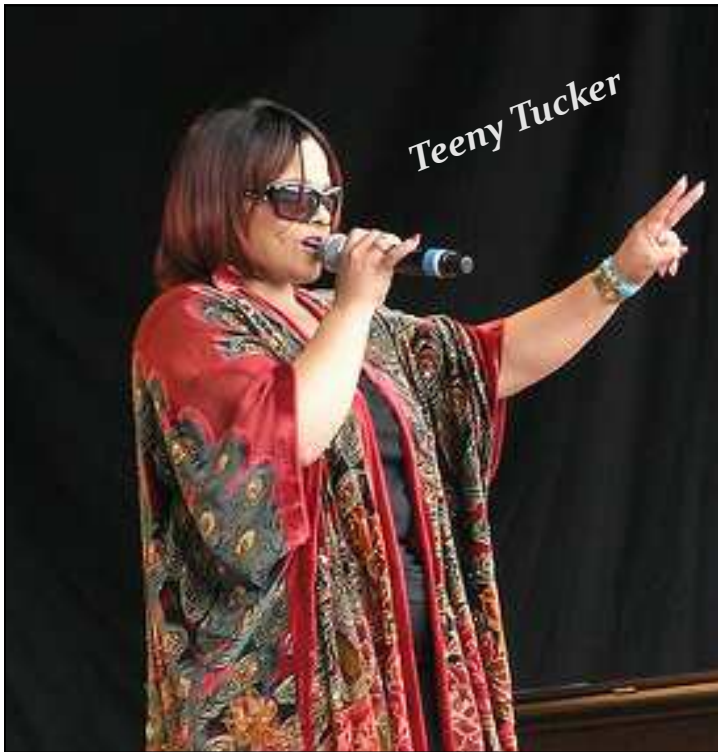


# Capital Blues Messenger

Celebrating the Blues in the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia

August 2009 Volume 3 Issue 8



Teeny Tucker



Eugene  
"Hideaway"  
Bridges



Eddie Turner



Michael Hill's  
Blues Mob

*See them and many others at*  
**The 21<sup>st</sup> Annual DC Blues Festival**

*Saturday, September 5 Noon—7:30 pm*

***It's all FREE — It's all FUN***

*Details inside*



THE DC BLUES SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 77315
WASHINGTON, DC
20013-7315

www.dcblues.org

Hotline:

202-962-0112



The DC Blues Society is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to keeping the Blues alive through outreach and education.



The Capital Blues Messenger is published monthly (unless otherwise noted). Past newsletters are available at www.dcblues.org.

Send changes in name, address or membership status to membership@dcblues.org or mail to DCBS Attn: Membership at the address listed above.

The Capital Blues Messenger is your publication and members are encouraged to submit articles and ideas for articles, reviews, cartoons and photography.

Blues listings for bands should be sent to calendar@dcblues.org or mail to Steve Levine, 5910 Bryn Mawr Rd. College Park, MD 20740.

Note: The deadline for all submissions is the 15th of the month prior to publication. DCBS reserves the right to edit or refuse any content, including advertising, that it deems inappropriate.

Table with 2 columns: Article Title and Page Number. Includes President's Drum (3), Teeny Tucker Interview (4), Volunteer Activities (7), Annual Festival (8-9), Aug/Sept Calendar (10), Blues Notes (11).

Cover photos: Teeny Tucker by Sandra M. Gray; Eugene "Hideaway" Bridges © Alwyn R. Coates; Eddie Turner © Eddie Turner; Michael Hill's Blues Mob © Petra Arnold, Firefish Photography Unless otherwise noted, photos and articles were contributed by DCBS board members and editors. This issue is © 2009 DC Blues Society

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President: Felix McClairn president@dcblues.org

Vice President: Nick Dale vp@dcblues.org

Secretary: Celina Wood secretary@dcblues.org

Treasurer: Frank Kahan treasurer@dcblues.org

Advertising: Jazs ads@dcblues.org

Media: Ida Campbell media@dcblues.org

Membership: Gerard de Valroger membership@dcblues.org fundraising@dcblues.org

Merchandise: James Ginyard merchandise@dcblues.org

Volunteer Coordinator: Arnedra Bowens volunteer@dcblues.org

Honorary Directors: John Cephas (1930-2009) Barry Lee Pearson, Joseph Wilson

Key Volunteers

Blues in the Schools: Dr. S.O. Feelgood (301-322-4808)

Jams & Festival: Sam'i Nuriddin jams@dcblues.org

Newsletter

Editors: Donna Shoulders, Mary Knieser newsletter@dcblues.org

Graphics: Julie Fanning

Staff: Rosalind Hebron

Public Relations: Shelia Bryant-Tucker info@dcblues.org

Website

Administrators: Jazs, Fred Morser webmaster@dcblues.org

Forum: Crawlin' Kingsnakeforum@dcblues.org

DCBS on MySpace: Stacy Brooks

DCBS on PayPal: Fred Morser

Members are invited to attend the monthly DCBS Board meetings. For information, send an e-mail to president@dcblues.org.

Membership Application/Renewal

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal? (Y) (N)

Name (please print clearly) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Dues per year (circle appropriate one):

- Student: \$15 (Include photocopy of student ID)
Individual: \$25 Family: \$35
Corporate: \$200 Canada: \$35 (US funds)
Other Countries: \$50 (US funds)

Contributions (not dues) are tax-deductible. Please allow up to six weeks for processing

Family members (Please list names) \_\_\_\_\_

I can volunteer doing \_\_\_\_\_

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Mail with check to THE DC BLUES SOCIETY P.O. BOX 77315 WASHINGTON, DC 20013-7315

Become a member, get a FREE CD and more...

Time is running out — new members signing up at DCBS events or at the DCBS exhibit booth will receive a special, limited edition CD featuring 17 tunes by some of the best bands in the DC area.

Becoming a member is simple, quick and easy:

- Use the mail-in application (left)
Apply on-line at www.dcblues.org or
Sign up at DCBS events or
DCBS-sponsored events and venues where the DCBS booth is exhibiting.

Dues play an important part in helping DCBS fulfill its mission to promote the Blues and the musicians who keep the music alive, exciting and accessible.

ADVERTISE IN THE DCBS CAPITAL BLUES MESSENGER

AD RATES

Table with 2 columns: Ad Type and Rate. Includes Business card (\$20), 1/8 page (\$25), 1/4 page (\$40), 1/3 page (\$55), 1/2 page (\$75), 2/3 page (\$110), Full page (\$140).

Ads should be at least 200 dpi; optimum 300 dpi. PDF or JPG preferred. Print edition is in black and white. Artwork must be received by the 15th of the month. Ad size and space allocation contingent on prior commitments and editorial content.

# President's Drum

## Help! Part 2

The DC Blues Society is comprised of nearly 600 dues-paying members. [Yes, we're growing! Thanks to you all!] Those annual membership fees largely go to the printing and mailing of the *Capital Blues Messenger* newsletter and paying for a small portion of our free annual Blues festival. The Society sells merchandise and presents fundraising events such as shows, contests, and an annual fish fry to raise funds. Most of these funds help pay for the annual festival. [September 5<sup>th</sup> at the Carter Barron Amphitheatre] and support our Blues in the School program.

Volunteers plan, promote, and execute all DCBS activities. None of us make a dime working many hours bringing Blues to you and the general public. You members have distinguished yourselves from the general public by supporting with your money an organization that shares your pleasure in and appreciation for the Blues. Membership is not without its perks. You get an informative and entertaining (we hope!) monthly newsletter written, edited, laid out and prepped for mailing by volunteers. Members get discounts to DCBS shows and shows featuring top-notch performers at popular venues like the Birchmere, State Theatre and Blues Alley. Members also get a valuable intangible: Blues cred.

The root of this riff is that while we need your annual fees, we need your active participation, too. Less than a dozen regular volunteers keep the DCBS alive and growing. With so few folks putting in so much time, burnout is expected. We constantly need to refresh and expand our pool of volunteers. Out of 600 Blues enthusiasts, it should be easy to get 5% (30) of you to help us out on a regular basis.

Our situation is clear and concerning. **We need more volunteers to keep DCBS worth belonging to!** We need you to come out to our shows! If just 20% of you supported our festival fundraisers, it would guarantee success. As it is, non-members carry the weight. But I'll gripe about your show attendance in another *CBM* issue. Volunteers are my cry now.

In the July *CBM*, I asked for assistance in transforming the *CBM* into an online publication. I heard from zip! Now that need has been trumped by our greater need for an editor. Although our current lead editor, Mary Knieser, will continue for a couple more issues, we need volunteers to join us now to keep the *CBM*'s publication uninterrupted.

We still need help with the website. Don't tell me none of you have the needed skills and a little free time to keep our website looking good and informative.

I'm pleased to say that I did get a positive response to my call for help with public relations. But I need to hear from some more of you. Don't count on the other guy to step up. You are the other guy. Come on! Contact me at [president@dcblues.org](mailto:president@dcblues.org)

## Festival Fundraiser with Bryan Lee

Thanks to all who attended the festival fundraiser featuring Bryan Lee & the Blues Power Band (below). We were treated to an outstanding night of Blues as Bryan and the band rocked the house with a whole lot of soul. The crowd was small but very enthusiastic. Bryan and the band agreed that the crowd at the Surf Club Live on July 18 was the most fun for them so far on this tour. Several attendees mentioned that they decided to see the show after hearing a couple of Bryan's songs on WPFW (89.3FM). I had urged readers to check out his music online. Apparently few of you did. Had you listened, you might not have missed one of the best Blues parties in the area in a while. DCBS brings acts that are underexposed or new to the region. Do yourself a favor, let a little serendipity slip into your Blues portfolio. Don't miss a musical treat just because you haven't heard of an act or the act is not on somebody's A-list. Make your own A-list.



Photo: Ron Weinstock

## 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Fish Fry 'n' Blues 'n' Bike Contest

Here's another chance for you to have lotsa Blues fun and support the annual festival. We got: Dr. S.O. Feelgood deejaying between the performances of 11 bands; rows of handsome motorcycles (and bikers — just like the ones in this photo from last year's event); and of course there's fish. If you've never been to the fish fry, treat yourself to a pleasant surprise. Fish will be hot and ready

around 4:30PM. This fun-filled day is only \$12 (admission includes a fish sandwich with other food items for sale) and this year is hosted by the American Legion Post 41, 905 Sligo Avenue Silver Spring, MD 20910, right behind the Greyhound Bus Terminal on Fenton St. [See the band schedule on Page 6]

## 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Jam Relocation

The 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday jam (the day after the Fish Fry) will move to American Legion Post 41 on August 2. The monthly jam runs from 4PM to 8PM and is open to all musicians and vocalists. Get there early to sign up to play. The jam is free. The American Legion has food and drinks available.

The jam is moving once again because of changes at the Surf Club Live. Bryan Lee was the last scheduled Blues show at the Surf Club Live for the summer and perhaps beyond. The club owner is contemplating changing the type of programming at the Surf Club. Losing the Surf Club as a Blues venue will be a great loss to the Blues community. It's been a staunch DCBS supporter and we are forever grateful to the club's contribution to celebrating the Blues. The fate of the Surf Club and other Blues venues was/is in your hands. When the DCBS gets a poor turnout at events, it not only affects our profit, it affects the venue's alike. Club owners need butts in seats and hands on food and drinks. It's just like the evolutionary rule: use it or lose it.

## It's Nearly Here! 21<sup>st</sup> Annual DC Blues Festival & After-Party

I've always been surprised at the number of DCBS members who have never attended the largest annual Blues festival in the nation's capitol city. [Saturday, September 5<sup>th</sup> at the Carter Barron Amphitheatre — and it's free!] I urge you not to miss this year's Festival. We have a spectacular lineup including the dynamic Teeny Tucker with three background singers; Blues balladeer and guitar impresario Eugene "Hideaway" Bridges; rock-bluesman Eddie Turner; political instigators Michael Hill & The Blues Mob; 2009 Battle of the Bands winner, Billy Thompson & Friends; and the Festival audition winner, Capital Blues Ensemble. [See Pages 4 & 5 for my interview with Teeny and more Festival info.] By the way, we need lots of volunteers for the Festival so contact [fest-volunteer@dcblues.org](mailto:fest-volunteer@dcblues.org).

Don't miss the After-Party right after the Festival at the Silver Spring American Legion. Speaking of treating yourself to something new and unexpected, that's what you'll get at the After-Party featuring CW Harrington & the Blues Messengers. CW is a local unsung musician who shakes up a joint with his high-energy show and mix of Blues, Soul and R&B. Once you see this show, you'll be looking for the next place where you can see CW and his band perform. Trust me, CW is the real deal. And you never know who might sit in with the band — including some of the festival performers who are certain to drop by. Get your tickets online at [www.dcblues.org](http://www.dcblues.org) or call 301-322-4808.

The September issue of the *CBM* will include more info on the festival bands in the festival program insert.

## Still Time to Sign Up! Battle of the Bands Entry Deadline: August 17

Bands still have time to sign up for the annual DCBS Battle of the Blues Bands [which takes place Saturday, October 10] so I'll repeat the announcement from the July issue: The Battle of the Bands winner will compete at the 2010 *International Blues Challenge* in Memphis, TN. The winning band will also perform at the Winterfest Blues Show at Ritchie Coliseum, November 7 and the Annual DC Blues Festival at the Carter Barron in 2010. [Winterfest will also feature the DCBS Band and Homemade Jamz, the youngest band to achieve a record deal in 2007 and the 2007 2<sup>nd</sup> place IBC winner.] The deadline for entering is **August 17, 2009**.

Blues Always,



Photo: Ron Weinstock

## Interview with Teeny Tucker

CBM: Where are you based now? Do you play much locally? Where?

TT: I've lived in Columbus, OH most of my life. But I was born in Dayton where I lived for a few years before moving to Columbus. I don't play much around town now. Most of my gigs are out of town.

CBM: What made you start singing and performing?

TT: I recall being around six years old and sitting under the Hammond B-3 organ at my father's house listening to his musician friends play and talk about music. I sang in the church choir as a kid. It was much later before I started singing professionally.

CBM: Who were your early influences?

TT: When I was 10 years old, my Mom asked me what I wanted for Christmas. I wanted a radio. I was greatly influenced by Mahalia Jackson when I heard her sing "Didn't It Rain." I love all types of music—jazz, country. Later I listened to and learned from Koko Taylor and the Laverne Bakers of the world.

CBM: Tommy Tucker, who had the Billboard hit "High Heel Sneakers," was your father. Did you have a musical relationship with him? Did he have an influence on your turning professional?

TT: I was still very young when my father, after hearing a recording of my singing, said "You're gonna be a singer." But he never heard me sing live or knew that I sang the Blues. Being around him as a youngster did deepen my interest in music. My father was about [49] when he died. I had visited him the day before on my birthday. I've discovered recordings by my father that I knew nothing about in record shops in Germany. I sometimes have dreams of him in my audiences. One of the songs on my upcoming CD, *Daughter of the Blues*, is inspired and dedicated to my father.

CBM: When did you latch onto the Blues?

TT: I was singing gospel in church mainly. In 1994, I won the amateur contest at the Apollo three times in a row. I didn't sing any Blues. I sang "If I Could" by Ray Charles, one of my father's idols. That same year I got my first professional opportunity when I met a German promoter and magazine writer, Norbet Hess, at a Christine Kittrell [called the matriarch of Columbus Blues] show. Hess asked if I sang the Blues. I told him no, but I sang gospel and R&B. He sent me recordings of about 15 songs by artists like Koko Taylor, Etta James, and Laverne Baker and asked me to learn them. I went to Germany in 1996 for a Blues festival. I was 35 years old and we killed 'em. After I returned, I started playing locally [and eventually touring around the States.] In 2003, I toured with an Alligator Records sponsored show featuring Michael Burks and Maurice John-Vaughn. I plan to tour Europe more and play more festivals like the Chicago Blues Festival.

CBM: Where was your first big performance? How did it go?

TT: My first big performance was when I was 10 years old. In front of over 600, I sang "Down by the Riverside." The crowd loved me. The first big

Blues show was the festival in Germany where I performed in front of over a thousand. I returned to Europe eight more times after the first festival.

CBM: You and Sean Carney worked together when the band finished in the IBC top six for three straight years and finally winning as the Sean Carney Band in 2006. When you and Carney went separate ways, how did you rebuild a band?

TT: Sean played guitar [and honed his performance chops] playing for Christine [Kittrell]. When she died, I joined the band as lead vocalist. In 2006-2007 I was suppose to tour Europe with Sean. During that time my mom became ill. I decided to do one show in France and didn't return to Europe for the rest of the tour. Sean continued the tour. Our relationship was mutually beneficial and we're still friendly.

I took care of my mom for two years and was a little discouraged with the [music] industry during this time. My mom died this year. I did the



Photo ©Teeny Tucker

right thing [taking time off from touring], and I have no regrets. My mom would want me to continue with the music. I got with my current guitarist, Robert Hughes, and formed a new band.

CBM: Your *Two Big M's* CD [finalist for the best self-produced CD] features songs by Big Maybelle and Big Mama Thornton, two of my all-time favorite blues singers. What attracted you to these performers? Do you consider yourself an heir to their big voiced, out-sized personalities?

TT: I like the articulation and projection of singers like Big Maybelle and Big Mama Thornton. I also like the fact that they were women [struggling] in a man's world. They were women who didn't get the recognition and income they deserved. Willie May "Big Mama" Thornton first recorded "Hounddog" and made \$500. [Elvis Presley cashed in on this tune when he recorded it. While writing credits go to Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller, Thornton tells a version of the song's origins that puts her at the table where the song was crafted.] I believe in stronger advocacy for women in the Blues because such great talent gets left behind. Some singers are blessed and touch folks.

CBM: What has been your favorite performance/venue?

TT: All of them. My favorite performance is where folks respond to me and show hospitality.

My goal is to make 'em feel good! [When I'm in the groove] I feel like all the audience is up on the stage with me. A lot of folks sing. But to sing with an anointing is [what's special.] I want to be like Shirley Caesar when she says "All y'all getting ready to be saved!" I try to touch people's hearts and souls. Take them to another plane. Not just another show where you pay your money and just sit down.

CBM: You have a new CD you're working on. What's the concept and when will it be released?

TT: The new CD will be released in November 2009. It focuses on relationships, family, love, what my father left me, and of course how to make it in bad times.

CBM: What are some goals for your career? When will you know that you have arrived?

TT: I have a five-year plan. I will retire from the federal government in three years. I want to become more firmly established in the music business. Complete five CDs. Two are done. I intend to focus on writing music and setting up the business end of my music career. For eight years I worked seven days a week. I'll go into the music fulltime after I retire. Learning more about Blues history through my research and writings I've become interested in sharing that knowledge through *Blues in Schools* programs. I know I've arrived when I crossover and reach a larger audience that wasn't aware of the Blues.

CBM: I understand that you're studying the harmonica. What made you want to learn the harmonica? How's that coming along?

TT: Watching Big Mama Thornton playing drums inspired me. I don't think I can handle drums, so I chose harp. I've been practicing for about a year. It'll take another year before I'm ready to play in public.

CBM: How do you spend your time outside of music?

TT: I write and produce plays. I'm working on one now in Columbus called "In the Beginning." I write stories, critiques, and articles.

CBM: Have you performed in the DC area before?

TT: No, but I'm no stranger to DC. I have a sister and friends in DC and Maryland.

CBM: Who will be performing with you when you headline the DC Blues Society's 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Blues Festival on September 5?

TT: I'll have Robert Hughes on guitar, Scott Keeler on bass, Dave Gastel on harp and keyboards, and Daryl Jumper on drums. My three background singers include Jackie Tate, Paula Brown, and Mary Lusco Ashley.

CBM: Thanks, Teeny. We look forward to seeing you at the festival.

Check out Teeny's website where you can read more about her and hear selections from her CDs: [www.myspace.com/teenytucker](http://www.myspace.com/teenytucker).

**The 21st Annual DC Blues Festival** takes place on Saturday September 5, noon—7:30 pm. See the poster on Page 5 and other festival information in this issue of the *CBM* and on-line at [www.dcb Blues.org](http://www.dcb Blues.org).

**FREE!**

**21st Annual**

# DC Blues Festival



[www.dcblues.org](http://www.dcblues.org)  
info: 202-962-0112

## FEATURING:

Teeny Tucker

Eugene  
"Hideaway" Bridges

Eddie Turner

Michael Hill's  
Blues Mob

Billy Thompson  
& Friends

Capital Blues  
Ensemble

## After-Party with CW Harrington & The Blues Messengers

American Legion Post 41  
905 Sligo Avenue  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

8:30 pm-12:30 am

Purchase tickets online at  
[www.dcblues.org](http://www.dcblues.org)  
or call 301-322-4808

**Saturday, Sept. 5, 2009**

**12:00 pm – 7:30 pm**

Carter Barron Amphitheatre, Rock Creek Park  
at 16th & Colorado Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20008

*FREE FESTIVAL! Musical fun for the entire family  
including an instrument petting zoo, vocal workshop,  
instrument workshops, FREE parking and more....*



In memory of John Cephas  
(1930-2009)

DC Blues Society Founder and 1st President



PHOTOS: Glenn Thompson  
DESIGN: Julie Fanning / [www.fanningdesigns.com](http://www.fanningdesigns.com)

**Festival Sponsors:**



GRAMOPHONE PRESENTS



**OREGON RIDGE PARK**  
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**SATURDAY**  
**AUGUST 15**

**The Derek Trucks Band**  
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**www.hotaugustblues.com**





## 5th Annual Fish Fry 'n' Blues 'n' Bike Contest Saturday, August 1 from 4 – 11 pm

### Catch All These Bands

4:00 - 4:30	Out Of Service
4:35 - 5:05	The Big Boy Little Band
5:10 - 5:40	Capital Blues Ensemble
5:45 - 6:15	Southside Georgetown Blues Breakers
6:20 - 6:50	Gina DeSimone & the Moaners
7:10 - 7:40	DC Blues Society Band
7:45 - 8:15	Nadine Rae & Guest
8:20 - 8:50	KERQ
8:55 - 9:25	SwampKeepers
9:30 - 10:00	Second Line Band
10:05 - 10:35	Ida Campbell's Blues Nation Band

Artists and schedule subject to change.

American Legion Post 41, 905 Sligo Avenue Silver Spring, MD 20910.  
Entrance on Fenton St next to the public parking lot on Fenton.

\$12 Admission includes a fish sandwich. Beverages and food available for purchase. Bring a Pot Luck dish & get a FREE DCBS Cookbook.

## DCBS Annual Festival Looking for Volunteers

Keep spreading the word about The 21st Annual DC Blues Festival, on Saturday September 5! It's FREE and a guaranteed good time!

DCBS has a variety of volunteer jobs and we're asking for your help. Most assignments are for only a few hours (generally two to four) between 11 am-8 pm. If you can help, please e-mail [fest-volunteer@dcbles.org](mailto:fest-volunteer@dcbles.org). Put "Volunteer for DC Blues Festival" in the SUBJECT line of your e-mail. Include your name, telephone/cell number, DCBS membership status (Yes/No/Maybe) and at least three selections (in order of preference) from the assignment list below. Include any special messages or information that would help us find the right assignment for you (e.g., can only do sit-down work, etc.)

Here's what we'll need this year:

### Pre-Festival:

- ♦ Flyer distribution; print the flyer and pass it out and post everywhere it's free to post!
- ♦ Decorators
- ♦ Sign makers

### Festival Day:

- ♦ Front Gate near Workshop Stage:
  - ♦ Hand out brochures, welcome attendees
  - ♦ Errand runner – cell phone needed
- ♦ Stage Front:
  - ♦ Sell merchandise, promote events
  - ♦ Side path monitor
  - ♦ Errand runner – cell phone needed
  - ♦ Writer/reviewer/interviewer: interview the audience; write an article about the Workshops or the show for the DCBS *Capital Blues Messenger*.
- ♦ Back Stage
  - ♦ Heavy equipment movers
  - ♦ Errand runner – cell phone needed
- ♦ Back Gate
  - ♦ Monitor parking (load in/out only), watch gear in garage
- ♦ Hospitality
  - ♦ Assist with room set up; serve and monitor food; ensure artists receive meals
- ♦ Heavy equipment movers

### After-Party:

- ♦ Door monitor
- ♦ Raffle ticket sellers

Volunteer names need to be supplied to the National Park Service at the beginning of August, so sign up TODAY. E-mail: [fest-volunteer@dcbles.org](mailto:fest-volunteer@dcbles.org)

With your help, this festival will be another bluesin' success!



Volunteers and Blues fans at Safeway BBQ Festival (left—photo courtesy of Glenn Thompson) and Billtown Blues Festival (right).

## Other Activities in Need of Volunteers

There's an activity for everyone! We need you for any of these on an almost ongoing basis:

- ♦ *Blues in the Schools (BITS) Representatives*: Help the BITS Coordinator arrange events, interact with other organizations. Contact [bits@dcbles.org](mailto:bits@dcbles.org)
- ♦ *DCBS Street Team Representatives*: Everyone can do this and get the word out about DCBS! Download and distribute flyers to friends, post flyers at coffee shops, CD stores, malls, banks, venues, etc. Contact [volunteer@dcbles.org](mailto:volunteer@dcbles.org).
- ♦ *Grants writers*: Write and submit grants for funding. Contact [president@dcbles.org](mailto:president@dcbles.org).
- ♦ *Membership Coordinator*: Organize and maintain membership records; should be familiar with MS Access or other data programs. Contact [president@dcbles.org](mailto:president@dcbles.org).
- ♦ *Membership Distribution*: Help with mailings to members and potential members. Contact [president@dcbles.org](mailto:president@dcbles.org).
- ♦ *Newsletter Editor/Assistant*: Research, write and edit articles; select photos; assist editor. Contact [president@dcbles.org](mailto:president@dcbles.org).
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- ♦ *Quicken Treasurer*: Record DCBS income/expenses, create reports, assist with taxes. Contact [president@dcbles.org](mailto:president@dcbles.org).
- ♦ *DCBS Websters*: Update the DCBS website and/or DCBS MySpace page. Contact [president@dcbles.org](mailto:president@dcbles.org).
- ♦ *Event Volunteers*: Help at DCBS shows and events. Sell or collect tickets; monitor the door; sell raffle tickets and coordinate drawing. Contact: [fest-volunteer@dcbles.org](mailto:fest-volunteer@dcbles.org).

## To All The Dedicated DCBS Volunteers...

. . . a sincere and heartfelt *THANK YOU!* To those who helped with the booths at recent festivals, your time, energy and unrelenting enthusiasm are much appreciated and valued. We hope you had fun, made new friends and learned more about the music and the artists who came to the DCBS booth.

There are other volunteers (past and current) also deserving of thanks. Some are evident like the those who take tickets, serve food, set-up and tear down stages but there are many who work behind the scene handling mailings, publicizing events, enlisting other volunteers, soliciting advertisers, etc. Your help is invaluable and without you, DCBS could not go on but we have plenty of room for more!

There is always a need for volunteers for upcoming DCBS events and shows. Have fun while you help promote the Blues. Sign up today by e-mailing [fest-volunteers@dcbles.org](mailto:fest-volunteers@dcbles.org).

Here's what one volunteer said about her experience as a DCBS Volunteer: *My husband John and I have really enjoyed the people we meet in the process of volunteering. We've met musicians and other people associated with the blues community and we feel like we're doing our part to help an organization that does so much to support local artists.* Julie Fanning

**Share in the fun – become a DCBS volunteer**

### The 21st Annual DC Blues Festival

Plans are underway for another spectacular Blues Festival at DC's historic Carter Barron Amphitheatre in Rock Creek Park. The music on the festival stage begins at noon and goes until 7:30 pm.

The lineup includes

- Teeny Tucker
- Eugene "Hideaway" Bridges
- Eddie Turner
- Michael Hill's Blues Mob
- Billy Thompson and Friends
- Capital Blues Ensemble

There will be a special memorial tribute to John Cephas by his friends and fellow musicians. John was the founder of the DC Blues Society and its first president and this year's festival coincides with his 80th birthday.

Other events include a guitar workshop with Billy Hancock; a children's harmonica workshop with Choo Choo Charlie Williams; face-painting; a vocal workshop with Dr. S.O. Feelgood; and an instrument petting zoo.

The September issue of *CBM* will have more details about the artists and the show. You can go on-line at [www.dcblues.org](http://www.dcblues.org) for updates to the schedule, driving directions and camping information.

Remember — The Festival is all FREE and it's all FUN.



Top: Capital Blues Ensemble photo by Alan Bowser; Middle L-R: Billy Hancock photo © C.L. Kunst; Choo Choo Charlie Williams photo by Ron Weinstock; Dr. S. O. Feelgood; Billy Thompson photo © Billy Thompson. Bottom left: Blues fans from the 2008 Festival, photos by Barry Wheeler. Bottom right: John Cephas photo by Bill Small







**It's 106 miles to Chicago, we've got a full tank of gas, half a pack of cigarettes, it's dark and we're wearing sunglasses" . . . Elwood Blues**

For a while, I was convinced that whoever did the scheduling at HBO was on a mission. . . a mission to sustain public interest in the Blues. How else to explain that in the middle of the last fall's election coverage, we could turn off the rhetoric and turn to Jake and Elwood aka "The Blues Brothers?" The movie aired during October and played in the background as I laid out November's issue of *CBM*. What's more appropriate when looking through hundreds of photos from festivals and the Surf Club Live? No matter when it ran, sometimes well after midnight, I was forced to watch. It's aired two-three times since then and always—always, I watch. I'm a sucker for this movie. And, apparently, I'm not alone. Every so often, someone tosses out a line from the film. Imagine my surprise when a business caller introduced himself as the deputy warden at the (in)famous Joliette prison and followed it with "I'm on a mission from God." And, just a few weeks ago, the governor of Montana, on *Real Time with Bill Maher*, said "We've got two kinds of music in our state: country and western."

Yeah — the plot isn't so great but the music...and the band! Released in 1980, the film included an amazing assortment of musicians who were, even then, accomplished in their own right. I didn't know that until a conversation with my son (a sometime drummer with a preference for old school R&B and soul) sparked my curiosity and sent me to Wikipedia for information. I was on my own mission of discovery and, as a result, I know far too much about the movie!

For example, Steve Cropper (rhythm guitar) and Donald "Duck" Dunn (bass guitar) were founding members of Booker T & the MG's, the house band for Stax. Tom "Bones" Malone (trombone/tenor sax) spent 15 years with jazz great Gil Evans and recorded with Blood, Sweat & Tears, George Benson and Tina Turner. "Blue Lou" Marini (alto/tenor sax) and

Alan Rubin aka *Mr. Fabulous* (trumpet) came from the *Saturday Night Live* band. Matt "Guitar" Murphy (lead guitar) worked with Memphis Slim and dozens of other Blues and R&B musicians. Murphy Dunne (keyboard) was a familiar face on TV and movies before the film and long after. Then there's Willie "Too Big" Hall (drums). A member of Isaac Hayes' band, he and guitarist Charles "Skip" Pitts (a DC native) gave the world that memorable opening in the "Theme from Shaft."

The 25th anniversary edition (wide-screen is wonderful) was a birthday present from my son (yes, I hinted loud and long) so once again, the car demolitions (a Hollywood record), the beer bottles smashing on the chicken-wire at Bob's Country Bunker and the sounds of "Sweet Home Chicago" play in the background as another *CBM* is laid out. The difference is that now I can see John Lee Hooker arguing with Pinetop Perkins over who wrote "Boom Boom." Much of their performance, filmed on Chicago's famous Maxwell Street, was cut from the screen version—what were they thinking???

Despite a flawed plot, the film is a musical gem. Belushi (greatly influenced by Curtis Salgado) and Aykroyd assembled a stellar band and cameo appearances by some of the greats in music, many of whom are gone from our midst: John Lee Hooker, Big Walter Horton, Cab Calloway, James Brown, Ray Charles. The movie got credit for interesting a younger generation on Hooker (who did indeed write the song) and the Blues in general.

And, from the way things are going in music, it might be time for Jake and Elwood to go on another mission. Better yet — make it YOUR mission to come to the **21st Annual DC Blues Festival on Saturday September 5**. DCBS has assembled its own stellar list of musicians for a day-long celebration of the Blues. Bring your friends—bring your family—bring someone who has never experienced live Blues and find out why John Cephas, the founder of DCBS, said: "*Blues music is truth.*"

Take a hint from Teeny Tucker's father and "put on your high-heel sneakers..." and dance the day away at the best Blues show in town!



**Why is Davis smiling?**

Maybe it's because he was at a recent DCBS show enjoying the smokin' Blues of the incredible CW Harrington and The Blues Messengers (right). You'll have reason to smile too if you come to the famous DCBS annual festival **After-Party** featuring CW and his band. Festival performers will be stopping by so this is the place to be! Last year's party was definitely a blow out!

The music starts around 8:30 pm and goes until 12:30 am. It takes place at the American Legion Post 41, 905 Sligo Avenue Silver Spring, MD 20910. The entrance is on Fenton Street next to the public parking lot. There is ample free parking in the evening and on weekends.

This event usually sells out so buy tickets now at [www.dcblues.org](http://www.dcblues.org) or call 301-322-1808. Members: \$10, Non-Members: \$12 and \$15 at the door.

You'll want to return to the American Legion on Sunday, September 6 for the **1st Sunday Blues Jam**, 4–8 pm. Sleep in, have a late brunch then join your Blues friends for another great music event. All levels of musicians (individuals and bands) are welcome! Don't have a band? No problem. There is always a core group to play along with you. Band members include jam host Sam'i Nuridden (guitar), Dave Jackson (bass), Dave Harris (harp) and Dr. S.O. Feelgood (vocals/drums/sound system).

Bring your family and friends for a great time! If you're interested in playing, sign up via e-mail to [jams@dcblues.org](mailto:jams@dcblues.org).



**Eric Bibb — October 31**

You'll hear more about Eric Bibb in the months to come. Until then, here's a little something to think about: "*Eric is one of the new, young singers that has appeared on the scene that, much to my delight, has a great voice, is an excellent performer and has a great knowledge about the roots of this music.*" Taj Mahal

**Homemade Jamz Blues Band — November 7**

They stole our hearts last year with a memorable performance at the Surf Club Live. Now they return to our area as part of the Winterfest Blues Show at Ritchie Coliseum in College Park, MD. Stay in touch with DCBS for more information about the show and the schedule of performances.

Deadline for Blues listings and articles for the September/Festival issue of *Capital Blues Messenger* is August 10.



August	
1	<b>DCBS 5th Annual Fish Fry 'n' Blues 'n' Bike Contest</b> @ Silver Spring American Legion; Big Daddy Stallings, Crawdaddies @ Publick Playhouse; Big Boy Little @ Zoo Bar; BG & Mojo Hands @ Frederick Vintage VW Show; Terrance Simien @ Rams Head; Junkyard Saints @ City Hall Concert Pavilion, Gaithersburg; Automatic Slim @ Bertha's; Kelly Bell Band @ Quiet Waters Park; Tom Principato @ Columbia Lakefront
2	<b>DCBS Jam</b> @ Silver Spring American Legion; BG & Mojo Hands @ Glen Echo; Tom Principato @ Fort Hunt Park; Hugh Feeley @ Madam's Organ
3	Tom Newman Blues Band @ Westminster Church; Hot Rods & Old Gas @ JVs
5	Blues Jam w/Bob Hume & Martha Capone @ JV's; Tom Principato @ Mason District Park
6	<b>Derek Trucks Band</b> @ National Harbor; Flatfoot Sam @ Cat's Eye; Automatic Slim @ Dorsey's Search Shopping Center; Skyla Burrell Blues Band @ Benny's Pub; Tom Principato @ Cherry Hill Park
7	Big Daddy Stallings @ 219; Neville Brothers @ Rams Head; BG & Mojo Hands @ Grist Mill Park; <b>Fabulous Thunderbirds, Lil' Ronnie &amp; Grand Dukes</b> @ Birchmere; Reggie Wayne Morris @ Zoo Bar; Janine Wilson @ Hyattsville Summer Jam; Kelly Bell Band @ Cancun Cantina West; Tom Principato @ Hollow Creek Golf Club; Bad Influence @ Glory Days Grill; Eric Culberson @ Madam's Organ
8	Big Daddy Stallings @ 219; Barbara Martin & Mac Walter @ Potomac Overlook Park; Brian Gross Trio @ Sala Thai, Bethesda; Idle Americans @ Bare Bones; Sherwood Blues Band @ Willy K's; Smokin Polecats w/Marianna Previti & Jamie Lynch @ Zoo Bar; Nighthawks @ Black Rock Center for the Arts; Eric Culberson @ Madam's Organ
9	JP Reali @ Eastern Market; BT Richardson Band @ Madam's Organ
10	Lou Jerome Band @ Westminster Church
11	Walter Trout, Guitar Shorty @ Rams Head
13	Big Daddy Stallings @ Watkins Park; Skyla Burrell Blues Band @ Cat's Eye; Nadine Rae @ Old Towne Inn
14	Big Boy Little @ Glen Echo; Junkyard Saints @ Wheaton Triangle
15	<b>Hot August Blues</b> @ Oregon Ridge Park; Big Daddy Stallings @ Lurman Woodland Theatre; Bad Influence @ Dogfish Head Alehouse
16	<b>Bonnie Raitt, Taj Mahal</b> @ Wolf Trap; Junkyard Saints @ Bay Cafe
17	Queen Aisha @ Westminster Church
19	Blues Jam w/Bob Hume & Martha Capone @ JV's
21	<b>Bob Margolin, Michael Burks</b> @ State Theatre; Idle Americans @ Frisco Grille; Sherwood Blues Band @ Dish Bistro & Lounge; Liz Briones @ Zoo Bar; Skyla Burrell Blues Band @ Honi-Honi Bar; Delta Highway @ Madam's Organ
22	Cathy Ponton King @ Music Cafe; Brian Gross Trio @ Sala Thai, Bethesda; Idle Americans @ Mangos; Flatfoot Sam @ Zoo Bar; Kelly Bell Band @ Whitlow's
23	Barbara Martin & Mac Walter @ Hard Bargain Farm; Mark Holland's Rhythm Force @ Madam's Organ
24	Tom Principato @ Wilson Plaza; Tina's Bluz @ Westminster Church
25	Davy Knowles & Back Door Slam @ Birchmere
28	Idle Americans @ JVs; Junkyard Saints @ Belvedere Square; Nighthawks @ Fish Head Cantina; Eli Cook @ Madam's Organ
29	Idle Americans @ Zoo Bar; Automatic Slim @ Lurman Woodland Theatre; Nighthawks, Kelly Bell Band @ Swingin Blues Wine Fest, Mt. Airy; Bad Influence @ Ice House Cafe; Bobby Parker @ Madam's Organ
30	Nighthawks, Kelly Bell Band @ Swingin Blues Wine Fest, Mt. Airy
31	<b>B.B. King</b> @ Wolf Trap; Nighthawks @ Westminster Church
Early September	
2	Idle Americans @ Bangkok Blues; Automatic Slim @ Cat's Eye
4	Skyla Burrell Blues Band @ Madam's Organ
5	<b>21st Annual DC Blues Festival</b> @ Carter Barron Amphitheatre; <b>DC Blues Festival After Party</b> @ Silver Spring American Legion; Cathy Ponton King @ Flanagan's; Big Boy Little @ Zoo Bar; Automatic Slim @ Bertha's; Mississippi Heat @ Madam's Organ
6	<b>DCBS Jam</b> @ Silver Spring American Legion; <b>BBS presents Alonzo Memorial Picnic</b> @ Rosedale American Legion
7	Ruby Hayes @ Westminster Church
Weekly Blues Events/Jams	
Sun.	Idle Americans Blues Jam @ Bangkok Blues; Paulverizers Blues Jam @ Old Bowie Town Grille; Z Revue Blues Jam @ JVs (first Sunday)
Tues.	Idle Americans @ Cat's Eye (first Tuesday); Blues Jam @ Varsity Grill; Idle Americans @ JVs (third Tuesday); Old Man Brown @ Madam's Organ (alternating Tuesdays)
Wed.	Blues Jam @ Old Bowie Town Grille
Thurs.	Big Boy Little Blues Jam @ Zoo Bar; Patrick Alban or Johnny Artis @ Madam's Organ
Fri.	Glenn Moomau & Blue Flames @ Bertha's; Idle Americans Blues Jam @ Fat Boys Country Store (first Friday)
Sat..	<b>Acoustic Blues Jam @ Archie's Barbershop</b>
<b>Attention dancers:</b> See DCBS homepage for link to dance-friendly venues. To subscribe to a weekly e-mail newsletter "So Many Choices" with dance-specific information, often with a blues twist, send an e-mail to DCBS member and Blues fan Robin: <a href="mailto:hc1829@aol.com">hc1829@aol.com</a>	
<b>Bolded</b> items are picks by calendar editor, Steve Levine, and include DCBS and BBS events. Send listings to <a href="mailto:calendar@dcblues.org">calendar@dcblues.org</a> or mail to Steve Levine, 5910 Bryn Mawr Rd., College Park, MD 20740. <b>Musicians: Deadline is the 15th of the month prior to publication.</b> Events listed are based on the best information possible. DCBS cannot be held liable for errors in schedules, places or performances listed. It is recommended that you contact the venues to verify the event will occur. The DCBS homepage has additional music links and information: <a href="http://www.dcblues.org">www.dcblues.org</a> .	
Express Yourself Newsletter Contributors Needed	
Have you been to a great concert or found a band/artist you'd like the world to know about? Want to see your photos in print or have a great idea for a featured article or monthly column? Express yourself in the <i>CBM</i> . Send your newsletter contributions to <a href="mailto:editor@dcblues.org">editor@dcblues.org</a> .	



**Membership means discounts! Show 'em your card**

The following companies offer discounts to DCBS members. You must present your current membership card to receive them. Restrictions may apply and discounts may be withdrawn at any time.

<p><b>Half-price Admission Blues Alley</b> All Blues Shows Sun. - Thurs. 1073 Wisconsin Ave., NW Washington, DC 20007 202-337-4141 <a href="http://www.bluesalley.com">www.bluesalley.com</a></p>	<p><b>20% Discount Neil Senning Enterprises</b> Quality Painting and Handyman Services: Plastering/Drywall Deck Cleaning/ Power Washing/Staining/Carpentry/Interior &amp; Exterior Work and much more. 301-717-1773</p>	<p><b>10% discount GOT YOGA?</b> Individual Sessions including gentle yoga, breathing techniques, warm up, poses, meditation and laughter therapy Group Yoga Sessions (minimum of 8) available for above and Laughter Yoga Call to schedule: 301-802-1879</p>
<p><b>10% Discount Capitol Hill Books</b> Across from Eastern Market 657 C Street, S.E., Washington, DC 20003 202-544-1621 <a href="http://www.capitolhillbooks-dc.com">www.capitolhillbooks-dc.com</a></p>	<p><b>15% Discount BOK Custom Framing</b> 5649 Lee Highway, Arlington, VA 22207 703-534-1866 Hours: M-F 10 -6, Sat. 10-5</p>	<p><b>10% Discount J &amp; J Automotive</b> 9160 Euclid Court Manassas, VA 20110 703-368-3600 <a href="http://www.jjautoservices.com">www.jjautoservices.com</a></p>
<p><b>15% Discount Industrial Sound Studios</b> Call soon to get your first set of ADAT tapes free P.O. Box 1162 Riverdale, MD 20738 <a href="mailto:www.industrialstudio@hotmail.com">www.industrialstudio@hotmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>JV's Restaurant Drink Special</b> Buy one &amp; get 2nd. drink free 6666 Arlington Boulevard, Falls Church, VA 22042 703-241-9504 <a href="http://www.jvsrestaurant.com">www.jvsrestaurant.com</a></p>	<p><b>20% Discount Three Brothers Italian Restaurant</b> 4521 Kenilworth Ave. Bladensburg, MD 20710 301-864-1570 Until 9 pm. Not valid holidays or w/other dis- counts/restrictions may apply</p>

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**2010 International Blues Challenge**

The Blues Foundation has announced that hotel reservations for the 2010 International Blues Challenge, January 20-23, will open September 1. Ticket and t-shirt sales begin October 1. Some of the schedule has yet to be finalized so go to the Blues Foundation website ([www.blues.org](http://www.blues.org)) for updates and event details.

**"M for Mississippi" Soundtracks Available**

The film "M For Mississippi: A Road Trip through the Birthplace of the Blues" received the 2009 Blues Music Award for DVD of the Year. The producers, Roger Stolle and Jeff Konkel, have released the soundtrack on two CDs (Volume One in 2008). A previously unreleased version of "Johnnie B. Goode" by Robert "Bilbo" Walker, is, according to Stolle, the highlight of the second CD. Some of the other musicians on the CDs include Jimmy "Duck" Holmes, L.C. Ulmer, Pat Thomas, Big George Brock and Lightin' Malcolm. For more information go to [www.mformississippi.com](http://www.mformississippi.com)

**IAMA Accepting Entries**

The 6th Annual IAMA (International Acoustic Music Awards) is now accepting entries. IAMA promotes excellence in Acoustic Music Performance and Artistry. Acoustic artists in various genres can gain exciting radio and web exposure through this competition.

IAMA is open to all independent artists and labels and focuses on developing new markets for acoustic artists and labels with or without CD releases. Past year's winners include The Refugees (USA), Kate Lush (Australia), Wayne Southards (USA), Larry Pattis (USA), Omega

(Uganda), etc. Judging will take place in eight different categories. Winners receive valuable prizes including radio promotion to stations in US and Canada and will be included on the IAMA CD compilation and featured on its website. Judging is based on excellence in music performance, songwriting/composition/song choice, music production and originality. Entries must be postmarked by November 9 or earlier. For more information, go to [www.inacoustic.com](http://www.inacoustic.com).

**2009 Blues Blast Music Awards**

This from Blues Blast internet Magazine: Blues Blast Music Awards recognize the best Blues performers and their music. In addition to musicians, its nominators have included radio stations, Blues DJs's, Bloggers, critics, journalists, promoters, managers and Blues societies. If you are not familiar with all of the 2009 nominees, *GLT Blues Radio* 24/7 has created a "listening page" where you can sample the music of the nominees prior to voting. To listen, go to [www.wglt.org/programs/blues/blues\\_blast/blues\\_blast.phtml](http://www.wglt.org/programs/blues/blues_blast/blues_blast.phtml) Voting continues until August 31st. Details of the Awards show on October 29, 2009 at Buddy Guy's Legends will be posted on the Blues Blast website: [www.TheBluesBlast.com](http://www.TheBluesBlast.com)

**DCBS Annual Battle of the Bands  
You Be The Judge**

Informed, interested and impartial participants are invited to be judges for the annual DCBS Battle of the Blues Bands. The event takes place on Saturday, October 10 and judges need to be on hand for the entire show. The start time is usually around 7 pm and it ends around midnight. We'll know more as the bands send in their entry forms.

As you know, the winner will represent DCBS at the 2010 International Blues Challenge, in Memphis, TN. If you think you're ready to render the verdicts, contact DCBS via email: [president@dcblues.org](mailto:president@dcblues.org).

**DC Blues Society  
After-Party  
with  
CW Harrington  
&  
The Blues Messengers**



**Saturday Sept. 5 2009  
8:30 pm - 12:30 am  
American Legion Post 41  
905 Sligo Avenue  
Silver Spring, MD 20910  
Enter on Fenton St. - adjacent to public parking lot**

**Purchase advance tickets:  
[www.dcblues.org](http://www.dcblues.org)  
or call 301-322-4808  
\$10 Member  
\$12 Non-member  
\$15 at door**

**It's part of a weekend of great Blues**

**21<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL DC BLUES FESTIVAL**

**FREE ADMISSION**

**Noon—7:30 pm on Saturday, September 5**

**Carter Barron Amphitheatre**

**16th St. & Colorado Ave., NW, Wash. DC 20008**

**FIRST SUNDAY BLUES JAM**

**FREE ADMISSION**

**4:00—7:00 pm on Sunday, September 6**

**American Legion Post 41 905 Sligo Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20910**

**Camping? Hotels? Directions? Schedule? Tickets?**

**Get all the details at [www.dcblues.org](http://www.dcblues.org)**

**DC Blues Society  
Annual Battle of The Bands**

**Saturday, October 10, 2009**

**7:00 pm—12:30 am**

**Winner represents DCBS at the 2010 International Blues Challenge, Memphis, TN Jan 20-23, 2010 AND plays at**

**• Winterfest Blues Fest**

**Ritchie Coliseum**

**College Park, MD**

**Saturday, November 7, 2009**

**• Annual DC Blues Festival**

**Carter Barron Amphitheatre,  
Washington, DC**

**Monday, September 6, 2010**



**For information, rules and entry form go to  
[www.dcblues.org](http://www.dcblues.org) Entry deadline is August 17, 2009**

**Support your favorite musicians by attending the  
show & cheering them on to victory.**

**Advance tickets save you money! Buy on-line at  
[www.dcblues.org](http://www.dcblues.org) or call 301-322-4808**

**Advance Tickets: \$10 Member**

**\$12.00 Non-Member**

**\$15.00 at the door**



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**Celebrating the Blues in DC, MD & VA**

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**P.O. Box 77315**

**Washington, DC 20013-7315**

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