

Mountains of Blues



'lectric news



West Virginia
Blues Society

KEEPING THE BLUES ALIVE

"Mountains of Blues" Thursday Dec 25, 2008 MERRY CHRISTMAS!!! Vol. 1, Issue 20

Big Blues comes falling, they fall like drops of rain,
I gotta spend my Christmas locked up in jail again...

Oh Santa, Santa, Santa come here to me in jail,
Bring me a Christmas present, someone to go my bail...

LeROY CARR & SCRAPPER BLACKWELL- "Christmas in Jail" Vocalion Records, 1929

The WVBluesSociety (<http://wvbluessociety.org>) 'lectric bluesletter aka "Mountains of Blues in the Mountain State" is a semi-weekly newsletter of blues information in the Mountain State and beyond. Brought to you by the West Virginia Blues Society the "bluesletter" goes out as a service to our "blues friends" wherever you might be. The bluesletter 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 news 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.

BIRTHDAY:

Dec 22 1919 Lil Green Clarksdale, MS
Dec 23 1908 Eugene Powell aka Sonny Boy Nelson Utica, MS
Dec 25 1940 Arthur Adams Medon, TN
Dec 27 1919 Mitchell "Booty" Wood Dayton, OH
Dec 28 1921 Johnny Otis Vallejo, CA
Dec 29 1927 Matt "Guitar" Murphy Sunflower, MS

RIP:

Dec 25 1954 John Alexander aka Johnny Ace Houston, TX

Dec ?? 1929 Blind Lemon Jefferson Chicago, IL

THIS WEEKEND IN "MOUNTAINS OF BLUES":

Friday Dec 26th:

WILLIE POOCH & THE UPSETTERS @ The Mudflats, Galena, OH

THE CATCH BLUES BAND @ The Triple Play Cafe, Stubenville

JILL WEST & BLUES ATTACK @ Keystone, Ellwood City, PA

"Front Porch Showcase" @ Timothy's Episcopal Church, Hurricane, WV

GARY BELLOMA & THE BLUES BOMBERS @ Moondog's, Blawnox, PA

Saturday Dec 27th:

WILLIE PHOENIX @ The Thirsty Ear, Columbus, OH

JIMMY ADLER BAND @ Cefalo's, Carnegie, PA

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

DENNIS McCLUNG BLUES BAND @ Rhythm & Brews, Morgantown

GUITAR ZACK & NO SLACK @ Moondog's, Blawnox, PA

THE CATCH BLUES BAND @ Undo's Club T&C, Wheeling

CODE BLUE BAND @ GZ Petes, Springfield, OH

Sunday Dec 28th:

"Acoustic Awareness" @ The Thirsty Ear, Columbus, OH

WHATS HAPPENIN' IN "MOUNTAINS OF BLUES":**AND THE NOMINEES ARE-**

[The Blues Foundation](#) announced last week the 130 nominees, in 26 categories for the 30th Annual W.C. Handy Awards... oops, rather The Blues Music Awards. I've yet to understand the name change but it is what it is.

Some of particular local interest, in various categories are: Janiva Magness, Watermelon Slim, Nick Moss & the Flip Tops, Mookie Brill, Steve Guyger, Jason Ricci, Rich Del Grosso, Walter Trout, Kenny Neal, Albert Castiglia, Clarence Spady and Johnny Rawls. A couple personal favorites are DVD category- "M For Mississippi: A Road Trip Through The Birthplace of the Blues" by Broke & Hungry Records, Cat Head Blues & Mudpuppy Recordings. Also Historical Album category- "Albert Collins: Live At Montreux 1992" by Eagle Records.

Go to The Blues Foundation website for a complete list, how to join, how to vote, schedule, lodging and any other information.

This years event will be held in Memphis at the Cook Convention Center on Thur May 7th. Expectations are that over 70 nominees will show up for the event. The event is now back in Memphis after a short hiatus to Tunica, MS. Fans can be assured that many additional events will be scheduled in the area on the weekend after the official Blues Foundation events.

FROM THE ARCHIVES//ALBERT CASTIGLIA-

Digging thru some old stuff and found this. Reprinted article from May 16th 2006... Love writing about [ALBERT CASTIGLIA](#) (it's Ka-STEEL-Ya damit!) because I love listening to Albert Castiglia. However, this week I really enjoyed reading about him too. In the 100th issue of Blues Revue magazine June/July-2006, Albert is listed at #4 in "10 To Watch, The Future of the Blues" by Vincent Abbate. While BR is quick to point out they cannot predict the future, they still decided to present their 10 picks of blues artists that could effect the way blues is heard and seen in the future. So congratulations to you Albert! We couldn't agree more. First saw Albert "the kid" on stage at the Court Street Grill and he has come back to perform at the Big Bend Blues Bash on many occasions. Jackie told me he had the good fortune to spend some time with him in South Florida a couple months ago and saw him perform at Tobacco Road in Miami. The former lead guitarist with JUNIOR WELLS up until Juniors' death in 1998. We would have seen him at River City Blues Fest in 1997 however that's when Junior took ill and they had to cancel. Albert says he learned a thing or two from Junior, maybe the greatest thing being "stage presence." When Mojo Mama and I saw him in Pomeroy that was one of the very first things we noticed about him; his great repore with the audiance. Albert is scheduled to be on stage at this years BBBB at 4:00PM Sat July 29th (2006). Sure to be great... cause he always is.

NOTE: The Junior Wells band stayed together for awhile after Juniors' death and played with *SANDRA HALL*. We saw Sandra in The Grill one night and she put on a great show. My question is, "was Albert playing with her on that night?"

congratulations again to Albert in 2008/09! He has received a nomination for "SONG OF THE YEAR" at the 30th Blues Music Awards in Memphis May 7th. Word on the street is there may be a roadtrip in the works?

TEXAS BLUES PROJECT-

Always have tried real hard never to come across like a gd authority on nothin'... most of all, music. But, did think at one time to have a pretty good grasp of things going on around me. However, this one had dun got completely by me and I'm sorry for it. While listening to "Ultimate Blues" last week on <http://www.live365.com/> hear this scorchin' thing called "Storm Watch Warning" that I ain't never heard before. "[Texas Blues](#)" Project by Dr WU & FRIENDS, Vol I, "Fort Worth Artists" is damdest thing I've heard in a long time! Dr Wu formed in 2002 by *Jim Ashworth* and *Bryan Freeze* contains a long list of musicians. The one that really jumped out at me was *BUDDY WHITTINGTON*. Buddy another one of those great guitar players discovered by JOHN MAYALL.

So coming from this less-than-authority, "that's it"... that's all needs to be said. I don't own it, yet... but hope to soon. Go to <http://cdbaby.com/cd/drwu> and hear for your ownself.

JAZZ & HERITAGE FEST-

The lineup has been announced for spring 2009 [New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Fest](#). This is a favorite for many and for some an annual tradition. The talent line-up for the two weeks (Apr 24-26 & Apr 30 - May 3) is just as amazing as ever. Some of particular interest might be Week #1- Etta James, Joe Cocker, Mavis Staples, Tab Benoit, Wynton

Marsalis, James Taylor, Earth Wind & Fire, Mem Shannon, Irma Thomas. Week #2- Aretha Franklin, Dr. John, Buddy Guy, Tony Bennett, The Neville Brothers, Bonnie Raitt, John Mayall, Solomon Burke, Walter "Wolfman" Washington, The Radiators, Lil' Ed & the Blues Imperials... and this only begins to scratch the surface. For ALL information on tickets, lodging, etc go to their website.

RANDY'S RECORD SHOP-

The clear channel station WLAC 1510AM in Nashville, went on the air Nov 24th 1926. The call letters were chosen to contain an acronym for the first owner of the station, the Life and Casualty Insurance Company of Tennessee. It became legendary as a result of a trio of nighttime R&B shows hosted by Gene Nobles, "John R" (John Richbourg), and Herman Grizzard in the 1950's and 60's which, thanks to the station's clear channel designation, reached most of the Eastern and Midwestern United States, though they targeted African-American listeners in the deep South. The regular sponsors of the three shows were respectively Randy's Record Shop of Gallatin, TN, Ernie's Record Mart and Buckley's Record Shop both of Nashville. All three of which had mail order business supplying the recording featured on the shows, and were linked to record companies in Middle Tennessee.

First time I heard "Randy's Record Shop" but sure not the last, was lying on a bunkbed at Fayetteville State College, Fayetteville, NC. We were there to play baseball during a southern-swing with West Virginia State College during the spring of 1968. Our centerfielder Monte Ahart was an outstanding athlete; but even better dancer and soul-music fan. He filled me in on this radio station in Nashville that he had listened to many times before. Also think this may have been the first time I ever heard IKE & TINA TURNER SOUL REVUE. Awesome.... I'm sure others also listened to WLCA during this time, especially in Southern West Virginia. It did seem to come through better in the Kanawha Valley and points south.

The station changed format to news and talk in 1980 and has remained that way ever since. Guess all good things must pass...

NOTE: "Goodbye, Pat Boone, Perry Como, Patti Page, etc... We were in Coolsville now, rockin' to the real thing -- Fats Domino, Bo Diddley, Jerry Lee Lewis, Jimmy Reed, Little Richard, etc... Life was sparkling... and I was heading for junior high." (Beth Boswell Jacks, editor USADEEPSOUTH.COM).

Blues Profile -KELLY MILLER-

Birth Date: 02/17/59

Birth Place: *El Paso Texas*

Bands You Have Played With: *The Biscuit Rollers*

Current Band/Instrument: *Guitar*

Favorite Living Singer: *Taj Mahal*

Favorite Deceased Singer: *Billie Holiday*

Favorite Living Blues Musician: *Alvin Youngblood Hart*

Favorite Deceased Blues Musician: *Son House, R.L. Burnside*

First Record Purchased: *Jame Taylor "Sweet Baby James"*

First Blues Record Purchased: *Just Jimmy Reed*

Personal Blues Statement: *It's all about the feel and the rhythm for me, blues is*

something from within...

"MOUNTAINS OF BLUES" AT A GLANCE:

last week **BUDDY GUY** helped spread some Christmas cheer to families that needed it... passing out ham, chicken, produce and all the fixings for a big holiday meal at the Ada S. McKinley Southeast Food Pantry, Chicago... Southeast Emergency Food Pantry has been serving people for 30 years, but this was the first time the pantry had to close for a few days... the overall number of donations has gone down, the number of people in need has gone up... Guy remembering his own humble beginnings said: "I once went three days without food. When I got here and Muddy Waters came and fed me. To have an empty stomach, is a miserable feeling,"

Sat Jan 17th Winter 2009 Chicago Blues Tour <http://www.chicagobluestour.com/ilblues.html>

"word on the street"- a former manager is about to re-open **Blues BBQ** in Charleston?... great location across from The Clay Center, with great potential for live music... we'll keep ya posted...

check out nice article "The Delta Blues Ambassador" aka **Roger Stolle** @ [Delta Business Journal](#).

2008 Appalachian Blues Competition solo/duo winner **SAM LAMONT** is SouthBound the first of 2009... 1/3 @ The Acoustic Coffeehouse- Johnson City TN, 1/4 @ The Lantern- Blacksburg VA, and others before heading north to Baltimore, New Jersey, New York, etc...

hot coffee & cool blues... [Alabama Blues Project](#) offering Alabama Blues Blend for Christmas... go to their site and click "Online Store"...

JESSE RAY CARTER @ The Blues BBQ Co., Roanoke, VA Tue Dec 23rd...

coolest Christmas card belongs to *The Whole Roeder Family* @ <http://thecatchbluesband.wetpaint.com>
Having A Blues Christmas...

QUOTE:

"I didn't go to conventional college. College I went to professors didn't teach from the books- they **WROTE** the books." **NICK MOSS**

Christmas Night, 12/25 with **VINNIE & THE LUBRICATORS** @ The Brewery, Marietta, OH

our guys **THE BISCUIT ROLLERS** are booked for Foothills Blues & Arts Festival somewhere near Harrisonville, OH next summer... also Scott tells us they have been doing some things with Pops Walker in and around Shenandoah Valley lately... they are working on putting together a mini-fest there sometime in Sept 2009...

New Years Eve with **DENNIS McCLUNG BLUES BAND** @ The Thirsty Turtle, Parkersburg...

IZZY & CHRIS @ Roadworthy Tavern, West Liberty Jan 23rd & Overtime Sports Bar, Parkersburg Jan 24th...

REMINDER: "Donate" on the [WVBluesSociety](#) website for "[Diamond Teeth Mary](#)" **McClain** Memorial

Fund... goal is \$2,500 for historical marker to be placed in Huntington at the train station... Contributions are tax deductible... [LIZ PENNOCK & DR BLUES](#) are organizing a fundraiser in St Petersburg, FL Jan. 25th with folks who played with [Mary & the Suncoast Blues Society...](#)

[DEB CALLAHAN](#) coming to [The Purple Fiddle](#), Thomas, WV Thur Jan 8th

[LADY D](#) coming to Maxwell's Sports Bar, Beckley Fri Jan 9th

"The Poison Apple"... anybody remember this "jook" southside Helena, AR?... was never there but heard about it... probably been shut down 6 or 8 years... many greats played there and was told they only served 40 oz brews...

back on the mainland- [COLIN JOHN](#) is back in the neighborhood beginning this week... @ The Brewery, in Marietta, OH Tuesday Jan 6th...

"[Mountain Stage](#)" @ Cultural Center Theater, Charleston-

Feb 8th *BUCKWHEAT ZYDECO*

Feb 15th *DEREK TRUCKS BAND*

both shows start @ 7PM... advanced tix \$12.50, \$18 @ door... available online or call 1-800-594-TIXX also @ Taylor Books downtown...

REPRINTED FROM [SFBS](#) BluesBlast Fri 12/19 (thx bluesbobby):

FOR ALL MY POLITICALLY CORRECT FRIENDS-

Please accept with no obligation, implied or implicit, our best wishes for an environmentally conscious, socially responsible, low-stress, non-addictive, gender-neutral celebration of the winter solstice holiday, practiced within the most enjoyable traditions of the religious persuasion of your choice, or secular practices of your choice, with respect for the religious/secular persuasion and/or traditions of others, or their choice not to practice religious or secular traditions at all. We also wish you a fiscally successful, personally fulfilling and medically uncomplicated recognition of the onset of the generally accepted calendar year 2009, but not without due respect for the calendars of choice of other cultures whose contributions to society have helped make America great. Not to imply that America is necessarily greater than any other country nor the only America in the Western Hemisphere. Also, this wish is made without regard to the race, creed, color, age, physical ability, religious faith or sexual preference of the wisher.

TO EVERYONE ELSE-

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

in a little bit,
crawlinkingsnake