

Mountains of Blues

'lectric news



West Virginia
Blues Society

KEEPING THE BLUES ALIVE

"Mountains of Blues"

Thursday, Sept. 11, 2008

Vol. 1, Issue 5

Sit there, count your fingers.
What else, what else is there to do?
Oh and I know how you feel,
I know you feel that you're through.
Oh wah ah sit there, hmm, count,
Ah, count your little fingers,
My unhappy oh little girl, little girl blue...

JANIS JOPLIN- "Little Girl Blue"/I GOT DEM OL' KOZMIC BLUES AGAIN MAMA! 9/11/69

The [WV Blues Society](#) 'lectric bluzletter 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 "bluzletter" is a service to our "bluz friends" wherever you may be. Bluzletter is an attempt to CONNECT & INFORM of happenings in and at times outside our area. We never use your e-mail address 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 let me know. If you do NOT want to receive any future updates please reply with, Please No More.

BIRTHDAYS:

Sept 11 1902 Robert Hicks aka Barbecue Bob Walnut Grove, GA

Sept 14 1925 Napoleon "Nap" Brundage Pittsburgh, PA

Sept 15 1928 Julian Edwin "Cannonball" Adderley Tampa, FL

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

REMEMBERING JANIS JOPLIN-

Sept 11th will always be remembered as a tragic day in American history... However this Thursday (9/11) also marks thirty-nine years ago since the release of "I Got Dem Ol' Kozmic Blues Again Mama"... released by JANIS LYN JOPLIN in 1969 for Columbia Records. Can remember buying my vinyl copy in the bookstore at Fairmont State during the fall of that year... about a year before she died. On Saturday Oct 4th 1970, the day of the Appalachian Blues Competition, will be thirty-eight years since she was found in a hotel room in Los Angeles dead of a herion overdose. Janis was born Jan 19th, 1943 in Port Arthur, TX. She credited Aretha Franklin, Tina Turner, Leadbelly, Odetta, Bessie Smith, Big Mama Thornton, Otis Redding and Billie Holiday to be her biggest influences. Described as not being happy as a child. While a teenager she listened to many recordings of blues artists that she later credited for her decision to become a singer. Even though "Pearl" receives the most accolades of all her albums... my favorite is still "Kozmic Blues". "Pearl" was her last studio album. Recorded with FULL TILT BOOGIE BAND it came out shortly after her death in January 1971.

The CD version of "Kozmic Blues" released in 1999 has 3 previously unreleased bonus tracs: Dear Landlord, Summertime and Piece of My Heart. And the CD version of "Pearl" released same year has 4 previously unreleased bonus tracs: Tell Mama, Little Girl Blue, Try and Cry Baby.

QUOTE:

"Loyalists to Janis' first band BIG BROTHER & THE HOLDING COMPANY were determined to hate KOZMIC BLUES BAND. However, Kozmic Blues is indeed her most underrated effort."- Myra Friedman (Janis' 1st biographer).

"The greatest white blues singer of her time..."- Anthony DeCurtis (Rolling Stone).

"I hesitate to call this ("PEARL") one of her "best" because I like all of the others so much."- Danny Goldberg (Circus).

"Janis Joplin made the blues her own."- Amazon.com/Editorial Review.

APPALACHIAN BLUES COMPETITION-

Time is drawing near... There are still a couple slots open for competing acts, but ya gonna have to act fast. Saturday Oct 4th @ Christophers Banquet Center, Fairmont... go to <http://wvbluessociety.org>

WEST VIRGINIA WINE & JAZZ FEST-

West Virginia Wine and Jazz Fest, Inc. is a nonprofit organization that seeks to return the proceeds from the festival back to the community. This year a FREE bus service will be offered on Saturday the 13th from WVU Mountainlair starting at 11:00AM. Admission of \$15 per day includes wine glass & wine tasting. Eight WV wineries and five area restaurants. Headliner Saturday is, having just returned from Europe, none other than

"THE" BILLY PRICE BAND (<http://www.billyprice.com/index.php>). For more go to <http://www.wvwineandjazz.com>

*note: check out Billy Price at

<http://fr.youtube.com/watch?v=szHsaOjGvfk&feature=related> or maybe

<http://fr.youtube.com/watch?v=18Zy3URyGOY&feature=related...> Saw him in

Pittsburgh last summer and knocked everyone out... for my money (whatever that means) "the best" blue-eyed soul band around anywhere! Hey Spider, was it anyways near this good around Penn State in '67?! Only one better had to be O.V. Wright his own damnsel!

CROSSROADS HOTEL & ENTERTAINMENT COMPLEX-

You knew it was bound to happen... just a matter of time. Announced last week, the Crossroads Hotel & Entertainment Complex and The Robert Johnson Crossroads Blues Legend Garden (<http://www.crossroadshotel.tv>) will be built adjacent to the "crossroads" at the intersection of Highway 61 and 49 in Clarksdale, MS. Plans for a reasonably priced world class resort offering the very best in Southern charm and hospitality with theme rooms such as The Muddy Waters, The Bessie Smith, The Robert Johnson room and more.

And now of course, questions are gonna be ask... Is this needed? Will it help or harm the small businesses (aka Wal-Mart syndrome)? Will it work to change the culture? Will it take away from the very thing Clarksdale and "the Delta" is famous for? ...Time will tell... One of the many reasons Mojo Mama and I have traveled to Clarksdale year after year is its uniqueness. Beautifully plain, simple, hot, flat and culturally rich... on the other hand, also a depressed area that can use the help something like this could bring. Here's hoping it does just that while still preserving all the good things about "the Delta". Maybe it'll be easier to find a room there now...? But they better not be bulldozing Anniebell's Lounge

(http://www.jukejointfestival.com/view_venue.php?venue_id=31) or Abe's BBQ

(<http://www.abesbbq.com>)!!!

T-MODEL FORD (health update)-

Word is T-Model Ford was in good spirits at a fundraiser held for him in Greenville, Mississippi two weeks ago on Aug 28th. Done to help him pay some doctor bills... He has a newly installed pacemaker and is taking medication (other than Jack Daniels) for blood clots. Held at the Walnut Street Blues Bar (<http://www.deltablues.net/bait.html>) in Greenville and promoted by Mr Albert Folk; it did attract a fair crowd and he did sell a few CD's added to a small cover charge. T-Model was to go to the doctor on Thursday (9/4) and hopefully things continue to work out well for him. (thanks Roger)

BORDER STATES-

Sat 9/13 "Ruf Records Blues Caravan" w/CANDYE KANE, DEBORAH COLEMAN & DANI WILDE @ The Ellington (<http://www.theellington.org>), Lynchburg VA... 2 hrs from Lewisburg, WV

Sun 9/14 @ Royal Place, Route 88, Pittsburgh "Kentucky Jim Edwards Cancer Benefit" \$10 donation

Wed 9/17 MONTE MONTGOMERY @ Court Street Grill, Pomeroy, OH... 45 min south of P-burg

Fri 9/19 ZACH TYLER & BLU RAZOR @ October Fest, Canonsburg, PA... 1 Hr north of Morgantown

Fri 9/19 "Little Walter Tribute" w/GRUENLING, GUYGER & DEMING @

Court Street Grill, Pomeroy, OH... 1hr from Charleston
Fri 9/19 "Helping the Kids Lose the Blues" Concert @ Rhythm House, Bridgeville, PA
Sat 9/20 CHANNEL CATS BLUES BAND (<http://www.channelcatsbluesband.20m.com>)
"Party in the Hills III" Flintstone, MD. hour & 1/2 east of Morgantown
Sat 9/20 "Hot Licks BluesFest" @ downtown Granville, OH... 1hr 45min from Parkersburg
Sun 9/21 "Mars Home For Youth Benefit" w/Blues-Rockin' Divas @ Grazie! Oxford Club, Wexford, PA
Fri/Sat/Sun 9/19-20-21 Scottdale, PA Fall Fest w/MYSTIC KNIGHTS, DAVE IGLAR BAND & MAHAJIBEE BLUES... 1 hr northeast of Morgantown

REVIEW-

"Nudge It Up A Notch" by Steve Cropper/Felix Cavaliere (STAX RECORDS-7/29/08)
Man do I wish it was June 7th and school was just getting out for the summer, why? I just bought the new Cropper/Cavalier album and it feels like it is time to be "groovin" the summer away. It is like listening to a lost Rascals album! These guys are the last of the blue eyed soul poppers and they still know how to do it. If you're like me, it never leaves the CD player in the car.-(travelin'man'stan)
"Thank you Steve and Felix for a killer album!"-(<http://www.amazon.com>) "...these 2 take from the old school upbringing they have and added nothing more then experience, great writing and a hot R&B band with some great session musicians. turn back the clock, school is in... make that old school...old school soul."- (<http://www.cduniverse.com>).
Felix's vocals are outstanding. He definitely shines on trac #2/If It Wasn't for Loving You, trac #3/Without You, and #6/Impossible. These are classic 1967 YOUNG RASCALS style tunes... others, at least in my mind, lean more toward some great Stax Memphis Soul with about the only thing missing perhaps being some Donald "Duck" Dunn or Booker T & the M.G.'s... could have done without #9/Make the Time Go Faster, but we'll give 'em one slip up... very cool album, thanks Steve.-(crawlinkingsnake)

BIG THANKS-

Big time thanks to Angie & Lisa @ THE SHIRT FACTORY in Parkersburg (<http://www.shirtfactoryonline.com>). Coming thru in the clutch. Had requested 38 add-on WVBluesSociety T-shirts on Tuesday last week and ask if we could have them by Friday? They said "no problem" even though I know it was... they were ready by 10:00AM!
Also thanks to Dean and Donna @ [D & D TROPHIES](http://www.merchantcircle.com/business/D.And.D.Trophies.And.Tees.304-428-5909) (<http://www.merchantcircle.com/business/D.And.D.Trophies.And.Tees.304-428-5909>) also in Parkersburg. They put together the 1st/2nd/3rd place trophies for the Appalachian Blues Competition next month. Great job at a great price!

THIS WEEKEND IN THE "MOUNTAINS OF BLUES":

*Friday Sept 12th:

Billy The Kid & The Regulators- The Office Lounge/McClure Hotel, Wheeling
No Bad JuJu- Archies, Morgantown
The Catch Blues Band- Big C's Lounge, Middlebourne, WV
The Blues Notes- Sams Uptown Cafe, Charleston
Ray Fuller [acoustic]- City BBQ Cleveland Ave, Columbus

Billy Price Band- North Straband Municipal Park, N Strabane Township, PA
Ms Freddy & Blue Faze- Bulgarian Macedonian Cultural Center, Homestead, PA
The Pawnbrokers- Thunderbird Cafe, Lawrenceville, PA

*Saturday Sept 13th:

WINE & JAZZ FEST- Camp Muffley, Morgantown
Sugar Foot Stompers- Mountain State Brewing, Thomas, WV
The Blues Notes- Sams Uptown Cafe, Charleston
Hip Pocket- Street Fair, Nitro, WV
The Catch Blues Band- Valley Harley Davidson (11:30AM), Wheeling
The Catch Blues Band- Hock's (9:30PM), ???? , ??
Jubal Kane (CD Release Party)- The Empty Glass, Charleston
Long Tall Deb & the Drifter Kings- Via Colori/Goodale Park, Columbus
Micah Kesselring- Millstone BBQ, Logan, OH
The Jimi Vincent Band- The Den, Mansfield, OH
Ruf Records Blues Caravan w/Candy Kane, Deborah Coleman & Dani Wilde- The Ellington, Lynchburg VA
Sweaty Betty Blues Band- The Hop House, Greentree/Pittsburgh
Angel Blues & the Prophets- community concert/Verona Park, Pittsburgh
The Jimmy Adler Band- Big Pour Beer Festival, Lawrenceville, PA
Billy Price Band- The Rhythm House (after Wine & Jazz Fest), Bridgeville, PA

*Sunday Sept 14th:

WINE & JAZZ FEST- Camp Muffley, Morgantown
Coolin' w/Colin [Acoustic Jam]- The Thirsty Ear, Columbus
Izzy & Chris- Royal Lounge, Pittsburgh
Kentucky Jim Edwards Cancer Benefit- Royal Place, Route 88, Pittsburgh

"MOUNTAINS OF BLUES" AT A GLANCE:

*Wednesday 9/10 CRACKER STACKWELL host open-mic @ Blue Moose Cafe, Morgantown

*with Ace Anderson on harp, the JUBAL KANE (<http://www.jubal-kane.com>) CD Release Party outa be great Saturday 9/13 at The Empty Glass (<http://www.emptyglass.com>) in Charleston... "Breaking News" is a double album recorded "live" at The Empty Glass... Jubal Kane was nominated for "Best Emerging Blues Artist" by King Biscuit Blues Festival, Helena, AR 2005...

*if you make it to Archie's in Morgantown for NO BAD JUJU this Friday... check on my old frat bro' Archie (Danny) for me... recovering from a motorcycle accident... Danny was, and still is, a proud member of Tau Kappa Epsilon at FSC back in the day... Archie's is located approx 3/4 mile off I-68 (Sabraton Exit) at 1632 Deckers Creek Blvd.

*Alligator Records (<http://www.alligator.com>) is offering for one week only all JJ GREY & MOFRO recordings... go to <http://by110w.bay110.mail.live.com/mail/InboxLight.aspx?n=482348105>... JJ Grey & Mofro will be in Huntington @ the V Club Tuesday Sept 30th... opening for JJ will be LUKE JIVE TALKER

*now playing on ABS Bluescast (<http://www.atlantabluesociety.com>) "He's No Good" by one of our faaa-vo-rites: JILL WEST & BLUES ATTACK

*best kept secret in New River Gorge ain't no secret no mo'... the word is getting out on Chimney Corners USA (<http://mysite.verizon.net/vzewpi28/chimneycornerusa>) near Ansted... new owners Jim & Debbie Campbell opened on July 1st... Located 40 miles east of Charleston, on US Rt 60 aka Midland Trail... the Corners has it all... atmosphere (quaint but hardly snobbish), beautiful (especially the "Flying WV" on the back wall of the stage done in wormy chestnut and oak), great food (try the blackened chicken sandwich w/some peach cobbler), and "live" music nearly every night (IZZY & CHRIS were perfectly "at home" last Friday nite... there's even a cabin for rent... however, if you can't get into it try Hawks Nest State Park (<http://www.hawksnestsp.com>) just a couple miles away or The Glen Ferris Inn (<http://www.glenferrisinn.com>) at Gauley Bridge.

*Robert in Charleston: "I have an old out-of-print Fingerstyle Guitar Book... very much a beginner... recently learning to "Travis Pick" and am able to get through Elizabeth Cotton's "Freight Train" ok, but... have hit a block... bit of a procrastinator when it comes to working on things, and often finds myself in an extended jam, playing the usual fun licks or Travis picking, rather than learning new song or technique... seems that the "Travis Picking", while fun, is not quite useful in playing certain styles like Blind Boy Fuller, or Rev. Gary Davis, or many of great Piedmont players... all seems so complex... (walking and chewing gum effect) Any helpful ideas for heading in the right direction greatly appreciated... hard to find many people... that plays those styles."

*note: if ya got any advise, contact Robert at raltman1@mail.wvnet.edu ...sho' nuf preceate it.

*attention Mike (THE CATCH BLUES BAND)... "PLEASE" list on website location of venues where yer playing... thanks-

*next week:

Wed 9/17 LADY D @ Maxwell's, Beckley, WV

in a little bit,
crawlinkingsnake