

**June 2009** 

Volume 3 Issue 6



### 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 www.dcblues.org.

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

The Capital Blues Messenger is your publication and members are encouraged to submit articles and ideas for articles, reviews, 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 all submissions is the 15th of the month. DCBS reserves the right to edit or refuse any content, including advertising, that it deems inappropriate.

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Cover: DC Blues Society Band Top (I-r) Sam Brawner, Sam'i Nuriddin. Bottom (I-r) Dave Jackson, Anthony "Swamp Dog" Clark, Ivan "Illinois Slim" Jackson (center).

Photos: Raymond Fudge

Fish Fry 'n' Blues 'n' Bike flier by Julie Fanning Designs www.jfanningdesigns.com Unless otherwise noted, photos and articles were contributed by DCBS board members and editors

This issue is @ 2009 DC Blues Society

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Honorary Directors: John Cephas (1930-2009) Barry Lee Pearson, Joseph Wilson

#### Membership Application/Renewal

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Individual: \$25 Family: \$35	(טו
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Contributions (not dues) are tax-deductible.	
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Mail with check to THE DC BLUES SOCIETY P.O. BOX 77315 **WASHINGTON, DC 20013-7315** 

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

#### Become a member, get a FREE CD and more...

Time is running out — 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. Get 'em before they're gone! Members also receive discounts on advance sale tickets to DCBS events, DCBS merchandise and from area merchants and clubs when you present your DCBS membership card (see Page 11).

#### Becoming a member is simple, quick and easy:

- Use the mail-in application (left)
- Apply on-line at www.dcblues.org or
- Sign up at DCBS events or
- DCBS-sponsored events and venues where the DCBS booth is exhibiting.

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.

#### **ADVERTISE IN THE DCBS** CAPITAL BLUES MESSENGER

AD RATE	:S
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. PDF or JPG preferred. Print edition is in black and white. Artwork must be received by the 15th of the month. Ad size and space allocation contingent on prior commitments and editorial content. For ad specs and on-line rates, go to www.dcblues.org. Questions? Email: ads@dcblues.org

### **President's Drum**

#### Silver Spring Blues Festival: A Grand Beginning



The weather was perfect and the crowds receptive for the first annual Silver Spring Blues Festival in downtown Silver Spring on May 9th. The youth band, Three Chords and the Truth, opened the show with a number of rousing R&B classics. A host of female voices emphasized a decided change from the group's previous instrument-centric stylings. The group is part of the Prince George's County school-based

Colours Arts in Education Program, which continues to evolve (based on its participants and their interests) under the nurturing influence of Jason Cook. About the festival, Cook said, "It is a joy to be at such wonderful events. Everything from top to bottom was full of soul and love."

Part of DCBS' mission is to reach out to young folk and encourage their love of music (particularly the Blues) as a cultural imperative. Three Chords and the Truth embodies that mission. You can check out these young folk at various venues and festivals around the area. Show them some support - it'll do you good. Find out what's happening at www.colours.org.



Photos: Raymond Fudge

Guitarist and vocalist Jonny Grave, (left) a Silver Spring favorite son, and his harmonica-playing sidekick, Chris Nammour, brought a delightful acoustic set to the growing crowd that surrounded the noted Fountain and spilled into the streets as the music heated up.

And then came the very electric Capital Blues Ensemble (CBE) with its leader, John Vengrouskie, in his introduction alluding to that sky-bound orb powered by nuclear explosions --- and baffling the audience with his romanticized (if highly technical) reference to the sun. The heat was definitely on as CBE launched into an energetic set mixed with classic and original Blues tunes. [Don't ask me what tunes they played! I wasn't there as a writer. You can hear and see the best of the festival on Access Montgomery Cable 19 and 21. The festival will air in three parts around mid-June. See the program schedule at www.accessmontgomery.tv. Thanks to Richard Turner, Executive Director Montgomery Community Television.]

On the heels of CBE, the DC Blues Society Band swept onto the stage with original contemporary Chicago-style Blues tunes from its featured guitarist/vocalist Ivan "Illinois Slim" Jackson, When asked how he thought the band did on its debut performance, band leader Sam'i Nuriddin said, "The band

had a couple of minor glitches but I think we did alright." Sam'i is much too modest. The DCBS Band [that's them on the cover: Sam Brawner/ drums; Sam'i/guitar; Dave Jackson/bass; Anthony "Swamp Dog" Clark/ harp and "Illinois Slim" in the center] was tight and the crowd swelled around the stage and got loose swinging to the funky grooves it laid down. These guys have been playing a long time along different avenues and in different venues. Keep up with 'em and see how their public face and teamwork develops. You can get that chance on Saturday, June 13 at the Surf Club Live [more on that later...].

Memphis Gold brought the plaza into full tilt with a round of Memphis flavored juke-joint Blues. Memphis' music rarely strays from its Pentecostal roots and this show was no exception. Black Betty (left) opened the set in that vein with full-throated vocals [on songs whose names I can't remember]. Crowds were dancing in the streets by the time the band got to "Catfish Creeper," an original tune featured on the 2009 released CD Gator Gon' Bitechu. "Catfish" showcased rollicking solos by Memphis and showman par excellence Charlie Sayles on harmonica. You can see this and other videos and photos (more on Page 8) from the festival at http://silverspringtowncenter.blogspot.com/

Much thanks goes to DCBS coordinator, Jazs, the other volunteers, Alan Bowser with the SS Town Center, The Peterson Group, Wagtech Sound, the bands and other sponsors for making the first SS Blues Festival a rousing success. Special thanks to the DCBS volunteers who signed up ten new members and sold a good deal of merchandise. DCBS was pleased to be a part of this inaugural SS Blues Festival and looks forward to being on the scene next year.

#### DC Blues Society Band & Erbium Blue Saturday, June 13

Even the names of these bands are wrapped in the Blues. And that's what you'll get when Erbium Blue (a festival audition contender) opens for the DC Blues Society Band on June 13 at 8 pm at the Surf Club Live. I've raved about the quality of the DCBS Band's performance above. I won't belabor the point that this group is highly entertaining, versatile, rhythm-driven, completely danceable, and hot!



Photo: James Byrum

Erbium Blue consists of the relatively young (for Blues artists) Christopher "Mook" Maddrey (left) on guitar and vocals, Brice "BD" Jack on bass, and a yet to be named drummer. I take exception to the oft-heard comment "He [Mook] sounds like Buddy Guy." While this is an honorable comparison, Mook's vocal delivery and passionate guitar work defy comparison. Yes, he belts out vocals with ferocity reminiscent of Buddy. Yes, he attacks his guitar with a vengeance like Buddy. But Mook ain't no Buddy. Mook is Mook. And that's a wonderfully unique thing. Come see for yourself. Erbium Blue will have you trying to come up with your own compari-

sons and analogies and shaking your rump all at once.

Get your tickets now for this specially priced show. Advance tickets are only \$7 and \$10 at the door. Order your tickets on-line at www.dcblues.org or call 301-322-4808.

#### Annual Festival Fundraiser — Bryan Lee on Saturday, July 18

The May CBM issue included my interview with Bryan Lee. So, you have a good idea of what we're working with on July 18 at the Surf Club Live! I hope to see lots of members (and your non-member friends) at this show to support our free annual festival. You (members) are largely responsible for making this festival happen for 21 years. DCBS gets a grant from the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities, which we must match. It takes the grant and the matching funds twice over to bring the only real Blues festival to town. DCBS depends on your membership fees, merchandise purchases, donations, and attendance at its events. The Bryan Lee show is a twofer. You help support the festival and you hear a largely unsung champion of the Blues. If you haven't seen Lee in New Orleans' French Quarter or in a joint anywhere, this is your chance. If you've never heard Lee at all, here are a couple of random recommendations on recordings. I say random 'cause you can pick virtually any cut from his ten albums and be "Bluesified." "Dope Smokin' Woman" from his 1995 album Heat Seeking Missile, shows off Lee's fine guitar work.

And try "29 Ways" and "Don't Bite the Hand That Feeds You" from his latest (2007) recording Katrina Was Her Name [BMA 2008 Contemporary Blues Album of the Year nominee] to gain appreciation for his vocal stylings, guitar dexterity, and hear how he delivers a good time. Get tickets now at www.dcblues.org or 301-322-4808. You can also contact any of the volunteers listed on Page 2 of the CBM. They all have tickets that must be sold!

#### **Festival Lookout**

DCBS has been busy at many of the area festivals drumming up members and merchandise sales. Jazs and Gerard are the leaders of this band of merry merchants, the ones mostly lugging merchandise and 12 ft signs all over the region. The recent Chesapeake Bay Blues Festival was fun and very profitable for DCBS and it gained a number of new members. [See Booth schedule on Page 7]

A few notable performances deserve mention. That means they were my favorites. Saturday's picks were the region-based female ensemble that included Nadine Rae, Deanna Bogart, Melanie Mason, and Patty Reese. The Lonnie Brooks Band & Sugar Blue added special flavor to Saturday's lineup. On Sunday, standouts included Albert Cummings, Zac Harmon (who wowed the crowd), and Lydia Pense & Cold Blood. Pick your own favorites at upcoming festivals and visit our booth to talk about 'emand buy a lil' sumpin'.

There's plenty happening with DCBS and the Blues. Stay tuned and stay in touch. Visit our website www.dcblues.org and contact us if there's something on your mind you want to share - or volunteer.

Blues Always,







# Chuck Brown Sings The Blues at Tinner Hill Festival

On his most recent CD, DC's musical legend, Chuck Brown, interspersed some interviews among his Go Go music. One question was "...if you could only play one musical genre, what would it be?" His answer? "The Blues." Brown always mixes Blues and swing with his original funk and Go Go but he'll be doing a special performance of the Blues at The State Theatre on Friday, June 12. He'll be backed by Bobby Parker and his band in what should be an amazing show. It's an appropriate pairing since, about a year ago, in a *The Washington Post* article, Brown credited Parker as his inspiration to play guitar.

This event is a benefit for the annual *Tinner Hill Blues Festival— A Tribute to John Jackson* that runs through Sunday, June 14. Jackson, a master of Piedmont Blues, made his home in Fairfax County. The sponsor, Tinner Hill Heritage Foundation, is devoted to preserving the history and heritage of African Americans who lived in Northern Virginia and their contributions to the region's rich history.

Most festival events are free and take place in Falls Church City. Early Saturday, there is a panel discussion: "Whites, Blacks, and Blues: The Past, Present, and Politics of Blues Music," moderated by Gregg Kimball. Panel members include Kip Lornell, Luvenia George, Barry Pearson, Harold Anderson, Ida Campbell, Phil Wiggins, Rick Franklin and Warner Williams. The live music goes from 1—8 pm in Cherry Hill Park (see ad Page 5) Festival goers can also view a film: John Jackson - A Blues Treasure, narrated by Chuck Brown. On Sunday, there is a Blues Brunch & Jam Tribute by friends of John Jackson and John Cephas and a performance by M.S.G. the Acoustic Blues Trio. For complete schedule information, go to <a href="https://www.tinnerhill.org">www.tinnerhill.org</a> — Ron Weinstock (Photo of Chuck Brown from 2009 New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival by Ron Weinstock)





# The TINNER H Blues Festil

CKSON

#### FRIDAY, JUNE 12th

at the State Theatre in Falls Church VA Tickets required — go to www.statetheatre.com

Down Home Blues Featuring

#### CHUCK BROWN

Singing the Blues

accompanied by The Bobby Parker Blues Night Band

and Mr. Bobby Parker

#### SATURDAY JUNE 13th

at Cherry Hill Park in Falls Church VA

Deanna Bogart • Daryl Davis & the First Ladies of the Blues • Nadine Rae & the Allstars • Warner Williams • Curtis Blues

PLUS Family Activities Health Screenings Carnival Games and MUCH MORE!

and at the State Theatre in Falls Church VA Tickets required — go to www.statetheatre.com

#### SONNY LANDRETH

#### **SUNDAY JUNE 14th**

Blues Brunch & Jam at Bangkok Blues Art show and MSG Band

ALL BLUES. ALL WEEKEND. ALL OVER TOWN.

Friday June 12th through Sunday June 14th 2009 Information (703) 241-4109 • tinnerhill.org

JOHN JACKSON



Friday, June 12 — All Over Town Gregg Kimball and Jeffrey Scott 11 am -1 pm 11 am -1 pm Market Square Hip Pocket and Fast Eddie 11 am -1 pm Geo
Choo Choo Charlie Williams 11 am -1 pm Pea
State Theatre (ticket required): \*
Chuck Brown Sings the Blues 8:00 pm
accompanied by Bobby Parker & the Blues Night Band Geo. Mason Sq. Pearson Square

8 am - Noon F. C. Farmers Market

"Whites, Blacks and Blues: The Past, Present, and Politics of
Blues Music," Gregg Kimball moderator

Film: John Jackson - A Blues Treasure Cherry Hill Face Saturday, June 13
Early Bird Blues
Panel Discussion:

Day-long family entertainment includes children's musical workshops, yo-yo tricks, interactive readings and more. Food, music and fun!

Full schedule information: www.tinnerhill.org

Saturday, June 13 — Cherry Hill Park Festival Stage
Three Chords & The Truth 1: 1:00 pm Curtis Blues 1:30 pm 3:00 pm 4:00 pm Deanna Bogart,
Daryl Davis with First Ladies of the Blues Angela Hill Stacy Brooks, Ruby Hayes Nadine Rae and the All Stars 5:00 pm Sheryl Warner & the Southside
Homewreckers with Greg Kimball
Warner Williams

State Theatre (ticket required): \*
Sonny Landreth "King of Slydeco" 6:00 pm 7:00 pm

8:00 pm

#### Sunday, June 14

Blues Brunch & Blues Jam 11 am- 3 pm Bangko Tribute by friends of John Jackson and John Cephas M.S.G. Acoustic Blues Trio 4 - 7 pm Shreve Bangkok Blues Shreve McGonegal

\*Tickets can be purchased at State Theatre box office or on-line: www.thestatetheatre.com



# TAKE METROBUS OR METRORAIL TO:



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# **SATURDAY & SUNDAY JUNE 27 & 28, 2009**

PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, NW (Between 9th & 14th Streets) Sat. 11:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. • Sun. 11:00 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.



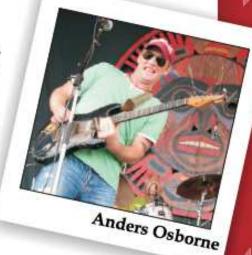
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# Bring Your Friends and Visit the DCBS Booth at These Festivals!

Read about them in the *Capital Blues Messenger* or go to DCBS' website <u>www.dcblues.org</u> for information about all of the exciting events taking place this summer!

Help spread the word about DCBS events and its FREE Annual DC Blues Festival. The festival is always held on the Saturday of the Labor Day weekend. The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual DC Blues Festival takes place on Saturday, September 5, 2009 from noon to 7:30 pm. There's also an After-Party with the DC Blues Society Band and special guest artists.

Visit the DCBS booth and pick up your DCBS merchandise and flyers at these events:

- 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Western Maryland Blues Festival, Hagerstown, MD Saturday, May 30 and Sunday, May 31
- Tinner Hill Blues Festival (A Tribute to John Jackson), Cherry Hill Park, Falls Church VA Saturday, June 13 (Ad Pg. 5)
- 20th Annual Billtown Blues Festival, Hughesville, PA Sunday, June 14 (Ad Pg. 8)
- 10th Annual Blues House Benefit Festival, Winchester, VA Saturday, June 20
- 14th Annual Columbia Pike Blues Festival, Arlington, VA Saturday, June 20
- 17th Annual Safeway BBQ Battle, Washington, DC Saturday & Sunday, June 27-28. (Ad Pg. 6)
- 12th Annual Briggs Farm Blues Festival, Nescopeck, PA July 10 & 11 (Ad Pg. 4)
- Hot August Blues, Cockeysville, MD Saturday August 15. (Ad Pg. 9)
   DCBS is looking for a few eager volunteers to help at these events.

   If you can help staff the booth, contact <u>fest-volunteer@dcblues.org</u>.

   Bring a chair, a cold beverage and your camera 'cause ya never know who's going to stop by!



Do you know of an event or festival where the DCBS booth should exhibit? Contact <a href="mailto:ads@dcblues.org">ads@dcblues.org</a> with event date and details!

#### **Safeway 2009 National Capital Barbecue Battle**

This annual food and music festival takes place on historic Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, D.C. on Saturday, June 27 (11am-9pm) and Sunday, June 28 (11am-7:30 pm).

Celebrate the first weekend of summer with great food, fun, music, and family entertainment. We all know that BBQ goes best with blues

and there will be plenty of both. Tasty BBQ of all kinds from top vendors; great blues bands like Anders Osborne, Chuck Brown, Clarence Turner and others; free food samples; live music on 3 stages; BBQ contests and more. The Barbecue Battle benefits the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Washington. Visit www.bbqdc.com or call (202)828-3099.



#### **Columbia Pike Blues Festival**

Arlington's best street party (and it's all FREE) takes place on Saturday, June 20th from 1:00 to 8:00 p.m. on S. Walter Reed Drive at Columbia Pike. Headliner Memphis Gold is joined by a great line-up that also includes Nadine Rae, Paul Mark & the Van Dorens, Danny Blew & the Blues Crew, and the West Memphis Music Club. Great Blues, delicious food, cold beer, arts and crafts, kids activities and more. For more information go to www.columbiapike.org

Memphis Gold with Joe Poppen at the 2007 Columbia Pike Festival. Photo: Ron Weinstock



# 10th Annual Blues House in Downtown Winchester - A Great Day of Blues, Food & Fun For a Good Cause

Saturday June 20, 2009, 11:30 am - 7:00 pm Line-up: Tinsley Ellis; Texas Chainsaw Horns; The Legendary JC's; Winchester's own Terry Oates and the Mudcats; Elisa Girlando & the Out of Truth Band. \$10 in advance \$15 at door. Winchester Eagles Club Aerie 824 Outdoor Pavilion.

700 Baker Lane, Winchester, VA 22601. Proceeds benefit Habitat for Humanity of Winchester-Fredrick County.

For information: www.winchesterblueshouse.com



# **21st Annual DC Blues Festival Saturday, September 5**

Join DCBS as it celebrates the Blues and the legacy of John Cephas, founder and DCBS' first president. There will be family-friendly events including an instrument petting zoo and several music workshops. The FREE day-long festival will feature performances by Teeny Tucker (left), Eugene "Hideaway" Bridges,

Eddie Turner, Michael Hill & The Blues Mob, Billy Thompson & Friends and the Capital Blues Ensemble. Other musicians and friends will also be on hand to celebrate the life and music of John Cephas.

It all takes place at the historic Carter Barron Amphitheatre in Rock Creek Park, 16th & Colorado Ave., NW, Washington, DC, from noon to 7:30 pm. For more information, go to www.dcblues.org. Volunteers are needed. Contact <u>fest-volunteer@dcblues.org.</u>

# Express Yourself Newsletter Contributors Needed

Have you been to a great concert or found a band/artist you'd like the world to know about? Want to see your photos in print or have a great idea for a featured article or monthly column? Express yourself in the *CBM*. Send your newsletter contributions to <a href="mailto:editor@dcblues.org">editor@dcblues.org</a>.



# 2010 International Blues Challenge Dates Announced

The Blues Foundation will present the 26th International Blues Challenge January 20-23, 2010 in Memphis, TN. The world's largest gathering of Blues acts represents an international search by The Blues Foundation and its Affiliated Organizations for the Blues Band and Solo/Duo Blues Act ready to take their act to the international stage.

In 2009, 100 bands and 60 solo/duo acts entered, filling the clubs up and down Beale Street and the Orpheum Theater on Saturday. Organizers predict at least that many in 2010.

IBC will once again include a youth showcase for those under the age of 21. This showcase provides an opportunity for young people to present their talents before record labels, media, festivals, managers, talent buyers and the fans.

In addition to the evening Blues competition, the days are filled with seminars and workshops and the prestigious Keeping the Blues Alive (KBA) awards honoring the men and women who have made significant contributions to the Blues music world, in categories such as journalism, literature and photography, the best clubs and festivals, as well as managers, promoters and producers.

The list of blues artists that have competed in the IBC over the years is impressive: Slick Ballinger, Barbara Blue, Fiona Boyes, Eden Brent, Keith Brown, Michael Burks, Sean Carney, Albert Castiglia, Tommy Castro, the late Sean Costello, Albert Cummings, Delta Moon, Larry Garner, Diunna Greenleaf, Zac Harmon, Homemade Jamz Blues Band, Joe Moss, Susan Tedeschi, Teeny Tucker, Watermelon Slim and Michelle Wilson.

Hotel and ticket information will be announced later this summer. For more information and to see the list of past winners, go to The Blues Foundation website: <a href="https://www.blues.org">www.blues.org</a>.

#### **DCBS Annual Battle of the Blues**

As announced in last month's *CBM*, the DCBS annual Battle of The Bands has been scheduled for Saturday, October 10, 2009. The winner will represent the DC Blues Society at the 26th Annual International Blues Challenge in Memphis, TN. The winner will also perform at two DCBS events: *WinnerFest*, Saturday, November 7, a fundraiser to help to defray the band's IBC expenses, and the *22nd Annual DC Blues Festival* at the Carter Barron in September, 2010.

Reminder: Deadline for entering is August 17, 2009. Because the winner will compete at IBC, certain rules and restrictions apply. Competition information, rules and entry form are posted on the DCBS website <a href="www.dcblues.org">www.dcblues.org</a>. Additional information about IBC is available on The Blues Foundation website: <a href="https://www.blues.org">www.blues.org</a>.

#### Silver Spring Blues Festival — music, fun and friends

More photos and videos can be seen at <a href="http://silverspringtowncenter.blogspot.com/">http://silverspringtowncenter.blogspot.com/</a> Photos below by Raymond Fudge, Alan Bowser and Glenn Thompson















Sean Carney
Gary Allegretto & Rich Del Grosso
The Campbell Brothers
Greg Piccolo & Heavy Juice Expansion Pac
Bob Margolin with Diunna Greenleaf
Uptown Music Collective Blues Band
KIDS HARMONICA WORKSHOP with Andy Barnhart & Mitch

KIDS HARMONICA WORKSHOP with Andy Barnhart & Mitch Ivanoff
ACOUSTICTENT featuring Jackand Lilly,
Gary Allegretto & Rich Del Grosso

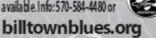
Lycoming County Fairgrounds Hughesville, PA

Gates open at 11:00
Tickets: \$18 Advance, \$23 Gate
By mail: BBA Tickets, PO Box 2,

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#### **International Acoustic Blues**

"...everybody understands the blues. Take the little baby that's layin' in the cradle, can't get that milk bottle fast enough, goes kickin' and cryin' and goin' on and tearin' up the little baby bed, he's got the blues..." ©Albert King, Blues Power, CD: Live Wire/Blues Power, 1968.

So says Albert King. He didn't say that only Americans of a specific gender, race, or age understand the blues. Ev-ry-bod-y can have the Blues.

Karim Albert Kook and his wife, Iness, Algerians who live in France, understand the Blues. They stopped by WPFW's Bama Hour on Saturday, May 2 and the Archie Edwards Barbershop in Riverdale, MD, on Sunday, May 3 and shared their Blues. Heavily influenced by B.B. King and Luther Allison, with whom he has toured in Europe, Karim's voice could have been any Delta Blues musician's voice. Singing mostly in French, occasionally in Arabic, they remained true to the Blues structure and the emotional baggage that accompanies the best Blues musicians. As he introduced his music, he re-

minded us that life events, bad luck and trouble span language and culture. Those of us in audience at the Barbershop happily provided backup vocals, singing "près de moi" (close to me) and proving that the Blues have no boundary. We may not have understood the words we sang, but we understood the feelings behind the music.

Karim and Iness will spend a month in the United States, traveling to New Orleans and Austin to share their music and absorb more of American Blues before returning to France. It may be hard to find, but check out his CD, Barbes City Limits Blues on the Dixiefrog label. — Chris DeProperty (host of WPFW's Bama Hour, Saturday, 11 am—noon)

# 2009 International Songwriting Competition Announces 2008 Winners and 2009 Entry Deadline

The mission of the International Songwriting Competition (ISC), an annual song contest, is to provide the opportunity for both aspiring and established songwriters to have their songs heard in a professional, international arena. ISC is designed to nurture the musical talent of songwriters on all levels and promote excellence in the art of songwriting. Amateur and professional songwriters and musicians around the world are invited to participate. The 2009 entry deadline is October 7, 2009. ISC website: <a href="https://www.songwritingcompetition.com">www.songwritingcompetition.com</a>

ISC has a prestigious panel of judges, offering exposure and the opportunity to have songs heard by *the* most influential decision-makers in the music industry. Judges for 2008 included recording artists James Cotton and John Mayall and Bruce Iglauer, founder and president of Alligator Records.

The 2008 Blues prizes went to Darren Watson (Auckland, New Zealand) for his song "All Going Wrong" (1st place); Uros Peric (Celje, Slovenia) for his song "U.P. Down Blues" (2nd place); and Chris James and Patrick Rynn (Chicago, IL) for their song "Mister Coffee" (3rd place). James and Rynn were also nominated by The Blues Foundation for a 2009 Blues Music Award in the category of Best New Artist Debut for the CD Stop and Think About It on Earwig Records. The winning songs in all the categories can be heard on the ISC website.







Ju	ne Calendar
1	Cathy Ponton King @ Westminster Church
2	Janine Wilson @ Bethesda Farmer's Market; Idle Americans @ Cat's Eye
3	Esther Haynes @ LaPorta's; Brian Gross Trio @ Willow Tree Gar- den; Corey Harris & 5X5 @ Rams Head
4	Big Boy Little Jam @ Zoo Bar
5	Janine Wilson @ Celebrate Fairfax; Capital Blues Ensemble @ Saint's Bourbon Street; Cathy Ponton King @ Nottoway Park; Idle Americans Jam @ Country Store;
6	Baltimore Blues Society presents Nick Moss & Flip Tops @ Rose-
0	dale American Legion; Nadine Rae & The Allstars @ Barebones Grill & Brewery; Doug Parks and Lonewolves @ Bangkok Blues; Esther Haynes @ Glover Park Day; June Jam 2009 @ Six Flags
7	DCBS Jam @ Surf Club Live; Ian Walters & SwampKeepers @ Eastern Market; Cathy Ponton King @ Frederick Festival of the Arts; Idle Americans Jam @ Bangkok Blues; Louisiana Swamp Romp @ Wolf Trap; Robert Lighthouse @ Madam's Organ
8	David Cole @ Westminster Church
11	Big Boy Little Jam @ Zoo Bar
12	Chuck Brown & Bobby Parker @ State Theatre; Tinner Hill Blues Festival @ various venues/Falls Church; Big Enough Blues Band @ Saint's Bourbon Street; Idle Americans @ Glen Echo; Eddie Shaw @ Wolf Gang @ Madam's Organ
13	DCBS presents Erbium Blue & DC Blues Society Band @ Surf Club Live; Tinner Hill Blues Festival @ Cherry Hill Park, Falls Church; Sonny Landreth @ State Theatre; Doug Parks and Lone- wolves @ Poplar Inn; Brian Gross Trio @ Sala Thai, Bethesda; Idle Americans @ Cryers Back Road Inn; BBQ Bob & Spareribs @ Madam's Organ
14	Gina DeSimone @ Eastern Market; Idle Americans Jam @ Bang- kok Blues; <b>Tinner Hill Blues Festival</b> @ various venues, Falls Church; BT Richardson Band @ Madam's Organ; Duke Ellington Jazz Festival w/Irma Thomas, Buckwheat Zydeco @ Sylvan Am- phitheatre
15	Charlie Coleman Blues Band @ Westminster Church
16	Idle Americans @ JV's
17	Delbert McClinton @ Rams Head; Janine Wilson @ University Town Center, Hyattsville
18	BG & Mojo Hands @ Hickory Ridge Village Center; Big Boy Little Jam @ Zoo Bar
19	Delbert McClinton @ Birchmere; Stacy Brooks Band @ Saint's Bourbon Street; Lex Grey & Urban Pioneers @ Madam's Organ
20	10th Annual Blues House Festival @ Winchester Eagles Club Aerie 824; Charles "Big Daddy" Stallings @ City View; Lex Grey & Urban Pioneers @ Madam's Organ; Rick Franklin with the Delta Blues Boys @ Cassatt's
21	Charles "Big Daddy" Stallings @ Patterson Park; <b>Buddy Guy, Susan Tedeschi</b> @ Wolf Trap; BG & Mojo Hands @ Columbia Lakefront Festival; Sears Trio @ Eastern Market; Idle Americans Jam @ Bangkok Blues; Hugh Feeley @ Madam's Organ; Barbara Martin Quartet @ Manassas Wine Festival
25	Big Boy Little Jam @ Zoo Bar
26	Sherwood Blues Band @ Dad's; Mac McDonald & Bluz You Can Uze @ Saint's Bourbon Street; Brian Gross @ River Hill Village Center; Cathy Ponton King @ Landsdowne Resort; Idle Americans @ Fricso Grille; Skyla Burrell Blues Band @ Madam's Organ
27	Safeway 2009 National Capital Barbecue Battle @ Penn. Ave. NW, Washington; Sherwood Blues Band @ Dish Bistro; Doug Parks and Lonewolves @ Potomac Grille; Esther Haynes @ Potomac Overlook Park; Brian Gross Trio @ Sala Thai, Bethesda; Cathy Ponton King @ Lake Kittamaqundi; Charles "Big Daddy" Stallings @ Bare Bones; Bobby Parker @ Madam's Organ

28	Safeway 2009 National Capital Barbecue Battle @ Penn. Ave. NW, Washington; Rick Franklin & Friends @ Eastern Market; Charles "Big Daddy" Stallings @ Federal Hill Blues and Jazz Festival; Ursula Ricks @ Madam's Organ
S	Charlie Caylos Pluce Pand @ Westmington Church

#### Charlie Sayles Blues Band @ Westminster Church

Idle Americans @ Cat's Eye

Early July Calendar	
2	Big Boy Little Jam @ Zoo Bar
3	Eli Cook @ Madam's Organ
4	Big Boy Little @ Zoo Bar; Charles "Big Daddy" Stallings @ Quiet Waters Park
5	DCBS Jam @ Surf Club Live; Idle Americans Jam @ Bangkok Blues
6	C.W. Harrington @ Westminster Church: Big Boy Little @ JV's

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

**Bolded** items are picks by calendar editor, Steve Levine, and include DCBS and BBS events. Send listings to <u>calendar@dcblues.org</u> 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: <a href="www.dcblues.org">www.dcblues.org</a>.



#### Les Paul — The Father Of The Electric Guitar turns 94

On June 8, a true living legend, Les Paul, will celebrate his 94th birthday playing before a sold-out crowd at the Iridium in New York City. Paul has received numerous Grammies as well as other awards for his pioneering work on the solid body electric guitar and innovative recording techniques

such as overdubbing and multi-tracking. In 1988, he was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Despite severe arthritis affecting both hands, he performs (with his customized Gibson Les Paul guitar) every Monday to an always appreciative audience.

#### Peter Seeger celebrates his 90th birthday

Another legendary music figure, Pete Seeger, turned 90 on May 3. His birthday celebration was a testimony to both his contributions to music as well as his political activism. His stance on social issues have always been evident in his music especially during the civil rights and anti-war movements of the 20th century. His dedication to environmental issues resulted in the massive cleanup of the Hudson River and passage of the Clean Water Act. Proceeds from his annual Great Hudson River Revival, the country's oldest music and environmental festival, are used for education, research and preservation of the river, its history and culture. Seeger performed on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial during the Obama inaugural celebration, singing Woody Guthrie's "This Land is Your Land."

#### Taking Woodstock to debut at Cannes Film Festival

A few days short of its  $40^{\text{th}}$  anniversary, a movie starring Demetri Martin, and based on the autobiographical book *Taking Woodstock: A True Story of a Riot, a Concert, and a Life* by Elliot Tiber and Tom Monte, will be released. The Tiber family ran a motel in Bethel, NY, and held the only musical festival permit in the town — the right place and the right time for an extraordinary event.

Were you there? Care to share your Woodstock memories? Send to editor@dcblues.org and we'll include in the September issue.



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