

Capital Blues Messenger

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

July 2010 Volume 4 Issue 7



Grady Champion
From Chicago Blues Festival to
DCBS Festival Fundraiser-July 31

**DCBS 6th Annual
Fish Fry 'n' Blues 'n'
Bike Contest - July 17**

**More Details and
Blues News Inside**

Photo by Alison Edgar

THE DC BLUES SOCIETY

**P.O. BOX 77315
WASHINGTON, DC
20013-7315
www.dcblues.org**



The DC Blues Society is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to keeping the Blues alive through outreach and education. It is funded in part by the DC Commission on the Arts & Humanities, an agency supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts. The DC Blues Society is a proud affiliate of the Blues Foundation.

The Capital Blues Messenger is published monthly (unless otherwise noted) and sent by e-mail or U.S. mail to members. 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. Please e-mail to editor@dcblues.org.

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.

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Become a DCBS member!

Members are key to the livelihood of the DCBS. Member's 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. Members receive discounts on advance sale tickets to DCBS events, DCBS merchandise and from area merchants and clubs when you present your DCBS membership card (see p 11). Members also receive the monthly *Capital Blues Messenger (CBM)* newsletter and those with e-mail access get the CBM via e-mail plus additional e-mail updates about DCBS events.

Becoming a member is simple, quick and easy:

- Use the mail-in application
- Apply on-line at www.dcblues.org, or
- Sign up at DCBS events or DCBS-sponsored events/venues where you see the DCBS booth.

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

D.C. Blues Society Membership Application/Renewal Form

Date: _____ If renewal, check here _____

Name (please print clearly above) _____

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

If Family, list member names: _____

Your volunteer time/talent is always welcome. If interested in volunteering, check interest(s):

Update Website

Work a shift at a show (DCBS table, door, etc.)

Promote shows (distribute flyers, handbills, etc.)

Raise funds (sell ads, organize auctions, etc.)

Write reviews or take photos for Newsletter

(see your name in print!)

Other? _____

**Mail with check to
THE DC BLUES SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 77315
WASHINGTON, DC 20013-73**

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Unless noted, photos and articles were contributed by DCBS board members and newsletter editor.

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qpi@qprintingincs.com

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Remember to Check the DCBS Website Often for Ticket Giveaways, Discounts, and Other Special Announcements

The Annual DC Blues Festival is Coming - Sept. 4
Corporate Sponsors and Volunteers are Needed

Visit the DCBS website (www.dcblues.org) for information and/or contact fest-volunteer@dcblues.org

ADVERTISE IN THE DCBS CAPITAL BLUES MESSENGER

AD RATES

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

Rates are based on camera-ready artwork and must be received by the 7th of the prior month. Design service is outsourced and a fee will be charged. Ads should be at least 300 dpi in either PDF or JPG. Submit in B/W and color when possible. Ad size and space allocation contingent on prior commitments and editorial content. DCBS reserves the right to refuse advertising it deems inappropriate. Ad specs and on-line rates: www.dcblues.org
Questions? E-mail: ads@dcblues.org

Hotter Than July Shows

This month DCBS brings the heat to match July temperatures. On Saturday, July 17 from 4 pm to 11 pm we bring back the ever-popular 6th Annual Fish Fry 'n' Blues 'n' Bike Contest at the American Legion Post 41, 901 Sligo Ave. Silver Spring, MD 20910. This event has become a summer favorite for hundreds of Blues lovers, bikers, and fish fans. Last year's Fish Fry was held at the Silver Spring American Legion for the first time. It turned out to be an ideal location, with a large backyard for cooking, serving, and lounging. And with music wafting from the second-floor showroom through open doors, you'll be immersed in Blues music even as you hang outdoors.



Photo by Mary Knieser

What a deal for all the fun you're guaranteed to have! For a mere 12 bucks, you get a fish sandwich and all day/night Blues. [For a few dollars more, you can get a complete dinner with the addition of two sides.] Bikers pay \$5 to enter the contest and get the chance to win \$200. (Photo at left: last year's bike winner) Please see p 4 and p 5 for more details and the band performance schedule for the Fish Fry.

If you haven't dropped by the Fish Fry in the last five years, treat yourself to this year's. The Fish Fry, like most of our events, supports our FREE 22nd Annual DC Blues Festival on September 4, from 12 pm to 7:30 pm at the Carter Barron Amphitheatre in Washington, DC. Get your Fish Fry tickets in advance at www.dcblues.org.

This year's International Blues Challenge winner, Grady Champion, continues to turn up the excitement temperature when he comes to town on Saturday, July 31. This Festival Fundraiser show at the Silver Spring American Legion Post 41 starts at 8 pm. If you didn't see Grady perform in Memphis or elsewhere, here's a great opportunity to see the highly talented and much acclaimed harmonica player and vocalist.

Grady is a native of Canton, Mississippi and started performing at the age of eight in the church choir. Professionally, he started out as a Blues rapper. [Unfortunately, I could not find any recorded samples of this musical style except for a rap snippet in a song mentioned below.] Through years of experience and four CDs, Grady has developed into a great singer and harmonica player, as well as an innovative songwriter and producer.



Photo by Terry Curtis

A writer for *Blues Access* magazine said, "Grady's voice not only made me think of Robert Johnson, but the way he worked the crowd

seemed as though Johnson's, or Luther Allison's, fire and raw sense of what the audience needs was being born inside him."

You can hear Grady connecting with his audience on his latest CD, *Back In Mississippi Live at the 930 Blues Cafe*. Two tunes among a number of good ones stand out for me - "You Got Some Explaining to Do" and "Policeman Blues." "Explaining" is a classic tale of infidelity, featuring a hot guitar solo by Eddie Cotton Jr. grooving just right for free-style funky dance moves. "Policeman Blues" is a mid-tempo first-person tune decrying mistreatment of a motorist by a cop even though he wasn't driving dirty. This cut also highlights a rap stanza that may represent Grady's early career trajectory. [Keep in mind that rap's genesis (as so much other American music) began in the Blues. It has been a long tradition for Blues performers to include spoken words in songs. That's all rap is. Rhyme or no rhyme.]

For more information on Grady, the Fundraiser, and for another review of his latest CD, see p 6 and p 7.

Get your tickets early for this major festival fundraiser! Tickets (\$20 members/\$25 non-members) are only available in advance at www.dcblues.org.

Volunteers Always Needed!

Let me remind you that DCBS is an ALL-VOLUNTEER organization. Please help us out with staffing the Fish Fry. We need volunteers to help cook and serve.

We also need volunteers for the free Annual Festival. You might get a chance to work backstage, help serve food to the bands, or staff our fun-filled merchandise booth.

There are also a few ongoing volunteers needed. Included are a volunteer coordinator, website helpers, and publicity/media persons.

Many volunteers come and go rather quickly. That's often because we never have enough volunteers in the first place. We bring you this monthly newsletter, numerous shows, events, and the Annual Festival every year with a shoestring volunteer staff. More of you helping DCBS operate spreads out the work and lets more folks stay longer with a lighter load. Please help us out. Contact volunteer@dcblues.org if you can give us a hand. Get more info on volunteering at www.dcblues.org.

Blues Always,



Photo by David Munn

Western Maryland Blues Festival

Many thanks to the DCBS Volunteers who ensured that DCBS had a booth at this outstanding festival.

- Donna Shoulders Jim Drake
- Felix McClairen Mary Knieser
- Howard Hernstadt Mona Kotlarsky
- Jazs

If you weren't there, as a volunteer or attendee, here are a few photos of what you missed!



Photos from L to R: Phil Wiggins and Corey Harris, Michael Burks, Joanne Shaw Taylor, Kenny Neal with DCBS volunteers Mary Knieser and Jazs, and Trombone Shorty.

Photos by (L to R): Mark Garland (1st 3), Nadine Rae, and Mary Knieser





DC Blues Society 6th Annual
Fish Fry 'n' Blues 'n' Bike Contest
Saturday, July 17, 2010 4pm to 11pm

All-Night Blues Party with Live Music
Dr. S.O. Feelgood - DJ

Schedule: Blues Music 4pm to 10:30pm - See detailed schedule below and band info next page
Fish Fry 4:30pm to 9pm* - Bring a potluck dish and get a copy of Blues in My Kitchen recipe book
Register Bikes 4pm to 5pm - Motorcycles must be registered for the contest by 5pm
Vote on Bikes 5pm to 7pm - All paying customers can vote for the bike that strikes their fancy!
Bike Winner Announced 8 pm - Winner gets \$200

Band Schedule*

4:00 - 4:30pm Southside Blues Breakers
4:40 - 5:10pm The Bush League
5:20 - 5:50pm Lady Rose
6:00 - 6:30pm Moonshine Society
6:40 - 7:10pm UrbanScientific
7:20 - 7:50pm Liz Springer and The Built 4 Comfort Band
8:10 - 8:40pm Gina DeSimone & The Moaners
8:50 - 9:20pm Not In Service
9:30 - 10:00pm Ida Campbell and Blues Nation
10:00 - 10:30pm Steve Remy and Voodoo Alley

* Schedule/bands may be subject to change

Admission: \$12 (includes fish sandwich)
Bike Contest Registration: \$5
People's Choice Best Bike Award: \$200



American Legion Post 41
905 Sligo Avenue
(entrance on Fenton St. by public parking lot)
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Information and Tickets: www.dcblues.org or call 301-322-4808



July 17 DCBS Fish Fry 'n' Blues 'n' Bike Contest - Check Out the Band Lineup

Wear your casual clothes, your dancing shoes, and bring your appetite for fish, summer foods, motorcycles, and of course, the Blues to the DCBS 6th Annual Fish Fry 'n' Blues 'n' Bike Contest on Saturday, July 17. See details on p 4. The following bands are on the lineup and had provided these band bios and pictures as of press time.

UrbanScientific is a smashing of amps trio that produces a wall of sound. UrbanScientific uses Latin, Reggae, GoGo, Funk, Jazz, Ska, and Hip Hop rhythms and anything else they can master to create original compositions, fusing as many elements together. UrbanScientific is not your average group in the local area. They are an experience and sound to behold with as many "oh my god moments" as can be squeezed in to one night's performance.



With a coolness and reserve, they do not appear the part of a highly accomplished jam band or fusion group, but once they play the crowd is held captive by relentless borage of musical elements. While a very new band, UrbanScientific has found quick success in its surrounding area, playing places like Tims River Shore, Fat Tuesdays, Jammin Javas, Fairfax County Yacht Club, Jaxx, to name a few. Band members: Dana Gramlin (percussion), Mike Pryor (bass), Fernando Thompson (guitar and vocals) myspace.com/urbanscientific or on Facebook, search Urbanscientific.

Moonshine Society "Grabs a hold of your soul and rocks it!"- The Boston Herald. Blues enthusiasts, college kids, burlesque lovers, and biker bar regulars come together on the dance floors of a Moonshine Society show. Often compared to Susan Tedeschi, Bonnie Raitt, Lou Anne Barton, and Sharon Jones, Black Betty (in photo) leads a powerful band of musicians from around the world. "I now have new respect for the Boston music scene," said Tony Van Veen, CEO/President of Disc Makers after the band brought down the house at the Disc Makers Boston Party in 2008.



Featuring Black Betty (vocals), Joe Poppen (guitar and vocals), Chris Brown (bass), Wes Lanich (keys), and Rob Cross (drums and vocals). www.moonshinesociety.com

Featuring Black Betty (vocals), Joe Poppen (guitar and vocals), Chris Brown (bass), Wes Lanich (keys), and Rob Cross (drums and vocals). www.moonshinesociety.com

The Bush League plays the music that influences its members. They call their style of music FuB&RR, which stands for Funk, Blues & Rock and Roll !!! The FuB&RR sound is then given a healthy slathering of soul and hip hop and the result is something like a bowl of Muddy Waters coated with hot Funkadelic sauce with some Public Enemy sprinkles on top. Then the whole thing is garnished with a sprig of Otis Redding to complete the sonic feast. The mission of THE BUSH LEAGUE is to make people feel good and dance and they will do that by any musical means necessary. John Jay (vocals), Royce Folks (bass), Shane Parch (guitar), Justin Ellett (drums). www.thebushleague.com, www.myspace.com/thebushleague



Not In Service is a blues band that mixes up tempo rockin' blues with mellow, heartfelt minor blues. Tight and entertaining, this band of Washington/Baltimore musicians is an avid supporter of the DC Blues Society. With influences as diverse as Willie Dixon, Elmore James, Willie Cobbs, Eric Clapton, Duane Allman and Jimi Hendrix, this band

takes you on a blues tripall with a fresh face. Led by Dick Culp (guitar/vocals) the band includes Anthony Emerson (keyboards/vocals), Jim Hagarty (harp) with rhythm and groove provided by drummer Ralph Brown and bassist Holly Culp.



Lady Rose is a powerhouse, down home blues vocalist who rocks the house with Chicago style blues mixed with a twist of rock, funk, Cajun, boogie, and soul! Lady Rose was the featured vocalist with the DC Blues Society Band at the 2009 DCBS Fish Fry and the 2009 College Park Blues Festival. She was also chosen as a finalist to compete in the 2009 DC Blues Society Battle of the Bands competition. Band members are Kevin Robinson(guitar), Michael Farrell (bass), Tony Brown (drums), and Stephen Eckstrom (harp/vocals). www.bluesladyrose.com, www.facebook.com/bluesladyrose



Built 4 Comfort plays cover songs in the style of blues, rhythm and blues, and blues influenced classic rock. We are a group of well-seasoned and talented musicians who haven't lost the joy of playing for an audience, who love playing music together and are able to translate that sense of fun to the audience. Built 4 Comfort offers the soulful vocals of Liz Springer and Carl Jasper - both sing lead as well as back up vocals so you will hear a mix of voices throughout our sets. We think one of our fans put it well when they wrote: "Enjoyed the band very much.....very talented group of musicians...our friends had a great time and a lot of fun!!!.... Band Members include: Liz Springer (vocals & percussion), Carl Jasper (guitar & vocals), Mark Deton (drums), Bernie Hromek (bass), Jeff Jolbitado (guitar) and Kenny Stewart (keys & saxophone). www.built4comfortband.com

Gina DeSimone & the Moaners recipe: Start with Gina DeSimone, one woman, a bunch of guitars and a whole lot of blue smoke. A woman with a rich, sexy voice that is honest and true. Add the unstoppable energy and pinpoint harmonies of Pat Quinn. Set on Ron Goad's foundation of rock solid rhythm and quick wit. Blend ingredients together for a mix of eccentric, eclectic sounds from a range of eras. Style is no object. Blues, Swing, Classic Rock? What are you in the mood for? The Moaners diverse backgrounds come together to offer a night of music delivered with fun-loving humor that will entertain you and your guests. www.ginadesimone.com

Southside Blues Breakers is a straight-ahead blues band from DC that features two really fine blues guitarists, Darrell Mayer and Tom Muck with a great rhythm section, Ron Liebman drums and Duane Siler on bass.



Ida Campbell and Blues Nation features the charismatic blues belter and WPFW DJ Ida Campbell (Friday's noon-1pm, "Don't Forget the Blues"). Ida is a regular supporter of DCBS and other local blues events and often lends her vocals as a guest singer with various performers and bands. Ida and Blues Nation performed at DCBS' 2009 Festival Auditions and are excited to be performing at this year's DCBS Fish Fry.



Photo by Mary Knieser

Grady Champion To Play at DCBS Festival Fundraiser on July 31

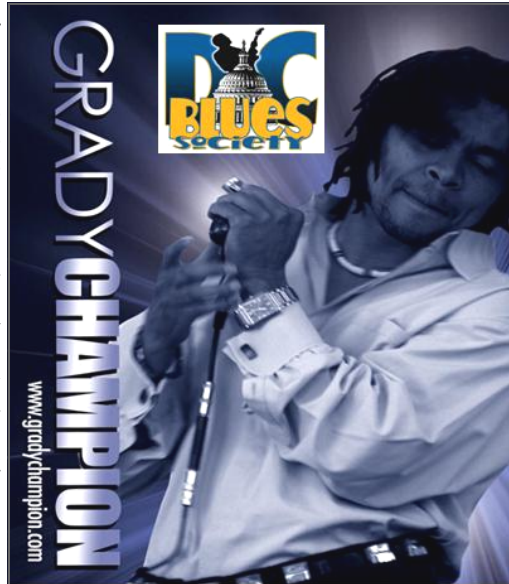
If you've been reading the *Capital Blues Messenger* for the past several months (and if you've already read the President's Drum on p 3), then you know the name Grady Champion and you probably know a few facts about him. If you don't know the name, listen up! This fella is going to be drawing the attention of blues lovers and for good reasons. Grady and his band (which goes by his name) won the 2010 International Blues Challenge in Memphis, TN, being selected as the top band out of a total of 110 entries. Since that achievement, Grady's resume has been expanding by leaps and bounds, and DCBS is excited about having Grady perform at its Festival Fundraiser on Saturday, July 31..

Grady, a singer and harmonica player, was recently on the line up at the 27th Annual Chicago Blues Festival in mid-June, performing on opening night and also performing at the Blues on the North Shore concert series that bookended the Chicago Blues Festival. In the latter performance, Grady was one of the featured artists for the concert *3 Generations of Blues: From Mississippi to Chicago*, along with 95-year old and Grammy Lifetime Achievement winner David "Honeyboy" Edwards; John Primer, former guitarist for the late great Muddy Waters, and the added performance of the Homemade Jamz Blues Band. The cover photo for this month's *CBM* shows Grady performing in Chicago. That belt around his waist holds his many harmonicas.

Grady was also featured in the issue of *JET Magazine* that was released in late June 2010, highlighting his performance with Muddy Waters' sons, Mud Morganfield and Big Bill Morganfield at Ground Zero Blues Club in Clarksdale, MS. In late April 2010, Grady debuted in his first movie "Rites of Springs" which is being filmed in the state of Mississippi. His performance for DCBS is one of many gigs and festivals that he will be playing in the coming months.

Grady is the youngest of his father's 28 children! He's dynamic, "one of the brighter beacons when we talk about the future of blues music" (Richard Skelly, music reporter and reviewer), and clearly in the process of making a name for himself. But come and see for yourself! Don't miss the opportunity to see Grady perform on Saturday, July 31. Buy your ticket early and encourage your friends to join you.

Note - Grady Champion's latest CD is reviewed on p 7. For more information on this blues artist, see www.gradychampion.com.



Grady echoes the skill and intensity of Blues harmonica legend, Sonny Boy Williamson! Learn more at www.gradychampion.com

DC Blues Society Presents
a Festival Fundraiser Featuring
2010 International Blues
Challenge Winner
GRADY CHAMPION
July 31, 2010
8:30PM – 12:00AM
American Legion Post 41
905 Sligo Ave.
Silver Spring, MD 20910
ADVANCE TICKETS ONLY
\$20 members
\$25 non-members
www.dcb Blues.org
or call 301-322-4808

***22nd Annual DC Blues Festival September 4th Carter Barron Amphitheater Free Admission!**



John Primer solos while Grady Champion looks on.

Photo by Lynn Orman Weiss, *BLUES ON THE NORTH SHORE*/WWW.FRONTROWMUSIC.TV



Grady Champion with Joe Whitmer at The Blues Foundation office. Grady is holding the Blues Foundation logo Gibson he and his band will use for the coming year. Photo from www.blues.org



Grady Champion & Honeyboy at the 930 Cafe' in Jackson, Mississippi during the Governors Awards where Honeyboy received a Lifetime Achievement Award. Photo by Lynne Orman Weiss, *BLUES ON THE NORTH SHORE*/WWW.FRONTROWMUSIC.TV

**CD Review****Grady Champion's *Back In Mississippi Live At The 930 Blues Cafe***

By Ron Weinstock

Mississippian Grady Champion has been singing the blues and playing harmonica for a number of years, having self-produced his debut blues CD in 1998. He had two albums on Shanachie before returning home to Canton, Mississippi in 2002, where he played locally with Eddie Cotton before putting together his band *The Grady Champion Revue*. In 2007, he recorded the CD, *Back In Mississippi Live At The 930 Blues Cafe*, that was issued on GSM. Earlier this year, he was the winning performer at the International Blues Challenge and is appearing on a number of major festivals as a result. Earwig Music has just taken over the distribution of *Back in Mississippi Live*.

I have had the original release of this CD and have listened to it at various times over the past two years. The album's strengths include the fact that Grady is a terrific vocalist who exhibits considerable personality and enthusiasm as he sings. He also has a first-rate backing band with stand-out guitar from Eddie Cotton (his playing on "Lonesome Bedroom Blues" is simply one example of his exceptional guitar playing throughout this recording). We do not need new recordings of "I'm Ready," or "Spoonful," but Grady does place his own vocal stamp here, as well as on the hard-edged "Baby What You Want Me Do." He is an effective, credible harp player if not a virtuoso, with Rice Miller being an obvious personality. Champion also writes some very interesting original material, including "You Got Some Explaining To Do," with a nice funky groove as he tells his woman that too many of her stories just don't add up or ring true, or "1-800-Blu-Love," the number for a woman to call when her man ain't at home. The latter number has a nice harp break.

There is social commentary on "Policeman Blues," where he sings about being stopped and beaten by Mr. Policeman. It is curious how restrained Grady's lyrics are compared to the language a rapper would use (and there is a rapper, Jacktown Swift, on this track who is a bit more forthright about this mistreatment). Of the songs covered here, the slow, doomy rendition of "Lonesome Bedroom Blues," stands out, with Cotton's afore-mentioned guitar playing and Grady's fine singing. "Love and Memories," is a heartfelt R&B ballad dedicated to his mother's memory. "Wine and Women" don't mix and leave you with a terrible fix is the message of the rocking shuffle that Grady and Eddie Cotton co-wrote, and it is followed by "Brother, Brother," which oddly evokes (in these ears) the Doobie Brothers with a nice groove and rhythm, and then comes a lovely ballad, "I'm Yours," as Grady sings "You're my heart, my everything ... you can count on me, I'm your lover, I'm your friend, I'm your man." The disc closes with a fine holiday blues, Grady's "Blues on Christmas."

There's plenty of music here (71 minutes or so), and even if some of the material might be overly familiar, there is plenty new material, some of it being really good songs. It is certainly helpful that Earwig has picked this up. With Grady's greater visibility from winning the IBC, Earwig's re-release and support of his *Back in Mississippi Live* CD should ensure that he becomes a more familiar name to the blues world.

Visit the DCBS Booth at These July & August Events

July 17 - DCBS Fish Fry, Silver Spring American Legion
July 31 - DCBS Festival Fundraiser w/ Grady Champion
August 21 - Hot August Blues Festival

CD Review**Otis Taylor's *Clovis People, Vol. 3***

By Burney Simpson

Otis Taylor spoils his listeners.

His new CD *Clovis People, Vol. 3* offers some haunting moments of pure emotion, as Taylor mixes his trance blues, social commentary, and straight ahead rock with Native American influences.

That Indian feel swirls through the CD and from the start draws the listener into a circle of tale-tellers and spirited musicians. Taylor may replace the Native drum circle with a guitar circle, but the power of community gathering is central to his music.

Taylor's great skill as a writer and performer is clear on "Rain So Hard," as he slips into the skin of the shamed narrator, driven from shelter after committing an unspoken offense. In "Think I Won't," the listener feels the visceral threat an embattled mother forcefully dispenses to the neighborhood drug dealer.

Not all the material on *Clovis* is as good as those two songs. The knock here is the sameness of the material with previous Taylor work, and the uniformity among the songs on the CD.

That said, Taylor has produced extraordinary work since he returned to music in 1995. His story songs depict an America where drugs and crime beset schools and families, deceit leads to broken homes, and race is ever present. In other words it's the country today. Few of our tale tellers see America 2010 with such clarity and honesty. Few of our writers have Taylor's insight and power.

Taylor is almost too intellectual for traditional blues where much of the music was about raw feelings, the immediacy of anger, pain and joy. Taylor writes about deep-seated feelings, the fear, resentment, and anxiety that grips so many today. There's a tension to Taylor's stories, but he doesn't report the explosion so much as the moments before and after the explosion. That grabs you but can also leave you wanting the 'Pow'.

The CD title fits with the Native American influence, as the Clovis people lived in Colorado and points west about 13,000 years ago before disappearing. Archeologists recently found Clovis tools and other artifacts next to Taylor's home near Boulder, fascinating the writer, singer and multi-instrumentalist. There isn't a volume one or two; Taylor just likes the sound of volume three.

Gary Moore returns on guitar, having played on Taylor's two previous releases. Pedal steel guitarist Chuck Campbell of the Campbell Brothers provides support, along with cornetist Ron Miles, and bassist Cassie Taylor.

Taylor's label, Telarc, provided a copy of the CD for review.

DCBS Members = \$5 Discount
6th Annual Moon Dancer Reds, Whites & Blues Festival
Sat./Sun., July 3 and 4

Moon Dancer Vineyards & Winery, Wrightsville, PA
 See www.moondancerwinery.com for information

Save The Date
18th Annual Bluebird Blues Festival
Sunday, September 12
Prince Georges Community College
301 Largo Road, Landover, MD
www.pgcc.edu

Tinner Hill Blues Festival - Great Music & Cultural Insights on Shared Musical Traditions

The origins of the Blues go back to “time out of memory,” with escaping slaves blending music from their native Africa with the drum celebrations of Native Americans, a panel of experts explained at the Tinner Hill Blues Festival recently held in Falls Church, VA. Much of the earliest mixing of cultures occurred along the Southeast coast from what is now Virginia down into Florida.

This year’s Festival, and tribute to Piedmont bluesman John Jackson, offered a cultural mix of music, theatre, film and scholarship. The opening night Festival kick-off had local favorites Nadine Rae, Chuck Brown, and Bobby Parker performing at the State Theatre, and the audience was also treated to a film about John Jackson. On Friday, the play, *Tinner Hill: Portraits in Black and White*, opened at Creative Cauldron, the city’s newest art space. Saturday’s Festival agenda included another showing of the film and the release of a new Smithsonian Folkways CD, *John Jackson: Rappahannock Blues*; a panel discussion on Native American influences on the blues; and an afternoon concert.



Nadine Rae and Chuck Brown pose for a photo outside the State Theatre

The discussion was entitled “Red, Black and Blues: Native Americans, African Americans and their shared blues musical traditions.” The panel included Elaine Bomberry, producer of the Rez Blues TV show in Canada and of Six Nations ancestry; PuraFe’, singer, dancer and teacher whose ancestry includes Puerto Rican and Tuscarora; Lee Gates, a Mississippi guitarist and singer; Jennifer Kreisberg, a Tuscarora singer and songwriter; Murray Porter, a Mohawk bluesman, singer, songwriter and keyboardist; and Dr. Ron Welburn, an associate professor at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, whose ancestry is African American, Gingaskin and Assateague/Cherokee.

Welburn said that even before the American Revolution, African slaves began to “head for the bush” to settle among Native American tribes, where they soaked up the music from “stomp dances” driven by pounding drums typically gathered in circles. PuraFe’ noted that these drum celebrations combined the sacred and the social and used a “call and response” vocal style where leaders sing or chant and others around the circle repeat or expand on the song. “Our people had that connection. In the Southeast the cultures came together,” she said.



Pura Fe performed at the concert on Saturday

As slavery expanded in the 19th century, Native Americans assisted in the Underground Railroad, the hidden trails used by escaping slaves to head north to free states and Canada. “The Iroquois supported that. The (Railroad) was made up of many of the (Native American) trading routes,” said PuraFe’. “Who else knew how to get to and from North and South?”

Through much of American history, African Americans and Native Americans have shared life circumstances – most were poor, treated as second-class citizens, and were forced to pick up and move when the ruling white class demanded it, said Welburn. Many Native Americans were enslaved as well, though that

often didn’t work out for the ‘owner,’ Porter said with tongue half in cheek. “We weren’t good slaves. Too lazy. Plus we could take off for the bush.”

The mixing of cultures occurred first along the Eastern seaboard and later in the West. Much of the Native contribution to the blues has never been documented in books, partly because the ethnomusicologists and others who first wrote about the blues failed to make the connection. “They never asked us,” said Welburn.

American racism must take the lion’s share of the blame for the omission. In the 19th century, parents with mixed ancestry denied their Native blood because their children could be taken and put in mission schools where they were forced to deny their Indian heritage. And anyone with Native ancestry could be forced onto reservations, away from their family and friends.

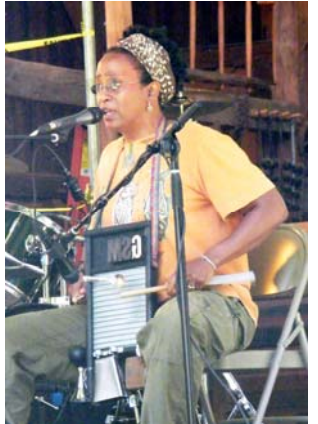
There are a number of well-known African Americans with Native backgrounds, including Crispus Attucks, Frederick Douglass, Langston Hughes, Jesse Jackson, Tina Turner and Jesse Owens. Among blues musicians, Big Joe Williams and Charley Patton had Native ancestry, according to Welburn. Bomberry recommended listeners interested in hearing Native blues should check out *Indian Reservation Blues*, a three CD set on the Dixiefrog label and available online.

After the lively discussion, PuraFe’, Jennifer Kreisberg, Lee Gates and Murray Porter demonstrated their point of view with some great blues during the afternoon concert. Phil Wiggins & Corey Harris, M.S.G. Acoustic Trio, Big Daddy Stallings & Bluez Evolution, Clarence “The Bluesman” Turner and Patty Reese & Band rounded out the outstanding Festival lineup.

The 4-day Festival ended with a Sunday morning brunch and Blues jam in tribute to John Jackson, Archie Edwards and John Cephas. The Jambassadors from the Archie Edwards Blues Heritage Foundation and Murray Porter treated the audience to an array of blues, from acoustic country to contemporary electric.


By Burney Simpson, Photo of Nadine Rae/Chuck Brown by Stacy Brooks, All other photos by Burney Simpson

Note: Plans are underway to bring Murray Porter to the area on August 7 for a Tinner Hill fundraiser. For information go to www.tinnerhill.org.



Saturday concert - In photos from top to bottom: Resa Gibbs-of the M.S.G. Acoustic Trio, Lee Gates, Murray Porter



July		July cont.	
1	Capitol Blues Night , featuring Lee Gates, Boo Hanks, Big Ron Hunter, Sol, Captain Luke @ Clyde's of Gallery Place (Music Maker Benefit); Hot Rods & Old Gas @ Zoo Bar	30	Buddy Guy @ Birchmere; Lisa Lim & Over the Limit @ Delta Blues; Asylum Street Spankers @ Rams Head; Eli Cook @ Madam's Organ; Tall Richard @ Bangkok Blues
2	BG & Mojo Hands @ King's Contrivance Village Center; BG & Mojo Hands @ Branded 72; Doug Parks & Lone Wolves @ Dad's Pub; Unruly Blues @ Old Bowie Town Grille; Old Man Brown @ Madam's Organ	31	DCBS Festival Fundraiser w/Grady Champion @ Silver Spring American Legion; Hot Rods & Old Gas Blues Jam @ Fat Boys Country Store; Bobby Parker @ Madam's Organ; Asylum Street Spankers @ Jammin' Java
3	6th Annual Mood Dancer Reds, Whites & Blues Festival @ Wrightsville, PA; Bobby Lewis Band @ Hershey's; Bill Kerchen @ Birchmere; Big Boy Little Band @ Zoo Bar	Early August	
4	No DCBS Jam — Have a Happy 4th of July ; 6th Annual Mood Dancer Reds, Whites & Blues Festival @ Wrightsville, PA	1	DCBS Jam @ Silver Spring American Legion
5	Stacy Brooks Band @ Westminster Presbyterian Church; Tom Principato @ Woodrow Wilson Plaza	2	Remembering Country @ Westminster Presbyterian Church
8	Cathy Ponton King @ Veteran's Park	6	BG & Mojo Hands @ Glen Echo; Lex Grey & Urban Pioneers @ Madam's Organ
9	Briggs Farm Blues Festival @ Nescopeck, PA; Lisa Lim & Over the Limit @ Murphy's; BG & Mojo Hands @ Montpelier Arts Center; J.P. Reali @ Westover Market; Chris Bell @ Madam's Organ; Sookey Jump Blues Band @ Zoo Bar; Junkyard Saints @ Elkridge, MD; Andy Poxon Band (early) Clarence "Bluesman" Turner (late) @ Bangkok Blues; Big Boy Little Band @ Bare Bones	7	Lex Grey & Urban Pioneers @ Madam's Organ; Big Joe & Dynaflores @ Reston Twin Center; Big Daddy Stallings @ Lurman Woodland Theater; Murray Porter TBA www.tinnerhill.org
10	Briggs Farm Blues Festival @ Nescopeck, PA; Big Boy Little @ Bare Bones; Cathy Ponton King @ Flanagan's; BG & Mojo Hands @ Everedy Square; Doug Parks & Lone Wolves @ Ebb Tide; Blue Book Value @ Kensington Farmer's Market; Smokin' Polecats w/Marianna Previti, Jamie Lynch @ Zoo Bar; Lisa Lim & Over The Limit @ Bangkok Blues	Regular Blues Events	
12	Clarence "Bluesman" Turner Blues Band @ Westminster Presbyterian Church	Sunday	DCBS Jam @ Silver Spring American Legion (1st Sunday - No DCBS Jam July 4); Paulverizers Blues Jam @ Old Bowie Town Grille; Z Revue Blues Jam @ JVs (1st Sunday); Nancy Katz & Stray Dogz Jam @ Old Fire Station No. 3; Blues in the Attic Jam @ Blondie's Rouzardome, PA
14	Janine Wilson Band @ Sunset Serenade Concert, Ellicott City; Junkyard Saints @ Mason District Park; Tab Benoit, Anders Osborne @ State Theatre	Monday	Wolf's & Matt Kelly's Blues Jam @ JVs (2nd Monday)
15	Mary Shaver Band @ Watkins Regional Park	Tuesday	Old Man Brown @ Madam's Organ (alternating Tuesdays)
16	Snakehead Run @ New Deal Café; Chris Polk @ Madam's Organ; Liz Briones @ Zoo Bar; Anthony "Swampdog" Clark @ Bangkok Blues	Wednesday	Wolf's Blues Jam @ Beach Cove; Blues Jam @ Old Bowie Town Grille
17	DCBS 6th Annual Fish Fry n' Blues n' Bike Contest @ Silver Spring American Legion; Big Daddy Stallings @ Bare Bones; Holmes Brothers @ Washington Club (Bladder Cancer Awareness Day Benefit); Lisa Lim & Over the Limit @ JVs; Doug Parks & Lone Wolves @ Jay's Saloon; Janine Wilson Band @ Washingtonian Center; Blind Boys of Alabama @ Rams Head; Deb Callahan @ Madam's Organ; Roustabouts @ Zoo Bar; Scott Ramming & Crawsticks @ Bangkok Blues	Thursday	DCBS Thursday Jam/Open Mic w/Sol @ LA Bar & Grill; Patrick Alban or Johnny Artis @ Madam's Organ; Open Mic w/Fast Eddie @ Spanky's Shenanihgans; Blues Jam @ Eastport Democratic club; Big Boy Little Band Jam @ Zoo Bar; Slow Blues & Swing Dance @ Glen Echo
18	BB King @ Wolf Trap; J.P. Reali @ Eastern Market; Junkyard Saints @ Patapsco Valley State Park	Friday	Glen Moomau & Blue Flames @ Bertha's; Wolf's Blues Jam @ Fat Boys (3rd Friday); John Guernsey @ New Deal Café; Brian Gross Trio @ Café Ole; Hot Rods & Old Gas @ Zoo Bar (1st Friday); The CobraFish Blues Jam @ Zodiac Bar & Grill, Hagerstown, MD (2nd Friday)
19	Tina's Blues @ Westminster Presbyterian Church	Saturday	Acoustic Blues Jam @ Archie's Barbershop; Big Boy Little @ Zoo Bar (1st Saturday); John Guernsey @ New Deal Cafe; Brian Gross & Steve Levine @ Sala Thai, Bethesda (2nd Saturday)
21	BG & Mojo Hands @ Nick's; Doug Parks Trio @ Manassas Afternoon Concert Series	Attention dancers: 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: hc1829@aol.com	
22	BG & Mojo Hands @ Columbia Lakefront Festival; Janine Wilson Band @ Grist Mill Park	Bolded items are picks by calendar editor, Steve Levine, and include DCBS and BBS events. Send listings to calendar@dcblues.org or mail to Steve Levine, 5910 Bryn Mawr Rd., College Park, MD 20740.	
23	Liz Briones @ Madam's Organ; Swamp Keepers @ Zoo Bar; Junkyard Saints @ Beveledere Square	Musicians: Deadline is the 15th of the month prior to publication. 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: www.dcblues.org .	
24	Homemade Jamz @ Rams Head; Janine Wilson Band @ Avenue at White Marsh; Flat Foot Sam & Educated Fools @ Zoo Bar; Junkyard Saints @ Annapolis Great Grapes Wine festival	Photos at right - We are on the July calendar. Who are we? See p 10. 	
25	Kelly Bell Band & Natty Beaux @ Annapolis Great Grapes Wine festival		
26	Whop Frazier @ Westminster Presbyterian Church		
27	Chris Thomas King @ Blues Alley; Lisa Lim & Over the Limit @ JVs		
28	Henry Butler @ Blues Alley		



Access Montgomery Airs "Episodes" of the 2nd Annual Silver Spring Blues Festival

If you missed the Silver Spring Blues Festival in late May, or if you were there and want to revisit some of the acts or look for yourself in the audience, then check out the videos available online on Access Montgomery. Go to <http://accessmontgomery.tv/> for free viewings. The Festival is broken down into 6 "episodes," and while there is a schedule for the viewing of the episodes, they are also available at any time through the Archive link. Just type in "Silver Spring" for the project name and see the range of viewing options available on Channel 19 or 21 through this website. It's all FREE, just like the Festival!

Blues Foundation Fund for Tracy Nelson

The Blues Foundation has set up a Fund for Tracy Nelson, whose home outside of Nashville was destroyed in a fire on June 5. Tracy's music career spans five decades. In the 60's she formed the Mother Earth band and recorded six Mother Earth albums before moving to record albums as a solo artist. Checks should be mailed to The Blues Foundation, 49 Union Avenue, Memphis, TN 38103 and marked for "Fund for Tracy Nelson. Communications to Tracy can be sent to P.O. Box 128, Burns, TN 37029.



Blues Blast Music Award Nominees

Blues Blast Magazine has announced the nominations for the 2010 Blues Blast Music Awards. There are eight categories of nominees, and the nominations were developed by a group of Blues music industry professionals. Voting to determine the winners begins July 8, and continues until August 31, 2010. Voting is open to all Blues Blast Magazine subscribers, and subscriptions are FREE. To vote and subscribe, just visit the website www.TheBluesBlast.com.

The 2010 Blues Blast Music Awards ceremonies will be held at Buddy Guys' Legends in Chicago, Illinois, October 28th, 2010. The ceremony will feature music by some of the nominees. Tickets go on sale in mid-August at the above website.

Public radio station WGLT has a web page that provides music samples of the 2010 Blues Blast Music Award nominees. Visit the website http://www.wgl.t.org/programs/blues/blues_blast/blues_blast.phtml, listen to the music, and vote for your favorites!

Photos on bottom of page 9, from L to R:

B.B. King - Appears July 18 at Wolf Trap. Photo from www.bbking.com

Holmes Brothers - Appear July 17 at The Washington Club, for Bladder Cancer Awareness Day and to celebrate new CD, Feed My Soul. Photo from www.theHolmesBrothers.com

Taya Perry of Homemade Jamz Blues Band - Appears July 24 at Rams Head. Were headline performers at DCBS College Park Blues Festival in November 2009. Photo by Mary Knieser



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Attention Bands and Solo/Duo Acts Here's Your Chance to go to Memphis for The 2011 International Blues Challenge

Bands Sign Up Now for DCBS Annual Battle of the Bands Saturday, October 9 Entry Deadline — August 13

The annual Battle of the Bands has been scheduled for Saturday, October 9. The winning band will represent the DC Blues Society at the 27th Annual International Blues Challenge (IBC) which will be held from February 1 – 5, 2011, in Memphis, TN. The winner will also perform at the 2nd Annual College Park Blues Festival on November 6, 2010, and at the 23rd Annual DC Blues Festival in September 2011.

The deadline for entering the 2010 Battle of the Bands is August 13. Because the DCBS winner will compete at the IBC in Memphis, certain rules and restrictions apply. Competition information, rules, and the entry form are posted on the DCBS website: www.dcblues.org. Additional information about the IBC is available on The Blues Foundation website: www.blues.org.

In addition to sending a band to the IBC, DCBS will also sponsor a solo/duo IBC entrant, based on a separate entry process. Again, please visit www.dcblues.org for more information.



"The Big Boy Little Band On The Brink of a Breakthrough"

This was the title of a six-page article written by Larry Benicewicz for the June-July issue of the Baltimore Blues Society Newsletter. The Big Boy Little Band (BBL) was the winner of the DCBS 2009 Battle of the Bands and was the DCBS competitor at the 2010 International Blues Challenge (IBC), where the Band placed among the top 11 finalists.

To read the full article, go to www.wolfsmusicweekly.com (select the "Press" link). Benicewicz refers to Bret Littlehales as "this stout grizzled veteran of the Washington blues scene," and Benicewicz's article and the accompanying pictures are a terrific and in-depth story about how Bret (and his various bands) developed over the years, leading to the "expert and cohesive unit" that is now the Big Boy Little Band.

BBL has been featured in previous issues of the CBM, and the Band's performance schedule is regularly included in the CBM Blues Calendar. Congratulations to Bret and the Band members for being featured in this article.

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Weekend Admission: \$85 by June 31 or \$95 on July 1 and beyond
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For more information: www.nvshag.org or call 703-281-9193



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>Half-price Admission Blues Alley Many Blues Shows Sun. - Thurs. 1073 Wisconsin Ave., NW Washington, DC 20007 202-337-4141 www.bluesalley.com</p>	<p>20% Discount Neil Senning Enterprises Quality Painting and Handyman Services: Plastering/Drywall Deck Cleaning/Power Washing/ Staining/Carpentry/Interior & Exte- rior Work and much more. 301-717-1773</p>	<p>10% discount GOT YOGA? Individual Sessions including gentle yoga, breathing techniques, warm up, poses, meditation & laughter therapy. Group Yoga Sessions (minimum of 8) available for above and Laughter Yoga Call to schedule: 301-802-1879</p>	<p>10% Discount Delta Blues Juke Joint & Diner 2796 Old Washington Rd. Waldorf, MD 20601 (301) 632-5837 Discount applies to food and admission www.deltabluesjukejoint.com</p>
<p>10% Discount Capitol Hill Books Across from Eastern Market 657 C Street, SE Washington, DC 20003 202-544-1621 www.capitolhillbooks-dc.com</p>	<p>15% Discount BOK Custom Framing 5649 Lee Highway, Arlington, VA 22207 703-534-1866 Hours: M-F 10 -6, Sat. 10-5</p>	<p>10% Discount J & J Automotive 9160 Euclid Court Manassas, VA 20110 703-368-3600 www.jjautoservices.com</p>	<p>Offer a Discount to DCBS Members and Have Your Business Advertised Here Contact ads@dcblues.org</p>
<p>15% Discount LA Bar & Grill 2530 Columbia Pike Arlington, VA 22204 703-682-1560 www.lowerarlingtonbarandgrill.com</p>	<p>JV's Restaurant Drink Special Buy one & get 2nd drink free 6666 Arlington Boulevard, Falls Church, VA 22042 703-241-9504 www.jvsrestaurant.com</p>	<p>20% Discount Three Brothers Italian Restaurant 4521 Kenilworth Ave. Bladensburg, MD 20710 301-864-1570 Until 9 pm. Not valid holidays or w/other discounts/restrictions may apply</p>	

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Photo by Mary Kniesel

Attention bands
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