



CAPITAL BLUES MESSENGER

Vol. 1, Issue 8

December 2007



Blues News	3
President's Drum	4
DCBS Battle of the Bands	5
Reminiscing	6
Meet the Bands	7
Meet the Judges	9
Blues Reviews	9
December-January Blues Calendar	10

Ad rates

Business card \$20

1/8 page \$25

1/6 page \$30

1/4 page \$40

1/3 page \$55

1/2 page \$70

2/3 page \$100

full page \$125.

Column width is 3.65 inches for a 2-column page, or 2.4 inches for a 3-column page. Height for 1/2 page is 4.85 inches. To place ad, contact treasurer@dcblues.org.

THE DC BLUES SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 77315

WASHINGTON DC 20013-7315

202-962-0112

<http://www.dcblues.org>

President: Felix McClairen

Vice-president:

Secretary:

Treasurer: Frank Kahan

Fundraising Director: Arnedra Bowens

Fundraising Coordinator: Muriel Stone Nolen

Merchandise Director: James Ginyard

Public Relations Coordinator: John Vengrouskie

Honorary Directors: John Cephas, Barry Lee Pearson, Joseph Wilson.

Administrator, Web Forum: Crawlin Kingsnake

Membership Coordinator: Mona Kotlarsky

Jams & Festival Coordinator: Sam'i Nuridden

Blues in the Schools/ Special Programs Coordinator: Chet Hines

Volunteer Coordinator: Jazz

Newsletter Editor: Tony MacFarlane

Counsel: Tom Gorman

The D.C. Blues Society is a non-profit section 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to keeping the Blues alive through outreach and education. Annual membership: Student \$15 (send copy of photo id); Individual \$25, Family \$35, Canada \$35 (US), other countries \$50 (US). Contributions (not dues) to the D.C. Blues Society are tax-deductible. To join, send a check & address to the P.O. box above. There is an application on page 11.

The DC Blues Calendar is usually published monthly (except for a combined December-January issue and occasional other double issue). It contains information on society events,

blues listings and other items of interest. Recent issues are also downloadable as PDF files from the Society's website, www.dcblues.org.

This issue is © 2007 DC Blues Society.

Note—The deadline for each issue is the 15th of the previous month. Send advertising and newsletter contributions to newsletter@dcblues.org Calendar listings should be sent to Steve Levine, 5910 Bryn Mawr Rd, College Park, MD 20740 or e-mailed to calendar@dcblues.org. Changes in your name and address and/or membership status should be forwarded to membership@dcblues.org or mailed to: P.O. BOX 77315, Washington, DC 20013-7315.

Cover: Charles 'Big Daddy' Stallings during DC Blues Society's *Battle of the Bands* performance November 17. More details on P. 5. Photo © Ron Weinstock

**MALKUM GIBSON and
THE MIGHTY JUKE
"REAL BLUES.....REAL HOT"**

Our CD's

"HooDoo Blues" 06'

+

"It's Gonna Be Alright" 07

**Top 100 CDs chart last five months
Real Blues Magazine**

Mr. B. B. King said of Malkum

**"This guy is marvelous. He has a
rare talent".**

**"solid blues.. the whole band plays
with good energy.. good harp tone"**

Bruce Iglauer Alligator Records



Performing Coast to Coast

Booking:

handlebarprod@dragonbbs.com

www.handlebarproductions.com

On Whata' Record

DCBS Monthly Jam Keeps Jammin'

At our last Jam in the Surf Club, Jams Coordinator Sam'I said "We'll find another hole to crawl into". Well, far from a "hole", we transitioned very smoothly to the Old Bowie Towne Grill in Bowie. The Grille, a re-furbished historic building in Bowie is classy plus. Two levels and a deck. Bob did a fine job in the restoration.

From the looks of things, we had a crowd to the capacity of the upper level of the Grill. Energetic as usual and glad to be there. The "Usual Suspects" where there and thankfully some "newbies" to our Jam.

Dave and **Sara** made the trek from around Leonardtown Maryland, rock solid **Chet Hines** on drums and **Dave Jackson** on bass. This is true dedication to the Society and to the Music.

In addition: **Larry Boy Pratt** on harp, **Larry Younkins** on guitar. We were also treated by two great female vocalists **Joy Bodycomb** and the always ready to go **Stacy Brooks**.

Thanks to the Society's PR staff for getting the word out about this, our first Jam at the Bowie Grill, **John Vee** and all the folks. **You have to make it out on December second. Don't miss it again.**

Local Bluesman Featured in Zora Neale Huston's *Spunk*

Spunk, the blues musical, is being presented by Tribute Productions, in association with the African Continuum Theatre, at the Atlas Performing Arts Center, through December 23. It's **George C. Wolfe's** musical adaptation of three stories by **Zora Neale Hurston**, with music by **Chic Street Man**. Hurston, who was a leading literary icon during the Harlem Renaissance, told of relationships and dynamics between men and women, highlighting themes of love, betrayal, survival and redemption. Directed by **KenYatta Rogers**, the cast includes **Michael Baytop**, local blues guitarist and storyteller, actress and singer **Pam Ward**, and **Jessica Frances Dukes**, who plays three roles. Baytop, President of the Archie Edwards Blues Heritage Foundation, is an accomplished blues performer, mentored by the late **Archie Edwards** and others, and with **Rick Franklin** has issued a marvelous collection of acoustic blues, *Searching for Frank*.

The Atlas Performing Arts Center Box Office is located at 1333 H Street NE, Washington, DC. The box office phone number is 202.399.7993 ext 2. For more information visit Visit www.atlasarts.org.

A DCBS Volunteer on the Mend

Imagine waking up one morning, expecting to get up, have a cup of coffee and head to work as usual. Instead, your chest is in pain, you've lost use of your legs and everything below your waist. You end up in the hospital for weeks, unable to walk.

They diagnose that it's not a heart attack or a stroke. You have Transverse Myelitis, which can lead to multiple sclerosis. The cause is unknown, no effective cure is known, and recovery can take up to 2 years. Welcome to **Neil Senning's** new world.

Not sure whether you know Neil? If you've been to DCBS events, you'd recognize him as the (usually shirtless) blond-haired surfer dude dancing in front of the stage.

Things Neil's done to help DCBS and its members:

- Offers 20% discount to DCBS members for Neil Senning Enterprises Quality Painting and Handyman Services
- Donated as a DCBS Blues in Your Heart Patron Sponsor
- Manned the DCBS booth at the DCBS Festival, Columbia Pike, BBQ Battle, Greenbelt, Fish Fry, and many more.
- Helped setup/breakdown canopies and tables and carried heavy bins for the DCBS booth as well as for the Fish Fry.

Neil is self-rehabilitating since he has no insurance. He is gaining use of his legs and continues to improve but could use our help. What can you do?

- Hire Neil for his contractor services 301 717-1773 (see the services he offers by visiting the Membership Benefits page in this Newsletter or on the DCBS Website)
- Support Transverse Myelitis research: www.ninds.nih.gov/disorders/transversemyelitis.

Corey Harris Wins MacArthur Fellowship

The **John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur** Foundation named blues musician **Corey Harris** as one of their 2007 Fellows on September 24th. He was selected for creativity in music, and his potential to make important contributions in the future. The MacArthur fellowship—sometimes nicknamed the "genius grant"—endows recipients with \$500,000 in support over 5 years ("no strings attached.")

The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation is a private, independent grant making institution dedicated to building a more just and sustainable world. Harris, the foundation said in its announcement of the award, "forges an adventurous path marked by deliberate eclecticism. With one foot in tradition and the other in contemporary experimentation, he blends musical styles often considered separate and distinct to create something entirely new."

Acclaimed for his brilliant, blues-based exploration of African diaspora music, singer-songwriter Harris lives in Charlottesville, VA, where he is on the board of directors of the Field School, a middle school for boys which opened this fall.

"What I've been trying to do in my work is... make evident the connection between black culture in different parts of the world," Harris told the *Washington Post*. "I'm going to keep doing that."

Blues News continues on P. 8



DCBS President, Felix McClaire, Opens Battle of the Bands Contest November 17.
Photo © Ron Weinstock

Chick Hall's Surf Club Keeps On...!

Just when we thought the Surf Club was down for the count, an extended lease on life gave the DCBS our Battle of the Bands, Winnerfest! (Battle of the Bands fundraiser), and the **Lil Dave Thompson** show—all at the Surf Club in November. Thanks to **Chris Hall** and staff for accommodating the DCBS for another last round of Blues entertainment at the Surf Club. Is the Surf Club really gone NOW? Stay tuned... (Latest rumor has it that the Surf Club will be kicking through January...)

2007 Battle of the Bands

Congratulations to **Charles "Big Daddy" Stallings** for winning the 2007 Battle of Bands contest against very stiff competition! Big THANKS! to all the bands that competed in one of the most exciting competitions in recent memory. Each band brought crowds to the dance floor and poured out some serious heartfelt, boogie-down Blues. So hats off to **David Cole & Main Street Blues; Black Cat Blues Band; Stacy Brooks; Butch & The Blue Ticks** (yeah, THAT Butch); and the **Chef Eric Band**.

On behalf of the Society, I extend our great appreciation to the judges doing a difficult job and volunteers handling the very important tasks of score keeping (**Mona**) timekeeping (**Bettina & Eve** for artwork), coordinating (**Jazs**), staffing the door (**Paul, Patricia, Arnedo**) and selling merchandise and tickets (**James & Gerard**). (See more on bands and judges on p. 5.) The contest was capped off with **Clarence Turner, Chef Eric**, our own **Arnedo Bowens**, and others jamming into the wee hours.

Winnerfest

Big Daddy Stallings threw down his unique brand of Bluesfunk at the Fundraiser to help send him and his band to Memphis for the 24th International Blues Challenge. The DCBS is pleased to sponsor Big Daddy and hope that many of you can make it to Memphis to show your support for Big Daddy and have a fantastic Blues-time all up and down Beale Street. Big Daddy and others may be organizing a bus to Memphis. Visit the website for updates: www.dcblues.org.

Don't Forget the Sunday Jam

We're still jamming at our new jam-quarters, the Old Bowie Town Grille. The owner, **Bob Thompson** was a most gracious host for our first jam at the Grille. The bands were hot, the crowd thick, and the food and drinks right on time. In fact the vibe was so strong, musicians jammed until after 10:00 p.m. Join the next jam at the Grille, a restaurant and bar located at 8604 Chestnut Ave. Bowie, MD 20715. Contact the Grille at 301-464-8800, or visit www.oldbowietowngrille.com.

The Holiday Party Heats Up!

This party is on! Start your spirits rising for the holidays at our party on 15 December featuring **Clarence "The Bluesman" Turner** and special guest vocalist, **Stacy Brooks**. This a great venue that's in the heart of well-lighted, pedestrian-friendly Silver Spring just blocks from the Silver Spring Metro. McGinty's is a two-level Irish pub that serves food and offers weekend live music The show starts 9:30 p.m. until 1:30 a.m. McGinty's Public House is at 911 Ellsworth Drive Silver Spring, MD 20910, 301-587-1270. \$8 at the door & in advance. Call 301-322-4808 for tickets. Because McGinty's is limiting the door to \$8, we cannot offer member discounts. But this price is already a discount....

Remember to get your raffle tickets for the autographed **B.B. King** Gibson guitar that will be raffled at the holiday party. You may still have a chance to buy tickets on the 15th. The number of tickets is limited!

VOLUNTEER!

It goes without saying (but I will): We still need volunteers. As I said before, I know one of you can give us the desperate help we need for maintaining our website.

All you need is a fax machine to send announcements to WPFW. Send me or Jazs your response at president@dcblues.org and volunteer@dcblues.org.

Special thanks to Carolyn Brown for doing outreach to new members to help grow our volunteer base and to all those who have responded positively to our call

Blues Always,
Felix

President's Drum continues on P. 8

DCBS Battle of the Bands



Volunteer collects admission for Battle of the Bands.
Photo © Ron Weinstock

"Ain't nobody," bluesman **Harmonica Fats** once told me as we sat at the bar of the Café Lido in Newport Beach, "gonna get rich playing blues."

Nor jazz. Or jug band music. Or bluegrass. Or any roots music that doesn't sound like it came out of the same commercial meat grinder. Fats, in fact, had a day job working for the Clorox Bleach Company and he was never known to turn down a fan wanting to buy him a drink and get him to autograph a 45. His old buddy, blues guitarist **Bernie Pearl**, was a DJ and a college professor for a time and still gives lessons to make ends meet.

You have to really want to play these kinds of music. Besides being blessed with the requisite amount of talent, a not inconsiderable obstacle, you have to scramble your ass off.

And in the blues, the stakes are so ... small. And the road so daunting: Hustling for gigs. Keeping four or five talented musicians from throttling each other or leaving and playing **Stevie Wonder** covers at the Holiday Inn. Playing for insulting amounts of money. Smokey bars and drunken clowns requesting songs and smelly bathrooms. You have really got to want it.

Charles "Big Daddy" Stallings wants it. And Saturday night, praise Jesus, he got a small piece of it. Over five challengers, Big Daddy won the D.C. Blues Society's annual Battle of the Bands to pick who gets to go to Memphis to compete in the Blues Foundation's annual International Blues Challenge.

Big Daddy has a day job, too. But he also has a super-tight band with a two-man horn section and a harp man who sounds (and even looks a little) like **Paul Butterfield** and smart, classy arrangements that somebody obviously put some thought into.

How do you sound like you're gigging every night—everybody right on the money, nailing that groove—when everybody in the B-Town Blues Band has a day job?



Bettina McCloud, timekeeper for the Competition, holds sign showing 5 minutes more.
Photo © Glenn Thompson

"I pick good people," said Mr. Stallings while we waited through the other bands' sets to see who won. "And they're loyal. These guys have all been with me two years."

Chick Hall's Surf Club, where the contest was held Saturday, November 17, is one of those roadhouses you find in grimy suburbs with lots of warehouses and 7-11s and unfamiliar restaurants. In other words, perfect for a blues head-cutting contest. It's got Bud Light posters on the fake-wood-paneled walls and a homey three-sided bar where enough beer to fill an RV's gas tank—or so it seems, at least—can be obtained from friendly servers for less than twenty bucks. It's a big, pleasant, high-ceilinged room with stained acoustic panels for a ceiling and a high, expansive stage.

David Cole and the Main Street Blues Band kicked off at eight o'clock, Mr. Cole slick and sharp in his hipster's dark fedora, black shirt, black vest, collar pin and white tie, etching sharp, crisp, precise lines with his red hollow-body Gibson. A romping jump tune was followed by tightly wired,

Battle of the Bands continues on P. 6



Ladies enjoy the Blues. Left-to-right (wearing hat) Tovia, who played drums for Stacy Brooks, Stacy, Nadine Rae, and DCBS member Pat Taylor.
Photo © Glenn Thompson

Battle of the Bands Continued from P. 5

ready-to-explode version of Freddie King's slow blues, "Love Her With a Feeling," the highlight of the set, which was held to 25 minutes a band, per the rules.

By nine o'clock I estimated six-dozen people, few over 40—the bad news—but multiracial—the good news. The blues seems to come back around every 20 years or so. Those of a certain age will remember the British Invasion of the 1960s, with people like Eric Burdon and Clapton extolling the virtues of some American guy, for goodness' sake, named **Muddy Waters**. The blues could use another infusion of youth these days, it seems.

Next up: the **Black Cat Blues Band**, introducing some old-time gospel chord changes with "Nobody Knows You When You're Down and Out." A rocking version of **Bo Diddley's** "Before You Accuse Me," sounding a lot like the excellent **Delbert McClinton** version, came next, with sinuous former opera student **Jenn Stofferahn** working it on out.

The place started to fill up as my plastic beer cup emptied, until there were well over a hundred people. Then Big Daddy climbed up on stage. A generously proportioned man in a jaunty white porkpie hat with a black band that looked a little like **Lester Young** might have passed it along, Mr. Stallings at first seems a little like two other large men who sang some deep blues. But he has none of the leering sexual swagger of **Howling Wolf**, nor any of the sleepy menace of Muddy Waters. He looks, in fact, a little like your

favorite uncle—but Lord, the man can swing!

As he led the seven-piece band through some tricky arrangements; they never dropped a stitch. Somebody spent some time working on some clever chord substitutions, because his stuff—pretty straight ahead, traditional jump tunes—sounded really fresh. More importantly, they swung. When they really clicked on about halfway through the short set, it felt like someone had started up a motor where you could cut the ignition and it would still just keep running.

He was the first band of the night with two guitars, and the first band with horns, but it felt like he could have stood up there with just his guitar and his hat and rocked the joint. The dance floor filled up for the first time,

The band dove into **Louis Jordan's** most famous tune ("I Don't Care If You're Young or If You're Old, Baby Let the Good Times Roll,") those insouciant horns punching through at the end of every line, Big Daddy giving the sly lyrics just the right salacious wink, playing an inventive, thoughtful yet heartfelt solo on his Les Paul guitar, the harp man wailing over it all with thick sobs. You knew this guy had to win the thing, unless **B.B. King** would suddenly walk in the door and plug in.

Next came **Stacy Brooks**, a fine, powerful singer with a little swagger of her own to go with that big voice. Her best moment: A **Koko Taylor**-influenced version of "Wang Dang Doodle." She was the only contestant to sing a few lines in German, (a very soulful language indeed—she grew up on Army bases in Germany.) With

such a steady backing band, she would wind up in second place.

Next: **Butch and the Blue Ticks**. The first wah-wah pedal of the night appeared as the band sailed through old folkie **John D. Loudermilk's** "Tobacco Road," a hit first in 1964 with the **Nashville Teens**, who were neither teens or from Nashville, but who knew a good lyric when they heard one ("Bring dynamite and a crane, blow it up and start all over again.")

Finally the **Chef Eric Band** took the stage with the first electric washboard of the night, a wall of sound rolling down off the stage, full of chugging guitars and thumping bass and that scratchy washboard. They took third, original songs evidently counting for much with the judges (one of the criteria for judging was, in fact, originality.)

So it's on to Nashville in January for Big Daddy—to the next round of the International Blues Challenge. There are some decent goodies at stake. The best band gets \$1,500, 20 hours of recording time, a hard-drive thingy, an interview in *BluesWax* magazine, a chat with a professional manager and all kinds of gigs at blues festivals.

More important, of course, is the visibility and, ultimately, the goal of blues singers from **Charlie Patton** through Big Daddy today: Give up that day job and make a living playing the blues.

Here's to Big Daddy, then. I raise my plastic beer cup, and I hope to hell he makes it all the way.

—Mike Flagg

Battle of the Bands continues on P. 7

Reminiscing

When I used to play blues guitar in Tokyo, few bars that catered to foreigners specialized in just one type of live music. So our home base, a basement pub called the Mad Fiddler that was run by two congenial, and usually pleasantly soused, Brits, had head-bangers in to play one night, a country-rock Eagles wannabe band the next, then my band, and then a swaggering horn band that did **Cab Calloway** stuff (with one of my favorite names for a band: the **Howling Loochie Brothers**.)

People came in to the pub to hear music and have a good time, and only cared if the band rocked hard and you could get a good buzz on and dance if wanted. The joint was always crowded, because you could always count on somebody decent playing there, even if it wasn't really your kind of music.

On hot summer nights, the Mad Fiddler was so packed that even with the air conditioners working overtime, clanking and whooshing overhead. Threatening

to swoon at any moment, people jammed wall to wall couldn't even get in the door. The ones at the bar would hand drinks up the stairs to people out on the sidewalk, just like New Orleans on a Saturday night. The ceilings would drip condensation and you'd have to tune the guitars every three or four songs. This was blues, mind you, played by middle-aged, craggy dudes, not some preening boy band.

—Mike Flagg

Meet the Bands

David Cole & Main Street Blues



Photo © Ron Weinstock

Main Street's goal is to entertain and have fun doing it. They play a variety of heart-pounding floor shaking blues that the audience can not help but enjoy. This group perform all around the region. Main Street is lead by the **David Cole** on guitar/lead vocals, **Charlie Sales**—Harmonica, **Barry Brady**—keyboards, **Larry Self**—bass, and **Tovia**—drums (formerly with **Johnny "Guitar" Watson**). Main Street will energize the crowd and keep them entertained.

Charles "Big Daddy" Stallings



Photo © Ron Weinstock

Charles "Big Daddy" Stallings is the DCBS winner of the best self-produced CD competition with *Blues Evolution* (See review on p. 9) and is in the first round of judging at the IBC. (Check the IBC web site to see if he goes to the 2nd round of judging.) He also represented The

Baltimore Blues Society at The 22nd International Blues Challenge in Memphis, TN in 2006.

Stacy Brooks



Photo © Ron Weinstock

Stacy Brooks started her singing career at age 5, singing on Army bases in Germany. Stacy has performed recently at the DCBS Fish Fry and the Farewell to Chick Hall's Blues jam. Her powerful vocals can be heard on several CD's. Although her career is diverse, blues is in her heart.

Black Cat Blues Band



Photo © Ron Weinstock

The Black Cat Blues Band is a six-member blues band working out of Northern Virginia. They offer an eclectic repertoire that reflects the band's traditional lineup. Born out of a shared passion for the blues—influenced by the great blues artists, but taking it to a driving level that just won't let you sit down. Founded in

2001 out of desire to share a rockin' blues style, the Black Cats have constantly taken it to a higher level.

Butch and the Blue Ticks



Photo © Ron Weinstock

Butch Murray discovered his talent and passion when his big brother gave him a pile of guitars and amps. Six years ago, **Roberto Hoffman** teamed up with Butch and they've been honing their sound since. Both have a deep love of blues and a determination to go to new places while keeping true to the blues.

Chef Eric Band

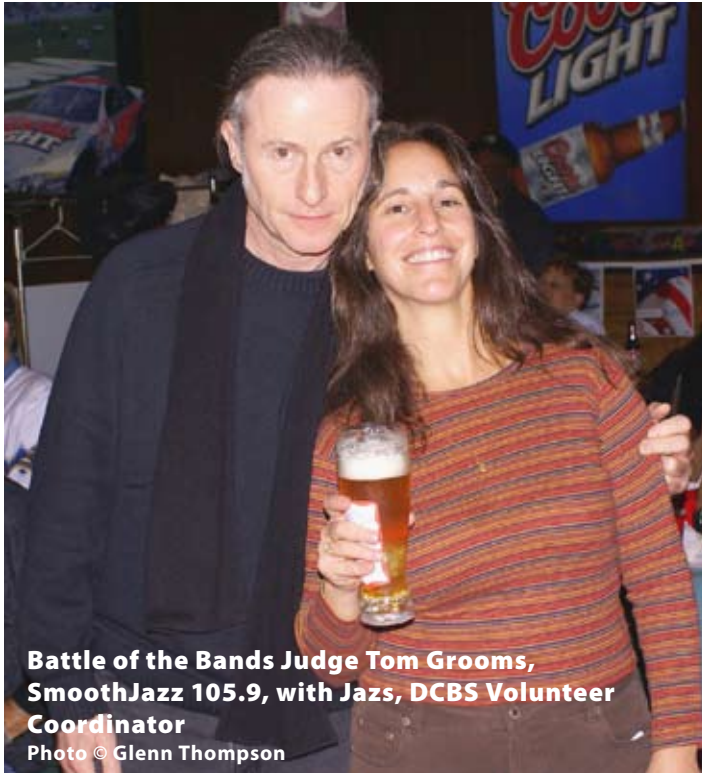


Photo © Ron Weinstock

Barnstorming roadhouse music performed by an Appalachian band of six heavyweights from six different styles ... all "reciped up" by **Chef Eric**. It's a little southern, a little soulful, a little Memphis, a little New Orleans, lots of energy, and a lot of fun.

Battle of the Bands continues on P. 9

FROM THE VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR



**Battle of the Bands Judge Tom Grooms,
SmoothJazz 105.9, with Jazs, DCBS Volunteer
Coordinator**
Photo © Glenn Thompson

Thank you to the new volunteers who have been stepping up to help out at events. Welcome to **Bill Barber, Carolyn Brown, John V., Norma Jean Thacker, Patricia,** and **Victor**. DCBS extends continued appreciation to volunteers **Gerard Ferrailleur, Paul Hayes, Sylvia Kiser, Rita M., Nadine Rae,** and **Roderick**.

Supreme thank you's to everyone who helped out at the Battle of the Bands! I know what a challenge it was for some of our judges to sit while everyone else was dancing—thank you for making it through all the way! Be sure to support our judges by visiting their web sites as well as tuning into their shows! See their bio's in this newsletter.

Thanks also to **Bettina McCloud**, who adeptly kept track of the time while selling raffle tickets and notifying bands when time was almost out. Without **Mona Kotlarsky**, we'd have been there all night adding up numbers—thanks to Mona's spreadsheet skills, she whipped the numbers up in a jiffy and still got in a few dances too!

Do you know someone with computer skills who needs to build their portfolio and/or their resume? We really need someone who has time and skills to keep the DCBS web site up-to-date (FTP access and HTML skills needed).

If you'd like to become a DCBS volunteer:

- write to volunteer@dcblues.org
- or just come to a show and lend a hand

Word of Mouth Promotions are the easiest way to volunteer! Tell everyone about DCBS, www.dcblues.org, and DCBS events. Help get the word out about DCBS events!

Corey Harris performed a solo acoustic show for the DC Blues Society June 30, 2007. He will be back in the Washington DC Area, performing at Blues Alley Feb. 8–10, 2008.

Lil' Dave Performed at the Surf Club Nov. 24

It's Saturday night and bluesman Lil Dave Thompson has had 17 hours drive from Mississippi to Virginia, a missed hotel, little sleep, and then another drive down to Bladensburg MD, and is now here at Chick Halls Surf Club. The grind doesn't show. He looks sharp, in a fine mood, and is ready to shake some rafters with three sets of his own strong material and a good salting of blues classics. His guitar stands on stage, waiting for him to pick it up and show what he can do. The folks out tonight to hear him will not be disappointed.

Dave kicks things off with a hot signature tune, "I Got the Blues" from his *Got to Get Over You* album and is off at a pace that won't let up all night. Drummer **Jessie Cockrell** maintains an impossible intensity throughout, locking with bassist **Spencer Burns'** cool stage demeanor for a pocket that won't quit. Riding with Lil Dave on this train is organist **Malcolm Jackson** who growls and wails with Dave's smooth intense guitar work and vocals in a great give-and-take. It's a non-stop hard-working night that will work through Thompson's multi- album catalog of originals and swing through "Kansas City," a powerful **Junior**

Blues News continues on P. 9

**CHARLES
"BIG DADDY"
STALLINGS**

**HIS DEBUT RELEASE "ONE NIGHT LOVER"
REACHED #1 ON XM RADIO'S BLUESVILLE XM 74!
NOW "BIG DADDY" IS BACK WITH HIS NEW RELEASE !!**

BLUES EVOLUTION

**"POWERFUL STAGE PRESENCE, TIGHT SOUND"
—DAVE BEARDSLEY, INTERNATIONAL
BLUES COMPETITOR**

**GOOD TIME
BLUES
WITH A
TWIST !!!**

**TAI JERIA MUSIC
WWW.BIGDADDYSTALLINGS.COM**

**CD AVAILABLE AT
WWW.CDBABY.COM/STALLINGSC2**

Meet the Judges

Pictured below, from left to right:



Sam'i Nuriddin

DCBS Jam Master, Sam'i Nuriddin brings his musical and organizational skills to the stage every first Sunday of the month at the DCBS Blues Jam now being held at the Old Bowie Town Grille from 4–8:00 p.m. He also performs with **Clarence "The Bluesman" Turner**.

Ron Weinstock

Ron Weinstock is a Jazz & Blues photographer and Journalist. He was a columnist for *Living Blues* and the editor of the DCBS newsletter editor for 20 years. Thankfully, he continues to contribute to the *Capital Blues Messenger* and to support DCBS.

Tom Grooms, Smooth Jazz 105.9

Over his 35+ years in radio, Tom has worked exclusively in the Washington, DC region for various stations including WHFS, WINX, WCXR and WJFK. He received an Achievement in Radio (AIR) award in 1995 recognizing his excellence in public affairs programming. Beginning in 1972 through 1981 he hosted a music program on 102.3 WHFS, one of the country's premiere free-form progressive radio stations and from 1990-1992 Tom contributed to the syndicated **Howard Stern** radio and TV show as the Washington D.C. correspondent. After two years as host of "The Blues Room" at WCXR, he joined the staff of Smooth Jazz 105.9 in 1994. You can catch Tom on Smooth Jazz 105.9 weeknights, midnight-5:00 a.m.

Chester Chichester, WPFW

Listen to DJ Chester Chichester on the Don't Forget the Blues hour on WPFW 89.3 every Tuesday from noon – 1pm.

Bill Barber

Bill Barber is a DCBS Volunteer and lover of blues music.

Blues Reviews

Charles "Big Daddy" Stallings Blues Evolution (Big Daddy Stallings)



B-Town [Baltimore] bluesman, **Charles 'Big Daddy' Stallings**, has just issued, *Blues Evolution*, a follow-up to his praised debut *One Night Lover*. Stallings is a highly likable performer who brings a bit of down-home flavor to his performances. The strength of his performances are in the vocals and the solid instrumental accompaniments behind him. The

band's mix of horns and fine down-home harp (mostly contributed by Nighthawk **Mark Wenner**, but *CBM* Calendar contributor **Steve Levine** is also present on a track or two) is nicely done—and saxophonist **EFlat**, responsible for the arrangements, merits mention. Stallings is at his best on a nice **Jimmy Reed** groove like "Going Down South," "Hard Times - Good Times" and the fantastical "2999." "Hobbsville #2" is a slow down-home talking blues piece that follows up the talking blues on the first track. He talks about growing up, family and Friday Night "Fish Fries," with some telling harp from Wenner, slowly accelerates during this performance, tossing in a bit of Jimmy Reed's "Upside Your Head."

Elsewhere on the record, there are plenty of good-time grooves and songs like "Blues Line Dance" and "Blues Cowboy" will certainly get the dance floor full. The only significant weakness on the album are lyrics which don't cohere, and others (like "2999") that are just too fantastical. Sometimes I'm left thinking of many overlooked songs that do merit revival, which Stallings performs during his live performances. I believe he should consider adding some of them into the mix on his next recording project.

Still, Stallings' band provides very danceable grooves (swing dancers will love *Blues Evolution*) and Big Daddy delivers his songs with feeling, humor and a good-time sensibility that wins listeners over. *Blues Evolution* is available from www.cdbaby.com and can be downloaded from iTunes. *Blues Evolution* has also been nominated by the DC Blues Society for the Blues Foundation's "Best Self-Produced CD" Award for 2008.

—Ron Weinstock

Blues News continued from P. 9

Wells- style 'Messin With The Kid' and an exhausting version of **Howlin Wolf's** "Killing Floor," all of which leaves everyone with happily worn-out shoes from polishing the Surf Club dance floor.

12 years out on his solo career with 3 new albums in the works, Lil Dave Thompson is showing just how to bring the blues to the people with power, style and intensity. He's workin hard and movin fast... catch him when you can.

December-January Blues Calendar

December Events

- 1 ACME Blues Co. @ The Country Store
Piece By Piece @ Downtown Saloon
- 2 **DCBS Jam** @ Old Bowie Town Grill
- 4 Dirty Dozen Brass Band @ Rams Head
- 5 One Bad Jack & Friends Blues Jam @
Beach Cove
- 6 Dirty Dozen Brass Band @ State Theatre
- 7 Anthony Gomes, Shemekia Copeland
@ Rams Head
Stacy Brooks Band @ St. Bourbon St.
Jamie Lynch @ Dulles Hilton
Piece By Piece @ Spanky's
Shenanigan's
- 8 Curb Feelers, Johnny & Stingrays @
Bangkok Blues
- 9 Hot Tuna @ Birchmere
Soul Tones of Swing @ McGinty's
- 10 Tab Benoit @ Rams Head
Charlie Sayles @ Westminster Church
- 11 Idle Americans @ Bangkok Blues
- 13 Idle Americans Blues Jam @ The
Country Store
Santa Jam @ State Theatre
- 14 Black Cat Blues Band, Deja Blue @
Bangkok Blues
Saffire @ Birchmere
BG & Mojo Hands @ Chevy Chase
Ballroom
King Teddy @ Dulles Hilton
- 15 **DCBS Holiday Party** @ McGinty's
Daryl Davis Band @ Glen Echo
Saffire @ Rams Head
Charles "Big Daddy" Stallings @
Snyder's
- 19 One Bad Jack & Friends Blues Jam @
Beach Cove
Daryl Davis Band @ Bangkok Blues
- 21 Charles "Big Daddy" Stallings @
Greenbelt American Legion
King Cadillac @ Dulles Hilton
- 22 Tom Cunningham Orchestra @ Glen Echo
- 23 Wave & Wolf Blues Jam @ Bangkok Blues
- 26 Southside Johnny & Asbury Jukes @
Birchmere
- 27 Southside Johnny & Asbury Jukes @
Birchmere

- 29 Baltimore Blues Society presents **Billy
Price w/Nighthawks** @ Fishhead
Cantina
Deanna Bogart @ Jammin Java
- 30 Nighthawks & Billy Price @ Birchmere
- 31 Stacy Brooks Band @ Westminster
Church
Idle Americans, ACME Blues Co. @
Bangkok Blues
George Gee & Jump Jive Wailers @
Glen Echo
Deanna Bogart @ Hollow Creek Golf Club

January Events

- 2 One Bad Jack & Friends Blues Jam @
Beach Cove
- 3-6 Mose Allison @ Blues Alley
- 5 Idle Americans @ The Country Store
Big Joe & Dynafloes @ Glen Echo
- 6 **DCBS Jam** @ Old Bowie Town Grill
- 9 Idle Americans @ Bangkok Blues
- 10 Idle Americans Blues Jam @ The
Country Store
- 12 ACME Blues Co. @ Bare Bones
- 13 Wave & Wolf Blues Jam @ Bangkok Blues
- 16 One Bad Jack & Friends Blues Jam @
Beach Cove
Daryl Davis Band @ Bangkok Blues
- 17 John Hammond, Duke Robillard @
Wolf Trap
- 18 John Hammond, Duke Robillard @
Rams Head
- 19 Idle Americans @ Frisco's
- 24 Idle Americans Blues Jam @ The
Country Store
Asylum Street Spankers @
Jammin Java
- 25 Johnny Winter @ Rams Head
North Mississippi Allstars @ State
Theatre
Melanie Mason, ACME Blues Co. @
Bangkok Blues
Buckwheat Zydeco @ Wolf Trap
- 26 **Legendary Blues Review** (Tommy
Castro, Deanna Bogart, Magic Dick,
Ronnie Baker Brooks) @ State
Theatre

Johnny Winter @ Rams Head
JC & Hepcats, Karl Stroll & Danger
Zone @ Bangkok Blues

- 27 Wave & Wolf Blues Jam @ Bangkok Blues
Buckwheat Zydeco @ Rams Head
- 29 **Legendary Blues Review** @ Rams
Head
Big Boy Little @ Bangkok Blues
- 30 One Bad Jack & Friends Blues Jam @
Beach Cove
Whop Frazier @ Bangkok Blues
Buckwheat Zydeco @ Wolf Trap

Regular Events

Sundays

Big Four Combo (Swingin' Blues
Brunch) @ Gordon Biersch, 11 am
Steve Kraemer @ Cat's Eye, 4 pm
Brooks Tegler Big Band @ Starland
Cafe, 5pm
Detroit Slim @ Full Moon, 6 pm
Matt Bishop @ Zoo Bar
Jim Bennett & Lady Mary w/ Unique
Creation Band @ Lamont's
Mary Ann Redmond @ Flanagan's
Harp & Fiddle
Cheryl Jones, Wayne Wilentz, Jim
West @ U-Topia
Hardway Connection @ Thai Seafood
House, Waldorf MD
Mark Mandel's Sunday All Star Blues
Jam 8-11pm @ Bangkok Blues

Mondays

Fast Eddie's Open Mic from 8pm-
midnight @ Spanky's Shenanigans
Phil Cunneff Jazz Trio @ Cats Eye

Tuesdays

Blu Lou & The Roadhouse Crew @
Chick Hall's Surf Club
Bill Heid Organ Trio @ U-Topia
O'Donel Levy @ Holiday Inn Capitol

Wednesdays

Dean Rosenthal @ Rams Head Tavern
(Downstairs)
Lyle Link Quartet @ Twins Lounge
(Colorado Ave)
Steve Smith Band @ Round Table
GOVT CHEEZ @ The Vegas Lounge
Robert Lighthouse acoustic @ Chief
Ike's Mambo Room

DC Blues Society Membership Application Form

MEMBER DISCOUNTS

The following companies offer discounts to DCBS members. In order to take advantage of these discounts, you must present your current membership card.

1/2 Price Discount at Blues Alley

DCBS members receive half off the normal admission for Blues shows that do not take advance ticket sales.

1073 Wisconsin Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20007
(202) 337-4141
www.bluesalley.com

15% off at BOK Custom Framing

5649 Lee Highway
Arlington, VA 22207
(703) 534-1866.
Hours: Mon-Fri 10-6, Sat. 10-5

10% off at Capitol Hill Books

Located across from Eastern Market at
657 C Street, SE
Washington, DC 20003
(202) 544-1621
Hours: Mon-Fri 11:30-6 Sat-Sun 9-6
www.capitolhillbooks-dc.com

10% off at Famous Dave's Barbecue (Gaithersburg Location)

917 Quince Orchard Road
Gaithersburg, MD 20878
(240) 683-0435
Hours: 11-10 Mon-Thurs & Sun, 11-11 Fri-Sat
www.famousdaves.com

15% discount at Industrial Sound Studios

If you call soon, your first set of ADAT tapes is free.
P.O. Box 1162
Riverdale, MD 20738
(301) 209-0565
industrialstudio@hotmail.com

10% discount at J & J Automotive

9160 Euclid Court
Manassas, VA 20110
(703) 368-3600
Hours: Mon-Fri 8-5
www.jjautoservices.com

Buy 1 drink, get 2nd drink free at JV's Restaurant

6666 Arlington Boulevard
Falls Church, VA 22042
(703) 241-9504
www.jvsrestaurant.com

20% discount at Neil Senning Enterprises

Quality Painting and Handyman Services - Call 301-717-1773
Painting | Plastering | Drywall | Deck Cleaning | Power Washing |
Staining | Carpentry | Interior & Exterior Work | and more!



Members receive the Society's newsletter, The D.C. Blues Calendar, with information on upcoming Society events and other blues in the Washington area and other material of interest; discounts on society events & merchandise, some clubs, and other benefits. Membership proceeds play an important part in making our activities happen.

Contributions (not membership dues or merchandise) to the D.C. Blues Society are tax-deductible

Date _____ Renewal? _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Dues per year (Circle appropriate one:)

Student: \$15.00

Individual: \$25.00

Family: \$35.00

Corporate: \$50.00

Canada: \$35.00 (US)

Other Countries: \$50.00 (US)

Family members (List names:)

Interested in volunteering? _____

Win a B.B King autographed Gibson guitar!

Buy lots of \$5 raffle tickets & increase your chances of winning.

For raffle tickets call 301-322-4808 or visit www.dcblues.org

Donations for the DC Blues Festival/Society

See website for levels of donations and premiums

Level of donation: _____

Amount donated: \$ _____

Other Donation: \$ _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Mail to:

DC Blues Society, PO Box 77315, Washington DC 20013-7315

Tickets and memberships can be purchased online at

www.dcblues.org

THIS IS A NEW GIBSON BLUESHAWK ELECTRIC GUITAR

IT IS ONE OF THE MOST VERSATILE INSTRUMENTS GIBSON EVER INVENTED

Gibson
Blues Hawk

Scale length - **25.5 inches/64.8cm** - 22 frets
Pickups - **Two Blues 90** soap-bar pickups -
with hum-cancelling dummy coil
Controls - three-way pickup switch,
six-way rotary **Varitone** switch
Master volume, Master tone
Finish - **Ebony**, gold plated hardware,
Body - **Maple** top / **Poplar** back -
f-holes with "tone-chambers" -
contoured back
Neck - **Mahogany**, Narrow, shallow, easy
Fingerboard - **Rosewood**,
Weight - very light at around **6.5lbs/2.95kg**



IT HAS BEEN AUTOGRAPHED BY **BB KING**

WHY IS ALL OF THIS IMPORTANT ?

BECAUSE FOR \$5

THIS COULD BE **YOUR** GIBSON BLUESHAWK BB KING-AUTOGRAPHED GUITAR !!!!

The DC Blues Society is GIVING AWAY this NEW instrument

... and all you have to do is buy yourself a chance. **RaffleTickets are \$5 each** and available from any DC Blues Society member at any DC Blues Society Event from now until the winning ticket is drawn on the evening of December 15 2007 at the **DC Blues Society Holiday Party at McGinty's Pub** in Silver Spring.

There is no limit to ticket purchases and you do not need to be present at the raffle drawing to win.



DC Blues Society
PO Box 77315
Washington DC 20013-7315

BB King autographed guitar winner will be drawn at the Holiday Party on 15 December at McGinty's Public House 911 Ellsworth Drive in the heart of Silver Spring, MD. Call for raffle and party tickets: 301-322-4808.