

Mountains of Blues



'lectric news



West Virginia
Blues Society

KEEPING THE BLUES ALIVE

"Mountains of Blues" Thursday, October 2, 2008 Vol. 1, Issue 8

"did ya ever get up in the mornin',
with the blues three different ways?"

You know you had two minds to leave here,
but you didn't have but one such stay..."

#79123 "Downhearted Blues"

SON HOUSE vocal/National guitar, AL WILSON (Canned Heat) harmonica
1965 Columbia Studios, New York City, NY

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 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:**

Sept 30 1935 Z.Z. Hill Naples, TX

Oct 01 1932 Albert Collins "Master of the Telecaster" Houston, TX

***RIP:**

Oct 02 1983 George "Harmonica" Smith Los Angeles, CA

Oct 04 1970 Janis Joplin Los Angeles, CA

WHATS HAPPENIN' IN "MOUNTAINS OF BLUES":

***FATHER OF THE DELTA BLUES-**

Did a little listening to, reading about and checking on, EDDIE JAMES "SON" HOUSE few days back. With very little checking, it was evident he has been overlooked for a long-long time. Son House, born Mar 21, 1902 - died Oct 19, 1988 is sometimes called the "Father of the Delta Blues". He often played with CHARLEY PATTON and WILLIE BROWN, and was a major influence on ROBERT JOHNSON and MUDDY WATERS. First information came across said that he was born in Riverton, MS. So was curious if there was anything left of his birthplace. Found out that Riverton is not actually a town, but instead a "neighborhood" in Clarksdale. Located across the Sunflower River from downtown and north of South State St has to be very near the site where IKE TURNER was born. Generally in the direction of Stovall Plantation but not that far. As far as anything left in the way of a dwelling, no specific place has ever been identified. In fact, some publications list either Riverton OR Lyon as possible birthplace locations. Lyon, a small community of 300 to 400 people is located just northeast of Clarksdale. Roger Stolle tells us he feels he was born at a long gone plantation shack on the outskirts of Clarksdale. One thing about Lyon & Son House does seem certain... While playing a house party there one night, he shot and killed a man and was sentenced to prison. However, he only served two years in Parchman Farm. His parents worked hard for his release arguing it was self defense. A Clarksdale judge released him and he was ordered never to enter town again. He was soon traveling through out the Delta region playing music. Son had gone from a young Baptist minister to a full-fledged bluesman. He recorded for Paramount and for Alan Lomax in the 1930's and 40's, After that he disappeared until the 1960's. His re-discovery in Rochester, NY by DICK WATERMAN, NICK PERLS and PHIL SPIRO is quite story by itself! Something that we could never do justice to here.

He is buried in Mt Hazel Cemetery, Detroit, MI and there is a permanent sidewalk "Walk of Fame" marker in front of Cat Head Delta Blues in Clarksdale. Check out "Death Letter" at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8jN5vqEyV7g>

***2008 APPALACHIAN BLUES COMPETITION-**

It's here!... now!... this weekend!... The 2nd annual WVBS Appalachian Blues Competition Saturday Oct 4th @ Christophers Banquet Center, 104 Van Kirk Dr, Fairmont. Winners of the competition as well as others worldwide will appear four

months from now at the [International Blues Challenge](#) on Beale Street, Memphis. But of course the fans are the real winners with an "all day" blues event!

\$10 members/\$15 non-members at the door. "HOWEVER"... if anyone who is NOT already a member chooses to BECOME A MEMBER at this time... not only will they receive the way-cool WVBS T-shirt and all other membership benefits... but also enter thru the door at NO ADDITIONAL CHARGE! All for a paltry \$20! Just one more example of what YOUR West Virginia Blues Society continues to do for YOU.

The schedule has been shuffled around over the past few days but we now believe it to be firm. Seems two acts dropped out late. One due to winning the Baltimore Blues Society Competition and another that won for the DC Blues Society. Also some others who were not going to enter due to a variety of reasons are now good to go. Music will start at 1:00PM with 12 acts in competition.

Time Slots & Competitors:

1:00 STEVE & STEVE BLUES BAND - Nitro, WV
1:40 CRACKER STACKWELL - Morgantown
2:20 RON LAND BLUES BAND - Gaithersburg, MD
3:00 SAM LAMONT - Morgantown
3:40 B A BLUES TRIO - Huntington
4:20 JON JUSTICE BAND - Cincinnati, OH
Dinner Break 4:40PM (\$11.99 buffet available at break)
6:30 BLUES CROSSING - Ona, WV
7:10 MAHAJIBEE BLUES - Pittsburgh
7:50 THE CATCH BLUES BAND - Wheeling
8:30 Ms FREDDYE & BLUE FAZE - Pittsburgh
9:10 FATT LAPP BLUES BAND - Grand Rapids, MI
9:50 CHAD FREEMAN & BLUE REVOLUTION - Elkins, WV
10:20 drawing for "Blues Basket"/Blues Jam/Judges Tally Scores - Awards

*thanks to these most esteemed judges:

Tom Butler- [Billtown Blues Association](#)

Jackie Welker- [Pomeroy Blues & Jazz Society/Court Street Grill](#)

Ken Bays- Editor, [Blues Revue](#) magazine

Keith Lahti- Vice Chairman, [Tamarack Foundation](#) and Blues

Musician

Val Scott- Blues

Photographer/Critic, [Dusty Blues](#)

**The competition basically wraps up the 2008 season... although you never really know for sure 'cause many WVBS folks are always thinking of "things to do"... 2008 has been very good for WVBS. We will try and put together a more concise "wrap up" next week.

***THE BLUES BASKET-**

The competition at Christopher's will mark the final "Blues Basket" raffle of the year (maybe?). This is something WVBS has done during each of the 4 Blues Night(s) Out. Enjoyed by all and quite successful for bringing in a little cash for various expenses. Each basket has contained, and will now, many different blues items that any fan of the music is sure to enjoy.

Immediately following the last act on Saturday and before the jam session, the winning ticket will be drawn. Loaded with great stuff... like numerous CD's, Posters (autographed Dennis Gruenling "Little Walter Tribute" @ Court Street Grill & Dennis McClung Blues Band @ BB King 80th Birthday Party 2005, etc), Hats (Seydel Harmonicas, etc), T-shirts (Alligator Records), Stickers (Blues Revue), etc. All donated to the WVBS from blues businesses through out the country... Please help support these sponsors- Blues Revue magazine, Bob Margolin, Alligator Records (Chicago IL), Gallagher's Music (Parkersburg), Highway 61 Blues Fest & Museum (Leland MS), Bubbas Blues Corner (Helena AR), Dane Tilghman Enterprises (Exton, PA), Seydel Harmonicas, Columbus Blues Alliance, Cat Head Delta Blues & Folk Art (Clarksdale MS), Wheeling Heritage Blues Festival, Riverside Hotel (Clarksdale MS)... and others.

Purchase your tickets at the merchandise table or from members of the Board of Directors in the crowd. Price: 1 for \$1 or 6 for \$5. Funds raised go toward more great statewide WVBS blues events.

***NO COMPUTER, NO CASH REGISTER, NO PROBLEM!-**

This is the 2nd article on this particular subject in past couple months... but it's one of our favorites so here goes...

Another nice conversation with Bubba Sullivan of "Bubba's Blues Corner" Helena, AR last week. Bubba has been very generous to the WVBluesSociety in helping with the "Blues Night Out" Series the past few months. And we're happy to report he tells us he's having a very good year (and it ain't even King Biscuit time yet!). One of the places we always stop into; along with Roger Stolle's Cat Head Delta Blues whenever we're in the area. Was last there in April during Juke Joint Festival. Bubba runs one of "the finest" record/music stores anywhere in the country and he still does it without certain luxuries most of us take for granted everyday. He will do mail order and will take credit cards, but does not have a computer; which of course means no website, and also does not use a cash register! However, rest assured if you want something, he's got it or will get it for you real quick. He's in the process of sending me a SON HOUSE recording right now. Also Bubba informed us that he has come across a "huge" collection of old vinyl recording... not necessarily all blues, but everything you can imagine in 33-1/3, 45 and 78 rpm's. Came to him via Arizona to Mississippi and finally to his shop in Arkansas. In excellent condition (some mint condition) and are in the process of trying to inventory and price each one. A writer in Nashville recently wrote an article about the closing up of all the small locally owned record shops... Bubba talked with him and said he was doing just fine and has customers from all over the country and world! He then invited the writer to come see for himself. He's yet to show up. Also he said that ABC's "Good Morning America" plans to air a show filmed in Helena very soon. Even though he and his shop won't be on, still to keep an eye out for it. Seems they were in and out of town before he even knew anything about the filming. Ain't dat just how things normally go... the good stuff always gets over looked.

Good talking with you Bubba... thanks for your continued support of the WVBluesSociety, and hope all continues to go well... and of course, most of all, hope to get down your way again 'fore too long.

If you or someone you know is going to Arkansas Blues & Heritage Fest next week (Oct 9-10-11) be sure to stop into Bubbas Blues Corner. Located at 105 Cherry St, about 25

strides off the main stage in Helena. Also you can contact Bubba Sullivan at Bus: 870-338-3501, Cell: 870-995-1326 or Fax: 870-338-3921 and tell him we sent y'all!

***BORDER STATES-**

- > [Baltimore Blues Society](#) announces TERRY HARMONICA BEAN is in town @ The Senator Theater Wed 10/1
- > [Blue Ridge Blues Society](#) announces SCOTT PERRY at VA Tech Tailgate Party, Blacksburg Sat 10/4
- > [Columbus Blues Alliance](#) has its Blues Jam w/LONG TALL DEB & THE DRIFTER KINGS @ The Thirsty Ear, Columbus Sun 10/5. Also BLIND BOYS OF ALABAMA @ The Ohio Theater, Columbus Wed 10/8
- > [Blues, Jazz & Folk Music Society](#) announces 2nd Annual Blues Party w/CHICO BANKS & TORONZO CANNON @ Hotel Lafayette, Marietta 11/21
- > [Blues Society of Western PA](#) breast cancer benefit. "The Blues Goes Pink" will be Sun 10/12 @ Cafalo's Restaurant, Carnegie, PA

THIS WEEKEND IN "MOUNTAINS OF BLUES":

***Friday Oct 3rd:**

Dennis McClung Blues Band- Salem Apple Butter Fest, Salem, WV
Dave Martin Band- The Brewery, Marietta
Cracker Stackwell- Black Bear, Morgantown
Billy The Kid & The Regulators- Woolly Bully's, New Brighton, PA
Randy Keener & Bill Dailey- Roadworthy Tavern, West Liberty, WV
Memphis Cradle- Rascals Saloon, Dover, OH
Sam Lamont- WVU Mountainlair, Morgantown
Bill Toms & Hard Rain- Moondog's, Blawnox, PA
Ms Freddie & Blue Faze- Wicked Witches Dam View Hotel, Cheswick, PA
Soul Village- Rhythm & Brews, Morgantown

***Saturday Oct 4th:**

APPALACHIAN BLUES COMPETITION- Christopher's, Fairmont
Diablo Blues BAnd- Adamfest/Coonskin Park, Charleston
Rory Block, John Cephas, Roy BookBinder- Fur Peace Ranch, Pomeroy, OH
Jon Justice Band- The Brewery,
Marietta
JB Tenney- Jabberwocks, Elkins, WV
The Catch Blues Band- Hock's, ????, ??
Sam Lamont Band- McClafferty's Pub, Morgantown
The Blues Cannibals- The Polo Club, Parkersburg
The Eldorado Kings- Roadworthy Tavern, West Liberty, WV
Jimmy Adler Blues Band CD Release Party- Moondog's, Blawnox, PA
Scott Perry- Virginia Tech Tailgate Party, Blacksburg, VA
Jill West & Blues Attack- The Hop House, Crafton, PA

***Sunday Oct 5th:**

CBA Blues Jam- The Thirsty Ear, Columbus
Jam w/Tommys Triple Threat Blues Revue- The Pour House, Dunbar, WV
Billy Price Band- North Strabane Municipal Park, N Strabane, PA

"MOUNTAINS OF BLUES" AT A GLANCE:

*Tuesday Sept 30th:

DOUG MACLEOD @ The Purple Fiddle, Thomas, WV
COLIN JOHN @ The Brewery, Marietta, OH

*Wednesday Oct 1st: JJ GREY & MOFRO @ Lime Kiln Theater, Lexington, VA

*Thursday Oct 2nd:

THE CATCH BLUES BAND @ Wheeling Island Race Track & Gaming Center, Wheeling
COLIN JOHN (acoustic) @ The Mudflats, Galena, OH
PAM ROBERTS @ El Gran Sabor, Elkins, WV
CHAD FREEMAN & BLUE REVOLUTION @ Beanders, Elkins

*here's hoping that Donna Price's dad continues a speedy and full recovery. They've had to deal with a lot lately...

*we were wrong when reporting last week that [PAT RAMSEY](#) was in a coma... but his prognosis is still not good. His long time friend and sidekick, Dave Remson says, "his spirits are pretty good, but both his condition and prognosis are not... Hospice is coming to his home every day to make him comfortable as possible... a huge benefit for medical expenses Oct. 24th at the American Legion Hall in Tallahassee, with 6 or 7 bands and silent auction... Pat is excited about it and wants to try to play if possible."

*from Pete the Blewzzman.

"He is in the Blewzzman's thoughts and from the "South Florida Blues Society" - also send their best wishes. (concerning benefit) I'm sure (they) organization would love to be onboard in one form or another."

"The BLUES is my PASSION & THERAPY" <http://www.mary4music.com>

*word from [IZZY & CHRIS](#) late last week... "We will end (OH NOOOOOO!) our 2008 "Preachin' The Blues Tour" this Friday at Baristas (SEPT 26TH IN NEW MARTINSVILLE). We want to thank everyone that made this an incredible year for us. We will be taking October off (aka VACATION IN THE DEEP SOUTH) and playing only a few dates this fall as we head back to the studio to work on our next CD (YIPEEE!). We have traveled all over the country since January and have played countless clubs and festivals. However, Baristas' (THANKS JOHN YEVUTA!) remains our favorite place to play. Come check it out!" (SORRY GUYS, COULDN'T GET THERE... GUESS ALL GOOD THINGS MUST COME TO AN END... LOOKIN' FORWARD TO '09!

*word from Patrick of MAHAJIBEE BLUES @ The Spot Bar, Stubenville, OH last week... I wish we would've taped it... For a \$5 cover and a chance to win tickets to the Monday Night Steelers vs Ravens game, not to mention Adrian (Niles), Sean (Carney), and Mahajibee, it was a good night, a real good night for the blues...

*memorial tribute and jam for PHIL GUY will be held Tuesday, Sept 30TH at 9:30pm @

Buddy Guy's Legends, Chicago... very special because not only will his core band perform, along with other musicians, but they will hang Phil's 1957 Telecaster on one of Buddy Guy's Legends walls.

***next week:**

Wednesday 10/8:

BLIND BOYS OF ALABAMA & THE PRESERVATION HALL JAZZ BAND @ The Ohio Theater, Columbus

PAUL GEREMIA @ The Court Street Grill, Pomeroy, OH

Friday 10/10: MIKE LENZ BAND @ Rascals Saloon, Dover, OH

Saturday 10/11: THE JIMMY ADLER BAND @ The Roadworthy Restaurant, West Liberty, WV

Sunday 10/12:

EDDIE "THE CHIEF" CLEARWATER @ The Thirsty Ear, Columbus

"The Blues Go Pink" sponsored by Blues Society of Western PA @ Cefalo's, Carnegie, PA

***coming soon:**

10/18 "Blues Cruise" w/THE BLUES CANNIBALS @ Point Park, Parkersburg

10/24 THE CATCH BLUES BAND @ Big C's Lounge, Middlebourne, WV

10/24 DENNIS McCLUNG BLUES BAND @ The Purple Fiddle, Thomas, WV

10/31 JIMMY THACKERY @ Moondogs, Blawnox, PA

11/22 RUTHIE FOSTER @ Carnegie Hall, Lewisburg, WV

in a little bit,
crawlinkingsnake