



Capital Blues Messenger

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

December 2019

Volume 13 Issue 12



CELEBRATE WITH DCBS AND

MARK WENNER'S BLUES WARRIORS

The DC Blues Society will once again host a New Year's Eve Celebration that is sure to include great live music and a lot of dancing. DCBS is bringing back Mark Wenner's Blues Warriors for a repeat performance. (Photos of Mark Wenner and Clarence "The Blues Man" Turner are from last year's show, courtesy of Wayne Botts.) Get your tickets early since last year's party sold out!

Party favors and a champagne toast will be provided. Some light snacks will be available and a cash bar. Bring your own food or eat before you arrive. Advance tickets purchased through Eventbrite (see details on p. 5) are \$40 for DCBS members (join today!) and \$45 for non-members. Tickets at the door (if still available) are \$45 and \$50, respectively. Hope to see you there!!



See Mike Zito & Win a Guitar at the City Winery!

Mike Zito is bringing his award-winning band and his new #1 album on the Billboard Blues charts to the City Winery on Tuesday, December 17 at 7:30 PM.

As a special treat for DC Blues Society members, Mike has offered to raffle off an autographed Fender guitar to a member of the DC Blues Society who is at the show! Make sure you buy your advance ticket and plan to see an incredible show and a chance to win a guitar from Mike.

Mike Zito may be one of the most lauded artists in the contemporary blues arena today. But for Mike, the thing that counts the most is maintaining his honesty, authenticity and integrity. Those are the qualities that have steered Zito's career since the beginning and continue to define every effort he's offered since.

"I have nothing to hide; it seems my honesty is what people relate to most," he once told *Vintage Guitar* magazine. "Anders (Osborne) told me early on, 'If you don't believe what you're singing, you'll never be a good singer.' I try not to write fluff; I try to make every word count." A multiple Blues Music Award winner and nominee, Mike Zito has built his career on an ability

to tap into tradition while maintaining contemporary credence all at the same time.

Zito's latest album -- his 16th -- came out in November on Ruf Records. Titled *Rock N Roll: A Tribute to Chuck Berry*, it finds him broadening his boundaries still further, even as it marks a return to his roots. The album consists of 20 Chuck Berry classics performed by Zito and an impressive array of 21 guest guitarists.



THE WINE GARDEN AT CITY WINERY

This was a very special project for me," Zito says. "I lived in Chuck's hometown of St. Louis for 32 years, and I worked at a small musical instrument store where his drummer also happened to be employed. Chuck's son would drop by on occasion as well. I've been playing his songs since I was a kid. Needless to say, he was a tremendous influence on my career, and, of course, on many other musicians' as well."

In addition to writing and playing great music, Mike now runs his own recording studio, MARZ, and has established a record label to go with it called Gulf Coast Records. Mark your calendars, buy your tickets and don't miss this show and a chance to win an autographed guitar from Mike Zito! Tickets are available at:

<https://citywinery.com/washingtondc/tickets.html> .

DC BLUES SOCIETY

P.O. Box 6289

Washington, DC

20015-0289



www.dcb blues.org

The DC Blues Society (DCBS) was founded in 1987 and is dedicated to keeping the Blues alive through outreach and education. Its mission is to celebrate, preserve, and promote the Blues as an original American art form. DCBS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, all-volunteer organization that depends on grants, membership, contributions, and volunteers to operate. The DC Blues Society is a proud affiliate of the Blues Foundation.

DCBS is governed by its Board of Directors. Only

DCBS Officers and designated board members are authorized to speak, represent and make commitments on behalf of the organization.

The CAPITAL BLUES MESSENGER is published monthly (unless otherwise noted) and sent by email to members. Back issues are available at www.dcb blues.org.



DCBS members are encouraged to submit articles, photos, cartoons, reviews and suggestions to the newsletter. Please submit material via email to newsletter@dcb blues.org. Listings from bands and venues should be sent to calendar@dcb blues.org. Deadline for all submissions is the 15th of the month prior to publication. Articles should be submitted in MSWord; logos and graphics should be in vector format (.eps or .ai); and photos should be in color in high resolution .jpg format. DCBS reserves the right to edit or refuse any content, including advertising, that it deems inappropriate.

DCBS Board Members

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Enjoy the Benefits and Fun of DCBS Membership

Members are key to the livelihood of the DCBS. Members' 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 many benefits for their nominal DCBS investment:

- ▲ Discounted rates on advance tickets to DCBS events
- ▲ Friendship of fellow Blues enthusiasts at DCBS's many events
- ▲ Monthly editions of THE CAPITAL BLUES MESSENGER sent by email
- ▲ Priority notices of the latest scheduled area Blues concerts, events and news sent by email
- ▲ Eligibility to win free tickets to area Blues concerts and performances (e.g., City Winery, DC; The Sundry; The Hamilton and more)
- ▲ Opportunities to "get close to the action and the music" by volunteering at DCBS events
- ▲ Taking a supporting role in DCBS's Blues in the Community program, an outreach effort to educate and encourage the rich heritage of Blues music

Join or Renew Today!

Date _____ New Renewal

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____ Phone _____

Family email _____ Second Email _____

If family, list name(s) _____

Annual Dues

- Student: \$15
(include copy of student ID)
- Individual: \$35 per year
\$60 two years
- Family: \$45
- Corporate: \$200

Volunteer

- Update Website
- Work shift at a show
(DCBS table, door, etc.)
- Promote shows
(Distribute fliers,
handbills, etc.)
- Raise funds
- Write reviews or take
photos for monthly
newsletter

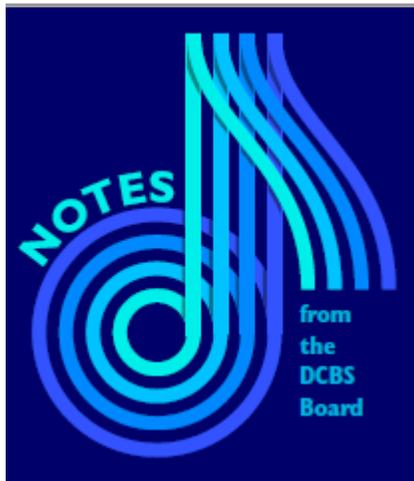
Contributions (not dues) are tax deductible. Please allow up to 6 weeks for processing. DCBS accepts



Return this form with your check or credit card information to:
DC Blues Society
P.O. Box 6289
Washington, DC 20015-0289

Becoming a DCBS member is quick and easy! Use the mail-in application on this page, sign up at the DCBS table at any DCBS event or apply online at www.dcb blues.org

Notes from the Board



Celebrating the Winter-time Blues!

4th Friday Blues Happy Hours. On Friday, December 27, the legendary Linwood Taylor makes his first appearance at a DCBS 4th Friday Happy Hour. Keep your holiday party going with Linwood and the DCBS. **See the notice on page 7.**

Make Plans for a Bluesy' Good Time New Year's Eve Party – Buy your advance tickets to attend the DCBS New Year's Eve dance party featuring **Mark Wenner's Blues Warriors**. Last year's show was a sell out, so we're bringing the band back to wrap up 2019 and get 2020 started right. **See info on page 5 for details.**

Did you see the list of Ticket Giveaways! The DCBS keeps getting more tickets to giveaway to our members. Thanks to members who have sent in reviews from the shows they have seen. Good to hear from blues fans having a good time!

1st Jam of 2020. And don't forget the 1st Sunday Blues Jam of 2020 is on January 5.

Coming up: Robbin Kapsalis and Vintage #18 kick off the 2020 4th Friday Blues Happy Hour series on January 24.

The Board of Directors of the DC Blues Society sends you our best wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season and a great New Year!

Thank you for your support!

Pete Salsbury
president@dcblues.org



Have a Cool Yule

ARE YOU A DCBS MEMBER?

**DCBS Membership Campaign
Is Ongoing!
400 Members is our Goal.
Help Us Get There!**

Two months ago, DCBS announced its membership campaign to reach 400 members by October 2020.

Ambitious? YES! Doable? YES! With your support.

Current membership is 286 (up from 283 last month), so we still have a ways to go. If you are a current member, thank you for your continued support. If you are not a member, please join. And help encourage others to do the same. Your membership and donations are needed to support all our events including the FREE DC Blues Festival, the monthly Blues Happy Hours and the monthly jam. Your membership only costs about \$3 a month. If you're the lucky winner of tickets to giveaway contests, the cost savings will probably pay for your year's membership!

JOIN TODAY!

Help Wanted - Volunteers to Serve as Editor or Assistant Editors for DCBS Newsletter

Please help DCBS to find someone to fill an important job as temporary editor of our monthly newsletter, the *Capital Blues Messenger* (CBM).

Our longtime editor, Robyn Quinter, is not available to work on the newsletter at this time, and we need someone to compile, edit, and layout written articles and photos. Our Secretary, Pat Bransford, will continue to be available to help anyone new to these tasks. The newsletter is extremely important to promote upcoming events (the blues happy hours, monthly jam, New Year's Eve party, etc), post advertisements and report on past events.

**HELP
NEEDED!**

Can you help fill this role? Or do you know someone who could step in and help? The person will need to use Microsoft Publisher or similar software. The temporary editor does not necessarily need to write articles or provide photos. Editing and layout skills are most important.

To volunteer or if you have questions about what is involved, write to president@dcblues.org.

Volunteer and make a difference!

*"Volunteers do not necessarily have the time;
they just have the heart."* ~Elizabeth Andrew

Jimmy Thackery: Driving Back to DC at the City Winery

By: Pete Salsbury

Jimmy Thackery and the Drivers appeared at the City Winery on October 18, 2019. Jimmy is a longtime DC area resident and a blues fan favorite. This is part of my in-person interview with Jimmy.

Pete: Hi Jimmy, how are you, where are you traveling from?

Jimmy: Yes, welcome back home! I have Bryan Smith on bass; he came from Indiana and George “Bam Bam” Shephard from the Falls Church area; I live in Belize!

Pete: When did you move to Belize?

Jimmy: In around 2012-13, my wife and I moved to Belmopan, the capital city of Belize. I had been living in Arkansas and started thinking of going into a semi-retirement in a nice place and get the retirement ball rolling. So we moved and love it there.

Pete: I’ve been a fan for years but I never met you back then...What’s the story on naming your band the Drivers? You make these guys drive?

Jimmy: Yes that’s right! I got started in bands when I was 14. Somebody’s Mom always had a station wagon and one day I woke up and I was 40 years old and didn’t think it was a good idea to start taking up driving. I decided it was working well.

Pete: Back in your early days, what was it like playing with Muddy & other legendary bluesmen?

Jimmy: They were thrilled to play with guys like us. They could see we were going to be the next generation carrying the torch. There was a blues revival brought in by guys like George Thorogood, Stevie Ray Vaughan, the Thunderbirds, The Nighthawks...Muddy, John Lee Hooker, J. B. Hutto, Otis Rush and the others saw we were going to carry this music on. I think they were thrilled to have us set up jobs for them in the East. The Hawks were bringing in guys from Chicago and backing them up at the Bayou. Bob Margolin was a great teacher on how to be a sideman and run with those guys.

Pete: One of my favorite albums is John Hammond with The Nighthawks. I’ve talked to John Hammond about it and he said you did it in a day. What do you remember?

Jimmy: We did it in an afternoon! We had played a lot of gigs together and had worked out a lot of the tunes live already and that’s what we used for the record...

Pete: The Fender Strat I see you holding on the website looks worn out. Were you playing it at sound check?

Jimmy: Yes, that’s my #1 guitar. I have others but use that the most. It’s a 1964 and I got it around 1983 and it was pristine and I took a sledge hammer to it (laughs).

Pete: The last record you made, *Spare Keys*, features 6 instrumentals and 6 songs with vocals in a variety of styles. Do you have a process to make a new record?

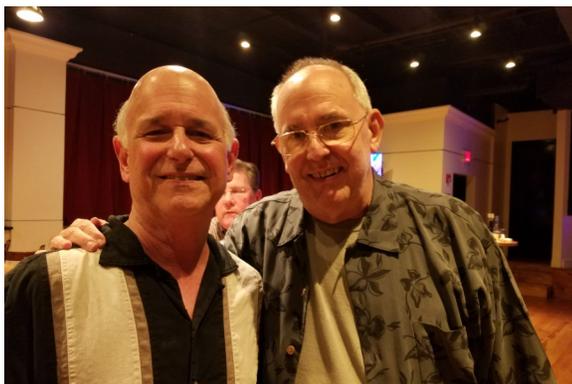
Jimmy: The recording process has changed many times over time...Because of where I live now, I have a Pro Tools set up in my studio in the jungle; I do a demo of all the parts and email it to these guys. By the time we get in the studio, they have already knocked out an arrangement... It’s easier but a different process. We used to work it out in the studio and come up with arrangements. In many ways I liked the old way of doing it.

Pete: Do you still travel and play as much as you use to do?

Jimmy: No, it’s now down to a couple of short trips a year... Not as many clubs....It’s weekend warrior stuff now! Used to be able to do 5, 6 – 10 weeks on the road and work almost every night....

Pete: What’s next?

Jimmy: I’m going home! For me it works well. It’s the payoff, the reward for all the nights on the road...Now I can kick back and enjoy it and I’m happy about that.



Pete Salsbury (L) and Jimmy Thackery

Pete: It’s great to see you happy and healthy. Thanks for meeting with me and I look forward to the show.

Jimmy: Thank you. And I hope you enjoy it.

Jimmy Thackery and the Drivers started off with a cool shuffle that had beautiful support from Bryan Smith on bass and George “Bam Bam” Shephard on drums to start the night swinging. A T-Bone Walker song “Let Your Hair Down And Have A Natural Ball” followed that showcased the fabulous guitar playing of Jimmy with the bass and drums in a deep groove. Jimmy played several songs from his recent CD including “Candy Apple Red,” a cool surf tune that had some neat twists and turns. Jimmy sang some blues tunes and demonstrated his great guitar style on his well-worn Fender Strat that got the crowd applauding and cheering. “Shame Shame Shame” was a down low dirty blues tune that had a great groove.

Set two started with a rocking “Bull Frog Blues” that had some Danny Gatton-esque guitar licks. Jimmy followed with a spacey sounding blues instrumental. The show featured songs that demonstrated the variety of guitar styles Jimmy can play so well. Jimmy and the band did a rockin’ shuffle that had many in the crowd up and dancing in the room. For an encore, they played “Gonna Sell the Bitches Car and Buy a Cool Guitar” that sent everyone home happy. It was great to see Jimmy Thackery and the Drivers back in DC at the City Winery!

Thanks to Jimmy Thackery and Daniel Martchek at the City Winery for arranging the interview.



NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION

Tuesday, December 31, 2019

FEATURING



MARK WENNER'S

BLUES WARRIORS

Doors open at 7:30 pm. Music starts at 8:30 pm.

AMERICAN LEGION POST 41

905 Sligo Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910

tickets available at www.dcblues.org & eventbrite.com

\$40 for DCBS Members \$45 for Non-members

MORE AT THE DOOR: \$45 members, \$50 non-members

240-876-8295 www.dcblues.org
Follow us Facebook and Instagram

This DCBS Member was a Two-Time Ticket Winner

By Jim Riley



First, thanks to the DC Blues Society for working so hard on their coordination with local clubs for tickets and show announcements.

On Friday, November 15, The Soundry hosted the Albert Cummings Band and the Bobby Thompson Band. If you have seen

Bobby before, he often has new bandmates. Friday night there was Bobby with Chris Brown on bass and Deren Blessman on drums. They all performed so well, and Bobby talked with the audience about his various guitars, including one built by a relative of actress Elizabeth Montgomery. Bobby plays standing and sitting, and his slide work drives many songs.

Albert Cummings (photo above) and his bass player and drummer presented an energetic performance. Their songs occasionally had hints of influence from ZZ Top, Stevie Ray Vaughn, and even some Little Feat and Stevie Wonder, I believe. According to Albert, we were a quiet audience; maybe rapt was the better word.

On Saturday, November 16, The Soundry hosted the Vanessa Collier Band, and the Jeff Fetterman Band was the opening act. Fetterman presented a rocking blues sound of original music, with a bit of Hendrix in conclusion. The three-piece band includes Jeff, Toby Lindberg on bass, and John McGuire on drums. The songs were powerful presentations of blues and rock. I spoke with Jeff about his music. He began playing at 13 and says it is in his blood. Originating from Erie, PA, his influences were Kenny Wayne Sheppard and Stevie Ray Vaughn.

Jeff also stated that his regular bassist, Ralph Reitenger III, was at another gig in the Carolinas.

Headliner Vanessa Collier is a local Howard County hometown gal born in Texas. Evidently she moved to our area while young, because she did a shout out for her 7th grade teacher who introduced her to many styles of music and sax techniques. One favorite influence was Cannonball Adderley. Vanessa engaged with the audience and explained what inspired several songs, such as a hot day in South Carolina inspiring her "Sweating like a pig, singing like an angel" song. Songs of particular remembrance to this reporter are "Can't Stand the Rain," and "Keep It Sexy." Each had wonderful sax and guitar solos. Chris Vadala's guitar was not in your face but instead sounded like it was wafting over a field to your ears. Vanessa said that she is hard on drummers and bassists, but each did a great job. The drummer played a bit of "shit-tar" (go to the show to hear the explanation).

Vanessa works part-time in the Howard County School System teaching music, and she brought one standout student, Conner Rhodes (sic) up on stage for a song.

Vanessa's band has toured Europe, including Switzerland. And oh, Happy Birthday Vanessa!

The Soundry is an inviting club with good sight lines to the stage. Parking is free and easily available, and shows start on time. This reporter found the management and bar staff very pleasant and helpful. Many patrons were eating food and obviously enjoying the evening. The strong coffee is worth getting also. (Photos provided by Jim Riley, in photo on right above)



CD Review: Moonshine Society *Sweet Thing*

By Ron Weinstock

"Sweet Thing" is the second album by the DC area band, Moonshine Society. The core of the band is guitarist Joe Poppen and vocalist Black Betty (Jenny Langer), along with bassist Chris Brown and drummer Rodney Dutton, and they have developed their blues and roots music stew. Lending support on some of the tracks are keyboardists Wes Lanich and Benjie Porecki, bassist Tod Ellsworth, and the horns of the great Ron Holloway, Vince McCool and Ken Wenzel. Jason Ricci's harmonica was added onto two tracks. Black Betty and Poppen, when not fronting Moonshine Society, are members of The Ron Holloway Band.

There is a fascinating mix of blues, blues-rock, and soul on this CD, starting with the opening title track that was penned by Langer. It might be viewed as an answer song to Muddy Water's "Mannish Boy," with Ricci providing some energetic harmonica behind Langer's insistent vocals as she tells her man not to play games with her. "Shake" has a nice groove with a riff that evokes Nick Gravenites' "Born in Chicago." Langer sings about going out and dancing the night away, with Poppen laying down some fiery single note runs while Holloway has a booting solo. A particular standout selection is the reworking of the Ruth Brown hit, "Mama, He Treats Your Daughter Mean." It is set to a New Orleans second-line groove with Porecki laying down some Crescent City styled piano. Vince McCool takes a brief, fiery trumpet solo, and Holloway on tenor sax and Wenzel on baritone sax take robust solos with the three horns leading the second line until performances fade out. Langer's "Come On Home" is a stunning performance in a Memphis soul style with Porecki channeling Booker T and Poppen evoking Steve Cropper.

Continued on p. 11



FAMILY FOOD FUN DANCING

1ST SUNDAY BLUES JAM

4 - 8:00 PM
FREE • FREE • FREE
MUSICIANS OF ALL LEVELS ARE WELCOME

DC Blues Society

AMERICAN LEGION POST 41
905 SLIGO AVENUE, SILVER SPRING, MD 20910
ENTRANCE ON FENTON ST. NEAR PUBLIC PARKING GARAGE

AFFORDABLE CASH BAR - OUTSIDE FOOD PERMITTED

WWW.DCBLUES.ORG 240-876-8295

DC BLUES SOCIETY PRESENTS

BLUES HAPPY HOUR

FEATURING
LINWOOD TAYLOR BAND

12/27 FRIDAY | FREE ADMISSION | 6:30PM MUSIC

AMERICAN LEGION POST 41
905 SLIGO AVE., SILVER SPRING, MD 20910
CONTACT US : 240 879 8295

ENTRANCE ON FENTON ST. ADJACENT TO PUBLIC PARKING LOT
*FREE PARKING AFTER 7 PM

WWW.DCBLUES.ORG



DC Blues Memorabilia on a Cruise Ship (Photo at left)

By Pete Salsbury, DCBS President

I was recently on the #33 Legendary Rhythm & Blues Cruise, which sailed out of San Diego for a week in late October. The Blues Cruise traditionally has a cabin door decorating contest and encourages cruisers to participate. As I was walking through the ship checking out some of the doors, I did a double take when I saw the door pictured at left, which is decorated with the DCBS logo and three Annual DC Blues Festival fliers - from 1990, 1991, and 1993! (the 2nd, 3rd, and 5th Annual Festivals). I knew I had to find out the person behind that door.

Larry Stuebing is a longtime member of the DC Blues Society and he has a great collection of posters and ads for blues shows that were hung up on telephone poles and stores to promote the shows - before we had email, Facebook and other social media. Larry brought several classic show posters to decorate his cabin door during the week. We want to contact Larry to learn more about his blues memorabilia and stories about them to share in a future newsletter.

DECEMBER 2019 BLUES

1	DCBS 1st Sunday Blues Jam @ Silver Spring American Legion ▲ Stacy Brooks @ Madam's Organ ▲ Linwood Taylor @ JVs ▲ Along for the Ride w/ Wave Milor, Bill Pappas & Wolf @ 219 Restaurant
2	The Nighthawks @ Westminster Church ▲ Wolf's Blues Jam w/ Big Boy Little & Matt Kelley @ JVs
3	Davina & The Vagabonds @ Blues Alley
4	Mike Tash & Mary Shaver @ Barley & Hops, Frederick ▲ Patty Reese @ Ayse Meze ▲ Wolf's Blues Jam w/ Linwood Taylor @ Londontowne Pub
5	Johnny & The Headhunters @ Hamilton Loft ▲ Wolf's Blue Jam w/ John Henry & Fast Eddie @ New Deal Cafe
6	Vintage#18 @ Hamilton Loft ▲ Ian & Friends @ Downtown Holiday Market ▲ Carly Harvey @ Hilton Dulles Airport ▲ Patty Reese w/ Dave Chappell @ Cathedral Commons
7	Corey Harris w/ Todd Albright @ City Winery (DCBS Ticket Giveaway) ▲ Bad Influence @ JVs ▲ The Crimestoppers @ Outta the Way Cafe ▲ Bobby Lewis Blues Band @ Hershey's ▲ Patty Reese @ John R. Webb VFW, Frederick ▲ Holiday Party @ Archie's Barbershop ▲ Stacy Brooks @ Downtown Penn Quarter Holiday Market ▲ Vintage #18 @ Blackwall Hitch Alexandria
8	Uke Jam @ Archie's Barbershop ▲ The Nighthawks @ New Deal Cafe ▲ Along for the Ride @ 219 Restaurant
9	Mike Zito, Billy Price Charm City Rhythm Band @ Ram's Head Annapolis ▲ CJ Chenier @ City Winery ▲ Karl Stoll @ Fish Market, Alexandria ▲ Patty Reese @ Westminster Church ▲ Patty Reese @ Downtown Holiday Market
11	Young Adult Blues Session @ Archie's Barbershop ▲ Wolf's Blue Jam w/ Matt Kelley & John Henry @ Londontowne Pub
12	Los Lobos @ City Winery (DCBS Ticket Giveaway) ▲ Sol Roots @ Hamilton Loft ▲ Still Standing w/ Linwood Taylor @ Babes Boys Tavern
13	Los Lobos @ City Winery ▲ Karl Stoll & The Danger Zone @ Hamilton Loft ▲ Bad Influence @ Stein Room, Leisure World ▲ The Crossfire Band @ Silver Spring American Legion ▲ Carly Harvey @ Downtown Penn Quarter Holiday Market
14	Southside Johnny & The Ashbury Jukes @ Birchmere (DCBS Ticket Giveaway) ▲ Guitar Workshop @ Archie's Barbershop ▲ Built 4 Comfort @ Outta The Way Cafe ▲ Carly Harvey @ Dew Drop Inn ▲ The Crimestoppers @ Spanky's Pub, Leesburg ▲ Still Standing w/ Linwood Taylor & Mike Tash @ New Deal Cafe ▲ Rock-A-Sonics @ Hershey's ▲ Jose Ramirez Band @ JVs ▲ Stacy Brooks @ Downtown Penn Quarter Holiday Market ▲ Vintage#18 @ Black Rock Center
15	Stacy Brooks @ Madam's Organ
16	Carly Harvey Kiss & Ride @ Westminster Church ▲ Patty Reese @ Downtown Holiday Market ▲ Wolf's Blues Jam w/ Linwood Taylor & Big Boy Little @ JVs
17	Mike Zito: Rock & Roll: A Tribute to Chuck Berry @ City Winery (DCBS Ticket Giveaway & Guitar Raffle) ▲ Samantha Fish @ 9:30 Club
18	Wolf's Blues Jam w/ Linwood Taylor @ Londontowne Pub
19	Carly Harvey Kiss & Ride @ Hamilton Loft ▲ Swing Jam @ Archie's Barbershop ▲ The Paulverizers @ New Deal Cafe ▲ Blues Night feat. Bobby Thompson Trio @ Pearl Street Warehouse
20	The Smokin' Polecats @ Stein Room, Leisure World ▲ Along for the Ride @ Lahinch Tavern
21	The Smokin' Polecats @ Hamilton Loft ▲ Soul Crackers @ AMP by Strathmore ▲ The Crimestoppers @ Blue Sky Bar & Grill, New Market ▲ Fast Eddie & The Slowpokes @ Lahinch Tavern ▲ Still Standing @ Londontowne Pub
22	HAPPY HANUKKAH! Along for the Ride @ 219 Restaurant
23	Swampdog Blues! @ Westminster Church ▲ Karl Stoll @ Fish Market, Alexandria ▲ Wolf's Blues Jam w/ Linwood Taylor & Fast Eddie @ JVs
25	MERRY CHRISTMAS!
26	NRBQ (New Rhythm & Blues Quartet) @ Birchmere ▲ The Colliders Boxing Day Show @ New Deal Cafe
27	DCBS 4th Friday Happy Hour w/ Linwood Taylor @ Silver Spring American Legion ▲ Cadillac Jump Blues Band @ Bertha's, Baltimore ▲ Bad Influence @ Hershey's
28	Jonny Grave @ Hamilton Loft ▲ The Crimestoppers @ Craffhouse Reston ▲ Zydeco Jed @ New Deal Cafe ▲ The Nighthawks @ The Sundry (DCBS Ticket Giveaway) ▲ Linwood Taylor & Wolf @ Lahinch Tavern
29	Soul to Soul: Billy Price Charm City Rhythm Band, Bill Toms & Hard Rain @ Jammin' Java ▲ The Nighthawks @ JVs ▲ Along for the Ride w/ Linwood Taylor, Bill Pappas & Wolf @ 219 Restaurant
30	Wolf's Blues Jam w/ Mike Westcott & Wave Milor @ JVs
31	DCBS New Year's Celebration w/ Mark Wenner's Blues Warriors @ Silver Spring American Legion ▲ Moonshine Society @ Hamilton Loft ▲ The Smokin' Polecats @ Cheverly American Legion ▲ Bobby Felder's New Year's Eve Bash @ Westminster Church ▲ Deanna Bogart New Year's Eve Concert @ Rams Head Annapolis ▲ Del Ray Club Sober New Year's Eve Party w/ Patty Reese Band @ Del Ray Club

EARLY JANUARY 2020

1	HAPPY NEW YEAR!
2	Chris Thomas King @ Blues Alley
3	Chris Thomas King @ Blues Alley ▲ Little Bit 'A Blues @ Hershey's
4	Chris Thomas King @ Blues Alley ▲ The Smokin' Polecats @ Hershey's
5	DCBS 1st Sunday Jam @ Silver Spring American Legion ▲ Chris Thomas King @ Blues Alley
6	Memphis Gold & The Playlist Band @ Westminster Church
Regular Blues Events – Blues All Week!	
The Regular Blues Calendar below is provided each month to convey information on recurring blues jams/performances/dances. The Regular Blues Calendar is in addition to the monthly calendar prepared by DCBS.	
SU	1st Sunday DCBS Blues Jam @ Silver Spring American Legion; Along for the Ride @ 219 (most Sundays); Dirty Ed & The Collaborators Sunday Blues Jam @ Paradiso Italian Restaurant
M	Blue Mondays @ Westminster Presbyterian Church; Wolf's Blues Jam @ JV's; Capital Blues Ensemble @ 219 Basin St. Lounge (alternates Mondays w/Johnny Artis)
TU	Clusterfunk @ Madam's Organ; Hell's Bottom Blues Jam @ Takoma Park VFW Post 350
W	Wolf's Blues Jam w/ Linwood Taylor or Big Boy Little @ Blair's Londontowne Pub; Jesse Shifflet Open Mic @ Station Ale House, North East, MD (freq. varies); Blues Jam @ Old Bowie Town Grille; Patty Reese @ Ayse Meze Lounge, Frederick
TH	Wolf's Open Blues Jam @ New Deal Cafe (1 st Thursdays beginning Aug. 1, 2019); Johnny Artis @ Madam's Organ; Slow Blues & Swing Dance @ Glen Echo
F	DCBS 4th Friday Happy Hour @ Silver Spring American Legion; Cadillac Jump Blues Band @ Bertha's (4 th Fridays)
SA	Archie Edwards Acoustic Blues Jam @ New Location – 4502 Hamilton St., Hyattsville, MD

A Blues Reunion at The Sundry

By Henry Tate

Deanna Bogart performed at The Sundry on November 23, 2019. Once Deanna heard that her good friend, Nadine Rae, had returned from the West Coast and was coming to her show, she arranged for a generous welcome. It included a stroll over to the table as Deanna "saxed" her way through the audience with a selection Deanna and Nadine performed together.



Editor's note: As Deanna's website accurately states: "When it comes to Deanna Bogart, everyone wants to claim her as their own -- her hometown, her fans, her fellow musicians and even her instruments. She's that good--and that good-natured." She performs internationally, has won three consecutive Blues Music Awards' Horn Instrumentalist of the Year for 2008, 2009 and 2010 and at last count, more than 20 Wammies, the music awards for the Washington, D.C. region. Nadine Rae has also been a local blues phenom, and I'm so glad to hear news of her. Nadine has performed at many past festivals in the area, including the Annual DC Blues Festival, and the Tinner Hill, Silver Spring, Chesapeake Bay, and Bluebird Blues Festivals, among other performances.

Thank you, DC Blues Society, for the free tickets that paved the way for this reunion to happen. The Sold Out crowd was impressed with Nadine's contribution to Deanna's Hometown show. Deanna was so pleased as was Nadine Rae.

Bolded items on the Blues Calendars in this newsletter are picks by calendar editor and include DCBS, BBS, and other events.

Musicians, promoters, and venues: Send calendar listings to calendar@dcblues.org by the deadline, the 15th of the month prior to publication of the newsletter.

DCBS also has an online Blues Calendar at www.dcblues.org. Check it out and submit your gigs to calendar@dcblues.org.

Events listed are based on the best information possible. DCBS is not liable for errors in schedules, places or performances listed. It is recommended that you contact the venues to verify events.

See the DCBS website, www.dcblues.org, for additional music links and information.

Delbert McClinton at the Birchmere

By: Dana Eason

I had the pleasure and honor of interviewing the legendary Delbert McClinton before his show at the Birchmere on November 1 for the DCBS. Delbert says the Birchmere is “the best game in town”.

In the early '60's, Delbert's friend, Bruce Channel, wrote a song titled “Hey Baby.” Delbert added a harmonica riff and the song rocketed up the Billboard charts. They were invited to do a tour in England. A little known band called “The Beatles” was one of their opening acts. I asked Delbert about the rumor that he showed John Lennon his style of harmonica playing on “Love Me Do.” Delbert said he “taught him everything he knew.”

I congratulated Delbert on his new CD, *Tall, Dark & Handsome*, which has gotten great reviews (*Editor's note: and a 2020 GRAMMY nomination*). When I asked if it was his 20th record in 62 years, he said he had no idea. I wondered where he got the title. The picture on the cover is of these small statues he found in Sweden around 1993. He fell in love with them and ordered them, and when they finally came in the mail he had forgotten about them. They were sitting on his dining room table, and one day when he walked by, the phrase “tall, dark & handsome” popped into his head.

Delbert has been playing with this particular group of musicians for about 6 years. I asked how he came up with the songs he co-wrote. Delbert has a house in Mexico, and he invites friends and fellow songwriters to go there where they have no interruptions. Bob Britt, who Delbert says is the best guitar player in the world, sits down and starts noodling notes, and then somebody else throws in a line. Delbert says they've been “real lucky and real good the last 3 or 4 years.”

Joe Maher, of Big Joe & the Dynafloes, is the drummer on most of the songs on this CD. Delbert says he's one of the best drummers he knows. Neither Big Joe nor Bob Britt were performing that evening. Bob, who Delbert says is the best guitar player in the world, is on tour with Bob Dylan.

But Kevin McKendree, who also co-wrote songs on this CD, was performing, along with his son Yates. Kevin grew up in Annapolis, MD. I first saw Yates play the piano when he was about 8 years old, on a cruise. Yates has a unique guitar technique, and he recently played with John Hiatt.

I asked Delbert what musicians he listens to. He said “Forties Junction” on Sirius XM. Some of the blues musicians who were his earliest inspirations were PeeWee Crayton, T-Bone Walker, Buster Brown, Jimmy Reed, Howlin' Wolf, Freddie King, B.B. King...

When I asked Delbert which blues musicians he admired the most he said that was like saying which of your kids you liked the most.

Delbert has been known to play a mix of blues, jump-blues, rock, honky-tonk, jazz, and country. I asked how he acquired such a

diverse taste in music. He said when he grew up in the 40's there were lots of fantastic musicians back in the day. He started playing in beer joints and had to play a little bit of everything. “Music soothes the beast,” he said.

In addition to recording and touring, Delbert started his Sandy Beaches Cruises (SBC) to showcase all the types of music that he loves. He played the Blues Cruise two years in a row, and decided he could do a better job with his own cruise. He “has a lot of friends that he wants to get better who don't have recording careers. They're just local heroes.” He wanted to get those people out there.

I have personally been on six SBCs. I have heard all types of phenomenal musicians and I try to see their live performances whenever they're in town.



Dana Eason (one happy fan!)
and Delbert McClinton

Delbert has no idea how many songs he has written. “A bunch,” he says. “Hundreds.” He has three GRAMMYS. I asked if he would change anything if he could go back. He said, “No, because I have learned from it all.” His advice for up-and-coming musicians is “don't leave your wallet and new leather jacket in the dressing room backstage.”

For 2020, he already has a lot of new songs and has started recording. He enjoys doing them because he “ain't gonna be around forever.” When my interview ended, Delbert said he had to go “metamorphose.” I'm pretty sure he just changed his shirt.

Delbert and his band put on another fantastic show, as always. They played some of his new songs and mixed in quite a few old favorites.

You can find information about Delbert on <https://www.delbert.com/>. This year's Sandy Beaches Cruise #26 is sold out. But you can still look up information about his cruise at www.sandybeachescruises.com. Delbert's videographer, Jay Curlee, has posted numerous clips on YouTube where you can view individual musicians and montages of past cruises. He also shot a video called “Rockin' the Boat” featuring Delbert and his friends performing on his cruise. *Delbert McClinton, One of the Fortunate Few*, by Diana Finlay Hendricks, is his recently published biography.

My apologies to Dave Chappell for not finding out what Delbert's favorite color is.

Thanks Dana for your wonderful story. And thanks to Michael Jaworek at the Birchmere and Molly Reed, Delbert's Tour Manager, for setting up this interview.

Key DCBS Volunteers

DCBS is an all-volunteer organization. The contributions, energy, ideas and time from our key volunteers keep DCBS running. Behind every event, jam, newsletter, ticket giveaway and e-blast are the efforts of key volunteers and board members. Several positions are currently open. If you are interested in helping, please contact president@dcblues.org.

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CD Review continued from p. 6 (Moonshine Society *Sweet Thing*)

There is a tribute to Johnny Winter on "Southern Road," which is more in a blues-rock vein with Ricci adding to this wide-open performance. Another highlight is a mash-up of Bill Withers' "Use Me" and Dr. John's "On Gilded Splinters," with Langer's striking vocal backed by Poppen's explosive blues-rock guitar. Langer ably covers Etta James' "I'd Rather Go Blind," with a nicely shaped guitar solo and backing Langer whose vocals build with passion as the performance unfolds. "Deal the Devil Made" contrasts with a more restrained vocal and backing. Poppen takes a solo on acoustic guitar on this selection.

A bonus track, "The One Who Got Away," is included. It was recorded in cooperation with "Cancer Can Rock," with a different backing band but also serves as another example of Langer's powerful, focused singing. It adds to the pleasures of an impressive recording.

DISCOUNTS for DCBS Members

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Win Tickets to Great Blues Shows from our Partners (as of 12/1/19)

City Winery (<https://citywinery.com/washingtondc/>)

1350 Okie St NE,
Washington, DC 20002
2 pairs /4 tickets for these shows
(seats)



12/7 – Corey Harris with Todd Albright
12/12 - Los Lobos
12/17 – Mike Zito: Rock & Roll, A Tribute to Chuck Berry

The Hamilton Live (<https://live.thehamiltondc.com/>)

600 14th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20005
2 pairs / 4 tickets are for standing room/back bar area only
(limited seating)



1/11 – Tab Benoit
1/30 – G Love and Special Sauce
3/5 – Roomful of Blues

The Sundry (<https://www.thesundry.com/>)

10221 Wincopin Circle, Columbia, MD 21044
2 pairs / 4 tickets (limited seats in back bar area)



12/28 – The Nighthawks
1/11/20 – King Soul
3/6 – Roomful of Blues

The Birchmere (<http://www.birchmere.com/>)

3701 Mount Vernon Avenue
Alexandria VA 22305
2 tickets (seats)



12/14 – Southside Johnny and the Asbury Jukes

The Amp by Strathmore

(www.AMPbyStrathmore.com)
11810 Grand Park Avenue
North Bethesda, MD 20852
2 tickets (seats)



1/31 – Billy Price
3/27 – Poppa Chubby

To Enter to Win Tickets , Email: Entry@dcblues.org

In the Subject line type: Name of show, date & location
In the email type:

1. I am a member (not a member? Select "Join DCBS" button at www.dcblues.org)

2. Your name. 3. Your phone number

Deadline to win tickets is usually 5 days before the show. **Please check the schedules of all of the DCBS partners and buy tickets to upcoming shows . Support these live music venues which are keeping the blues alive in the area!**



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