

Capital Blues Messenger

February 2009

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Volume 3 Issue 2

IT'S THE RETURN OF LIL' DAVE THOMPSON

SURF CLUB LIVE! FRIDAY, FEB. 13, 2009 8:00 PM - 12:00 AM Pre-Valentine's Day Dance Details Inside

> Inside This Issue Photo highlights ObamaRama

February & March Music Calendars

Memphis Gold to be honored by Gibson Guitar & Blues Alley



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.

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

This issue is © 2009 DC Blues Society

Send changes in name, address or membership status to <u>membership@dcblues.org</u> 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 <u>calendar@dcblues.org</u> 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		
Business card	\$20	
1/8 page	\$25	
1/4 page	\$40	
1/3 page	\$55	
1/2 page	\$75	
2/3 page	\$110	
Full page	\$140	

Ads should be at least 200 dpi; optimum 300 dpi. Print edition is in black & white. For on-line rates, go to <u>www.dcblues.org</u> Questions? Email to <u>ads@dcblues.org</u>

Become a member . . . and get involved . . .

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 7. Contributions (not dues) are tax-deductible.

get a FREE CD . . .

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 a free CD, discounts on advance sale tickets and special offers and discounts from area merchants and clubs when you show your DCBS membership card.

Becoming a member is simple, quick and easy:

- Use the mail-in application (Page 7)
- 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.

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

DCBS Board Members

President: Felix McClairen (president@dcblues.org) Vice President: Nick Dale (vp@dcblues.org) Secretary: Celina Wood (secretary@dcblues.org) Treasurer: Frank Kahan (treasurer@dcblues.org) Advertising: Jazs (ads@dcblues.org) Media: Ida Campbell (media@dcblues.org) Membership: Gerard de Valroger (membership@dcblues.org) (fundraising@dcblues.org) Merchandise: James Ginvard (merchandise@dcblues.org) Volunteer Coordinator: Arneda Bowens (volunteer@dcblues.org) Honorary Directors: John Cephas, Barry Lee Pearson, Joseph Wilson

Key Volunteers

Blues in the Schools: Dr. S.O. Feelgood (301-322-4808) Jams & Festival: Sam'i Nuriddin (jams@dcblues.org) Newsletter Editors: Donna Shoulders, Mary Knieser (newsletter@dcblues.org) Public Relations: Chris DeProperty, (info@dcblues.org) Website Administrator: Jazs, Fred Morser (webmaster@dcblues.org) Forum: Crawlin' Kingsnake

(forum@dcblues.org) DCBS on MySpace: Stacy Brooks

DCBS on PayPal: Fred Morser

Volunteers are the lifeblood of DCBS

Visit <u>www.dcblues.org</u> 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

Going to the IBC?

The *CBM* editors are seeking articles and photos from the 25th Annual IBC. Please send via email to <u>editor@dcblues.org</u> if you can contribute.

Editor's Note

If you were among the lucky ones at Westminster Church for the Stacy Brooks show, you know Kenny Neal made a guest appearance. To see photos of Kenny, Stacy and a wonderful group of musicians, go to the DCBS website for the link or <u>www.flickr.com</u> and search for photos_dc_blues_society. We'll post more in the weeks to come. Send in yours and we'll upload for other Blues fans to enjoy.

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Cover photo courtesy of Barry Wheeler from 20th Annual DC Blues Festival. ObamaRama photos by DCBS editorial staff.		

President's Drum

History Month

February (the shortest month of the year, uhmmmm) is set aside for so-called Black History Month, a pathetic admission that as it once was in every phase of American life, Black folk were kept apart and indeed omitted from our collective history. The recent election and inauguration of Barack Hussein Obama certainly won't escape history though. This singularly momentous event has the potential of reintegrating the past of all Americans into one history---our history. The Obama brand is powerful in its impact and pervasiveness as evidenced by its worldwide celebration, inspiration for hope, and its rampant commercialism.

The DC Blues Society is certainly not above co-branding Obama. Our ObamaRama Pre-Inauguration Party was completely over the top. Thank you, Mr. President! With over 300 partygoers, the Surf Club Live was packed to the rafters. C.W. Harrington, representing a chunk of local music history [See Dec issue of the CBM.], and his fabulous band kept the crowd moving and grooving 'til one in the morning [CW and band shown here and more photos on Page 5]. ObamaRama was easily the biggest club event sponsored by the Society. Folks came from across the Atlantic and from the other side of the Mississippi to be on hand for the inauguration and to party with C.W. and the DC Blues Society.

Ever the showman and urging the crowd into a frenzy, C.W. and the band laid down a highenergy mix of R&B and soul splattered with Blues to a crowd that came to have a good time. The band consisted of Emmett "Big Footz" Kittrell on drums; Sam Wynn, bass; Butch Jordan, rhythm guitar; and the crowdpleasing horns of Mike Powell (trumpet) and John Bryan (trombone). The killer show delivered by C.W. Harrington and band begs for an encore performance. Be on the lookout for that announcement 'cause you don't want to miss the C.W. Harrington experience!

Thanks to all the volunteers for making ObamaRama an overwhelming success! Thanks also to the staff at the Surf Club Live for working like Georgia slaves to serve the tremendous crowd. And always thanks to Clockwise from top left: CW Harrington, Mike, the soundman, for making the bands sound like they want to sound.

History Repeats

Speaking of encore performances, the DC Blues Society brings back another popular act to the Surf Club Live. On Friday, February 13, Lil' Dave Thompson hits the stage, reprising his knockout Festival After Party performance last August [see announcement on Page 4]. Lil' Dave channels the history of the Mississippi Delta through his guitar and original songs. You can check him out on the web at www.lildavethompson.com then get your love groove on at this pre-Valentine's Day party!

The Society relives history again on Saturday, February 28 with another performance by an icon of local music history. Whop Frazier. He brought down the house at our packed Holiday Party in 2008. Whop has played with such Blues luminaries as B.B. King, Junior Wells, James Cotton, Bobby Blue Bland, Jesse Yawn and Bobby Parker. He toured with Parker for many years and has played at ven-

ues all over the DC region and around the country. You can about Whop at learn more www.whopfrazier.com. The last several DCBS shows have been near or actual sellouts so GET YOUR TICKETS NOW at www.dcblues.org or call 301-322 -4808. There is limited seating, so plan to arrive early.

A Bit of Washington, DC History

Born Ferdinand Joseph Lamothe in New Orleans in 1890. this artist's legendary piano playing rocked the bars and brothels in New Orleans to Chicago to New York. However, in just a few years, this bridge between Blues and jazz went from world famous to down-andout in Washington DC in 1937. But it was his DC stay that cemented his reputation as one of the creators of what became known as jazz.

Ferdinand initially had a regular gig at the Jungle Inn on U St. A few months later, he was partowner of the club, and renamed it the Blue Moon. The July 1937 edition of DownBeat said that it was some sight, seeing Ferdinand playing the blues, his thumping heel beating out the slow rhythm, his eyes closed and his head thrown back, and the sad notes sprinkling from the keyboard into the low-ceiling room. Ferdinand, also famously known as Jelly Roll Morton, died in Los Angeles on July 10, 1941, after blaming his declining health on a voodoo curse.

Blues Always,



Diamondhead.

2/13 Bentz St. Sports Bar Frederick, MD

- 2/14 Firehall Accokeek, MD
- 2/15 Sunset Grill Annandale, VA

www.thenighthawks.com www.powerhouserecords.com unique identity, David found his early in those short eight-bar solos with Ray. He maintained and expanded on it. He was a gentle, soft spoken, warm spirit. He will be missed on the planet but his sound will be a reminder of who he was for a long long time," said saxophonist Bill Easley who recorded with Newman during their stint with Jimmy McGriff and played at Newman's 75th birthday celebration in New York .

"While the average performer spends a lifetime searching for a

February 2009

Capital Blues Messenger





Gibson Guitar and Blues Alley to Honor Memphis Gold

On Tuesday, March 3, 2009, Memphis Gold will be honored by Gibson Guitar at Blues Alley, Washington, DC's renowned Jazz and Blues club. The event will be hosted by Bill Wax, host of Sirius XM Radio's B.B. King's Bluesville, who, on behalf of Gibson, will present a classic Gibson Custom ES-335 Recognition Award to the singer. This is the second in a series of awards Gibson will present with Blues Alley. The first was given to David "Honeyboy" Edwards and DC-based producer/musician, Scott Shuman, in recognition of Edwards' 2007 Grammy for Best Traditional Blues Album of the Year entitled Last of the Great Mississippi Delta Bluesmen: Live in Dallas!

Gibson is recognizing Memphis Gold for his contribution to the Blues and for his perseverance in getting back on his feet and guitar after his tragic accident in January, 2008. Told he would never walk again, Memphis has overcome tremendous obstacles to come back and play and sing like never before. This will also be a CD Release Party as well as celebration of his birthday.



Born in Memphis, TN on March 4, 1955, Memphis Gold (Chester Chandler) is the thirteenth of fourteen children. At the age of 4, he learned to play guitar from his father, John R. Chandler, and legendary Delta picker and gospel player, Reverend Robert "Tim" Wilkins. By age 8, he was a regular on Beale Street and after years of playing with many well-known Blues acts, he served a year-long stint as lead guitarist in Deborah Coleman's touring band (with the late Willie Hicks on bass) before venturing out on his own. In February 1996, he rescued nine children from a serious train crash in Silver Spring, MD. They were coming from the Harpers Ferry (WV) Job Corps training center where he had, coincidently, performed at a blues seminar for the students several months earlier. His heroic efforts were recognized with appearances on NBC Dateline and the Discovery Channel. In addi-

tion to Coleman, he has shared the stage with James Brown, R.L. Burnside, Robert Cray, John Hammond, Little Jimmy King, Taj Mahal, Little Jimmy Reed, Guitar Shorty, Mavis Staples, Hubert Sumlin, Shemekia Copland, Otis Rush, Temptations, Jimmy Vaughn and many more. A Vietnam War veteran with ten years of service in the US Navy, he has taken part in nine USO tours to military posts across the globe. He was recently featured on the cover of *Jefferson Magazine*, the oldest blues magazine in the world. And just a few days ago, on the evening of President Obama's inauguration, Memphis Gold, along with Harold Melvin's Blues Notes, George Clinton and Parliament Funkadelic, performed at the Heroes Red, White and Blue Military Ball sponsored by the USO, TAPS and Citizens Helping Heroes.

Gibson, Blues Alley and Bill Wax are honored to present this award to Memphis Gold. Following the award ceremony, there will be two performances at 8:00 and 10:00 pm. DCBS members with a valid membership card will receive a \$5 discount for the 10 pm show. Founded in 1965, Blues Alley, the nation's oldest continuing jazz supper club, is located at 1073 Wisconsin Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20007, Tel: (202) 337-4141, www.bluesalley.com. Reservations are recommended.

ObamaRama...the band, the fans, the fun and the friends



February Calendar

•	condary valendar			
1	DCBS Jam @ Surf Club Live (celebration of Norman's birthday); Idle Americans Blues Jam @ Bangkok Blues			
2	"Blues Boy" Country, Lady Di @ Westminster Church			
3	Idle Americans @ Cat's Eye; Esther Haynes @ Laporta's; (Happy Birthday Norman);			
4	Daryl Davis @ Bangkok Blues			
5	Big Boy Little Blues Jam @ Zoo Bar			
6	Capital Blues Ensemble @ Surf Club Live; Idle Americans Blues Jam @ The Country Store; Reggie Wayne Morris @ Zoo Bar;			
7	BBS presents Cederic Burnside & Lightnin' Malcolm @ Rosedale American Legion; Big Boy Little @ Zoo Bar; Nighthawks @ Sully's			
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 Ameri- cans @ JV's; CP Blues @ Bangkok Blues; Nighthawks @ Bentz St. Sports Bar; Sookey Jump Blues Band @ Zoo Bar			
14	Shemekia Copeland @ Wolf Trap; Idle Americans @ Hunts Tavern; Nighthawks @ Accokeek Volunteer Fire Department; Smokin' Pole- cats w/Marianna Previti @ Zoo Bar;			
	Cathy Ponton King @ Olney Tavern; Esther Haynes & JC Veve @ Amante			
15	23rd Annual Wammie Awards @ State Theatre; Nighthawks @ Sunset Grill; Idle Americans Blues Jam @ Bangkok Blues			
16	Big Joe Maher @ Westminster Church			
18	Jorma Kaukonen, Robben Ford/Ruthie Foster @ State Theatre; CJ Chenier @ Wolf Trap			
19	Big Boy Little Blues Jam @ Zoo Bar			
20	Eric Lindell, Anders Osborne @ State Theatre; Idle Americans @ Frisco Grille; Liz Briones @ Zoo Bar			
21	Tinsley Ellis, Hubert Sumlin, Bob Margolin @ State Theatre; Idle Americans Blues Jam @ The Country Store; Mike Terpak Blues Explosion @ Bangkok Blues; Roustabouts @ Zoo Bar			
22	Idle Americans Blues Jam @ Bangkok Blues; Little Red & Rene- gades @ Surf Club Live			
23	Lou Jerome Band @ Westminster Church			
25	Idle Americans/Paul Mastradone Blues Jam @ Beach Cove			
26	Big Boy Little Blues Jam @ Zoo Bar; Three Chords & Truth @ Old Bowie Town Grille			
27	Marcia Ball @ State Theatre; Idle Americans @ Stan & Joe's; Cephas & Wiggins @ Wolf Trap; Robert Lighthouse @ Zoo Bar			
28	DCBS presents Whop Frazier @ Surf Club Live; Idle Americans @ Bare Bones; Stacy Brooks @ Bangkok Blues; Tom Cunningham Orchestra @ Glen Echo; Flatfoot Sam & Educated Fools @ Zoo Bar; Kelly Bell Band w/Three Chords & Truth @ Justice Theater North- western High School			
Attention dancers: See DCBS homepage for link to dance-friendly ven- ues. To subscribe to a weekly e-mail newsletter "So Many Choices" with dance-specific information, often with a blues twist, send an e-mail to				
	S member and Blues fan Robin: <u>hc1829@aol.com</u>			
DCB Stev is the poss	ed items are picks by calendar editor, Steve Levine, and include S and BBS events. Send listings to <u>calendar@dcblues.org</u> or mail to e Levine, 5910 Bryn Mawr Rd., College Park, MD 20740. Deadline e 15th of the month. Events listed are based on the best information ible. DCBS cannot be held liable for errors in schedules, places or prmances listed. It is recommended that you contact the venues to			
verif	verify the event will occur. The DCBS homepage has additional music links and information: <u>www.dcblues.org.</u>			

Are you heading to the IBC?

The *CBM* editors are in need of articles and photos from the 25th Annual International Blues Challenge (IBC), Feb. 4 - 7. Please let us know if you can help. Send contributions to editor@dcblues.org.

WPFW seeking phone volunteers

WPFW (89.3 FM) winter membership drive, Jan. 29 - Feb. 14, needs volunteers to answer phones, stuff envelopes, etc. Yes, we're in tough economic times and your financial contributions are important for the continued success of the station, but if you can't give money, please consider the gift of your time. Contact Rachel Pope at 202-588-0999 ext. 360.

March Calendar

1	DCBS Jam @ Surf Club Live; Idle Americans Blues Jam @ Bangkok Blues		
2	Robert Cray Band @ Birchmere; Bobby Parker @ Westminster Church		
3	Gibson Guitar award presentation to Memphis Gold, birthday & CD release party @ Blues Alley; Idle Americans @ Cat's Eye		
4	Idle Americans @ Bangkok Blues		
5	Buckwheat Zydeco @ Rams Head; Big Boy Little Blues Jam @ Zoo Bar		
6	Saffire @ Birchmere; Idle Americans Blues Jam @ Country Store; Daryl Davis Band @ Strathmore		
7	J Street Jumpers @ Glen Echo		
8	Idle Americans Blues Jam @ Bangkok Blues; Pookie & Zydeco Sensations @ Glen Echo		
9	Smokin Polecats @ Westminster Church		
12	Big Boy Little Blues Jam @ Zoo Bar		
13	Andy Poxon, Idle Americans @ Old Bowie Town Grille		
14	Nighthawks @ Baltimore UAW Hall, Bull & Oyster Roast; Idle Americans @ Scott's II; Lil Pookie & Zydeco Sensations @ Reming- ton's Laurel		
15	Idle Americans Blues Jam @ Bangkok Blues		
16	Ruby Hayes Blues Band @ Westminster Church		
19	Big Boy Little Blues Jam @ Zoo Bar		
20	Nighthawks @ Fish Head Cantina; Idle Americans @ JVs		
21	Nighthawks @ Clyde's, Chevy Chase; Idle Americans Blues Jam @ Country Store; Cathy Ponton King @ Flanagan's Harp & Fiddle		
22	Idle Americans Blues Jam @ Bangkok Blues		
23	Mac McDonald & Bluz U Can Uze @ Westminster Church		
26	Big Boy Little Blues Jam @ Zoo Bar		
28	Nighthawks @ Surf Club Live		
29	Big Boy Little @ Glen Echo		
30	Tina's Bluz @ Westminster Church		

If you think your band's got what it takes to be in a Blues Festival. . .



...then you need to AUDITION for the 21st Annual DC Blues Festival



SATURDAY APRIL 4, 2009 7: 30 pm - 12:30 am

Surf Club Live! 4711 Kenilworth Avenue Hyattsville, MD 20781 301-927-6310



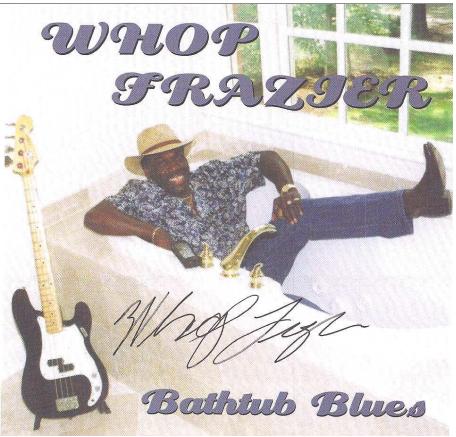
No Audition Fee - No Cover Charge Food & Fun Are Free Donations Welcome

Auditions are open to any band or performer that has not performed at a previous DC Blues Festival. The winner will be paid to open the Festival on September 5, 2009 at the Carter Barron Amphitheatre, Washington DC. Here's what you need to do:

- Reserve your band's spot at least 2 weeks in advance by contacting jams@dcblues.org.
 Membership in the DC Blues Society (at least one band member and
- Membership in the DC Blues Society (at least one band member and preferably all). Go to www.dcblues.org and join!
- + Announce the event on your website, listserver, etc.
- Arrive by 7:00 pm on the competition date.
- Bring your family and friends (it's free) to cheer you on to victory!

DCBS Membership Application & Advance Ticket Orders

Members receive <i>The Capital Blues Messenger</i> , ter featuring information on Blues events in the Du articles of interest; discounts on DCBS events and counts on admission to participating clubs, busine Dues play an important part in helping DCBS fulfill mote the Blues and the musicians who keep the n and accessible. Contributions (not dues) to the DC Blues Society Join on-line at <u>www.dcblues.org</u> or mail application money order to: DC Blues Society P.O. Box 77315 Washington D.C. 20013-73 Member Discounts The following companies offer discounts to DCB must present your current membership card to reac count offers may be withdrawn at any time.	C area and other merchandise; dis- ass services, etc. its mission to pro- nusic alive, exciting are tax-deductible. with check or 15 S members. You	DCBS Membership Application/Renewal		
Neil Senni Quality Painti Services: Plast Cleaning/Powe Carpentry/Inte and m	discount ing Enterprises ng and Handyman ering/Drywall Deck r Washing/Staining/ rior & Exterior Work nuch more. 1-717-1773	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		
Drink SpecialIndustrialBuy one & get 2nd. drink freeCall soon to g6666 Arlington Boulevard, Falls Church, VA 22042ADAT703-241-9504Riverdal	discount Sound Studios (et your first set of tapes free Box 1162 e, MD 20738 studio@hotmail.com	DCBS TICKET ORDER FORM Date Member? (Y) (N)		
Capitol Hill BooksBOK CusAcross from Eastern Market5649 L657 C Street, S.E.,ArlingtoWashington, DC 20003703-1202544-1621703-1	liscount at stom Framing ee Highway, n, VA 22207 534-1866 10 -6, Sat. 10-5	Lil' Dave Thompson, Friday February 13Tickets: \$10 Member; \$12 Non-Member (\$15 at door) Whop Frazier, Saturday February 28		
J & J AutomotiveFamous Date9160 Euclid Court(GaithersbutManassas, VA 20110917 Quint703-368-3600Gaithersbut	% off at ave's Barbecue rg Location only) ce Orchard Rd. urg, MD 20878 683-0435	Tickets: \$10 Member; \$12 Non-Member (\$15 at door) \$ Total enclosed		
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search the web using <u>www.GoodSearch.com</u> penny. It's easy just click, search and supp that one-of-a-kind gift? Try <u>www.GoodShop.c</u> on-line stores. A percentage of each purchas to DCBS and its mission to preserve and p So grab your mouse, click the link and shop g	bort. Shopping for com with over 600 se will be donated romote the Blues.	Telephone E-mail Tickets will be held at Will Call. Order on-line at <u>www.dcblues.org</u> or call 301-322-4808. Page 7		



SATURDAY FEBRUARY 28, 2009 8:30 PM—12:30 AM

Buy in advance and save! \$10 Member \$12 Non-Member \$15 Door ORDER FORM ON PAGE 7 BUY ON-LINE AT WWW.DCBLUES.ORG OR CALL 301-322-4808 SURF CLUB LIVE! 4711 KENILWORTH AVE. HYATTSVILLE, MD 20781 TEL: 301-927-6310

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Your membership renewal date is shown on address label. Renew Today!

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