence Turner @ James Bates Hall (Blues Cabaret/ Benefit)
18	Idle Americans Blues Jam @ Bangkok Blues; January AllStars Show, Part 2 @ JV's; BG & Mojo Hands @ Beans in the Belfry
19	Idle Americans @JVs; Inauguration Blues with David Cole @ West- minster Church
20	Inaugural DC Ball, featuring Clarence Turner, Chuck Brown @ Old Post Office Pavilion; Idle Americans and Gigmeisters @ Glen Echo
22	Big Boy Little Blues Jam @ Zoo Bar
23	Idle Americans @ Apehangers; BG & Mojo Hands @ Sala Thai, Bethesda; Eli Cook @ Madam's Organ
24	Idle Americans @ Bangkok Blues; Deb Callahan @ Madam's Organ
25	Idle Americans Blues Jam @ Bangkok Blues; Hall Brothers @ JV's
26	Sherwood Blues Band @ Westminster Church
27	Dave Chappell Band @ JV's
28	Idle Americans/Paul Mastradone Blues Jam @ Beach Cove
29	Big Boy Little Blues Jam @ Zoo Bar; Dan Hovey Band @ JV's; Johnny Artis Band @ Madam's Organ
30	Idle Americans @ Zoo Bar; Catfish Hodge Band @ JV's; Blues, Blues & Blues @ Madam's Organ
	Idle Americans @ Scott's II; J.P. McDermott @ Surf Club; Bobby

Important Announcement

Looks like our plans got changed! So that we could announce the special February events, the January & February issues were not combined as planned but January is a few pages short. However, because some of the newsletter staff and contributors are involved with or plan to take part in the Obama Inaugural events, the February issue of the Capital Blues Messenger will be mailed in mid-February. Maybe we'll call it the February-March issue. We'll see...

Please note there's an expanded Blues Calendar in this issue that includes some February events you don't want to miss!

Bands — send your calendar listings for February and March to Steve Levine by January 15.



We appreciate your understanding and indulgence! Hope to see you on January 17 for ObamaRama! The Editors

F	February Calendar	
1	DCBS Jam @ Surf Club Live; Idle Americans Blues Jam @ Bang- kok Blues	
2	"Blues Boy" Country, Lady Di @ Westminster Church	
3	Idle Americans @ Cat's Eye. (Happy Birthday Norman)	
4	Daryl Davis @ Bangkok Blues	
5	Big Boy Little Blues Jam @ Zoo Bar	
6	Idle Americans Blues Jam @ The Country Store	
7	Big Boy Little @ Zoo Bar	
8	Idle Americans Blues Jam @ Bangkok Blues	
9	Midnight Blue @ Westminster Church; Corey Harris @ Blues Alley	
11	Idle Americans/Paul Mastradone Blues Jam @ Beach Cove	
12	Big Boy Little Blues Jam @ Zoo Bar	
13	DCBS presents Lil' Dave Thompson @ Surf Club Live; Idle	
	Americans @ JV's; CP Blues @ Bangkok Blues	
14	Shemekia Copeland @ Wolf Trap; Idle Americans @ Hunts Tavern	
15	Idle Americans Blues Jam @ Bangkok Blues	
16	Big Joe Maher @ Westminster Church	
18	Jorma Kaukonen, Robben Ford/Ruthie Foster @ State Theatre	
19	Big Boy Little Blues Jam @ Zoo Bar	
20	Idle Americans @ Frisco Grille	
21	Idle Americans Blues Jam @ The Country Store; Mike Terpak	
	Blues Explosion @ Bangkok Blues	
22	Idle Americans Blues Jam @ Bangkok Blues	
23	Lou Jerome Band @ Westminster Church	
25	Idle Americans/Paul Mastradone Blues Jam @ Beach Cove	
26	Big Boy Little Blues Jam @ Zoo Bar	
27	Marcia Ball @ State Theatre; Idle Americans @ Stan & Joe's; Cephas & Wiggins @ Wolf Trap	
28	DCBS presents Whop Frazier @ Surf Club Live; Idle Americans @ Bare Bones; Stacy Brooks @ Bangkok Blues	

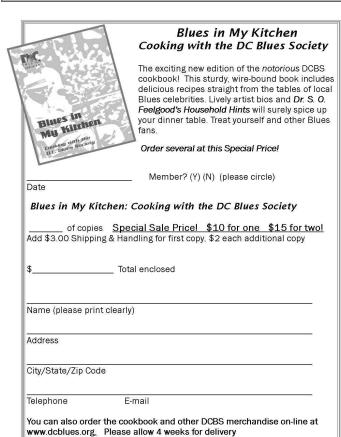
Bolded items are picks by calendar editor, Steve Levine, and include DCBS and BBS events. Send listings to calendar@dcblues.org or mail to Steve Levine, 5910 Bryn Mawr Rd., College Park, MD 20740. Deadline is the 15th of the month. Events listed are based on the best information possible. DCBS cannot be held liable for errors in schedules, places or performances listed. It is recommended that you contact the venues to verify the event will occur. The DCBS homepage has additional music links and information: www.dcblues.org.

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DCBS Membership Application & Advance Ticket Orders

Members receive *The Capital Blues Messenger*, the DCBS newsletter featuring information on Blues events in the DC area and other articles of interest; discounts on DCBS events and merchandise; discounts on admission to participating clubs, business services, etc. 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.

Contributions (not dues) to the DC Blues Society are tax-deductible. Join on-line at www.dcblues.org or mail application with check or money order to:

DC Blues Society P.O. Box 77315 Washington D.C. 20013-7315

Member Discounts

The following companies offer discounts to DCBS members. You must present your current membership card to receive them. Discount offers may be withdrawn at any time.

1/2 price discount at Blues Alley

DCBS members get half off the normal admission for Blues shows that do no require advance ticket sales. 1073 Wisconsin Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20007 202-337-4141 www.bluesalley.com

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Tickets will be held at Will Call.

Before your next search, go to DCBS's website www.dcblues.org and click on the GoodSearch link & designate DC Blues Society as your favorite cause. Each time you search the web using www.GoodSearch.com, DCBS earns a penny. It's easy – just click, search and support. Shopping for that one-of-a-kind Inaugural gown? Try www.GoodShop.com with over 600 on-line stores. A percentage of each purchase will be donated to DCBS and its mission to preserve and promote the Blues. So grab your mouse, click the link and shop guilt free!

DCBS Membership Application/Renewal Renewal? (Y) (N) Name (please print clearly) Address City/State/Zip Code Telephone Dues per year (circle appropriate one): Individual: \$25 Student: \$15 (Include photocopy of student ID) Family: \$35 Corporate: \$200 Canada: \$25(US) Other Countries: \$40 (US) Please allow up to six weeks for processing Family members (Please list names ___ I can volunteer doing ___

DCBS TICKET ORDER FORM	R
Date Member? (Y) (N)	2
OBAMARAMA Pre-Inaugural Party , Saturday January 17	
Tickets: \$10 Member; \$12 Non-Member (\$15 at door	·)
Lil' Dave Thompson, Friday February 13	
Tickets: \$10 Member; \$12 Non-Member (\$15 at door)
Whop Frazier, Saturday February 28	
Tickets: \$10 Member; \$12 Non-Member (\$15 at door)
\$ Total enclosed	
Name (please print clearly)	
Address	
City/State/Zip Code	



The Winter Blues are Back! Special DCBS events in February





It's the return of Lil' Dave (Thompson

FRIDAY
FEBRUARY 13, 2009
8:00 PM - 12:00 AM
Pre-Valentine's Day
Dance

WHOOPEE!

WHOP
IS BACK!
SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 28, 2009
8:30 PM—12:30 AM
Celebrating Black

History & The Blues





Buy Advance Tickets and Save!

Advance Tickets: \$10 Member \$12 Non-Member \$15 Door
SEE ORDER FORM ON PAGE 7 OR BUY ON-LINE AT WWW.DCBLUES.ORG
OR CALL 301-322-4808



Both Events at Surf Club Live!

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