



March 2002

©2002 D.C. Blues Society

Upcoming Blues Society Jams

March 3 - Jam at Taliano's

March 17 - Acoustic Jam at Taliano's

April 7 - Jam at Taliano's

April 21 - Acoustic Jam at Taliano's
hotline (202) 828-3028

homepage- <http://www.dcb Blues.org>

No Electric Jam In February; Dave Galloway New Co-host

There was a bit of a mix-up in February, so we ended up not having a jam. When I rescheduled the jam for the second Sunday in February, I did not check with Taliano's to see if they already had something booked. If I had checked, I would have found out about their Mardi Gras party. I had hoped we could have jammed for a couple of hours before the band started, but we weren't able to. I apologize for this, and I can assure you it won't happen again! I want to thank **Steve and Lisa O'Brien** for inviting all of the jammers to their home to play.

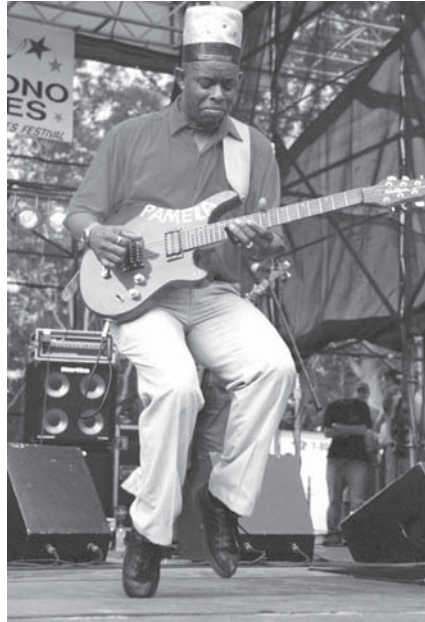
Continued on page 2



If the electric jam hot bumped last month, the acoustic jam went on as usual. Miles Spicer is seen with John Levy on harmonica. photo © Ron Weinstock
More on February acoustic jam on page 4

5th Annual Chesapeake Bay Blues Festival

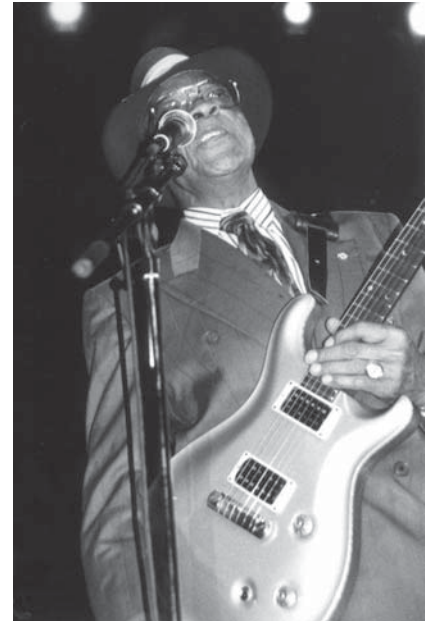
This year's Chesapeake Bay Blues Festival will have a terrific lineup that will include Michael Hills Blues Mob, Lil Ed and the Blues Imperials, Magic Slim and the Tear-



drops, Rod Piazza and the Mighty Flyers, Curtis Salgado, Bob Margolin, Hubert Sumlin, Carey Bell, Maria Muldaur and the Fabulous Thunderbirds. Additional acts are still to be announced. The festival will take place at Sandy Point State Park in Annapolis the weekend on Saturday, May 18 and Sunday, 19th. This has become one of the East Coast's premier blues events and the

announced acts make this one of the strongest lineups they have had.

It should be noted that the festival has become an important fund raiser for a number of local charities including Make-A-Wish Foundation® of the Mid-Atlantic, Inc.; We Care and Friends; Special Olympics Maryland; The Johns Hopkins Cleft & Craniofacial Center. For information check their website at www.bayblues.org or email them at info@bayblues.org. You can call and leave a message at 301-780-5720.



Lil Ed (Williams) & the Blues Imperials & Hubert Sumlin will both be at the Chesapeake Bay Blues Festival.

Top-Ed Williams Photo © Theresa Hemp.

Bottom right- Sumlin photo © Ron Weinstock

THE DC BLUES SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 77315
WASHINGTON DC 20013-7315
Hotline (202) 828-3028
<http://www.dcb Blues.org>

President: M. LaVert
Secretary: Nick Dale **Treasurer:** Wally Adams
Directors: Courtney Brooks, Dennis Devore, Chris Kirsch, Steve Levine, Sami Nuriddin, Denise Pusan, Tony Pusan, Joe Shamwell, Ingrid Strawser, Dave Westcott,
Counsel- Tom Gorman
Honorary Directors: John Cephas, Barry Lee Pearson, Joseph Wilson.
Webmaster: Joseph Delaney
Projects Committee Chair: Chet Hines
Editors - Music: Ron Weinstock **Events:** Steve Levine
Contributors: M. LaVert, Theresa Hemp

The D.C. Blues Society is a non-profit section 501(c)3 organization. Annual membership: Individual \$15, Family \$25, Canada \$25 (US), other countries \$40 (US). Members receive the D.C. Blues Calendar, discounts at Society events and some clubs, and other benefits. Contributions (not dues) to the D.C. Blues Society are tax-deductible. **To join, send a check & address to the P.O. box above.**

The **DC Blues Calendar** is published monthly and includes information on Society events, blues listings and other items of blues interest. Listings should be sent to Steve Levine, 5022 Quebec St., College Park, MD 20740 (cypressgrove@hotmail.com).

Ad rates: Business card \$20; 1/8 page \$25; 1/6 page \$30; 1/4 page \$40; 1/3 page \$55; 1/2 page \$70; 2/3 page \$100; full page \$125. Discount for consecutive placement of ads. Column width is 3.65 inches for a 2-column page, or 2.4 inches for a 3-column page. Height for 1/2 page is 4.85 inches. To place ad, contact Ron Weinstock, 2862 Dover Lane, #202, Falls Church, VA 22042 or rbluesw@aol.com.

For next issue: Must have copy, listings & ads by March 17.

Continued from page 1

I'm happy to announce that **Dave Galloway** will be my new co-host. Dave has been a regular at the jam for years, and he has always been willing to help out. I'm sure Dave will do his best to help things run smoothly at the jam. The next electric jam will be on March 3 at Taliano's, 4-8 PM.

-Steve Levine

John Jackson Scholarship Fund

It was an idea I mentioned to some at John Jackson's funeral John had been for many years an instructor at Blues Week at the Augusta Heritage Center at Davis & Elkins College in West Virginia, One way to honor his memory would be a fund to provide scholarships for Blues Week. It was an idea that the DC Blues Society board endorsed and one that is being implemented by the Institute of Musical Traditions and the College

IMT's concert in John's memory on February 25 (John had been scheduled to perform on what would have been his birthday) became a fundraiser with proceeds being forwarded to Davis & Elkins to employ in scholarships to provide assistance for persons to study acoustic blues traditions or for emerging artists to participate in blues week. IMT is serving as a clearinghouse for those so they can get a receipt for their donations. Any donation they collect will be turned over to the college. Bookkeeping matters makes it easier for IMT to handle this rather than the college directly. Both are 501(c)(3) organizations. Those not able to make the show should send a check (made out to Institute of Musical Traditions or IMT) to the Institute of Musical Traditions, PO Box 5930, Takoma Park MD 20913. In your accompanying letter indicate that this is a donation for the John Jackson Scholarship Fund. For more information, call 301-754-3611.



Here in print copy is ad for Severn Records we is pasted by printer onto original hard copy. To fill this space, we have some more scenes from March 17 acoustic jam

Top left Barrelhouse Bonni, Miles Spicer, John Levy and Dave Jackson

Top right - Crowd enjoying the music

Bottom Left - Lavert and NJ Warren

Photos © Ron Weinstock

March Blues Listings

1 Daryl Davis Band @ Bayou Blues
Tom Principato Band @ Bangkok Blues
Janine Wilson Band @ Barefoot Pelican
2 Crow Valley Band, Blues Museum,
Bosscats @ Whitlow's (Arlington Free
Clinic Benefit)
Hardway Connection @ Lamont's
Bad Influence, Crimestoppers @ Lewie's
Cathy Ponton King @ Bentz St. Raw Bar
Jr. Cline & The Recliners @ Fat Tuesday
Ray Kaminsky @ Borders, Arlington
Crow Valley Band @ Whitlow's
Bobby Thompson @ Luna Park Grille
Tom Principato Band @ Fantastico
Gypsy Joe Alves Band @ Bayou Blues
RC Yetter @ Bayou Blues 2
3 DCBS Jam @ Taliano's
Kenny Wright, Scott Taylor @ Bayou
Blues
6 Daryl Davis Band @ Spanky's
Shenanigans
Tom Principato Band @ The Brickskeller
Janine Wilson Band @ Afterwords
7 Sam "Muleman" Miller @ Bayou Blues
8 Daryl Davis Band @ Oliver's
*W.C. Handy Allstars (John Hammond,
Duke Robillard, Charlie Musselwhite &
Trudy Lynn)* @ State Theatre
Sam "Muleman" Miller @ Bayou Blues 2
Janine Wilson Band @ Afterwords
BG & The Mojo Hands @ Summit Station
Heart Of Blue @ Bangkok Blues
The Upsetters @ Bayou Blues
9 Mary Shaver @ Sweet Caroline's
The Deacons @ Lexington Market (noon)
Cathy Ponton King @ Backstreets Cafe
Jim Bennett & Unique Creation Band @
Lamont's
Jackson Street Band @ Bayou Blues 2
Jr. Cline & The Recliners @ Surf Side 7
Melanie Mason @ Outta the Way Cafe
Dave Sherman @ Ram's Head, Savage
Blues Museum @ Buffalo Billiards,
Gaithersburg
The Jaded Angels @ Bayou Blues
13 The Deacons @ Bistro Bistro
14 Al Walsh @ Bayou Blues
The Nighthawks @ Bentz St. Raw Bar
15 *Big Bill Morganfield; Dave
Sherman & the Nite Crawlers* @ Lewie's
The Deacons @ Cowboy Cafe So.
Melanie Mason @ Steam'n' Blues
Ray Kaminsky @ Borders, Springfield
Jimmi Sexton, Rude Dog, Ursula Ricks
@ Bayou Blues 2
Jr. Cline @ Backstreets Cafe
Janine Wilson Band @ Fantastico
Ursula Ricks & Her Bluestrain @
Bayou Blues 2
Tom Larsen @ Bayou Blues
16 The Heaters @ Bayou Blues
The Deacons @ Bangkok Blues

Crow Valley Band @ Buffalo Billiards
The Funky Twisters @ Bayou Blues 2
Tom Principato @ Sweet Caroline's
17 DCBS Acoustic Jam @ Taliano's
Danny Morris Band @ Fat Tuesday's
Darrell Nulisch @ Bayou Blues
Nighthawks @ Sweet Caroline's
Deanna Bogart, Tom Principato &
Linwood Taylor @ Ram's Head
18 Stan Whittaker @ Bayou Blues
20 Janine Wilson Band @ Afterwords
21 Jim Coan @ Bayou Blues
22 Heart Of Blue @ Taliano's
Bad Influence @ Summit Station
Crow Valley Band @ Cowboy Cafe
The Nighthawks @ Barns of Wolf Trap
The Satellites @ Bayou Blues
The Jaded Angels @ Bayou Blues 2
23 *North Mississippi Allstars* @
State Theatre
Bad Influence @ Okra's
Janine Wilson Band @ Summit Station
Nick Z @ Bayou Blues
Danny Morris Band @ Bangkok Blues
The Nighthawks @ Ram's Head
24 Shoe Suede Blues @ Bayou Blues
25 *Ann Rabson* @ Institute of Musical
Traditions, Paint Branch Unitarian
Church
26 Janine Wilson Band @ Blues Alley
27 The Deacons @ Bistro Bistro
28 RC Yetter @ Bayou Blues
29 Bad Influence @ Sweet Caroline's
Melanie Mason Band @ Fantastico
Dave Sherman @ Summit Station
RC Yetter @ Bayou Blues 2
Fat Daddy @ Bayou Blues
30 Talk of the Town (Deanna Bogart,
Tom Principato & Linwood Taylor) @
State Theatre
Mary Shaver Band @ Lasick's
Blues Museum @ Oliver's
Mark Furman Band @ Bayou Blues
Fat Daddy @ Bayou Blues 2
31 Mary Ann Redmond @ Sweet Caroline's
Weekly Events
Sun Jim Bennett & Lady Mary w. Unique
Creation Band @ Lamont's
Detroit Slim @ Full Moon
Tom Principato & Rusty Bogart swing
session @ Bangkok Blues
Steve Kraemer @ Cat's Eye
Kenny Haddaway (open mic) @ Whitlow's
Eddie Daye @ Chuck & Billie's
Acoustic Jam @ King of France Tavern
Danny Morris Band @ Sunset Grille
Automatic Slim Jam @ Wahoo's
Pro Blues Jam @ Sully's
Mon Blues Jam @ Taliano's
Tue Jam @ Full Moon
Ben Andrews @ Madam's Organ
The Resonators @ Grog & Tankard

DC Blues Calendar March 2002 p. 3

Wed Blues jam @ Coconuts
Open mike @ Bangkok Blues
Big Dog Band @ Cat's Eye
Persuaders @ Main Street Blues
Steve Smith Band @ Round Table
Various @ Full Moon

Thu Jam w/ Flatfoot Sam @ Zoo Bar
Blues Jam @ Bayou Blues 2
Blues Jam @ Backstreets Cafe
Jackie Lee @ Wild Azalea
Everything Bagel @ Cafe Tattoo
Various Jam @ Full Moon
Blues jam @ Surfside 7

Fri Hardway Connection @ Tradewinds
Eddie Daye @ Chuck & Billie's
The Blue Flames @ Bertha's, Fridays
Jackie Lee @ George Stark's Head Hog

Sat Various @ Full Moon
Eddie Daye @ Chuck & Billie's

**Next issue is April 2002. The
deadline for the April 2002
issue is March 17.**

*Listings should be sent to Steve
Levine, 5022 Quebec St., College
Park, MD 20740. E-mail to:
cypressgrove@hotmail.com*

Western Maryland Blues Festival

This year's Western Maryland Blues Festival takes place between May 31 and June 2 in Hagerstown Maryland. Performers include Walter Trout and The Radicals; Blind Boys of Alabama; Jorma Kaukonen & Jack Casady -The original Acoustic Hot Tuna; Ann Rabson, Eddie Shaw and the Wolf Gang; Carey Bell; Hubert Sumlin with special guest Bob Margolin; The Lloyd Jones Band. More information to follow or check their website at www.blues-fest.org, or call 301-739-8577, ext. 546.

D.C. BLUES SOCIETY MEMBER DISCOUNTS

The Music Loft offers a 10% discount on repairs, lessons, rentals and sales. 2507 N. Franklin Road, Arlington VA (703) 522-5500, Wed-Sat 12 to 6 PM. They also have selected recordings by local acts such as Franklin & Harpe & The Top Dogs
Industrial Sound Studios is offering a 15% discount to DC Blues Society members. You must have a card to get this great deal. If you call soon and set up time to record, your first set of ADAT tapes is free. For more information, contact Industrial Sound Studios, P.O. Box 1162, Riverdale, MD 20738. Phone: 301-209-0565. E-mail: industrialstudio@hotmail.com.

Places to Hear Blues

Bookings get cancelled so check with the venue as the show gets closer.

Afterwards Cafe, 1517 Connecticut Av NW, DC (202) 387-1462
Bangkok Blues, 926 W. Broad St. Falls Church VA (703) 534-0095
Backstreet Cafe, 12353 Wilkens Av Rockville MD 301-984-0394
Barefoot Pelican, 2156-E Enterprise St., Sterling, VA (703) 444-2208
Bay Cafe, 2809 Boston St, Baltimore, MD (410) 522-337
Bayou Blues, 8133A Honeygo Blvd, White Marsh MD (410) 931-BLUE
Bayou Blues - Fells Point, 1636 Thames St. Balt. MD 410-342-3220
Big Joe's Place, 8120 Crain Hwy (N.3d), La Plata MD (301) 392-6060
Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria, VA (703) 549-7500
Bistro Bistro, Reston Town Center, Reston, VA (703) 834-6300
Blues Alley, 1041 Wisconsin Ave (Rear), DC (202) 337-4141
Bop'N'Bowl, Falls Church (VA) Duck Pin Lanes, 4000 S Maple St. (703)-847-5984
Brickseller, Washington DC (202) 293-1885
Buckeye Steakhouse, Manassas, VA (703) 392-1252
Bushwallers, Frederick MD (301) 695-6988
Buomi Temple, 5050 King St. White Marsh MD (410)-583-7337.
Cat's Eye Pub, 1720 Thames St, Fells Point, Baltimore MD (410) 276-9085
Chick Hall's Surf Club, 4711 Kenilworth Ave., Hyattsville, MD (301) 927-6310
Chuck & Billy's Lounge, 2718 Georgia Av NW, DC (202) 232-0924
Clyde's, Chevy Chase, MD (301) 951-9600
Coconut's, 1629 Crofton Center, Croft MD (301) 261-3366
Cowboy Cafe South, 2421 Columbia Pike, Arlington VA (703) 486-3467
Crossroads Tavern, Richie Highway and Georgia Avenue, Glen Burnie, MD (410) 761-6199
EastPort Clipper, Annapolis MD (410) 487-7648
Ebb Tide, 985 Bay Ridge Road, Annapolis, MD (410) 269-1500
Fantastico, 380 Broadview Avenue, Warrenton, VA (540) 349-2575
Fat Tuesday's, 10673 Braddock Rd, Fairfax (703) 385-5717
Flannagan's, Manassas, VA (703) 551-2059
Fred & Harry's, Colesville Rd. & University Blvd. Four Corners, MD, 301-593-7177
Full Moon Saloon, 1710 Aliceanna St, Baltimore MD(410) 558-2873
George Mason (University) Ctr for the Arts, Fairfax VA
Golden Sports Bar, Ellicott City, MD (410) 480-2994
Half Moon BBQ, 8235 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring MD (301) 585-1290
Harmony Hall, Fort Washington MD
Harper's Choice Village Center, Columbia, MD
H.R. 57. 1610 14th Street, NW, DC, 202-667-3700
Hull Street Blues, 1222 Hull Street, Baltimore, MD (410) 727-7476
Ice House Cafe, Herndon, VA (703) 471-4256
Jaxx, 6355 Rolling Rd., Springfield, VA (703) 569-5940
King of France Tavern, State Circle, Annapolis MD (410) 216-6340
Lamont's, Livingston Rd, Pomonkey MD (301) 283-0225
Lasick's, 9128 Baltimore Blvd, College Park, MD (301) 441-2040
Lexington Market, Baltimore, MD
Luna Park, 5866 Washington Blvd. Arlington, VA (703) 237-5862
Maggiano's, Washington DC
Michael's Pub, King's Contrivance Ctr, Columbia. (410) 290-7878
Madam's Organ, 2461 18th St NW, DC (202) 667-5370
Napoleon's, Warrenton, VA (540) 347-4300
Neptune's, 23900 N Patuxent Beach Rd. California, Md 301-833-0073
Oasis, 8241 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring, MD (301) 608-3360
Okra's 9110 Center St, Manassas VA (703) 330-2729
Ram's Head, 33 West St., Annapolis, MD (410) 268-5111
Recher Theatre, 512 York Rd., Towson, MD, (410) 337-7210
Rosedale American Legion, 1311 Seling Ave., Rosedale, MD
Round Table, 4859 Wisconsin Ave NW, DC (202) 362-1250
Scottish Rite Temple, 3800 N Charles St, Baltimore (410) 583-7337
2nd St Cafe, Warrenton VA
Sonoma's, Columbia MD
Spanish Ballroom, Glen Echo, MD

Spanky's Shenanigans, Leesburg, VA (703) 777-2454
Sully's, 14513 Lee Jackson Hwy., Chantilly, VA (703) 818-9292
Spotlight, Woodbridge, VA 703-494-9349
State Theatre, 220 N. Washington St, Falls Church, VA (703) 237-0300
Stone Cellar, Ellicott City MD (410) 461-4990
Summitt Station, Summitt at Diamond Aves., Gaithersburg, MD
Spotlight, Woodbridge VA 703-494-9349
Sunset Grille, 7250 Columbia Pike, Annandale VA (703) 658-0982
Sweet Caroline's, Winchester VA
Taliano's, 7001 Carroll Ave., Takoma Park, MD (301) 270-5515
Texas Ribs, Waldorf, MD
333 Coffeehouse, 333 Dubois Rd, Annapolis, MD (410) 647-4275
Timber Creek Tavern, 10092 Belair Rd, Kingsville, MD (410) 529-7999
Tradewinds, 5859 Allentown Way, Camp Springs, MD (301) 449-1234
TT Reynolds, Fairfax VA (703) 591-9292
Twins, 1344 U St NW, Dc (202) 234-0072
Whitey's, 2761 Washington Blvd, Arlington VA (703) 525-9825
Whitlows, 2854 Wilson Blvd, Arlington VA (703) 276-9693
Wild Azalea, 1648 Crystal Sq. Arcade, Arlington, VA, (703) 413-2250
Wolf Trap, Vienna VA (703) 255-1900
Wyllivill's Tavern, 5753 Southwest Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro, MD (301) 952-1222
Zig's, 4531 Duke St., Alexandria VA (703) 823-2777
Zoo Bar, 3000 Connecticut Ave., NW, DC (202) 232-4225

D.C. BLUES CALENDAR AD RATES:

Business card \$20; 1/8 page \$25;
1/6 page \$30; 1/4 page \$40;
1/3 page \$55; 1/2 page \$70;
2/3 page \$100; full page \$125.

Discount for consecutive placement of ads. Column width is 3.65 inches for a 2-column page, or 2.4 inches for a 3-column page. Height for 1/2 page is 4.85 inches.

To place ad, contact: Ron Weinstock,
2862 Dover Lane, #202, Falls Church, VA 22042. e-mail - rbluesw@aol.com

Deadline for April 2002 issue is March 17.
IMPORTANT SEND AD PAYMENTS, MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS TO D.C. BLUES SOCIETY MAILBOX.
ONLY NEWSLETTER & AD COPY GOES DIRECTLY TO RON WEINSTOCK

February Acoustic Jam

The acoustic jam at Taliano's went very well, indeed. Many thanks to the participants who came out to listen and to those who came to, both, listen and play. I am impressed by the ever-improving...bluesmanship (my word, laugh) of two particular fellows who have been longtime friends of the society; David Jackson and Miles Spicer. Jackson, singer and acoustic guitarist (and, bassist too) has become exceptional, I think, in ways Jimmy Reed; hearing Jackson is very entertaining. And, brother Miles...singer and guitarist (and drummer), has grown tremendously in his ability in the Piedmont style of playing. Others who played were: N.J. Warren, Barrelhouse Bonni, Louie "Blue" Rao, Sami Nuriddin, young John Levy, Monty Robinson, Chet "S.O. Feelgood" Hines, David Bauer, and M. LaVert. We look forward to another great session next month.

M Lavert

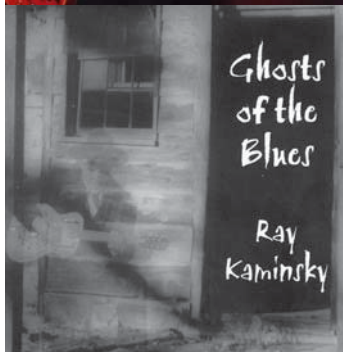
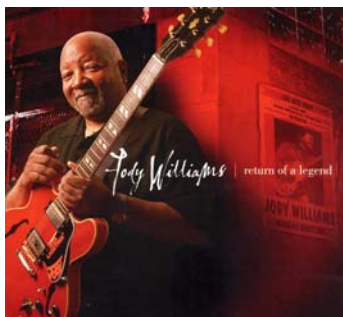
Jody Williams

The reemergence of guitarist Jody Williams promises to be the blues comeback story of the early 21st Century. A prominent part of the Chicago blues scene of the fifties and early sixties, Williams gave up the travails of a musician for a regular day job. Back then he was one of the hottest guitarists in Chicago working with the likes of Howling Wolf and Billy Boy Arnold, doing session work and issuing a small group of 45s that influenced other artists. Those familiar with Otis Rush's *All Your Love (I Miss Loving)* or the Mayall copy version (with Eric Clapton on guitar) will recognize the riff of the opening *Lucky Lou* on the opening track of Williams' superb Evidence album, **Return of a Legend**. After all, the riff on Rush's recording was taken from Williams' instrumental. Or take a listen to Williams' remake of *You May*, and one will hear the tune that was lifted by Memphis Slim for **Mother Earth**. If not known as a vocalist, Williams' vocals come across nicely, as he sings in an unforced convincing manner that outshines the efforts of collaborators like Tinsley Ellis (who does toss in some fine guitar on *Lucky Lou*), Rusty Zinn, Sean Costello and Boy Arnold. Costello is featured on a remake of another instrumental, *Moanin' For Molasses*. Another tune *Jive Spot*, is a spirited remake of an Otis Spann instrumental *Five Spot*, on which Jody shared guitar duties with B.B. King. Other highlights include the shuffle *Lifelong Lover*, and the torrid *Monkey Business*, with its clever lyric built upon cliches and catch phrases where Sean Costello shares the vocal and they trade solos. A duet with Billy Boy Arnold, *I'm Coming Back In Again* has a light latin groove and an amusing lyric about going back outside the house, but whoever is in the house better be gone when Jody gets back in. Williams also sings quite well on the slow blues *She Found a Fool and Bumped His Head*. Williams is superb on guitar playing with imagination and quite a bit of snap and pop, and his quests add there own distinctive playing. Dick Shurman put together the studio band which includes Ronnie Baker Brooks on rhythm guitar and horns are present on several tracks. Some are calling this the comeback album of the year, but it is also likely to be on many lists of best blues of 2002.

Ray Kaminsky

It certainly is a delight to see a local acoustic player mature as a performer. Ray Kaminsky's love of blues derived from meeting and becoming friends with the late John Jackson and Ray became grounded in the East Coast finger-style guitar approach that Jackson was a master of. Ray's most recent album, **Ghosts of the Blues**, funds him adding in some country and folk influences on a diverse group of blues and gospel numbers. Ray's renditions of Mississippi Fred McDowell's *Write Me a Few Lines* and Robert Johnson's *Come On In My Kitchen* perhaps strike this listener as more interesting than compelling, coming across as a bit too de-

NOTES HOT & BLUE by Ron Weinstock



liberative and lacking the simple drive that marked the originals. Bear in mind this writer would have similar comments on many performances on recent Robert Johnson and Fred McDowell tribute albums. The arrangement of the Johnson tune does suggest its kinship with the *Sitting on Top of the World* melody. Better are the renditions of *Mississippi Blues* (by a Willie Brown who was not associated with Charlie Patton or Robert Johnson) with very nice harmonica from Ray's regular partner, Jack Fretwell; *Hesitation Blues*, with a nice washboard accompaniment; and a solid rendition of Pink Anderson's *Every Day of the Week*. The old Jimmy Rodgers country classic *In the Jailhouse Now* has a nice traditional jazz accompaniment in the manner of some Leon Redbone recordings. Occasionally the use of the accompaniment gets a little bit intrusive. Reverend Gary Davis; *Oh Glory* starts off with some nice Davis' styled picking but the backing vocal chorus is not as integrated here into Kaminsky's performance as on the closing *Amazing Grace*. The latter tune opens with a spoken introduction on the song's origins before the fine closing performance. Perhaps not a perfect album, but still one with many pleasures. Ray is a more than merely capable performer of the tradition and at its best this a joy to listen to. Ray performs often in the area including at various Border Book Stores and if you cannot catch him performing, you may wish to contact him at 896 Young Dairy Court, Herndon VA 20170 or clubacoustic@erols.com.

Lazy Lester

"They call me Lazy, but goodness knows I'm only tired" is a refrain Leslie Johnson first waxed about four decades ago in Jay Miller's Crowley, Louisiana, studio. Johnson, better known as Lazy Lester, was one of the four major artists Miller recorded for the Excello label along with Lightnin' Slim, Lonesome Sundown and Slim Harpo. His distinctive harmonica sound was a □ Also an important element to many recordings by Slim and Sundown and was part of the downhome feel of those treasured classic recordings, and as the surviving member of the Excello Big 4, his reputation has grown in recent years. His latest Antone's album, **Blues Come Knockin'**, is devoted in great part to reviving some of the classic songs he and others waxed. With a studio band including Jimmy Vaughan, Derek O'Brien and Mike Buck, Lester does a wonderful job in recreating that sound. The band does an excellent job in recapturing the spirit of the originals without slavishly copying them. This should not be viewed as surprising since one of the influences on the Fabulous Thunderbirds (with whom Vaughan and Buck played) were the classic Excello sides. Its a delight to hear Lester revive the title track (one of several tracks with Riley Osborn on piano) as well as *They Call Me Lazy*. Lonesome Sundown's *I'm Gonna Stick With You* is heard along with a couple lesser know Slim Harpo songs, *I'm Your Breadwinner Baby* and *I'm Gon-*

Continued from page 5

na *Miss You (Like the Devil)*. Other performances include a storming instrumental, *Ponderosa Shuffle*, a solo *No Special Rider* where he plays guitar harp and stomps on a footboard and a cover of Lee Dorsey's (*Waitin' For My*) Ya Ya. Gene Taylor, Sue Foley and Sarah Brown substitute for Osborn, Vaughan and bassist Speedy Sparks on the closing *Sad Sad City*. This is a superlative recording that will especially appeal to fans of the classic swamp blues sound.

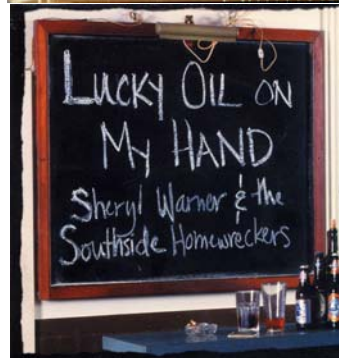
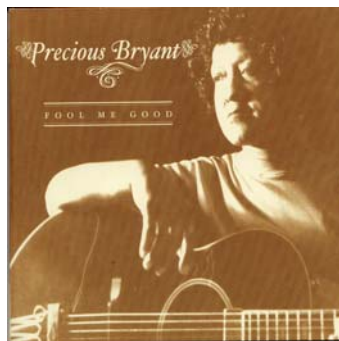
Sheryl Warner & the Southside Homewreckers

This writer had the pleasure to see the Richmond based acoustic trio, Sheryl Warner and the Southside Homewreckers when they appeared at Herndon Blues Festival in 2000. The performance was shortly after harmonica player Rick Manson had replaced guitarist John Bradshaw in support of Ms Warner and guitarist Gregg Kimball. This writer was impressed by the heart and spirit, in addition to their exemplary musicianship, they brought to a wide range of blues. They have just issued a new cd, **Lucky Oil On My Hand**, that certainly should appeal to fans of acoustic blues. It has a diverse group of early blues recordings with influences ranging from the classic blues of Alberta Hunter and Bessie Smith, the Piedmont stylings of a Blind Boy Fuller, and the early urban blues of Tampa Red & Georgia Tom as well as Big Bill Broonzy. They perform in a manner true to the spirit of the originals but go beyond simply recreating the original recordings. Its a joy to hear Sheryl sing of lost love as well as transform several songs associated with male singers like Blind Blake (*Chump Man Blues*), Big Bill Broonzy (*When I Been Drinking*), Blind Boy Fuller (*Corrine, What Makes You Treat Me So?*) and Tampa Red & Georgia Tom (*No Matter How She Done It*). The latter number is one of several on which pianist Steve Utt is heard and one on which either Manson or Kimball takes the lead vocal. Their accompaniments are exemplary and solos avoid excesses. Manson displays influences from Sonny Terry on most songs and Walter Horton on a nice rendition of *Trouble in Mind*. *Future Blues*, originally recorded by Charlie Patton's associate, Willie Brown, serves as a vehicle for a stunning vocal from Warner with a wonderful two-guitar accompaniment that evokes Brown's original. The album concludes with a strong live performance of *Mississippi Blues* originally recorded by a different Willie Brown. In summary an excellent disc of heartfelt blues performances that lovers of traditionally oriented blues should check up on. You can write the Homewreckers at PO Box 404, Quinton VA 23141 or email them at thehomewreckers@yahoo.com.

Precious Bryant

Precious Bryant is a Georgian blues woman who was located and recorded by folklorist George Mitchell in 1969 and who has recorded sporadically since then including for

MORE NOTES HOT & BLUE by Ron Weinstock



the Music Maker Foundation. Terminus has just issued her first album, **Fool Me Good**. A very deft guitarist, her music not only reflects the traditions of where she grew up but also mixes in elements of early rhythm and blues and rock and roll which can be felt in her choice of her material including a rendition of *Don't Mess Up a Good Thing* and the monster Little Willie John hit *Fever*. While she may sing a sad lyric, she brings an exuberance to her performances that should lift many spirits. She opens with a lively rendition of the traditional *Broke and Ain't Got a Dime* before following up with a strong rendition of Memphis Minnie's *Black Rat Swing*, both played with lively self-accompaniment. She celebrates playing the blues and her guitar (My name is Precious y'all you know I love my guitar (2x), cause I play the lowdown blues, that is what I keep my guitar for") and drinking whiskey on the jaunty *Precious Bryant's Staggerin' Blues*. *Don't You Wanna Jump* is another song that captures her spirit with a jaunty accompaniment and an ebullient vocal. A spiritual mood is heard on *Ups and Downs* and a nice rendition of *When The Saints Go Marching In* before she closes with a fine demonstration of her fingerstyle playing on a lively buckdance number, *Georgia Buck*. There is plenty of magic on this recording. Listening to the marvelous performances one is amazed not only that she just turned 60, but it took so long for someone to record a full album by her. This along with the Jody Williams album are this month's top discs.

Big Jack Johnson

Best known for his heartfelt juke joint blues, a different side of Big Jack Johnson is heard on his new album, **The Memphis Barbecue Sessions**, on M.C. Records. An unplugged session, Johnson's guitar, mandolin and vocals are joined by Kim Wilson's harp, guitar and occasional vocal. Pinetop Perkins plays piano on a couple tracks and label owner Mark Carpentieri plays drums on three tracks. Nothing fancy about the music here as much of this are renditions of some classic blues from the recordings of Little Walter, Howling Wolf, Guitar Slim, Elmore James, John Lee Hooker along with a couple Johnson originals, although Johnson did not write the opening *Oh Baby*, which is taken from Little Walter's recording, although it is credited to Johnson. Big Jack is one of those artists like Magic Slim that certainly can help lift one's spirits. He may not be as deep as those performers who inspired him, but his ebullient, soulful singing can help lift one's blues. Wilson contributes some wonderful harp as might be expected. Perhaps not an essential release but **The Memphis Barbecue Sessions** is a delightful change of pace for Big Jack's fans.

D.C. Blues Society Membership Application/Order Form

The DC Blues Society is a nonprofit 501 (c)(3) all volunteer organization!

Members receive a copy of the newsletter; The D.C. Blues Calendar, as well as discounts on society events & merchandise, some clubs, and other benefits.

The most important benefit is you help keep our ad rates up, the grant applications more appealing to the grantors and potential sponsors interest and support.

Contributions (not membership dues or merchandise) to the D.C. Blues Society are tax-deductible.

Please Print Clearly:

Date: _____ If renewal, check here _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____

Email _____

Dues(US) per year: Circle appropriate one.

Individual: \$15.00 Family: \$25.00

Corporate: \$50.00

Canada-\$25.00(US) Other Countries\$40.00 (US)

Dues: _____

Tax-deductible Contribution: _____

Total enclosed: _____

Mail this application with your check or money order to:

D.C. Blues Society

P.O. Box 77315

Washington D.C. 20013-7315

Family memberships (list member names):

Please allow up to six weeks for processing
Questions? Check out www.dcblues.org

or call the Society Hotline: (202) 828-3028

Would you be interested in
volunteering? _____

If yes, what would you like to do (if you know)?



Duke Robillard (top and Charlie Musselwhite with John Hammond and Trudy Lynn constitute the WC Handy Allstars whose tour stops at the State Theater on March 9. Musselwhite also has a new album **One Night in America** on Telarc with blues, country and other roots music songs and appearances by Kelly Willis, Marty Stuart and Robben Ford. Photos Ron Weinstock



Doc Beskrowni

Billy Fotis sent the sad news by email that "local harp player Doc Beskrowni passed away of a heart attack two weeks ago in his sleep. Doc was a great harp player, a great American and a good friend. He leaves behind his long time girl friend Sherrill Murray. Sherrill has had a rough time of it lately. Within the last month she has lost her two loves, her bar Friends and now Doc."

Doc is seen during the blues party he and Sherill put on every summer. It started at their home and when Sherrill opened Friends, it moved there and was an all day music affair. Lots of different folks would come out for some food drink and blues. Jammin' Sam was on the way to a gig last summer before he stopped by and played a few numbers and watched as Doc played here.

Doc was a real nice guy, blues lover and musician who will be missed by anyone who knew him. Photo© Ron Weinstock

Tom Hoskins

We also note that Tom Hoskins, the person who located Mississippi John Hurt passed away in Florida. Hoskins later served as Hurt's manager.



Blue Bayou Festival 2002

This year's Blue Bayou Festival had a strong lineup and some wonderful performances that unfortunately was met by sparse attendance. By the time I made it to the Price George's Showplace Arena, I missed Kim and Klassé but caught a very fine set of traditionally oriented zydeco by Willis Prudhomme whose band included Wayne Kahn of Right on Rhythm Records on rubboard. Prudhomme's set was followed by a nice set from the Nighthawks. C.J. Chenier played some modern sounding Zydeco before Lonnie Brooks closed out the evening with some high energy music.

One problem with the attendance was that the show was not publicized till very late (I found out the lineup as I was putting the February newsletter together). Seems like the county itself put this show on, but because of its bureaucracy, contracts with artists were not approved until the last minute which prevented effective promotion or advertising of this show. As a result, the artists drew far less than might otherwise be expected, which was unfair to all involved.

Pictured clockwise from upper left are Willis Prudhomme; C.J. Chenier; Lonnie Brooks and Nighthawk Mark Wenner. Photos © Ron Weinstock

News in Brief

We note the passing of noted folk singer, **Dave Van Ronk**, who was an exceptional performer of blues, especially in the East Coast style.

The **Nighthawks** will have a new album out shortly that is being compiled mostly from remote performance recordings that Wayne Kahn has made. I believe it will be coming out on Ruf Records.

DC Blues Society
PO Box 77315
Washington DC 20013-7315

FIRST CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 2897
Silver Spring MD

Your mailing label shows when your membership expires. If it says 03/02, your membership will expire. If 02/02 or earlier, it has expired. **Renew Now!!**

Send address changes in writing! Do not call hotline!

First Class Mail