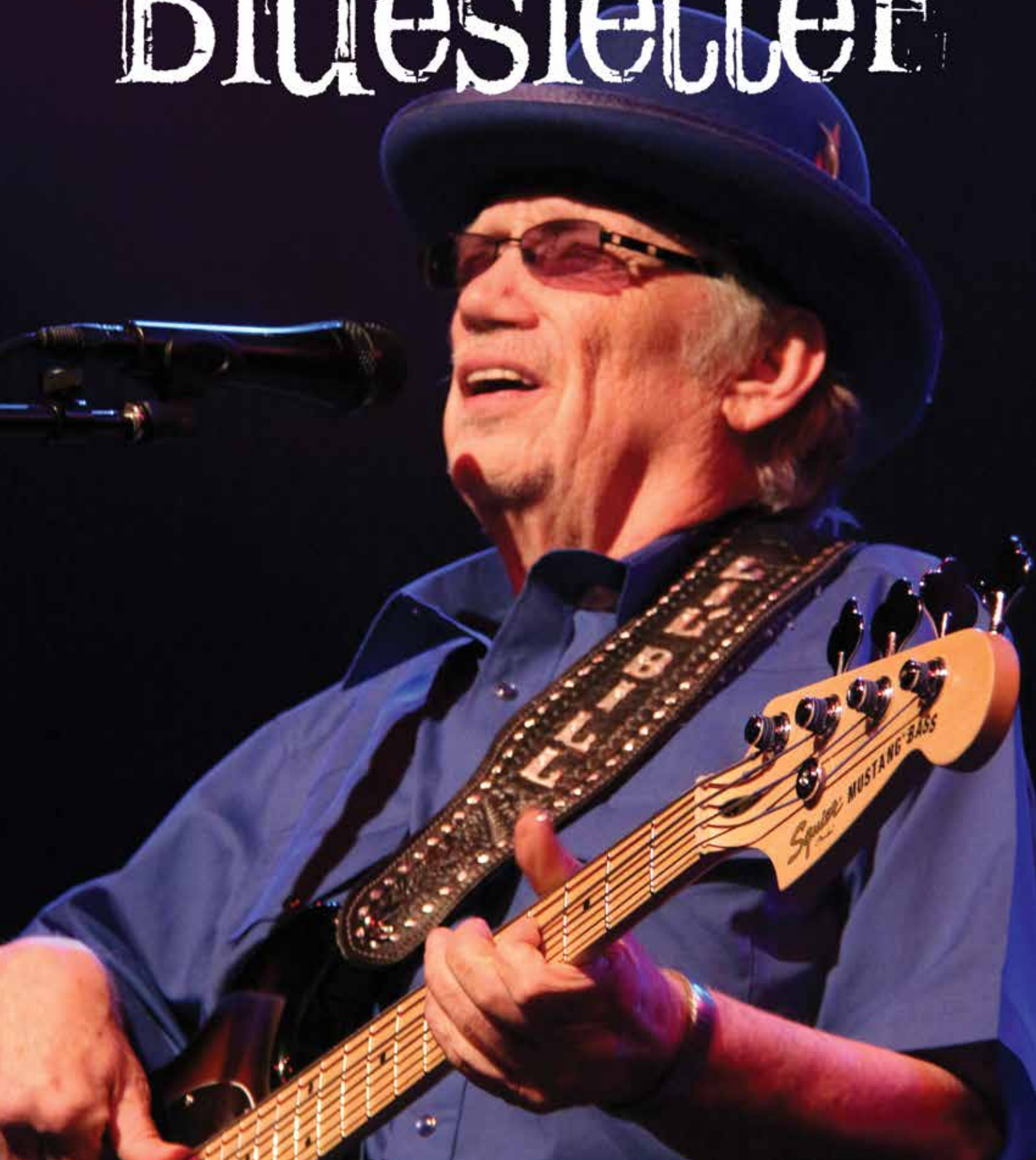


Bluesletter



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Hi Blues Fans,

This year is off to a great start! The Walla Walla Guitar Festival is starting the month off with a power house line up, maybe the best one yet. Peter Rivera, Danielle Nicole, Randy Oxford Reunion, Coyote Kings with Tiphony Dames & Too Slim, Scott Pemberton, CROS (Charles Mack-IBC Band Finalist 2019), and much, much, much more! There are still some tickets available and this will be a great time. It will be worth a last minute weekend getaway to kick off the Blues Festival season. See

the ad in this edition of the Bluesletter for more information.

The Coeur d' Alene Blues Festival includes Blues Music Award nominees The Fabulous Thunderbirds with Kim Wilson and a Northwest favorite son, Ben Rice! Harlis Sweetwater is up from California, up and coming Diego & the Detonators, the Bobby Patterson Band, plus a ton of other entertaining bands! See the ad in this edition of the Bluesletter for more information.

Speaking of the Blueletter, the final ballot for the Best of the Blues awards is in this issue. So if you are a dues current member be sure to vote for your favorites and express your opinion! It one of the big perks of being a member of the Washington Blues Society. And if you're not a dues current member, there is still time to join and vote for the BBs! At only \$25.00 for a single or \$35.00 for a couple per year it a great value and in addition to the above perks, there are many other great benefits to being a member!

Our annual Blues Cruise Raffle will be kicking off this month also! So be sure to stop by the Merchandise table and get your raffle ticket early. We will be at almost of all the festivals and will have some new inventory for you to check out too!

Be sure to stop by and say "Hi" well you are out and about! Look forward to seeing many of you as we get rolling this year.

Tony Frederickson
President, Washington Blues Society
Member, Board of Directors, The Blues Foundation (2015-2017)

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MISSION STATEMENT

The Washington Blues Society is a nonprofit organization whose purpose is to promote, preserve, and advance the culture and tradition of blues music as an art form. Annual membership is \$25 for individuals, and \$35 for couples. The Washington Blues Society is a tax-exempt nonprofit organization and donations are tax-deductible. The Washington Blues Society is affiliated with The Blues Foundation in Memphis, Tennessee.

WASHINGTON BLUES SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 70604
SEATTLE, WA 98127



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This month, the Bluesletter features coverage of the 2019 International Blues Challenge, celebrates Little Bill's 80th birthday and includes a preview of the Walla Walla Guitar Festival.

ABOVE: Samatha Weston reading the Bluesletter!
(Photo by Jesse Weston)

COVER IMAGE: Celebrating Little Bill's 80th Birthday at the Triple Door!
(Photo by Blues Boss)

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MARCH 2019 BLUESLETTER

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BLUESLETTER DEADLINES

Ad Reservations 5th of the month
 editor@wablues.org

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Editorial 5th of the month
 editor@wablues.org

Camera-Ready Ad Art 12th of the month
 editor@wablues.org

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Please send only attachments.

Please do not embed stories or photos in emails.

Photos: High-res only in the following formats:

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300dpi, CMYK (for color) or grayscale (for B&W).

Articles: Plain text (.txt) or Microsoft Word (.doc or .docx)

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Hi Bluesletter Readers,

Welcome to the March Bluesletter! This month, we are honoring one of our blues community's legends, Little Bill Engelhart. I hope that the tribute concert that Randy Oxford's planning will be SRO and I know that this will be a star-studded evening of great music.

The issue also honors the memory of Tisha Meitmann of Engel's Pub in Edmonds. She worked at Engel's for eight years and Daniel McMillin captures an event that celebrated her

life with a heartfelt remembrance. Ten years ago, Washington Blues Society members voted Engel's as best blues club in our annual Best

of the Blues ("BB Awards") process. Please see page 31 of this issue for this year's voting ballot.

I was fortunate to return to the International Blues Challenge in Memphis and I highly recommend this Blues Foundation event for every blues fan's bucket list. I was surprised at the changes I've noticed in and around Beale Street as I had not been back since 2017. I hope readers will appreciate my story and photos included in this issue and I plan to include reasons for readers to get to Beale Street in Bluesletters throughout the year. Our band, Sammy Eubanks and the Work'In Class finished second in the finals and our Wednesday showcase featured some of the finest blues talent from the Pacific Northwest and British Columbia's Lower Mainland.

Until next month, please go out and support live blues!

Eric Steiner, Editor
Washington Blues Society Bluesletter
Board of Directors, The Blues Foundation (2014-2017)

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	Chris Stevens and Annie Eastwood Duo
Tues March 12	Bake's Place Bellevue Stapleton - Eastwood Duo
Thurs March 14	Bad Albert's Band & Billy Stapleton Ballard 6-9pm
Fri March 15	Easy Monkey North City/Shoreline 8-10:30pm
	Stickshift Annie with Kimball and the Fugitives
Tues March 19	Bake's Place Bellevue Stapleton - Eastwood Duo
Thurs March 21	Bad Albert's Band & Bill Chism Ballard 6-9pm
Tues March 26	Bake's Place Bellevue Stapleton - Eastwood Duo
Thurs March 28	Bad Albert's Band & Kimball Conant Ballard 6-9pm
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Notes from the 2019 International Blues Challenge

Magical memories from Memphis...

By Eric Steiner

I was very fortunate to return to Memphis for the International Blues Challenge and the Keeping the Blues Alive Awards this year. I hadn't been back since 2017. I was surprised with many positive changes that I noticed this visit. I learned a lot at the workshops at the Hall of Fame. I liked the panel on trends in the blues music industry sponsored by the Consulate General of Canada that included insights from Grammy-winning Boo Mitchell. It was a thrill to listen to Bruce Iglauer's stories about his early days in the blues at his book signing of *Bitten by the Blues: The Alligator Records Story*. I returned downstairs to the Hall of Fame to see new exhibits included stage clothes of legendary drummer Sam Lay and Little Brother Montgomery's hat. Washington Blues Society volunteer Drew Berendts facilitated the donation of the hat with Betsy Goering as it was in her husband's extensive blues collection near Chicago. Betsy's late husband, Barrelhouse Chuck, would approve.

When I was on the Board of Directors of The Blues Foundation from 2010 to 2013, I developed many friendships rooted in a

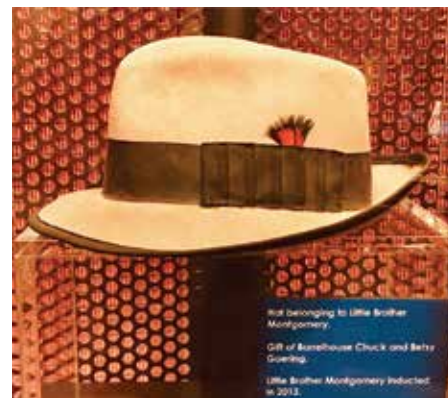
shared passion for blues music. It was fun to reconnect with "Hawkeye" Herman from Oregon, Mark Patrick from Michigan and "Hurricane Harold" Tremblay from the Twin Cities.

One of the challenges of the blues competition is to see new blues talent but in an event that features live blues in over 18 clubs on or near Beale Street, seeing just 10% of the performers can be a stretch. Wednesday and Thursday feature two nights of competition and the semi-finals whittle the field down from 260 acts to 48. To get to the finals, acts are further winnowed down to 10 slots.

Wednesday's Pacific Northwest showcase was a real highlight of my return to Memphis. Tony Frederickson ran the venue like clockwork and the day featured each of our entrants, Sheri Roberts-Greimes and Sammy Eubanks and The Work'In Class and our youth representatives, Nick Mardon and Amanda Kitchpanich. I was very impressed with the set led by Eric Rice with Scotty Harris on bass and Rick Bowen on drums and the Blue Hearts Duo from the Fraser Valley Blues Society in Abbotsford,

British Columbia. Our showcase was one of 25+ similar opportunities to catch live blues on Beale Street.

I learned that our band took second place en-route to SeaTac (because of the pennies I was pinching). Sammy Eubanks and The Work'In Class' set from the finals is on YouTube and I highly recommend Bluesletter readers experience it. I saw the band's first and second sets on Beale Street and each one was explosive. I liked the full-band sound with horns and keyboards and Sammy's inclusion of an early BB King number among his original material was an exceptional choice.





Right: Sheri Roberts-Greimes (Photo by Amy Sassenberg)

To: Sammy Eubanks, Scotty Harris and Ken Danielson (Photo by Tom Daniel)



Steve Lime (Keyboards), Micheal Lenke (Trumpet), Charles Swanson (Saxophone), Sammy Eubanks (Guitar & Vocals), Scotty Harris (Bass) and Ken Danielson (Drums) (Photo by Corrie Julian Eubanks)

Facing Page Right Middle: Little Brother Montgomery's Hat (Photo by Eric Steiner)

Facing Page Lower: Sammy Eubanks... Walking in Memphis (Photo by Corrie Julian Eubanks)

***Friday
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***Saturday
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w/Peter Rivera

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Crawl**

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JACOBS

COURTYARD
BY MARRIOTT



Me and Bobby Lee...

"After a few songs, it became obvious that we would spend the evening in G."

By Little Bill Englehart (Photo of Little Bill by the Blues Boss)

All musicians, at one time or another, get the call to fill in for someone in the group that can't make the date. The one that I will never forget is when I received a call that a bass player needed a sub.

The leader of the band was a guitar picker name of Bobby Lee. No last name just Bobby Lee. He said they leaned toward classic country. I could definitely use the \$100 so I told Bobby Lee I was in.

First off, I had never seen a drum kit that large. It took up the better part of the bandstand. After playing the first song, I was pretty sure this was the drummer's first job EVER!!

Bobby did all the singing and had the most unusual set up for a tip jar. It was a red bedpan placed inside the podium where all the song lyrics were. Bobby would sing a song, turn the page and go right in to the next one. The one thing that was missing is he never told us what key he was in. After a few songs, it became obvious that we would spend the evening in G.

Bobby's wife was also part of the band. Her instrument of choice was, of course, was tambourine (bet you saw that one coming!).



Her other offering was singing harmony with Bob. Between slapping the tambourine on the wrong beat and singing just flat enough flat to make your head turn, we were in for a long night. Now the wife was bit on the heavy side. Quite a bit! When she felt the power she would be hittin' that tambourine and jumping up and down Just like in at an outdoor church meeting.

Finally, after what seemed like a real long time we took a break. I went to the john and Bobby Lee came in behind me. Now picture this. We are both standing at the urinal and Bob looked me straight in the eye and said, "Bill, I like your bass playing."

"I'm Nashville bound and I would be obliged if would go with me and the boys," he said.

He actually used the word obliged. Just like being in a Roy Rogers movie. I told him I would give it some thought. I took a seat at the bar and noticed he was sitting with the owner.

I thought or hoped that we were being fired when Bobby waived me over. Just as I got to the table I heard the owner ask: "Bobby Lee, I love your band but who is the fat chick?"

Without missing a beat Bobby proudly said, "Why, that's my wife."

I just walked away.

for your

**Washington Blues Society
Membership Perks!**

see page 24

Tisha Meitmann - A Musical Tribute

Celebrating the life of a woman who created community at Engel's in Edmonds

By Daniel McMillin

It was an event that we never thought we'd be presenting, and one that we never wanted to do. Tisha Meitmann ~ A Musical Tribute was held on Jan 27, 2019, at the place where most of us met Tisha, Engel's Pub in Edmonds, where she worked for many years.

Tisha didn't just work at Engel's, she created community there. She drew people to the pub and to her with fun events that involved everyone. From scavenger hunts, Easter pot lucks and Easter egg hunts to softball and skee ball teams, karaoke, open mic and booking bands, Tisha was all about getting people together to have fun and she included everyone. Tisha was all about others and never about herself.

The event was like Engel's Tuesdays Open Mic on steroids with two solo artists, one duo and 14 electric bands of musicians who performed from 11:00 AM until 11:00 PM. Michael Mestres started early in the day. He was followed by Steven Padilla, Kevin Andrew Sutton & Jim McLaughlin. The Shortcutz started the electric band portion of the event followed by Stoned America, Larry Star, Mary McPage, Tim Turner Band, Tweety and the Tom-Cats, Chester Dennis Jones Band, Joey Houck Band, Scott E Lind, Town Hall Brawl, LONE STATE, Hot Mess, The DogTones and the Moon Daddy Band

It was very apparent that all the musicians played from their hearts and delivered emotional performances.

Musicians included: Bill Davis, Billy Reed, Bob Stark, Chester Dennis Jones, Chris Leighton, Dano Mac, David Chavez, Diane Forsyth, Don Forsyth, Fred Holzman, George Michael, Gina Holloway, Guy Johnson, Jesse Weston, Jevon Powell, Jim Barnes, Jim Leslie, Jim McLaughlin, Joel



Astley, Joey Houck, Keith Anderson, Kevin Sutton, Larry Star, Marty Vadalabene, Mary McPage, Matt Newman, Michael Baxter, Michael Mestres, Nelson Dage, Phil Blodgett, Randy Hiatt, Ray Roberts, Ricky Flores, Ricky Lynn Johnson, Ricardo Blanco, Scott E Lind, Steve Crabtree, Steve Fletcher, Steve Schlecht, Steven Padilla, Ted Pickett, Terryn Bunnell, Tim Turner, Tom Austin and Tom Dostal.

The day was captured on camera by Christina Ballard. Tina is a very talented photographer and an incredible lady who gives and gives, and loves to shoot musicians' live performances, portraits and candid photos. Tina shot all the musicians in the alley for promo material and many of Tisha's friends and family.

Engel's owner, Dawn Vinberg, and her staff were incredibly patient with the more than

50 musicians and hundreds of friends and family who attended this incredible 12-hour, blowout event.

This was a day for Tisha and the room felt her love.

Author's Note: Tisha worked at Engel's Pub for eight years. She died on January 5, 2019 of a brain aneurysm while on vacation in Las Vegas with her 13-year old son Dylan and boyfriend Eamon. Tisha was admitted to the hospital in Las Vegas on December 28th. She had two surgeries that were unsuccessful. Tisha was healthy in all other aspects. She was an organ donor and she saved the lives of four people.

Above: Tisha Meitmann

Photo by Larry Star of Musicshooters

Save the Date!

2019 Best of the Blues Awards

The Washington Blues Society's annual Best of the Blues Awards ("BB Awards"), presented in partnership with the Anacortes Brewery, returns to the Northwest Music Hall in Everett on Sunday, April 28th to honor musicians, artists, events and venues nominated by blues society members in 32 award categories.

The 2019 B. B Awards show will feature performances by select nominees and recognize new inductees into the Washington Blues Society Hall of Fame. The nominees once again represent the very best blues performers from throughout the Pacific Northwest nominated by Washington Blues Society members. The BB Awards recognize the past, present of future of blues music in the Evergreen State.

The 2019 BB Awards will be held on Sunday, April 28th at the Northwest Music Hall, 1402 Southeast Everett Mall Way, Everett, Washington. Doors will open at 2:30 PM with a 3:00 PM show time. Please plan on celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Washington Blues Society at the free after-party from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM. More details, will be online at www.wablues.org and in the April Bluesletter!



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Little Bill's Birthday Bash at the Triple Door!

Let's celebrate Little Bill Engelhart's 80th birthday in style on March 17th!

By Erica Peto

Greens and blues might bring to mind the Seattle Seahawks but this St. Patrick's Day, green harmonizes with the blues for a very special musical tribute to legendary blues man Little Bill.

Boogie on over to the Triple Door in Seattle on March 17th to help Bill Engelhart, better known as Little Bill, celebrate his 80th birthday. A blues veteran since 1956 when he formed a teenage band, Little Bill has been keeping our toes tapping for more than six decades.

In 1959, a Little Bill and the Blue Notes song titled "I Love an Angel" landed on the national charts in the top 100. While the

Blue Notes musicians have shifted over the years, Little Bill's music has never ceased to entertain audiences locally and beyond.

Randy Oxford has considered Little Bill his mentor for the past 30 years, starting when Randy played for Little Bill's 50th birthday celebration in Tacoma. Randy and friends have produced a tribute concert for Little Bill on his 70th, 75th, and now 80th birthday.

You won't want to miss the lineup of musicians belting out the blues to honor Little Bill. Performers include Patti Allen, Tommy Morgan, Buck England, Mark Riley, Randy Oxford, Rod Cook, Billy Stapleton, Chris Leighton, Billy Barner, Jim King, Jeff Menteer, Angelo Ortiz, United by Music

North America, Reverend Dave Brown (poetry), Hadi Al-Saadoon on trumpet, Terry Morgan on bass, Jesse Weston on the keyboard, Billy Joe on trumpet, and Pat Lee (assistant on stage to Little Bill).

Of course, the guest of honor, Little Bill, will be performing and there will also be other surprise guests.

It is sure to be a night to remember. Wear your green and get ready to groove to some amazing blues starting at 7:30 PM.



James Buddy Rogers
Everytime
(JBR Records)

Maple Ridge, British Columbia guitarist and singer-songwriter James Buddy Rogers gets right to the point on his latest release, *Everytime*, out in January of 2019 by putting the word “Live Blues” on the cover in large print. The five song EP was release just in time for his appearance at the 2019 International Blues Challenge in Memphis as a companion piece to that event and a declaration of how he feels blues music is meant to be heard “Raw, Rough, Dirty.” The set recorded at The Blues Can in Calgary opens with the instrumental “Puddle Jumper,” a gritty shuffle that highlights Rogers fret work and multitude of influences. The Texas Blues “Come Back to Me,” builds easy over a familiar walking bass line. The title track is a romantic ballad with clever arrangement that is deceptive in its simplicity and artifice. The straight-ahead rocker “Can’t Get You Off My Mind,” is full of energy and the fine set closes with the swinging “All I Need.” Of note is the fact that drummer Mike Woodford was a sub for the gig and had only met and played with Rogers the night before. Amazing.



Shemekia Copeland
America’s Child
(Alligator Records)

Shemekia Copeland’s ninth CD, *America’s Child*, is receiving a lot of well-deserved recognition and landing on blues and Americana playlists worldwide. Released in August of 2018, the dozen songs feature an all-star line-up of blues and Americana musicians, including John Prine on vocals, Paul Franklin and Al Perkins on lap steel, Rhiannon Giddens on African banjo, Emmylou Harris and Mary Gauthier on background vocals and Will Kimbrough

and Steve Cropper on guitar. The CD kicks off with the anthemic “Ain’t Got Time for Hate,” a powerful look over the horizon followed by the recognition and celebration of the diversity of our nation, “Americans.” There are many high points on this CD for me, including an impassioned cover of John Prine’s “Great Rain” and the set’s closer, “Go to Sleep Little Baby” (with eerie guitar parts from Kimbrough filling out the song nicely. I highly recommend *America’s Child* for the way it stands up fiercely to bigotry, hate and division in America today (or in any age). The acoustic “Smoked Ham and Peaches” is a nice detour away from the electric songs for Copeland and I particularly enjoyed the way this song stresses the importance of authentic experiences, in this case, smoked ham and peaches: “when the whole world seems fake, give me something real.” Shemekia Copeland is nominated in four categories in this year’s Blues Music Awards: Album of the Year, Contemporary Blues Album, Vocalist of the Year and Contemporary Blues Female Artist honors. Songwriters John Hahn and Will Kimbrough are up for Song of the Year for “Ain’t Got Time for Hate.” – Eric Steiner

Editor’s Note: Celebrate America’s Child at Seattle’s Jazz Alley on March 26th and 27th, followed by a show at Portland’s Jack London Revue on 30th. This summer, Shemekia Copeland will play the Waterfront Blues Festival in Portland on July 6th and the Winthrop Rhythm and Blues Festival on July 21st.



Janie Cribbs and the T Rust Band
Queen of Fire
(Singing Tower Music)

The second album from Whidbey Island group Janie Cribbs and the T Rust band, *Queen of Fire*, is a heartfelt tribute to women everywhere who have experienced the struggles of being a strong woman in our demanding world. Cribbs is a vocalist who styles herself after pioneers and heroes such as Sister Rosetta Tharpe, Big Mama Thornton, Etta James, and Janis Joplin in

her talk sing story telling. She co-wrote the album with guitarist Joe Reggiatore, who ‘s skills run the gamut of blues, roots and country rock. The opening track is clever history lesson on women in Rock, and Cribbs gets introspective on “Wouldn’t Change A Thing.” She encourages us all to draw strength from hard times on the world music tinged ‘Freedom,’ and the tale of a wild women “Lucy Left Chicago,” is a playful romp. Rick J Bowen



Doug Deming & the Jewel Tones
Complicated Mess
(EllerSoul Records)

I first discovered Doug Deming & the Jewel Tones five years ago when he worked with Dennis Gruenling who had just released a CD with Doug and company. Both were outstanding, so I was elated to see *Complicated Mess*. On this release Doug has special guests Kim Wilson, Little Charlie Baty, Madison Slim, Sax Gordon and Bob Welsh. The 13 tracks feature three covers and the balance Deming originals. *Complicated Mess* opens with the title cut with a medium tempo swinging groove that highlights Deming’s sensational vocals and tough guitar chops. Wilson adds ethereal harp fills to the smoldering “Sweet Poison” and he busts a pair of adroit solos. \. Madison Slim adds his considerable blues harp talents to the loping shuffle “Need My Baby” and Wilson is back for “Blues Stop Knockin’” a tune Lazy Lester (to whom this album is dedicated along with Susan Mickelson and Barrelhouse Chuck) cut for Antone’s in 2001, A couple of standout tracks are “Deep Blue Sea” a slow blues with a Ronnie Earl feel and “Someday Pretty Baby” on which the horns of Sax Gordon and Tino Barker lend a Roomful of Blues sound. The instrumental “Captain’s Quarters” features Little Charlie, and has a jazzy touch, as does the fast paced horn led instrumental “Rat Killin’” and “Cookin’ at the Kitchen” is a Texas shuffle. Very, very highly recommended. Malcolm Kennedy



Walter Trout
Survivor Blues
(Provogue)

After making over 40 albums, journeyman guitarist Walter Trout decided the time was right to record a full set of blues songs, covering his favorite artists and sharing some rare gems that spoke to him with new meaning. The dozen new tracks on *Survivor Blues*, released in January of 2019, are not all straight-ahead blues, but they certainly are given Trout's treatment of fire branding. Recorded at Robby Krieger's studio in Los Angeles, the set Begins with Jimmy Dawkins' "Me, My Guitar and the Blues," a blistering slow blues that seemingly was written for Trout. From there he moves through deep cuts from the catalogs of BB King, Sunnyland Slim, Otis Rush, J.B. Lenoir, John Mayall, Magic Sam and Elmore James. Sugaray Rayford joins him on an incendiary run-through of modern Chicago Blues "Women Don't Lie," and Krieger sits in on ethereal slide guitar on a lazy read of Mississippi Fred McDowell's delta blues "Goin' Down to The River." Trout shares in the album notes that "Old Blues songs somehow make me feel better," so for him this album is a soothing balm passed on from one survivor as a gift to a world in need of healing. -Rick J Bowen



Sugaray Rayford
Somebody Save Me
(Forty Below Records)

Sugaray Rayford now has 14 Blues Music Awards nominations with BB King Entertainer of the Year five times in a row from 2015 to 2019, Soul Male Artist in 2018 and 2019. If you have seen Sugaray perform you know he leaves it all on the stage. *Somebody Save Me* is the follow-up to 2017's *The World We Live In* which garnered nominations for Vocals and Soul Blues Album. Rayford was the front man for the Mannish

Boys on their final albums, 2012's *Double Dynamite* and 2014's *Wrapped Up and Ready*, and touring with them across the world. The 10 original tracks on *Somebody Save Me* were written by project producer, engineer Eric Corne who also adds harp to three tracks. "Time to Get Movin'" is a driving blues with Rayford up front and center, and with Corne on a couple of harp solos. "You and I" is a soul blues with horns, backing vocals and an organ wash. "I'd Kill for You, Honey" is an intense swaggering blues with Eamon Ryland on slide guitar as Sugaray sings "I beg and plea for you honey/down on my knee for you honey/I commit a bad deed for you honey/tell me baby would you really do the same for me?" One of the standout tracks is "Sometimes You Get the Bear (Sometimes the Bear Gets You)" which I could imagine BB King covering. Toe tapping beat, keys and horns fleshing it out, and stinging guitar by Rick Holmstrom topped with Sugaray's vocal prowess. "Is It Just Me" is reminiscent of a 70s soul charting hit and "Dark Night of the Soul" is a towering blues with emotive vocals, warbling blues harp and Ryland's biting guitar. Highly recommended. Malcolm Kennedy



Tommy Castro & The Painkillers
Killin' It Live
(Alligator Records)

Tommy Castro's newest CD – a live recording released by Alligator Records on March 1st – showcases his latest band, The Painkillers, as they work through eight originals and two covers on *Killin' It Live*. The Painkillers are long-time Tommy Castro bassist Randy McDonald, drummer Bowen Brown and keyboardist Michael Emerson. This band has been together for four years and, true to form at any Tommy Castro show, the songs tend to be longer jams performed live rather than their studio versions. The CD opens with a rollicking "Make It Back to Memphis" and continues to sample cuts from Tommy's 15 albums. I particularly liked "Shakin' the Hard Times Loose" and "Can't Keep a Good Man Down" as well as notable covers of

Buddy Miles' "Them Changes" and Sleepy John Estes' "Leaving Trunk." The 10 songs were recorded last year in Texas, New York (Daryl's House, as in Daryl Hall), Michigan and his home blues club in San Francisco, Biscuits and Blues. I highly recommend *Killin' It Live* because it's an exceptional document of a Tommy Castro live show. I have only one complaint or suggestion: Only 10 songs? How 'bout 10 more on a second CD? – Eric Steiner

Editor's Note: Celebrate *Killin' It Live!* in Tacoma, Seattle and Conway this month as Tommy Castro & The Painkillers return to the Pacific Northwest.



Kirk Fletcher
Hold On
(Elaysia Music)

Kirk Fletcher had long stints with both the Fabulous Thunderbirds and the Mannish Boys and has done projects with Joe Bonamassa among others. *Hold On* is his fifth solo release and has been nominated for a 2019 Blues Music Award for Contemporary Blues Album to go with his four previous nominations for Guitarist. For this release, Kirk used an organ trio format with Jonny Henderson on keys and Matt Brown on drums on the eight original tracks. From the opening lines of Kirk's searing guitar on "Two Steps Forward" I knew this was going to be a rocker. "You Need Me" has a mellow flowing funk beat and "Sad, Sad Day" has a pounding beat as Kirk sings "it seems like the harder to make it work/the further you run away" then lays down a commanding solo. Kirk takes things way down low for the soulful sounds of the soul blues ballad "The Answer." The tour de force is the muscular rocker "Time's Ticking," soaring and scorching guitar backed by a solid rhythm crew. One of my favorite tracks is "Gotta Right" with tis head bopping groove and stinging guitar lines. Kirk saved the title track for last, a sweet soul piece guided by the organ and with Jade McCrea sharing lead vocals. Highly recommended. Malcolm Kennedy

Celebrating 30 years of blues in 2019

The Washington Blues Society was founded and incorporated in 1989

By Malcolm Kennedy

In 2009 and 2010, I wrote a series on the history of the Washington Blues Society culled from the pages of the Bluesletter from the first issue in 1989 through 1995. It is not my intention to rehash that, but I will try to hit on some very special moments. I will also include the highlights of our Bluesletter Vol. I, Number I.

In the first issue from April of 1989, blues society president Ray Varner said “We’re shiny legal and squeaky clean! We have non-profit and tax-exempt status with the Feds and the State of Washington.” James Harmon was on the cover and had an upcoming show April 4th at the Ballard Firehouse for his Rivera Records release *Extra Napkins*.

There was a list of 42 original members and a request to those who hadn’t paid the balance of their \$12 annual membership to please pay soon, so that there would be sufficient cash flow to “promote gigs, pay postage etc.” and a request of the 30 folks also on the mailing list who are not yet members to join up. The Bluesletter also thanked several people involved since the inception, including graphic designer Scott Davis, Computer whiz Bill Yates, interim Board members Marlee Walker, Terry Furlong and Catherine Cooper and to Patrick Lynch for inspiration.

The winners of the first BB Awards held March 11th at the Owl Café, in 18 categories were as follows and this list includes all nicknames as published in the Bluesletter):

Acoustic Guitar: Jack Cook

Male Vocalist: John “Mr. Soul” Hodgkin

Bass: Victor “Too Bad” Little

Female Vocalist: Kate Hart

Keyboards: Dick Powell

Harp: Mark DuFresne

Drums: Chris “Zippy” Leighton

Album: *Tonight I Want It All*-Kate Hart & the Bluestars

Electric Guitar: David Brewer

Songwriter: David Brewer

Brass: John Hodgkin

Writer: Ray Varner

Blues Club: Owl Café

Best Blues Band: Kate Hart & the Bluestars

Entertainer: Lily Wilde

New Band: Trouble at Home

Hall of Fame: Isaac Scott

The membership grew from 42 to 150 in the first year. By November of 1992, we had almost 400 and we currently have over 1,000 members.

The first interim President was Marlee Walker. Ray Varner was President by the incorporation date, and in 1990, Nick Vigarino became the first full-term President and Cholo Willsin was the first multi-term President from 1993-1995.

As I read the earliest Bluesletters, it was hard to determine what was being done by the blues society and what was being done by individuals as the Officers of the Washington Blues Society Board as Board members were often also the leading organizers of events, festivals, benefits and fundraisers.

The Bluesletter has grown from a four-page black & white publication to a full color glossy 32-page publication. Several years ago, we also did a few 40 page issues, too. The Bluesletter is still produced by an all-volunteer group of writers, photographers and artists.

I read of plans to produce a concert, fundraising for said with a raffle featuring 20 new albums plus 10 used rare out of print LPs and a bonus collection of bootleg tapes of previously unreleased material. The list of albums included Junior Parker w/ Bobby Bland *Blues Consolidated*, Duke Records 1958; Freddie King *Sings*, Big Walter *Soul of Blues Harmonica*. As I read the list, I immediately thought that, “Yes, I’d like 10 raffle tickets please!

In January of 1990, Ray Varner submitted a grant proposal to the Seattle Arts Commission for the blues society to present RL Burnside and Piedmont songster John Jackson at the Northwest Folklife Festival in May.

In 1992, with assistance from volunteers, Seattle Times music critic Paul de Barros and assistance from the Seattle Arts commission and private donors, we presented North Mississippi Hill Country artist Jesse Mae Hemphill (winner of a 1991 W.C. Handy Award for Historical Album), Piedmont pickers Etta Baker and Del Rey and Pacific Northwest Women in Blues with Laurette Langille, Kathy Hart and Sheila Wilcoxon at Folklife.

The blues society started Pacific Northwest Blues in Schools in the early 1990s and this has grown to feature former Education Director Roy Brown’s and Dennis “Zab” Zvoloski’s Passing the Torch program to encourage and support youth artists.

For many years, our monthly meetings we now call our Blue Bash started off with a solo/duo act, often acoustic, followed by announcements, door-prize raffles of CDs, show tickets and festival tickets. A few times a year there is some blues society business and then an electric band. Everything from top regional acts to breaking artists, and sometimes touring artists, have been featured at these monthly free shows.

The Washington Blues Society has helped many festivals and local events with volunteers, including Folklife, Bumbershoot, Granite Falls R&B Bash and Railroad Days, the Fremont Fair, Woodinville Community Fair, Winthrop Rhythm & Blues Festival, Swinomish Blues Festival, and more recently, the Snoqualmie Blues Festival organized by Phil Chesnut at Snoqualmie Railroad Days, Deb Rock's Blues for Food Fest and the Mt. Baker Rhythm & Blues Festival.

In July 1993, we hosted a blues cruise on the Virginia V with Nick Vigarino's Meantown Blues and Mitch Woods & His Rocket 88's. We also have held fundraisers for Childhaven, Performing Arts Scholarship Foundation, Food Connection, hurricane relief benefits for Andrew in 1992 and Katrina in 2005, artists like Isaac Scott, Dick Powell, Jho Blenis, Hans Ipsen, Paul Green and many more.

Reading the early issues of the Bluesletter, I was reminded at how the blues society has always worked to support artists, clubs and musicians in need. The blues society maintains a modest Musicians Relief Fund to help musicians in need, and while our work in this area is confidential and not included in our Bluesletter, I was heartened to know that the Washington Blues Society has been compassionate, caring and committed to support our state's blues community. From day one.

More recently, the Washington Blues Society has held a raffle for the Legendary Rhythm & Blues Cruise to support the Musicians Relief Fund, which was started by Sheri and Raven Humphries, who also put on the annual Raven's Jam for Cans supporting Northwest Harvest.

In 2009, The Blues Foundation honored the Washington Blues Society with the Keeping the Blues Alive Award in the Affiliate – USA Blues Society category. Blues society volunteers have been instrumental in assisting promoters, festivals, radio DJs, Seattle's blues club and others receive this well-deserved international recognition. The list of Keeping the Blues Alive Award recipients associated with the Washington Blues Society includes the late Ted Todd and Marlee Walker (DJ, commercial radio), John Kessler (DJ,



Above: Former Blues Society President Nick Vigarino at 2016's Harvest Festival (Photo by Paul Brown reprinted from the August 2016 Bluesletter)

public radio), Winthrop and Mount Baker (blues festivals), Suzanne Swanson and Jef Jaisun (photography), Barbara Hammerman (promoter) and the Highway 99 Blues Club (blues club).

The Washington Blues Society is very active in the International Blues Challenge in Memphis. Starting with semi-final competitions held across the state to the state, the finals are held at the Taste of Music in Snohomish to select our band and solo/duo acts who will represent the blues society in Memphis.

Over the years, a number of our representatives have made it into the finals. In 2001, Junkyard Jane was a finalist as was Nick Vigarino's Back Porch Stop in 2011. In 2012, The Wired! Band won 1st place, and in 2016, the duo of Ben Hunter and Joe Seamons won 1st place. This year, Sammy Eubanks & the Workin' Class came in 2nd place.

I hope that many early Board members and contributing writers would consider adding their stories in an upcoming Bluesletter to further celebrate the first 30 years of the Washington Blues Society.

Author's Note: The collection of Bluesletters in my archives is incomplete between 1989 and 1997 (the first year we have a complete set). We have 35 of the first 93 issues, and if any reader has any of these early issues, please contact me at malcarken@msn.com.)

March 2018 Washington Blues Society Calendar

Note: Please confirm with each venue the start time and price. We also apologize for any errors. Please submit all details to our online calendar at www.wablues.org.

MAR 1 FRI

Bake's Place: Mark DuFresne Band, 9pm
Cafe Zippy's, Everett: Hambone Wilson w/Joel Astley, 7pm
Conway Muse: Mama Dirty Skirt, 8pm
Conway Muse: Marc Smason & Friends, 7:30pm
Couth Buzzard Books Espresso Buono Café: Jazz Abbey, 7:30pm
Fremont Abbey Arts Center: Stephanie Anne Johnson, Angela Soffe, Jess Pillay, 7:30pm
Pantages Theater: Trombone Shorty & Orleans Avenue, 7:30pm
Penn Cove Brewing Co: Nick Vigarino, 7:30pm
Rockfish Grill, Anacortes: Sheri & Da Boyz, 7:30pm
Salmon Bay Eagles: Stickshift Annie w/ Kimball & the Fugitives, 7pm
Savoy's Blues Underground: Jelly Rollers, 8pm
Vintage Café: Brett Benton Duo, 7pm

MAR 2 SAT

13 Coins Bellevue: Michele D'Amour & the Love Dealers, 7:30pm
Conway Muse: Cascadia Groove, 7pm
Conway Muse: Muse Bird Cafe w/ Carolyn Cruso, Misty Flowers & Tracy Spring, 7:30pm
Eaglemont Golf Course: The Chris Eger, Band 8pm
Live Music in The Living Room, Marysville: Joe Seamons & Tina Dietz 7pm
Pub 282, Camano Island: Cory Vincent, 7-10pm
Snohomish Eagles: Mad Bojo, 8pm
Stewart's On First: Moon Daddy Band, 9pm
The Loggers, Sultan: Brett Benton, 7pm

MAR 4 MON

Madison Ave Pub: Monday Blues Review, 7pm

MAR 6 WED

Bake's Place: Billy Stapleton & Annie Eastwood Duo, 8pm
Crow Island Farms, Stanwood: Brett Benton, 6pm
Engels Pub: Jesse James & the MOB, 8pm
J&M Café: Lonnie Williams, 9pm

MAR 7 THU

Bad Albert's: Annie Eastwood & Friends ft Beth Wulff, 6pm
Conway Muse, Back Room Lit Lab: March Madness = Humor in Writing, 6:30pm
J&M Café: True Romans, 9pm
Ristrettos Coffee Lounge & Wine Bar, Maple Valley: Brett Benton, 6pm
Salmon Bay Eagles: Eric Madis & Blue Madness, 8pm

MAR 8 FRI

At Michele's, Richland: Nerve Center, 8pm
Buzz Inn Granite Falls: Moon Daddy Band, 9pm
Conway Muse: Muse Bird Cafe w/ Emily Anderson, Collin Stackhouse & Levi Ware, 7:30pm
Conway Muse: The Badd Dog Blues Society, 8pm
Dawson's Bar & Grill: Mark Hurwitz & Gin Creek, 9pm
Marcus Whitman Hotel: Walla Walla Guitar Festival, 5pm
Salmon Bay Eagles: Mobius Jones, 8pm
The Metro Hall: Recovery Blues Benefit, 7pm
The Vogue a liquid lounge, Chelan: Brett Benton, 8pm

MAR 9 SAT

Conway Muse: DEAL- Celebrating the Grateful Dead, 7:30pm
Conway Muse, Bard Room: Petunia & The Vipers, 8pm
Couth Buzzard Books Espresso Buono Café: The Jump Monkeys, 7pm
Dawson's Bar & Grill: Mark Hurwitz, 9pm
Disco Bay Detour, Port Townsend: Bread & Gravy Trio, 8pm
Doyles Public House, Tacoma: Jerry Miller Trio, 8pm
Elliott Bay Pizza & Pub: Chris Stevens & Annie Eastwood Duo, 7pm
Marcus Whitman Hotel: Walla Walla Guitar Festival, 5pm
Pub 282, Camano Island: Scratch Daddy, 7-9pm

MAR 10 SUN

Marcus Whitman Hotel: Walla Walla Guitar Festival, 5pm

MAR 11 MON

Madison Ave Pub: Monday Blues Review, 7pm

MAR 12 TUES

Collector's Choice Restaurant: Washington Blues Society Blues Bash 7pm

MAR 13 WED

Bake's Place: Billy Stapleton & Annie Eastwood Duo, 8pm
Conway Muse: Tommy Castro & The Painkillers, 7:30pm
Engels Pub: New Venture, 8pm
J&M Café: Lonnie Williams, 9pm
The Triple Door: Ruthie Foster w/ Nickel & Rose, 7:30pm

MAR 14 THU

Bad Albert's: Annie Eastwood & Friends ft Billy Stapleton, 6pm
Conway Muse, Back Room Li Lab: Sip to the Spoken Word Event, 6pm
J&M Café: True Romans, 9pm
Salmon Bay Eagles: Kimball & the Fugitives, 8pm
The Triple Door: Ruthie Foster w/ Nickel & Rose, 7:30pm

MAR 15 FRI

The Amarillo, Monroe: Brett Benton Duo, 7:30pm
Collectors Choice: Scratch Daddy, 8pm
Conway Muse: McPage & Powell 7:30pm
Conway Muse: Baby Gramps & Blue Flags & Black Grass, 7:30pm
Easy Monkey Taphouse: Stickshift Annie w/ Kimball & the Fugitives, 8pm
Firefly Lounge, Bellingham: The Naughty Blokes w/ Michele D'Amour & the Love Dealers, 8pm
Musicquarium Lounge at the Triple Door: Joe Blue & the Roofshakers, 9pm
Oxford Saloon: Mojo Cannon, 8:30pm
The Triple Door: Curtis Salgado & the Painkillers, 8pm

MAR 16 SAT

Conway Muse: The Whateverly Brothers (Celebrating St. Patrick's Day Eve!) 7pm
Fireweed Terrace: Midlife Crisis & the Alimony Horns, 8pm

Garage Bar & Grill, Bremerton: Mark Hurwitz & Gin Creek, 6pm

Lincoln Theater Mt Vernon: Curtis Salgado & the Painkillers, 8pm
Madison Ave Pub: Stacy Jones Band & The Cory Vincent Group, 7pm
Pub 282: The CC Adams Band, 7-9pm
Timber Monster Brewing Co, Sultan: Brett Benton, 6:30pm

MAR 17 SUN

The Triple Door: Little Bill's 80th Birthday (tribute concert) 7:30pm

MAR 18 MON

Madison Ave Pub: Monday Blues Review, 7pm

MAR 20 WED

J&M Café: Lonnie Williams, 9pm
Nectar Lounge: Karl Denson's Tiny Universe, 7pm

MAR 21 THU

Bad Albert's: Annie Eastwood & Friends ft Bill Chism, 6pm
Conway Muse: Low Lily, 7:30pm
J&M Café: True Romans, 9pm
Nectar Lounge: Karl Denson's Tiny Universe, 7pm
Salmon Bay Eagles: All Stars No Stripes Band, 8pm
The Cliffhanger, Lynnwood: Moon Daddy, 7pm

MAR 22 FRI

Conway Muse: Jasmine Greene Band, 7:30pm
Dawson's Bar & Grill: Joe Blue & the Roof Shakers, 9pm
J&M Café: Boogie Chillin', 9pm
Swimdeck Gastropub, Port Orchard: Mark Hurwitz & Gin Creek, 7pm
The Showbox: Galactic, 8pm

MAR 23 SAT

Club Crow, Cashmere: Polly O'Keary & The Rhythm Method & Junk Belly, 8:30pm
Conway Muse: Christy McWilson Experience, 7:30pm
Conway Muse: Danny Barnes, 8pm
East Shore Unitarian Church: The Half Brothers, 7:30pm
Grinders Hot Sands: Mark DuFresne Band, 8pm

MAR 23 SAT (CONT'D)

Madison Ave Pub: Moon Daddy Band, 7:30pm
O'Malley's Irish Pub, Tacoma: Mark Hurwitz & Gin Creek, 7pm
Pub 282 Camano Island: Michele D'Amour & The Love Dealers, 7pm
Stewart's On First: Stacy Jones Band, 9pm
Third Place Commons: \$cratch Daddy, 7:30pm

MAR 24 SUN

The Spar Tavern: Mark Hurwitz & Gin Creek, 7pm

MAR 25 MON

Madison Ave Pub: Monday Blues Review, 7pm

MAR 26 TUE

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley: Shemekia Copeland, 7pm

MAR 27 WED

J&M Café: Lonnie Williams, 9pm

MAR 28 THU

Bad Albert's: Annie Eastwood & Friends ft Kimball Conant, 6pm
Conway Muse: Penny Opry, 7:30pm
Dimitriou's Jazz Alley: Joey DeFrancesco Trio w/ Pharoah Sanders, 7:30pm
J&M Café: True Romans, 9pm
Vintage Café: Brett Benton, 7pm

MAR 29 FRI

Clock-Out Lounge: Revel In Dimes
Conway Muse: The Sky Colony & Wait a Minute Chester (Celebrating 10 years of playing at the Muse!) 8pm
Conway Muse: Wayne Hayton
Dimitriou's Jazz Alley: Joey DeFrancesco Trio w/ Pharoah Sanders, 7:30pm
Disco Bay Detour, Port Townsend: Muddy Souls, 7pm
Easy Monkey Taphouse: Billy Stapleton's Powerhouse, 8pm
Engels Pub: Moon Daddy, 9pm
J&M Café: The Swamp Dogs, 9pm
The Red Dog Saloon, Port Orchard: The Padillacs, 8pm
The Vogue a liquid lounge, Chelan: Brett Benton, 8pm

MAR 30 SAT

Wildflower Wine Shop, North Bend: Tommy Wall & Friends, 7pm
Bake's Place: Goodnight Suzie, 7pm
Collectors Choice: DreamWreck, 8pm
Conway Muse: Michele D'Amour & the Love Dealers, 7:30pm
Conway Muse: Stardrums & Lady Keys w/ Lonnie Williams, 8pm
Dimitriou's Jazz Alley: Joey DeFrancesco Trio w/ Pharoah Sanders, 7:30pm
Easy Monkey Taphouse: Trailer Park Kings, 8pm
Historic Everett Theater: After Midnight-Eric Clapton Tribute/ Feelin' Alright Joe Cocker Tribute, 7pm
Local 20 Taproom, Sedro Wooley: Brett Benton, 8pm
Metronome Coffee, Tacoma: Mark Hurwitz & Sheryl Clark Duo, 7pm
North City Bistro & Wine Shop: Alma y Azucar Sextet, 8pm
Oxford Saloon: Blvd Park, 8:30pm
Port Townsend Brewing Company: John Nelson, 5pm
Vino Bella Wine Bar: Surround Sound Band, 7:30pm
Wild Buffalo, Bellingham: The Dip w/ Laura Jean Anderson, 9pm

MAR 31 SUN

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley: Joey DeFrancesco Trio w/ Pharoah Sanders, 7:30pm
Hotel Albatross Ballard: Brett Benton High Water-Songs from the Delta, 8pm

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Please send any updates, additions or corrections to both Editor@wabluess.org and ericrichd@aol.com. We're working to build a better Bluesletter!

#

44th Street Blues Band 206.714.5180 or 206.775.2762

A

A.H.L. 206.935.4592
Al Earick Band 253.278.0330
Albritten McClain & Bridge of Souls 206.650.8254
Alice Stuart & the Formerlys 360.753.8949
AlleyKatz 425.273.4172
Andrew Norsworthy andrewnorsworthy@yahoo.com
Andy Koch's Badd Dog Blues (formerly Badd Dog Blues Society) 360.739.6397
Annette Taborn 206.679.4113
Annieville Blues 206.994.9413
Author Unknown 206.355.5952

B

Baby Gramps Trio 425.483.2835
Back Porch Blues 425.299.0468
Backwoods Still 425.330.0702
Badd Dog Blues Society 360.733.7464
Bay Street Blues Band 360.731.1975
B.E.S.T. Band 206.817.1663
Bill Brown & The Kingbees 206.276.6600
Billy Barner 253.884.6308
Billy Shew Band 253.514.3637
Black River Blues 206.396.1563
Blackjack Kerouac 206.697.8428
Blackstone Players 425.327.0018
Blue 55 206.216.0554
Blue Healers 206.940.9128
Blues on Tap 206.618.6210
Blues Playground 425.359.3755
Blues Redemption 253.884.6308
Blues Sheriff 206.979.0666
Blues To Do Monthly 206.328.0662
Bobby Holland & The Breadline 425.681.5644
Boneyard Preachers 206.755.0766 or 206.547.1772
Brian Butler Band 206.361.9625
Brian Hurst 360.708.1653
Brian Lee & The Orbiters 206.390.2408
Bruce Govan 206.817.1663
Bruce Koenigsberg / Fabulous Roof Shakers 425.766.7253
Bruce Ransom 206.618.6210
Bump Kitchen 253.223.4333 or 360.259.1545

C

C.D. Woodbury Band 425.502.1917
CC Adams Band: 360.395.8540
Charles White Revue 425.327.0018

Charlie Butts & The Filtertips 509.325.3016
Charlie Saibel 360.357.8553
Chester Dennis Jones 253.797.8937
Chris Egar Band 360.770.7929
Chris Lord 425.334.5053
Chris Stevens' Surf Monkeys 206.236.0412
Coyote Blues 360.420.2535
Crooked Mile Blues Band 425.238.8548
Curtis Hammond Band 206.696.6134

D

Daddy Treetops 206.601.1769
Dana Lupinacci Band 206.860.4961
David Hudson / Satellite 4 253.630.5276
Dennis "Juxtamuse" Hacker 425.423.9545
Dick Powell Band 425.742.4108
Doug McGrew 206.679.2655
Doug Skoog 253.921.7506
Dudley Taft 513.713.6800

E

El Colonel 360.293.7931
Ellis Carter 206.935.3188
Eric Madis & Blue Madness 206.362.8331

F

Fat Cat 425.487.6139
Filé Gumbo 425.788.2776

Julia Francis & the Secrets of Soul 206.618.4919

G

Gary Frazier 206.851.1169
Greg Roberts 206.473.0659
Groove Tramps 720.232.9664
Gunnar Roads 360.828.1210

H

Hambone Blues Band 360.458.5659
Hambone Wilson 360.739.7740
Heather & the Nearly Homeless Blues Band 425.576.5673
Hot Mess Duo 206.214.7977
Hot Wired Rhythm Band 206.790.9935
Hungry Dogs 425.299.6435

J

Jack Cook & Phantoms of Soul 206.517.5294
Jam Animal (206) 522-5179
James Howard 206.250.7494
James King & the Southsiders 206.715.6511
Janie Cribbs and the T.Rust Band 360.331.6485
JD Hobson 206.235.3234

Jeff Boutiea & the Blues Choo Train 425.345.5399
Jeff "DRUMMERBOY: Hayes: 206.909.6366
Jeff & The Jet City Fliers 206.818.0701
Jeff Menteer and The Beaten Path 425.280.7392
Jeremy Serwer 520.275.9444
Jesse Weston 425.610.0933
Jill Newman Band 206.390.2623
Jim Caroompas (Rumpus) 925.212.7760
Jim McLaughlin 425.737.4277
Jim Nardo Blues Band 360.779.4300
Jimmy Free's Friends 206.546.3733
Joe Blue and the Roof Shakers 425.766.7253
Joe Cook Blues Band 206.547.1772
Joe Guimond 509.423.0032
Joel Astley 206.214.7977
John "Scooch" Cugno's Delta 88 Revival 360.352.3735
John Stephan Band 206.244.0498
JP Hennessy 425.273.4932
Julia Francis and the Secrets of Soul 206.618.4919
Julie Duke Band 206.459.0860
Junkyard Jane 253.238.7908

K

K. G. Jackson & The Shakers 360.896.4175
Keith Nordquist 253.639.3206
Keith Scott 773.213.3239
Kevin & Casey Sutton 314.479.0752
Kid Quagmire 206.412.8212
Kim Archer Band 253.298.5961
Kim Field & The Mighty Titans of Tone 206.295.8306
Kimball Conant & The Fugitives 206.938.6096
Kosta Panidis (Kosta la Vista) 509.991.7623

L

Lady "A" & The Baby Blues Funk Band 425.518.9100
Larry Hill 206.696.1789
Leanne Trevalyan 253.238.7908
Lissa Ramaglia 206.650.9058
Little Bill & the Bluenotes 425.774.7503
Lucille Street cynmoring@gmail.com

M

Maia Santell & House Blend 253.983.7071
Mark A. Noftsgger 425.238.3664
Mark Hurwitz & Gin Creek 206.588.1924
Mark Riley 206.313.7849
Mark Whitman Band 206.697.7739
Mary Ellen Lykins Band: 360.395.8540
Mary McPage 206.850.4849
Michael 'Papa Bax' Baxter 425.478.1365
Michael Wilde 425.672.3206 or 206.200.3363

Michal Miller Band 253.222.2538
Michelle D'Amour and The Love Dealers
425.761.3033
Miles from Chicago 206.440.8016
Moon Daddy Band 425.923.9081
Mule Kick 216.225.1277

N

Nick Vigarino 360.387.0374
Norm Bellas & the Funkstars 206.722.6551

P

Paul Green 206.795.3694
Polly O'Kerry and The Rhythm Method
206.384.0234

R

Rafael Tranquilino Band /Leah Tussing
425.329.5925
Randy Norris & Jeff Nicely 425.239.3876 or
425.359.3755
Randy Norris & The Full Degree 425.239.3876
Randy Oxford Band 253.973.9024
Raven Humphres 425.308.3752
Red House 425.377.8097
Reggie Miles 360.793.9577
Richard Allen & The Louisiana Experience
206.369.8114
Richard Evans 206.799.4856
Right Hand Drive 206.496.2419
RJ Knapp & Honey Robin Band 206.612.9145
Robert Patterson 509.869.0350
Rod Cook & Toast 206.878.7910
Roger Rogers Band 206.255.6427
Ron Hendee 425.280.3994
Roxlide 360.881.0003
Russ Kammerer 206.551.0152
Rusty Williams 206.282.0877

S

Sammy Eubanks 509.879.0340
Scott E. Lind 206.789.8002
Scotty Harris 206.683.9476
Scratch Daddy 425.210.1925
Shadow Creek Project 360.826.4068
Sheri Roberts Greimes 425.220.6474
Smokin' J's 425.746.8186
Son Jack Jr. 425.591.3034
Spencer Jarrett 510.495.4755
Stacy Jones 206.992.3285
Star Drums & Lady Keys 206.522.2779
Steve Bailey & The Blue Flames 206.779.7466
Steve Cooley & Dangerfields 253.203.8267

Steven J. Lefebvre 509.972.2683 or 509.654.3075
Stickshift Annie Eastwood 206.941.9186
Susan Renee"La Roca Soul" Sims 206.920.6776
Suze Sims 206.920.6776

T

Terry Hartness 425.931.5755
The Bret Welty Band 208.703.2097
The EveryLeaf Band 425.369.4588
The Fabulous MoJo Kings 206.412.9503
The Jelly Rollers 206.617.2384
The Mongrels 509.307.0517 or 509.654.3075
The Nate Burch Band 425.457.3506
The Naughty Blokes 360.393.9619
The Rece Jay Band 253.350.9137
The Soulful 88s/Billy Spaulding 206.310.4153
The Spinoffs/Dawnzella Gearhart 206.718.1591
The Tonic 206.214.7977
The Wired Band 206.852.3412
The Wulf Tones 206.367.6186 or 206.604.2829
Tim Hall Band 253.857.8652
Tim Turner Band 206.271.5384
Tommy Wall 206.914.9413
Town Hall Brawl 206.940.9128
Two Scoops Combo 206.933.9566

U

Unbound 425.231.0565

V

Virginia Klemens Band 206.632.6130

W

West Coast Women's Blues Revue 206.940.2589
Willie B Blues Band 206.451.9060
Willie & The Whips 206.781.0444

If you don't know your **googily moogily**
from your **wang dang doodle**,
join the **Washington Blues Society!**



MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS PERKS!

- Receive monthly *Bluesletter* in your mailbox*
- Monthly All-Ages Blues Bash email notices
- Member discounts for BB Awards and Holiday Party
- \$2 off the cover charge at the Highway 99 Blues Club (Seattle, WA)
- 10% off purchases at Silver Platters (any location)
- 10% discount at the Westport Inn (Westport, WA)
- \$1 off the cover and 25% off food at the Raging River Saloon (Fall City, WA)
- \$5 off the show admission for Friday 9:30 shows at Jazz Alley†
- And more! For the complete, most up-to-date list of membership benefits, visit wablues.org

**SIGN UP
ONLINE AT
WABLUES.
ORG. OR,
FILL OUT
THE FORM
BELOW &
MAIL IT IN.**



PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT ARE APPLICABLE. THANKS!

- New Renewal Address Change
- Individual Member \$25
- Couple \$35
- Band—First Member \$25 Band—Additional Member \$20
- Sponsorship—Gold \$1,000 Sponsorship—Silver \$600 Sponsorship—Bronze \$400

Name _____

2nd Name (couple) _____

Band Name (if applicable) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Please tell us how you heard about the Washington Blues Society: _____

I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO MAKE A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION TO THE FOLLOWING FUNDS:

- Musicians Relief Fund in the amount of \$ _____ providing assistance to local musicians in their time of need
- Passing the Torch Fund in the amount of \$ _____ educating the next generation of local musicians

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____ . Please send check or money order to

**WBS
PO BOX 70604
SEATTLE, WA 98127**

PLEASE CONTACT ME WITH VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

* Due to postage fees, non-US residents will receive their *Bluesletter* electronically

† With valid WBS membership card and advanced reservation. Reservations must be made by calling Jazz Alley at 206-441-9729 and requesting the WBS Special. This offer is not applicable to all shows.

Go Out and Support Local Live Music!

Jam hosts listed and Open mics are either blues-friendly or full band-friendly. Please send listings & updates to vicepres@wabluess.org to contribute to this listing!

SUNDAY

192 Brewing, Kenmore - 192 Blues Jam w/The Groove Tramps 3-7 PM All Ages.

Anchor Pub, Everett - Open Jam (2nd Sunday) 2-5 PM All Ages // Jazz Jam (3rd & 4th Sunday) 5-8 PM All Ages

Blue Moon Tavern, Everett - Jam with the Moon Dogs 7-10 PM

Captain Jacks, Sumner - Open Mic hosted by Lady Carter & Gents 7 PM

Collectors Choice Restaurant, Snohomish - Acoustic Open Mic w/ Patrick Thayer & the Reclamation Project 6-10pm

Club Crow, Cashmere - Jam Session (1st Sunday of the month, 7-10 PM)

Couth Buzzard Books Espresso Buono Cafe, Seattle - Buzzard Blues Open Jam w/Kenny Mandell 7-9 PM (1st Sunday A II Ages)

Dawson's, Tacoma - Tim Hall Band 7-11 PM

El Sarape Cantina, Shelton - Open Band Jam 3rd Sunday 4-8 PM

Finaughty's, Snoqualmie Ridge - Tommy Wall's Wicked Blues Jam 7-11PM

Peabo's Bar and Grill, Mill Creek - Peace N Love Jam w/ Tommy Cook, Eric Rice & Scotty Harris 7-10 PM

The Royal Bear, Auburn - Unloaded Jam Session 6-10 PM

Darrell's Tavern, Shoreline - Jazz Jam 7-10 PM

MONDAY

Mac's Triangle Pub, Seattle - 8-10 PM

Nectar Lounge, Seattle - Mo Jam Mondays 9-11 PM

Dawson's, Tacoma - Music Mania Jam 7-11 PM

The Swiss, Tacoma - Open Mic Hosted by Chuck Gay 7-10 PM

Red Dog Saloon, Maple Valley - Jam w/Scotty FM & the Broadcasters 7PM

Riverside Pub, Wenatchee - North Central Washington Blues Jam (2nd & 4th Mondays) 7-10 PM

The Mill, Milton - Open Mic with Walker Sherman 7 PM - 10 PM

The Mint, Victoria B.C. - Open Mic with Pete and Mo

The Village Taphouse and Grill, Marysville - Jam Night with Scotty Harris and Tommy Cook 7-10 PM

Emerald of Siam, Richland - Open Mic/Band showcase w/Barefoot Randy/Dirty River Entertainment 8PM (All Ages until 10:45 PM)

Wee Blu Inn Again Bar and Grill, Bremerton - Tim Hall Band Jam Session - 5-9 PM

TUESDAY

Bean and Vine, Everett - Open Mic 6-9 PM

Royal Esquire Club, Seattle - Sea-Town All-Stars 8-10 PM

Antique Sandwich Co. Tacoma - Open Mic 7-10 PM

Dave's of Milton - Blues and Beyond Jam with Jerry Miller trio 7-10 PM

Elmer's Pub, Burien - Jam w/Billy Shew 7-11 PM

Engel's Pub, Edmonds - Jam Night w/ Dano Mac 8-11 PM

Paragon, Seattle - Open Mic 9 PM-12

Pogacha, Issaquah - Jam Hosted by Doug McGrew. 8 PM -21+

Poppe's 360 Neighborhood Pub, Bellingham - Open Mic Night w/Brian Hillman 6:30-9 PM

Oxford Saloon, Snohomish - Acoustic Open Mic Jam, All Ages 7-10 PM

J&M Café in Pioneer Square, Seattle - Blues Jam 9-11 PM

Stewart's, Snohomish - Tuesday Jam night w/the Shortcuts 8 PM

Stoneway Cafe, Seattle - Acoustic Open Mic, 7-10 PM

Slippery Pig, Poulsbo - Monthly All Ages Open Mic 7 PM

Tim's Tavern, Seattle - Open Mic 7PM

Tweede's Café, North Bend - Open Mic 6:30-9:30 PM

North End Social Club, Tacoma - Open Mic w/Kim Archer 8-11 PM

Ben Moore's, Olympia - Open Mic 7-10 PM

The Cherry Bomb, Port Angeles - Blues Jam with Big Al & the Gang 7-10 PM

WEDNESDAY

192 Brewing Company, Kenmore - Open Mic 7-10 PM

Bethel Saloon, Pt Orchard - Open Mic 8PM

Black Dog Arts Cafe, Snoqualmie - All Ages Open Mic 7 PM

Blue Moon, Seattle - Open Mic 8PM

Collectors Choice Restaurant, Snohomish - Blues Jam w/Usual Suspects 8-11 PM

Couth Buzzard Cafe, Seattle - Open Mic 7:30-10 PM

Dawson's, Tacoma - Linda Myers Wicked Wednesday Jam 8-11 PM

Darrell's Tavern, Shoreline - Open Mic 830-11 PM

Dragon Gate, Des Moines - Open Jam 9-11 PM

Filling Station, Kingston - Open Mic 7 PM All Ages, Styles & Instruments Welcome

Grumpy D's Coffee House, Seattle - Open Mic 630-9 PM

George's, Kirkland - Heather B's Open Mic/Jam 7-9 PM

Hi-Fidelity Lounge, Bremerton - Open Mic 8 PM

Hopvine Pub, Seattle - Open Mic 8PM

Jazzbones, Tacoma - Live It Out Loud All Ages Jam 3rd Wednesday 6-9:30 PM

Madison Ave Pub, Everett - Unbound Blues Jam 7:30-11 PM

Muk Cafe, Langley - Open Mic 7 PM

Nauti Mermaid, Port Orchard - Open Mic 7-11 PM

Nickerson Street Saloon, Seattle - Open Mic 9 PM to 12 (Open Jam last Wednesday of each month)

Old Triangle, Seattle - Jeff Hass Open Mic & Jam 8-11 PM

Skylark Café, WSeattle - Open Mic 8PM

Stoneway Cafe, Seattle - Acoustic Open Mic, 7-10 PM

Tony V's Garage, Everett - Open Mic 9-11 PM

Twin Dragon, Duvall - Open Jam 7:30-11 PM

The Tin Hat, Kennewick - Open Mic & Jam w/Mondo Ray Band 7-11 PM

The Living Room Coffee, Marysville - Open Mic, 6-9 PM

Rhythm and Rye, Olympia - Open Mic Night hosted by Scott Lesman 8-11PM

THURSDAY

Anchor Pub, Everett - Open Mic 9-11 PM All Ages

The Cedar Stump, Arlington - Open Jam w/The Usual Suspects 7 PM

Port Gardner Bay Winery, Everett - Open Mic 6:30-9:30 PM

Dave's of Milton - Open Jam with Power Cell 8-11 PM

Dawson's, Tacoma - Blues Jam w/Billy Shew 730-11 PM

Drunky Two Shoes BBQ - White Center - Uptown All-Stars Jam 7:30PM

Oxford Saloon, Snohomish - Haunting Rock Jam 730-11 PM

Jacksons Sports Bar and Clubhouse, Yakima - Open Jam 8-11 PM

JB Bungalow, Juanita, Kirkland - Heather B Blue's Open Mic/Jam 8-11PM

Luther's Table, Renton - Open Mic 7-930 PM

The Village Inn Pub, Bellingham - Jam w/Jimmy D 8-11 PM

Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle - Blues Jam w/Mark Whitman (Last Thursday of the month) 8-11 PM

Slippery Pig Brewery, Poulsbo - Blues and Brews Jam Night w/Thys Wallwork (All Ages) 7-11 PM

Gordon & Purdy's Pub, Sumner - Open Blues Jam 7-11 PM

Stoneway Cafe, Seattle - Acoustic Open Mic 7-10 PM

Loco Billy's Wild Moon Saloon, Stanwood - Tigtwad Thursday Jam 8-11 PM

Rhythm and Rye, Olympia - Jazz Jam hosted by Tarik Bentlemani 7-9 PM

The Dam Bar, Port Angeles - Open Mic 7 PM

Stewarts, Snohomish - Open Jam w/ Pole Cat and Co. 7-11:30 PM

Rolling Log, Issaquah - Open Jam w/ Doug McGrew, 8 PM - 12 AM

San Juan island Brewing Co, Friday Harbor - Open Mic 6-8 PM

The Loft Pub, Victoria B.C. - Open Jam 7 - 11 PM

FRIDAY

La Copa Café, Seattle - Victory Music Open Mic 6:30 - 9:00 PM, All Ages

Urban Timber Coffee, Sumner - Open Mic 6:30-10 PM All Ages

Dragon Gate, Des Moines - Open Jam 9-11 PM

Dread Knott Brewery, Monroe - Open Mic 7-10 PM

Kana Winery, Yakima - Open Mic 7-10 PM

Salmon Bay Eagles, Seattle - Open Mic with Linda Lee 3rd Thursday 8PM

Wicked Cider, Kennewick WA - Wicked Jamz/Open Mic Every Other Friday 6-10 PM

SATURDAY

Café Zippy's, Everett - Victory Music Open Mic (1ST Saturday) 5:30 -8:30 PM All Ages

All listings are subject to change, please check with the venues for the most up to date information.

Where the Music Is Happening

Please help us keep our talent guide, jam and open mic listing, and venue guide as up to date as possible: Editor@wablues.org & ericrichd@aol.com.

SEATTLE

Downtown and West Seattle

Bad Albert's Tap and Grill
206.789.2000

Barboza
206.709.9442

Ballard Elks Lodge
206.784.0827

Blue Moon Tavern
206.675.9116

Café Racer
206.523.5282

Capitol Cider
206.397.3564

Café Solstice, U-District
206.675.0850

Central Saloon
206.622.0209

Conor Byrne Pub
206.784.3640

Columbia City Theater
206.722.3009

C&P Coffee Company
206.933.3125

Darrell's Tavern
206.542.6688

Easy Monkey Tap House
206.420.1326

Egan's Ballard Jam House
206.789.1621

El Corazon
206.262.0482

Hard Rock Café Seattle
206.204.2233

Highway 99 Blues Club
206.382.2171

J&M Café - Pioneer Square
206.402.6654

Jazz Alley
206.441.9729

Little Red Hen
206.522.1168

Mac's Triangle Pub
206.763.0714

Nectar Lounge
206.632.2020

Neptune Theater
206.682.1414

Neumos
206.709.9442

North City Bistro, Shoreline
206.365.4447

Owl and Thistle
206.621.7777

Paragon
206.283.4548

Salmon Bay Eagles
206.783.7791

Seamonster Lounge
206.992.1120

Skylark Cafe & Club
206.935.2111

Slim's Last Chance Saloon
206.762.7900

Stoneway Café
206.420.4435

The Crocodile
206.441.4618

The High Dive
206.632.0212

The Moore
206.682.1414

The Ould Triangle
206.706.7798

The Paramount
206.682.1414

The Royal Room
206.906.9920

The Tractor Tavern
206.789.3599

The Triple Door Theater and Musicarium
206.838.4333

The Sunset Tavern
206.784.4880

The Showbox
206.628.3151

Tim's Tavern
206.789.9005

Town Hall
206.652.4255

88 Keys
206.839.1300

Third Place Books
206.366.3333

Thirteen Coins /13 Coins
206.682.2513

Tula's Jazz Club
206.443.4221

Vera Project
206.956.8372

Vito's
206.397.4053

SOUTH PUGET SOUND

Auburn, Tacoma, Olympia, Chehalis, Algona, Spanaway & Renton

Auburn Eagles
253.833.2298

Bob's Java Jive
253.475.9843

Capitol Theater, Olympia
360.754.6670

Charlie's Bar and Grill, Olympia
360.786.8181

Dave's of Milton, Milton
253.926.8707

Dawson's, Tacoma
253.476.1421

Delancey's on Third -Renton
206.412.9516

Destination Harley Davidson, Fife
253.922.3700

Doyle's Pub, Tacoma
253.272.7468

Elmer's Pub, Burien
206.439.1007

Emerald Queen Casino, Tacoma
253.594.7777

Forrey's Forza, Lacey
360.338.0925

Jazzbones, Tacoma
253.396.9169

Jeremy's Farm-to-Table Restaurant and Market
360.748.4417

Johnny's Dock, Tacoma
253.627.3186

Junction Sports Bar, Grand Mound
360.273.7586

Louie G's, Fife
253.926.9700

Lucky Eagle Casino, Rochester
800.720.1788

Muckleshoot Casino, Auburn
800.804.4944

Nikki's Lounge, Covington
253.981.3612

Nisqually Red Wind Casino, Olympia
866.946.2444

Old General Store Steak House & Saloon, Roy
253.459.2124

Rhythm & Rye, Olympia
360.705.0760

Riverside Golf Club, Chehalis
360.748.8182

Royal Bear, Algona
253.222.0926

Silver Dollar Pub, Spanaway
253.531.4469

Stonegate, Tacoma
253.473.2255

The Spar, Tacoma
253.627.8215

The Swiss, Tacoma
253.572.2821

Uncle Sam's, Spanaway
253.507.7808

Yella Beak Saloon, Enumclaw
360.825.5500

PENINSULA

Bremerton, Port Orchard, Sequim & Shelton

Bethel Saloon, Port Orchard
360.876.6621

Brother Don's, Bremerton
360.377.8442

Casey's Bar and Grill, Belfair
360.275.6929

Cellar Door, Port Townsend
360.385.6959

Cherry Bomb, Port Angeles
360.797.1638

Clear Water Casino, Suquamish
360.598.8700

Disco Bay Detour, Discovery Bay
360.379.6898

Little Creek Casino, Shelton
800.667.7711

7 Cedars Casino, Sequim
360.683.7777

Halftime Sports Saloon, Gig Harbor
253.853.1456

Manchester Pub, Port Orchard
360.871.2205

Morso, Gig Harbor
253.530.3463

Next Door Gastropub, Port Angeles
360.504.2613

Old Town Pub, Silverdale
360.473.9111

The Point Casino, Kingston
360.297.0070

Pour House, Port Townsend
360.379.5586

Red Dog Saloon, Port Orchard
360.876.1018

Silverdale Beach Hotel, Silverdale
360.698.1000

Sirens Pub, Port Townsend
360.379.1100

Slaughter County Brewing Co., Port Orchard
360.329.2340

Swim Deck, Port Orchard
360.443.6220

The Dam Bar, Port Angeles
360.452.9880

Treehouse Café, Bainbridge
206.842.2814

Up Town Pub, Port Townsend
360.344.2505

Red Bicycle Bistro, Vashon Island
206.463.5959

EAST SIDE

Bellevue, Bothell, Kirkland & Woodinville

Bakes Place, Bellevue
425.454.2776

Baumont Cellars, Woodinville
425.482.6349

Cypress Lounge & Wine Bar, The Westin -Bellevue
425.638.1000

Central Club, Kirkland
425.827.0808

Crossroads Center, Bellevue
425.402.9600

Grazie, Bothell
425.402.9600

Horseshoe Saloon, Woodinville
425.488.2888

Kirkland Performance Center, Kirkland
425.893.9900

192 Brewing, Kenmore
425.424.2337

Mt Si Pub, North Bend
425.831.6155

Northshore Performing Arts Center, Bothell
425.984.2471

Northwest Cellars, Kirkland
425.825.9463

Pogacha of Issaquah, Issaquah
425.392.5550

Rolling Log, Issaquah
425.392.2964

Sky River Brewing, Redmond
425.242.3815

Snoqualmie Casino, Snoqualmie
425.888.1234

Soul Food Coffee House, Redmond
425.881.5309

Chateau Ste. Michelle Winery, Woodinville
425.488.1133

The Black Dog, Snoqualmie
425.831.3647

The Den Coffee Shop, Bothell
425.892.8954

Twin Dragon Sports Bar,
Duvall
425.788.5519
Village Wines, Woodinville
425.485.3536
Vino Bella, Issaquah
425.391.1424
Wild Rover, Kirkland
425.822.8940

NORTH SOUND

*La Conner, Mount Vernon,
Stanwood, Everett, Marys-
ville Snohomish, and Other
Points North*

Anelia's Kitchen and Stage,
La Conner
360.399.1805
Angel of the Winds Casino,
Arlington
360.474.9740
Big Lake Bar and Grill,
Mount Vernon
360.422.6411
Big Rock Cafe & Grocery,
Mount Vernon
360.424.7872
Boundary Bay Brewery and
Alehouse, Bellingham
360.647.5593
Bubba's Roadhouse, Sultan
360.793.3950
Byrnes Performing Arts
Center, Arlington
360.618.6321
Cabin Tavern, Bellingham
360.733.9685
Café Zippy, Everett
425.303.0474
Cedar Stump, Arlington
360.386.8112
Conway Muse, Conway
360.445.3000
Conway Pub, Conway
360.445.4733
Eagle Haven Winery, Sedro
Woolley
360.856.6248
Engels Pub, Edmonds
425.778.2900
Emerald City Roadhouse /
Harley Davidson, Lynnwood
425.921.1100
Emory's on Silver Lake,
Everett
425.337.7772
Everett Theater, Everett
425.258.6766
Grinders Hot Sands,
Shoreline
206.542.0627
H2O, Anacortes
360.755.3956
Heart of Anacortes,
Anacortes
360.293.3515

Loco Billy's Wild Moon
Saloon
425.737.5144
Longhorn Saloon, Edison
360.766.6330
Lucky 13 Saloon, Marysville
360.925.6056
Main Street Bar and Grill,
Ferndale
360.312.9162
McIntyre Hall, Mt Vernon
360.416.7727ext.2
Mirkwood Public House,
Arlington
360.403.9020
Mount Baker Theater,
Bellingham
360.734.6080
Oak Harbor Tavern, Oak
Harbor
360.675.9919
Old Edison Inn, Bow
360.766.6266
Peabo's, Mill Creek
425.337.3007
Port Gardener Bay Winery,
Everett
425.339.0293
Razzals, Smokey Point
360.653.9999
Rockfish Grill, Anacortes
360.588.1720
Rockin' M BBQ, Everett
425.438.2843
Rocko's, Everett
425.374.8039
Skagit Valley Casino, Bow
360.724.0205
Snazzy Badger Pub,
Snohomish
360.568.8202
The Oxford Saloon,
Snohomish
360.243.3060
The Repp, Snohomish
360.568.3928
The Madison Pub, Everett
425.348.7402
The Anchor Pub, Everett
425.374.2580
Tulalip Casino, Tulalip
888.272.1111
The Green Frog, Bellingham
360.961.1438
The Rumor Mill, Friday
Harbor
360.378.5555
The Shakedown, Bellingham
360.778.1067
The Village Taphouse & Grill,
Marysville
360.659.2305
Tony V's Garage, Everett
425.374.3567

Urban City Coffee,
Mountlake Terrace
425.776.1273
Useless Bay Coffee, Langley
360.221.4515
Varsity Inn, Burlington
360.755.0165
Veterans of Foreign Wars
Post #2100, Everett
425.422.8826
Wild Buffalo, Bellingham
360.392.8447
13th Ave Pub, Lynnwood
425.742.7871

CENTRAL & EASTERN WA

*Yakima, Kennewick,
Chelan, Manson, Roslyn, and
Wenatchee*
AntoLin Cellars, Yakima
509.961.8370
Branding Iron, Kennewick
509.586.9292
Brewminatti, Prosser
509.786.2269
Brews & Cues, Yakima
509.453.9713
Brick Saloon, Roslyn
509.649.2643
Café Mela, Wenatchee
509.888.0374
Campbell's Resort, Lake
Chelan
509.682.4250
Club Crow, Cashmere
509.782.3001
Deepwater Amphitheater at
Mill Bay Casino, Manson
509.687.6911
Der Hinterhof, Leavenworth
509.548.5250
Emerald of Siam, Richland
509.946.9328
Gilbert Cellars, Yakima
509.249.9049
Hop Nation Brewing, Yakima
509.367.6552
Ice Harbor Brewing
Company, Kennewick
509.586.3181
Icicle Brewing Co.
Leavenworth
509.548.2739
Kana Winery, Yakima
509.453.6611
Main Street Studios, Walla
Walla
509.520.6451
Old School House Brewery,
Winthrop
509.996.3183
Riverside Pub, Wenatchee
509.888.9993

Seasons Performance Hall,
Yakima
509.453.1888
The Vogue, Chelan
509.888.5282
Yakima Sports Center
509.453.4647

EAST OF THE CASCADE MOUNTAINS

*Eastern Washington,
Montana, Idaho, and Other
Points*

Arbor Crest Winery,
Spokane Valley
509.927.9463
Barlows, Liberty Lake, WA
509.924.1446
Barrister Winery, Spokane
509.465.3591
Bing Crosby Theater,
Spokane
509.227.7638
Bigfoot Pub, Spokane
509.467.9638
Bobbi's Bar, Plummer, ID
208.686.1677
Bolo's Bar & Grill, Spokane
Valley
509.891.8995
Boomers Classic Rock Bar &
Grill, Spokane Valley
509.368.9847
Bucer's Coffeehouse Pub,
Moscow, ID
208.596.0887
Chateau Rive, Spokane
509.795.2030
Coeur d'Alene Casino,
Worley
800.523.2464
Daley's Cheap Shots,
Spokane Valley
509.535.9309
Dan & Jo's Bar, Valley, WA
509.937.4040
Eichart's, Sandpoint, ID
208.263.4005
Idaho Pour Authority,
Sandpoint, ID
208.597.7096
Iron Horse, Coeur D'Alene,
ID
208.667.7314
Jackson Street Bar & Grill,
Spokane
509.315.8497
John's Alley Tavern, Moscow,
ID
208.883.7662
Kamiah Hotel Bar &
Steakhouse
208.935.0545
MAX at Mirabeau Hotel,
Spokane Valley
509.924.9000
Red Lion Dam Bar Spokane,
WA (Summer Concert
Series)
509.326.8000
Rico's Pub Pullman
509.3326566
Scotty's Steakhouse,
Kalispell, MT
406.257.8188
Templin's Resort, Post Falls,
ID
208.773.1611
The 219 Lounge Sandpoint,
ID
208.263.9934
The Bartlett, Spokane
509.747.2174
The Hop, Spokane
509.368.4077
The Moose Lounge, Coeur
d'Alene, ID
208.664.7901
The Roadhouse, Spokane
Valley
509.413.1894
Viking Tavern, Spokane
509.315.4547
Whiskey Jacks, Ketchum, ID
208.726.5297
Zola, Spokane
509.624.2416

March Blues Bash Preview

Celebrate the blues at our monthly Blues Bash at the Collectors Choice Restaurant in Snohomish!

Compiled by Music Director Amy Sassenberg

The Washington Blues Society hosts a members' meeting and Blues Bash, free and open to the public, every second Tuesday of the month at Collector's Choice in Snohomish, from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Two great acts, giveaways, microbrews, dancing and fun. This month's Blues Bash is Tuesday, March 12th, at Collector's Choice Restaurant in Snohomish, from 7 to 9:30 p.m.

Starting off the evening is the super-soulful Reji Marc. He's described as an artist who builds memories with great original music, inspires the young dreamer and keeps

everyone dancing. Born to parents from South Louisiana, Reji Marc is a self-taught musician raised in Seattle. Sought by major labels at an early age, he says he retreated from the ills of the music industry and traveled to the villages of Southeast Asia for a decade, only to rediscover himself and his love for the art of making music. Reji Marc was kind enough to lend his voice to the Washington Blues Society fundraiser last month for the International Blues Challenge youth representatives and he dazzled the crowd. We're so happy to welcome him to our monthly Blues Bash!

Our second act of the evening will be the Washington Blues Society debut of Chicken Hawk! This is a six-headed monster band

rocking the blues, funk, soul, and even a little country. The all-star lineup features Joel Astley on harmonica and Jesse Weston on keyboards, who have also been burning up venues across Washington as Hot Mess. They are joined by guitarist Joey Houck, drummer Max Figarsky, saxophonist Derek deGroot and bassist Scotty Harris, fresh from his triumphant turn at the International Blues Challenge in Memphis with Sammy Eubanks & The Work'In Class. The Washington Blues Society audience at this month's Blues Bash can expect a high energy show, exceptional musicianship, crowd engagement and danceable grooves!



Above: Chicken Hawk - Joel, Max, Joey, Scotty, Derek & Jesse (Photo by Nalani Hadfield)
Right: Reji Marc (Courtesy of Reji Mark)



The 2019 Walla Walla Guitar Festival is Here!

This year's festival features a Randy Oxford Band reunion, Danielle Nicole, "Too Slim" & more!

Once again, the quaint little city of Walla Walla becomes a hotbed of blues, rock, and roots music with the Walla Walla Guitar Festival, this month March 8, 9, & 10. Over these three days we're featuring 25 acts in 10 venues, almost all within a four block radius in beautiful Downtown Walla Walla. And if you get here a day early on the 7th, The Eagles Club will be the new home of the Pre-Fest "Shaman's Jam," being hosted this year by Randy Oxford, Bill Mattocks, and Dan "The Reverend Danny G" Goodall. It's a great party and musical appetizer for the weekend. Once Friday hits you'll be glad you took your vitamins because there's SO much to see and hear. Don't believe me? Here are some highlights...

On Friday the 8th the music begins about 5 pm with a few mellow shows at local tasting rooms, serving as a warm up for the Walla Walla Guitar Festival opening concert at 7 pm. This year, it's being held in the Marcus Whitman Ballroom again and features the amazing Danielle Nicole! Along with three 2019 BMA nods (Best Female Contemporary Blues Artist, Best Bass Player, and Best Female Vocalist), Danielle was also a Grammy nominee this year for her *Cry No More* album! Danielle is a powerhouse entertainer and The WWGF Opening Concert is a do not miss!

After the concert and starting about 9 pm it's time to shake it up with the multi-venue Walla Walla Guitar Festival Kick-Off Party, with Cros and Diego Romero at the VFW, The StepBrothers feat. Jennifer Kemple and Junkyard Jane at The Eagles, and The Women Who Rock Showcase featuring Stacy Jones Band and Polly O'Keary and the Rhythm Method at The Dacres.

On Saturday the 10th the music eases in at 1 pm with The Acoustic Showcase, featuring Planes on Paper's guitarists Navid Eliot and Jacob Navarro.

At 2 pm the festival gets into full swing with an expanded The LARGE Show at

the Marcus Whitman Ballroom. Starting the show off is fingerstyle blues guitarist extraordinaire Terry Robb. Robin Barrett & Coyote Kings, featuring BB Award nominee Tiphony Dames, and with special guest Tim "Too Slim" Langford follow with their *Rocket* CD pre-release party. Next is The Randy Oxford Reunion with Patti Allen, Rafael Tranquilino, and Richard Sabol returning to the Randy Oxford Band for a joyous musical celebration.

And finally headlining at The LARGE Show is Peter Rivera, the voice of five Top 10 Rare Earth hits and multiple gold and double-platinum albums! Peter mixes his great new music with classic rock and roll hits like "Get Ready," "I Just Want To Celebrate," "Hey Big Brother," "I Know I'm Losing You," and "Born To Wander." A legendary star to top off the show!

You'd think this would be enough for Saturday, but we're just getting rolling and it ain't over 'til it's over.

After The LARGE Show comes the multi-venue, The Guitar Crawl, featuring The Gino Matteo Band and Gary Winston and the Real Deal at the VFW, The Rae Gordon Band and The Wasteland Kings at the Eagles, and Scott Pemberton Band along with The Doc Martin Band at the Dacres. At midnight, the Tarwater All-Star Jam will be hosted by Vaughn Jensen at The Dacres.

Sunday starts with the Sunday Gospel Brunch at 11 in the Marcus Whitman Ballroom. Amazing brunch (remember the omelets last year?) served with equally amazing music from Rae Gordon!

Topping off the 2019 Walla Walla Guitar Festival is the second annual, Jazz at the Fest, on Sunday afternoon at 2 PM at the Courtyard Marriott and featuring Pat Barclay (guitar), Gary Hemenway (keys), Michael Agidius (sax), Gary Gemberling (trumpet), and Doug Scarborough (bass).

What an awesome way to wind down after this incredible weekend.

Blues society members receive a 6% discount on Three Day Passes with the code COYOTELUV.

And as always... It's gonna be a LARGE time!!!

Last-minute tickets and further information is online at <https://wallawallaguitarfestival.com>



Photo of Typhony Dames and Randy Oxford (Courtesy of Photography Walla Walla (Reprinted from the Inland Empire Blues Society newsletter))

Welcome Back to Two Alligator Records Artists!

Tommy Castro & The Painkillers and Curtis Salgado & Alan Hager!

By Eric Steiner

I've enjoyed Tommy Castro's music ever since I saw him live for the first time 18 years ago at the Century Ballroom on Seattle's Capitol Hill. Stickshift Annie and the Overdrive opened up the evening highlight their most recent CD, *Out of Her Mind*.

This month, Tommy Castro and the Painkillers return to the Pacific Northwest to celebrate the March 1st release of their newest CD on Alligator Records, *Killin' It Live*. The band will play Jazzbones in Tacoma on the 8th, the Triple Door in Seattle on the 12th and the Conway Muse in Conway on the 13th. In between their Tacoma and Conway shows, the band will play two shows in Alberta: Sherwood Park on the 9th and Calgary on the 10th.

Tommy Castro leads the band on guitar and vocals and the latest line-up of Painkillers features Randy McDonald on bass and background vocals, Bowen Brown on drums and Mike Emerson on keyboards. Formed six years ago, the band has released two critically-acclaimed CDs on Alligator Records, *Method to My Madness* in 2015 and *Stompin' Ground* in 2017.

I am pleased that my CD collection has most, if not all, of Tommy Castro's releases on Blind Pig, Telarc and 33rd Street Records as well as one on his own Heart And Soul label. This year, he's celebrating his 10th anniversary with Alligator Records as he launched his partnership with Bruce Iglauer's groundbreaking record label with the *Hard Believer* CD.

Since that initial show on Seattle's Capitol Hill in 2001, I've seen Tommy Castro play a number of original, high energy blues shows, including Biscuits and Blues in San Francisco, Seattle's Triple Door and the Rhythm Room in Phoenix. That show at Bob Corritore's blues club on

Indian School Road celebrated the 20th anniversary of the venue and it was a thrill to celebrate the blues with Tommy Castro, Bob Corritore and Dave Riley, Billy Flynn, Diunna Greenleaf and the late Barrelhouse Chuck.

I also fondly remember the Triple Door show promoting the *Triple Trouble* CD on Telarc Records, which featured Tommy Castro, Jimmy Hall and Lloyd Jones.

I hope that Bluesletter readers will join Tommy Castro and the Painkillers in Tacoma, Seattle or Conway as I have always thought that Tommy Castro was one of the most talented bluesmen of his generation. I've included a review of *Killin' It Live* in this issue and look forward to his next release on Alligator Records.



Tommy Castro at the 2015 San Diego Blues Festival (Photo by Tim & Michelle Burge)

Curtis Salgado at the Triple Door

Save the date: March 15th!

Curtis Salgado, the 2018 Blues Music Award-winning Soul Blues Male Artist of The Year, will perform at The Triple Door in Seattle on Friday, March 15, 2019. With a career spanning more than three decades, Salgado is a one-of-a-kind talent whose music is as compelling as his story. From co-fronting The Robert Cray Band to leading his own band (and recording nine solo albums) to helping transform John Belushi into "Joliet" Jake Blues to touring the country with Steve Miller and Santana, he is a true musical giant. NPR calls him "a blues icon" with a "huge voice." His latest full band CD, *The Beautiful Lowdown*, was named by Blues Blast Magazine as the 2016 Soul Blues Album of The Year. His newest release, *Rough Cut*, is a stripped-down acoustic CD with his band guitarist Alan Hager. As a special part of this full-band concert, Salgado and Hager will perform a set of songs from *Rough Cut* as a duo.



Curtis Salgado at the 2017 Waterfront Blues Festival in Portland, Oregon (Photo by Tim & Michelle Burge)

2019 Best of the Blues Voting Ballot

All ballots from dues-current members must be received by April 9, 2019 by a Board member or at the blues society's PO Box.

MARK DUFRESNE MALE VOCALIST AWARD

Joel Astley
Sean Denton
Eric Rice

BLUES FEMALE VOCALIST

Sheri Roberts Greimes
Annie Eastwood
Tiphony Dames
Stacy Jones

ELECTRIC BLUES GUITAR

Eric Rice
CD Woodbury
Jeff Menteer
Dave Miller

SLIDE BLUES GUITAR

Eric Rice
Billy Stapleton
Jeff Menteer
Nick Vigarino

BLUES BASS

Lissa Ramaglia
Paul Quilty
Scotty Harris
Patrick McDanel

CHRIS LEIGHTON BLUES DRUMMER AWARD

Rick J Bowen
Tommy Cook
Robin Crane

BLUES HORN

Lonnie Williams
Mike Marinig
Ron Hendee
Brandon Hailey
Nick Elguezabal

PAUL GREEN BLUES HARMONICA AWARD

Mitch Pumpian
Willow Stone
Joel Astley

BLUES PIANO/KEYBOARD

Michael Baxter
Jesse Weston
Jimmy Holden

ACOUSTIC BLUES GUITAR

Rod Cook
Nick Vigarino
John Maxwell

BLUES INSTRUMENTALIST – OTHER

Jon Perry (violin)
Mike Marinig (flute)
Leanne Trevalyan (rub board)

NEW BLUES BAND

Chicken Hawk
Hot Mess
Lori Hardman Band

BLUES BAND

Stacy Jones Band
Red House
Harpdog Brown & the Uptown
Blues Band

LITTLE BILL & THE BLUE NOTES TRADITIONAL BLUES ACT

Brain Lee & The Orbiters
Madison Avenue Blues Review
Eric Madis & Blue Madness

SOLO/DUO BLUES ACT

Hot Mess
Sheri Roberts Greimes
Rod Cook

BLUES PERFORMER

Stacy Jones
Polly O'Keary
Joel Astley
Patti Allen

BLUES SONGWRITER

Stacy Jones
Michele D'Amour
Polly O'Keary

WASHINGTON BLUES RECORDING

John Maxwell "Even Good
Dogs Get the Blues"
Brian Butler "Butler's Blues"
Michele D'Amour & The Love
Dealers "Wiggle Room"

BLUES CLUB

Madison Ave Pub
Highway 99 Blues Club
Collector's Choice Restaurant
& Lounge

BLUES WRITER

Rick Bowen
Malcolm Kennedy
Eric Steiner
Amy Sassenberg

BLUES PHOTO IMAGE

Lori Hardman Bluesletter cover
Dec 2018 by Dario Impini
Alan Edwards Bluesletter cover
Feb 2019 by Denise Hathaway
Spring Sunbanks Bluesletter
Collection by Paul Brown

BLUES GRAPHIC IMAGE

Michele d'Amour & The Love
Dealers "Wiggle Room" CD
cover by Tim Sutherland
28 Years of Blues Salmon Bay
Eagles poster by Phil
Chestnut
Mt Baker Poster by Steve
Perringer

BLUES DJ

Johnny Horn
Robin Kay
Clancy Dunigan
John Kessler
Leslie Fleury

KEEPING THE BLUES ALIVE AWARD

Ed Maloney
Malcolm Kennedy
Amy Sassenberg

LIFETIME ACHEIVEMENT AWARD

Michael Baxter
Rod Cook
Mark DuFresne

WASHINGTON BLUES SOCIETY HALL OF FAME (INDIVIDUAL)

Raven Humphres
Michael Baxter
Steve Bailey
Lissa Ramaglia

BEST NON-FESTIVAL BLUES EVENT

Jones Family Christmas
Issaquah Gas Station Blues
Snohomish Blues Invasion
Polly O'Keary Blues Jam 4
Nicaragua

BEST REGIONAL BLUES FESTIVAL

Mt Baker
Winthrop
Sunbanks

BEST COMMUNITY BLUES FESTIVAL

Ebey Island Freedom Fest
Poverty Bay Blues & Brews
North Bend Blues Walk

OPEN BLUES JAM

Madison Ave Pub – Unbound
Blues Jam
Peabo's Peace & Love Jam
Sunday with Tommy Cook,
Eric Rice & Scotty Harris
192 Brewing Blues Jam with
The Groove Tramps

WASHINGTON BLUES SOCIETY HALL OF FAME (BAND)

Fat James Band
Jr. Cadillac
The Slamhound Hunters



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March 2019

Delvon Lamarr Organ Trio 3/4
Delvon Lamarr Organ Trio 3/4
Tuck & Patti 3/12 - 3/13
Catherine Russell 3/14 - 3/17
Shemekia Copeland 3/26 - 3/27
Peabo Bryson 4/4-4/7
Tower of Power 50th Anniversary 4/11-4/14
Mark Your Calendars for 5/2-5/5 Charlie Musselwhite!

Tuck & Patti 3/12-3/13


Catherine Russell 3/14-3/17


Shemekia Copeland 3/26-3/27


Peabo Bryson 4/4-4/7


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GRAPHICS ~ EDITOR@WABLUES.ORG