

Capital Blues Messenger

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

June 2011 Volume 5 Issue 6



3rd Annual Silver Spring Blues Festival Saturday, June 18



**It's A Blues
Party!**



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.

DCBS Board Members

President: Sam'i Nuriddin
president@dcblues.org

Vice President: Nick Dale
vp@dcblues.org

Secretary: Celina Wood
secretary@dcblues.org

Treasurer: Frank Kahan
treasurer@dcblues.org

Advertising: Jazs
ads@dcblues.org

Merchandise: James Ginyard
merchandise@dcblues.org

Special Events: Felix McClairen

Honorary Directors: John Cephas (1930-2009)
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Key Volunteers

Blues in the Schools: Dr. S.O. Feelgood
(301-322-4808)

Grants Manager: OPEN
fundraiser@dcblues.org

Jams & Festival: Sam'i Nuriddin
jams@dcblues.org

Media: Ida Campbell
media@dcblues.org

Membership: Sam'i Nuriddin
membership@dcblues.org

Newsletter

Editor: Pat Bransford
newsletter@dcblues.org

Staff: Mary Knieser, Sylvia Kiser

Publicity: OPEN

Volunteer Coordinator: OPEN
volunteer@dcblues.org

Website

Administrators: Jazs, Fred Morser
webmaster@dcblues.org

Forum: Crawl'n' Kingsnake forum@dcblues.org

DCBS on Facebook: Stacy Brooks

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 _____

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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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Cover page photos: Center photo: *The Kinsey Report* from the artists. L to R CC - Downtown Silver Spring by Alan Bowser, Big Boy Little Band from www.bigboylittleband.com, Stacy Brooks from the artist, Jonny Grave by Berkemeyer, Ida Campbell by David C. Kennedy, Gina DeSimone & the Moaners from the artists.

Unless noted, photos & articles were contributed by DCBS board members and newsletter editor. Printer: Quick Printing Inc. Wheaton, MD qpi@qprintingincs.com
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Corporate DCBS Memberships

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 above) 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.dcblues.org/memb/mbr_join.php.

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

President's Drum



Photo by Connie Oleksak Warner

Hello All.....Just dropping in to remind everyone about a couple of upcoming events that you don't want to miss.

For our folks in deep Southern Maryland, I mean a special visit to Lamont's Entertainment Complex in Pomonkey. On June 11, Lamont's will host "Gator" Appreciation Day. I don't think I have to tell you who the "Gator" is, but I will. Radio station WPFW 89.3 FM Saturdays from noon until 2 pm is when you'll hear him spin that southern Maryland style of Blues. You'll have to research the times and cost yourself but I'll be there at noon, just in case. Lamont's is located at 4400 Livingston Rd, Pomonkey, MD 20640.

On June 18, the 3rd Annual Silver Spring Blues Festival will rock the streets of downtown Silver Spring. Free - Outdoors - Great Fun - Family Friendly! Those folks have the right formula for a free festival. This is only their third year, and it's growing by leaps and bounds every year. See p 8 and our newsletter cover for more information. Bring the family and friends. You won't be disappointed.

On June 25, for our folks around the Brookland area of Northeast Washington, DC, we'll be hosting a free Mini-Festival at Langdon Park, which is located at 2901 20th Street NE. Langdon Park is where the DC Blues Society held its annual DC Blues Festival, before moving to the Carter Barron Amphitheatre. The Mini-Festival will be family friendly, and you might consider cooking out at the Park that day. You'll hear the DC Blues Society

Band featuring Stacy Brooks. We hope to have some other talented local musicians join us as the day progresses. We'll start at noon, but we'll be there well before then. Come early, let's talk. See p 12 for more information and please encourage others to attend this free event.

Mark these dates on your June calendar and I'll see you there.

Sam'i

DCBS Summer/Fall 2011 Events

3rd Annual Silver Spring Blues Festival FREE!!!
Saturday, June 18, 2011 10 am to 9 pm
See Lineup on p. 8 and on cover
Downtown Silver Spring - Ellsworth Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910

Super Mini-Fest at Langdon Park FREE!!!
Saturday, June 25, 2011 See p 12 for more info.
DC Blues Society Band with Stacy Brooks, and others
2901 20th St. NE, Washington, DC 20018.

7th Annual DCBS Fish Fry 'n' Blues 'n' Bike Contest
Saturday, July 16, 2011 Bands sign up by writing to
jams@dcblues.org
Silver Spring American Legion Post 41
905 Sligo Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910 See p 12 for more info.
Tickets: \$12, includes fish sandwich; motorcycle contest entry: \$5

Kenny Neal at Surf Club Live **JUST ANNOUNCED!**
Thursday, July 28, 2011 8 pm to 12 am
4711 Kenilworth Ave., Hyattsville, MD 20781
Tickets: Advance \$15 members, \$18 non-members; \$20 door

Ronnie Baker Brooks at Surf Club Live **JUST ANNOUNCED!**
Thursday, August 25, 2011 8 pm to 12 am
4711 Kenilworth Ave., Hyattsville, MD 20781
Tickets: Advance \$15 members, \$18 non-members; \$20 door

23rd Annual DC Blues Festival FREE!!!
Saturday, Sept. 3, 2011
Preston Shannon, Grady Champion, Nadine Rae & the Allstars, Anthony
"Swamp Dog" Clark & the Blues Allstars, DC Blues Society Band
Carter Barron Amphitheatre, Washington, DC
After Party at the Silver Spring American Legion, w/ Preston Shannon

DCBS Battle of the Bands **Saturday, Oct. 15, 2011**
Bands see www.dcb Blues.org for criteria and signup process.

4th Annual College Park Blues Festival FREE!!!
Saturday, Nov. 12, 2011
Bands/performers to be announced. Ritchie Coliseum, Univ. of MD

DCBS also hosts the monthly 1st Sunday Blues jam. FREE!
4 to 8 pm, Silver Spring American Legion Post 41
905 Sligo Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20910

2010 International Songwriting Competition Winners Announced

The International Songwriting Competition (ISC) has announced its 2010 winners. The Blues winners include John McAneney and Jesse O'Brien of The Johnny Max Band (Mississauga, ON, Canada) for their song "Daddy's Little Girl" (First Place); Nick Moss (Elgin, IL, USA) for his song "Georgia Redsnake" (Second Place); and Thorbjorn Risager (Copenhagen, Denmark) for his song "Rock N' Roll Ride" (Third Place).

The winners were chosen by this year's prestigious panel of celebrity and industry judges including James Cotton; Bruce Iglauer (Founder/President, Alligator Records); Tom Waits; Monte Lipman (President, Universal Records); and others. More than \$150,000 in cash/prizes is shared among the 66 ISC winners, including a \$25,000 overall Grand Prize and over \$20,000 in merchandise and services.

For more information and to listen to the winning songs, visit: www.songwritingcompetition.com/winners. The entry deadline for 2011 is September 21; however, the Early Bird entry discount ends July 15.



The 2011 Magazine is
Now Available On-Line
Read for FREE!

To access the 2011 Blues Festival online, visit the following website:
http://issuu.com/forumprinting/docs/blues_festival_2011.

DCBS expects to receive a supply of Blues Festival Guides and will make them available at the 1st Sunday Jams and other DCBS events while they last. You may also order a copy from the publisher by sending \$7 to: Blues Festival Guide, RBA Publishing PO Box 50635, Reno, NV 89513

23rd Annual DC Blues Festival Saturday, September 3, 2011

The DC Blues Festival:

- ALWAYS is held on **Labor Day Saturday**
- ALWAYS is a **FREE** Festival
- ALWAYS has a side stage featuring **FREE** guitar, harmonica, and vocal **workshops**
- ALWAYS has a **musical instrument petting zoo** for the kids to play and learn
- ALWAYS is looking for **volunteers and ideas** to make it the best ever! Have suggestions? Want to volunteer? Contact Fest-volunteer@dcb Blues.org.



Congratulations Nighthawks! 2011 Blues Music Award for Acoustic Album of the Year

In what is being called the "surprise upset at the Blues Music Awards (BMA)," the Nighthawks walked away with the Best Acoustic Blues Album Award for their February 2010 CD *Last Train to Bluesville*. This legendary DC blues band has played locally and crisscrossed the country and played internationally for 40 years, but this was the Band's first BMA nomination. Known as an electric blues band, the Nighthawks were also up against some very formidable acoustic performers. *Last Train to Bluesville* was recorded live, in about one and one-half hours, for Bill Wax's XM-Sirius program. Blues Blast Magazine called it: "Ten tracks of incredible blues... The crystal clear recording would showcase any flaws— instead what comes through is a tight, professional acoustic set that truly showcases The Nighthawks' musicianship."

The complete list of 2011 BMA winners appears below. For more information on the Nighthawks visit their website www.thenighthawks.com.

Acoustic Album of the Year
Last Train to Bluesville
The Nighthawks

Acoustic Artist of the Year
John Hammond

Album of the Year
Living Proof Buddy Guy

B.B. King Entertainer of the Year
Buddy Guy

Band of the Year
The Derek Trucks Band

Best New Artist Debut
On the Floor Matt Hill

Contemporary Blues Album of the Year *Living Proof*
Buddy Guy

Contemporary Blues Female Artist of the Year Robin Rogers

Contemporary Blues Male Artist of the Year Buddy Guy

DVD Ruf Records
Songs from the Road
(Luther Allison)

Historical Album of the Year
Delta Groove Harmonica Blues
(Bob Corritore & Friends)

Instrumentalist-Bass
Bob Stroger

Instrumentalist-Drums
Cedric Burnside

Instrumentalist-Guitar
Derek Trucks

Instrumentalist-Harmonica
Charlie Musselwhite

Instrumentalist-Horn
Eddie Shaw

Instrumentalist-Other
Sonny Rhodes (Lap Steel Guitar)

Koko Taylor Award
Ruthie Foster

Pinetop Perkins Piano Player
Dr. John

Rock Blues Album of the Year
Live! In Chicago
Kenny Wayne Shepherd Band featuring Hubert Sumlin, Willie "Big Eyes" Smith, Bryan Lee & Buddy Flett

Song of the Year
"Living Proof"
Tom Hambridge/Buddy Guy

Soul Blues Album of the Year
Nothing's Impossible
Solomon Burke

Soul Blues Female Artist of the Year Irma Thomas

Soul Blues Male Artist of the Year
Solomon Burke

Traditional Blues Album of the Year *Joined At the Hip*
Pinetop Perkins & Willie 'Big Eyes' Smith

Traditional Blues Male Artist of the Year Charlie Musselwhite

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All Over Town

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www.tinnerhill.org

Blues, BBQ and Brew ♦ All Weekend ♦ All Over Town

Bob Margolin - Daryl Davis - Guitar Shorty - Deanna Bogart - Tom Principato - Gaye Adegbalola
Patty Reese - Nadine Rae - Curtis Blues - Jr. Bynum & The Groove Masters - Pluckerland Band
Yorktown Youth Band - Choo Choo Charlie's harmonica workshop - KIDZ BLUEZ w/ Kristin Gomez
BBQ Cook Off - Mad Fox Brewing Company - Food & Vendors and so much more . . .



Daisy Blues Festival Saturday, August 6
Noon to 9pm
Tickets: \$20 in advance
\$25 at the gate
Children under 12 Free
For tickets/info:
240 855 2834 or 240 342 2294

Memphis Gold
Guitarist for James Brown and Martha Reeves
featuring **Andrew Padula**
Seth Kibel Bassist as seen with Carlos Santana
and **Michael Peck** formerly of Mark Greene "The Moments"

The Tommy Lepson Band
Wammie Award Winner

Patty Reese and Dave Chappell
Wammie Award Winners

The Andy Poxon Band
Wammie Nominee

WIN Autographed Guitar!

Food and Beverage Available

3230 Daisy Road ♦ Woodbine, MD 21797
Gates Open at 11:30 **Free Parking**

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ROBERT RANDOLPH AND THE FAMILY BAND
KINGS GO FORTH
J. RODDY WALSTON AND THE BUSINESS
TOM LARSEN BAND

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Nadine Rae
Charles "Big Daddy" Stallings

DCBS Members: Remember to Check the DCBS Website (www.dcblues.org) for Ticket Giveaways & Discounts

Congratulations Trevor Swales, on winning tickets to the Briggs Farm Blues Festival.

Members: Enter now to win tickets to :

**Tinner Hill Blues Festival
Safeway BBQ Battle
Daisy Blues Festival**

Visit the DCBS Members Only Website for more information and the entry process

CD Review: *Raw*
Anthony "Swamp Dog" Clark & The Blues Allstars
 Review by Ron Weinstock

Raw is the title of the self-produced CD by Anthony "Swamp Dog" Clark, a blues harmonica player and vocalist in the Washington, DC area. Swamp Dog and his band, the Blues Allstars, won the DC Blues Society's 2010 Battle of the Bands and represented the Society at the International Blues Challenge held by the Blues Foundation in Memphis, TN. The Band made it to the semifinals of that event. On *Raw*, Swamp Dog is accompanied by his band mates, Charles "Red" Adkins on bass, Kenney Sparks on guitar, Glenn Alexander on guitar, and Andy Hamburger on drums, with guest appearances by Linwood Taylor on guitar and Nadine Rae on a vocal.

The strength of this album is Clark himself, as he makes his presence as a singer and a harp player from the opening rendition of James Cotton's "One More Mile." His harp playing shows that Cotton is one of the folks he has listened to, but he has a strong vocal delivery that impresses. Also nice is the next track, a duet with vocalist Nadine Rae, on what I believe is an original, "Do Onto Others," with a fair amount of humor as the two vocally trade accusations of misbehaving.

My complaint about the recording has more to do with the generic and sometimes over-the-top guitar and rhythm such as opens up the slow instrumental "Moanin'." I might suggest that Swamp Dog direct his guitarists to some classic Little Walter, Sonny Boy Williamson and the like, and the playing of such as Louis Myers, Robert Lockwood, Matt Murphy, Luther Tucker and Freddie Robinson, and instead of screaming single note runs, a mix of chords, single notes and a more jazz-inflected tone. If a Brazilian blues band, that of Igor Prado, can sound like the Aces backing Lynwood Slim, how come Swamp Dog's band can't. Also on "Moanin'," it would have been nice if Swamp Dog came in with his harp at the beginning and not nearly five minutes into this selection. Swamp Dog's harp is featured on the shuffle "Jump," and on "Swamp Dog Shuffle." The backing is a bit too leaden on the closing cover of the Muddy Waters classic "Hootchie Cootchie Man," which detracts from Swamp Dog's forceful singing. It's not that the backing is terrible, just that it can distract and it doesn't enhance the performance. It's a shame because it makes this only a good recording, when Swamp Dog shows promise that he can be much more.

This CD can be purchased at Swamp Dog's gigs.

NOTE: Anthony "Swamp Dog" Clark and the Blues Allstars will be performing at the 23rd Annual DC Blues Festival at the Carter Barron Amphitheatre, on Saturday, September 3, 2011.

Visit the DCBS Booth at these June events

- Western Maryland Blues Fest
June 5 (full Fest runs June 3-5)
- Tinner Hill Blues Festival
June 11 (full Fest runs June 10-12)
- Silver Spring Blues Festival
June 18
- Safeway BBQ Battle
June 26 (full Fest runs June 25/26)

CD Review: *The Legendary Rhythm & Blues Revue* Featuring Tommy Castro & Others
 Review by Pat Bransford

The CD jacket for this Alligator Records release quotes Tommy Castro saying, "If you love live music, you're going to love this record," and I think this collection lives up to this claim. The *Legendary Rhythm & Blues Revue* is Tommy's effort to "bring all the energy and musicianship that happens on Blues Cruises to landlubbers and cruisers alike." This 12-track collection of songs performed at live concerts (on the Blues Cruise as well as on solid ground) is a wonderful mix. Tommy and his band open up the CD with an aptly titled song "Wake Up Call," that is long enough to feature each of the members of his band on their respective instruments: Keith Crossan on sax, Tom Poole on trumpet, Tony Stead on keyboards, Scot Sutherland on bass, and Ronnie Smith on drums. These band members, in fact, are heard on 10 of the 12 tracks of the CD; and Tony, Scot, and Ronnie also provide backup vocals for the second track, Bob Dylan's GRAMMY winning song (1980) "Gotta Serve Somebody," with Castro on lead vocals and really making that guitar speak. Michael Burks follows with Voodoo Spell, a long 10:01 minute recording showcasing Burks' passionate guitar and vocals. Joe Louis Walker's "It's a Shame," is a strong performance but Sista Monica Parker's slow sultry "Never Say Never" is perfect for her big voice and really grabs your attention. Rick Estrin's "My Next Ex-Wife" is the only song on the CD with harmonica, and Rick serves it up well. Trampled Under Foot performance of "Fog" shows a maturity well beyond their age. The remaining tracks are also terrific: Tommy leads his band in "Painkiller" and "Serves Me Right to Suffer;" Janiva Magness belts it out on "Think;" Theodis Ealey hits some high and low notes with his "This Time I know;" and Debbie Davis never disappoints - her gutsy vocals and guitar make "All I Found" a great addition to this CD.

22nd Annual Billtown Blues Festival

June 12

Pork Roll Project
 George Kilby Jr. and the Road Dogs
 Laurie Morvan Band

Big James and The Chicago Playboys
 Mark Hummel's Blues Harmonica Blowout
 Eddie Shaw and The Wolf Gang

Doug McMinn's 30th Anniversary Blues Band
 Acoustic Tent featuring Shawn Strickland and George Kilby, Jr.
 Kids Harmonica Workshop with Andy Barnhart and Mitch Ivanoff

Lycoming County Fairgrounds
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 Gates open at 11:00

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Photo by Pat Bransford

Up Close and Personal With Biscuit Miller at the Surf Club Live

Biscuit Miller and the Mix served up a steaming hot show at the Surf Club Live on Thursday, May 19. At this DCBS show, Kirk Jackson was able to spend some time with Biscuit (photo at left), and here's a peek into their conversation.

Jackson: Chicago blues, what's that all about?

Biscuit: Well, it's about your feelings. It's all about what's inside. Being in Chicago, you get a mix of everything: blues, soul, rock and roll, it's all about the new and the old. Fixing it together.

Jackson: What was it like playing with the Brooks family?

Biscuit: That was the most wonderful experience I could ever have in blues, because with Lonnie, Lonnie Brooks is a very family-oriented person. So I got a chance to be around a family and learn about the business and also learn about being on the road as a family. So now that I have my own band, I'm able to treat it as a family and listen to all of things that may go wrong or may go right, and just be on the road as a blues guy who's bringing it in and keeping it going. Bringing in the new and the old, that's how I like to mix mine up. So it was a wonderful thing to be with Mr. Lonnie Brooks and his family.

Jackson: What's it like leading a band as a bass player? Many consider that a background instrument. Is it difficult? I mean are there challenges to that?

Biscuit: Yeah, that's very challenging because it's a guitar-dominated field. And that's why I have two wonderful guitar players. The thing about being a bass player up front is it's very difficult sometimes because you have to concentrate on the words and entertain and play the bassline. Very, very hard thing to do sometimes because I like to focus on entertaining and sometimes it's very hard to entertain people. I got to think about my bassline too and the words to the song, so...It's challenging, but life is challenging. You know what I mean? You have to keep a positive attitude, get up there and work on it day by day. And I really enjoy that. You know it's a challenge.

Jackson: Some people when they think of good, they think of sad and hardship and all of that...

Biscuit: Well, there's a mixture of that too. It's a mixture of sad, it's about what's going on inside you. But the younger generation, when you say blues, they right away, they think sad. And that's it. You know. So you have to be able to catch their attention and bring them into what we're doing, and that's what's keeping the blues alive. So in the newer generation it's a different thing for them. So it's just something that for me, I try to mix my blues and try to grab the young and the middle and the old... and hope I can touch someone's heart to be happy and touch someone with a story. The blues is an American music and it was—we look at it as sad but they were singing songs and they were working, so that's what kept them up, that kept them going as they were singing songs (sings), "Ohhh, I'm going in the morning," and they were singing, that kept them up. Kept them alive, you know. So...

Jackson: How did you find the bass as an instrument as opposed to the guitar? How did you first start playing the bass?

Biscuit: I started in school, I was going to school in Chicago on the South Side and Willie Dixon came to my school with Lucky Peterson. And Lucky Peterson was a young prodigy at the time and he was playing piano and he came to my school and did like an afternoon show. And when I seen that, I wanted to play music. But I didn't know it was bass. I happened to be over a friend's house and he had a bass in the corner. I just picked it up and after that, I was over at (another) friend's house and his name was Dattrick Dinsdale and his brother had a bass guitar sitting off in the corner and I picked the bass up and his brother showed me some licks. After that I went home and asked my mom could she buy me a bass. I would say Willie Dixon -with Lucky Peterson—inspired my career.

Jackson: I heard later you played with Anthony Gomes?

Biscuit: Yes, I played for him, I recorded on his records, and I played for him on the road for five, and I recorded probably eight years.

Jackson: What did you take from that experience?

Biscuit: Well, we tapped into a younger audience with the rock. More of the upbeat rock and roll stuff. So I think that was a different experience for me. And I was very happy to be a part of Anthony's band because we touched a different audience. Good experience.

Jackson: I also heard you spent some time down in Clarksdale where you had some experience with Rufus Thomas?

Biscuit: One of my moments playing with a famous person, that was my first gig at school, I played a show with Rufus. I was going to school to get a trade. My grandmother taught school at Coahoma Junior College and I was going there to take up carpentry and also I was going to finish my education and it didn't happen. I played that one show and I was talking to Rufus and he said "Man you came from Chicago." He said, "When you finish school, you should go back to Chicago." Well, I thought about that and I said, "Man I'd better go now." I was 19 or 20 years old and I was trying to find myself and that's when I went back to Chicago. My grandmother didn't like it, but I started a good career here after that.

BRIGGS FARM

July 8 + 9, 2011

Eddie Shaw & The Wolfgang
 Andrew "Jr. Boy" Jones
 Teeny Tucker
 Alexis P. Suter Band
 James Armstrong
 Jimmy "Duck" Holmes
 Terry "Harmonica" Bean
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3rd Annual Silver Spring Blues Festival Offers Over 11 Musical Acts, 60+ Vendors, Workshops, Great Food, and Arts and Crafts

The Third Annual Silver Spring Blues Festival in Downtown Silver Spring, MD is set for Saturday, June 18. This free, family-friendly Blues Block festival promises to be a daylong celebration with something for everyone and two stages for performances. The lineup for the **Festival's main (Fountain) stage** features a national act and regional talent, and a wide range of blues styling:

- 2:00 pm: School of Rock Playin' the Blues** - This local music school inspires kids to rock on stage and in life.
- 2:30 pm: Gina DeSimone and the Moaners** - Acoustic finger pickin' blues with a twist
- 3:00 pm: Ida Campbell and the Blues Nation** - Charismatic blues vocalist and WPFW 89.3 FM blues programmer, Ida Campbell and her band perform down-home blues.
- 4:00 pm: Jonny Grave & the Tombstones** - Jonny returns to the Silver Spring Festival stage for a third year, but this time he's playing electrified blues-rock with his bandmates, the Tombstones and surprise guests.
- 5:00 pm: Big Boy Little Band** - This legendary DC blues band was a finalist in the 2010 International Blues Challenge in Memphis, TN, and guitarist, Matt Kelley, won the Albert King Award for Best Blues Guitarist in that competition.
- 6:00 pm: The Kinsey Report** - This headliner and national act blazes a trail of street-smart, modern, funky-blues-rock.
- 7:00 pm: DC Blues Society Band with Stacy Brooks** - DCBS brings you Stacy Brooks and more entertainment from the local blues scene.
- 8:00 pm: Jammin' the Blues** - Experience the collective jam and then head to the After Parties

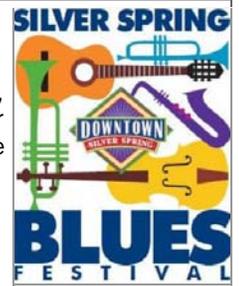
For the first time in the Festival's history, the Fenton Street Market, held at Veterans Plaza by the new Civic Building, is a partner to the event and will host a **second stage—the Market Stage**, featuring acoustic acts and children's activities:

- 10:00 am: Archie Edwards Blues Heritage Foundation Ensemble** - These musicians carry on the tradition of Piedmont blues
- 11:00 am: Choo Choo Charlie Harmonica Workshop** - Anyone can play. Bring your harmonica (Key of C) to learn techniques and songs
- Noon: History of the Blues - An acoustic journey with Ayaba Bey** - A musical storyteller
- 1:00 pm: Choo Choo Charlie Harmonica Workshop**
- 2:30 pm: Cookin' with Gas** - Serves fine acoustic music with generous portions of blues seasoned with jazz, swing, gospel & folk
- 3:30 pm: The Social Ramble** - Acoustic blues group inspired by Piedmont, Hocum, Delta, Chicago, Rock-a-billy and Jump Blues.
- 11 am to 5 pm: Dale Music Instrument Petting Zoo.**

The Fenton Street Market will be open from 9 am to 5 pm. Look for Blues Fest specials at some of the restaurants and stores on Ellsworth Street. Blues After Parties will also be happening at McGinty's and the Quarry House, after the Festival.

The Silver Spring Blues Festival is a project of the Silver Spring Town Center, Inc. (SSTCi). The DC Blues Society is SSTCi's principal partner in the Festival. Other Festival sponsors include Downtown Silver Spring, Comcast, Lee Development Group, Monument Bank, Home Properties, Fenton Street Market, Atomic Music, Dale Music, the Silver Spring Voice and the Silver Spring Regional Center.

The Festival is located on Ellsworth Drive, between Georgia Avenue and past Fenton Street, and is close to the Silver Spring Metro Station (Red Line). Parking is free in area garages. *Artists and schedule subject to change. www.silverspringblues.com or www.dcb Blues.org



Silver Spring Festival Headliner: The Kinsey Report - A Fan's Account of the Band's History

I can't believe it. The Kinsey Report, one of my favorite bands, is coming to DC. Guitarist Donald Kinsey and his brothers, bassist Kenneth and drummer Ralph, will play the Third Annual Silver Spring Festival. **(See the interview with Kenneth Kinsey on p. 10)**

I heard about The Kinsey Report, a Gary, Indiana-based, Chicago-styled group, while I was living in Allentown, PA and they were scheduled to play a show in nearby Easton. A previous engagement made me miss the concert, but I really liked the band's rock-edged form of blues after hearing it played over the radio beforehand.

Luckily I was able to see them when I traveled to Chicago a few months later. The Kinseys were at Buddy Guy's Legends one night and blew me away, particularly with "When the Church Burned Down," their song inspired by a rash of arson fires breaking out at black churches during the 1990's. At the show, I bought a copy of *Smoke and Steel*, their 1998 album with Alligator Records. When I finally played it, I found another gem, "Code of the Streets," a slow burner about a young man's life of drug-dealing, murder and prison. The heart of the song is a long, hard-wrought, riveting, almost painful guitar solo from Donald.

I saw them two more times: once in Chicago at Rosa's, another blues club; and once at Philadelphia's Warmdaddy's, where I picked Kenneth's brain for bass-playing tips. As I continued to follow the band, I learned they have a pretty cool history. Their father, the late Mississippi-born Lester "Big Daddy" Kinsey, was known for his slide guitar and harmonica work. During the late 1960's, father and sons toured as Big Daddy Kinsey and his Fabulous Sons. The band broke up in the early 1970's. Donald, an accomplished guitarist, went on to play rhythm for Albert King, until he (Donald) formed the heavy metal group White Light-

ening with Ralph and bassist Busta "Cherry" Jones. The group produced a self-titled record for Island Records.

Later, Donald met Bob Marley, who introduced him to another reggae legend, Peter Tosh. Tosh invited the guitarist to sit in on the album *Legalize It*, and later enlisted him for a tour. Marley later asked Donald to overdub some guitar parts for the album *Rastaman Vibration*. Their collaboration blossomed in 1976 when Donald moved to Jamaica to tour with Marley. The union fell victim to Jamaica's tumultuous politics of that time. Donald was almost killed during a 1976 assassination attempt on Marley, and he then left the band.

After a brief stint with the Staple Singers, Donald once again joined Tosh, who in 1978 toured with the Rolling Stones. When the tour ended, Donald, brother Ralph, and a friend, guitarist Ron Prince, formed the "The Chosen Ones," a reggae/blues/funk/rock band, which recorded an album (1981) for Faulty Products, an independent record label. Donald then returned to Tulsa, touring Europe and Africa and playing on the *Mama Africa* album.

The Kinsey Report was formed in 1984 when Donald, Kenny, Ralph and Prince joined Big Daddy Kinsey to form Big Daddy Kinsey and the Kinsey Report. In 1985, The Kinsey Report backed Big Daddy Kinsey for his debut album, *Bad Situation*, which Donald produced. Bruce Iglauer, Alligator Records President, eventually offered the band a full record deal which led to the release of 1988's *Edge of the City*, and 1989's *Midnight Drive*. The Kinseys then released two albums for Pointblank, a subsidiary of Virgin Records, *Powerhouse* (1991) and *Crossing Bridges* (1994). The group returned to Alligator for *Smoke and Steel* (1998). *Article by Kirk Jackson, <http://beldonsbluespoint.blogspot.com>*



<i>June</i>			
		20 Stacy Brooks Band @ Westminster Presbyterian Church	
1	Nighthawks @ Lee District Nights; Nadine Rae & Allstars @ Proud Mary's	21 Mike Westcott Band @ Brewers Alley	
2	Western Maryland Blues Fest @ Hagerstown; Tom Principato @ Veteran's Park Bethesda; Nighthawks @ Surf Club Live	22 Doug Parks & Lonewolves @ Harris Pavilion; Fabulous Thunderbirds @ Ram's Head	
3	Western Maryland Blues Fest @ Hagerstown; Bluefish Blues Fest Jam @ Hempen Hill BBQ; Over the Limit @ Zoo Bar; Eli Cook @ Madam's Organ; Moondog Medicine Show @ Legends on the Square; Andy Poxon Band @ Music Café; Mike Westcott Live Video Concert @ Band Kamp (Rockville)	23 Fabulous Thunderbirds , Nighthawks @ State Theatre	
4	Western Maryland Blues Fest @ Hagerstown; Bluefish Blues Fest Jam @ Hempen Hill BBQ; Doug Park & Lonewolves @ Paradiso; Washington Folk Festival @ Glen Echo Park; Big Daddy Stallings @ Bare Bones; Big Boy Little Band @ Zoo Bar; Moondog Medicine Show @ Benny's Pub; Liz Springer & Built 4 Comfort @ Dunmor's Tavern; Tom Principato @ The Ellington; Andy Poxon Band @ Old Bowie Town Grille; Bad Influence @ Fairfax Dogfish Head; Nadine Rae & Allstars @ Jo Jo's; Joy Bodycomb Band @ Potomac Grill; Memphis Gold & Scrap Iron Band @ Chef Mac's	24 Big Boy Little Band @ JVs; Skyla Burell @ Madam's Organ; Andy Poxon Band @ Bare Bones; Nighthawks @ Potomac Club Amphitheatre	
5	DCBS Jam @ Silver Spring American Legion; Western Maryland Blues Fest @ Hagerstown; Washington Folk Festival @ Glen Echo Park; 22nd Annual Louisiana Swamp Romp @ Wolf Trap; Stacy Brooks @ Madam's Organ	25 Super Mini-Fest - DC Blues Society Band w/ Stacy Brooks @ Langdon Park; Safeway BBQ Battle @ 2011 Pennsylvania Avenue; Colonial Beach Blues Fest w/Big Daddy Stallings, Nighthawks, others @ Colonial Beach, VA ; Bobby Parker @ Madam's Organ; Bad Influence @ Ice House Café	
6	Joanne Shaw Taylor @ Blues Alley; Memphis Gold @ Westminster Presbyterian Church	26 Safeway BBQ Battle @ 2011 Pennsylvania Avenue; Big Boy Little Band's Slow Blues Dance @ Glen Echo; Colonial Beach Blues Fest w/Anthony "Swamp Dog Clark", Duffy Kane, others @ Colonial Beach, VA; Nighthawks @ Hank Dietle's Tavern; Joy Bodycomb Band @ JV's	
7	Hadden Sayers CD Release Show @ Hill Country BBQ	27 Dave Panzer & Bluesicians @ Westminster Presbyterian Church	
8	Andy Poxon @ Madam's Organ	28 Bad Influence @ Brookside Garden	
10	Tinner Hill Blues Festival w/ Guitar Shorty, Bob Margolin, Daryl Davis @ State Theatre, Falls Church; Virginia Blues & Jazz Festival @ Garth Newel Music Center; Liz Springer & Built 4 Comfort @ Crazyhorse Steakhouse; Bad Influence @ Bayou; Mike Westcott Band @ Cugini's	30 Tom Principato @ Cherry Hill Park, Falls Church	
11	Tinner Hill Blues Festival @ Falls Church; Bobby Lewis Band @ L&B's; Doug Park & Lonewolves @ Jay's Saloon; Virginia Blues & Jazz Festival @ Garth Newel Music Center; Gator's Blues Party w/Big Daddy Stallings, Clarence "Blues Man" Turner and others @ Lamont's Entertainment Complex; BT Richardson @ Madam's Organ; Bad Influence @ Pelican's; Anthony "Swamp Dog" Clark @ Columbia Festival of Arts; Anthony "Swamp Dog" Clark @ Bayou; Joy Bodycomb Band @ Ice House Café; Sookey Jump @ Zoo Bar	Early July	
12	Tinner Hill Blues Festival @ Falls Church; Virginia Blues & Jazz Festival @ Garth Newel Music Center; Billtown Blues Festival @ Lycoming County Fairgrounds; Big Daddy Stallings @ Patterson Park Concert Series; Smokin Polecats @ Zoo Bar	1	Chris Bell & 100% Blues Band @ Madam's Organ; Andy Poxon Band @ Capital Ale House; Nighthawks @ Wheaton TGIF Summer Concert; Over the Limit @ Zoo Bar
13	Midnight Blue @ Westminster Presbyterian Church	2	Old Man Brown @ Madam's Organ; Nighthawks @ Patriot Harley-Davidson; Nighthawks @ Glen Echo Ballroom; Big Boy Little Band @ Zoo Bar
16	Tom Principato @ Kentlands Main Street Music Festival; Andy Poxon Band @ Pickled Herring Pub; Anthony "Swamp Dog" Clark @ New Deal Café	3	DCBS Jam @ Silver Spring American Legion; Nighthawks @ Columbia Lakefront
17	Over the Limit @ JM Randalls; Bobby Smith @ Madam's Organ; Andy Poxon Band @ Swinetastic BBQ Festival	4	Independence Day Blues with Queen Aisha @ Westminster Presbyterian Church
18	3rd Annual Silver Spring Blues Festival @ downtown Silver Spring; Big Daddy Stallings @ Lexington Market; Baltimore Blues Society Challenge Finals @ Rosedale American Legion; Columbia Pike Blues Festival @ Arlington, VA; Doug Parks @ Liganore Wine Cellars; Andy Poxon Band @ Blue Parrot; Hot Rods & Old Gas @ Bare Bones; Nadine Rae & Allstars @ CityView	7	Bad Influence Band @ Kentlands; Nighthawks @ 7th Street Landing
		Regular Blues Events	
		Sunday	DCBS Blues Jam @ Silver Spring American Legion (1st Sunday); NRBK Open/Mic Jam @ Old Fire Station No. 3 (Fairfax, VA); Blues Jam w/Dogfather Blues Band @ The Whiskey; Blues Jam @ Bangkok Blues, Blues Jam @ Benny's Pub (every other Sunday)
		Monday	Blue Mondays @ Westminster Presbyterian Church; Wolf's Blues Jam @ JV's (2nd and 4th Mondays)
		Tuesday	Old Man Brown @ Madam's Organ (alternating Tuesdays)
		Wednesday	Wolf's Hot Rods & Old Gas Blues Jam @ Beach Cove (2nd and 4th Wednesdays); Blues Jam @ Old Bowie Town Grille; Blues Jam @ Pickled Herring (North East, MD)
		Thursday	Patrick Alban or Johnny Artis @ Madam's Organ; Open Mic w/Fast Eddie @ Spanky's Shenanigans; Big Boy Little Band Blues Jam @ Zoo Bar; Slow Blues & Swing Dance @ Glen Echo
		Friday	Glen Moomau & Blue Flames @ Bertha's; Wolf's Blues Jam @ Fat Boys (2nd Friday); John Guernsey @ New Deal Café; Brian Gross Trio @ Café Ole
		Saturday	Acoustic Blues Jam @ Archie's Barbershop; John Guernsey @ New Deal Cafe; Brian Gross & Steve Levine @ Sala Thai, Bethesda (2nd Saturday)

See p. 11 for notes regarding calendar resources and listings.

More on The Kinsey Report - An Interview with Kenneth Kinsey

DCBS member Kirk Jackson was able to catch up with Kenneth Kinsey (photo at right) prior to his band's performance at the June 18 Silver Spring Blues Festival. Excerpts of that interview follow. To read the full interview, visit Kirk's blog, Beldon's Blues Point (BBP) at <http://beldonsbluespoint.blogspot.com/>.

BBP: Well I guess one thing that everyone wants to know is... you guys haven't had a CD out since *Smoke and Steel*, right?

Kinsey: Yeah I think *Smoke and Steel* came out in 1998, '99, and we haven't done anything label-wise. We recorded a live album up in - it's kind of a book store/coffeehouse called Grounds for Thought. It's located in Bowling Green, Ohio. And we recorded a live record there. It was a limited edition, I think they only pressed about 500 copies. But what was really cool about it, they did a vinyl version of the record. So it was like six tracks on vinyl - and old-fashioned vinyl LP - and also as a bonus they included a CD in the packet which had an additional - I think - three tracks. So you got like about nine or ten tracks on the CD. But it was a cool package, to go back to that vintage LP style, you know. And that came out...maybe about a year-and-a-half ago.

BBP: When are you guys coming out with a new, more general release?

Kinsey: We hope to get back in the studio and do something soon. The last ten years has been a really rocky, up-and-down decade for us. We lost my dad (bluesman Lester "Big Daddy" Kinsey) in 2001, and it took a lot of just getting things settled down and back on track after his passing. He was such a strong force in the family. My brother and I—Ralph—we've been writing material and working with a couple of other people on their projects. We did a couple of solo projects. Donald's been doing a lot of things (related to the 30-year anniversary of Bob Marley's death)... So I think this upcoming year if we can get past some things, we're looking to get back in the studio and come out with that Kinsey Report record.

BBP: One thing I was curious about was, when you guys were young and you were growing up, did your father tell you "Donald, you play guitar, Ken you play bass, Ralph, you play drums," or did you kind of gravitate to those instruments on your own?

Kinsey: I think everybody initially kind of gravitated. I think with Donald, though, my dad kind of wanted him to play guitar. My dad was a guitar player and, it would take time to tell you the story. But I believe he kind of wanted Donald to play the guitar and Donald, he was such a natural for it, that it didn't take much pushing or anything like that. And I think Ralph, you know, I think most kids initially are drummers. They just like to beat on stuff... There's a ten-year difference between myself and Donald but they were playing a long time before I got involved. They started playing at an early age, doing shows, local shows around town (Gary, Indiana), and then playing in my grandfather's church on Sundays. And then by the time they did their thing... when they (his brothers) moved back (from California, working with Tosh and Marley, etc.) that's when we started the family thing and that should have been around '82 or '83. And by that time, I had been back at home with Dad, and we had been playing... That's when we put together Big Daddy Kinsey and the Kinsey Report, and Donald produced my dad's first record and things took off from there.

BBP: What direction did your father steer you in? Well you said it started with your grandfather, you played in your grandfather's church.

Kinsey: Well my dad...that was kind of a conflict with him coming up, because my grandparents, my grandfather number one was a Pentecostal pastor of his own church. So he came up in a church family, but then when he went off into the blues, it was always a little rift in the family for a long time. Everybody was on speaking terms, but they, my grandmamma and stuff, she always wished her grandkids would play in the church and everything. My dad, because he played the blues, that's naturally where we progressed. But we played a little bit of everything.

I mean Ralph and Donald, they grew up listening to Sly Stone, rock stuff and like I said that early Bob Marley stuff. So we kind of had a background, really, of a little bit of everything and you probably can hear that in Kinsey Report music. I mean you listen to some of the stuff and you can hear a little rock, a little reggae. Obviously everything is rooted in the blues but we kind of branch it off a little bit into everything...

BBP: ...Let me ask you something about The Kinsey Report. Like your grandparents having issues with some of the music your father was doing, did your dad not like some of the stuff that you, Donald, and Ralph were doing and listening to? Sounds like you guys were listening to rock...

Kinsey: I think he generally liked what we were doing. My dad used to always say when we would come up with a groove, when we were downstairs and we would hit a groove and he would like it, he would come to the top of the stairs and say "Hey, you all stay there. Don't be going off and changing and going all off somewhere (laughs)!" But the key to our package back in the day with Big Daddy Kinsey and the Kinsey Report was people loved the idea of Kinsey Report coming out and doing the contemporary blues thing, if you want to call it that... my dad would come out and close out the remainder of the show. But he would do more traditional style blues, and later on he got a little funky too, but basically across the board the audience got a night full of everything. You know we got the contemporary rock stuff from Kinsey Report, the harmonica stuff...and then the traditional stuff that Dad did. So that was um—I think that was our niche and our package that we were touring across the country and the world with at that time.

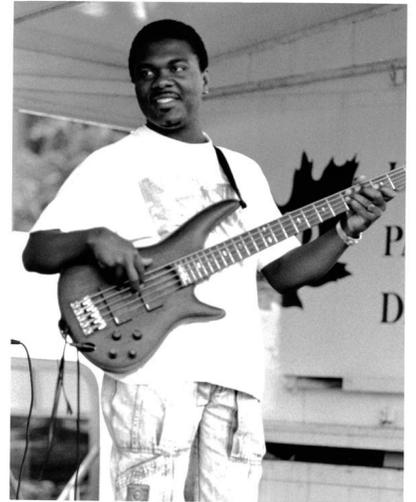
BBP: I remember you said you guys collaborated on songs. Your dad, and I guess Donald was in there, and that's how, I guess, there was a lot of cross-influence. Is that how The Kinsey Report writes its songs?

Kinsey: The conception of an idea may come from any one of the three of us. For example, if I'm sitting down and I'm feeling something here, most of us got portable studios in our homes. So I put a bass line down with a drum machine, and maybe hum a melody over it. And when it comes time to start putting some ideas together, I say, "Wait, I got a couple of ideas, this is what I'm humming and grooving to," and if everybody gives a nod to it, we put that in the pile to work on. And sometimes music will come from me, lyrics will come from Ralph, either/or may come from Donald...

BBP: How do you choose subject matter; that is, what to write about?

Kinsey: It varies. You heard me saying before, blues is life. So whatever, it doesn't necessarily have to be current events, you know, it's just whatever one is feeling at that time. Sometimes, ...it's really like just in the news and just bothering the world and the country... For example, with my dad's record, *Bad Situation*, he had a track on that one called "No Nuclear War." That's when I think—it might have been—Reagan, I forget who was in office during that time, but that was the whole nuclear war thing, was in the news all of the time... Later on, on the *Midnight Drive* record, we wrote a song called "Free South Africa." That's when the whole apartheid thing was in the news. So, sometimes we do take on current events. And like I say, blues is life, so whatever's going on, we can get personal with it. Sometimes, we can just see somebody else's problem, or happiness. Blues is not always about strife....

Photo from www.myspace.com/KenKinsey





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Wanted! Contributors to the DCBS Newsletter

This is your newsletter, so help ensure it contains information you want to read. Please volunteer now to write articles (CD, venue, performance, you-name-it reviews, previews, and interviews), provide photographs, and/or just provide recommendations on what you'd like to see in the newsletter. Write to newsletter@dcb Blues.org.

Northern Virginia Shag Dance Club

July 23, 2011

AN EVENING IN PARIS DINNER DANCE

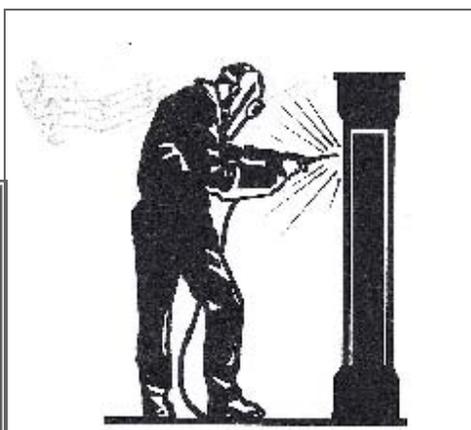
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ALL jitterbug, shag, swing, and hand dancers are invited who like R&B, blues, Carolina beach, and southern soul dance music!

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Bolded items on the Blues Calendar on p. 9 are picks by calendar editor, Mike Wolk, and include DCBS, BBS, and other events. **Musicians, promoters, and venues: Send calendar listings to calendar@dcb Blues.org by the deadline, 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. See the DCBS website, www.dcb Blues.org, for additional music links and information.



DC Blues Society Mini Blues Fest

Saturday, June 25
Noon - 2:00 pm



Langdon Park
2901 20th St. NE
Washington, DC 20018

DC BLUES SOCIETY BAND

Sam'i Nuriddin ~ David Harris ~ David Jackson
J T ~ Calvin Newbill, Jr.



Special guest: Stacy Brooks

Information: www.dcblues.org

Photos: Alan Bowser, Mary Knieser, Ron Weinstock

7th Annual DC Blues Society Fish Fry 'n' Blues 'n' Bike Contest

Saturday July 16, 2011
4 pm - 11 pm

It's an ALL NIGHT blues party



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Food ~ Music ~ Fun
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