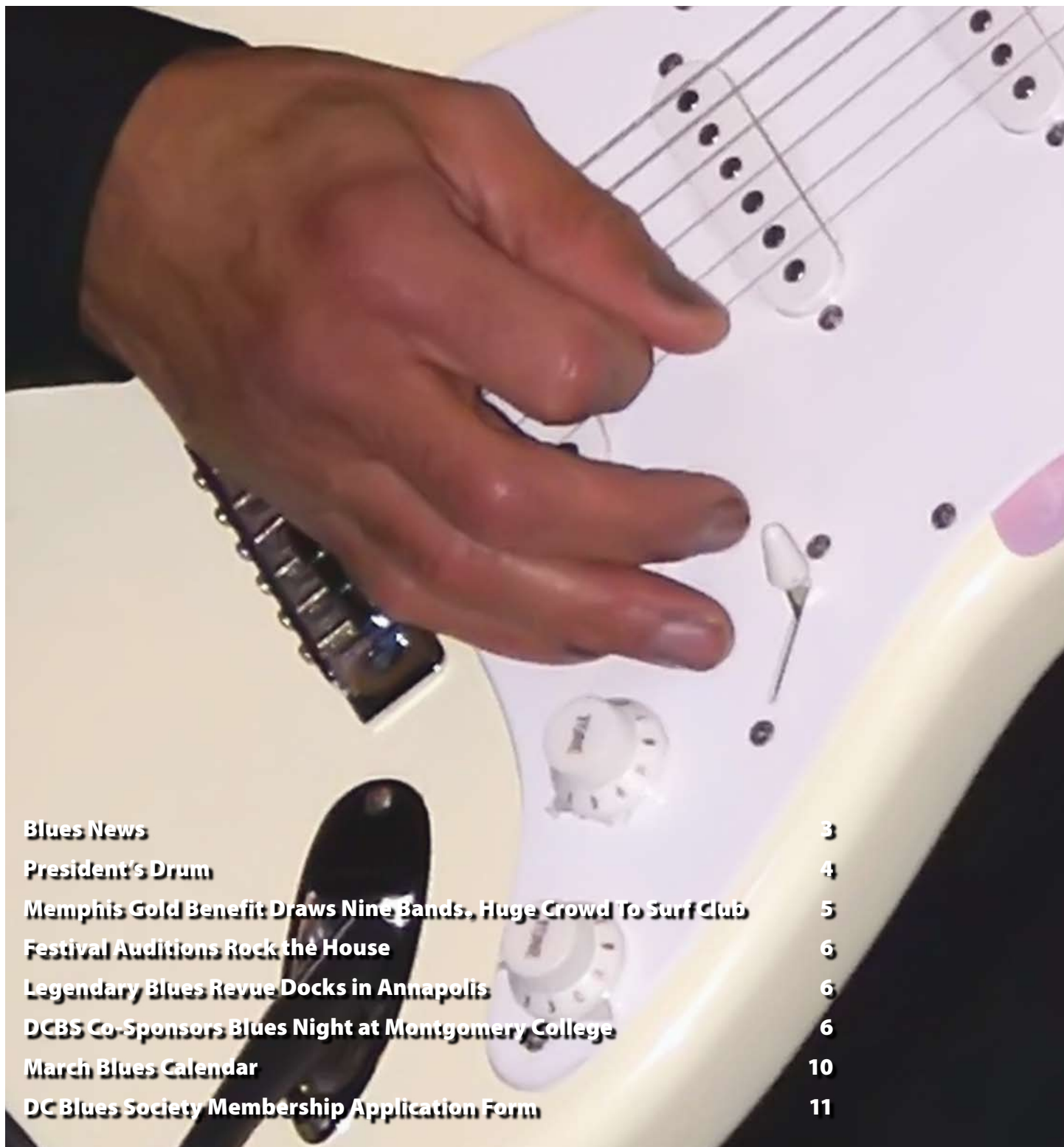




CAPITAL BLUES MESSENGER

Vol. II, Issue 2

March 2008



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full page \$125.

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THE DC BLUES SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 77315

WASHINGTON DC 20013-7315

202-962-0112

<http://www.dcblues.org>

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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 © 2008 DC Blues Society.

Note—The deadline for each issue is the 15th of the previous month. Send advertising to treasurer@dcblues.org 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: *A guitar played at the DC Blues Society sponsored fundraiser for Memphis Gold on Saturday, February 9. See article on P. 5. Photo © Glenn Thompson*

Baltimore Blues Society Presents:

Memphis Gold Benefit & Fundraiser



Sunday, March 16, 2008

Time: 3 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Donations will be collected at the Door!

Suggested Donation: \$10.00

All proceeds will go to Memphis Gold!

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The Memphis Gold Band

Charles "Big Daddy" Stallings

The Tommy Lepson Band

Mr. Bobby Parker

Nadine Rae & the Allstars

ACME Blues Band w/ Clarence "The Bluesman" Turner

Other surprise guests! Stay tune to updates!

For more information:

www.memphisgold.com

www.mojoworkin.com

www.dcblues.org

Nadine Rae

(410) 519-9629

Rita Mansfield-Green

(703) 855-8989

Cindy Williams

(410) 526-9546

International Blues Challenge Winners

The Band Competition at the 24th International Blues Challenge was won this year by **Trampled Under Foot**—A Kansas City Blues Society entry. TUF's lead guitarist, **Nick Schnebelen**, also won the **Albert King Award** as Best Guitarist at the IBC. **Shakura S'Aida**, an entrant from the Toronto Blues Society, won 2nd Place., and **Lil' Ray Neal Blues Band**, from the Baton Rouge Blues Society, won 3rd. The other finalists were: **Doghhouse Daddies**, **Laurie Morvan Band**, **Little Rodger & the Cheap Thrills**, **Awek**, **Delta Wires**, the **Mike Crandall Band**, and **Pryor Baird & the Deacon**.

Lionel Young, from the Colorado Blues Society, won the Solo/Duo Competition; **Ben Prestage** of the Blues Alliance of the Treasure Coast, won 2nd. The finalists were: **John-Alex Mason**, **Dan Stevens & Chris D'Amato**, **2blu**, and **Robert Sampson**. **Sue Palmer & Her Motel Swing Orchestra**, an entrant via the Blues Lovers United of San Diego won Best Self-Produced CD.

The International Blues Challenge has become the nation's biggest and most respected showcase for up-and-coming Blues artists. The IBC is the world's largest Blues gathering, held annually by the Blues Foundation and its affiliates. Each affiliate sends one band and solo/duo act to the semi-finals, held this February on Beale Street in Memphis, TN. Look for information about The DC Blues Society's entrants' adventures at this year's IBC in future issues.

International Songwriting Competition Blues Finalists

The finalists in the Blues division of the International Songwriting Competition have been announced. Winners for the 2007 competition will be announced in April, 2008. The finalists are: "Birthday Suit"—**Loring A. Jones**; "Broken & Blue"—**Tracy K**; "Color-Blind Angel"—**Robin Rogers/Tony Rogers**; "Eye For An Eye"—**Jeff Pitchell**; "Goin' Home Train"—**Ferenc Kovács**; "Gravy Train"—**Joe Lundheim**; "Just What You're Looking For"—**Peter David Harper**; "Man On The Run"—**Javier Vargas/Jeff Espinoza**; "Number's Down"—**Andrew Winton**; "Only 24"—**Gino Matteo**; "Stuck On The Blues"—**Richard Ray Farrell**; "That's The Only Time"—**Jack de Keyzer**; "Tomorrow's Come And Gone"—**Mark Earl Cook**; and "Unsubstantial Blues"—**Magdi Rúzsa**. Winners will be announced some time in April. Entries for 2008 are now being accepted. Entry forms can be obtained at www.songwriting.net/entryform.html.

Archie's Barbershop Closes after Half a Century

The cornerstone of Blues tradition in the DC area, the Archie Edwards Barbershop, has closed after almost fifty years. The Bunker Hill Rd. barbershop was a sideline of Edwards', while he worked as a security guard for the federal government, until he

Blues News continues on P. 8

BATON ROUGE
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President's Drum



President Felix McClairan presents a performance at the Memphis Gold Fundraiser Feb. 9
Photo @ Ron Weinstock

No Obituary for Chick Hall's Surf Club! Yet.

One of the new Surf Club owners, **Jim Byrum**, announced at the DCBS Festival Auditions that the Surf Club would remain open and continue to support live Blues.

His pronouncement was greeted by uproarious applause and shouts of appreciation. While Jim and I discussed the Society's and Surf Club's future, pool players, musicians, and Blues fans interrupted to offer handshakes of praise and thanks. There are many folk (count DCBS among them) grateful that there won't be a CVS, car repair shop, or [fill in your worst fear] at the corner of Kenilworth and Crittenden Streets—for now. Jim says he plans to book acts at the Surf Club through May and then begin some renovations. He wasn't specific about the kind of changes he has in mind. But Jim has indicated that he wants to keep the unique charm, flavor and Blues that is the Surf Club.

Chris Hall says that February 28 is his last day at the Club. We will miss him. I'm not sure about other staff, but Mike, the soundman, will continue with the new management—a signal that the Surf Club will keep a focus on quality sound. Jim will celebrate his birthday at the Surf Club on March 8 and is actively seeking acts to build a show schedule. Learn more at www.dcblues.org. According to Right on Rhythm's **Wayne Kahn**, if you want to talk about bookings, reach Jim at

bookings@surfclublive.com. To echo Wayne, let's not miss this second chance to keep the Blues and other Roots music live and kicking at the Surf Club.

Memphis Gold Fundraiser Success

Thanks to all the bands that lit up the Surf Club with lots of love and great music on behalf of **Memphis Gold** (Chester Chandler) at the benefit on February 9. Over 300 party people jammed into the Surf Club raising over \$2,000.00 toward Memphis' recovery from a serious back injury. Special thanks to Chet Hines [aka **Dr. S.O. Feelgood**] for putting together an all-star lineup and for masterfully deejaying and emceeing the whole thing. [See list of performers, p 5] If you missed this show you missed some of the best acts in the region on a single stage. You also missed a chance to support Memphis Gold in his recovery. We can't help you with the first missed opportunity, but you can still help Memphis with your donations. Give online at www.dcblues.org or send checks payable to Chester Chandler to DCBS P.O. Box 77315, Washington, DC 20013-7315. Another chance to help the cause is an upcoming Baltimore Blues Society benefit on behalf of Memphis Gold. Visit the BBS website for details: www.mojoworkin.com.

Memphis Gold and his wife, **Barbara**, thank everyone for the great support from fans and musicians. Barbara is planning a birthday/thank-you party for early March. Plans are still underway. For the latest, visit www.dcblues.org.

DCBS Looking Forward

The Surf Club's reincarnation provides DCBS with the possibility of continuing our productive relationship with the historic nightclub. But we have continued to build new relationships with organizations that are in sync with DCBS's mission [Blues education, awareness, and the perpetuation of live Blues] that do not rely on nightclub space. At least not space for which DCBS must pay onerous rents.

For example, on February 20, volunteers sold merchandise (including the must-have *Blues in My Kitchen* cookbook) and signed up new members as DCBS co-sponsored Blues Night at Montgomery College's Germantown campus. [See article on p 6] This kind of alliance provides DCBS with outreach benefits and allows us to contribute positively to community building (Blues and otherwise) with minimum resources. We have also signed on as co-sponsor of the Lorton Community Action Center Easter Roots & Blues Benefit, March 23, 4:00–9:00 p.m. at George Mason University Harris Theater in Fairfax, VA. The benefit show features among others **Cephas & Wiggins** and **the Deacons w/ Special Guests Ron Holloway & Daryl Davis**. LCAC supports family services such as food and emergency services and community programs. Visit the LCAC website for details: www.lortonaction.org/about.html.

President's Drum continues on P. 8

Memphis Gold Benefit Draws Nine Bands, Huge Crowd To Surf Club



Bobby Parker uses his inimical harmonica style.

Photo @ Ron Weinstock

Several of the top blues artists in the D.C. area and a lively, huge crowd turned out at Chick Hall's Surf Club February 9 to raise money for blues star **Memphis Gold**, who was badly hurt in a fall in January.

Well over 300 blues enthusiasts listened to tunes and rocked the dance floor all night long as seven bands plus two collections of All-Stars gathered from different groups (including Memphis Gold bands) to make up two more ensembles. **Dr. S.O. Feelgood**, was also the colorful and lively emcee. A different band played every half-hour.

"This is the best music I've heard here," said **William Fowler** of Riverdale, who says he's been a regular at the Surf Club for four years. Many in the crowd are musicians themselves, so the bands "are playing all original music, not wasting time playing covers."

The Sherwood Blues Band played an excellent mix of traditional blues with those with a more urban feel, including originals "Walkin' Blues" and "Here We Go Again."

Blues on Board's great set was highlighted by "Keep the Blues Alive," from their latest CD.

Charles "Big Daddy" Stallings played a very solid set—mostly in the traditional **Jimmy Reed** vein.

Hardway Connection's performance ranged from the funky "Dirty Old Man" to the slow and sultry "Love Me With All Your Heart," and closed with a rousing "When the Saints Go Marching In."

Feelgood's own group, the **Dr. S.O. Feelgood Band**, belted out a lively "40 Days and 40 Nights" and teased all of us seafood lovers with "Don't Cook It, Baby, Just Let Me Eat It Raw" by licking his mike suggestively—just in case anyone didn't understand the song's true meaning.

Clarence "Bluesman" Turner, along with guest vocalist **Stacy Brooks**, featured a captivating "All Night Long," and closed with Turner playing his guitar behind his head a la **Hendrix** in "Teeny Weeny Bit."

Bobby Parker was his usual showman self, briefly playing his guitar while standing on a speaker and then venturing out into the crowd. "We want to give Memphis Gold a message: What a nice turnout!" Parker, a close friend of Memphis, declared enthusiastically.

The two sets of All-Stars, including **David Jackson, David Cole, Nadine Rae, Clarence Turner, Tovia Bradley** and **Ralph Olive**, began and closed the evening. Cole led the last group in a lively "Walk the Dog," while Rae belted out a jazzy "The Thrill is Gone."

Memphis is "upset that he can't be here," said his wife, **Barbara Chandler**, who spoke with him by cell during the event. "I'm overwhelmed. He didn't know people like him that much, and it made me cry."

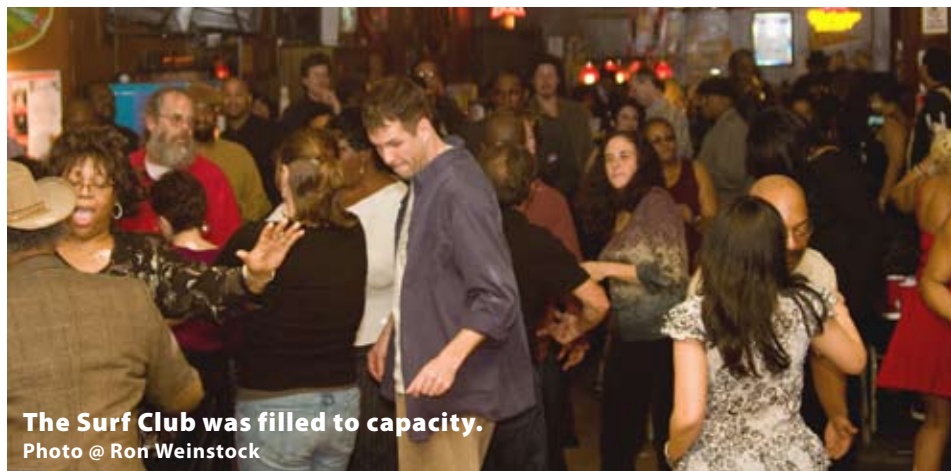
After the benefit, Memphis said, "I knew I'd touched a lot of people in this town, but I didn't know how many. I was real surprised the **D.C. Blues Society** wanted to do a benefit for me, but I have played a fair amount for them [and become] sort of a homeboy" since moving to this area from the Mississippi Delta.

The event raised more than \$2,500, all of which was donated to a new foundation, Memphisgoldbenefit.com, which he and Stacy Brooks started after his mishap. Its purpose is also to aid other musicians who have trouble paying their bills because of sickness or injury.

The **Baltimore Blues Society** has scheduled another benefit for Memphis on March 16 from 3:00 at the Fishhead Cantina in Arbutus, that will feature artists including the **Tommy Lepson Band**, Bobby Parker, the Memphis Gold Band, Nadine Rae and the All-Stars, **Nothing But Trouble**, Charles "Big-Daddy" Stallings, **Dean Rosenthal, Lynwood Taylor & Automatic Slim**, and **Ursula Ricks**.

—Alan Cohen

Memphis Gold Benefit continues on P. 9



The Surf Club was filled to capacity.

Photo @ Ron Weinstock

Festival Auditions Rock the House



The winning band, Funky Club, will open the 20th Annual DC Blues Festival.

Photo © Crawlin' Kingsnake

At the Surf Club on February 23, the first hint of impending excitement was the colorful and sometimes whimsical names of the acts (**Country Bunker Funky Blues Band, Frontal Bluesotomy** for examples) auditioning for a slot at the DCBS 20th Annual DC Blues Festival next Labor Day weekend. Living up to that harbinger, the nine bands that took the stage tore it up all night long! The Surf Club floor sizzled with the slipping, sliding, swinging and bopping of a dance-full, standing room only crowd (another 300+ DCBS event). There was no bad band trying to get on the Carter Barron stage. All the acts were talented, professional, and played some outstanding Blues. But the baddest band per popular vote was **Funky Club**, a throw-down trio. Congratulations guys!

Andrew Westcott, Mike Walker and **Chris Compton** have been playing

together for years, only recently deciding to start the official "Funky Club". However, they have many side projects: acting as studio musicians, fill in bands, and even members of other full time bands as well. Some of the work they have done collectively is with artists such as **the Pocket Band, Mindy Miller, Late Night Freak Out, the Fishermen**, and even their own original material. Funky Club is a gritty combination of blues, funk, and good old rock and roll. With the vocals being shared between the former **Westcott Brothers** band leader, and the sultry Chris Compton... You're sure to catch something that makes your hair stand up and your feet start moving! Catch these guys regularly at Growlers Pub in Gaithersburg, MD every Wednesday night.

Funky Club will join this year's Festival lineup with: **the Colours Blues Band** (a high school student band based in P.G. County), **Charles "Big Daddy" Stallings, Acme Blues Company, the Carter & Johnson Band, the Lil Dave Thompson Band** [Lil Dave will also be featured at the After-Party], and **Zac Harmon & the Mid South Blues Revue**. Zac Harmon is the headliner, but the final order of performance has not been determined.

Shout out to all the volunteers who prepared and served food, sold raffle tickets, coordinated lineup, deejayed, and all the rest. You may notice that an event requires the efforts of lots of volunteers. Think about giving DCBS and the Blues some of your time. See the website, www.dcblues.org for details.

—Felix McClairen

DCBS Co-Sponsors Blues Night at Montgomery College

On February 20, The DC Blues Society co-sponsored Blues Night at Montgomery College's Germantown campus. The free show featured sets from a dynamic duo of **Bobby Parker** and **Linwood Taylor**. Despite the inclement weather, Globe Hall was nearly full with an enthusiastic crowd. Hats off to **Keith Federman**, who led the planning of the event and sought DCBS participation in this show to spread Blues to upper Montgomery County.

—Felix McClairen

Legendary Blues Revue Docks in Annapolis

The Legendary Blues Revue brought the excitement and energy of the Legendary Blues Cruise on land last January in Falls Church, VA and Annapolis, MD. The lineup featured many of the same electrifying artists from the Cruise: **Tommy Castro** and **Scott Burnett**, and also included local artist **Deanna Bogart** (not to mention **Ronnie Baker Brooks** and **Magic Dick**.) Each artist performed a 30 minute set with **the Tommy Castro Band**, and then closed each show with an electrifying jam.

Blues societies across the country were notified to provide a local artist to perform with Tommy and the gang during the jam at the end of the show. **Joe "Eflat" Thomas** (Big Daddy Stallings) performed at the State Theater, in Falls Church on Saturday, January 26. **Nadine Rae** (Nadine Rae & the Allstars) played the Rams Head On-stage Theater in Annapolis on Tuesday, January 29.

I had the benefit of seeing this show twice, which assisted in my preparation for my performance. The group are all very

cool folks. They treated both Big Daddy Stallings and me very nicely. You would have thought we had been traveling with them all the time. Such a welcoming spirit. This same spirit was displayed onstage while Tommy, Deanna, Magic, and Ronnie gave the audience a night of fun-filled performances. I was requested to perform Etta James', "I'd Rather Go Blind"

Eflat (Stallings) represented and threw down with them at the State Theater—they even went into "Sex Machine" by **James Brown**. His sax just enhanced the horn section even more. They were cookin'—I almost ran out there myself!

Ronnie Baker Brooks is off the chain! He's such a hell of a guitar player and singer. The audience went wild at both places every time Ronnie performed. Once we got out on stage with them, it was such a high and it felt really good.

Above all, it was a worthwhile experience!

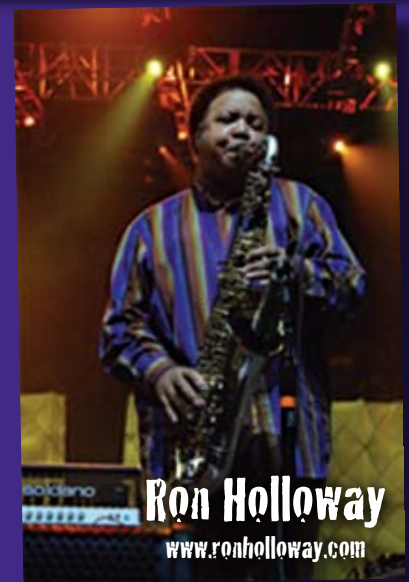
—Nadine Rae

THE O'CONNOR BROTHERS AND THE GMU PROGRAM BOARD PRESENT:

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TICKETS: <http://tickets.com/> or the Harris Theater ticket booth

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Washington Area Music Association (WAMA)
<http://wamadc.com/wama/>
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crossdrivenradio@cox.net

President's Drum continued from P. 4

Since the beginning of the year volunteers have also represented DCBS at a production of **Zora Neale Hurston's** Blues-tinged play, *Spunk*. And we were on hand for a DC premiere screening of the period-based Blues movie, *Honeydripper*.

[We may be offering discounts or other opportunities to DCBS members to see this highly entertaining movie, starring young Bluesman/actor **Gary Clark Jr.** and **Danny Glover**.]

New 1st Sunday Jam Home

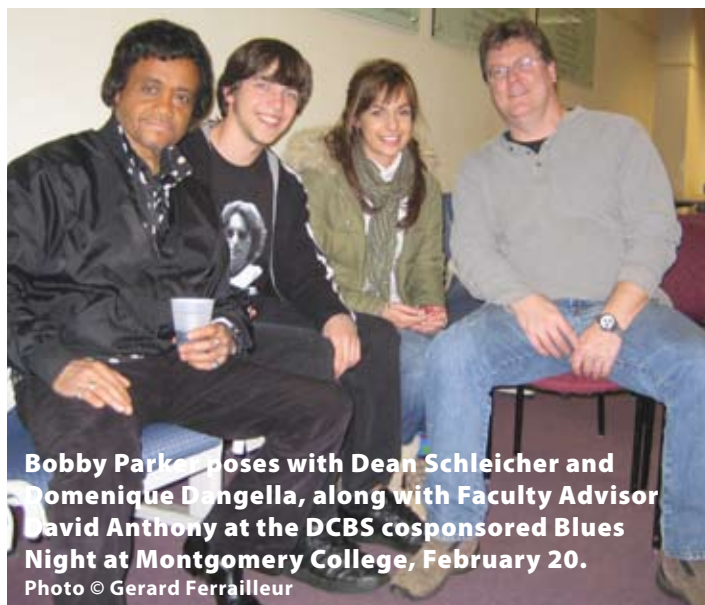
Finally, in the new relationship department, in April the first Sunday jam will move to Mirrors Nightclub at 33 New York Ave. NE Washington, DC. We reluctantly leave **Bob Thompson's** Old Bowie Town Grille that has been home to the jam since October. Bob was a gracious host and we appreciate all his and the Grille staff's support. DCBS will continue to work with Bob where opportunity arises. We hope you continue to support Bob. Thanks again to the Old Bowie Town Grille! And don't miss our last jam there on March 2.

Mirrors is a spacious two-level venue in walking distance from the NY Ave. Metro stop. We believe this more accessible nightclub provides opportunities to increase our membership among DC residents and will help increase DCBS recognition and support. Hope to see your face in the new place.

Blues Always,
Felix

DCBS Member Discount!

DC Blues Society members will receive a \$2.50 discount for tickets to the Lorton Community Action Center Easter Roots and Blues Benefit Concert.



Bobby Parker poses with Dean Schleicher and Domenique D'Angella, along with Faculty Advisor David Anthony at the DCBS cosponsored Blues Night at Montgomery College, February 20.

Photo © Gerard Ferrailleur

Blues News continued from P. 3

retired in 1981. Since 1959, it was a regular hangout for Blues artists who came to town, most notably Edwards' good friend "**Mississippi**" **John Hurt**. The impromptu "Alpha Tonsorial Parlor" grew into a regular Saturday afternoon jam, and became institutionalized as "Archie's Barbershop" after Edwards' death in 1998.

The barbershop was also headquarters of the Archie Edwards Foundation, a non-profit organization devoted to keeping alive the Piedmont style of Blues that Edwards loved. Aside from the Saturday jams, the barbershop served as a museum and educational center.

The building that held Archie Edward's old barbershop will soon be gutted and turned into a dentist's office. The Foundation will headquarter at the HR-57 Center for the Preservation of Jazz and Blues, 1610 14th St. NW. Jams will still be held there every Saturday from 1:00–6:00 p.m. Directions can be found at the HR-57 website, www.hr57.org. Call (202) 526-7539 for more information.

Lorton Community Action Center Easter Roots & Blues Benefit Concert

The Lorton Community Action Center, a nonprofit, charitable organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for families in Fairfax County, will be hosting a benefit concert on Easter Sunday, March 23, from 4:00–9:00 p.m. at the George Mason University Harris Theater on George Mason Blvd. in Fairfax, VA. **Johnny Artis** will serve as Master of Ceremonies, and performances will feature **Cephas & Wiggins**, the **Deacons with Special Guests Ron Holloway & Daryl Davis**, **Doc Reed & the Doc Reed Band**, and the **Eleventh Hour**. The concert's sponsors, the **O'Conner Brothers**, can be contacted for more information: (703) 455-1110.

Harmonica Players Organization of Frederick Looking for New Members

Blues lovers halfway between DC and Baltimore might consider joining **Bryan Lyburn's** organization in Frederick, MD. They hold monthly meetings that focus on teaching, learning, and jamming. They will also be hosting a seminar scheduled for March 18th from 7:00–10:00 p.m. with **Dennis Gruenling** and **Steve Guyger**, focusing on the music of **Little Walter**. Cost for the seminar will be \$50.00. Bryan can be reached for more information at blyburn@comcast.net or (301)514-5845

Dominican U Presents First National Conference on Blues & Gospel

Dominican University is presenting this spring the first-ever national academic symposium on the blues and gospel music. The Blues & The Spirit Symposium will bring together nationally renowned scholars and experts on African American music and culture, and nationally and locally revered blues and gospel performers to discuss the shared history of these two genres

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Blues News continued from P. 8

and their impact on contemporary music. One of the panelists who will be involved in the symposium is **Fernando Jones**, who just recently received the Blues Foundation's 2008 Keeping the Blues Alive Award for education. Other panelists include former award-winners **David Whiteis** and **Gayle Dean Wardlow**.

In addition to scholarly panels, the symposium will feature a tour of Chicago's historic Bronzeville neighborhood, a Chicago blues club crawl, an exhibit of rare photographs and videos of legendary blues performers, and a concert with **Otis Clay** and **Sharon Lewis**.

The academic symposium will be held the weekend of May 22–24. Because space is limited, the symposium will fill quickly—especially with blues lovers who might include the conference with vacations to Chicago, home of the blues. If you have any questions about the program, please contact **Dr. Janice Monti**, chair of the Dominican University's sociology and criminology department and the organizer of the symposium. She can be reached at (708) 524-6050 or through the symposium website at www.dom.edu/bluesandthespirit.

Seth Kibel Wins Four WAMMIEs

The 22nd Annual Wammies™, the Washington Area Music Awards, recognizes significant career achievements by local musicians. This year, local Blues musician **Seth Kibel** won awards in four categories. He won Best Jazz Instrumentalist and Best World Music Instrumentalist and his album, *The Great Pretender* won Best Blues or Traditional R&B Recording. In addition, his record label Azalea City Recordings won Best Washington Area Record Company.

Congratulations to Seth and the other Blues category winners: Female Vocalist, **Melanie Mason**; Male Vocalist, **Tommy Lepson**; Duo/Group, **Deanna Bogart Group**; and Instrumentalist **Robert Lighthouse**.

In addition, DCBS patron **Chick Hall** won the Country Instrumentalist Wammie, and **Chick Hall's Heroes & Friends** won the Country Group Wammie.

Inaugural Blues Concert Tour Headed to Iraq & Kuwait In April

BLUZAPALOOZA, the first blues concert tour to go to a war zone, ships out to military bases in Iraq and Kuwait on April 1, 2008 to entertain our troops.

Created by blues producers **Steve Simon** and **John Hahn**, and presented by Armed Forces Entertainment, this inaugural BLUZAPALOOZA tour stars blues icon and four-time Blues Music Awards (BMA) nominee **Bobby Rush**, two-time BMA Contemporary Blues Female Artist of the Year **Janiva Magness**, Beale Street Entertainer of the Year **Billy Gibson**, and **Tony Braunagel** from The Phantom Blues Band heading up the BLUZAPALOOZA All-Stars Blues Band.

"BLUZAPALOOZA gives America's greatest blues musicians the opportunity to say 'Thank you' and 'We love you' to America's

greatest soldiers," says Steve Simon, co-producer of BLUZAPALOOZA. "For our men and woman serving on the front lines, BLUZAPALOOZA is like attending a great blues festival right in their own home town," continues John Hahn, BLUZAPALOOZA's co-producer.

This inaugural BLUZAPALOOZA tour has been made possible with the help of Armed Forces Entertainment, The Blues Foundation, Blind Raccoon, Blues Revue, Alligator Records, NorthernBlues Music, Delta Groove Music, Blind Pig Records, Telarc Records, Sony Corporation and Ruf Records.

Armed Forces Entertainment (AFE) is the lead Department of Defense agency for providing entertainment to U.S. military personnel serving overseas. Founded in 1951, AFE brings a touch of home to more than 500,000 troops each year. BLUZAPALOOZA is proud to be working with AFE.

Visit www.myspace.com/bluzapalooza for additional information.

Memphis Gold Benefit continued from P. 5

UPDATE: Memphis Gold already playing, writing music again—and taking steps

Only a little more than a month after breaking his back in a fall from a tree, Blues star **Memphis Gold** already is playing and writing music again, and also starting to walk with assistance, after having first been paralyzed from the waist down after his terrible mishap.

Memphis participated with several other musicians in a concert at Kernan Rehabilitation Hospital in Baltimore, and he also wrote a song before leaving the facility on February 15. The gig for nurses, staff and patients, featured a six-piece band. "Every time I traveled down the aisles, people would talk about it," Memphis said, well after the performance. He wrote, "Every Time I Feel Good, There's Always Something That Makes Me Feel Bad Again" for singer **Jennifer Langer**, aka "Black Betty," while he was still at Kernan.

"I'm trying to make the best of a bad situation," the Blues artist says. "I had a little bit of a pity party at first [when his legs were paralyzed,] but then I decided to make the best of it and start writing music again." As for his rehab philosophy, he just said "the harder you work, the better you get."

His hard work is already showing remarkable—perhaps even miraculous—results. Though he still needs a wheelchair to get around most of the time, Memphis is already—just a week after returning home—taking steps using a walker and lightweight plastic braces. "I have feeling everywhere except my toes," he says. He's also exercising every day in his residence's gym to rebuild his strength. "He will walk again," his wife Barbara states confidently.

Whenever he does perform again in public, "the music's going to be the same, even if I'm not jumping up and down and off the stage," Memphis says—though he even hopes to do that again, too. With or without jumping, Memphis belting out tunes once more before an appreciative crowd is something to which the whole blues community looks forward greatly.

March Blues Calendar

- 1** Wolf's Night Out with Wave & Special Guests@Bangkok Blues
Big Boy Little@Zoo Bar
- 2** **DCBS Jam**@Old Bowie Town Grille
Wave&Wolf's Blues Jam@Bangkok Blues
Jug Band Bash @ Knights of Columbus Rosenteel Hall
- 3** **Robert Cray Band**@Birchmere
BB King, Henry Butler@Strathmore
- 4** Paul Cebar & Milwaukeeans@Wolf Trap
- 5** Idle Americans@Bangkok Blues
- 6** Idle Americans Blues Jam@The Country Store
- 7** Joy Bodycomb & Hall Brothers, ACME Blues Company@Bangkok Blues
Deanna Bogart@Turf Valley Resort
Reggie Wayne Morris@Zoo Bar
- 8** ACME Blues Company@Mom's in the Kitchen
Melanie Mason, Stacy Brooks@Bangkok Blues
Roomful of Blues@Wolf Trap
BBQ Bob & Spareribs@Madam's Organ
Smokin Polecats w/Marianna Previti@Zoo Bar
- 9** Wave&Wolf's Blues Jam@Bangkok Blues
Corey Harris@lota
Deacons@Cowboy Cafe
Patuxent Blues Showcase@ El Boqueron II
- 12** Wave & Wolf's Blues Jam@Beach Cove
Los Lobos, James Hunter@Birchmere
Meteors@Bangkok Blues
- 13** Johnny Artis@Madam's Organ
Barbara Martin, Liz Barnes@Blue Ridge Community College
- 14** Idle Americans@Frisco's Grille
Mitch Woods@Carlyle Club
Sookey Jump Blues Band@Zoo Bar
Barbara Martin, Liz Barnes@Community College of Baltimore County, Essex Campus
- 15** Nighthawks w/Pinetop Perkins, Daryl Davis, Mitch Woods & Deanna Bogart@Wolf Trap
Idle Americans@The Country Store
Roustabouts@Zoo Bar
- 16** Memphis Gold Benefit@Fish Head Cantina
ACME Blues Company@Glen Echo
- 19** Daryl Davis@Bangkok Blues
- 20** Idle Americans Blues Jam@The Country Store
Dagmar and Seductones@JV's
- 21** Outta the Blues, Danny Blew & Blues Crew@Bangkok Blues
Charles "Big Daddy" Stallings@Bobby's
Daryl Davis@Chevy Chase Ballroom
Soul Tones of Swing@Dulles Hilton
Liz Briones@Zoo Bar
- 22** Tom Cunningham Orchestra@Glen Echo
Charles "Big Daddy" Stallings@Bobby's
Flatfoot Sam & Educated Fools@Zoo Bar
- 23** **Lorton Community Action Center Easter Benefit Concert**@George Mason University Harris Theater
- 26** **Buddy Guy**@Birchmere
Wave & Wolf's Blues Jam@Beach Cove
- 27** Buddy Guy@Birchmere
- 28** **Capitol Blues Festival**@Showcase Arena
Jimmy Thackery & Deanna Bogart@Birchmere
Idle Americans w/Daryl Davis@Bangkok Blues
Johnny Artis@Madam's Organ
Tom Principato Band@Sunset Grille
Jamie Lynch Band @ Glen Echo
- 29** ACME Blues Company@Zoo Bar
Bobby Parker@Madam's Organ
- 30** Baltimore Blues Society presents
Hamilton Loomis@Fish Head Cantina
Paulverizers Blues Jam@Old Bowie Town Grille
Wave&Wolf's Blues Jam@Bangkok Blues
- 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)
Lyle Link Quartet@Twins Lounge
Steve Smith Band@Round Table
GOVT CHEEZ@The Vegas Lounge
Robert Lighthouse acoustic@Chief Ike's Mambo Room
Rude Dog & Special Guest Blues Jam@Club 347
Open Mic hosted by Nancy Katz & Stray Dogs@Firehouse Grill
Blues Jam hosted by Chip Clemmer @ Old Bowie Town Grille

Thursdays

Hillbilly Jazz@Chick Hall's Surf Club
Johnny Castle's Thrillbillys@Sunset Grille
The Unforgiven@The Saloon
Open Mic Blues Jam hosted by Idle Americans@The Country Store (every other Thursday)

Fridays

Friday Night Jazz@Westminster Presbyterian Church, 6 pm
Blue Flames@Bertha's
Butch Grant & Crossfire Band@My Bakery & Cafe
Dean Rosenthal@Acme Bar & Grill

Saturdays

Sir Walter Robinson Band@Pharaoh's
Blue Flames@Bertha's (2nd & 4th Saturdays)

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

DC Blues Society Membership Application Form

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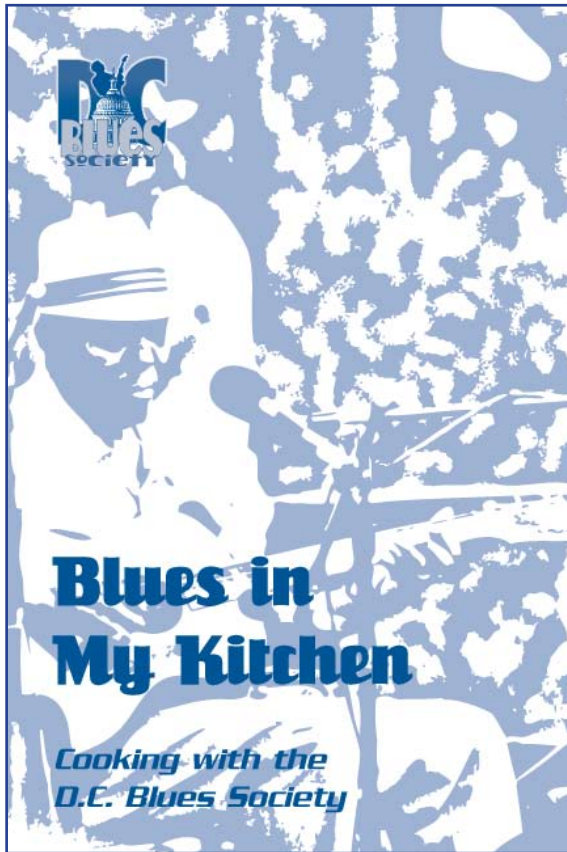
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Who will be opening the 20th Annual DC Blues Festival? Find out on p. 6.