

Capital Blues Messenger

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

August 2010 Volume 4 Issue 8



Photo by Mary Knieser

**Kenny Neal
Headlines
DCBS Festival
Fundraiser
August 26
at Surf Club Live!
Bad Influence Band
Opens**

**More August Blues
Events Inside
Plus
September 4
DC Blues Festival
Info
And More**

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@qprintinginc.com

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Corporate DCBS Memberships Now Available

DCBS is now offering a Corporate membership option that provides small and large businesses the opportunity to "bundle" advertising through DCBS while lending their support for DCBS programs.

For \$250 per year, businesses receive the same benefits of individual DCBS members (see above) PLUS 6 postings of a 1/4 page ad in the DCBS monthly newsletter and/or a web icon on the DCBS website. Each web icon/event posting will remain on the DCBS website for one week per posting.— for a total of 6 weeks presence on the DCBS website.

Interested businesses should contact membership@dcblues.org to establish their corporate DCBS membership.

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

Even Hotter (for the Blues) In August!

The 6th Annual Fish Fry 'n Blues 'n Bike Contest was another hot success. It was hot outside where the grease crackled with frying fish and hot inside with music laid down by a series of outstanding bands. [More on p 6] Thanks to all the bands, volunteers, bikers and other Blues fans that kept the crowd flowing and glowing through the afternoon and night. We had only a few bikes sign up for the contest. Congrats to the \$200 first place winner, Frank Perkins.



Photo by Mary Knieser

Don't miss the **FREE DCBS jam on August 1** at American Legion Post 41, 901 Sligo Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20910. All musicians and vocalists are welcome. The jam runs from 4pm to 8pm. You can bring your own food and the drinks are cheap.

We've got a few surprises for August that ought to warm your Blues blood.

On **August 8, DCBS will begin hosting a jam from 2:00pm to 5:00pm at Delta Blues Juke Joint**, 2796 Old Washington Rd., Waldorf, MD 20601 (301-632-5837). The Lady Rose Blues Band will host the jam every second Sunday. Donations are requested to support this event and keep Blues alive in Southern MD.

DCBS goes **Down in the Delta on Saturday August 21 from 2:00pm to 7:30pm with a Blues Revue Show at Delta Blues Juke Joint (DBJJ)**, featuring the DCBS Band with a surprise lead vocalist, the Lady Rose Blues Band, and others to be announced. We're supporting this show primarily to grow our membership and further the Blues in that neck of the woods. Admission is \$8 members and \$10 nonmembers. Admission includes a free buffet and \$2 drink specials. DCBS members get 10% off on menu food. Folks who join DCBS at the show will get their first member discount by paying the member rate for the show AND they also get a free DCBS T-shirt. Courtesy of DBJJ, new DCBS members also get a Delta Dollars coupon good for a free appetizer, dessert, or some admissions that can be used on the next visit to DBJJ. More details will be forthcoming via the website and email. Mark your calendars now!

Surf Club Lives Again! – Kenny Neal Show

The Surf Club Live, 4711 Kenilworth Ave., Hyattsville, MD 20781, goes live once again on Thursday, August 26. After more than a year of only recorded music and deejays, Surf Club Live will host a **DC Blues Festival Fundraiser and CD release show featuring The Kenny Neal Band, from 8:00pm to 12:00am on August 26. The Bad Influence Band will open the show**, and Kenny Neal hits the stage around 9pm.

New Orleans born Neal is known as a modern swamp-blues master and multi-instrumentalist, who draws musically from the sizzling sounds of his native Louisiana. Neal plays harmonica, guitar, bass, trumpet, and piano.

Some of Kenny Neal's many awards and nominations include



Photo by Mary Knieser

the 2005 W.C. Handy Blues Awards "Acoustic Blues Album" and Grammy nominations in 1999 and 2009. Neal's new CD, *Let Life Flow*, has garnered much acclaim and several awards. The song "Let Life Flow" won Neal the 2009 Blues Music Award for song of the year; and the CD and Neal Family Band won the 2009 West Coast Blues Hall of Fame Awards for Blues CD of the Year and Blues Band of the Year.

"The Chicago Tribune pegged Kenny as 'one of a mere handful of truly inventive young contemporary guitarists, Neal has something fresh to say and the chops with which to say it,' while AllMusic said his 'gruff-before-their-time vocals retain their swamp sensibility, while assuming a bright contemporary feel that tabs him as a leading contender for future blues stardom.'"

Don't miss this show! Come back! Re-visit the memory-soaked Surf Club for a rare and entertaining show. Advance tickets: \$12 members; \$15 non-members. At Door: \$15/\$18. Visit www.dcblues.org or call 301-322-4808.

Don't Forget the Battle of the Bands deadline and the September Festival and After Party

Looking ahead, please remember the following key dates:

- September 10 is the new deadline for bands to apply to compete in the October 9 DCBS Battle of the Bands. See p 10 for more information and save the date!
- September 4 is the 22nd Annual DC Blues Festival at Carter Barron Amphitheatre. Stay tuned for the September *Capital Blues Messenger*, which will include the full program for this free event. See my interview on p 4 with one of the artists who will be performing at the Festival - Cheryl Renee. Note that Cheryl will also be performing at the After-Party that follows the Festival.

Blues always,

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

Vendors/Sponsors: Thank You for Extending Special Offers to DCBS Members

Corporate Sponsors and Volunteers are Needed For The Sept. 4 22nd Annual DC Blues Festival

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

There are six levels of Festival sponsorship available, see the details at www.dcblues.org/memb/mbr_bene.php#festsponsor. Act now, and see your company logo in the September 4 Festival program or on a side rail at the Festival.

Volunteers are needed pre-Festival, on Festival Day (front gate, back stage, stage front, hospitality, etc.) and for the After Party. Since volunteer names must be provided to the National Park Service well in advance of the Festival, sign up TODAY!!

Email: fest-volunteer@dcblues.org

22nd Annual DC Blues Festival Caps Off the Summer on Saturday, September 4

Each year, Labor Day weekend means the DC Blues Festival is here, and Blues fans flock to the Carter Barron Amphitheatre to enjoy a full day of Blues music. The lineup this year brings major Blues talent from Texas, Ohio, Louisiana, Missouri, and of course, Washington, D.C.

Bryan Lee & The Blues Power Band - Bryan is a southern Louisiana bluesman who has been playing the Blues for more than five decades. "He is one of the most recognizable bluesmen to call New Orleans home." His Summer 2010 tour began with his performance in Chicago at Buddy Guy's new club. He has been lauded as one of the finest Blues guitarists performing today by none other than Eric Clapton and encouraged in his youth by the legendary Muddy Waters. www.braillebluesdaddy.com

Diunna Greenleaf & The Blue Mercy Band - Duinna is a native Texan (Houston) and like so many other great Texas Blues men and women, she has developed her own style of Blues — combining "intricate patches of jazz, gospel, and heartfelt soul to create a kind of Blues that takes one on an emotional roller coaster ride." www.diunna.com

Cheryl Renee with Them Bones - Cheryl hails from Cincinnati, where she was born and now resides. However, she's toured all over the country and overseas and was also previously part of the New England Blues scene. Cheryl with Them Bones Band was the 3rd place winner at the 2010 International Blues Challenge in Memphis. See interview below with this dynamic Blueswoman. www.cherylrenee.com, www.thembones.band.com

Doug MacLeod - Doug is a singer-songwriter, traveling artist, acoustic guitar wizard, and avid St. Louis Cardinals fan. MacLeod subscribes to the rule of thumb "Never play a note you don't believe" and "Never write or sing about what you don't know about." He has had 13 studio albums, several live records, and two DVDs, and is a regular feature writer for Blues Revue Magazine. www.doug-macleod.com

Big Boy Little Band - Bret Littlehales leads the Big Boy Little Band (BBLB), the band that won the 2009 DCBS Battle of the Bands and went on to finish as a finalist in the 2010 International Blues Challenge (IBC) in Memphis. Band member Matt Kelley won the Albert King Guitar Award as the IBC's top guitarist. This Washington, D.C. based band performs and jams regularly at the Zoo Bar in Washington, D.C. and at other DC-area venues. www.myspace.com/bigboylittleband and www.wolfsmusicweekly.com

The September issue of the CBM will provide more information on each of the performers, as well as information on the workshops that will be offered during the Festival. Also, see p 12 of the current CBM issue for the Festival flyer and pictures of the five performing acts.

Set aside Saturday, September 4, 12:30 to 7:30 pm to attend the 22nd Annual DC Blues Festival to see and hear these great performers. And remember to keep your evening free for the Festival After-Party at the Silver Spring American Legion, featuring Cheryl Renee with Them Bones. Get your tickets for the After-Party now at www.dtblues.org or call 301-322-4808.



Photo by David Munn

Cheryl Renée, Goddess of the Blues: In Her Own Words

Interview by Felix McClairn

Charles Sawyer, author of "The Arrival of B.B. King" writes, "Cheryl Renée is a meteorite, no doubt about it. She burns with a fiery intensity, she glows red hot, and she devastates all in her path." ... Here's what She says...

"I started playing piano in the fourth grade when I took lessons in school. I was 18 years old when I began to perform professionally. The first band I went on the road with was an all black show band with horns, so we played a lot of Earth Wind & Fire, Chaka Kahn, and the funk of the day. I started singing with them...they said I HAD to, 'cause I'm a girl. We did two U.S.O. tours, one in Germany, and the other in the east (Japan, Philippines, Korea, Guam, etc.). The show bands after that were mostly white, multi-instrumentalists. One group even had six dancin' girls with harnesses and feathers like in Vegas..."

I have a lot of the Show Pony still goin' on, even though I'm playing Blues now ~ I learned about Blues in New England (of all places) ... I did not like it at first, but then was convinced by actually listening to it that, like they said, the Blues and I were *made* for each other.

I have shared billings with Shamekia Copeland, Larry Garner, Jimmy Rogers, Susan Tedeschi, and played with Joe Tex and Saffire, The Uppity Blues Women, among others."

Cheryl is a fulltime musician performing solo, duo ~ up to her own, 'Cheryl Renée's Blues Band' ...

DCBS is very pleased to have Cheryl performing with Them Bones at the DC Blues Festival on September 4, at the Carter Barron Amphitheatre, and at the After-Party at the Silver Spring American Legion. Cheryl wants to remind you that they will be selling the CD, *Cheryl Renée Live with Them Bones* at the Festival ... "We recorded that one at Pickle's Blues Extravaganza when we opened up for Larry Garner back in '08 ~ most folk like it." Also, a Cheryl Renée bTB, (before Them Bones) release, *I Believe You Know the Blues*, will be available.... "most folk like that, too."



© Blues Blast Magazine

What's Next? Check out her schedule at www.cherylrenee.com ...and don't forget the band's website: www.thembonesband.com.

Photo courtesy of Blues Blast Magazine



Presents Blues Master
Kenny Neal

*Winner 2009 Blues
Music Award for
Best Song
"Let Life Flow"*

**Thursday, August 26
8 pm— Midnight**

Surf Club Live!

4711 Kenilworth Ave.
Hyattsville, MD 20781
301-927-6310

Advance tickets:

\$12 members/\$15 non-members
Door: \$15/\$18
On-line at www.dcblues.org
or call 301-322-4808

****Special Appearance****

Bad Influence

DC's Premier Blues Band
www.badinfluenceband.com



SMOKIN' HOT FISH FRY

There was great music and food at the 6th Annual Fish Fry 'n' Blues 'n' Bike Contest at the American Legion Hall in Silver Spring on July 17, as blues fans gathered for a summer repast. The music included a mix of new groups and old favorites that had the dance floor full.

The music was dynamite with new faces like Richmond's Bush League along with DC-area Blues vets Lady Rose and Not In Service delivering strong sets. Bands like Liz Springer and Built for Comfort, and Gina DeSimone and the Moaners intrigued the crowd while the Moonshine Society made some new fans.



Blues Society members and friends (like our lovely volunteers, Dianne, Arned, and Celina, in photo at left) donated their time and talents, either tossing fish into a deep fat fryer—no small feat considering it was over 90 degrees with massive humidity—or keeping the table well-stocked with terrific side dishes for hungry listeners and dancers. The beverages kept flowing too.

The music included about a half dozen bands providing half hour-or-so sets, much like the monthly jams the Blues Society's Sam'i Nuriddin manages at the Legion Hall.

The Southside Blues Breakers started the show followed by The Bush League (photo at right), a group with a left-handed guitarist, always a good sign. The Bush League, a Richmond-based group, joyfully told the audience they had just won the opportunity to represent the Sedalia Blues Society (formerly the James River Blues Society of Sedalia) at the 2011 International Blues Challenge in Memphis. The band strutted their "stuff" and entertained the crowd with several self-penned songs, including "Rock the Fish" specially written for the Fry.



Moonshine Society (photo at right), featuring vocalist Black Betty, was up next. The band boasted a barefoot bassist and drummer from Boston's Berklee College of Music while songs leaned on the horny woman and two-timing man theme. Moonshine Society proved to be a high-energy group that won over the crowd with a well-performed set.



Lady Rose (photo at left) and her band continued the party and provided a strong set, with Lady Rose grabbing the crowd's attention as she belted out the songs.

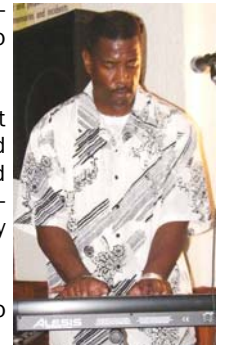


Liz Springer and Built for Comfort (photo at left) followed and took advantage of its two lead guitars line up to emphasize stinging solos.



Next to play was Gina DeSimone and the Moaners, a three girl and one guy (drummer) group, an unusual line-up for the Fest. Gina sings lead and plays guitar while the Moaners feature horn player/vocalist Justine Miller (lower photo at left) who also plays with Afrofunk group Chopteeth. Gina and the Moaners offered a combination of rockabilly, blues, and New Orleans jazz funeral, an interesting mix that gave Fest listeners a nice alternative to the classic blues that dominated the evening.

The group started a little rough and DeSimone noted they hadn't played with the drummer before. But the band got tighter as the brief set continued with dancers soon bopping to the eclectic sound.



The Not In Service band featuring keyboardist Anthony Emerson (photo at right) provided a solid set of traditional blues. The band may be named after the many Metro busses that sport 'not in service' as they pass you by, but this group definitely gives good service to fans.

Closing the show was Steve Remy and Voodoo Alley, a trio that provided a strong set to close the night. Aficionados will recall that guitarist Remy (photo at right) paid his dues as a member of the former Acme Blues Company.



The only downside for this Fish Fry was the lack of entrants in the People's Choice Best Bike contest, as voters had only three motorcycles to choose from. (Although at one point, ten motorcycles had been parked outside the Legion!). Frank Perkins (photo below) took the honors and the \$200 prize for best bike with his black Thunder Mountain Harley, a great looking machine.

Article by Burney Simpson
Photos by Mary Knieser



CD Review

Big Daddy Stallings' *Blues Party*

By Ron Weinstock

"I'm Charles' Big Daddy' Stallings and I approve these blues," the gentleman from Baltimore proclaims on the introductory track of his third CD, *Blues Party* (Tai Jeria Record Company). Stallings, who became prominent in the Baltimore-Washington scene about five years ago, brings a down-home blues style with a band that mixes traditionally-oriented Chicago blues with classic sixties and seventies rhythm and blues. There are a variety of folk handling the backing on the CD, including Gail Parrish or Ronald Bland on bass, Russell Hayward II or Bill Pratt on drums, Joe "E Flat" Thomas on saxophone, Clarence Ward III on trumpet, and Steve Levine on harmonica. Mark Wenner of the Nighthawks adds the down-home harp for the "Intro," and "Down on the Farm." There is plenty of music here, with 16 original songs bookended by Stallings' intro and thank you tracks

The title track is a nice good times track, followed by the somewhat salacious "'Horny Bee," with a Jimmy Reed groove and some biting lead guitar from Leroy Flowers, Jr., while Stallings grittily delivers the vocals. Riffing horns embellish the simple groove of "Fine Lady," that displays Stallings' simple lyrics and rustic vocals, with him taking a stinging solo. "Down on the Farm," a lazy, rustic piece of blues storytelling is perhaps the most memorable track here, as he recalls growing up on the farm and the hard life down there. Mark Wenner contributes the harmonica for this song. "Swing 2010" is an instrumental (perfect for dancing) with Washington keyboard legend Jackie Hairston on organ, a hot trumpet solo from Ward, and a sax solo by Carlos Johnson.

"She's Gone" is a lament about Big Daddy's baby having gone and left him all alone because he did her wrong, while "Knocked Up" has him wondering about why there is so much teenage pregnancy. "In Love With Yourself" is a nice soul ballad about one's marriage ending and it being no fun to be in love by yourself. After a brief spoken introduction, organist Hairston and saxophonist Johnson are featured on the jazzy "The Lucy Number," while Clarence Ward's trumpet blasts off "James," a funk tribute to the Godfather of Soul, with tough horns and a strong groove, followed by a couple nods to disco-life. "I Wanna Dance" is followed by his salute to "Latin Girls," another number with a dance groove and a percussion breakdown, with Big Daddy closing as he asks us to put some "Blues in Your Funk," with nice harmonica (I presume Steve Levine since it is not credited in the booklet) as well as brassy horns.

WANNA PARTY??

"BIG DADDY" STALLINGS Returns with His Long Awaited CD!!

BLUES PARTY

"Big Daddy" Stallings is one of the most original blues musicians I've heard in years!!!

-GUSTAVO R;
BUENOS AIRES,
ARGENTINA

CD
Available at
[edbaby.com/
stallingsc3](http://edbaby.com/stallingsc3)

Good Time Blues
With A Twist
TAI
JERIA
MUSIC

bigdaddystallings.com

On "Old Folks," a slow blues with nice guitar, Stallings sings, "Keep those bloomers on Granny, Grandpa ain't giving up no love tonight." While it has some catchy lines like most of the record, the lyrics sometimes come off as simply strung together by some common theme. In a sense, it's perhaps best to enjoy the music and songs and not analyze the words too much. Big Daddy brings plenty of heart to his music and the band is tight behind him. There are nearly 80 minutes of music on the CD. If one just gets into the spirit, then one will have a *Blues Party*.

This CD is available from CDBaby or on iTunes. Big Daddy Stallings' website is www.bigdaddystallings.com.

Miscellaneous Blues News

On the National Scene:

- Alligator Records July 30, 2010 press release highlighted that Tommy Castro and Charlie Musselwhite won 2010 Living Blues READERS' POLL AWARDS. Castro won the 2010 *Living Blues* Readers' Poll Award for Best Blues Album of 2009 for his Alligator Records release, *Hard Believer*. Musselwhite, whose new Alligator CD *The Well* will be released on August 24, won the award for Most Outstanding Musician (Harmonica).
- Are you a Holmes Brothers fan? The Holmes Brothers (Wendell Holmes, Sherman Holmes and Popsy Dixon) will perform an intimate, semi-acoustic NPR Tiny Desk Concert on Monday, August 2, 2010. The concert is available at the NPR website, and can be viewed anytime on and after August 2 at <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=92071316>.
- The star of the TV show "House," Hugh Laurie, just announced via a press release that he has signed with Warner Music Entertainment to release a New Orleans blues album. He will be spending the rest of the summer and fall recording the album. "House" fans may have seen the cantankerous doctor (the role Laurie plays) showing off his piano and guitar skills in various episodes. Now Laurie is planning to test those skills and says "I am drunk with excitement about this opportunity."

On the Local Scene:

- Big Boy Little Band, winner of the 2009 DCBS Battle of the Bands and one of the scheduled performers at the upcoming September 4 DC Blues Festival, celebrates the release of their CD, *Live from the XM Satellite*. See the August 7 listing on the Blues Calendar on p 9.
- Big Daddy Stallings (CD Review above, and winner of the 2007 DCBS Battle of the Bands) regularly lists his gigs in the CBM Blues Calendar. See p 9 for August local performances.



Grady Champion Captivates Audience at Festival Fundraiser

Grady Champion's performance at the July 31 DCBS Festival Fundraiser confirmed his status as a rising star and a Bluesman to follow. The audience saw what the International Blues Challenge judges had seen when they named him as the IBC 2010 winner. Grady is a showman with a singing and spoken voice (love that Mississippi down-home twang) that suits his songs and warms the audience. He wears a wide belt at his waist to hold his many harmonicas and bends the notes and gets the range like the best. As the IBC winner, Grady earned a spot on many upcoming Festival lineups, but it's the smaller venues like the Silver Spring American Legion that let him play the crowd and get up and personal with the audience. Grady is not one to stay on the stage. Throughout the night, as he sang and played the harp, he came out into the audience, visited each table repeatedly, danced with the ladies, and even gave harmonica lessons on his breaks and then got his "students" up on stage to play (bottom left photo). Grady sang a number of familiar favorites, including "Down Home Blues," "Hootchie Cootchie Man," "All Night Long," etc. , and his selection of music kept the dance floor full and the audience singing along.

At the Legion, Grady's band included his son, Marquis Champion on bass, Xavres Good on drums, and guest guitar player King Edward (Edward Antoine). Grady acknowledged King Edward's own stature as a Bluesman (he's played with legends such as Muddy Waters, Howlin' Wolf, Buddy Guy, James Cotton, and even opened for B.B. King), and turned the stage over to King Edward for several songs, including "The Thrill is Gone." DCBS's own Dr. S.O. Feelgood handled the sound for the band and served as DJ during the band's breaks. Grady playfully stepped aside at one point, and had Dr. Feelgood take the mike for his always entertaining rendition of "Big Legged Woman."

If you get the opportunity to see Grady perform in person, don't miss it! He'll be back in the area in mid-August for the Heritage Music Blues Fest in Wheeling, WV (Saturday, August 14). Visit his website, www.gradychampion.com, for more information. *Photos by Pat Bransford*



RIP Phillip Walker - February 11, 1937 - July 22, 2010



Photo courtesy of Delta Groove Music

Celebrated Blues guitarist and vocalist Phillip Walker died of apparent heart failure on July 22, 2010, at the age of 73. Born near Lake Charles, Louisiana, Walker's earliest musical influences were the Cajun and Creole rhythms he heard in his youth. He began making a name for himself in the early 1950s. At the age of 16, Walker toured with Zydeco king Clifton Chenier, and his musical career evolved from there. His first full length album, *The Bottom of the Top*, was released in 1973 for Hugh Hefner's short-lived Playboy label. Over the next three decades, Walker's musical career included numerous recording projects for HighTone, Black Top, Rounder, JSP and Alligator Records. In 2007, he signed with Delta Groove Music and released the critically acclaimed CD *Going Back Home*, with recordings that explored the rich musical history of Louisiana, Texas and West Coast Blues on classic material by Lowell Fulson, Ray Charles, Lonesome Sundown, Lightnin' Hopkins, Champion Jack Dupree and Frankie Lee Sims among others. *Going Back Home* was awarded Best Album of 2007 in the New Recordings / Contemporary Blues category by the Living Blues Awards Critics' Poll. *Delta Groove Music*

Songwriters Listen Up! 2010 International Songwriting Competition Accepting Entries

The International Songwriting Competition (ISC) is now accepting entries for its 2010 competition. The entry deadline is October 6, 2010. This competition is open to both amateur and professional songwriters, and it includes all genres of popular music. Past winners have included hobbyist songwriters through Grammy winners. This year, to better level the playing field for unsigned artists, ISC has added the "Unsigned Only" category which is open to songwriters and artists *not* signed to a major label record deal, publishing company, or distribution deal -- allowing unknown artists to compete against others on a similar level.

The ISC has put together what they describe as "the most high-profile and prestigious judging panel in its nine-year history." Peter Gabriel, Tom Waits, Steve Winwood, Kings of Leon, Rihanna, James Cotton, Ben Harper, Train, Timbaland, McCoy Tyner, Kelly Clarkson, and many more celebrities will team up with music industry executives to select the 2010 ISC winners. The promoters for the ISC say winning the ISC can be a great career booster. Some winners have been signed to major labels, others have secured publishing deals, smaller label deals, licensing deals, and distribution deals, in addition to getting more gigs, fans, and recognition. For more information and to enter, go to www.songwritingcompetition.com. The ISC gives away more than \$150,000 in cash and prizes (shared among the 66 winners), including an overall Grand Prize consisting of \$25,000 (US) cash and \$20,000 in prizes.



August		Early September	
1	DCBS Jam @ Silver Spring American Legion; Big Daddy Stallings @ Baker Park; Drew Holland, Oz @ JV's	4	22 nd Annual DC Blues Festival @ Carter Barron Amphitheatre; DC Blues Festival After-Party @ Silver Spring American Legion
2	Remembering Country @ Westminster Presbyterian Church; Tall Richard @ JV's	5	Alonzo Memorial Picnic @ Rosedale American Legion
3	Brook Yoder @ JV's	7	Janine Wilson @ Wilson Plaza
4	Bad Influence @ Kentlands Main Street Music Festival	Regular Blues Events	
5	Scott Ramminger & Crawstickers @ JV's	Sunday	DCBS Jam @ Silver Spring American Legion (1st Sunday); DCBS Jam w/Lady Rose @ Delta Blues (2nd Sunday); 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 Rouzerdome, PA
6	BG & Mojo Hands @ Glen Echo; Lex Grey & Urban Pioneers @ Madam's Organ; Doug Parks & Lone Wolves @ The Clubhouse; Bob and Jerry Band @ JV's; Bad Influence @ Second Chance Saloon		Monday
7	Big Boy Little Band CD Release Party @ Zoo Bar; Lex Grey & Urban Pioneers @ Madam's Organ; Big Joe & Dynafloes @ Reston Town Center; Big Daddy Stallings @ Lurman Woodland Theater; Janine Wilson @ Fenton Street Market; Bad Influence @ Dogfish Gaithersburg; Southside Georgetown Blues Breakers, Jedd Du-vall and the Tenn @ JV's	Tuesday	Old Man Brown @ Madam's Organ (alternating Tuesdays)
		Wednesday	Wolf's Blues Jam @ Beach Cove; Blues Jam @ Old Bowie Town Grille
8	Kickoff DCBS Jam (2 nd Sunday) @ Delta Blues; Rick Franklin @ Eastern Market; Shaun Murphy & Bad Influence @ JV's	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
9	Johnny Lang @ Birchmere	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)
10	Jacques "Saxman" Johnson & Deanna Bogart @ Blues Alley; Dave Chappell @ JV's		
12	Rick Franklin @ Riverdale Park Farmers Market; Funksway @ JV's	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)
13	Joy Bodycomb Band @ Potomac Grill; Rick Franklin @ USDA Farmers Market; Lisa Lim @ Delta Blues; Heritage Music Blues Fest @ Wheeling, WV	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	
14	Lady Sing the Blues Bash-Stacy Brooks, Moonshine Society, Cathy Harvey @ Old Bowie Town Grille; Hot Rods & Old Gas @ Cryer's; Tab Benoit & Anders Osborne @ State Theatre; Five by Five, Duffy Kane and Freedom Train @ JV's; Heritage Music Blues Fest @ Wheeling, WV	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. 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 .	
15	Heritage Music Blues Fest @ Wheeling, WV	<p>Attention bands Send your Sept. & Oct. gigs to calendar@dcblues.org by August 15</p>	
19	Shack Shakers @ JV's		
20	Big Daddy Stallings @ 219; Georgetown Giants @ JV's		
21	DCBS Blues Revue Show – DCBS Band, Lady Rose @ Delta Blues; Hot August Blues @ Oregon Ridge; Rick Franklin & Delta Blues Boys @ Cassatt's; Big Daddy Stallings @ 219; Doug Parks & Lone Wolves @ Mahalo Cove; Dru Lore @ JV's; Hot Rods & Old Gas @ Bare Bones		
22	Terry Lee Ryan, Brook Yoder @ JV's		
24	Lisa Lim @ JV's		
26	DCBS Festival Fundraiser - Kenny Neal and Bad Influence @ Surf Club Live; Dave Chappell @ JV's		
27	Rick Franklin & Delta Blues Boys @ Royal Lake Park; BG & Mojo Hands @ Branded 72; Wicked Jezabel @ JV's		
28	Doug Parks & Lone Wolves @ Mackey's Pub; SouthBay @ JV's		
29	Rick Franklin @ Columbia Pike Farmers Market; Johnny and the Rebels, Hard Swimming Fish @ JV's		
30	Shack Shakers @ JV's		



August Means Get Ready for Back To School
DCBS Blues In The Schools (BITS) Program Needs Volunteers

The mission of the Blues In The Schools program is to perpetuate blues music education and performance in every education outlet in the DC Metropolitan area.

Does this sound ambitious? It is! However, other Blues Societies are doing it and there is much to be learned from their experiences.

Bands & Solo/Duo Acts Sign Up Now for DCBS Annual Battle of the Bands



Entry Deadline - September 10
The "Battle" - Saturday, October 9

The annual DCBS Battle of the Band will be held on Saturday, October 9.

The winning band will:

- represent the DC Blues Society at the 27th Annual International Blues Challenge (IBC), February 1 - 5, 2011, in Memphis, TN.
perform at the 2nd Annual College Park Blues Festival on November 6, 2010, and
perform at the 23rd Annual DC Blues Festival in September 2011.

The deadline for entering the 2010 Battle of the Bands is September 10. Competition information, rules, and the entry form are posted on the DCBS website: www.dcblues.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.

DCBS Member Discount for Lady Sings the Blues Bash at Old Bowie Town Grille

See ad below. Although advance tickets (\$10) and table reservations are recommended (purchase at www.moonshinesociety.com, or call venue), DCBS members can buy discounted tickets at the door for \$7.

Wanted - Contributors for DCBS Newsletter & Website

DCBS Members: The Capital Blues Messenger (CBM) is your newsletter. Please let us know what kind of information you'd like to see included in the newsletter, and send us your photos from Blues events; and CD, festival, and performance reviews for possible inclusion in the newsletter and/or the website.

Send to: newsletter@dcblues.org

DCBS Websters are needed as well, to update the DCBS website and/or DCBS MySpace/FACEBOOK and/or administer Paypal pages.

Advertisement for Lady Sings The Blues Bash at Old Bowie Town Grille. Includes date (Sat Aug 14th), time (8:30pm), location (8604 Chestnut Ave, Bowie, MD), ticket price (\$10 show), and featured acts (The Stacy Brooks Band, Wammie nominated artist Moonshine Society, Carly Harvey).



TW PERRY is the Mid-Atlantic's leading independently owned, full-scale building materials supplier offering the finest breadth and depth of building products.



It's award winning facility creates finely crafted doors and a wide selection of customized products. Specializing in serving remodelers, home builders, and deck builders, TW PERRY has six stores in the DC area.



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>	

Click, Search & Support DCBS with GoodSearch.com



Before your next search, go to www.dcblues.org and click on the GoodSearch link and designate DC Blues Society as your favorite cause. DCBS earns a penny each time you search the Web using www.GoodSearch.com. It's easy -- just click, search and support. Shopping for that one-of-a-kind gift? Try www.GoodShop.com with over 600 on-line stores. A percentage of each purchase will be donated to DCBS and its mission to preserve and promote the Blues. Grab your mouse, click the link and shop guilt free.

Visit the DCBS Booth at These August and September Events

- August 21 - Blues Revue Show**
Delta Blues Juke Joint, Waldorf, MD
- August 21 - Hot August Blues Festival**
Cockeysville, MD
- August 26 - Kenny Neal Festival Fundraiser/CD Release Party, w/ Bad Influence**
Surf Club Live, Hyattsville, MD
- September 4 - 22nd Annual DC Blues Festival**
Carter Barron Amphitheatre, DC
AND
Festival After Party
Silver Spring American Legion
- September 11 - Greenbelt Blues Festival**
Greenbelt, MD

(To volunteer to staff a DCBS booth, write to: volunteer@dcblues.org)



Hot August Blues Festival - See Ad Above
Saturday, August 21
Oregon Ridge Park, Cockeysville, MD
For more info, visit hotaugust.blues.com or call
877-321-FEST

FREE DC BLUES SOCIETY FREE
22ND ANNUAL DC BLUES FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, SEPT. 4, 2010
12:30 - 7:30 PM

- Bryan Lee & The Blues Power Band
- Diunna Greenleaf & The Blue Mercy Band
- Cheryl Renee w/Them Bones Blues Band
- Doug MacLeod
- Big Boy Little Band
- Workshops
- Children's events
- and more

Carter Barron Amphitheatre
 16th St & Colorado Ave. NW
 Washington, DC

This FREE annual festival is made possible by the DC Blues Society and its members, grants from the National Park Service and DC Commission on the Arts & Humanities. Media sponsor: WFPW 89.3 FM Photo: Glenn Thompson



Festival After-Party
 featuring
 Cheryl Renee with
 Them Bones Blues Band
 Silver Spring American Legion
 905 Sligo Ave.
 Silver Spring, MD 20910
 (entrance on Fenton /free parking)
 Tickets available on-line



Festival Information: www.dcblues.org



Doug MacLeod -
True American
Troubadour

Cheryl Renee with Them Bones -
Rockin' Cincinnati Blues



Bryan Lee -
Braille Blues Daddy



Big Boy Little Band -
DC's Legendary Blues
Band



Diunna Greenleaf and
Blue Mercy Band -
Crazy But Live In Houston



DC BLUES SOCIETY
 Celebrating the Blues in DC, MD & VA
www.dcblues.org
 P.O. Box 77315
 Washington, DC 20013-7315

Your membership renewal date is shown on address label. Renew today and stay in the Blues!

FIRST CLASS MAIL