

# Mountains of Blues

'lectric news



West Virginia  
Blues Society

KEEPING THE BLUES ALIVE

**"Mountains of Blues" Thursday, October 30, 2008 Vol. 1, Issue 12**

The [WVBluesSociety](http://www.wvbluesociety.com) 'lectric bluzletter aka "Mountains of Blues in the Mountain State" is a weekly newsletter of blues information in the Mountain State and beyond. Brought to you by the West Virginia Blues Society the "bluzletter" goes out as a service to our "bluz friends" wherever you might be. The bluzletter is an attempt to CONNECT & INFORM of the happenings in and at times outside our area. We never use your e-mail address for anything without your consent, and no one has access to our e-mail list. If you know of someone who would like to receive our 'lectric bluzletter in the future a membership service form is provided on the webiste. If you do NOT want to receive any future updates please reply with, Please No More.

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Going to Memphis, goin' down on Beale Street,  
I'll have all the pretty girls lookin' at me...

my top let down, and my hair slicked back,  
tell me the Southern girls, they like it like that...

JOHNNY RAWLS- "Red Cadillac" - 2008

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**BIRTHDAY:**

Oct 29 1946 Peter Green London, UK  
Oct 30 1926 Dave Myers aka The Thumper Byhalia, MS  
Oct 31 1902 Julia Lee Boonville, MO  
Nov 01 1898 Beulah "Sippie" Wallace Houston, TX  
Nov 01 1936 Andre Williams Bessemer, AL  
Nov 01 1924 Johnny Jones Jackson, MS

**RIP:**

Nov 01 1956 Tommy Johnson Crystal Springs, MS  
Nov 01 1966 Mississippi John Hurt Grenda, MS  
Nov 01 1986 Beulah "Sippie" Wallace Detroit, MI  
Nov 02 1996 William Clarke Fresno, CA

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**WHATS HAPPENIN' IN "MOUNTAINS OF BLUES":  
BLUES PROFILE-**

-Fredericka S. Stover aka "Ms Freddye"-

Birth Date: June 2, 1957

Birth Place: Allegheny County, Pittsburgh, Pa

Bands You Have Played With: 1st band was "Blues Music Works", Roots & Resiance, and currently Ms Freddye & Blue Faze

Current Band/Instrument: vocals

Favorite Living Singer: Koko Taylor

Favorite Deceased Singer: Marvin Gaye

Favorite Living Blues Musician: Koko Taylor

Favorite Deceased Blues Musician: Big Mama Thorton

First Record Purchased: Temptations-Greatest hits

First Blues Record Purchased: Big Mama Thorton

Personal Blues Statement: "Blues is more than just a Faze"

[editor's note:] Ms Freddye (Hardworking Woman) & Blue Faze will carry the banner of the WVBluesSociety to Beale Street, Memphis in February as winners of the 2008 Appalachian Blues Competition. Thanks and best of luck Ms Freddye & Blue Faze!

**TOURING THE COUNTRY IN MY RED CADILLAC!-**

"Leavin' Mississippi, I'm heading for the Tennessee line,  
the girls up there I hear they real fine...

I'll be ridin' in a Red Cadillac,

top let down, two Arkansas girls in the back..."

Congratulations to our buddy [JOHNNY RAWLS](#)! His latest recording "Red Cadillac" as reported by Living Blues Magazine was #1 for US and International blues radio during August, and has now reached #1 in nearly every blues chart we know of. Some are saying Red Cadillac is his best recording ever... big statement since he's had some outstanding ones before. One of our favorite and fondest memories of last years Juke Joint Festival was when we walked into The Delta Blues Room in Clarksdale to see

Johnny. He was happy to see us but was pissed! Seems the "blues crowd" was all but run out by the "electric slide/disco/rap crowd" and he wasn't happy about it at all. Just one more example of "keepin' the blues (with a little Southern Soul) alive" Johnny Rawls style!

As would be expected, he's on the road a lot. Spending time everywhere from the Carolina's to Montana. He has told me more than once he wants to get into West Virginia more often. He was booked for the Charlie West Blues Fest in Charleston last summer, but got rained/tornadoed out. He also had a good show at Foothill Blues and Arts Fest in August. Right now his schedule shows him to be in Athens, OH on Wed Dec 10th for a hospital grand opening. On Fri and Sat Dec 12-13 @ the Court Street Grill in Pomeroy, OH. We've been trying to find a place in Parkersburg for him on Thur Dec 11th but ain't having no luck so far. After a short trip off to Indiana he's back in the Mid-Atlantic, Mountains of Blues neighborhood @ Michael John's in Emmitsburg, MD Thur Dec 18th. Then Charles Town, WV @ Race N Slots Casino Dec 19 & 20, before heading off for the left coast after the first of the year.

[NOTE:] We're also working to get Johnny booked for a "Blues Night Out" early 2009. Stay tuned, we'll let y'all know....

## **THE SHALAMAR CLUB-**

Wouldn't it be great to have "The Shalamar" or another club like it back in Charleston again? At a time when WVBluesSociety is constantly on the lookout for clubs to book acts into, The Shalamar would have been "the spot"... Probably few reading this now are even aware of The Shalamar Club on Charleston's West Side... I wasn't. Sometime in the late 40's or early 50's the club was opened by jazz great ANN BAKER and her husband Charleston tennis star and restaurateur Delaney "Wag" Wagner. Ms. Baker known as "Charleston's First Lady of Jazz," was originally from Washington, PA . She started her singing career in the jazz clubs of Pittsburgh where she was discovered by LOUIS ARNSTROM in 1941. She later performed with LIONEL HAMPTON, COUNT BASIE, BILLY ECKSTINE and many others. She was featured in the 1946 film "Rhythm in a Riff" in which she sang "I Cried For You." When the era of big bands faded from the landscape Ann retired and came to Charleston, married "Wag", opened The Shalamar where she continued to perform with such greats as NAT KING COLE to ERROL GARNER. This was at a time prior to integration but the club is said to have attracted many clientele from among the white elite of Charleston.

ANN BAKER will be inducted into the [West Virginia Music Hall of Fame](#) on Wednesday Nov 5th at the Cultural Center Theater in Charleston. The induction ceremony will be broadcast live throughout the state on West Virginia Public Television.

**NEW ROBERT JOHNSON PHOTO? VANITY FAIR LET'S YOU DECIDE...**(from Mike Price and Scott Barretta via Roger Stolle)-

Mike, from Charleston, is a member of WVBluesSociety, schedules his vacation to coincide with WVBS events and knows something good when he sees it. Scott, a writer and researcher for the [Mississippi Blues Trail](#), former editor of Living Blues magazine,

and host of radio show "Highway 61" on Mississippi Public Broadcasting. Roger is co-owner of [Cat Head Delta Blues & Folk Art](#) and "the" keeper of the blues in The Delta.

Following is from the November issue of Vanity Fair magazine. Intro to "Portrait of a Phantom/Searching for Robert Johnson" by Frank DiGiacomo. "In the seven decades since his mysterious death, bluesman Robert Johnson's legend has grown—the tragically short life, the "crossroads" tale of supernatural talent, the genuine gift that inspired Dylan, Clapton, and other greats—but his image remains elusive: only two photos of Johnson have ever been seen by the public. In 2005, on eBay, guitar maven Zeke Schein thought he'd found a third. Schein's quest to authenticate the picture only led to more questions, both about Johnson himself and about who controls his valuable legacy." For the rest of the story and photo go to <http://www.vanityfair.com/culture/features/2008/11/johnson200811>

## **REVIEW:**

"The Rebound"- THE JON JUSTICE BAND

It took awhile... but it grew on me. And I think I know why. I had just seen The Jon Justice Band "live" at the 2nd Annual Appalachian Blues Competition in Fairmont WV and even though they didn't win (they were 2nd), they still were fantastic! Simply put "The Rebound" is excellent... just not as excellent as their "live" performance. But I think that's what all musicians and fans would hope for.

Rockin' blues-soul from Cincinnati, Ohio. Featuring some very-very talented musicians; The Jon Justice Band just seems to keep getting better and better. Jon Justice- vocals and guitar, Phillip Wolfe- keyboards and harmonica, Wade Baker- bass and trumpet, Rudy Miller- drums, Ben Walkenhauer- alto and baritone sax, with a variety of outstanding backup vocals. Recorded at Shadow Lane Studios in Nashville, TN, "The Rebound" is their 2nd strong recording effort. Consisting of 14 tracs all originals written by Jon Justice. Songs that deal with your and my everyday lives that range from loves lost and found to politics.

I had not heard or seen The JJB until that day in Fairmont, but I was definitely aware of them. They have played in and around our area a couple times before and I was told, "great talent, just needing some time to cure." Well that time has come here and now! Their stage presence is outstanding. Very professional and seem to be enjoying everything they do. Just like their "live" shows, Jon's guitar work and vocals on the CD are excellent. His playing is perhaps comparable to some Stevie Ray Vaughn, Hendrix or Kenny Wayne Shepherd. But it was the soulful vocals that really got my attention. This really shows through on trac #1 "Nobody's Bizness", #4 "All In My Head" and #13 "Get You Good". However, this is not to say this is any one-man band. Jon Justice has surrounded himself with some excellent people. All of which shine thru on this CD at one time or another.

This is a very solid disc. One that deserves your attention. And of course, if you haven't seen the Jon Justice Band "live" go out and do so soon, and be sure to purchase this CD too!

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## ***THIS WEEKEND IN "MOUNTAINS OF BLUES":***

### **Friday Oct 31st:**

Jimmy Thackery- Moondog's, Blawnox, PA  
The Delta Sheiks- The Mudflats, Galena, OH  
The Catch Blues Band- Down of Main, Wheeling  
Ms Freddie & Blue Faze- Frank's Pub & Grille, Pittsburgh  
Cracker Stackwell- Black Bear Burritos, Morgantown  
Tad Robinson- Thunderbird Lounge, Lawrenceville, PA

### **Saturday Nov 1st:**

Luke Jivetalker- The Iron Gate, Pt Pleasant, WV  
The catch Blues Band- The Office Lounge/McClure Hotel, Wheeling  
Diablo Blues Band w/Robert Altman- The Empty Glass, Charleston  
Patti Spadaro Band- PD's Pub, Squirrel Hill/Pittsburgh  
Cracker Stackwell- Mountain State Brewing Co, Thomas, WV  
Willie Pooch & the Upsetters- The Thirsty Ear, Columbus, OH  
The Blues Cannibals- The Polo Club, Parkersburg  
Billy Price- Thunderbird Lounge, Lawrenceville, PA

### **Sunday Nov 2nd:**

CBA Blues Jam w/Jimi Vincent Band- The Thirsty Ear, Columbus, OH  
Roomful of Blues- Thunderbird Lounge, Lawrenceville, PA

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## ***"MOUNTAINS OF BLUES" AT A GLANCE:***

Wed 10/29 BLACKWATER MOJO @ El Gran Sabor, Elkins, WV

Thur 10/30 BRYAN LEE @ Blue5 Restaurant, Roanoke, VA

thank you John Wetzel, Programming Coordinator @ [Union Hall Theater](#), Chesterhill, Ohio

yes that's right ["Sippie" Wallace](#) was born and died on the same date (11/1) 88 years apart... also the first 2 days of November were tough days for the blues world.....

[DC Blues Society](#) Blue Spot Halloween Nite w/THE NIGHTHAWKS & CLARENCE TURNER @ Greenbelt American Legion Post 136, Greenbelt, MD Fri 10/31

check out BlueNotes with the Pittsburgh Post Gazette @ <http://community.post-gazette.com/blogs/bluenotes/default.aspx>

[BLUZAPALOOZA II](#) shipped out to Kuwait and Iraq last week... featuring Shemekia Copeland, Michael Burks, Moreland & Arbuckle, Deanna Bogart, Zac Harmon, Terry Wilson and The BLUZAPALOOZA All-Stars Blues Band.

[Cleveland Blues Society](#) next meeting & jam Monday 11/10 @ Hoopples, Cleveland, OH... [Mike's Barn](#) near Elyria, OH will be closing down for the season due to the cooler temps.

"Weekend of Soul & Blues" @ Thunderbird Lounge, Lawrenceville, PA w/TAD ROBINSON (Fri 10/31), BILLY PRICE (Sat 11/1), and ROOMFUL OF BLUES (Sun 11/2).

hmmmm?... 1/5/09 GREG ALLMAN @ Rams Head Annapolis, MD... tickets \$125?

a favorite... JIMMY "DUCK" HOLMES has a new CD coming out soon... "Gonna Get Old Someday" is due out Nov 11th on [Fat Possum Records](#) .. kinda strange cause his previous two are on [Broke & Hungry Records](#).

check out WNCU 90.7jazz via North Carolina Central University @ <http://www.wncu.org> and/or Soul & Blues Report @ <http://www.soulandbluesreport.com/sbr/index1.htm>

**next week:**

Fri 11/7-

CHRIS BEARD @ The Court Street Grill, Pomeroy, OH

TIM BECKMAN @ [Honi-Honi Bar](#), Deep Creek Lake, MD

Sat 11/8-

THE BLUES CANNIBALS @ Cambridge Moose Club, Cambridge, OH

CHANNEL CATS BLUES BAND @ Honi-Honi Bar, Deep Creek Lake, MD

**coming soon:**

11/11 IZZY & CHRIS @ Bocktown Beer & Grill, Pittsburgh

11/14 BILL LUPKIN & THE WORKERS @ The Court Street Grill, Pomeroy, OH

11/22 RUTHIE FOSTER @ Carnegie Hall, Lewisburg, WV

in a little bit,  
crawlinkingsnake