

# Mountains of Blues

'lectric news



West Virginia  
Blues Society

KEEPING THE BLUES ALIVE

***"Mountains of Blues" Tuesday, November 18, 2008 Vol. 1, Issue 15***

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.

---

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

Friday Nov 21st:

The Catch Blues Band- Down on Main Street, Wheeling

Jimmy Adler Band- Moondog's, Blawnox, PA

Adrian Niles- Roadworthy Restaurant & Tavern, West Liberty, WV

Ms Freddy & Blue Faze- The Parlour, Sharpsburg, PA

Saturday Nov 22nd:

Jill West & Blues Attack- Ambridge Eagles, Ambridge, PA  
Ruthie Foster- Carnegie Hall, Lewisburg, WV  
Patti Spadaro Band- McGrogan's Taproom, Canonsburg, PA  
Full Circle- Honi Honi Bar, Deep Creek Lake, MD  
Hip Pocket- Camden Clark Memorial Hospital party, Parkersburg  
Ray Fuller & the Blues Rockers- The Thirsty Ear, Columbus, OH  
Derek Trucks Band- Mr. Small's Theatre, Millvale, PA  
Lady D- WVSU Capitol Center Theater, Charleston  
Steve Himes Connection- V Club, Huntington  
Channel Cats Blues Band- Woodchux, Cumberland, MD  
Matthew First & the Blue Colla- The Brewery, Marietta, OH  
Ms Freddy & Blue Faze- Wightman Center, Squirrel Hill/Pittsburgh  
The Sam Lamont Band- McClafferty's Pub, Morgantown  
Billy Price Band- Rhythm House, Bridgeville, PA  
The Catch Blues Band- Elm Grove Eagles, Elm Grove/Wheeling

Sunday Nov 23rd:

No-Steeler-Game Blues Jam for Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank- Moondog's, Blawnox, PA

---

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

WORD FROM THE PREZ-

WVBS just held it's election of officers and directors and set some projects in motion for 2009, which is shaping up to be a very exciting and busy year once again. Without the members of our great society we would not be able to put together projects like, The Charlie West Blues Fest, Diamond Teeth Mary McClain Celebration, Appalachian Blues Competition and our Blues Nite Out series thru out the state and our 'lectric news letter by crawlkingsnake. We will also be sending two Blues acts to Memphis for the International Blues Challenge, *Ms. FREDDYE & BLUE FAZE* and solo act, *SAM LAMONT*. Our society will also have officers in Memphis for the IBC as volunteers from our society. We will have a strong presence there. Our membership keeps growing, we are just about ready to top 200 members strong. We will keep you posted as more events and programs take shape. Please, if any members or non members, for now, have any suggestions or ideas on what they would like to see the society be involved with don't hesitate to let us know. Remember, we need your support in order to keep bringing great blues activities to you. Come to a show and show your support. We will be having *JOHNNY RAWLS* on Dec 11 in Parkersburg at the Thirsty Turtle the show starts at 7:30. Bring a friend and come out and have a blast with us. Until then, see ya on the Great Blues Highway. (thx SmokestacJac)

PASSING-

Sad news from Bob Corritore via Roger Stolle: *Mrs. DORIS CARR* of Lula, MS passed

away early Thursday morning Nov 13th at age 80, according to long-time Carr Family friend and former Rooster Blues co-owner Patty Johnson of Clarksdale. Known by many as the beloved wife of legendary blues drummer *SAM CARR*, Miss Doris was also a blues singer in her own right and a caretaker of other Deltans in the past. She is survived by her husband, Sam -- the son of slide guitar master *ROBERT NIGHTHAWK* and drummer of the world-famous Jelly Roll Kings. Sam and Doris Carr have been together since she was 13 years old. Mrs. Carr had been in poor health for some time. Mr. Carr still resides in Lula. Funeral services will be held at noon Sat Nov 22nd at the Century Funeral Home in Clarksdale.

#### REAL DEAL CHICAGO BLUES IN MARIETTA-

This Friday night 11/21 "real deal" Chicago Blues comes to the Lafayette Hotel in Marietta, OH. Sponsored by the Blues, Jazz & Folk Music of the Mid-Ohio Valley presents *CHICO BANKS* (<http://todayschicagoblues.blogspot.com/2007/09/chico-banks-at-harlem-avenue-lounge.html>) & *TORONZO CANNON* (<http://www.myspace.com/toronzoandthecannonballexpress>). Music begins at 8:30PM at the Lafayette Hotel, Marietta, OH. Tickets are \$15 for BJFM members and \$20 non-members.

#### HARPS, RIBS, GOOD CROWD & COOL VENUE... GREAT COMBINATION-

Yeah, yeah, yeah I know what yer gonna say, "we sho'nuf do talk about Court Street Grill, harmonicas and BBQ a lot!" Soooo... what's not to like about 'em? *BILL LUPKIN* was excellent last Friday at The Grill. Talk about a pedigree! Would ya believe playing with the likes of Sunnyland Slim, Howlin' Wolf, George "Harmonica" Smith, Willie Dixon, Homesick James, etc... in such legendary Chicago clubs as Pepper's Lounge, Ma Bea's, the Blue Flame, etc! Lupkin's harp playing was something to behold on this night in Pomeroy. And like always, the same holds true for the backup efforts of *THE WORKERS*. Although normally playing with Watermelon Slim, The Workers certainly fit in well with Lupkin. Michael Newberry on drums nearly stole the show; but that's not to say the guitar work and occasional vocals of Ronnie McMullen and Cliff Belcher was anything less than outstanding. Together they put out a great night of 1950's and 60's old school Chicago Blues. If you can't get out to see Bill Lupkin "live" sometime, at least pick up a copy of "Hard Pill to Swallow" released in 2007. Even though The Workers are not on this recording, it does have other favorites. Such as, Nick Moss and Mark Fornek... May cause intense exhilaration and restless movement of legs and feet.

Of course the table fare weren't too shabby either! Some fine Carolina BBQ ribs (mustard sauce), hot wings and cold Pabst Blue Ribbons. The crowd of 50 or 60 other like minded folks had a good representation from Parkersburg. Probably a dozen or more folks outa the Wood County area. Also enjoyed sitting with the gang from the Huntington Harmonica Club. Last saw them at The Grill the night Dennis Gruenling was played. They do indeed come out and support the harp players. On this night the harmonicas, BBQ and crowd in a cool venue made for a pert-near perfect evening. Thanks to all!

## COLUMBUS BLUES ALLIANCE "BLUES FOR TOTS" NEXT WEEK-

Sunday Nov 30th will mark the 11th Annual CBA Blues for Tots Benefit Concert and Charity Auction (<http://www.columbusblues.com/B4T.htm>) at The Thirsty Ear (<http://www.thethirstyear.com>). Even though we didn't plan it, seems Mojo Mama and I have nearly made a habit of attending. Although this year might be a challenge since we will be traveling over Thanksgiving holiday. Also, as long as I can remember it's been held at "The Ear" at 1200 West 3rd Ave, Grandview OH. A great place for "the blues and a whole lot more!" While other blues venues in Columbus have come and gone, The Ear's still here.

Blues for Tots is one of the most unique and thoughtful blues events you'll ever attend. Done in conjunction with the United States Marine Corp it brings in numerous toys and money for needy children in central Ohio. The host band this year will be *THE JIMI VINCENT BAND* at 5:30PM with *LeFEVER* opening at 4:30PM. The "live" charity auction, which always has many amazing items will begin at 6:30PM. Remember Pickle, you outbid me on that photo "Honeyboy" Edwards last year... After the auction The JVB will continue.

Admission is \$5 and a new unwrapped toy, or \$10. 100% of the proceeds will go to the Columbus Area Toys for Tots Charity. The Toys for Tots program is conducted each year by the US Marines. Toys are collected during Oct, Nov and Dec to distribute as Christmas gifts to needy children nationwide.

Congratulations to the Columbus Blues Alliance and the United States Marines!

## Blues Night Out / "BLUE THURSDAY"-

We wrap up our 2008 concert series on Dec 11th. The Blues Night Out Series that began in April was very successful through out the spring, summer and fall with concerts held statewide.

Thur Dec 11th the WVBluesSociety presents Southern Soul/Blues at its very best with *JOHNNY RAWLS* at Umensettlers Thirsty Turtle in Parkersburg. Johnny Rawls has held down the top spot on nearly every blues chart since August with his recording of "Red Cadillac".

Music begins at 7:30PM for this "BLUE THURSDAY" Special. The early start should allow people to make it out and possibly get home at a decent hour on a week night. But if anyone happens to stay out too late and have too much fun the WVBS will be happy to write a note excusing them to miss work the next morning. Door only \$5.00 with cool door prizes as well as the famous "blues basket" raffle. The basket contains many items of interest to all blues fans, ex: CD's, t-shirts, posters, etc.

The Thirsty Turtle is located at 1147 Staunton Ave, Parkersburg, WV. For more information or directions call 304-865-3030 or [www.wvbluessociety.org](http://www.wvbluessociety.org)

---

## REVIEW-

"Stop and Think About It"- *CHRIS JAMES & PATRICK RYNN*

When you see a recording on the Earwig Music label you can usually be certain it's going to be something very worthwhile. This recording by Chris James & Patrick Rynn is no different. I was unaware what label it was when I told Gary I would like to review this CD so I guess it was just good luck. I was only vaguely familiar with these guys. Not sure but I may have seen their names in a review of their band the Blue Four in a magazine somewhere?

Chris and Patrick have both been around the block more than just a few times. They have played with many-many blues legends in their time such as: Junior Wells, James Cotton, Jody Williams and more. This experience shows. They are also both deep rooted in the postwar, Delta-gone-north style, Chicago blues, and like many others, I'm a real sucker for that stuff.

All the covers are expertly done; some critics might say perhaps too much so. Example being, trac #6 "Hawaiian Boogie" by Elmore James. Some would claim "just another note by note cover of an instrumental classic"... just like the original. Nah, even though that wouldn't be a bad thing, it's way more than just a cover. It has that little something added that makes it quite special. More so then the "King of the Slide Guitar" original? No, not saying that. The great tenor sax of J.T. Brown on the original is missing. However Julien Brunetaud on piano more than picks up any slack and gives it a kind of classy jazzy feel. I don't know who could have done it better then Elmore himself; unless it be Chris and Patrick.

Even though the covers outnumber to originals on this disc, it is far more than just great cover versions of some classic Chicago blues. Consisting of twelve tracs- 4 covers of Elmore James, 1 Jay McShann, 1 Bo Diddley, 1 "Snooky" Pryor and 5 originals makes for a great, fun and easy to move your feet recording. The kind of disc you can put into your car CD player and listen to for a long-long time. All the while keeping time on the top of the steering wheel or dashboard (like I did), and not get tired of.

But as much as I love Elmore James and the other covers; trac #3, a James & Rynn original, "Mister Coffee" may be my favorite on the entire album. Can't quite put my finger on it, but it reminds me of some of the Chicago greats. Clever lyrics and awesome harp playing. Fact is, all the originals blend well with all the classic covers through out the album. Interesting how they are listed together on the play list. If you didn't know ahead of time or didn't have some knowledge of blues music, it could be difficult to tell one from the other or if you were listening to some "old" classic recordings or something brand new.

There are 15 musicians listed in the credits for this album including Chris and Patrick. One of those the the great Sam Lay on drums and Bob Corritore does some outstanding harp blowing of 4 of the 5 originals. I don't think you could call them innovators, but they are all stellar musicians that love what they're doing and do it extremely well. Do yourself a favor. Go to your locally owned music store and pick up a copy of this excellent CD. If they don't have it on the shelf, ask the owner to order it for you via Earwig Music. You ain't gonna be sorry.

---

**BIRTHDAY:**

Nov 21 1913 KC Douglas Sharon, MS  
Nov 21 or 23 1926 RL Burnside Oxford, MS  
Nov 25 1941 Percy Sledge Leighton, AL  
Nov 25 1914 Eddie Riley Boyd Stovall, MS  
Nov 25 1928 Jimmy Thompson Holly Springs, MS

**RIP:**

Nov 24 1993 Albert Collins Las Vegas, NV  
Nov 24 1997 Fenton Robinson Rockford, IL

---

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

Wed 11/19 LADY D @ Maxwell's Sports Bar, Beckley, WV

Thur 11/20 Beaujolais Nouveau Celebration dinner @ [The Brewery](#), Marietta, OH (6:30-9:00PM) with music from the Dysfunktional Jazz Implants.

Fri 11/21 WVBS Board of Director member CHRIS SUTTON will take part in the "One Night Without a Home". This is a homeless awareness event held on Magic Island, Kanawha Blvd. Charleston. Chris' performance begins at 9:00 pm.

[WV Finest](#) Show Nov 20-21-22 @ WVSU Capitol Center Theater, Charleston

benefit for John Oesterle coming next Sunday Nov 30th @ The North End Tavern, Parkersburg... much live music, food and drink... more information next week.

the "No-Steeler-Game Blues Jam" benefit @ Moondog's, Blawnox, PA features Shot o' Soul, Jimmy Adler, Sweaty Betty Blues Band w/Bubs McKeg, Jill Simmons and Andrea Pearl, Pamela Bick & the Warehouse Band, Mystic Knights w/Gil Snyder & Craig King, and Patti Spadaro begins at 12:30PM

BNO/BUE THURSDAY "door prizes":

- (1)WVBS t-shirt "Mountains of Blues in the Mountain State"
- (2)CD 2007 release by *BACK DOOR SLAM* "Roll Away"
- (3)t-shirt Blues Night Out/"Blues Harp Nite" Elkins, WV
- (4)WVBS hat 2008 Charlie West Blues Festival

JJ GREY & MOFRO and LIL' ED & THE BLUES IMPERIALS are on Amazon's Best of 2008 Lists...

JOE BONAMASSA will play the Royal Albert Hall in London, May 4th 2009... (thanks Giff)

next week-

Fri 11/28:

NORMAN NARDINI @ Roadworthy Restaurant & Tavern, West Liberty, WV

PATRICK SWEANY BAND @ Court Street Grill, Pomeroy, OH

BOATHOUSE DUO @ Honi Honi Bar, Deep Creek Lake, MD

Sat 11/29:

MARIJIBEE BLUES @ Roadworthy Restaurant & Tavern, West Liberty, WV

LONG TALL DEB & THE DRIFTER KINGS @ The Brewery, Marietta, OH

Sun 11/30:

CBA Blues for Tots Benefit @ The Thirsty Ear, Columbus, OH

coming soon\_

Thur 12/11 JOHNNY RAWLS @ Umensettlers Thirsty Turtle, Parkersburg

Thur 12/18 BUSCUIT & THE MIX w/others @ Women's Club of Charleston, Charleston

in a little bit,

crawlinkingsnake