

Recipient of 1998 KBA Award for
"Blues Organization of the Year"



NATCHEL' BLUES NETWORK, INC. is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation dedicated to promoting the blues as a true American art form. Your annual contribution puts you on our mailing list for the newsletter/calendar and notices of special NBN events and meetings. As a member of NBN, you receive discounted admissions to events and at certain area merchants.

ANNUAL TAX DEDUCTIBLE MEMBERSHIP DUES:
INDIVIDUAL \$20 FAMILY \$30 CORPORATE \$100

Please return this membership application with your check or money order to: Membership, Natchel' Blues Network, P.O. Box 1773, Norfolk, VA 23501-1773. Dues are for the period of one calendar year, starting with your application date. Thank you for supporting the blues!



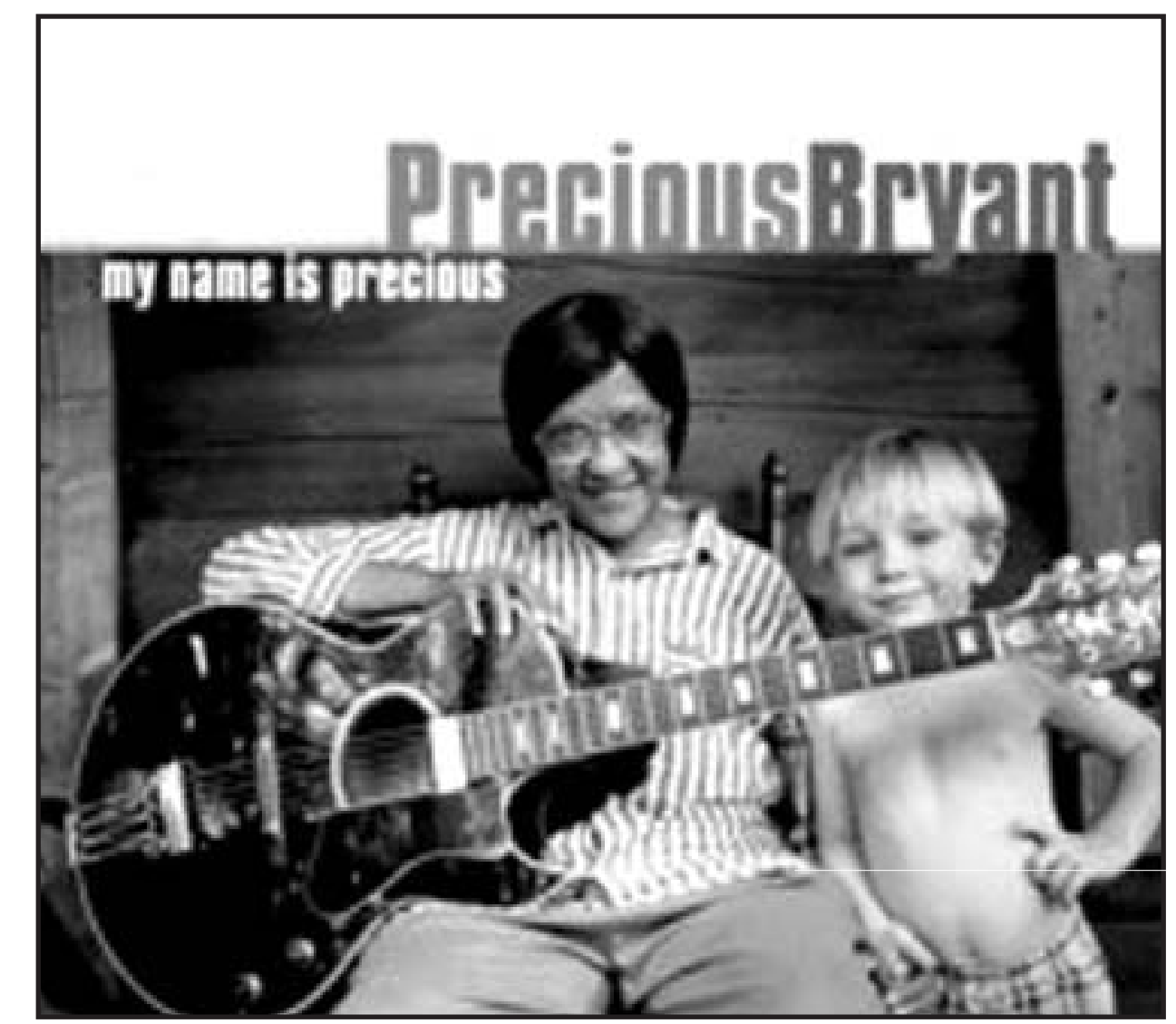
Happy New Year!

NATCHEL' BLUES NETWORK

"Keepin' the Blues Alive in Hampton Roads Since 1984"

Volume 22 Number 1 January/February 2006 Norfolk, Virginia

Favorite Five of 2005



Recipient of 1998 KBA Award
"Blues Organization of the Year"

IN THIS ISSUE

- FAVORITE FIVE OF 2005
- 2006 KEEPING THE BLUES ALIVE AWARDS
- AN INTERVIEW WITH JIMMY THACKERY
- LOCAL BLUES CALENDAR
- NBN HOLIDAY PARTY & THE ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS TO THE BOARD
- SHOW/DVD & CD REVIEWS AND MORE

More on Page 10

The official bi-monthly publication of The Natchel' Blues Network, Inc.: a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the Blues. AFFILIATE OF THE BLUES FOUNDATION

NBN is sponsored in part by The Hampton Arts Commission, Virginia Commission for the Arts, & the City of Virginia Beach through the Virginia Beach Arts & Humanities Commission.

Date _____ Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (Home) _____ (Work) _____ (E-Mail Address) _____

What hours are you most available by phone & where? _____ AM _____ PM _____ Home/Work _____

Type of Membership: ___ Individual ___ Family ___ Corporate ___ New ___ Renewal _____ Band _____

Please check the activities you would like to help us with:

___ NBN Newsletter ___ Mailings ___ Festival ___ Fundraising/Sponsorship ___ Membership Development _____

___ Promotion/Policy ___ Education Programs ___ Monthly/Semi-Monthly Shows ___ Website _____

Questions? Please call (757) 456-1675 Moving? Please send your new address. Bulk mail is not forwarded!

BLUES SOCIETY "HOTLINES"

- Baltimore Blues Society, Baltimore, MD - (410) 744-2291
- Beale Street Blues Society, Memphis, TN - (901) 527-4585
- Billtown Blues Association, Hughesville, PA - (570) 584-4480
- Black Swamp Blues Society, Toledo, OH - (419) 389-8337
- Blues Power Blues Society of New Jersey, Jersey City/Newark, NJ - (201) 675-3276
- Blues Society of Indiana, Indianapolis, IN - (317) 470-8795
- Boston Blues Society, Boston, MA - (617) 876-2583
- British Blues Connection, Reading, Berkshire, England - 44 73 459-5772
- Capital Area Blues Society, Okemos, MI - (517) 349-0006
- Cascade Blues Association, Portland, OR - (503) 223-1850
- Central Iowa Blues Society, Des Moines, IA - (515) 278-1246
- Charlotte Blues Society, Charlotte, NC - (704) 331-8871
- Colorado Blues Society, Lyons, CO - (303) 415-2737
- Columbus Blues Alliance, Columbus, OH - (614) 470-2CBA
- D.C. Blues Society, Washington, DC - (202) 962-0112
- Fort Smith Riverfront Blues Society, Fort Smith, AR - (501) 784-8216
- Fox Valley Blues Society, Oswego, IL - (630) 585-3955
- Houston Blues Society, Houston, TX - (713) 942-9427
- Inland Empire Blues Society, Spokane, WA - (509) 534-1081
- James River Blues Society, Lynchburg, VA - (434) 237-8080
- Kalamazoo Valley Blues Association, Kalamazoo, MI - (616) 381-6514
- Kansas City Blues Society, Kansas City, MO - (816) 474-4774
- Knoxville Blues Society, Knoxville, TN - (423) 588-5929
- Kyana Blues Society, Louisville, KY - (502) 491-2890
- Linn County Blues Society, Cedar Rapids, IA - (319) 399-5105
- Lizard Creek Blues Society, Fort Dodge, IA - (515) 576-8378
- Los Angeles, International Blues Society, CA - (805) 267-0495
- Lowcountry Blues Society, Mt. Pleasant, SC - (803) 762-9125
- Magic City Blues Society, Birmingham, AL - (205) 933-6904
- Mississippi Valley Blues Society, Davenport, IA - (319) 322-BLUES
- Music City Blues Society, Nashville, TN - (615) 292-5222
- Natchel' Blues Network, Norfolk, VA - (757) 456-1675
- New Orleans, Crescent City Blues Club, LA - (504) 522-5533
- Oklahoma Blues Society, Oklahoma City, OK - (405) 791-0110
- Philadelphia Blues Machine, Philadelphia, PA - (215) 849-5465
- Phoenix Blues Society, Phoenix, AZ - (602) 252-0599
- Piedmont Blues Preservation Society, Greensboro, NC - (336) 275-4944
- Reno B.L.U.E.S., Reno, NV - (702) 329-3423
- Sacramento Blues Society, Sacramento, CA - (916) 556-5007
- Skylands Blues Society, Hacktettstown, NJ - (908) 813-2587
- Southern Nevada Blues Association, Las Vegas, NV - (702) 812-3088
- St. Louis Blues Society, St. Louis, MO - (314) 241-BLUE
- Toronto Blues Society, Toronto, Canada - (416) 538-3885
- Tucson Blues Society, Tucson, AZ - (520) 887-2126
- United Jersey Blues Network, Clifton, NJ - (972) 340-7672
- Washington Blues Society, Seattle, WA - (360) 652-6371
- Wichita Blues Society, Wichita, KS - (316) 729-4WBS

BANDS THAT PLAY BLUES IN HAMPTON ROADS

- Beale Street** - Phil Dilorio - 286-0902
- Big Brewster & Blue Rocks** - Bruce Brinkley - 721-21006
- Big Fun** - Bruce Gray - 622-7235
- Black Rose Blues Band** - JD Silvia - 523-4372
- Black White Blues** - Carlton Newsome - 825-6729
- Blues Empacts** - Bill Kelly - (757) 229-9672
- Blues Xchange** - Tommy Parker - 498-3545
- dc3** - Dave Coghill - 463-2384
- DOAD** - Ted Doty - 486-9740
- Dunn & Co.** - Bryan Dunn - 631-8790
- Eddie Level** - Lloyd Jones - 418-1910
- Fat Tony** - Sandy Martin - 460-0398
- Freeborn Blues Band** - Dan Lubertazzi - 872-8580
- HammerHead Blues** - Phil Branton - 483-1350
- Hollie & the SpeedBumps** - Denny Fohringer - 646-9757
- H.M. Johnson Band** - Carlton Lillard - 547-4506
- John Baldwin Group** - John Baldwin - 735-4409
- Michael Clark Band** - Michael Clark - 533-3088
- Mojo X** - Lloyd Jones - 418-1910
- M.S.G., the Acoustic Blues Trio** - Jackie Merritt - 722-5811
- Nasty Phat** - Mono Lee - 235-2725
- Relic Band** - Bill Linton - 538-9036
- Rhythm Kings** - Mike Coghill - 460-6414
- Rhythm Pigs** - Tim Fodrey - 855-8076
- Right Time for the Blues** - Reggie Barnes - 237-6920
- Shelly Craig-Potter** - 546-1528
- Sweet Papa & the Too Hot Blues Crew** - Ernie Williams - 855-7461
- Tim Morgan & the Mojo Brothers** - Tim Morgan - 875-0447

If I've missed anybody or need to update some information, e-mail bluzq@hotmail.com with subject as "Band List."

Mark Your Calendar!

The Natchel' Blues Network Announces... The Fifth Annual Hampton Acoustic Blues Revival

Saturday April 8th
4 PM until 9:30 PM

At the Mary T. Christian Auditorium,
Thomas Nelson Community College

Featuring:

A Blues History/Workshop
A Favorite Local Blues Act
Regional Musicians
Hot National Acts
♀
The Silent Auction!

To volunteer as an usher, please call: 546-1528

To donate or help with the Silent Auction, call: 482-2198

Artists TBA

Please visit

NBN's Website for more detailed listings:

www.natchelblues.org

Hotline

(757) 456-1675

NBN Membership CD Winners

November – Michael E. Stewart

December - Steve Dickens



Trade Words for Music!

CDs Available for Review

Angel Blue & the Prophets—*Bottom of the Bottle Blues*
Elvin Bishop—*Getting My Groove Back*
Brian Blain—*Overqualified for the Blues*
Junior Brown—*The Austin Experience*
Otis Clay—*Respect Yourself*
Shemekia Copeland—*The Soul Truth*
Doug Cox & Sam Hurrie—*Hungry Ghosts*
Christopher Dean Band—*Three Times a Fool*
Dyvni—*Ukrainian Blues*
The Fat Daddy Band—*From the Soul*
Alan Hager—*Somethin' Up My Sleeve*
Zac Harmon—*The Blues According to Zacariah*
John Lee Hooker Jr.—*Blues With a Vengeance*
145th Street Deluxe Blues Band—*145th Street*
Cyril Lance—*Live from the Outskirts*
Michele Lundeen—*Song Inside Me*
McDonaldVictorBlack—*MVB Band*
Mississippi Heat—*Glad You're Mine*
Nick Moss & the Flip Tops—*Sadie Mae*
Sista Monica Parker—*Can't Keep a Good Woman Down!*
Lou Pride—*Keep On Believing*
Bill Rhoades & the Party Kings—*Hoodoo Lovin'*

So how does CD reviewing for the Blues News work? Here's a template:

ARTIST NAME (bolded & capitalized)

CD Title (*italicized*)
CD label & NUMBER – very important! It's on the spine.
Record company website. (Sometimes an artist release; if they have a website, list it.)

Get a CD from Cynthia (choren@cox.net or 615-4163), or tell her you'd like to review one you have come across. Listen to it and get familiar with it, read any accompanying material, and visit the website if possible. Then write your review! If you have taken notes as you've listened or just rehearsed to yourself, you should have a clear opinion by now. Start with the easy stuff: **in your first paragraph**, describe the band & its members, history if relevant, and an overview of the CD.

Second paragraph should discuss some specific features of the music and a few songs. Take a look at some of the current *Blues News* reviews as models. Try to keep the entire review to about 250 words—if longer, it will be edited down for you. You can use the word count in MS Word to keep track: highlight your text—but not the headers—and then go to "tools," then "word count." It will automatically show you how many words you have. But wait to do this until AFTER you have written your review, so you don't get sidetracked from your important points.

Third/final paragraph should summarize what you think and maybe tell where to get the CD. Don't forget to add your name! Email it to Cynthia for editing (so don't stress over commas—but do spell song titles correctly). **If you submit a review, you keep the CD.** If after listening, you don't care for it, give it back. Interested in reviewing?

Cynthia Horen



CLASSIFIED ADS

NOW Available!

Looking for an additional musician for your band?

Selling or searching for an instrument?

Want to advertise your business?

Only \$10.00

Maximum 25-30 words

Contact Beth Jarock @ (757) 623-8559
or bluesbet@infionline.net

CLASSIFIED ADS

- VA license plate BLUES FN! Are you an NBN member? If not, join us! Just fill out and send in the Membership Form on the back page.
- Trade Words for Music! Get free music when you review CDs. See article in this issue.

Natchel' Blues Network Bands!!

Advertise in *Blues News* with a
1/4 page ad (usually \$45) for only
\$30 per issue.

Provide us with the info and we
will DESIGN the ad for you.
One picture only.

Ad must be pre-paid.
Call Beth Jarock at 623-8559.

Support the Blues in Hampton Roads

2006
Become a Member of
NBN!

NBN Blues Marketplace

Show Your Support The Blues

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

	Cost	Size/Qty	Total
NBN Logo T-Shirt			
Black NBN Logo T-Shirt	\$15.00	___/___	_____
Sizes: M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL (circle size)			
Embroidered Logo Items			
Navy NBN Logo Golf Shirt	\$25.00	___/___	_____
Sizes: M, L, XL, XXL (circle size)			
Ladies Black NBN Logo Scoop Neck T-Shirt	\$18.00	___/___	_____
Sizes: M, L, (circle size)			
Navy NBN Logo Sweat Shirt	\$22.00	___/___	_____
Sizes: M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL (circle size)			
Black NBN Logo Hat	\$15.00	___/___	_____
Other Merchandise			
Mini Harp on a Cord	\$5.00	___/___	_____
Flashing Guitar Pin	\$5.00	___/___	_____
NBN Logo Drink Huggies	\$4.00	___/___	_____
Yellow, Orange, Pink, Blue (circle color)			
NBN Bumper Stickers	\$1.00	___/___	_____
Commemorative BAB Credentials	\$1.00	___/___	_____
		Subtotal	_____
		Shipping	\$2.00
		Total	_____

Mail Form with Check or Money Order to:
NBN, P.O. Box 1773, Norfolk, VA 23501-1773
Or Contact David Horen at (757) 483-5541 to arrange
for merchandise pickup.

SHOW REVIEW

Pinetop Perkins & Friends

[Jewish Mother - Virginia Beach, VA]
December 1, 2005



Ronny "Joe" Parker, Bob Margolin & Pinetop Perkins

It is not often that one gets to view and listen to a "living legend"; that phrase is usually tossed around and given to folks who hardly deserve such an accolade. On December 1, 2005, we had the good fortune to see a true [living legend](#).

Pinetop Perkins came to the Jewish Mother in Virginia Beach with more paid-up dues than anyone has ever seen around these parts. He was born in Belzoni, Miss. in 1913. When he was about 13 or 14 years old, he came under the tutelage of Pinetop Smith, the cat who composed the famous "Pinetop's Boogie Woogie" and made "8-to-the-bar" famous all over the world of swing music. Smith died in 1929 and Perkins took over the "Pinetop" moniker and has kept the flame burning brightly through the present day. I mean, think about it, the cat has toured for about 77 years! Talk about paying some dues.

The show opened with Pinetop's friends as an opening act. The group included **Bob Margolin** on lead guitar and vocals; **Willie "Big Eyes" Smith** on drums, harp, and vocals; and **Mookie Brill** on vocals and bass. Not a bad back-up group, and worth the price of admission on their own. Bob played and sang some great standards and showed he can handle slide guitar with the best. Mookie Brill, who shares a pad with **Carey Bell**, played excellent bass and sang some hot numbers off his latest CD. Willie "Big Eyes" Smith, who had just flown in from a gig in Switzerland, started on drums and then switched in the first set to the old style harp, letting Mookie take over on drums. Willie's "Hoo-Doo the Hoo-Doo Man" was a first-set hit. Then things got quiet and a stately old black gent in a smart suit, fedora, cane, and dark glasses tiptoed his way up on the stage and sat down at a large Korg keyboard that was set on 'loud, tinpan honky tonk.' **Pinetop Perkins** opened with a rompin' stompin' version of "Chicken Shack," followed by songs like "Down in Mississippi," "Just a Little Bit," and "Kansas City." He can still sing and wail with the best of them and his fingers seem to belong to a younger man. Pinetop's repertoire of blues songs appears to be endless. When he sang "How Long," I realized I could have been sitting in a Mississippi roadhouse and nothing would have changed except the audience. During the second set Willie "Big Eyes" Smith showed me some harp licks that gave me encouragement that old cats can still blow the house down. The entire evening was a thrill that I realized would probably not be repeated due to Pinetop's advanced age. All of us should send **Scotty Miller of the Jewish Mother** a "thank you" for going out on a limb and hiring big name acts to come to our area. I'm certain bookings like this one in the middle of the week are risky.

As an afterthought I would like to encourage, admonish, and appeal to our society to help people like Scotty and other venues (like the Jewish Mother and Goodfellas). They bring in great blues acts, knowing that on a given night they may lose their shirt financially on the booking. "Why is that?" you ask. It is because our local blues society does not consistently support the venues that bring in these great acts. At the Pinetop Perkins show I counted all of the members of the Natchel' Blues Network on one hand. The same was true a few months ago when the new phenom, **Jason Ricci**, came to Goodfellas. When **Jumpin' Johnny Sansone** came up from New Orleans, prior to Katrina, he sang and blew the house down at the Jewish Mother. I may have never heard a better live show. It was too bad that there was such a small crowd and only about 5 members of the NBN in attendance. I know that we all are busy and holiday months are unusually stressful on our time schedules. I could understand our apathy if it were only during the busy season. Unfortunately the apathy season extends all year. We want great blues entertainment but we are not willing to support it. Sooner or later the club owners are forced to switch to "alternative rock," "rap" or some other anathema.

The bottom line is this: If we want good entertainment we all need to make an effort to come out and support the club owners who pay the acts. If the clubs can't at least break even, **the show will not go on**. Let us make our 2006 New Year's Resolution one that makes a concerted attempt to be more supportive in attending blues shows and functions. Ask friends to join the NBN and come with you to the shows. **After 21 years of existence, the NBN needs new and enthusiastic blood and lots of support in blues events**. If we all do our part, we could put this area on the [Blues Map](#) and have a blast doing it. See you soon at a blues event near you!

Ronny Parker

Blues Birthdays

JANUARY

- 1 Frank Stokes
- 2 Mama Yancy
- 2 Edith Johnson
- 4 Little Smokey Smothers
- 4 Charlie Sayles
- 5 Jo-Ann Kelly
- 6 Wilbert Harrison
- 8 Tampa Red
- 9 Katie Webster
- 10 Sam Chatmon
- 10 Eddy Clearwater
- 11 Slim Harpo
- 12 Miss. Fred McDowell
- 15 Earl Hooker
- 17 Mick Taylor
- 19 Janis Joplin
- 21 Leadbelly
- 21 Snooks Eaglin
- 21 B'Nois King
- 21 Zora Young
- 22 Sam Cooke
- 24 Tuts Washington
- 24 Guitar Shorty
- 25 Sleepy John Estes
- 25 Little Mack Simmons
- 25 Etta James
- 26 Huey "Piano" Smith
- 27 Elmore James
- 27 Bobby Bland
- 28 Drink Small
- 29 Eddie Taylor
- 30 Ruth Brown
- 30 Janiva Magness
- 31 Roosevelt Sykes
- Charlie Musselwhite

FEBRUARY

- 3 Johnny "Guitar" Watson
- 4 Curtis Salgado
- 6 Phil Alvin
- 7 King Curtis
- Earl King
- 8 Floyd Dixon
- 9 Johnny Heartsman
- 10 Big Joe Duskin
- 11 Josh White
- Phillip Walker
- Otis Clay
- Little Johnny Taylor
- 12 Pink Anderson
- Dr. Blues
- 13 Chicago Beau
- 14 Magic Sam
- 15 Kokomo Arnold
- 16 Wild Bill Doggett
- Andra Faye
- 17 Noble Watts
- Lou Ann Barton
- 18 Irma Thomas
- 20 Jimmy "Papa" Yancy
- Beulah Bryant
- 21 Scrapper Blackwell
- Nina Simone
- 22 Ernie K-Doe
- 23 Johnny Winter
- 24 Carl Weathersby
- 25 Ida Cox
- John Jackson
- 26 Fats Domino
- Bob "Bear" Hite
- 28 Jesse Fortune

NBN ADVERTISING INFO

Reservation deadline: 6 weeks prior to publication date.
Copy deadline: 5th of the month prior to publication date.

Rates

Classified Ad	\$10
Business Card	\$30
1/2 page	\$85
1/4 page	\$45
Full page	\$150

A fee of \$35 will be added if not camera-ready

For more information, contact Advertising
Beth Jarock (757) 623-8559
e-mail - bluesbet@infionline.net

Graphic Info

Jackie Merritt (757) 722-5811
FAX 722-5811

Membership and Volunteer Information

Natchel' Blues Network
P.O. Box 1773
Norfolk, VA 23501-1773

NBN Hotline

P.O. Box 1773
Norfolk, VA 23501-1773
24 Hour Blues Hotline:
(757) 456-1675

BLUES NEWS

Published bi-monthly by
the NBN, Inc. 2006

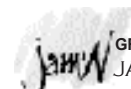
BLUES NEWS

The official publication of the
Natchel' Blues Network, Inc., a 501
(c) (3) non-profit organization, run by
volunteers dedicated to promoting the blues
as America's one true musical art form.

BLUES NEWS EDITORS

Beth Jarock, Editor
Cynthia Horen, Associate Editor

LAYOUT & DESIGN

 **GRAPHICS & MUSIC**
JACKIE MERRITT (757) 722-5811

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

Alan Kurzer, Cathy Dixson,
Theresa Bedard & Ron Parker

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Deb Malenda-Hill, Beth Jarock,
Alan Kurzer, Cynthia Horen,
Jackie Merritt, Ron Parker, David Horen
& Mike Stewart

NBN BOARD

Cynthia Horen, Jackie Merritt,
Shelly Craig-Potter,
Andree T. Butcher, Shar Wolff,
Bruce Kincaid, Ernie Williams,
John Bright & Georganne Fischer

Webmaster

Jeff Miller

*The views & opinions expressed in this publication
by individual writers are not necessarily the opinions
of NBN or Blues News.*

Words from the PRESIDENT

Welcome to the **New Blues Year!** I hope the holidays were safe for all and all the blues kiddies got a stocking full of great new blues music! With the change in the calendar, and the change in the seasons, so does the Natchel' Blues Network go through change. I am excited to tell you that **this is my last official "Words from the President"**! Yes, that's right. The new year brings a **new NBN board, complete with new officers**. It is refreshing to see a group of blues lovers use their respected talents and strengths to come together to work toward a common community service goal--The Natchel' Blues Network. I will now focus my skills by working with the **PR and Entertainment Committee** and look forward to working with the NBN organization, Board of Directors, musicians and volunteers in the coming year.

The NBN had a great **Annual Meeting & Holiday Party** in December. I would like to thank **Joe and the staff at O'Sullivan's Wharf in Norfolk** for hosting the shindig. As always, the food and refreshments were outstanding. Live music, provided by the **Henry Johnson Trio**, had everyone movin' and groovin'.

On the 2006 horizon, the **Hampton Acoustic Blues Revival and Silent Auction** will take place in April with the support of the Hampton Arts Commission, the **Bayou Boogaloo** will happen in June, and **Blues at the Beach** will jam in September. The **Blues on the Boardwalk** series continues in July and August with great support from the **Virginia Beach Arts & Humanities Commission**. Look for fundraisers, other NBN shows, membership meetings and a couple of house jams.

As always, I welcome your comments and suggestions and can be reached by snail mail at the NBN mailing address, by phone via the NBN Hotline (757-456-1675), or by e-mail at Bluzq@hotmail.com. See you at the shows; support the local musicians, as they are out there working their dream by sharing their talents and remember -- **Music Feeds The Soul**.

Just a quick note -- a thank you goes out to the **White Horse Pub** in Virginia Beach for bringing back live music on Saturday night. I had the enjoyment of seeing **The Michael Clark Band** featuring Tracy Clark perform their blues/rock and R&B magic.

Deb Malenda Hill

President

LETTER TO NBN

To All Concerned,

My whole family made it to Blues at the Beach this year! Was a blast, amazingly well organized as usual, great group of bands, etc. This was our fourth time, but missed it last year. So it seemed like an eternity! Thanks to all who made the event so enjoyable to an old blues fan.

Regards,
Mike Stewart

2
TRADE WORDS FOR
MUSIC

4-5
NBN HOLIDAY PARTY
& THE ELECTION OF
NEW MEMBERS TO
THE BOARD

6
BLUES BITS

7
SHOW REVIEW

8
2006 KEEPING
THE BLUES ALIVE
AWARDS

9
AN INTERVIEW WITH
JIMMY THACKERY

MEMBERS OF THE NBN

10-12
FAVORITE FIVE OF
2005

13
SCENES AROUND
TOWN

14
CALENDAR

15
NBN NEW MEMBERS &
RENEWALS

WHERE U CAN HEAR
THE BLUES

16-17
CD REVIEWS

17
DVD REVIEW

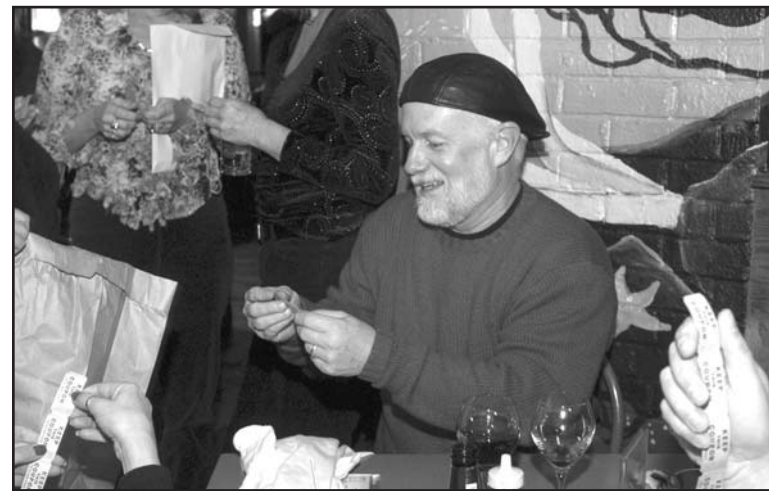
18
BLUES BIRTHDAYS
SHOW REVIEW

NBN Annual Year-End Meeting-Holiday Party



Deb Malenda-Hill opening the meeting

Photos by Cathy Dixon



Dale Butcher trying to win the raffle



Steve Dickens, Pete Brennan (winner of a blues quiz T-shirt) & Bob Haugland



Bruce Kincaid and Shar Wolff



Henry Johnson, the musical host, with NBN musicians Alan Kurzer & JD Silvia

Birdland

RECORDS, TAPES, & COMPACT DISCS

BLUES
COUNTRY
ROCK
AND MORE!

ZYDECO
CLASSICAL
REGGAE



BIRDLAND
has the
largest selection
of **BLUES** in
Hampton Roads!

BIRDLAND'S
got it or we'll get it for you!

10% Discount to NBN Members

(757) 495-8506
Providence Square Shopping Center
Virginia Beach, VA 23464

(757) 495-0961

CD REVIEWS

SUSAN TEDESCHI

Hope and Desire
Verve Forecast B0005111-02
www.verveforecast.com

One of the brightest flames in the current crop of new blues artists, Susan Tedeschi has veered off the blues highway and sped Dixie-bound, recording a new album steeped in old-school Southern soul and gospel-tinged melodies. After tearing it up on her 1998 breakthrough album, *Just Won't Burn*, Tedeschi has achieved the closest thing to superstar status in the blues world. Powerful vocals, blazing guitar hooks, inspired lyrics and good looks have helped her sell millions of CDs while selling out concert halls on a regular basis. Here's a blues-woman that's going places and along with a few other luminaries (Eric Clapton, B.B. King, Bonnie Raitt) is expanding the blues audience by capturing new and youthful listeners. And now she presents an album of covers, one in which the lion's share of guitar work is taken over by Doyle Bramhall II and Derek Trucks. But guess what? It's great! It rocks! It's supremely soulful and righteously spiritual.

Beginning strongly with one of the Rolling Stones few unheralded songs from *Let It Bleed*, Tedeschi nails "You Got the Silver," creating a country-blues masterpiece. The interplay between her mournful vocals and Trucks' haunting slide work is chillingly beautiful. "Evidence" takes us back to the hallowed halls of '60s Muscle Shoals soul with accusations of cheatin' men-folk, awash in cascades of Hammond B3. The album's knockout punch is Otis Redding's soul-shouter "Security."

Pop *Hope and Desire* into your CD player and believe me, at some point your feet won't be denied...you will get up and shake a tail feather.

David Horen

LITTLE CHARLIE & THE NIGHTCATS

Nine Lives
Alligator Records ALCD4902
www.alligator.com

Since Little Charlie & the Nightcats' first album *All the Way Crazy* in 1987, they've been a blues outfit that blends expert playing with original material. Known for their humor and attitude, they always put on a great live show. Their sound includes elements of jump blues, swing, rockabilly, Chicago blues and jazz. From years of gigging, these road-weary warriors play together seamlessly, one picking up where the other leaves off.

Little Charlie Baty plays in a unique style, rarely falling back on tired clichéd licks like so many guitar players in this genre. He's not afraid to stretch out to capture a unique feeling. Rick Estrin, one of the grooviest harp players on the scene, is quite comfortable on diatonic or chromatic harmonicas. But I love him best when he's playing just straight-ahead, Chicago-style blues.

On this all original CD, the band establishes a cool groove on the opener, "Keep Your Big Mouth Shut." The second track, "Handle With Care," approaches the jazz classification with Estrin playing a nice chromatic harmonica and Baty improvising guitar licks. But the CD doesn't really catch fire until the final cut, "Slap Happy," a powerful instrumental that plays to Baty's masterful guitar technique.

Bottom line, these guys can't help but put out a good CD with good quality originals. This project has thirteen songs and some incredible musicianship, but there's something missing for me on this one. Maybe it simply took too long for the fire to start. But check it out for yourself. You can't go wrong.

Jackie "Sugarlips" Merritt

PAUL OSCHER

Down in the Delta
Blues Fidelity BF 1001
www.pauloscher.com

"Paul Oscher's blues are deep as the Delta soil. With just guitar, slide, a harmonica and his voice, Oscher rekindles the fire, soul and spirit of the music of the late, great Muddy Waters." (Ted Drozdowski/Boston Phoenix)

Paul Oscher, following in the footsteps of Little Walter, Big Walter Horton, Junior Wells and James Cotton, was a member of The Muddy Waters Band from 1967 to 1972. Story has it that in his early teens during the mid-1960's, he met Muddy Waters backstage at the Apollo Theatre. A couple of years later, Muddy came to town without a harp player. Oscher sat in with the band and played two numbers: "Baby Please Don't Go" and "Blow Winds Blow." Muddy hired him on the spot.

Oscher is a multi-instrumentalist, songwriter and vocalist. This project features him on piano, melodica, guitar, harmonica and vocals. This CD is by far one of my favorites. It's raw, intense and emotional. It was recorded live with no overdubs or punches and without mixes. It has that spontaneous in-the-moment sound. Very few musicians are bold enough to undertake such a journey, and Oscher does it with the help of a few friends, Willie "Big Eyes" Smith and Calvin "Fuzz" Jones holding down the bottom on a couple of the cuts. Also, on two cuts he's just neck-racking the harmonica while playing guitar.

It's gutbucket, no frills, lowdown and soulful acoustic blues. You're gonna love it!

Jackie "Sugarlips" Merritt

DVD REVIEW

THE JEFF HEALEY BAND

Live at Montreux 1999
Eagle Eye EE39045-9

There is little doubt that a musical path was in the cards for major Canadian blues guitarist Jeff Healey. Although blind since age one, he was playing guitar on his lap by age three and out performing by age six. At fourteen he was already airing a weekly music broadcast on Canadian radio, culled from his own massive 78 rpm record collection. Early on he gained attention playing live alongside guitar legends B.B. King and Stevie Ray Vaughan. After Grammy nominations, gold and platinum album sales, and records with the likes of George Harrison and Mark Knopfler, Healey played the Montreux Jazz Festival on July 3rd, 1999.

Alongside longtime bassist Joe Rockman, drummer Tom Stephen, and newcomer guitarist Pat Rush, Healey drives through material from four CD releases, including: *My Little Girl*, *Third Degree*, *Stuck in the Middle With You*, *I Can't Get My Hands on You*, *Angel Eyes* and *See the Light*.

Bonus songs from Montreux Jazz 1997 with guitarist/vocalist Phillip Sayce include: "As the Years Go Passing By," "That's What They Say," and "While My Guitar Gently Weeps."

Healey and Rush trade off solos on the blues rocking "Stop Breakin' Down," "Hoochie Coochie Man," "I Think I Love You Too Much," and "Roadhouse Blues." Sayce handles vocals and SRV-influenced solos on the funky "Put the Shoe on the Other Foot." This is a great-sounding and -looking DVD, with excellent close-ups of Healey's amazing hand technique as he more than wears out his Stratocaster.

Alan Kurzer



CD REVIEWS

ERIC BIBB

A Ship Called Love
Telarc Blues CD-83629
www.telarc.com

From his opening slot in the “Rockin’ Blues Review,” it’s easy to recognize acoustic blues guitarist Eric Bibb’s playing as some of the folk blues arena’s richest. He’s been nominated for a Grammy and several W.C. Handy awards. With numerous solo and collaborative recordings, his latest release packs quite an emotional wallop.

The title track with the Dixie Hummingbirds and “Praise ‘n’ Thanksgiving” both flow with a gospel flavor. “Victory Voices” and “When I Hear the Waves” are atmospheric affairs with some fine folk leanings. With the R&B flavored “Right Where We Are,” the slow soulful “That’s What I Do” and the funkified “The Way You Are,” this album’s Curtis Mayfield dedication is obvious indeed.

There are several cuts which exhibit a slower, even folksy feel, including “Stickin’ to You,” the bluesy “More o’ That,” and “Faded Jeans.” Mustering a funky bluesy side, “Like Aretha Loves to Sing” features Amar Sunday’s hot guitar solos and Ruthie Foster’s heartfelt scat singing. “I’ll Never Lose You,” with Bibb’s emotional vocals and its sweet soul harmonies, could’ve been a classic pulled from the ‘60s. Foster and Bibb trade some uplifting vocal lines over a country rockabilly number, warmed over by ace steel player B.J. Coles’ solid playing. The reggae-influenced “Turning World” features young Matilda Bibb in this optimistic number testifying to the power of love.

Although not an outright blues album, Eric Bibb has still fashioned together a strong soulful release that includes his masterful acoustic or electric guitar playing on every track. His heartwarming singing at times brings up the best of Taj Mahal and Richie Havens.

Alan Kurzer

FAT TONY

blues, swing & everything
Independent Release
www.fattonyband.com

Okay, so here’s the deal, folks. Take an American-made washtub bass and a snare drum. Throw in some Southside harmonica and a touch of tenor guitar and wailing sax. Add some rootsy vocals split four ways. Mix well with a tablespoon of humor. Here comes “Fat Tony” to swing your blues away. Chris Jones on washtub bass, Sandy Martin on harmonica, Chuck “Duck” Moebus on saxophone and guitar, Paul Mulcahy on tenor guitar, and Andy Rexroat on snare drum roar through fifteen tracks, including five originals.

With “T’ain’t What You Do,” harp and sax swings like there’s no tomorrow. Same results go for the shuffling “Ding Dong Daddy.” The “4:20 Boogie” will bring you on home with your toes tapping. “Bring Out the Boogie” swings with some nice country harp. “Swingin’ with Fat Tony” is just that. The classic “Help Me” features more hot sax and harp. “Unchain My Heart” will indeed set you free. The ragtime number “No Condom Blues” is a hoot. “The Manly Song” works with rhythmic background vocals. Now, if you “Can’t Get the Blues,” you’ve got some real problems. Willie Dixon’s “My Babe” moves with a cool country swing feel. The instrumental “Work Song” works with a rich horn and harmonica arrangement. “Route 66” rocks with a down-home, rootsy groove. The slow blues “Nobody Knows You” slides with more great sax and harp. Check out the surprise extra track for some classic live oldies.

If you dig Fat Tony’s disc, try to catch the band around the area. Live, well they’re more fun than a barrel of..... you get the idea. These musicians prove that you can really get out there, play what you like and get away with it.

Alan Kurzer

MEL MELTON & THE WICKED MOJOS

Papa Mojo’s Roadhouse
Louisiana Red Hot Records LRHR-1166
www.louisianaredhot.com

Whoo-ee! This CD is as hot & spicy as one of “Cookie Boy” Mel Melton’s own flavorful, complex gumbos, with mouthwatering ingredients thrown in and simmered to perfection. Melton’s unique brand of swampy harmonica was first heard way back in 1981, on slide wizard Sonny Landreth’s *Blues Attack*, followed by their group Bayou Rhythm’s 1985 release *Way Down in Louisiana*. The third of Melton’s solo CDs, this one is special in particular way: it was heroically released on schedule, in Sept. 2005, while the city of New Orleans was dealing with the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

Described as “Blues, Zydeco, and Cajun Swamp Bop,” the cuts on *Roadhouse* rock. Right from the start, “Zydeco Razzle” fires up the stove and puts out the heat; “Papa Mojo” gets as down-low funky as possible—and then some. This is dance music, y’all! For a classic Southwestern Louisiana swamp pop tune, check out “Missing You Baby.” “Ils Sont Parti” is a boogie that features Landreth burning down the house. “Pray for Day” showcases Melton’s atmospheric flavor of the blues. The other songs are equally juicy (including Ray Charles’ “What I Say”).

Melton says he likes people to feel, on hearing his music, as if they’ve been “down in the swamp at a big party, and they’ve had a great time!” Well, you don’t have to wait to catch the Mojoes in person, folks, because this time, the party is at Papa Mojo’s Roadhouse. Head on over and laissez les bon temps roulez!

Cynthia Horen

MOJO STU

Real House Blues
Mudbone Records MBR 51503
www.realhouseblues.com

Real House Blues showed up in my mailbox when I really needed a lift—and oh man! Who could imagine the blues to be so exuberant? The flyer says that Philly-based “Mojo Stu channels decades of blues through grooves and beats so down to earth they could grow cotton on concrete.” Yep, they got that right. And here’s the wildest part of all: picture a National guitar accompanied by techno bass and drums. The unexpected combination really works, providing fireworks of driving excitement.

The CD starts off with “Leave It Gone,” a shuffle that would seem by its lyrics to be a bitter leave-taking but is infected with joyful abandon. Speaking of lyrics, Mojo Stu has some doozies on the record. A favorite verse, also from “Leave It Gone”: “We all got the same dream/Deep inside of us/Don’t care about no window seat, baby/Wanna drive the bus.”

The next cut, “Got a Love,” is full of high-energy gospel fun that will have everyone dancing—but wait! The rocker “Hootchie Mama” burns down the house. Even the traditionally flavored “My Mama She Don’t Love Me” brings a smile and shimmy. Stu slows things down with the haunting, mournful “Eldorado,” and then re-ignites with “Lightning,” which is three songs in one, starting with the roaring promise that “I got thunder in my pocket/And lightning in my shoe/Got a storm of love/Gonna rain all over you.”

Mojo Stu says, “Life is the question/Love is the answer”; buy this love-filled CD at cdbbaby.com.

Cynthia Horen



Jackie Merritt and Ernie Williams



Cynthia Horen and Andree Butcher



Mark Sauer and David Horen

Come out and join the Fun

*You missed a
Great time!*

*Next NBN Board meeting
1/11/06*

*7:30pm O’Neal’s Studio
Hampton, VA
Elections of officers will be held*

Open to all members

CAPTAIN ZIG-ZAG

4704 Hampton Blvd. (across from ODU)

Full Service Salon 451-8611

Get Sleek, Shiny Hair



1/2 OFF
Revolutionary Straightener
Not to be combined with any other offer or coupon

\$3.00 OFF
Adult Hair Cuts
Not to be combined with any other offer or coupon

\$20.00
Unlimited Tanning
Not to be combined with any other offer or coupon

\$5.00 OFF
Color, Foil & Perms
Not to be combined with any other offer or coupon

Always Offering:

- Hair Care*
- Nails*
- Facials*
- Waxing*
- Makeovers*
- Ear Piercing*

NBN ANNUAL YEAR-END MEMBERSHIP MEETING & Holiday Party

The NBN Membership Meeting and Holiday Party on Dec. 8th was standing room only! Notable moments included an ovation for all past presidents of the NBN, outgoing President **Deb Hill’s** final address to the entire membership, and the **HM Johnson Band’s** dedication of the bittersweet Louis Armstrong tune, “What a Wonderful World” to her. During the business meeting, highlights of the past year were covered, next year’s events were described, and the budget was reviewed. **Andree Butcher** conducted the annual election of the NBN Board of Directors with help from **Mark Sauer** (see results on pg. 3).

The NBN welcomed three new members—thanks, Sandy! Our first raffle was a success; lucky winners received, among other prizes, a beautiful color print of Shemekia Copeland, a handmade muffler, photography portrait sessions, and a massage. **Ernie Williams** held a blues-knowledge quiz, with NBN T-shirts as prizes (time to study up, kids). We partied through the night to the great music of H.M. Johnson and his band.

Charlie Jeckell, Mark Johnson, and Georganne Fischer were MIA—we missed you guys and hope to see you at the next event!



Barbara Gibbs and daughter Resa



Compiled by Beth Jarock

Black Rose Blues Band has announced some personnel changes for 2006. **Bobby "Black Hat" Walters** (harmonica) is leaving due to family obligations and will be replaced by **Bill Caan** (harmonica/trumpet). Bassist Andrew "**Bones**" Schoaf will be leaving to pursue other interests. Bassist and longtime NBN supporter **Dale Butcher** will be his replacement. Guitarist **J.D. Silvia**, drummer **Mike Pelzel**, and vocalist **Jackie Scott** will also continue with the band!

Lil Ronnie & the Grand Dukes' 2005 release, *Do What'cha Do* (Trust Me Baby Records), was listed at #8 on the **Top 100 CD List** published by Canada's *Real Blues Magazine!*

BLUESMAN SAM MYERS BACK IN TREATMENT. Contact: Marcia Weaver, Jackson, MS, 601-372-8851. The Mississippi vocalist/harmonica blues artist is starting a second round of treatment for cancer of the throat. He received treatments and was improving but learned recently that the cancer had returned. His doctors are trying to save his voice. Myers had returned to limited engagements with **Anson Funderburgh & the Rockets** after the first round of treatments. His voice was weak but his spirits were strong. He was still blowing a mean harp. He is based in Dallas. Two immediate needs are prayer and financial assistance with the medical bills. Donations can be made to Southwest Blues Heritage Foundation, P.O. Box 71058, Dallas, TX 75371 for Sam Myers.

Chicago's Checkerboard Lounge Reopens! The Checkerboard Lounge reopened during November in **Hyde Park** as the **New Checkerboard Lounge for Blues 'n' Jazz**. Owner L.C. Thurman, whose celebrated club was closed by the city in 2003 for code violations, relocated to **5201 S. Harper Court**. "About 95 percent of my customers are from Hyde Park anyway," said Thurman about the move. The space is owned by the University of Chicago, and seats about 145 listeners. "This wouldn't have been possible without the university," said James Wagner, chairman of the Committee to Restore Jazz in Hyde Park.

Sue Foley has released a two-CD set of 29 tracks of *Blues Guitar Women* for Germany's **Ruf Records**. The set is divided into contemporary (**Laura Chavez, Deborah Coleman, Ana Popovic, Maria Muldaur & Bonnie Raitt, Beverly "Guitar" Watkins, Ruthie Foster**, and several more); and traditional (**Precious Bryant, Rory Block, Jessie Mae Hemphill, JoAnn Kelly, Gaye Adegbalola, Memphis Minnie**, and others). The notes and short bios of each artist have been researched and written by Foley, who has included herself in both categories. She's also working on a book and a documentary called *Guitar Women*.

TOMMY CASTRO HONORED WITH LEADERSHIP AWARD. The **Portuguese American Leadership Council of the United States** (PALCUS) honored musician Tommy Castro as one of the recipients of its Leadership Award at a gala ceremony on November 12, 2005 in Newark, NJ. Television personality **Meredith Vieira**, co-moderator of *The View* and host of *Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?*, served as Master of Ceremonies for the event. PALCUS is a non-profit organization headquartered in Washington, DC whose mission is to address the concerns of the Portuguese-American community. **The Leadership Award is given to Portuguese-Americans who have achieved success in their chosen field.**

Winner Announced in Blues Cruise Drawing -- In the drawing conducted November 1, Blues Foundation members **Lisa and John Groff, Sarasota, Florida**, were the lucky members whose names were drawn and will be going on the **2006 Legendary Rhythm and Blues Cruise**. The drawing was made from all the members of The Blues Foundation. The Blues Foundation purchased this cabin for 2 as a way of saying thanks to its members. Sailing from Fort Lauderdale, Florida to exotic Western Caribbean ports of call, the Blues Cruise features over 70 scheduled performances by **Taj Mahal, Bobby "Blue" Bland, Buckwheat Zydeco, Rod Piazza & The Mighty Flyers, The Chicago Legends** (featuring **James Cotton, Pinetop Perkins, Hubert Sumlin, Bob Margolin, Willie "Big Eyes" Smith** and more), **Tab Benoit, Jimmy Thackery, John Hammond, Joe Bonamassa, Kenny Neal & Billy Branch, Anthony Gomes, Ronnie Baker Brooks, Renee Austin, Phillip Walker, Corey Harris & The 5x5, Ana Popovic, Diunna & Blue Mercy** (2005 IBC Winners) and **surprise guests!**

KFFA'S SUNSHINE SONNY PAYNE TURNS 80. Mr. King Biscuit Time himself, Sunshine Sonny Payne, turned 80-years-old on November 29. He's been working at Helena's KFFA radio station **since King Biscuit Time's inception in 1941** and been on the air there since the '50s when guys like Sonny Boy Williamson II and Robert Lockwood Jr. were regulars.

JAMES BLOOD ULMER'S BIRTHRIGHT WINS "BLUES ALBUM OF THE YEAR" IN DOWNBEAT MAGAZINE'S 2005 READERS POLL. Earlier this year, **James Blood Ulmer**, released his first ever solo recording, *Birthright*. The album, which features Ulmer alone on vocals and guitar, quickly drew critical acclaim. Now, *Birthright* has been voted "Blues Album of the Year" in *Downbeat Magazine's* 70th Annual Readers Poll. Long regarded as one of the most inventive guitarists of his generation, Ulmer's reputation has slowly morphed from avant-garde jazz visionary to an elder statesman of the blues. Produced by **Vernon Reid**, the 12-track *Birthright* is far and away the most stark and deeply personal work of Ulmer's career.

Alligator Signs Former Stray Cat Lee Rocker: Alligator Records has signed bassist, vocalist, and songwriter **Lee Rocker**. His Alligator debut, *Racin' The Devil*, will be released at the end of January, followed by a national tour. Rocker began playing with Brian Setzer in the Stray Cats, who played retro rockabilly, and had to go to Britain to find success, having hit singles there starting in 1980. Alligator Records says that the new signing "is a perfect fit and an excellent direction for the label." Bruce Iglauer adds, "Anyone who loves raw, rocking music, be it Blues, Rockabilly, or straight ahead Rock'n'Roll, has got to love this album."

Exodus from Katrina Spreads The Music Out: The diaspora caused by Hurricane Katrina's damage to the Gulf Coast will have lasting effects on American music, not all of them bad. Soul diva **Marva Wright**, pianist **Henry Butler** and scores of others are taking their music all over the country, while more than a dozen Jazz musicians have relocated 2,600 miles from home, in Portland, Oregon.

Continued on page 7

Volunteers Needed! The Natchel' Blues Network The 5th Annual Hampton Acoustic Blues Revival

Saturday April 8th --
4 PM until 9:30 PM

At the Mary T. Christian Auditorium,
Thomas Nelson Community College

Artists TBA

Featuring:
A Blues History/Workshop
A Favorite Local Blues Act
Regional Musicians
Hot National Acts
&
The Silent Auction!

To volunteer as an usher,
please call: 546-1528

To donate or help with the Silent
Auction, call: 482-2198

NBN New Members & Renewals

Many thanks to the following new members or renewals over the last couple of months. Your support helps keep the Natchel' Blues Network and blues music in Hampton Roads alive!

Robert Bailey
Peter Brennan
John Bright
Steve Dickens
Jim & Laurie Dombey
Colin Jordan
Jim & Amy Payne
Paula Rosati
JD Silvia
Steven Sloop
Michael E. Stewart
Ed & Elizabeth Waterman

CORPORATE MEMBERS

Stuart Burnley, **Hermitage Farms Nursery**
Walter T. Camp, **State Certified Mediator**
Doug Crane, **American Oldies Records**
William G. Sykes, **Patent Attorney**
Steve Wilkins, **Wilkins & Associates, Inc.**
WHRO



Where U can Hear the BLUES

- WHRV 89.5 FM** **Blues Stage** with Melvin Van Peebles
Thursday @ Midnight
- Out of the Box** with Paul Shugrue
Monday-Thursday 6:30-8:30 pm, Sat. 1-4 pm
- A Shot of the Blues** with Paul Shugrue
Friday 7:30-8:30 pm
- Blues Before Sunrise** with Steve Cushing
Sunday 1-6 am
- WHOV 88.1 FM** **Nothin' But the Blues**
Wednesday 7-10 pm
- WESR 103.3 FM** **Blues Review** with Billy Sturgis
(VA Eastern Shore)
Wednesday 8-9 pm
- WFOS 88.7 FM** **Who's Got the Blues** with Richie Babb
3rd Sunday of month 4-7 pm
- Blues Traffic Jam**



Photo by Alan Kurzer

Harmonica Red, Goodfellas 11/18/05

Calendar January 2006

Cities: (N) Norfolk...(VB) Virginia Beach...(P) Portsmouth...(C) Chesapeake...(S) Suffolk
(H) Hampton...(NN) Newport News...(W) Williamsburg...(R) Richmond

TUESDAY 3
Open Mic Night/Don Butcher - Goodfellas (H)

THURSDAY 5
HM Johnson Band - O'Sullivan's (N)

WEDNESDAY
RTB - Jovn's Seafood (VB)

FRIDAY 6
dc3 - Winston's (C)
Michael Clark Band featuring Tracy Clark - Chevy's (C)
HM Johnson Band - Sharks (VB)

SATURDAY 7
Sweet Papa & the Too Hot Blues Crew - Baker Street (VB)
Michael Clark Band featuring Tracy Clark - The Waterside (N) 6:30 pm
RTB - Post 5 American Legion (N)

TUESDAY 10
Open Mic Night w/Don Butcher - Goodfellas (H)
RTB - Okey Dokey (VB)

WEDNESDAY
RTB - Jovn's Seafood (VB)

THURSDAY 12
HM Johnson Band - O'Sullivan's (N)

FRIDAY 13
dc3 – Baron's Pub (S)
DOAD - Abbey Road (VB)
FOB (new band created with a member of Freeborn Blues) - Goodfellas (H)
HM Johnson Band - Sharks (VB)

SATURDAY 14
DOAD - Abbey Road- (VB)
Blues @ 11 - Goodfellas (H)
HM Johnson Band - Locks Pointe Restaurant (C)

SUNDAY 15
Leon Russell - Williamsburg Library Theater (W)

TUESDAY 17
Open Mic Night w/Don Butcher - Goodfellas (H)

WEDNESDAY 18
Mojo X, Sweet Papa & the Too Hot Blues Crew – Blues Jam - Jewish Mother (VB)
RTB - Jovn's Seafood (VB)

THURSDAY 19
HM Johnson Band - O'Sullivan's (N)

FRIDAY 20
Sweet Papa & the Too Hot Blues Crew - Baron's Pub (S)
Michael Clark Band featuring Tracy Clark - Chevy's (C)
Hollie & the SpeedBumps - Goodfellas (H)
HM Johnson Band - Sharks (VB)
Alvin "Youngblood" Hart's Muscle Theory - Station 2 (N)

SATURDAY 21
Black White Blues In Memory of Hendrix - Jewish Mother (VB)
DOAD - acoustic night - Chick's Beach Café (VB)
Sweet Papa & the Too Hot Blues Crew - Baron's Pub (S)
Michael Clark Band featuring Tracy Clark - Goodfellas (H)
HM Johnson Band - Chevy's (C)
MSG,The Acoustic Blues Trio - Grove Ave. Coffee & Tea (Richmond)

For listings to the new calendar, please contact
Ron Parker rjparker1213@cox.net

TUESDAY 24
Open Mic Night w/Don Butcher - Goodfellas (H)

WEDNESDAY 25
Mojo X – Blues Jam - Jewish Mother (VB)
RTB - Jovn's Seafood (VB)

THURSDAY 26
HM Johnson Band - O'Sullivan's (N)

FRIDAY 27
Sweet Papa & the Too Hot Blues Crew - Baron's Pub (S)
Michael Clark Band featuring Tracy Clark - O'Sullivan's (N)
Shakedown - Goodfellas (H)
HM Johnson Band - Locks Pointe Restaurant (C)

TUESDAY 31
Open Mic Night w/Don Butcher - Goodfellas (H)
Michael Clark Band featuring Tracy Clark - O'Sullivan's (N)

Blues and Roots Around the Mid Atlantic Region...

Ashland Coffee & Tea, Ashland VA

1/6 Cephas & Wiggins
2/11 Rory Block

The Barns of Wolftrap, Vienna VA

1/6 Chris Smither
1/26 Nathan & The Zydeco Cha Cha's
2/12 Rory Block
2/16 Leon Redbone
2/19 Steve Riley & The Mamou Playboys
2/26 Beausoleil avec Michael Doucet
3/17 Roomful of Blues
4/6 Al Kooper
4/7 Lavay Smith & Her Red Hot Skillet Lickers
4/28 Saffire-The Uppity Blues Women
4/30 Joe Bonamassa

The Birchmere, Alexandria VA

4/22 Bill Kirchen & Too Much Fun, Tom Principato

Blue Bayou, Hillsborough NC

1/21 Albert Cummings

DAR Constitution Hall, Washington DC

1/20 B.B. King, Bobby Bland, Shemekia Copeland

Jefferson Center Theater, Roanoke VA

3/15 Taj Mahal, Mavis Staples

Prism Coffeehouse, Charlottesville VA

1/16 Rev. Billy C. Wirtz

Rams Head Tavern, Annapolis MD

1/14 Johnny Winter
1/18 Dr. John
2/4 The Nighthawks
2/26 Marcia Ball
3/26 Chris Smither
3/30 Joe Bonamassa

State Theatre, Falls Church VA

1/14 January All Stars...w/Catfish Hodge, Tom Principato, Pete Ragusa (Nighthawks) Steve Wolf (Swing Speak), Brian Auger

SHOW REVIEW

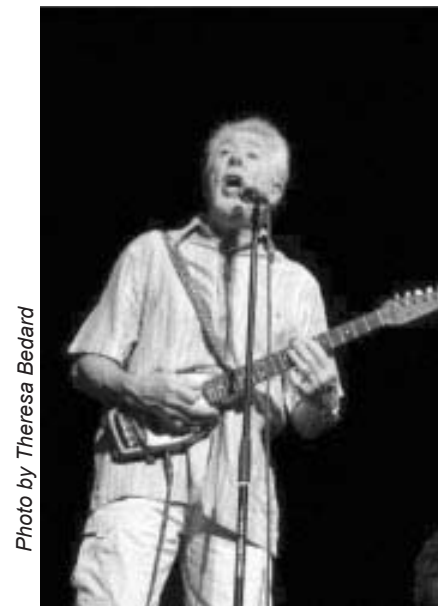


Photo by Theresa Bedard

“Rockin’ Blues Review”

featuring
John Mayall & the Bluesbreakers
Robben Ford and Eric Bibb

(Ferguson Center for the Arts,
Christopher Newport University,
Newport News, VA)

November 10, 2005

Growing up in the '60s, I know that I'm really showing my age when I recall the musical groups that affected me in a profound way. Of course my earliest albums

included the melodic pop of the Beatles, the Hollies and the Byrds. The R&B and early guitar-driven rock by the Rolling Stones, the Who and my personal favorites, the Kinks, were definitely influential as well. It was the Yardbirds, though, and their early rave-up and psychedelic blues-rock that cemented my desire to pick up the guitar. Amazingly, John Mayall was able to synthesize the jazz and blues from his dad's record collection into a style that has stretched over so many decades. Through his uncanny leadership, the "Father of British Blues" has, with his solo and Bluesbreakers' releases, managed to keep his image of the blues alive and well. He also has been able to springboard some of the genre's best-unknown guitarists into major recording stars. Among those notables who began with Mayall's Bluesbreakers are Eric Clapton, Peter Green, Mick Taylor, Coco Montoya and Walter Trout.

First out of the box at the new and beautiful Ferguson Center was New York-born but world-traveled folk/blues artist **Eric Bibb**, the son of folk and theatre singer Leon Bibb. Bibb's warm and rich vocals were a real treat. His Delta blues acoustic picking style is evident on the classics "Stagger Lee," "Going Down Slow," and "Tell Riley" (a tune about B.B. King). He brought forward a calm folkiness on the songs "Connected" and "A Ship Called Love." His fine encore, the gospel influenced "I Heard the Angels Singing," brought out **Robben Ford** to lend some pointed electric guitar leads.

With the **Bluesbreakers** now providing the musical backup, Ford continued on stage, bringing fire with his impassioned singing and high-energy jazzy blues picking. From his slinky, fluid playing on "Prison of Love" and "Help the Poor," to "The Way You Treated Me (You're Gonna Be Sorry)," it's no wonder why he's such an in-demand guitarist. He closed his set out with "It Don't Make Sense (If You Can't Make Peace)" and a Paul Butterfield gem, "Loving Cup."

The Bluesbreakers, with **Joe Yeule** on drums, **Hank Van Sickle** on bass and mega picker **Buddy Whittington** on guitar, kicked off the evening with the chestnut "Grits Ain't Groceries." With **Mayall** joining up on stage, the band exhibited a dose of funky blues with new tracks "Road Dogs" and "Chaos in the Neighborhood." Ever political, the slow blues of "To Heal the Pain" proceeded into a rocking version of the essential oldie "Walking on Sunset." On "Burned Bridges," another new blues shuffle, Mayall showed some really fine country harp playing. With Mayall on keyboards, Whittington continued to shine on guitar, going through instrumentals "Hideaway," "The Stumble," among others. Ford returned for a slow blues guitar showdown with Whittington on the ever-popular "Have You Heard?" Throughout the evening, Mayall managed a pretty nifty feat of playing piano runs and harmonica riffs together. The first encore brought Bibb back out on the gospel blues treasure "Walking into Heaven," followed by Mayall's old hit "Room to Move." John Mayall showed us all, as he nears 73, that he still has the chops, the songwriting ability and the leadership to run his Bluesbreakers for quite a few more years.

Alan Kurzer



Blues Bits

Continued from page 6

Blues Foundation Best Self-Produced CD Contest: Thirty-three organizations affiliated with The Blues Foundation have entered a CD in the Foundation's second annual Best Self-Produced CD Contest. The CDs will be judged in two rounds by Blues disc jockeys. The first round judges are Niles Frantz, host of *Comin' Home* on WBEZ in Chicago; Jonny Meister, host/producer of *The Blues Show* on WXPB in Philadelphia; Doug "Black Jack" Ketchum, host of *Ridin' the Blues Train* on WRFG in Atlanta; and, Brett Fleming, host of *Soul Stew* on WEVL in Memphis. The finalists will be announced in early January and the **winner will be announced at the International Blues Challenge** finals January 28 in Memphis after a final round of judging by record label executives.

The 19th Annual Riverwalk Blues Festival in downtown Fort Lauderdale Florida, scheduled for the first week in November, was canceled, and is tentatively rescheduled for February 9-12 2006. Thanks to **Hurricane Wilma**, there was no electricity and no drinkable running water in the city, which was under curfew during this writing.

Deborah Coleman to release live CD/Video early 2006. The project includes previously un-released video footage and several newly written songs. It will be available for purchase directly through www.deborahcoleman.com. Also, **Blues Divas** got a licensing deal. Look for the series, which includes performances of Deborah along with Diva greats such as Bettye LaVette, Mavis Staples and Odetta among others on DVD and CD.

King Biscuit Leaves Helena After 65 Years: Beale Street developer and landlord **Performa Entertainment Real Estate Inc.** has reached an agreement with New York-based **King Biscuit Entertainment Group Inc.** to host a fall music festival in Memphis, Tennessee, tentatively titled the **King Biscuit Music Festival**. The agreement comes less than three months after the famous King Biscuit Blues Festival in Helena, Arkansas, was forced to drop the King Biscuit name. The new music festival is scheduled to kick off in **October**, the same month as the original festival in Helena. King Biscuit Entertainment would also like the **King Biscuit radio show**, broadcast since 1941 from KFFA in Helena, **to broadcast from Beale as well**. King Biscuit Entertainment recently signed a deal to have the show broadcast on satellite provider **XM Radio**, to launch on Deep Tracks XM channel 40 in late January. Performa and King Biscuit Entertainment are also cooking up a **café that will operate on Beale** under the King Biscuit banner.

2006 Grammy Award Nominations -- Best Traditional Blues Album (Vocal or Instrumental): *Live! Down The Road* by Marcia Ball [Alligator]; *In Your Arms Again* by John Hammond [Back Porch]; *80* by B.B. King & Friends [Geffen]; *Sweet Lovin' Ol' Soul* by Maria Muldaur [Stony Plain Records]; *About Them Shoes* by Hubert Sumlin [Tone-Cool/Artemis Records]. **Best Contemporary Blues Album (Vocal or Instrumental):** *Make Do With What You Got* by Solomon Burke [Shout! Factory/The One]; *Twenty* by Robert Cray [Sanctuary]; *Bring 'Em In* by Buddy Guy [Silvertone/Zomba Label Group]; *Cost Of Living* by Delbert McClinton [New West Records]; *Electric Blue Watermelon* by North Mississippi Allstars [ATO Records].

2006 Keeping the Blues Alive Awards

Twenty individuals and organizations that have made significant contributions to Blues music will be honored with The Blues Foundation's 2006 Keeping The Blues Alive (KBA) Award during a recognition brunch Saturday, **January 28, 2006, in Memphis, Tennessee**. The KBA ceremony will be **part of the International Blues Challenge (IBC) weekend of events** that will feature the semifinals and finals of the 22nd IBC competition as well as seminars, presentations, and receptions for Blues societies, fans, and professionals.

Unlike the Blues Music Awards, the Blues musicians' most sought-after honor voted on by thousands of The Blues Foundation's members, the KBAs are awarded to non-performers on the **basis of merit** by a select panel of Blues professionals. Board member and KBA Chairman Art Tipaldi commented on this year's recipients, "Each year the committee sifts through many worthy submissions in the process of determining the most deserving, whether that decision is based on a particular event of the past year or on years of contributions. After more than twenty years, one might think we would be running short on candidates, but the opposite is true. The sifting remains very difficult."

Tickets to the KBA ceremony are included in the Big Blue ticket package available online at www.blues.org. The IBC weekend, commencing Thursday, January 26, 2006, is sponsored in significant part by the Tennessee Arts Commission, Tennessee Film, Entertainment & Music Commission, Greater Memphis Arts Council, Memphis Convention & Visitors Bureau, bandvillage.com, Budweiser, XM Satellite Radio, the Legendary Rhythm & Blues Cruise, and Strings & Things. Additional sponsors include: Bar-B-Bar BBQ Sauces, Beale Street Merchants Association, Center for Southern Folklore, Delta Groove Productions, Doubletree Hotel, FedEx, Gibson Guitars, Ginnin' Cotton Records and sonicbids.

Media Sponsors include *Big City Rhythm and Blues*, *Blues Festival Guide*, *Blues Revue*, *BluesWax*, *Downtowner* magazine and *Living Blues*.

2006 Keeping the Blues Alive Award Recipients:

- Blues Club:** Chord On Blues -- St. Charles, Illinois
- Blues Organization:** Detroit Blues Society -- Detroit, Michigan
- Education:** David Berntson -- Tulsa, Oklahoma
- Festival:** Beale Street Music Festival -- Memphis, Tennessee
- Film, Television, or Video:** "Lightning in a Bottle"; Antoine Fuqua, Director; Alex Gibney, Producer; Martin Scorsese, Executive Producer -- New York, NY
- Historical Preservation:** River Music Experience -- Davenport, Iowa
- Internet:** "Blues Bytes"; Bill Mitchell -- Tempe, Arizona
- Journalism:** Sean McDevitt -- New York, NY
- Literature:** *The B.B. King Treasures*, Dick Waterman -- Oxford, Mississippi
- Manager:** Jim Bateman -- Bogalusa, Louisiana
- Photography:** Paul Natkin -- Chicago, Illinois
- Print Media:** *Blues Festival Guide* -- Reno, Nevada
- Producer:** Bruce Bromberg -- Pacific Palisades, California
- Promoter:** Ted Boomer -- Windsor, Ontario, Canada
- Publicist:** Cary Baker, conqueroo -- Sherman Oaks, California
- Radio (Commercial):** Bill Wax, XM Satellite Radio -- Washington, DC
- Radio (Public):** KPFT Radio -- Houston, Texas
- Record Label:** M.C. Records, Mark Carpentieri -- Huntington Station, New York
- Retailer:** Twist & Shout -- Denver, Colorado
- Sponsor:** BMI -- New York, NY

Tidewater Arts Outreach Is Now Accepting Used Guitar Donations

Tidewater Arts Outreach is a new, Hampton-Roads based 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation run by volunteers with a mission to uplift spirits by providing live, quality music and arts experiences to people in Hampton Roads institutions. Tidewater Arts Outreach is accepting tax-deductible donations of playable used and/or beginner guitars for youth guitar lessons. This new program will provide regular guitar lessons for at-risk youth living in local shelters and transitional homes. After acceptance by Tidewater Arts Outreach, the guitars will be donated to and housed at local shelter and transitional home facilities. Tidewater Arts Outreach has several qualified teachers who are ready to begin this program. If you can help, please call **757-754-4486**, or e-mail **TWartsoutreach@cox.net**. Visit our website, **www.TWartsoutreach.org**, to find out more about our programs and purpose. **Thank you.**

Scenes Around Town



Photo by Alan Kurzer

Kenny Neal, Goodfellas 11/06/05



Photo submitted by Ron Parker

Incognita Brothers, Chesapeake Fair Grounds 11/5/2005



Photo by Alan Kurzer

Studebaker John, JM Randall's 11/25/05

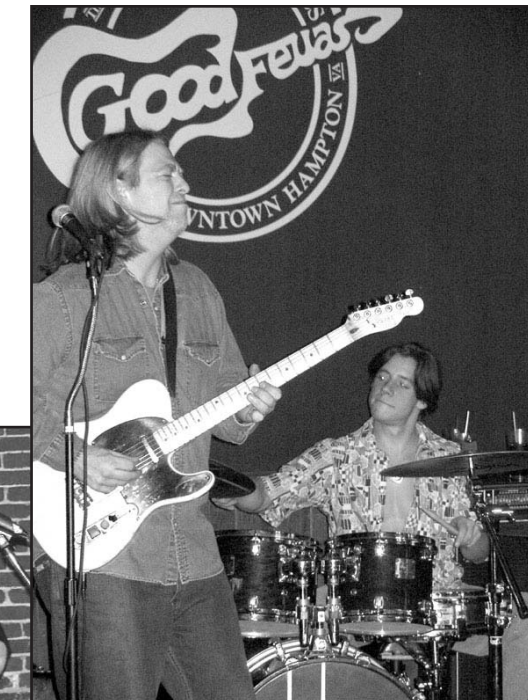


Photo by Alan Kurzer

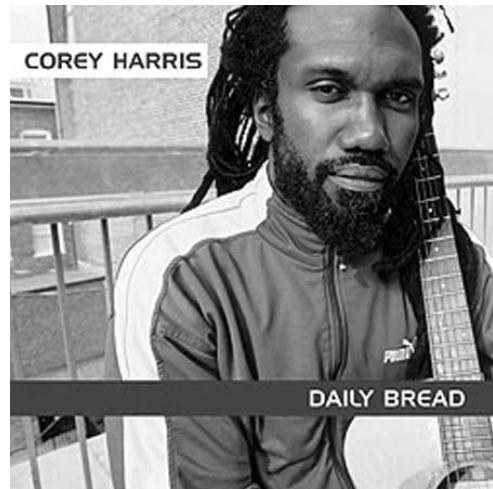
Jimmy Thackery @ Goodfellas 10/20/2005



Photo by Alan Kurzer

Motor City Josh and the Big Three from their December 10th Goodfellas show. The lineup is Chris Douglas/bass, vocals, Joe Neeley/keyboards, Matt Keely/drums and Motor City Josh on guitar/vocals. The harp player, who was sitting in with the band, was Kemp Morris from Suffolk

Favorite Five of 2005



Sam McDonald -- *Daily Press* - Newport News

1. *Birthright* by James Blood Ulmer-- Hyena Records
2. *Souls Alike* by Bonnie Raitt -- Capitol
3. *Daily Bread* by Corey Harris -- Rounder Records
4. *Motivational Speaker* by Alvin Youngblood Hart -- Tone-Cool
5. *This is the Dirty Dozen Brass Band Collection* by Dirty Dozen Brass Band -- Shout Factory

“Guitar” Tommy Parker – Musician, *Blues News* Writer - Virginia Beach

1. *That’s Right* by Dennis Gruenling & Jump Time -- BackBender Records
2. *My Name is Precious* by Precious Bryant -- Music Maker
3. *Blues Guitar Women* by Various Artists -- Ruf Records
4. *Anything Can Happen* by Magic Slim -- Blind Pig Records
5. *The Duke Meets the Earl* by Ronnie Earl & Duke Robillard -- Stony Plain

Paul Shugrue – “Out of the Box,” WHRV FM 89.5 - Norfolk

1. *Fever for the Bayou* by Tab Benoit – Telarc
2. *Nine Lives* by Little Charlie & the Nightcats – Alligator
3. *Got Love* by The Bel Airs – Hightone
4. *Cost of Living* by Delbert McClinton – New West
5. *The Duke Meets the Earl* by Ronnie Earl & Duke Robillard – Stony Plain

AN INTERVIEW WITH JIMMY THACKERY



Like the recent appearance by the one and only B.B. King, noted blues/rock guitarist Jimmy Thackery lives for his life on the road. Those 200 to 300 engagements a year began way back in 1972 when he helped form The Nighthawks, Washington, DC’s hardest and longest working blues group. With harp player Mark Wenner, drummer Pete Ragusa, Jan Zukowski on bass, and Thackery on lead guitar, the band saw themselves opening and playing gigs with their blues idols, which included the legendary Muddy Waters and pianist Pinetop Perkins. Thackery stayed with the band for fourteen years, through many fine classic-blues-drenched recordings. Included among them were two popular releases, Jacks and Kings, Volumes 1 and 2, which featured the Nighthawks recording along with Muddy Waters’ band in 1979. In 1987, Thackery moved on to form The Assassins, a six-piece outfit specializing in rhythm & blues. This group broke up in 1991 after recording three fine albums. From 1992 to the present, Thackery has been constantly touring and pumping out energetic rocking blues discs. He’s

recorded with original Roomful of Blues guitarist Duke Robillard, slide guitarist John Mooney, boyhood friend David Raitt (yes, Bonnie’s brother) and made two great albums with the gritty bayou singer/guitarist Tab Benoit (Whiskey Store). Jimmy spoke to me from Doylestown, Pennsylvania, as they were packing up and heading north to New York

Being a Pittsburgh native, when did your family move to Washington, DC, and were your parents supportive of your desire to take a musical career?

We moved to Washington, DC in 1959. Well, both of them figured it was just a phase. First, they got me piano lessons and that was fine until you reached puberty and then you realize that you were not going to give up on your options. You know I was a lot more serious than they gave me credit for and it began to freak them out. Yeah, they thought, “My God, he’s going to be a musician.” I think one of the turning points was when one of The Nighthawks albums got a four-star review in Playboy magazine and suddenly my father realized that this was not just a phase that I was going through. This was something that I was really dedicated to. Somewhere along the line they both became supportive.

What was the very first instrument that you began playing?

I started out with a Lafayette Electric, a Japanese electric guitar that I sold many years ago to some kid because I needed the money to go buy a real electric guitar, like a Fender. Anyway, about twenty years after that my brother somehow or another tracked it down and bought it back and gave it to me for Christmas.

At seventeen, you caught major blues guitarist Buddy Guy performing in a church. Did seeing him at your early age have any influence in your gravitating towards the blues?

The first time you really see somebody do that kind of stuff live, fortunately for me it was somebody as dynamic as Buddy. I mean yeah, it takes a hell of a rush on you. But I think that made a big impression on me, though an even bigger impression on me was made by Hendrix. Hendrix was coming to town in 1967, performing his very first show after being thrown off of The Monkees tour.

I also witnessed the Jimi Hendrix Experience live the following year at the Virginia Beach Dome. What was your initial take on this outrageous and talented musician?

Here was this guy on the stage rolling around on the floor and doing splits. Nobody had ever seen that stuff, not any white kids. I mean black people had seen Little Richard do all his wacky stuff, but the average little white kid from the suburbs had never seen a black guy dressed in feather boas doing somersaults.

Washington, DC has such a storied musical legacy. Incredible pickers like Roy Buchanan and Danny Gatton played there regularly. What do you make of the DC music scene and did you ever get to perform with Danny?

DC is the best musical place on the planet. When you think of the music history of this area, it goes back forever...Duke Ellington, Roberta Flack, Roy Clark, Jimmy Dean, the list goes on and on. When The Nighthawks were out playing, Danny would come up and we would work some tunes out. So again I got to play with all my hometown heroes.

Many of the original black blues artists never saw royalties from their record labels. How do you feel about this practice?

It was all above board and legal. The record companies still owned the rights to their songs. It was just the way the system was set up. The record company wants to make a system. You know you’re basically borrowing money from the record company doing a recording project. Until you pay the money back, you don’t own the project. Now the big independent artist who’s making his own records keeps the lion’s share of the money, instead of giving it to a bunch of bean counters in Cleveland.

How are the recent jacked-up energy prices affecting the band?

Well, the bottom line that we tell our audience is, “Hey, come buy our stuff because we need the gas money.” Hopefully I carry around a gas can and show it to the audience and say, “Yeah, do what you can.”

You recorded your latest CD *Healin’ Ground* with Nashville producer Gary Nicholson and featured ace studio musicians and also your longtime drummer, Mark Stuts. Did the producer pick these Nashville cats?

In connection with a project, these are the guys he hires, because he knows what he’s going to get. He knows that they’re going to lay it all down perfectly the first time. They’re going to get in the studio and get out without burning up a lot of studio time. These were the cream of the crop up there. All these guys play hillbilly stuff during the day, you know, but they’re all closet blues players, every one.

Thanks for spending some time with us, Jimmy.

Alan Kurzer

Members of the Natchel Blues Network!

We’re all different. We come from all walks of life. But there’s one important thing about each of us. We like music a lot. Some of us can’t imagine life without it. It’s a big—no, a huge—part of our lives. And in a small way we have proved that to the world (or at least Greater Tidewater) by plunking down our 20, 30 or even 100 bucks and joining this music-lovin’ society known as the Natchel’ Blues Network. “Keepin’ the Blues Alive Since 1984”—that’s our motto, as one of the oldest organized blues societies in the world and winner of the prestigious “Keepin’ The Blues Alive” Award in 1998. That’s a lot to be proud of. And there are a lot of really cool and hard-working folks who put in many hours to keep our society afloat and moving forward.

Wouldn’t you like to be one of them? I know, you heed the call at every festival to staff the merchandise or beer tent, but I’m talking about a little more involvement: a few extra hours here and there to help plan and organize things by joining some of the NBN committees. There’s all kinds of perks, like camaraderie, getting turned on to new music & artists, making new friends and just plain feeling good about doing something positive for the community. If any of this sounds good, then please sign up. The Blues needs your good ideas and energy to help create a livelier local music scene. Not only is a good time guaranteed, but The Blues will love you for it!

NBN COMMITTEES

Festival Committee—plan & organize any or all of the festivals that the NBN currently participates (Hampton Acoustic, Bayou Boogaloo, Blues on the Boardwalk, Blues at the Beach)

Volunteer Committee—recruit new volunteers & take care of established ones

Fund Raising Committee—plan & coordinate current projects & develop new ones

Merchandise Committee—procure, display, sell & inventory current merchandise; evaluate new merchandise & vendors

Blues News Distribution Committee—distribute the newsletter to current locations; evaluate volume & seek new distribution sites

Public Relations Committee—promote the NBN & the Blues to the media, governmental & non-profit organizations, sell ads & develop sponsorships

Membership Committee—recruit new members & take care of the established ones

Education Committee—promote blues programs in local schools & other venues and organize workshops at music festivals

Contact Andree at 482-2198 or talk to any board member. See our calendar for meeting dates and locations—the board meetings are open, too!

David Horen

Favorite Five of 2005



Richie Babb – Program Director, WFOS FM 88.7 - Chesapeake

1. *Next Set* by The Mighty Mike Schermer Band -- Fine Dog
2. *Papa Mojo's Roadhouse* by Mel Melton & the Wicked Mojos -- Louisiana Red Hot Records
3. *Acoustic Roots* by Richard Ray Farrell -- Blue Beet
4. *Down in the Delta* by Paul Oscher -- Blues Fidelity
5. *Voice of the Wetlands* by Tab Benoit -- Ryko



Barry Friedman – Birdland Music - Virginia Beach

1. *The Duke Meets the Earl* by Ronnie Earl & Duke Robillard -- Stony Plain
2. *Bring 'Em In* by Buddy Guy -- Jive
3. *Anything Can Happen* by Magic Slim -- Blind Pig
4. *Sadie Mae* by Nick Moss & the Flip Tops -- Blue Bella
5. *Hope & Desire* by Susan Tedeschi -- Verve



Del Malenda Hill – Natchel' Blues Network - Norfolk

1. *Standing Room Only* by Roomful of Blues -- Alligator
2. *Cost of Living* by Delbert McClinton -- New West Records
3. *Buried Alive in the Blues* by Chicago Blues Reunion -- Out the Box Records
4. *The Soul Truth* by Shemekia Copeland -- Alligator
5. *Big Blues* by Jimmy Witherspoon -- JSP Records

David Horen – Blues News Reviewer/Writer - Portsmouth

1. *Fever for the Bayou* by Tab Benoit -- Telarc
2. *Grant Street* by Sonny Landreth -- Sugar Hill
3. *Honey Slides* by The Bluerunners -- Bayou Vista
4. *N'Awlinz Dis Dat or D'Udda* by Dr. John -- Blue Note
5. *Papa Mojo's Roadhouse* by Mel Melton & the Wicked Mojos -- Louisiana Red Hot Records



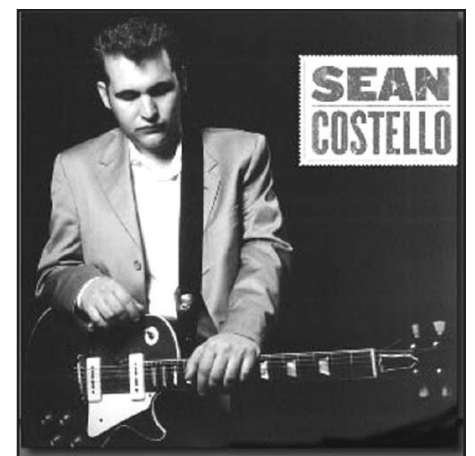
Mark Johnson – Natchel' Blues Network - Norfolk

1. *Deep In The Heart - Live* by The Forever Fabulous Chickenhawks featuring Big Luther Kent -- Louisiana Red Hot Records
2. *Jazz Fest Live 2005* by The Meters (New Orleans Jazz Fest Reunion show) -- Jazz Fest Live, www.jazzfestlive.com
3. *Live* by Tutu Jones -- Doc Blues Records
4. *Let It Go* by Deitra Farr -- JSP Records
5. *Live at the Sierra Nevada Brewery Big Room* by Roy Rogers & The Delta Rhythm Kings -- Chops Not Chaps Records



Alan Kurzer – Blues News Reviewer/Writer - Norfolk

1. *Sean Costello* by Sean Costello -- Tone-Cool Records
2. *Right About Love* by Renee Austin -- Blind Pig Records
3. Tie: *Grant Street* by Sonny Landreth -- Sugar Hill Records
Live at the Sierra Nevada Brewery Big Room by Roy Rogers & the Delta Rhythm Kings -- Chops Not Chaps Records
4. *Blood on the Road* by Jason Ricci and New Blood -- Rah Fox Records
5. *Guitar Gumbo* by Tom Principato -- Powerhouse Records



Jeff Maisey -- Port Folio Weekly/Down Home Magazine - Norfolk

1. *Another Days Blues* by Robin Trower -- V-12
2. *Bring 'Em In* by Buddy Guy -- Jive
3. *Think of Me* by Little Milton -- Telarc
4. *Birthright* by James Blood Ulmer -- Hyena Records
5. *Anything Can Happen* by Magic Slim -- Blind Pig

