

Mountains of Blues

'lectric news



West Virginia
Blues Society

KEEPING THE BLUES ALIVE

"Mountains of Blues"

Thursday Sept 25th, 2008

Vol. 1, Issue 7

The [WVBluesSociety](http://www.wvbluesociety.com) '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" 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 let me know. If you do NOT want to receive any future updates please reply with, Please No More.

BIRTHDAY:

Sept 29 1937 Joe "Guitar" Hughes Houston, TX

Sept 30 1935 Z.Z. Hill Naples, TX

RIP:

Sept 26 1937 Bessie Smith Clarksdale, MS

Sept 26 1980 Pat Hare St Paul, MN

Sept 28 1991 Miles Davis ????, CA

Sept 28 2001 David York aka Rock Bottom St Petersburg, FL

WHATS HAPPENIN' IN "MOUNTAINS OF BLUES":

PASSING-

Legendary blues shouter Napoleon Brown Culp aka NAPPY BROWN passed away Saturday Sept 20th at 10:30PM. Nappy was born Oct 12th 1929 in Charlotte, North Carolina, and started his music career singing gospel before switching to Rhythm & Blues in the early 1950s. He landed a contract with Savoy Records in 1954 which yielded numerous hits. He was a true character, and his action-packed stage performances were amazing. He had experienced a comeback of late after his 2007 release "Long Time Coming" on the Blind Pig record label. His powerful performance last May at the 2008 Blues Music Awards ceremony was the highlight of the night. Shortly after that, Nappy was hospitalized; and never was able to get his health back. He was 79. Funeral services are 1:00PM Saturday Sept 27th at St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church, Charlotte, NC.

NEWS OF PAT RAMSEY-

Really hated to hear this... first received word about PAT RAMSEY this week via Steve "the voice"... continued to do more checking hoping it was wrong, but it's not good. Super blues harp player Pat Ramsey is in hospice care and is not expected to recover. Word now is that he's in a coma. Liver and kidneys are shutting down due to Hep C. Can remember seeing Pat at Blues Angel Cafe in P-burg a few years ago. When I heard he played harp on JOHNNY WINTERS' "Red, Hot & Blue" album I quickly went out and got it. He and his band also have played Big Bend Blues Bash. His 1999 CD "Live at the Grand" is still one of my favorites. As is his version of Robert Johnson's "Dead Shrimp Blues" along with Fenton Robinson's "Loan Me a Dime"- which I'm listening to right now... Awesome... remember making a comment once within ear shot of JASON RICCI about his playing and he *very quickly* gave credit and thanks to Pat Ramsey. Steve says, "Bad News about harmonica great Pat Ramsey..... Great talent and great guy... Pat played Marietta/Parkersburg twice in the early 2000's. I remember spending a snowy weekend with him and his band at a February River City Ohio Blues Competition a few years ago. He came up from NOLA to play the night before the competition. He had told me he was a little nervous about coming this far North in February. I told him we hadn't had a serious snow in years. It snowed 16-inches. We had a good time, though." (thanks "voice")
Our thoughts and prayers go out to Pat, his family and friends.

LITTLE WALTER-

Bigtime WOW! to the "Little Walter Tribute" last week at Court Street Grill, Pomeroy, OH. A full house with people from far and wide... good to see Sue from Keyser WV again... she made the 4 hour drive to be there and planned to be in Granville the next day for Hot Licks Blues Fest. She was aware of both events due to "*Mountains of Blues*"

'lectric newsletter!... we'll be looking for you in Fairmont. Also 6 members of Huntington Harmonica Club made the trip after reading our newsletter. They were at "Diamond Teeth Mary" event @ V Club a couple weeks before... and at least one had played with CHRIS SUTTON & C&S RAILROAD that day. Also met a couple guys from Atlanta GA who were amazed at their discovery... they were actually in the area for WARREN HAYNES @ Fur Peace Ranch on Saturday and were quite pleased indeed to be at the Grill for "Little Walter". Even though STEVE GUYGER didn't make it, DENNIS GRUENLING did a fantastic job on the night. Very pleasant surprise was MOOKIE BRILL with them playing his famous upright bass. DOUG DEMING did an admirable job with vocals of the many Muddy Waters and Jimmy Rogers tunes, but he nearly stole the entire show with his guitar playing. This was 1940's thru 60's Chicago Blues at its' very best!

CHOCOLATE JAZZ-

Some things in life just make you feel good. Two of those things are chocolate and smooth jazz. Combining two of life's little pleasures in an evening of Chocolate Jazz is the invention of gifted flugelhorn and trumpet player [DAVID WELLS](#) , a national smooth jazz recording artist and native of Parkersburg. Chocolate Jazz will be presented Friday, Sept 26th at the Grand Point Banquet & Conference Center in Vienna (just north of P-burg). Music starts at 7:00PM. Tickets are \$15 in advance, and \$18 at the door and are available online at <http://www.chocolatejazz.com> Tickets are also being sold by students from Parkersburg High School and Williamstown High School as a fundraiser, with the schools keeping up to 50% of the ticket sales.

2008 APPALACHIAN BLUES COMPETITION-

The 2nd WVBluesSociety Appalachian Blues Competition is "NEXT WEEK" on Saturday Oct 4th @ Christophers Banquet Center, 104 Van Kirk Dr, Fairmont. Less than 4 miles off I-79, Admission at the door is \$10 members & \$15 non-members. Christopher's will offer a \$11.99 buffet dinner during the break at approx 4:30-6:00PM. These competition or challenge events are always a great time for everyone, but especially the fans. While the winners get the chance to move on to Memphis in February for the International Blues Challenge... the fans get an "all day" blues day, with some excellent acts, great food and beverage. The schedule has been revised somewhat and we will have for you next week. As of now, the music starts at 1:00PM with 12 acts competition. One did have to drop out this week. MATT WIGLER removed himself due to the fact he won the Baltimore Blues Society last week. Good luck to Matt in Memphis!

BORDER STATES-

MD

[Baltimore Blues Society](#) is hosting Severn Records 10th Anniversary Blues & BBQ Bash @ [Fish Head Cantina](#) Saturday Sept 27th

The Honi Honi Bar, Deep Creek Lake, MD will host CHANNEL CATS BLUES BAND Fri 9/26 & [SKYLA BURRELL BLUES BAND](#) Sat 9/27. (1hr east of Morgantown)

[DC Blues Society](#) presents the DCBS Battle of the Bands this Saturday Sept 27th at Surf Club Live, Hyattsville Beach, MD

PA

[Blues Society of Western PA](#) with Adagio Health sponsors "The Blues Go Pink" Breast Cancer Benefit, Oct 12th at Cefalo's Restaurant, Carnegie, PA. (1hr-15min from Morgantown)

[Three Rivers Productions](#) Pittsburgh's Acoustic Challenge 2008, Oct 1 thru 29. Finals Nov 5 @ Rhythm House Cafe, Bridgeville, PA

KY

[Kentuckiana Blues Society](#) will hold their "Blues Contest" for bands Sunday 9/28 at Stevie Ray's Blues Bar, Louisville, KY. Solo/duo competition will be Oct 18th at Zena's Cafe, Louisville.

VA

[Bangkok Blues](#), Falls Church, Fri 9/26- CLARENCE "BLUESMAN" TURNER, Sat 9/27- JELLY ROLL MORTALS & BLUESTONE, Sun 9/28 Blues Jam w/THE METEORS (1-1/2 hr from Martinsburg)

[CONCRETE BLUES](#) @ Lovettsville Octoberfest, Lovettsville, VA Sat 9/27... (30 miles from Martinsburg)

[THE BISCUIT ROLLERS](#) @ Uncle Charlie's, Crozet, VA (1-1/2hr from Lewisburg)

OH

[Columbus Blues Alliance "Blues Challenge"](#) is this Sunday Sept 28th at Whiskey Dicks, Columbus. Doors open at 12:00noon... competition will last until approx 9:00PM. Tickets are \$8.00 members and \$10 non-members.

[Stuart's Opera HOuse](#) Nelsonville, OH announces [BETTYE LAVETTE](#) will perform at the Fall Fundraiser, Sat 11/8 (55min from Parkersburg)

BLUES FOUNDATION DRAWING-

On Nov 1st The Blues Foundation will hold a drawing from among its current membership for two great prizes.

One lucky member will receive a cabin for 2 on the Jan 2009 "Legendary Rhythm & Blues Cruise" sailing Jan 24-31. While technically worth thousands of dollars, its true value in music, 24/7 fun and lifetime friends is priceless. Taj Mahal, Etta James, Derek Trucks & Susan Tedeschi, The Fabulous Thunderbirds, Tommy Castro--oh the list just goes on and on as does the fun on board. Each \$25 in membership gets one chance for the cabin, so, for example, a \$100 member has four chances. If you are not a member, sign up at blues.org or call 901-527-2583 before Nov 1st so you can go sailing with the likes of EG Kight, John Hammond, The Holmes Brothers, Jimmy Thackery and Reba Russell, as well as recent IBC favorites Trampled Under Foot and the Homemade Jamz Blues Band.

Second prize is a black and gold Gibson "Little Lucille" guitar with a B.B. King nameplate, autographed by nominees at the 25th Blues Music Awards in 2004, including Rory Block, Ronnie Baker Brooks, Michael Burks, Guitar Shorty, Bettye LaVette, Little Milton, Maria Muldaur, Charlie Musselwhite, Pinetop Perkins, Bobby Rush and Kim Wilson and many more. You will be the only one around with this collector's item.

THIS WEEKEND IN "MOUNTAINS OF BLUES":

Friday Sept 26th:

Vinnie Mele- "Spats" Blennerhassett Hotel, Parkersburg
David Wells/Chocolate Jazz- Grand Point Conference Center, Vienna, WV
The Catch Blues Band- Club House Tavern, ????, ??
Cliff Starbuck & Colin John- The Mudflats, Galena, OH
Code Blue Band-The Thirsty Ear, Columbus
The Jimi Vincent Band- Woosterfest, Wooster, OH
Izzy & Chris- Barista's, New Martinsville, WV
Mojo Theory- Amvets Post 51 Buckeye Lake, OH
Jill West & Blues Attack- Tilt's Pub, Gibsonia, PA
Chad Freeman & Blue Revolution- El Gran Sabor, Elkins, WV
Willie "Big Eyes" Smith- Moondogs, Blawnox, PA
The Jimmy Adler Band- Natali's, Butler, PA

*Saturday Sept 27th:

The Eldorado Kings- Elrama Tavern, Elrama, PA
Adrian Niles & Mahagibee Blues- The Spot Bar, Stubenville, OH
The Catch Blues Band- Pick's, ????, ??
2-Blue- Chimney Corners USA (1:00PM), Ansted, WV
2-Blue- Taylor Books (7:30PM), Charleston
Mathew First & the Blue Colla- The Brewery, Marietta

"Blues Night" w/Frank Harrison Group and more- CBR's, Columbus
The Zen Blues Band- Old Bag of nails, Gahanna, OH
The Jimmy Adler Band- Roadworthy Restaurant & Tavern, West Liberty, WV
Micah Kesselring- Millstone BBQ, Logan, OH
Dennis McClung Blues Band- Shinnston Frontier Days, Shinnston, WV
The Blues Cannibals- Cambridge Moose, Cambridge, OH
Jill West & Blues Attack- Carhops, Dormont, PA
Ian Ross- "Spats" Blennerhassett Hotel, Parkersburg

*Sunday Sept 28th:

CBA Blues Challenge- Whiskey Dick's, Columbus
Doug MacLeod- Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Charleston
The Alley Cats- Vista Tavern, Harpers Ferry, WV
Post-Mountain Stage Jam- The Empty Glass, Charleston

"MOUNTAINS OF BLUES" AT A GLANCE:

*if you know someone who would like to receive "Mountains of Blues" 'lectric newsletter, they can now sign up via the website at <http://wvbluessociety.org>

*every Tuesday: BILLY THE KID & THE REGULATORS host jam session @ Aspinwall Grille, Aspinwall, PA

*Wednesday 9/24:

TEENY TUCKER @ Easton Towne Center, Columbus
PAM ROBERTS @ El Gran Sabor, Elkins, WV
LIL ED & THE BLUES IMPERIALS @ House of Crave, Columbus
DOUG MacLEOD @ The Mudflats, Galena, OH

*Thursday 9/25 CRACKER STACKWELL @ The Purple Fiddle, Thomas, WV

*word on the street- MONTE MONTGOMERY had "the best" show ever on the stage at Court Street Grill last week... big statement indeed, cause I've seen some very good ones there...

*saw Doris Fields aka LADY D Sunday AM @ Blennerhassett Hotel in P-burg... couldn't make her performance Saturday at Taste of Parkersburg, but she said it went very well... BRUCE DeMOLL & BLENNERHASSETT TRIO didn't let here get away on Sunday without doing a song... excellent and thanks Lady D... and please keep us up to date with your schedule.

*we's dair... got room confirmation for Chicago Blues Fest 2009... we dair baby! we dair!!! (listened to what ya told me Dusty)

*Monday morning 9/22- photo of JASON RICCI w/Seydel Harmonica banner in background on front page of "The Parkersburg News"... Jason served as one of the judges at Mid-Ohio Valley Harmonica Championship. Winners of this first time event @ Belleville Homecoming were 1st place- Bob McGraw of Bluefield, VA. 2nd place- Dan Ridgeway of Sommerville, MA and 3rd place- Dick Kirk from Athens, OH.

*word is that Dustin Smith, son of Jimi Vincent of Jimi Vincent Band continues to recover from injuries sustained from a motorcycle accident... he's home now and has his good days as well as bad, but he is definitely on the mend. (thanks Sam)

*CBR's Bar @ 503 S Front St, Columbus features "Blues Night" w/THE FRANK HARRISON GROUP, CORNEILUS PRATHER DELK & THE HOWLIN' WOLFS and THE BRIGHTON BLUES BAND... \$6 pre-sale tickets can be purchased at <http://www.frankharrison.com/shows.htm> or call Ram Management at 614-491-4965... at door \$7... all Columbus Blues Alliance members are \$5.

*our buddy [Dane Tilghman](#) Exton, PA is having an art show... and everyone is invited... problem is, it's a fair distance away... the "Dane Tilghman 1st Milestone Art Show & Sale" Oct 26th in West Chester, PA (between Harrisburg & Philadelphia)... Dane does some beautiful blues art work- canvas/t-shirts/fans/etc... he did the official Pocono Blues Fest T-shirt this year and he donated to the WVBluesSociety some Blues "fans" as fund raisers... you probably have seen him at festivals around the mid-Atlantic area (last talked with him in Wheeling)... if ya happen to be in his neck 'o da woods then RSVP by Oct 12th to Victoria Stephens @ Market It 610-524-1622 or victoria@jodimarketit.com

*if yer able... tune in to "[Sittin' At The Crossroad with Big D](#)" WWOZ internet radio, New Orleans .. Big D's timeslot runs from 2:00-4:00PM CST... an hour later our time in the east... typical playlist for him runs from TAB BENOIT to TAMPA RED to ALBERT CASTIGLIA and all things in between... if yer drivin' somewhere 'tween Baton Rouge and N'awlins try it at 90.7FM...

*next week:

Monday 9/29 DOUG MacLEOD @ Gary Bowling's House of Art, Bluefield, WV

Tuesday 9/30

JJ MOFRO w/LUKE JIVETALKER @ The V Club, Huntington

DOUG MacLEOD @ The Purple Fiddle, Thomas, WV

Friday 10/3 CRACKER STACKWELL @ Black Bear, Morgantown

Saturday 10/4

APPALACHIAN BLUES COMPETITION @ Christopher's, Fairmont

ZZ TOP @ Keith Albee Theatre, Huntington

in a little bit,

crawlinkingsnake