

Mountains of Blues

'lectric news



West Virginia
Blues Society

KEEPING THE BLUES ALIVE

"Mountains of Blues"

Thursday, January 29th, 2009

Vol. 2, Issue 5

The [WVBluesSociety](http://www.wvbluesociety.com) '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" is a service to our "blues friends" wherever you may be. Bluesletter 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 news in the future let me know. If you do NOT want to receive any future updates please reply with, Please No More.

WHATS HAPPENIN' IN "MOUNTAINS OF BLUES":

everytime looks like it looks like it gonna be a slow week, stuff starts pouring in... actually had to pull 3 articles off and wait 'til next week... but that's okay, it's a nice problem to have. Keep it coming!

WORD FROM THE PREZ-

Hello Blues Friends,

Our blues society is in the middle of our dues renewal period and we are asking all to consider renewing their dues or joining the WV Blues Society. 2008 was a very busy year. We held our Appalachian Blues Competition in October and are sponsoring two

acts to Memphis to the IBC's, held our first Charlie West Blues Festival, we took our Blues Nite Out series to five different locations and they are a huge hit. We got our Annual Diamond Teeth Mary McClain Memorial off to a great start this past August in Huntington. We are also nominating her for the WV Music Hall of Fame as well. We pitched our Society tent at no less than five different Blues Festivals. We have completed a new CD with 10 Society music groups that will be for sale very soon. Four society members will be doing volunteer work at the IBC's in Memphis next month, two more members will be competing. As you can see your Blues Society is very active and growing throughout the State. But, we need your help and support to continue in our mission to educate the public and promote the musicians that play the blues music the we love. Single membership is only \$ 20, family is \$ 35, friend \$ 100, Ex. \$ 150 and Corp. \$ 500. You can also join through our website at www.wvbluessociety.org . We are looking for another great year in 2009, including a Blues Cruise in July with a dinner dance and great blues music to dance to. Also, if you have a friend or co-worker that might be interested, pass the word. Until then, have a great blues day.
(SmokeStacJac)

REVIEW-

BILL LUPKIN @ The Brewery

It was bitter outside but sweet inside the Marietta Brewing Company Friday as [Bill Lupkin](#) and the *Workers* played some creamy smooth blues to an appreciative crowd. Lupkin skillfully skated over the harmonica and sang songs of love gone wrong. He was backed on the drums by Michael Newberry, who is the last remaining Worker from the *Watermelon Slim* days. He is my favorite touring drummer, with his quick moves, precisely proffered pounds and showmanship with the sticks. When he was doing his drum solo those sticks looked like hummingbird wings! Lupkin was joined by his brother, Steve, on bass and a tight guitar player, Chris Hanson. Music lovers of all generations enjoyed it; during the first set the college partiers all jammed into the band area and the fun was on. Many thanks to Kevin and the folks at MBC for consistantly bringing live music to the are for us to enjoy. (ChiliPepper)

THANK YOU ALISON & OTHERS-

Big thanks to Alison Montgomery of the Overtime Sports Bar; the hardworking staff; ChiliPepper with 50/50 tickets; Izzy & Chris for coming anywhere during this freezing winter; and the EMS guys. While it's true, the West Virginia Blues Society did encourage/support and help promo [IZZY & CHRIS](#), it was Alison that carried the bulk of the load. She along with Todd deserve credit for takin' a chance on the Blues! The place was packed by 9:00PM with no empty seats anywhere. This is what all were hoping for. Now perhaps we can do it again sometime before long?

Izzy & Chris never fail to please. Many comments from those who had not seen them before how they really seem to like what they're doing. They stayed at it until around 2:00AM! Did think at one point they were losing some due to a couple songs that

weren't to bluesy. But Izzy corrected that when he (suprise-suprise) broke 2 or 3 guitar strings midway thru the first set. After that and into the 2nd set they tore it up with everything from Mississippi John Hurt to Bessie Smith to Muddy Waters to even a little Johnny Cash and the Beatles! It's amazing sometimes their reperitor of music...

The Overtime gave away a nice bunch of door prizes with a couple thrown in from the blues society. Also held a 50/50 drawing with the money going to the WVBS for the artists going to IBC's next week. Thanks again Alison.

Something we didn't know until the next day... a friend of Alison's suffered a heart attack later in the evening while still at the venue. She's ok now but had to have been quite a scare. Chris who also works in the medical profefssion tells us "Izzy often has that effect on the ladies!" Just glad Mojo Mama was able to get out before she too was overcome by the Izzy-Spell. You da man Izzy, you ARE the man...

A WORD FROM ALISON (edited for space)-

To all of the blues society members and acquaintances, I just wanted to take a moment and praise one of your own.

crawlinkingsnake and I met at The Foothills blues festival... voiced my interest in bringing some live music to P-burg and didn't quite know how to go about it... WVBS took me under wing and guided... put on in my opionion, one of the best shows Parkersburg has seen in quite a while.

WVBS was able to get me contact with Chris Nacy of *Izzy & Chris*, (who we have been following like groupies since we saw them in April), and through those efforts, we were able to pull off a show like no other!!!

WVBS is very helpful, wise to what is going on in the area, and a great supporter of The Blues...

...just wanted to take a moment, and thank WVBS and give a lot of praise for a job WELL done.

Thank you snake for everything! It was a great show and we will do it again real soon!
(Alison Montgomery)

"DIAMOND TEETH MARY" MEMORIAL FUNDRAISER/FLORIDA-

Thanks so much to all who came out to Dave's Aqualounge Jan. 25 for the Diamond Teeth Mary Memorial Marker Fundraiser! These musicians donated their time & talents for a fine show: *Jon Puhl, Kim Harpo, Mike Delaney, Andy Foertsch, Roy Book Binder, David Lee Maxwell, Dave Gill, Tom Lee, Bob (TomKats), Tbone Hamilton, Boneshaker, Liz Pennock, Dr. Blues, Sarasota Slim, Nitro, and Sandy Atkinson*. Also, thanks to Capt. Mike, who donated 100 lbs. of red snapper, Chef Craig who fried it up, George & Barry for working the door & Dave for the venue & extra donation.

The total raised was \$511.00, which will be sent up to the West Virginia Blues Society

toward the cost of the marker. If you missed the fundraiser, you can donate via their website: <http://www.wvbluessociety.org> or mail a check payable to WV Blues Society, Inc. (reference: DTM Memorial Fund), P.O. Box 11646, Charleston, WV 25339. All contributions are tax deductible & greatly appreciated. ([Liz Pennock & Dr. Blues](#))

We knew Liz and the good Doctor were planning this and that it was coming up soon... but the number of artists volunteering their time; the amount of donated food; the venue; the overall number of volunteers and the SUCCESS of the event is almost too much to comprehend. It certainly was too much to ask... thank you Liz & Doc and the [Suncoast Blues Society](#), your efforts are quite amazing!

MEMPHIS & IBC's-

As if anyone needed any more than obvious reasons to go to Memphis during IBC's (Feb 4-7)... here's a couple more.

Friday Feb 6th [Rum Boogie Cafe](#) on Beale will host "Roots & Blues Showcase" 12:00 noon 'til 4:30PM. Featuring *SUPER CHIKAN, BILLY GIBSON, CHRIS JAMES & PATRICK RYNN, KELLY CARMICHAEL* and many more. Emcee is Brett Fleming of WEVL Memphis with chances to win DVDs, CDs and a Epiphone Les Paul Standard.

Saturday Feb 7th "A Big City 'SOUL' Rhythm & Blues Showcase" at [Ground Zero Blues Club](#), just off Beale near Fedex Arena. Featuring artists like *JOEY GILMORE, BILLY GIBSON, TORONZO CANNON, DEAK HARP* and who knows who else from 6:00PM 'til 2:00AM. Also the first 100 patrons will receive the [Big City Rhythm & Blues Magazine](#) Cross Roads-CD Sampler #5.

Also:

Jack and Donna of The WVBluesSociety "Bizness Office" will be working the 'Silent Auction' Thursday Feb 5th from 8:00AM 'til 12:30PM @ [DoubleTree Hotel Downtown](#). The hotel will serve as headquarters for The Blues Foundation [<http://www.blues.org>] at 185 Union Ave.

"*Miss Ella*" is serving as judge during Friday night semi's @ [Kings Palace](#). Stop and say hello but only during break 'cause you know that's a tough job.

Bruce Wheeler of [Heritage Music BluesFest](#) will serve as venue coordinator on Thur and Fri (Feb 5 & 6) and host the Solo/Duo Finals Sat Feb 7th @ [The Orpheum Theater](#).

All WVBS members and friends are ask to stop by and give a shout out to these volunteers.

EXTRA ROOM IN MEMPHIS//THANKS MINDY!-

Mindy Cooper of Bureau of the Public Debt, Parkersburg tells us, "Just wanted to let you know that I have an extra room in Memphis for the IBC for 2/5, 2/6, and 2/7 if you

know of anyone who might be interested. It's at the Holiday Inn downtown directly across the street from the Peabody. I will not cancel the room until 2/2 in case someone might want it."

Anyone interested can contact Mindy (phone) 304-480-6282 or (fax) 304-480-8575. You could probably also contact her thru the WVBS website.

Thanks again Mindy for thinking of your "full-service" West Virginia Blues Society!

BUBBA'S BLUES CORNER-

Once again had a nice conversation last week with our old friend Bubba Sullivan in Helena, AR. Always great to talk with Bubba. He does indeed have his hand on the pulse of the community, state, and nation. Seems the economy is just as screwed up in Arkansas as anywhere else. However, Bubba did say he thought there would be enough money to continue with the festival this coming fall. They had the largest Saturday night crowd ever in 2008. But says he now sees people come into his shop during festival and instead of buying 8 to 10 CD's, they might buy 4 or 5 instead. Bubba the owner/propritor of *Bubba's Blues Corner* is located only a few strides from the main stage of the Arkansas Blues & Heritage Festival aka King Biscuit Festival in Helena. And that in the end "we'll all be ok 'cause ain't never seen a hearst pulling a U-Haul."

When you get to the Delta don't miss Bubba's Blues Corner. Would highly recommend all WVBS folks and fans if you have time during IBC's, make the drive south of Memphis and check it out. Take Highway 49 just 12 miles off Highway 61 in Mississippi and cross the river into Arkansas. Stay to yer right and go downtown Helena. Bubba's located on the corner of Cherry & Missouri Streets at 105 Cherry St. Bubba's features one the "the best" selections of hard to find blues recordings, t-shirts, caps and more. As we've said before, Bubba don't do no internet. If you want something and can't get there yourself, call 870-338-3501 (shop) or 870-995-1326 (cell). He always tells me it's best to call his cell phone... and if he ain't got it he'll soon get it.

Blues Profile -MIKE ARCURI-

Birth Date: *1-23-57*

Birth Place: *Charleston, WV*

Bands You Have Played With: *Hard Times, Big Money, Rick Rivard & friends, Kill the Bunny*

Current Band/Instrument: *Holy Cow!/electric & acoustic guitar & vocal*

Favorite Living Singer: *Elvis (depending on what you believe!)*

Favorite Deceased Singer: *Elvis (again)*

Favorite Living Blues Musician: *Taj Mahal*

Favorite Deceased Blues Musician: *Robert Johnson*

First Record Purchased: *Seppenwolf Live*

First Blues Record Purchased: *Canned Heat*

Personal Blues Statement: *"Ain't no black or white thing- it's just the blues!"*

THIS WEEKEND IN "MOUNTAINS OF BLUES":

Friday Jan 30th:

HURRICANE JERRY & STORMFRONT @ The Thirsty Ear, Columbus, OH
SONNY LANDRETH @ Sellersville Theatre, Sellersville, PA
PAT HEISERMAN @ The Brewery, Marietta
THE DIXIE HUMMINGBIRDS @ The Clay Center, Charleston
CODE BLUE BAND @ Larry B's, Westerville, OH
CEDRIC BURNSIDE & LIGHTNIN' MALCOLM @ Moondog's, Blawnox, PA
MISS FREDDYE & BLUE FAZE @ Roadworthy Tavern, West Liberty, WV
DEJA BLUE @ Bankok Blues, Falls Church, VA
THE CATCH BLUES BAND @ Big C's, Middlebourne
SOULVILLAGE @ The New Papparazi, Pittsburgh

Saturday Jan 31st:

INNER CITY BLUES BAND & LeFEVER @ The Thirsty Ear, Columbus, OH
SWEATY BETTY BLUES BAND @ Wightman Community Building, Squirrel Hill/Pittsburgh
DELTA MOON @ Blue5 Restaurant, Roanoke, VA
IZZY & CHRIS @ Zottola's Pub & Eatery, Cummerville, PA
THE CATCH BLUES BAND @ Hock's Bar & Grill, Valley Grove/Wheeling
THE BISCUIT ROLLERS @ Uncle Charlie's Smokehouse, Crozet, VA
LUKE JIVETALKER @ The Emph Glass, Charleston BLUES CROSSING @ The Creekside Cafe, Hurricane, WV
CHIZMO CHARLES & THE RHYTHM ACES @ The Inn'Termission, Pittsburgh

Sunday Feb 1st:
let the @\$ \$ whoppin' begin... **GO STEELERS!**

BIRTHDAY:

Jan 27 1918 Elmore James Richland, MS
Jan 28 1892 Luke Jordan Appomattox County, VA
Jan 29 1923 Eddie Taylor Benoit, MS
Jan 29 1889 Huddie Ledbetter aka Lead Belly Mooringsport, LA
Jan 30 1947 Steve Marriott East London, England
Jan 31 1944 Charlie Musselwhite Kosciusko, MS
Jan 31 1952 Paul DeLay Portland, OR
Jan 31 1953 Big Time Sarah Coldwater, MS

RIP:

Jan 28 2005 Carl Rutherford Bristol, CA
Jan 29 1990 Ted Bogan Detroit, MI
Jan 30 1982 Lightnin' Hopkins Houston, TX
Jan 30 1976 Beau De Glen "Mance" Lipscomb Navasota, TX

"MOUNTAINS OF BLUES" AT A GLANCE:

Thur Jan 29th [SAM LAMONT](#) @ [Black Bear Burritos](#), Morgantown...

Sneak preview new [BILLY PRICE](#) CD, "Night Work" in Pittsburgh Post-Gazette "[BLUE NOTES](#)"--

And just in from BP Newsletter -- "I suspect you've noticed that the *Billy Price Band* hasn't been playing much during this frigid winter (if you didn't notice, it might mean you didn't care, and I would hate to think that)."

"We'll be getting busy again in the spring, but in the meantime, we will soon release (March?) our new CD with [FRED CHAPPELLIER](#), 'Night Work'" ... [NIGHTHAWKS](#) harp player MARK WENNER will be featured on 3 tracs... also guest appearance by [OTIS CLAY](#) ... and a great tribute to [O.V. WRIGHT](#)... CD Release Party Apr 5th @ [Palisades Ballroom](#), McKeesport, PA. Time TBA...

Music Swap Meet @ [Stuarts Opera House](#), Nelsonville, OH Sat Jan 31st... browse records, cd's, tapes, instruments, music gear, and more...

"Doctor on Call"- nice to see "Train Kept A-Rollin" WPBY-TV Morgantown last week...

catch *Bill Wax* with *Roger Stolle* "live" every Thursday 5:00PM Eastern Time Sirius/XM radio CH 74...

excellent idea for gameday <http://www.stubbsbbq.com/>

cool 2009 Blues Calendar: e-mail Phil (philustr8r@aol.com) @ Blues Images, Seattle, WA

COMING SOON--

[Winter Jazz & Blues Festival](#), Nelsonville, OH (Athens-2008) welcomes back *MARK PENDER*, from Late Night w/Conan O'Brien... Fri Feb 6th variety of musicians @ The Elks, The Mine, Rhapsody and more... Sat Feb 7th @ [Stuart's Opera House](#) w/Mark Pender, Alex Graham, Bobby Carson, Kathy Farmer and R&B Station...

DEBBIE DAVIES:

Fri Feb 6th [Blue5 Restaurant](#), Roanoke, VA

Sat Feb 7th [The Ellington](#), Lynchburg, VA

"Evening of Old Time Blues" Fri Feb 7th w/*CRACKER STACKWELL & SOUP CAMEL* @ [Blue Moose Cafe](#), Morgantown

Friday Feb 7th *THE BLUES CANNIBALS* @ [Rendouvouz Club](#), Lubeck/Parkersburg

"[Mountain Stage](#)" Feb 8th *BUCKWHEAT ZYDECO*, Feb 15th *DEREK TRUCKS BAND*

"Blue Monday" Mon Feb 9th w/[CEDRIC BURNSIDE & LIGHTNIN' MALCOLM](#) @ [The Court Street Grill](#), Pomeroy, OH

U.S. ARMY BLUES Tue Feb 10th @ [Carnegie Hall](#), Lewisburg... keeping with the tradition of America's original art form, jazz... Army Blues strives to preserve the music of such legends as Count Basie, Duke Ellington, Woody Herman, and Stan Kenton...

THE DIXIE HUMMINGBIRDS:

Fri Feb 20th- [The Smoot Theater](#), Parkersburg

Sat Feb 21st- [Randolph Co. Community Arts Center](#), Elkins

Wheeling [Heritage Blues Fest](#) 2009 line-up announced... only one week left for Early Bird tickets... advance ticket prices go into effect 2/9/09... can be purchased online...

in a little bit,
crawlinkingsnake