

# Mountains of Blues



'lectric news



West Virginia  
Blues Society

KEEPING THE BLUES ALIVE

**"Mountains of Blues" Thursday, November 6, 2008 Vol. 1, Issue 13**

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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#### BIRTHDAY:

Nov 04 1906 Willie Love Duncan, MS  
Nov 05 1931 Ike Turner Clarksdale, MS  
Nov 10 1929 George "Mojo" Burford Hernando, MS

#### RIP:

Nov 04 1998 Eugene Powell aka Sonny Boy Nelson Greenville, MS  
Nov 05 Robert Nighthawk Helena, AR  
Nov 08 1998 Lonnie Pitchford Lexington, MS  
Nov 09 1945 Frank Hutchison Dayton, Ohio

Nov 10 1967 Ida Cox Knoxville, TN

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## **WHATS HAPPENIN' IN "MOUNTAINS OF BLUES":**

### **BLUES PROFILE -*Sam Lamont*-**

Birth Date: September 20th, 1972

Birth Place: Philadelphia, PA

Bands You Have Played With: "Wang Dang Doodle" (my first band in State College, PA) played with Queen Bee and the Blue Hornet Band, The Nighthawks, Big Dave and the Ultrasonics, Big Jack Johnson, and Walter "Wolfman" Washington. "Tanglewood", my acoustic string band from Morgantown, WV has shared the stage with Larry Keel and Natural Bridge, the Avett Brothers, and the Hackensaw Boys

Current Band/Instrument: solo act (guitar/vocals/harmonica), "The Sam Lamont Band" (possible name change forthcoming) is my new electric band playing my original songs (2 guitars, bass, drums, vocals)

Favorite Living Singer: Aretha Franklin, Taj Mahal, Doc Watson, etc...

Favorite Deceased Singer: Ray Charles, Etta James, Son House, etc...

Favorite Living Blues Musician: can't pick one!

Favorite Deceased Blues Musician: can't pick one!

First Record Purchased: either KC and the Sunshine Band or Michael Jackson Thriller

First Blues Record Purchased: The Complete Robert Johnson recordings

Personal Blues Statement: No Greed, No Shame, No Envy, No Meanness

[editor's note:] Sam won the solo/duo category of the Appalachian Blues Competition Oct 4th. He will represent the WSVBluesSociety in Memphis on Beale Street in February. Best of luck Sam!

### **2008 FESTIVALS WINDING DOWN - SMALLER NEXT YEAR?-**

Fall is here with winter just around the corner, and the festival season is winding down. If yer like me, you probably ain't gonna be jumping on no boat for no blues cruise to the Caribbean Islands anytime soon... and probably won't be going to Memphis for the IBC's... even though at least in my mind and pocketbook, that's a much more viable option.

But keep all y'all's head up, oh ye of little faith... there is light at the end of the tunnel and hope just over the horizon... cause on Feb 28th the Columbus Blues Alliance will hold their [Traditional Acoustic Blues Fest](#) at the Holiday Inn Worthington with line-up to be announced soon... following closely on the heels of Trad Fest will be [Pickle's Blues Extravaganza](#) in Lima, OH and the [BJFM Society](#) River City Blues Fest in Marietta, OH and the "Blues Night Out Series" and, and, and, well you can see..... hang in there, you can make it!

Reported by Howard Reich in the "[Chicago Tribune](#)" Oct 30th (edited for space) Chicago's free summer music festivals will look different—and, in some cases, smaller—next year, though the particulars have yet to be determined.

The city's reduced budget for 2009 means that the Mayor's Office of Special Events, which produces the festivals in Grant Park, tentatively will cut the Jazz and Blues Festivals to three days from four. Staging also may be changed or reduced at the Taste of Chicago food and music soiree, said Megan McDonald, executive director of the Mayor's Office of Special Events. But most of the cuts, added McDonald, "will be in the stuff that people don't see: our internal operations, contractual services, sound technicians, clean-up crews, security, those types of things. ... I don't want to alarm people." Still, McDonald expects "we'll be looking to condense some of the programming stages" at the Celtic and Viva festivals, with the Jazz and Blues stages remaining roughly the same. Ultimately, the nature of the city's music festivals may be evolving.

### ***JEFF HEALEY'S FAMILY "DEEPLY DISAPPOINTED" BY THE UNAUTHORIZED RELEASE OF A DOUBLE ALBUM OF OLDER MATERIAL-***

On Nov 4th, Arbor Records, a small Winnipeg label specializing in Aboriginal recordings, plan to release a double CD/DVD set of material by the Jeff Healey Band, which broke up in 2002. The release consists of early singles and unreleased live material, and is being released in collaboration with the former drummer in the Jeff Healey Band, Tom Stephen.

The release of this compilation, titled "Legacy Volume One" is being done against the wishes of the Healey Estate and his family. By the time of his death last March, Jeff had long ceased to have any association — creative or otherwise — whatsoever with Mr. Stephen, and had long endured a bitter feud with the former drummer, who claimed he was owed monies and rights to Jeff's music.

Cristie Healey, Jeff Healey's widow, released a statement that she was "deeply and sadly disappointed" that the label, who were notified of the Estate's objections, went ahead with the release — and that EMI Canada saw fit to handle the distribution of the record. "We ask that Jeff's fans please refrain from purchasing this compilation out of respect for Jeff and his family. This release is NOT authorized or supported in any way by Jeff's estate."

Ms. Healey said the family felt that the collection lacked the care and attention that any "legacy" project should deserve. One disc consists of "yet another 'hits' compilation and the bonus disc is an assembly of inferior tracks that have been readily available for download for years."

Aside from the 'Mess of Blues' CD that was released with Jeff Healey's active participation and approval this past spring on Stony Plain in Canada, and Ruf Records in Europe and the U.S., there have been no other releases since his death. However, the Healey Estate does plan to authorize the release of other Jeff Healey recordings in the future, including a Jeff Healey Jazz Wizards release to join the three already available on Stony Plain.

Said Ms. Healey: "The estate will ensure that future releases are assembled with the care and attention that they deserve out of respect for Jeff and his fans around the world."

"Other releases, which have not been authorized or approved by the Healey Estate, do not honour Jeff's memory or the legacy of his art, and are merely being released to exploit Jeff's name."

### ***INVESTORS PLANNING NEW X-ROADS ENTERTAINMENT COMPLEX-***

By Andy Ross, Staff Writer - [Clarksdale Press Register](#) Sept 17th

An ambitious project is currently in the works to bring a new look to Clarksdale's legendary Crossroads intersection, as well as a first class addition to the city's entertainment and lodging scene. Being undertaken by Canadian blues enthusiast and businessman Les Barber and his investment partners, the Crossroads Hotel and Entertainment Complex includes plans for a 150-180 room hotel with music amphitheater. A Robert Johnson 'Crossroads Blues Legend Garden,' consisting of a tribute of bricks with donor names -- or 'Friends of the Blues Legends Garden' -- is also included in plans. Barber says he and his fellow partners are working with the Robert Johnson Family and Robert Johnson Foundation to bring the complex to fruition. The businessman says he is finalizing the process of securing the five lots where the complex will be located and hopes to be gearing up for the construction phase by early next year. "By Christmas we expect to be well on our way with a target date of late 2009," Barber said. Barber says he first came to the South and Mississippi while touring the country in the 1970's as a catcher with The King and His Court, a softball team who have been likened to the Globetrotters of softball. "I loved it in the South and felt like I was home. We were treated so good and it really felt like I was on hallowed ground," Barber said. Since that time and through his continued love of blues artists such as John Lee Hooker, Howlin Wolf, Muddy Waters and the Paul Butterfield Blues Band, Barber dreamed of one day undertaking a project in the Delta. "I have had a lifelong passion to work full time in entertainment and go back to the roots of American music, the Mississippi Delta, where it all began," Barber said. Local real estate agent Lawrence Magdovitz has worked with Barber to secure the five land parcels. Magdovitz says the contract on the front lot, which runs up to the line of Abe's BBQ, will be closed by Sept. 30 and the other contracts closed by December. The property for the complex extends from the front parcel at the Crossroads, south down the east side of Hwy. 49 to Espy Drive. "I am glad they decided on Clarksdale," Magdovitz said. I think it is a great opportunity to get a really nice corner at 61 and 49. It would be a vast improvement from what is there now." According to Barber, some additional features of the complex will include guided blues trail tours, music and cooking schools, blues and rock fantasy camps and Gospel Music Sunday mornings. Barber says a main target audience will be European and other international blues fans.

### ***NEWS FROM THE BORDER STATES-***

[Baltimore Blues Society](#) - COCO MONTOYA w/POPA CHUBBY @ Ram's Head Annapolis  
Thur 11/6, SUSAN TEDESCHI & JAMES HUNTER @ Ram's Head Live Baltimore

[Blue Ridge Blues Society](#) - GUITAR SHORTY w/The Fat Daddy Band @ Blue5 Restaurant  
Roanoke, VA Sat 11/8

[Blues, Jazz & Folk Music Society](#) - Chicago Blues Party w/CHICO BANKS & TORONZO CANNON Fri 11/21 @ Lafayette Hotel, Marietta

[Blues Society of Western PA](#)

[Columbus Blues Alliance](http://www.columbusblues.com) (<http://www.columbusblues.com>) 12th Annual Blues for Tots Benefit & Charity Auction, Sun 11/30 @ The Thirsty Ear, Columbus. Donations for Charity Auction – contact Jim at [JBiersdorf@gmail.com](mailto:JBiersdorf@gmail.com)

[DC Blues Society](#) - CEPHIS & WIGGINS @ Honfleur Gallery, Washington DC Fri 11/7, COCO MONTOYA & POPA CHUBBY @ The State Theatre, Falls Church, VA Fri 11/7

[Kentucky Blues Society](#) - congratulations to (solo/duo) winner Brian Witty and (band) winner The Dirty Finger Band. They will represent the KBS in Memphis at IBC's.

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

#### **Friday Nov 7th:**

Cracker Stackwell- Godfrey Daniels, Bethlehem, PA  
Chris Beard- The Court Street Grill, Pomeroy, OH (CANCELLED)  
The Blue Notes- Sam's Uptown Cafe, Charleston  
Billy The Kid & The Regulators- Wooly Bully's, New Brighton, PA  
EG KIGHT- The Hey Hey, Columbus, OH  
Jason Ring- El Gran Sabor, Elkins, WV  
No Bad JuJu- Jay's Sports Bar, Canonsburg, PA  
Midnight Blue- Rascals Saloon, Dover, OH  
Sam Lamont- Hutch's Tap Room, Dunbar, PA  
Jill West & Blues Attack- The Royal Place, Pittsburgh  
Mansfield Five- Roadworthy Restaurant, West Liberty, WV  
Patti Spadaro- Moondog's, Blawnox, PA

#### **Saturday Nov 8th:**

The Catch Blues Band- Hock's, ????, ??  
Mojo Theory- The Aragon Lounge, Columbus, OH  
Jason Ring- Laurel Mountain Coffeehouse, Kingwood, WV  
Bettye LaVette- Stuart's Opera House, Nelsonville, OH  
Comparsa- The Empty Glass, Charleston  
Channel Cats Blues Band- Honi-Honi Bar, Deep Creek Lake, MD  
Root Doctor- Thunderbird Lounge, Lawrenceville, PA  
The Blue Notes- Sam's Uptown Cafe, Charleston  
South Side Jerry- VFW, Lower Burrell, PA  
The Jimmy Adler Band- Roadworthy Restaurant & Lounge, West Liberty, WV  
The Blues Cannibals- Cambridge Moose Club, Cambridge, OH  
Coco Montoya & Guitar Shorty- Rex Theater, Pittsburgh

#### **Sunday Nov 9th:**

Lil' Ed & The Blues Imperials- Moondog's, Blawnox, PA  
Marshall Petty Groove- Cafe de Paris, Charleston  
Craig King Jam Session- Thunderbird Cafe, Lawrenceville, PA

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

### **Wed 11/5:**

BLUES JAM (every Wed) @ Moondog's, Blawnox, PA  
BARRELLHOUSE BONNIE & LADY D @ Morgan Co Schools Workshops, Berkley Springs, WV

### **Thur 11/6:**

WIL E. TRI & THE BLUESCASTERS @ Sloppy Joe's Pittsburgh  
WV MUSIC HALL OF FAME - Induction Ceremony - Live Broadcast 7:30PM West Virginia Public TV

CHRIS BEARD CANCELLED... Jackie of The Court Street Grill (<http://www.billlupkin.com>) tells us he is sorry to say but Chris Beard Fri 11/7 has been CANCELLED (guessing for a higher paying gig?)... however, this Tuesday (tonight) will be "Election Day Party" at The Grill... Red or Blue, ALL WELCOME... have a McCain Mini Burger or Barack Beer Boiled Brat... dinner specials @ 5pm and watch the returns come in. Also next Friday Nov 14th is [BILL LUPKIN](#) & THE WORKERS... The Workers is the band that regularly plays w/[Watermelon Slim](#)

Dusty & Val Scott have the photos from Helena, AR posted on their website... great shots of last months Arkansas Blues & Heritage Festival @ <http://www.dustyblues.com/index.html>

[The Jazz Store](#) offering MILES DAVIS "Kind of Blue" all this week for \$7.99

nice hearing from Kind ole' Blues Lady... thanks for the kind words and best to ya!

word on the street: Herb via Columbus, OH and Pickle via Lima, OH are about to launch their annual boys only attack on numerous blues hot spots in Chicago... probably will not be able to top last which culminated in VIP Seats at Buddy Guy's Legends and seeing Buddy trading licks with Robert Randolph, but I'm sho' they gonna try... good luck y'all, be safe and try yer best to have a good time...

can't quite get to the Crossroads, but want a piece of Blues history... seems the Devil no longer has any use for Robert Johnson's soul since you can now bid on it on E-bay... just type in: *robert johnson's soul*

for tickets to see [BETTYE LaVETTE](#) @ Stuart's Opera House, Nelsonville, OH this Sat Nov 8th go to <http://www.stuartsoperahouse.org>... as of couple days ago there were plenty of \$25 tickets still available but only a few @ \$100...

economic blues... great show last Saturday nite @ <http://www.wroxradi.com>...

"Cathead Delta Blues Program" w/Roger Stolle from 7:00-9:00PM, Central Standard Time played nuthin' but the blues all about money, or the lack of it aka "the economic edition"... if ya find yerself at home this weekend tune in to this great program... it also repeats on Sunday nite from 10-midnight CST

[Carnegie Hall](#), Lewisburg, WV will host [RUTHIE FOSTER](#) Sat Nov 22nd

good news!... Dustin Smith of the [JIMI VINCENT BAND](#) has received the "green light" from his doctors to play again... he was with the band on Sunday @ The Thirsty Ear in Columbus for the CBA Blues Jam... The JVB will also host the *Blues for Tots Benefit* on Sun Nov 30th @ The Thirsty Ear.

our friends with [Charleston Blues Society](#) are planning the return of the "*Jukin' at Clo's*" Series @ Clo's Uptown Eatery, 1219 Washington St. East, Chas-tun... upcoming dates are 11/29, 12/6 and 12/13... line-up will be announced soon... (thx Lady D)

making plans?? *The Thirsty Turtle*, Parkersburg will have DENNIS McCLUNG BLUES BAND again this year for New Years eve... uh, that would be Dec 31st

be sure to check out "Do You Get The BLUES?" @ <http://www.igetblues.com>

### ***next week-***

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

Thur 11/13:

THE CATCH BLUES BAND @ Wheeling Island Race Track & Gaming Center, Wheeling  
TINSLEY ELLIS @ Moondog's, Blawnox, PA

Fri 11/14:

PAM ROBERTS @ El Gran Saobr, Elkins, WV  
BILL LUPKIN w/THE WORKERS @ Court Street Grill, Pomeroy, OH  
JOE BUNDY & LADY D "History Alive" (Bessie Smith) @ Unitarian Universalist  
Congregation, Charleston  
NO BAD JUJU @ Mountaineer Racetrack, Chester, WV  
BOB THOMPSON QUARTET @ The V Club, Huntington

Sat 11/15:

SAM LAMONT @ Mountain State Brewing Company, Thomas, WV  
CRACKER STACKWELL @ Black Bear Burritos, Morgantown  
THE CATCH BLUES BAND @ Pick's, ????, ??  
ROSIE LEDET @ Cultural Center Theater, Charleston  
SAM LAMONT @ Mountain State Brewing Co, Thomas, WV  
MS FREDDYE & BLUE FAZE @ Blind Pig Saloon, New Kensington, PA  
STEVE & STEVE BLUES BAND @ Creekside Sports Bar, Hurrincane, WV

in a little bit,  
crawlinkingsnake