

Capital Blues Messenger

Celebrating the Blues in the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia

January 2011 Volume 5 Issue 1



Anthony "Swamp Dog" Clark
and the Blues Allstars -
Band Category



Charles "Reds" Adkins



Ken Sparks



Glenn Alexander

Happy New Year!
DCBS Reps Are Going
to Memphis for the IBC
* * * *

2010 - A Year in Review
* * * *

More Blues News Inside



JP Reali - Solo/Duo Category

THE DC BLUES SOCIETY

**P.O. BOX 77315
WASHINGTON, DC
20013-7315
www.dcblues.org**



The DC Blues Society is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to keeping the Blues alive through outreach and education. The DC Blues Society is a proud affiliate of the Blues Foundation.

The Capital Blues Messenger is published monthly (unless otherwise noted) and sent by e-mail or U.S. mail to members. Past newsletters are available at 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 above.

The Capital Blues Messenger is your publication and members are encouraged to submit articles, photos, and ideas for articles, reviews, cartoons and photography. Please submit material via e-mail to: newsletter@dcblues.org.

Blues listings for bands should be sent to calendar@dcblues.org.

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

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DCBS on PayPal: Fred Morser

Become a DCBS member!

Members are key to the livelihood of the DCBS. Member's 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. Members 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 p 11). Members also receive the monthly *Capital Blues Messenger* (CBM) newsletter and those with e-mail access get the CBM via e-mail plus additional e-mail updates about DCBS events.

Becoming a member is simple, quick and easy:

- Use the mail-in application
- Apply on-line at www.dcblues.org, or
- Sign up at DCBS events or DCBS-sponsored events/venues where you see the DCBS booth.

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

D.C. Blues Society Membership Application/Renewal Form

Date: _____ If renewal, check here _____

Name (please print clearly above)

Address

City/State/Zip Code

Telephone

E-mail

Dues per year (circle appropriate one):

Student: \$15 (Include photocopy of student ID)

Individual: \$25 Family: \$35

Corporate: \$200 Canada: \$35 (US funds)

Other Countries: \$50 (US funds)

Contributions (not dues) are tax-deductible.

Please allow up to six weeks for processing

If Family, list member names: _____

Your volunteer time/talent is always welcome. If interested in volunteering, check interest(s):

Update Website

Work a shift at a show (DCBS table, door, etc.)

Promote shows (distribute flyers, handbills, etc.)

Raise funds (sell ads, organize auctions, etc.)

Write reviews or take photos for Newsletter

(see your name in print!)

Other? _____

Mail with check to
THE DC BLUES SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 77315
WASHINGTON, DC 20013-73

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Unless noted, photos and articles were contributed by DCBS board members and newsletter editor.

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gpi@qprintinginc.com

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ADVERTISE IN THE DCBS CAPITAL BLUES MESSENGER

AD RATES

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

Rates are based on camera-ready artwork and must be received by the 7th of the prior month. Design service is outsourced and a fee will be charged. Ads should be at least 300 dpi in either PDF or JPG. Submit in B/W and color when possible. Ad size and space allocation contingent on prior commitments and editorial content. DCBS reserves the right to refuse advertising it deems inappropriate. Ad specs and on-line rates: www.dcblues.org
Questions? E-mail: ads@dcblues.org

Cover Photos: Anthony "Swamp Dog" Clark from www.anthonyswampdogclark.com; Charles "Reds" Adkins and Glenn Alexander by Pat Bransford, Ken Sparks from artist's Facebook page. NO PHOTO AVAILABLE: Drummer Rodney Dunton.
J.P. Reali from www.jpreali.com

See p. 8 for more information on Anthony "Swamp Dog" Clark and the Blues Allstars.

See the November 2010 issue of the *Capital Blues Messenger* (online at www.dcblues.org) for more information on J.P. Reali, a twenty-plus year veteran of the DC music scene. Also visit www.jpreali.com. To see J.P. perform live, attend the January 13, 2011, open mic jam at L.A. Bar and Grill, 2530 Columbia Pike, Arlington, VA 22204,
www.thelabarandgrill.com.

See p. 12 for more on the IBC.



Transition Time Part 2 - A Message from the New DCBS President, Sam'i Nuriddin

As Felix stated in the December issue of the *Capital Blues Messenger*, "it's very likely there will be a different writer in this space in the next edition." Well, this is the next edition and here is the different writer.

I would like to personally and publicly thank Felix McClairen for his years of successful and inventive leadership at the helm of the DC Blues Society. With his leadership and countless key volunteers, we have been introduced to areas of the business and musical arenas that have proved to be invaluable to the growth of the DC Blues Society. It is my hope that Felix will stick around and continue to work with the Society. Thank you so much for your outstanding leadership.

Ladies and Gentlemen, we must recommit ourselves to this art form that we love so dearly. Your participation is tantamount to its continued growth. I see the bulk of our membership at our annual free Festival at the Carter Barron every year. Unfortunately, I don't see that same attendance during the year at some of our yearly events. We strive to put on shows and other events to entertain our membership and the public in general (see p. 4 for a review of DCBS' 2010 events). If there's an event that you would be more willing to attend, we are open to suggestions. As you know, we are an All-Volunteer organization, and we have room for every one of you to volunteer -- if not on a permanent basis, then occasionally at an event will be extremely helpful.

In addition, our Blues In The Schools (BITS) program will get "Center Stage" in the foreseeable future. We're going to continue to introduce the Blues to the youngsters who may not get a proper introduction to the music. Your help is desperately needed in this endeavor!

Don't forget to introduce your friends and family to the DC Blues Society and the Blues. Let's swell our ranks and move forward. Thank you and now, let's get to work.

Blues Always,

Sam'i



Photo by Mary Knieser

More Up Close and Personal with the New DCBS President

While Sam'i Nuriddin is no stranger to many DCBS members, you may not know a lot about this quiet, but consistent and forceful, Blues advocate and musician. Here are a few questions posed to Sam'i, to expand on the message he's provided above, in the President's Drum.

CBM: *I know you've been associated with the DCBS for many years and even previously served as President (2004-2007). Can you give a more detailed summary of how you've been associated with the DCBS over the years. For example, when did you first get involved, what are some of the different roles you've taken on.*

Sam'i: I was Vice-President during Melvin LaVert's tenure as President, and I stepped into the President's position when Melvin left. I joined the DCBS around 1994 after realizing there was a thriving Blues community, not necessarily in this area, but elsewhere. I've run the First Sunday Open Mic Jams for the Society for maybe the last eight years, and within in the past year, I also volunteered to help out as Membership Coordinator.

CBM: *What are your key goals for DCBS for 2011?*

Sam'i: I would like to strengthen our Blues In The Schools Program. It's very important to introduce the musical art form of the Blues to youngsters, at the elementary and middle school levels. The Blues musical tradition has been passed down for many years through families. Now, however, Blues is not heard in as many homes as it once was, so it is our duty to go out and introduce it to the kids. You never know, you might be approaching another creative soul such as Louis Armstrong or Dizzy Gillespie, or even Muddy Waters, you know, one of the folks who brought something new to the genre.

I would also like to reassure our existing membership that during the year, they can participate in the events hosted by DCBS. As I mentioned in the Drum (above), we want to see our members at the annual Festival at the Carter Barron Amphitheatre AND at other events during the year. I'm open to suggestions on how we can improve our outreach to address the concerns/needs (musically) of the folks that only come out once a year.

CBM: *DCBS depends on the services of volunteers, and I know the organization is often crying for this support. Is there anything in particular that you'd like to tell potential volunteers about DCBS' needs for the coming years and why they'll want to step up to the plate?*

Sam'i: I know that some folks don't have the time to commit to being a dedicated volunteer - personal schedules, the economy, and a host of

other reasons make this a fact of life. DCBS is fortunate to have a few dedicated volunteers; for example, our Secretary Celina Wood was the Secretary when I was President in 2003; Nick Dale, the Vice-President, was VP well before I was elected to the Board of Directors; Chet Hines (Dr. S.O. Feelgood) has been associated with DCBS even longer than Nick. That is dedication. A person doesn't have to go to that length, but when we say we need volunteers, a little help from a lot of people can go a long way. That is what we'll be striving to do. So members should look for a call or some form of communication from me on their availability,

CBM: *How about your music? When did you start playing? What drew you to the Blues? Who have you played with?*

Sam'i: I've had music and Blues with me since as far back as I can remember. I didn't realize how long Blues has been with me until a couple of years ago when I was listening to a Sunnyland Slim Christmas song. I remembered that I had heard that song when I was in the third or fourth grade. It's funny, the song was something about him explaining to the police that he was trying to find his Santa Claws in his baby's drawers. Go figure.

Open mic jams have allowed me to play with a lot of musicians in this area, and I thank them for putting up with my "playing." I've played a lot with Clarence "The Blues Man" Turner, all over this area. That was and is always a learning experience that can't be bought. I've also had a lot of fun playing with the DCBS Band (and its guest performers), at different venues and benefits. I'd encourage anyone who has a yearning to sing or play an instrument to get on a stage. You will learn! Come to our First Sunday of the Month Open Mic Jam (now held at the Silver Spring American Legion) and we'll get you on that stage.

CBM: *Besides DCBS and the blues, what do you do with your spare time?*

Sam'i: I work in construction as a plumber and have always liked building things, small or large - putting something together. I guess it's the immediate sense of accomplishment. Motorcycles are another interest of mine, and that reminds me to plug the annual DCBS Fish 'n Fry 'n Blues 'n Bike (Motorcycle) bash that we hold each summer. Check the newsletter for this year's date, and be sure not to miss that event!

And there we go, spare time always leads back to the Blues!



DC Blues Society - A Year In Review: 2010

2010 marked another great year for the DC Blues Society. Here's a recap of the events that DCBS sponsored and/or co-sponsored or produced. These events are in addition to the 1st Sunday Blues Jams held each month at the Silver Spring American Legion, the weekly Thursday night Jam/Open Mic with Sol at the L.A. Bar and Grill in Arlington, VA, and several monthly jams held in the fall of 2010 at the Delta Blues Juke Joint and Diner in Waldorf, MD.

January 9 - Fundraiser for Big Boy Little Band's Trip to the 2010 International Blues Challenge, with Big Boy Little Band, Clarence "The Blues Man" Turner, Bobby Joe Owens, Tom Maxwell, Tall Richard, at Old Bowie Town Grille

January 17 - 7th Annual McLean (VA) Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration, with Michael Hill's Blues Mob Band, at the McLean Community Center

January 21 - Otis Taylor, Blues In The Schools program at Savoy Elementary (DC)

April 10 - Clarence "The Blues Man" Turner, with Stacy Brooks. presented with American Legion Post #8, Washington, DC

April 11 - Nadine Rae Benefit, with the Memphis Gold Band, Ida Campbell, Stacy Brooks, B.T. Richardson, and others, at Silver Spring American Legion

May 22 - 2nd Annual Silver Spring Blues Festival, with Choo Choo Charlie Williams and Baltimore Red Jones, Jonny Grave, Andy Poxon Band, Daryl Davis Band, DC Blues Society Band with Clarence "The Blues Man" Turner, Mary Shaver and the Smokin' Polecats, and the Nighthawks

July 17 - 6th Annual DCBS Fish Fry 'n Blues 'n Bike Contest, with Southside Blues Breakers, Moonshine Society, Liz Springer and Built for Comfort, Gina DeSimone and the Moaners, Not in Service, and Steve Remy and Voodoo Alley.

July 31 - DCBS Festival Fundraiser with 2010 International Blues Challenge Winner Grady Champion at Silver Spring American Legion

August 21 - DCBS Blues Revue Show with DCBS Band and Lady Rose at Delta Blues Juke Joint and Diner

August 26 - Kenny Neal CD Release Party, with Bad Influence at Surf Club Live

September 4 - 22nd Annual DC Blues Festival at the Carter Barron Amphitheatre, with Big Boy Little Band, Doug MacLeod, Cheryl Renee with Them Bones, Diunna Greenleaf and Blue Mercy Band, Bryan Lee and the Blues Power Band; and the Festival After Party, with Cheryl Renee with Them Bones, at the Silver Spring American Legion

October 9 - DCBS Battle of the Bands, with Anthony "Swamp Dog" Clark and the Blues Allstars (1st place), Bad Influence (2nd place), Moondog Medicine Show (3rd place), Lady Rose Blues Band, Moonshine Society, and Rose Between Thorns, at Wheaton American Legion

November 6 - 3rd Annual College Park Blues Festival, with Anthony "Swamp Dog" Clark and the Blues Allstars, DCBS Band with special guest Waverly Milor and surprise guests Nadine Rae and Guitar Slim, and Guitar Blues Legend Bobby Parker, at Ritchie Coliseum

December 9 - Memphis Gold Fundraiser, with Mary Shaver and Smokin' Polecats, Memphis Gold, Stacy Brooks, Clarence "The Blues Man" Turner, Bobby Parker, and Mark Wenner of The Nighthawks, at Surf Club Live

December 18 - DCBS Holiday Party, with B.T. Richardson and Black Coffee Experience at Wheaton American Legion

December 31 - DCBS New Year's Dinner and Dance, with Electrofied, at the Silver Spring American Legion

In addition to hosting and/or helping to produce all the events listed above, DCBS expanded a number of DCBS member benefits and discounts. In 2010, the number of businesses offering ongoing discounts to DCBS members increased from 9 to 12, with the addition of Royal Mile Pub in Wheaton, MD (20% discount), New Deal Café in Greenbelt, MD (10% discount), and Delta Blues Juke Joint & Diner (10% discount). See p 9 of the CBM for the entire listing of discounts available.

Through partnerships with several festivals, event organizers, bands, and venues, DCBS members were able to get discounts on many shows and also enter contests for free ticket giveaways for members only. The Birchmere, in Alexandria, VA, and the State Theatre, in Falls Church, VA were especially generous in providing ticket giveaways and permitting DCBS to have its merchandise table in the lobby for blues shows. Other venues that provided ticket giveaways include Blues Alley, Briggs Farm Blues Festival, Carlisle Theater (PA), Old Bowie Town Grille, Riverhouse Festival, Weinberg Center (Frederick, MD), and Wolf Trap. The value of ticket giveaways in 2010 was \$2025!

2011 promises to be an equally successful year. You can help by:

- Keeping your DCBS membership current
- Attending DCBS events
- Volunteering your time on behalf of DCBS
- Visiting our partner businesses
- Entering the DCBS contests
- Spreading the word about DCBS benefits
- Providing DCBS with your ideas and feedback on events, etc.

With your help, we can keep the Blues alive!



Photos from top to bottom:

- Bret Littlehales (Big Boy Little Band) by Glenn Thompson;
- Grady Champion by Mary Knieser;
- Gabriel and Choo Choo Charlie Williams by Stacy Brooks;
- Diunna Greenleaf by Mary Knieser



DCBS Board Members Continue to Serve in Their Respective Positions

With the exception of Felix McClairen stepping down as DCBS President (but continuing on the DCBS Board) and Sam'i Nuriddin being elected as new DCBS President, all other 2010 DCBS Board Members were reappointed to their respective positions on the Board. Thus, the 2011 Board includes the individuals below. See p. 2 for DCBS' current Key Volunteers and various vacant posts (e.g. Media, Publicity, Volunteer Coordinator).



Sam'i Nuriddin President & Membership Nick Dale Vice-President Celina Wood Secretary James Ginyard Merchandise Jazs Advertising Felix McClairen Ex-President Frank Kahan Treasurer

Memphis Gold Benefit Was a Huge Success

On Thursday, December 9, Surf Club Live was the place to be as Blues musicians and fans came out for the Memphis Gold Benefit. The photos below capture the good times that marked the moment. Memphis's FACEBOOK postings below show the depth of his appreciation.

I would like to thank the greatest president of the D.C. Blues Society of all time Mr. Felix McClairen . We had a ball last night! Also I'd like to send special thanks to Ron Weinstock, Sam'i, Mary Shaver band, Stacy Brooks Band, Clarence Turner band, and my big brother The Legendary Bobby Parker, Jazs, the total DC Blues Society, and so many other folks who made the event last night for me successful.

To the amazing Mark Wenner and Pete Ragusa of the Nighthawks, You guys are the greatest! Thank you! Thank You!

I also would like to thank Lamont from Club Lamont's for coming out! It was quite an honor to have him there! Dr. S.O. Feelgood, for his great dj- and MC-ing, and Ida Campbell, Chris DeProperty, and Mama K (all three from WPFW)! If I have missed someone, please let me know! One Love! Last but not least, I would like to say special thanks to a guy who says he would rather beat the rest of his life out with a pair of sticks, and whom I gave the name Eric "High Cotton" Selby. He is one of the Washington Metropolitan's best.



Center photo: Memphis Gold and his wife, Barbara Chandler. Photos from top left-CC: Bobby Parker and Memphis; Ida Campbell; Mark Wenner, Whop Frazier, and Choo Choo Charlie Williams; Stacy Brooks; Clarence "Blues Man" Turner and Sean Graves; some Blues fans; drummer Eric Selby; Mary Shaver. Photos: Ida Campbell, Stacy Brooks, and Eric Selby by Mary Knieser; all others by Crawlin' Kingsnake.

An Update from Curtis Blues, 2010 DCBS Representative to the IBC in Solo/Duo Category



Curtis Blues has been performing authentic Delta blues for thirty-five years. His History of the Blues Show has been seen and enjoyed by thousands, and he has created a website for educators that provides teaching materials and study plans on the history of the blues.

The CBM last highlighted Curtis after his January 2010 trip to

Memphis, TN, when he competed in the International Blues Challenge (IBC) as the DCBS representative in the Solo/Duo category. With Curtis headlining the 8th Annual McLean Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration on Sunday, January 16 (see ad on the next page), we thought it was a good time to have an updated conversation with this bluesman.

CBM: *It's been almost a year since you competed at the 2010 IBC, as the DCBS representative in the solo/duo category. Tell us a little bit about how 2010 evolved for you and some of your most enjoyable events of the year.*

Curtis: I just got home from my second school tour from a grant written for Wicomico County School system in MD. I played 17 shows in 5 days, introducing acoustic Delta blues to students ranging from K-12. I shaped my show for the age groups, focusing on the rhythm of the blues and the connection to modern rock and hip hop for the younger students, and the connections with good figurative writing in the blues songs for the older students. Acoustic blues from the 20's and 30's lies behind the beats of all modern music, and every age group can relate to and enjoy the blues.

I did a similar tour last month and doing this many shows in a row was this year's highlight for me. It came about through my association with Young Audiences of Maryland. I also had a songwriting workshop on the blues for students through Young Audiences of Virginia. That paired me in a final concert comparing and contrasting my Delta blues style with the folk style performed by folk legend Bob Zentz. We both

performed the songs we wrote in the classes with the students. Arts integration really works. The kids were very excited about writing something for us to express in our musical styles.

CBM: *Did the IBC experience influence the direction of your music or your focus, and if so, how?*

Curtis: My experience in Memphis at the IBC, meeting so many other solo blues artists, was a real eye-opener for me. I got to see a large group of dedicated solo artists and find out how our approaches to the blues differ. Based on seeing another one-man band perform, I decided to add a snare drum to my drum kit that used to only include a hi-hat and bass. I have been playing with this new set-up all year, and it has made a big difference in my sound. I never would have done this without meeting someone whose sound was so improved by adding a snare. It was a great professional development trip for me. When I played my one string diddley bow on Beale Street, I found out that my historical preservation angle is unique, even among other acoustic blues artists.

CBM: *Do you have any goals and/or plans for 2011 that you'd like to share with us?*

Curtis: This year taught me a lot about combining arts integration with the schools' curriculum to deepen the educational value of my programs. I completed the Art's Integration certification through the Maryland Art's council last summer. It helped me understand how I can make introducing the blues more than a novelty act for a school. I can use my art to help them achieve their academic goals, because arts integration helps students learn their subjects better.

This year I plan to take my show to more schools and would like to work with the DC Blues Society's Blues In The Schools program to expand my show into DC. So far I have only gotten funding for my show in MD and VA. I am looking forward to another great year working full-time to preserve and share this wonderful music!

www.curtisblues.com, www.blueseducation.org

Photo by Avie Schneider, taken at the 2010 Tinner Hill Blues Festival

DCBS Holiday Party Featured B.T. Richardson and Black Coffee Experience



Those attending the DC Blues Society Holiday Party on December 18, at the Wheaton American Legion, were treated to the music of B.T. Richardson and Black Coffee Experience. While this was a smaller crowd than anticipated, the atmosphere was festive, dancers took to the floor, the DJ and soundman Dr. S.O. Feelgood kept the music flowing through the band's breaks, and B.T. and his band showed the range of music that marks B.T.'s background with blues, jazz, and soul. The six members of the band appear in the photo at left and include (from L to R) DL Watson (guitar), Anthony Nixon (drums), Kendra Holt (keyboard), Matilda Sutton and Melody Richardson (Mrs. B.T.) (backing vocals for several numbers), and B.T. (bass and lead vocals). Keyboardist Kendra Holt also surprised the audience by playing the mouth harp during one song.

The DCBS Holiday Party was held the weekend before Christmas and no doubt competed with many private parties that took place that weekend, perhaps begging the question whether this should continue as an annual event for DCBS. As the Society maps out its plans for 2011 events, we'll be determining whether to continue or restructure this event in ways that might boost attendance. The input of DCBS members is always welcome!

Photo of band above by Mary Knieser, Photos at right by Ron Weinstock





8TH ANNUAL MCLEAN MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY CELEBRATION

This year's event features the music of Curtis Blues, a preservationist of acoustic Delta Blues of the 1920s and 1930s. Curtis Blues' performance is at once highly entertaining and a fascinating historical journey through this deeply American musical genre. This is a show not to be missed!

The BBQ dinner is catered by The Tender Rib of Temple Hills, Md.

This program is produced in cooperation with the DC Blues Society.

Sunday, Jan. 16 5-7 p.m.

\$5 adults
\$3 children age 10 and younger

To register or for more detailed information, visit www.mcleancenter.org/special-events.



The McLean Community Center
1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean VA 22101
703-790-0123/TTY: 711
www.mcleancenter.org/special-events

An Interview With Anthony “Swamp Dog” Clark

Anthony “Swamp Dog” Clark and the Blues Allstars, the winner of the 2010 DCBS Battle of the Bands, will be representing DCBS and competing at the 2011 International Blues Challenge in Memphis, TN. The November 6 College Park Blues Festival was a fundraiser for the Band’s trip to Memphis, and a second fundraiser (and a CD release party) has been scheduled for January 20, 2011, at the Surf Club Live (see flyer at right). The CBM had a chance to talk to Anthony and learn a little more about this blues man.

CBM: How long have you been playing blues?

Anthony: I’ve been playing blues since I was around 14. The drums were my first instrument, but now I’m strictly a harp player.

CBM: Tell me a little bit about Swamp Dog the bluesman.

Anthony: I’m someone who likes music that “hits.” The way we play the blues is a funky version - a harder hitting style of the blues. How do you get the funky sound? As an example, I choose to play “Black Cat Bone” but I arranged it by thinking about “Thank You for Letting Me Be Myself Again,” by Sly and the Family Stone.

CBM: Who influenced you the most as a harmonica player? And what contemporary players really make you sit up and listen?

Anthony: There were two people who influenced me the most: Sonny Boy Williamson II and Paul Butterfield. Among the contemporary harp players,

I really like Kim Wilson, Rod Piazza, Jason Ricci, and Adam Gussow. Kim is more of a “traditional-type” guy, meaning you can hear “everyone” in his playing, such as Little Walter and a lot of Sonny Boy Williamson. Jason Ricci is a younger guy. His blow bends really take the music and expand it. He’s more of a rock type who plays harp.

CBM: You’ve played with the Capital Blues Ensemble, Nadine Rae, and others, and you’ve played at different venues. Tell us about one or two experiences you’ve had that really stand out as “good times!”

Anthony: Actually, several performances stand out. Playing with the Capital Blues Ensemble at the 2009 Labor Day weekend DC Blues Festival at the Carter Barron Amphitheatre was a terrific venue – the crowd was great, it was broadcast live on WPFW, etc. Another memorable event was when my own band played a private party at Old Bowie Town Grille. It was an outstanding evening. The band was just firing on all cylinders and we really had a great time.

CBM: I know you’re planning to release your debut CD soon. What can you tell us about what’s on the CD, its title, and when we can expect it to be out?

Anthony: The title of our CD is Raw. The CD has seven songs on it; two are covers and the other five are songs I wrote. It’s called Raw because that’s the way I feel we play – it’s a finger-snappin’ and toe-tapping, thigh-slappin’ collection of songs. “Swamp Dog Shuffle,” one of the songs we played at the DCBS Battle of the Bands, is one of the original songs on the CD. The new CD will definitely be in my hand and available for purchase at the January 20 “Going to Memphis” fundraiser that we are having at the Surf Club Live. So we are also promoting that event as a CD release party.

CBM: Have you been to the IBC before – as a performer or as a blues fan? Also, we know the competition will be tough at the IBC. Do you and your band have a plan for how you’re going to “brand” yourself so you’re noticed?

Anthony: I haven’t been to Memphis before, so this will really be a first. Our band will be gigging and rehearsing a lot to make sure our performances flow well. I think what will set our band apart is the same thing that set us apart from the competition at the DCBS Battle of the Bands – our funky, hard-hitting style of the blues. At the IBC, our band is going



RAW - Swamp Dog's new CD will be available at the show!!!

Anthony “Swamp Dog” Clark & The Blues Allstars

*Going to Memphis Party**

Thursday, January 20, 2011

8 pm – Midnight

\$15.00

Surf Club Live!

4711 Kenilworth Avenue

Hyattsville, MD 20781

301-927-6310

Performances by

- ♦ Anthony “Swamp Dog” Clark & The Blues Allstars ♦
- ♦ Clarence “The Blues Man” Turner ♦ Stacy Brooks
- ♦ DC Blues Society Band ♦



*Come on out and support the band representing

the DC Blues Society at the

2011 International Blues Challenge

Memphis, TN - February 1-5, 2011

Information: www.anthonyswampdogclark.com

www.dcb Blues.org



Photos: Sheryl Adams (Clark), Mary Knieser (Turner/Brooks), Alan Bowser (DCBS Band)

to go do what we do best. We’ve got Charles “Reds” Atkins, a great bass player; Glenn Alexander on guitar; Kenney Sparks on guitar; and since drummer Mike Simon isn’t able to go, Rodney Dunton is replacing him. Rodney is an outstanding drummer out of Baltimore.

On the International Blues Challenge website, the Blues Foundation has posted all the bands that will be competing, with links to their respective websites. There are some really good bands and performers in the competition. For example, Carlos del Junco is competing with his band (Carlos del Junco and the Blues Mongrels, representing the Toronto Blues Society). Carlos is one terrific harmonica player, along the lines of Howard Levy and Jason Ricci. Since the IBC has posted all the bands competing at the 2011 competition, I’ve gotten a number of encouraging messages from folks.

CBM: A final question -- how did you get the “Swamp Dog” name?

Anthony: Many years ago, I was playing harp alongside an outstanding bass player, Chuck Carter, and Chuck told me I sounded like Swamp Dog. The name stuck and I started using it. Out of respect for the great Swamp Dogg (a soul music artist, songwriter, and record producer), I’m careful to use my full name along with the nickname – so I’m Anthony “Swamp Dog” Clark.

CBM: Any additional comments?

Anthony: I’d just like to encourage people to please come out for the Thursday, January 20 show at the Surf Club Live. It’s from 8 pm to midnight. I’ll be performing with the Blues Allstars, and the lineup also includes the DC Blues Society Band, Clarence “The Blues Man” Turner (he is also going to the IBC, as the representative from the Blue Ridge Blues Society), and the Stacy Brooks Band.

Editor’s note: Anthony will be interviewed by Ida Campbell, on WPFW 89.3 FM radio, on Friday, January 14, 2011, at 12 noon.

www.anthonyswampdogclark.com. Photo by Pat Bransford



January	
1	B.B. King @ Birchmere; Big Boy Little Band @ Zoo Bar
2	DCBS Jam @ Silver Spring American Legion; B.B. King @ Birchmere; Johnny & Headhunters @ Blues Alley
3	Eddie Jones & Young Bucks @ Westminster Presbyterian Church
8	Lisa Lim & Over the Limit @ Delta Blues; Smokin Polecats @ Zoo Bar
10	Deanna Bogart Band @ Westminster Presbyterian Church
11	Doug Parks & Lone Wolves @ Molly's
13	Jam/Open Mic featuring J.P. Reali @ LA Bar & Grill, Anthony "Swamp Dog" Clark & Blues Allstars @ LA Bar & Grill
14	Sookey Jump @ Zoo Bar
15	Anthony "Swamp Dog" Clark @ Joe Squared; Big Boy Little Band @ Bare Bones
17	Blue Monday Blues @ Westminster Presbyterian Church
20	Benefit Party for Anthony "Swamp Dog" Clark & Blues Allstars, also w/ Clarence "The Blues Man" Turner, Stacy Brooks, DCBS Band @ Surf Club
21	Skyla Burrell @ Madam's Organ
22	Big Boy Little Band @ Delta Blues; JW Jones Blues Band @ Madam's Organ; Bad Influence @ Dogfish Head Alehouse
24	James Cotton @ Blues Alley; Jacques "Saxman" Johnson @ Westminster Presbyterian Church
28	Robert Lighthouse @ Madam's Organ
29	Bad Influence Band @ JV's; Lisa Lim & Over the Limit @ Stan & Joe's (Annapolis), Bobby Parker @ Madam's Organ; Built 4 Comfort @ Dunmor's Tavern; Celebration of the Life and Music of Buddy Holly, with J.P. McDermott & Western Bop and Special Guests, a Benefit for Hungry for Music @ City of Takoma Park Auditorium
30	Otis Taylor's Trance Blues Jam Workshop @ Archie Edward's Barbershop; Joe Louis Walker & Linwood Taylor Quartet @ Rams Head
31	Lou Jerome Band @ Westminster Presbyterian Church

Regular Blues Events	
Sunday	DCBS Jam @ Silver Spring American Legion (1 st Sunday); Paulverizers Blues Jam @ Old Bowie Town Grille; NRBK Open/Mic Jam @ Old Fire Station No. 3; Blues Jam w/ Dogfather Blues Band @ The Whiskey
Monday	Blue Mondays @ Westminster Presbyterian Church; Wolf's Blues Jam @ JV's (2 nd and 4 th Mondays)
Tuesday	Old Man Brown @ Madam's Organ (alternating Tuesdays)
Wednesday	Wolf's Hot Rods & Old Gas Blues Jam @ Beach Cove; Blues Jam @ Old Bowie Town Grille
Thursday	DCBS Thursday Jam/Open Mic w/Sol @ LA Bar & Grill; Patrick Alban or Johnny Artis @ Madam's Organ; Open Mic w/Fast Eddie @ Spanky's Shenanigans; Blues Jam @ Eastport Democratic Club; Big Boy Little Band Jam @ Zoo Bar; Slow Blues & Swing Dance @ Glen Echo; Ronnie Ray & Coolers Jam @ Braddock Inn
Friday	Glen Moomau & Blue Flames @ Bertha's; Hot Rods @ Old Gas @ Zoo Bar (1 st Friday); Wolf's Blues Jam @ Fat Boys (2 nd Friday); John Guernsey @ New Deal Café; Brian Gross Trio @ Café Ole
Saturday	Acoustic Blues Jam @ Archie's Barbershop; Big Boy Little Band @ Zoo Bar (1 st Saturday); John Guernsey @ New Deal Cafe; Brian Gross & Steve Levine @ Sala Thai, Bethesda (2 nd Saturday)

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, Mike Wolk, and include DCBS and BBS events. Send listings to calendar@dcblues.org. **Musicians: Deadline is the 15th of the month prior to publication.** Events listed are based on the best information possible. DCBS cannot be held liable for errors in schedules, places or performances listed. It is recommended that you contact the venues to verify the event will occur. The DCBS homepage has additional music links and information: www.dcblues.org.



Early February

1	Otis Taylor Band @ Blues Alley (DCBS Discount May Apply)
2	Buckwheat Zydeco @ Wolf Trap
3	Buckwheat Zydeco @ Rams Head
5	Big Boy Little Band @ Zoo Bar
6	DCBS Jam @ Silver Spring American Legion
7	Danny Blew & Blues Crew @ Westminster Presbyterian Church
8	Eric Lindell @ Rams Head
11/12	Johnny Winter w/ Damon Fowler @ Rams Head
17	Blues at the Crossroads: The Robert Johnson Centennial with Big Head Todd & the Monsters, David "Honeyboy" Edwards, Hubert Sumlin, Cedric Burnside and Lightnin' Malcolm @ Strathmore

Attention bands
Send your Feb. and March gigs to
calendar@dcblues.org
by January 15

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In Memoriam - In December, We Said Good-Bye to These Talented Individuals**James Moody December 9, 2010**

James Moody, international jazz star and acclaimed saxophonist, flutist, composer and band leader for 60 of his 85 years, died on December 9, after a 10-month battle with pancreatic cancer. Mr. Moody first achieved prominence in 1946 as a member of bebop trumpet icon Dizzy Gillespie's all-star big band. He recorded his best-known hit, "Moody's Mood for Love," in 1949; it features one of the most acclaimed saxophone solos in jazz history. It became a global vocal hit in 1954 for singer King Pleasure, who sang lyrics that were written for the song in 1952 by noted jazz vocalist Eddie Jefferson. Mr. Moody subsequently began singing it himself and performed it as his theme song at each of his concerts. Moody was a 1998 National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Masters award recipient and a 2007 Kennedy Center Living Jazz Legend Award winner. Mr. Moody had over 50 solo albums to his credit, in addition to making dozens more recordings with Dizzy Gillespie, Quincy Jones, Lionel Hampton, B.B. King, and others. His most recent release, *4B*, came out in August 2010, and in December, it earned his fourth Grammy Award nomination -- for Best Jazz Instrumental Album, by an Individual or Group. *Excerpted from obituary in SignOn San Diego News (where Mr. Moody resided from 1989 to his death). Photo by Ron Weinstock*

**Robin Rogers December 17, 2010**

North Carolina blues singer and harmonica player Robin Rogers died at her home in Gastonia, NC on December 17. She was 55 years old. She had been diagnosed with terminal liver cancer in August 2010, and there had been an immediate outpouring of love and support from the blues community and her many fans, with benefits and fundraisers held around the country to raise money for medical bills and living expenses for Robin and her husband and musical partner, Tony. Her diagnosis came shortly before the release of her new Blind Pig CD, *Back In The Fire*, which debuted at #3 on the Billboard Blues sales chart, and still remains in the top ten. Rogers was the winner of the 2009 "Best Female Artist" Blues Blast Award, and just this month was announced as a nominee for a Blues Music Award for "Contemporary Blues Female Artist" by the Blues Foundation. *Photo from www.robinrogers.com*

Teena Marie December 25, 2010

R&B singer Teena Marie, best known for her 1980s hits "Lovergirl," "Ooo La La La" and "Lead Me On," died in her sleep on December 25, of unknown causes, in her Los Angeles home. She was 54. Marie's debut LP, 1979's *Wild and Peaceful*, was written with her mentor Rick James, who dueted with Marie on her breakthrough single "I'm A Sucker For Your Love." Motown, who rarely signed white artists, didn't put her photo on the cover -- leading to a longstanding belief that Marie was actually black. Marie was signed to Motown by Berry Gordy

when she was 19, though no music was released for nearly three years while they figured out what kind of material to give her. Marie released three more albums for Motown, but in 1982 she got into a legal battle with the label. In the end she won a landmark lawsuit that declared it illegal for labels to keep artists under contract while refusing to release their work. It became known as the "Brockert Initiative," after Marie's real name. After the lawsuit Marie signed to Epic, and released a series of R&B hits. After a long break in the 90's, to raise her daughter, she re-emerged in 2004, with the album *La Dona*. Her most recent release was 2009's *Congo Square*. www.rollingstone.com *Photo from www.ivoryqueenofsoul.com*

**James Peterson December 12, 2010**

James Peterson, whose career as a blues performer and a club owner spanned over five decades, passed away at the age of 73 on December 12. Peterson was born in Russell County, Alabama. I met him in Buffalo, NY in 1976, where he was performing at a club called the Sunset Inn. Before I first met him, James owned The Governor's Inn, where he played regularly featuring his very young son Lucky on keyboards. The Governor's Inn also brought in some of the biggest names in the blues.... When Lucky was like 5 or 6, Willie Dixon recorded him doing "1-2-3-4" and the father and son appeared on The Tonight Show. A couple years later, James and Lucky recorded an album, *The Father, The Son, and the Blues*.

I remember walking into the Sunset Inn in 1976, and was floored by James' blues. I met James at the break and we became friends. Watching James perform was always a wonderful time. He was a steady, if unspectacular guitarist, but his vocals and his ability to interact with his audience is something rare among blues performers thirty years later. In the fall of 1977, he opened the New Governor's Inn in Buffalo... then years later returned south to Florida, near Tampa... James continued to perform, and recorded for several labels, including a couple of memorable albums for Malaco's Waldoxy subsidiary, *Don't Let the Devil Ride* and *Preachin' the Blues*. These releases led him to tour extensively and play a number of festivals. His last recording may have been the 2004 JSP release, *If You Can't Fix It*, that was billed as by James & Lucky Peterson, but on which James handled all of the vocals, while his multi-talented son played a variety of instruments in support. I was fortunate to have known him and found him to be every bit as nice and gracious a person as he was an outstanding blues performer. *Obituary by Ron Weinstock, excerpted from his blog: inablue mood.blogspot.com. Photo: www.bluesland.net*

**Kelvin Thomas December 18, 2010**

Kelvin J. O'Neal, trumpet player with Big Daddy Stallings and the Bluez Evolution Band, passed away December 18, after a lengthy illness. As a co-founder of the Bluez Evolution Band since its inception in 2005, Kelvin was the centerpiece of the horn section, helping to create Big Daddy's vision of "Good Times Bluez with a Twist." Kelvin's work can be heard on the 2007 release *Bluez Evolution*. Despite his illness, Kelvin continued to perform with the Band in 2010, last appearing at The 8X10 on October 15. Kelvin was a 'lifelong musician' who began his musical studies playing the trumpet in childhood. His musical experience included Jazz, Gospel, R & B and Blues, and performances with both National and local artists. Kelvin was previously a Director/Musician with numerous musical groups including the Eubie Blake Legacy Big Band and was also a music instructor in Baltimore City Public Schools. *Photo from www.bigdaddystallings.com*

**Dr. Billy Taylor December 28, 2010**

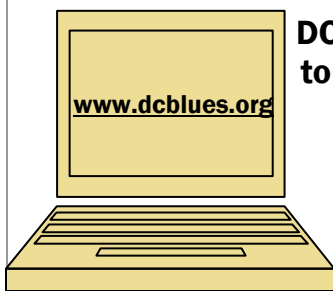
Dr. Billy Taylor, distinguished Jazz pianist, composer, educator and broadcaster, died in New York on December 28, 2010. The cause of death was heart failure. He was 89. His recording career spanned over six decades, and he composed over 350 songs, as well as works for theatre, dance and symphony orchestras. Dr. Taylor was also a highly regarded teacher, receiving his Masters and Doctorate in Music Education from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and serving as a Duke Ellington Fellow at Yale University. He hosted and programmed radio stations and several award winning series for National Public Radio, was the arts correspondent for CBS Sunday Morning, and the recipients of many coveted honors and awards. *Photo from www.billytaylorjazz.com*



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DCBS Members: Remember to Check the DCBS Website for Ticket Giveaways & Discounts

And/or Volunteer To Staff the DCBS Merchandise Table For Future Shows (Write to volunteer@dcb Blues.org)

Corporate DCBS Memberships Now Available

DCBS offers a Corporate membership option that provides small and large businesses the opportunity to advertise through DCBS while supporting DCBS programs. For only **\$200 per year**, businesses receive the same benefits of individual DCBS members (see p. 2) PLUS 6 postings of any combination of 1/4 page ads in the DCBS monthly newsletter and/or web icons on the DCBS website. Each web icon/event posting will remain on the DCBS website for one week per posting.— for a total of 6 weeks presence on the DCBS website.

This is a \$240-\$280 value, for only \$200. To get more information, or to establish corporate membership, visit: www.dcb Blues.org/memb/mbr_join.php

DCBS welcomes two new Corporate members who signed up in November/December 2010:

Charles Gilliam, owner of Okra's Cajun and Creole Restaurant in Manassas, VA; and David R. Bergstein, DRB Productions

Share a Photo of You/Friends Wearing DCBS Merchandise and Win a Prize for Most Unique Photo

DCBS is starting a new promotion and contest. Have a picture taken of you and/or your friends wearing DCBS merchandise (e.g., hat, tee shirt, tank top). Send in the photo to newsletter@dcb Blues.org, or post it to your Facebook page and tag DC Blues Society, so it also appears on the DCBS Facebook page. DCBS will include some of the photos in future newsletters. When there are enough entries, DCBS will select the most unique photo and the winner will receive a free tee shirt or a selection of a CD from those that DCBS has available.

Here are sample photos taken at a recent Birchmere blues show:



*Blues fans showing off their historic DCBS merchandise
 Photos by Jazs*

**Good Luck DCBS Reps to the 2011 IBC
And All the Blues Entries
Here's More About the Competition**



The Blues Foundation (www.blues.org) provides the following numbers for the 2011 International Blues Challenge (IBC). The 27th IBC will consist of: 110 bands, 83 solo/duo entries, and 28 youth acts, adding up to 709 musicians representing 41 States and 13 countries. That's 221 acts, and over 500 performances, in 4 days and 5 nights, February 1-5, within three city blocks on world famous Beale Street, in downtown Memphis, Tennessee.

To see the bands competing in the 2011 IBC, visit: www.blues.org/#ref=ibc_current.

If you're going to the IBC, send us a link to your pictures and/or volunteer to send us a review, so we can share these with other DCBS members. Send to newsletter@dcbllues.org.



Electrofied Blues Band -
L to R: Scott Taylor, Tony Fazio,
Richard Burgess, and Rob Rusteberg



Delores Washington -
DCBS Coordinator for the
NY Eve Party



DCBS New Year's Eve Party



To see many more pictures of the DCBS New Year's Eve Dinner & Dance visit: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/28294197@N05/sets/>
Photos by Mary Knieser



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