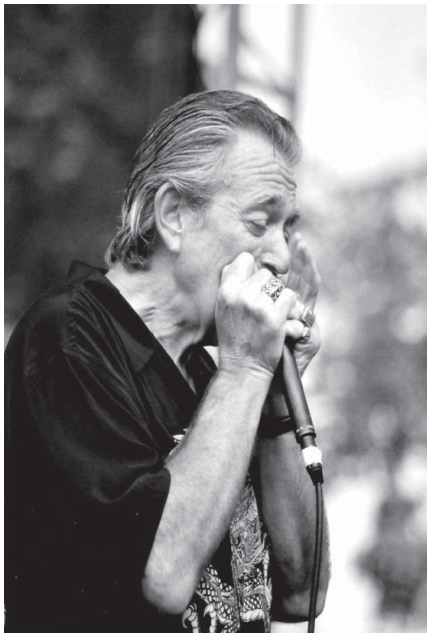


# D.C. Blues Calendar

November 2003

© 2003 D.C. Blues Society  
D.C. Blues Society Jam -  
Sunday November 2  
4:00 PM @ Taliano's  
[www.dcblues.org](http://www.dcblues.org)



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# THE DC BLUES SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 77315

WASHINGTON DC 20013-7315

<http://www.dcblues.org>

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**Contributors:** Dan Broderick, Teresa Hemp, Chris Kirsch

**The D.C. Blues Society** is a non-profit section 501(c)(3) organization. Annual membership: Individual \$15, Family \$25, Canada \$25 (US), other countries \$40 (US). Members receive the D.C. Blues Calendar, discounts at Society events and some clubs, and other benefits. Contributions (not dues) to the D.C. Blues Society are tax-deductible. **To join, send a check & address to the P.O. box above.**

The **DC Blues Calendar** is published usually monthly and includes information on Society events, blues listings and other items of blues interest. Listings should be sent to **Steve Levine, 5022 Quebec St., College Park, MD 20740** or to the mail address ([cypressgrove@hotmail.com](mailto:cypressgrove@hotmail.com)). Recent issues of the DC Blues Calendar are downloadable as PDF files from the Society's website, [www.dcblues.org](http://www.dcblues.org).

**Ad rates:** Business card \$20; 1/8 page \$25; 1/6 page \$30; 1/4 page \$40; 1/3 page \$55; 1/2 page \$70; 2/3 page \$100; full page \$125. Discount for consecutive placement of ads. Column width is 3.65 inches for a 2-column page, or 2.4 inches for a 3-column page. Height for 1/2 page is 4.85 inches. To place ad, contact Ron Weinstock, 2862 Dover Lane, #202, Falls Church, VA 22042 or [rbluesw@yahoo.com](mailto:rbluesw@yahoo.com).

**There will be a combined December 2003-January 2004 issue. There will be no separate January issue. The deadline for the December-January DC Blues Calendar is November 17. Deadline for Feb. 2004 issue is January 17.**

Photos on page 1

Clockwise from top right, George Higgs (TH); Sharrie Williams(TH); Eddie Burns; Lou Pride; Otis Taylor; Buddy Guy; Charlie Musselwhite (TH) & Eddie Shaw (DH).

Eddie Shaw from DC Blues Festival. Other pictures 2003 Pocono Blues Festival. Pictures marked TH © Theresa Hemp; Picture marked DB © Dan Broderick. Other pictures © Ron Weinstock.

## Blues Jam Returns

Seems everyone was happy to be back at Talianos for the restart of our jams. We all must do our part to be respectful of our host business and keep the volume at a less than ear shattering level. We had our list of "the Usual Suspects" perform Sunday. We also had some outstanding new and/or seldom seen players, such as: Dave from the RailRiders, Tom "Excitable Boy" Gregory (with no shoes), Ray Werwie on drums and Carl Gold on Harp. Pop-In appearance from Melanie Mason, the winner of the DC Blues Society's Battle of the Bands held at the Festival in August. There was also a special guest appearance by Clarence "the Blues Man" Turner. Next Jam at Talianos will be November 2, be there.

Sam'i

Reminder that the Jam is the first Sunday of each month at Taliano's through May. It starts at 4:00PM and is Free A conflict prevented my attendance at the October jam and no one sent any photographs documenting the jam, so that is why there are none in this issue. I intend to be at the November jam, cameras in hand.

Ron



James Lande & NJ Warren at August Archie Edwards Foundation Fundraiser. Photo © Ron Weinstock

## Phil Wiggins Benefit

The Institute for Musical Traditions benefit for Phil Wiggins occurred after this issue was sent to press. For those unable to attend, you can still help Phil & Judy. As many know, Phil and Judy's home in Tacoma Park, was damaged, by a natural event, to the point that it has been "totaled." Both of them are ok ... they were insured ... but the insurance company said that they were not insured for the type of damage which they incurred. So now Phil and Judy face the mess of a destroyed home with an ongoing mortgage and they need help.

What can you do:

1. "The Hands" Benefit for the Home of Phil Wiggins, <http://www.cafeshops.com/philwiggins> Get yourself a new favorite t-shirt in this year of the blues ... with the profits going to Phil and Judy's aid.

2: If you would like to assist them directly, a donation can be sent to: Phil Wiggins, PO Box 5383, Takoma Park, MD, 20913 Thanks to Harmonica Buzz. Lansing, Michigan for putting the cafeshops store together.

## Blues in Passing

Blues master **John Brim** died the morning of October 1. Tom Radai who represented John stated that in March of this year John became ill and disoriented while getting ready to perform at a St. Louis nightclub. At that point, Tom's agency canceled upcoming engagements and put all negotiations on hold to get assessments of his condition. For a brief period John Brim looked like he might rally but unfortunately that was short lived.

**Continued on page 7**

## November Blues Listings

**1** Ruby Hayes @ Bangkok Blues  
 Mary Lou & the Untouchables @ La Palapa  
 Big Boy Little @ Zoo Bar  
 Ray Kaminsky & Jack Fretwell @ Somerset Retirement Ctr (3:00-4:00 PM)

**2** DCBS Jam @ Taliano's

**3** Kelly Bell Band @ Club Amazon

**4** Joe Chiocca Band @ JVs

**5** Mary Ann Redmond @ Nagkok Blues

**6** Hillbilly Jazz with Jimmy Stephanson

**7** Johnny Winter @ State Theatre  
**Catfish Hodge** @ JVs  
 Meters @ Bangkok Blues  
 Big Money @ Bentz St. Raw Bar  
 Brian Gross @ finewine.com  
 Reggie Wayne Morris @ Zoo Bar  
 Mary Lou & The Untouchables @ Fishhead Cantina

**8** Shemekia Copeland @ Birchmere  
 Park House Jam @ Starland Cafe  
 Takoma Crossing @ Summit Station  
 Joe Dicey @ Zoo Bar  
 Westcott Brothers @ Bentz St. Raw Bar  
 Melanie Mason @ Quiet Waters Park Art Fest.  
 Mike Tash & Melanie Mason Band @ JVs  
 Mary Lou & The Untouchables @ Barnes Corner

**10** Jamie Lynch Band @ JV's

**11** Tom Vaughn & Roadhouse Five @ Clarendon Ballroom

**14** Flatfoot Sam @ Bangkok Blues  
 Blue Book Value @ Ice House Cafe  
 Automatic Slim @ Poplar Inn  
 Kelly Bell Band @ Whitlow's  
 Sookey Jump @ Zoo Bar  
 Jamie Lynch Band @ Lasick's  
 Mary Lou & the Untouchables @ Golden Sports Bar

**15** Jesse Yawn & His Blues Men @ Bangkok Blues  
 Big Money @ Bulls Eye Tavern  
**Nick Curran & the Nite Lifes, The Poisonaires & 52 Pick Up** @ Bop'n'Bowl  
 David Cole & Main St. Blues @ B&B Café  
 Johnny & the Headhunters @ Zoo Bar  
 Rude Dog's Rhythm Revue @ Cat's Eye  
 Jamie Lynch Band @ Cowboy Cafe North  
 Channel Cats @ Judge's Bench

**17** Kelly Bell Band @ Club Amazon

**18** The Folk Club presents Paul Geremia @ Tortilla Factory  
 Nancy Katz and the Stray Dogs @ JVs

**19** Reggie Wayne Morris @ Frostburg State College

**21** Big Money @ Towne Tavern  
 Ruby Hayes @ B&B Cafe  
 Lix Briones @ Zoo Bar  
 Jamie Lynch Band @ Bangkok Blues  
 Reggie Wayne Morris @ The Brass Rail

**22** Julia Nixon @ Birchmere  
 Lost Highway Band @ JVs  
 Flatfoot Sam @ Zoo Bar  
 Robert Lighthouse @ Bangkok Blues  
 Automatic Slim @ Bootlegger's  
 Hot Tuna @ Ram's Head  
 Bad Influence @ Ice House Cafe  
 Big Money @ Barnes Corner

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Melanie Mason Band @ Summit Station  
 Reggie Wayne Morris @ the Road House

**24** Jamie Lynch Band @ JVs

**25** Hot Tuna @ Birchmere

**26** Carpenter's Shelter 15th Anniversary benefit w. Jimmy Cole's All Stars, Blues Museum, Cindy Atkins @ Bangkok Blues

**27** Jamie Lynch Band @ JV's  
 Kelly Bell Band @ Recher Theatre

**28** Tom Vaughn & Roadhouse Five @ Washington Hilton Dulles Hotel  
 Mike Baker & Blue Smoke @ Zoo Bar  
 Jackson Street Band @ Bangkok Blues  
 Mary Lou & The Untouchables @ Starlight Saloon

**29** BBS presents Nappy Brown, Bob Margolin, Blues Talent Competition @ Rosedale American Legion  
 Nighthawks w/Hubert Sumlin @ State Theatre  
 Chai & Bangkok Blues @ Bangkok Blues  
 Automatic Slim @ Allegro  
 David Cole & Main St. Blues @ B&B Café  
 Kelly Bell Band @ Champions

### Weekly Events

**Sun** Detroit Slim @ Full Moon  
 Kenny Haddaway (open mic) @ Whitlow's  
 Steve Kraemer @ Cat's Eye  
 Dave Elliott @ JV's  
 Jim Bennett & Lady Mary w. Unique Creation Band @ Lamont's  
 Jam @ Lasick's (except 1st Sunday)  
 Jimmy Cole @ Fat Tuesday's (Fairfax)  
 Acoustic Jam @ King of France Tavern  
 Automatic Slim Jam @ Wahoo's  
 Pro Blues Jam @ Sully's

**Mon** Blues Jam @ Taliano's  
 Jamie Lynch Band @ JVs  
 Blues Museum Duo @ Potbelly's  
 Blues jam @ Chick Hall's Surf Club

**Tue** Jam @ Full Moon

DC Blues Calendar November, 2003 p.3

Billy Otis BandJam @ Bangkok Blues  
 Ben Andrews @Madam's Organ  
 Resonators @ Grog & Tankard

**Wed** Various @ Full Moon  
 Diane Postell @ Tom's Sports Tavern  
 Jam @ Coconuts

Jam @ 94th Aero Squadron  
 Big Dog Band @ Cat's Eye  
 Persuaders @ Main Street Blues  
 Steve Smith Band @ Round Table

**Thu** Jam @ Backstreets Cafe  
 Jam w/ Flatfoot Sam @ Zoo Bar  
 Jam @ Full Moon  
 Billy F. Otis Jam at Basin Street  
 Dean's Blues Jam @ South River Café

**Fri** Blue Flames @ Bertha's,  
 Hardway Connection @ Tradewinds

**Sat** Jam @ Archie's Barbershop  
 Various @ Full Moon  
 Clarence Turner @ Ledbetter's

## D.C. BLUES SOCIETY MEMBER DISCOUNTS

The Music Loft offers a 10% discount on repairs, lessons, rentals and sales. 2507 N. Franklin Road, Arlington VA (703) 522-5500, Wed-Sat 12 to 6 PM. They also have selected recordings by local acts such as Franklin & Harpe & The Top Dogs

Industrial Sound Studios is offering a 15% discount to DC Blues Society members. You must have a card to get this great deal. If you call soon and set up time to record, your first set of ADAT tapes is free. For more information, contact Industrial Sound Studios, P.O. Box 1162, Riverdale, MD 20738. Phone: 301-209-0565. E-mail: industrialstudio@hotmail.com.

**Next issue is December 2003-January 2004. Deadline is November 17.**

Listings should be sent to Steve Levine, 5022 Quebec St., College Park, MD 20740. E-mail to: cypressgrove@hotmail.com

## D.C. BLUES CALENDAR

### AD RATES:

Business card \$20; 1/8 page \$25;  
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## Places to Hear Blues

Bookings get cancelled so check with the venue as the show gets closer.  
219 Basin Street Lounge, 219 King St., Alexandria, VA (703) 549-1141  
94th Aero Squadron, 5240 Paint Branch Pkwy., College Pk, MD  
Afterwords Cafe, 1517 Connecticut Ave NW, D.C. (202) 387-1462  
Allegro, 13476 New Hampshire Ave, Silver Spring  
Armadillos, 132 Dock St., Annapolis, MD (410) 268-6680  
Backstreets Cafe, 12352 Wilkins Ave., Rockville, MD  
B&B Cafe, 14601 Main Street, Upper Marlboro, MD 301-952-9001  
Ball's Bluff, 2 Loudon Street, SW, #2D, Leesburg, VA (703) 777-7577  
Bangkok Blues, 926 W. Broad St., Falls Church, VA (703) 534-0095  
Barefoot Pelican, 156 Enterprise St., Sterling, VA (703) 444-2208  
Basin Street, 45965 Regal Plaza, Sterling, VA (703) 404-3300  
Bay Cafe, 2809 Boston St, Baltimore, MD  
Bayou Blues, 8133A Honeygo Blvd., White Marsh, MD (410) 931-BLUE  
Bean Counter, 9113 1/2 Belair Road, Perry Hall (410) 529-4200  
Bentz Street Raw Bar, 6 S. Bentz St., Frederick, MD (301) 694-9134  
Bertha's, 723 S. Broadway, Baltimore, MD (410) 327-0426  
Berwyn Cafe, 5010 Berwyn Rd., College Park, MD (301) 345-9898  
Birchmere, 3901 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria, VA (703) 549-5919  
Blues Alley, 1073 Rear Wisconsin Ave. NW, DC (202) 337-4141  
Bop'n'Bowl @ Falls Church Duckpin Lanes, 400 South Maple Street, Falls Church.  
Brady's, 7189 Center St, Manassas, VA (703) 369-1469  
Calvert House, 6111 Baltimore Ave., Riverdale, MD (301) 864-5220  
Cat's Eye, 1730 Thames St., Fells Point, Baltimore, MD (410) 276-9866  
Chevy Chase Ballroom, 5207 Wisconsin Ave. NW, DC (202) 363-8344  
Chick Hall's Surf Club, 4711 Kenilworth Ave, Hyattsville (301) 927-6310  
Chuck & Billy's Lounge, 2718 Georgia Ave., NW, DC (202) 232-0924  
Clarendon Grill, 1101 N. Highland St., Arlington, VA (703) 524-7455  
Club Amazon, Laurel MD  
Coconuts, 1629 Crain Hwy., Crofton, MD (301) 261-3366  
Copper Bit, 573 Frost Dr., Warrenton, VA (703) 347-5757  
Cowboy Cafe South, 2421 Columbia Pike, Arlington, VA (703) 486-3467  
Dead Eye Saloon, Hanover Street, Baltimore, MD (410) 539-7784  
Diamond Grill, 800 W Diamond Avenue, Gaithersburg, MD (301) 963-4847  
Eastport Clipper, 400 6th St., Annapolis, MD (410) 280-6400  
Ebb Tide, 985 Bay Ridge Road, Annapolis, MD (410) 269-1500  
Famous Dave's, 917 Quince Orchard Rd, Gaithersburg, MD  
Fat Eddie's, 6220 S. Richmond Hwy., Alexandria, (703) 660-9444  
Fat Tuesday's, 10673 Braddock Rd, Fairfax (703) 385-5717  
Firestone's, 105 N Market Street, Frederick MD (301) 663-0330  
Fish Bowl, 4802 Benson Ave., Baltimore, MD (410) 247-2474  
Fletcher's, 701 S. Bond St., Baltimore, MD (410) 588-1889  
Funk Box (old 8X10) Baltimore MD  
Full Moon, 1710 Aliceanna St, Baltimore, MD (410) 558-2873  
Gee's, 3415 52nd Ave., Cheverly, MD (301) 927-2582  
Glen Echo Park, MacArthur Blvd & Goldboro Rd, Glen Echo, MD  
Grand Marquis, 18320 Village Mart Dr, Olney, MD (301) 260-0500  
Grog and Tankard, 2408 Wisconsin Ave, Washington, (202) 333-3114  
HR-57, 1610 14th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20009 (202) 667-3700  
Half Moon BBQ, 8235 Georgia Ave, Silver Spring MD (301) 585-1290  
Holiday House, 6427 Harford Rd., Baltimore, MD (410) 426-6794  
Hull Street Blues, 1222 Hull St, Baltimore, MD (410) 727-7476  
Hunter's, 10123 River Rd, Potomac, MD (301) 299-9300  
Ice House Cafe, 760 Elden St., Herndon, VA (703) 471-4256  
Iota, 2832 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA (703) 522-8340  
IMT, Unitarian-Universalist Church of Silver Spring, 10309 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, MD (301) 588-7525  
J.J.'s Grill, 2005 Viers Mill Road, Rockville, MD (301) 309-6388  
Jammin' Java, 231 Maple Ave, Vienna, VA (703) 255-1566  
Junction Station, 1705 Edmonson Ave., Catonsville, MD (410) 747-6437  
JV's, 6666 Arlington Blvd, Annandale VA (703) 241-9504  
King of France Tavern, 15 Church Street, Annapolis, MD (410) 216-6340  
Lamont's, 4400 Livingston Rd, Pomonkey, MD (301) 283-0225  
Lasick's, 9128 Baltimore Blvd., College Park, MD (301) 441-2040  
Luna Park Grille, 5866 Washington Blvd., Alexandria, VA (703) 237-5862  
Madam's Organ, 2641 18th St., NW, DC (202) 667-5370  
Magic Cue, 13032 Middlebrook Rd., Germantown, MD (301) 916-7665

## Board Members Wanted

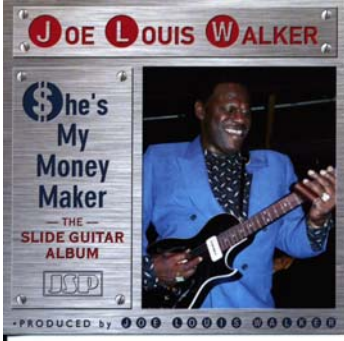
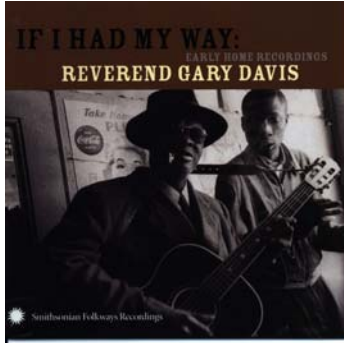
**The Society is looking for members to serve on its Board of Directors for 2004. A background in the music field is definitely not a requirement, only an interest in it and a desire to help the Society. Please send a short (less than one page) letter of interest describing your background and ability to help the Society, either muscially or as a non-profit organization to Nick Dale, 10610 Lexington Street, Kensington, MD 20895, Nickdale2@aol.com. (301) 929-6399.**

Main Street USA, 7131 Little River Turnpike, Annandale, VA (703) 750-0777  
Mexicali Blues, 2933 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA (703) 812-9352  
Michael's Pub, Kings Contrivance Center, Columbia, MD (410) 290-7878  
New Haven Lounge, 1552 Havenwood Rd., Northwood Shopping Center, Baltimore, MD (410) 366-7416  
New Vegas Lounge, 1415 P St., NW, Washington, DC (202) 483-3971  
Occaquan Inn, 301 Mill St., Occaquan, VA (703) 491-1888  
Oliver's Pub, 1565 Potomac Ave., Hagerstown, MD (301) 790-0011  
Oliver's Saloon, 531 Main St., Laurel, MD (301) 490-9200  
Outta the Way Cafe, 17503 Redland Rd., Derwood, MD (301) 963-6895  
Paloma's, 15 W. Eager St., Baltimore, MD  
Parker's, 1809 Eastern Ave., Baltimore, MD (410) 563-2988  
Pelican Pete's, 12941 Wisteria Dr., Germantown, MD (301) 428-1990  
Ram's Head Tavern, 33 West St., Annapolis, MD (410) 268-4545  
Recher Theatre, 512 York Rd., Towson, MD (410) 337-7210  
Rendevous Inn, 362 Front St., Perryville, MD (410) 642-0045  
Roots Cafe, 27th & Paul Streets, Baltimore, MD (410) 880-3883  
Rosedale American Legion, 1311 Seling Ave., Rosedale, MD  
Round Table, 4859 Wisconsin Ave., NW, DC (202) 362-1250  
Santa Fe Grill, 216 William St., Fredericksburg, VA (540) 371-0500  
Shark Club, 14114 Lee Hwy., Centreville, VA (703) 266-1888  
Spanish Ballroom, Glen Echo, MD  
Spanky's Shennanigan's, Leesburg, VA (703) 777-2454  
St. Elmo's Coffee, 2300 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria, VA (703) 739-9268  
Starland Cafe, 5125 MacArthur Blvd, NW (202) 244-9396  
State Theatre, 220 N. Washington St., Falls Church, VA (703) 237-0300  
Sully's, 14513 Lee Jackson Hwy, Chantilly, VA (703) 818-9292  
Summit Station, 227 E. Diamond Ave., Gaithersburg, MD (301) 519-9400  
Sunset Grille, 7250 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA (703) 658-0982  
South River Cafe, Annapolis, MD  
Sweet Caroline's, 29 W Cork St, Winchester VA (540) 723-8805  
Taliano's, 7001 Carroll Ave., Takoma Park, MD (301) 270-5515  
Truffles, 1001 Olney-Sandy Spring Road, Sandy Spring, MD (240) 774-7309  
TT Reynolds, Fairfax, VA (703) 591-9282  
Twins, 1344 U St, NW DC (202) 234-0072  
Wahoo's Sports Bar, 9820 Liberty Road, Randallstown, MD (410) 655-8668  
Waterman's Crab House Rock Hall, MD (410) 810-2631  
Whitey's 2761 Washington Blvd., Arlington, VA (703) 525-9825  
Whitlow's on Wilson, 2854 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA (703) 276-9693  
Wild Azalea, 1648 Crystal Square Arcade, Arlington, VA (703) 413-2250  
Wolf Trap, Vienna, VA (703) 255-1900  
Woodstock Inn, Woodstock, MD (410) 465-9855  
Zanzibar, 700 Water St, SE (202) 554-9100  
Zig's, 4531 Duke Street, Alexandria VA 703- 823-2777  
Zoo Bar, 3000 Connecticut Ave., NW, DC (202) 232-4225  
If you know of clubs that do have blues on a regular basis (at least once a month) that we do not list, please send an update to Steve Levine at [cypressgrove@hotmail.com](mailto:cypressgrove@hotmail.com)

## Reverend Gary Davis

Smithsonian/Folkways has issued a cd of previously unissued recordings by the legendary Reverend Gary Davis, **If I Had My Way: Early Home Recordings**. These informal recordings date from 1953 and predate most of the available Davis' recordings. Davis was among the greatest of all fingerstyle guitarists and influenced countless musicians including Stefan Grossman, Jorma Kaukoken, Roy Bookbinder and Larry Johnson. While he played blues when younger, he largely abandoned blues in the 1930s when he first recorded. He was a gospel street performer, not a gospel blues performer, a label that makes no sense, although he did perform some instrumentals of rags and marches. Included here are performances of several of his most celebrated songs including the title track (popularized by Peter Paul and Mary as *Samson and Delilah*), *Twelve Gates to the City*, *You Got to Move* and *I Belong to the Band*. His wife, Annie Davis, joins on several songs including *If the Lord Be With you (I Think I've Won a Victory)* and *There's Destruction in This Land*. McKinley (Kinny) Peebles, who played with Davis on the street and recorded as Sweet Papa Stovepipe, is accompanied by Davis on *He Never Has Left Me Alone*, while Davis joins in on *Got On My Traveling Shoes*. *Marine Band* and *Civil War Parade* display his remarkable facility on the guitar and his clean, precise delivery of the music. Recorded on a portable tape recorder, sound is quite acceptable and John Cohen has contributed a lengthy annotation that places Davis and his music in its context. This is an essential purchase for fans of the great Reverend Davis and will appeal to fans of the Piedmont fingerstyle guitar tradition.

## NOTES HOT & BLUE by Ron Weinstock



## Joe Louis Walker

Joe Louis Walker has just issued his fourth album in about a year, **She's My Money Maker, The Slide Guitar Album** (JSP). As the title states, the focus here is on slide guitar which Walker has played throughout the years, however never focusing on it as he does on this recording. Nine of the ten tracks are originals, with the exception of *Born in Chicago*, which Walker performs as a tribute to his friend, the late Mike Bloomfield. Walker has developed a distinctive style on the slide and combines this with his strong vocals to produce a typically satisfying album ranging from a take on a high performance car that opens this set *Slow Down GTO*; a medium tempo topical song, *Poor Man Blues* about it being a mean old world for living under the poor man who have to live under bridges and subsist on food stamps; the rocking *Borrowed Time*, that has a lyric similar in theme to Memphis' Slim's *Mother Earth*; the exuberant *Slide Her Up and Down*; the down-in-the-alley, 2:00 AM and where's my baby groove of *No Easy Kind of Loving*. The instrumental *Hooker's Blues* suggests Earl Hooker's *Blue Guitar* and the number is a tribute to Earl and his cousin, John Lee Hooker. Walker puts

down the slide and takes up the harmonica on *Eight Years of Lovin'*, with a lightly rocking piano accompaniment that closes this disc. Nobody in the blues has produced so many recordings, and which explore such a range of blues moods at such a high level over the past 15 years as Joe Louis Walker. **She's My Money Maker** is another addition to this distinguished musical legacy.

## Big Joe Williams

Delmark has a new release by the late Big Joe Williams, **I Got Wild**. Williams, whose recording career spanned the thirties to the eighties, was a great Delta bluesmen who played and traveled with many legends, and contributed one of the blues most enduring classics, *Baby Please Don't Go*.

The selections on this latest release include alternate takes to previously issued songs, unissued tracks and some studio talk. From the opening *Coffeehouse Blues* to the closing remake of Washboard's *Sam Back Door* (familiar to some from Little Walter's recording, *Tell Me Mama*), these recordings have Williams fierce, rhythmic nine-string guitar playing and his fervent vocals. Its amusing listening to the studio chat before his rendition of Charlie Patton's *Peavine Blues*, where a couple of strings are broken so the engineer announces, Big Joe Williams and his six and half string blues. On many of these selections he is ably assisted by bassist Ransom Knowling. Bob Koester's recollections of Williams in the liner notes are also very informative. Big Joe was probably the single biggest influence on David "Honeyboy" Edwards and in all



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November 15 & 29



## Continued from page 5

fairness to Edwards who is highly revered, his music only occasionally reaches the level of Williams. Big Joe Williams belongs in every blues collection, and if perhaps I would first recommend **Piney Wood Blues** on Delmark, this music here is excellent and is recommended on its own.

### Dr. John

The night before I got married, my friend Mike O'Donohue and I went to New York's **Other End** to see Dr. John in a solo performance. He even did a medley of *Junco Partner* with *Jailbird* at my request. Now the good Doctor has a live release, **All By Hissself** (Hyena), that captures the spirit of the show I saw. This is the first of a series of live recordings of Dr. John taken from some 600 hours of recordings of live performances that Dr. John has kept. This disc itself captures an 1986 engagement at New York's now-defunct **Lone Star Cafe**. The medley of *Jailbird* with *Junco Partner* is included here, although the number *Jailbird* that Smiley Lewis previously recorded is not acknowledged in the credits. There is a pretty good representation of classic New Orleans numbers including *Swanee River Boogie* (taken from Fats Domino's recording); Archibald's take on a classic blues outlaw theme, *Stagger Lee*; Chris Kenner's *Sick and Tired*; and the Mardi Gras number, *Iko Iko*. Also included are several of Dr. John's compositions including *Average Kind of Guy* (co-written with Doc Pomus); *Such a Night*; *Qualified* and *Something You Got* (Co-authored with Chris Kenner). The album closes with a medley of predominantly Huey 'Piano' Smith numbers. Dr. John was in terrific form that night and this splendid live recording kicks off this series on a very high note. This also includes a bonus DVD of Dr. John singing and talking about New Orleans music.

### Matthew Robinson

Texas remains home for a number of blues artists, many of whom still play in neighborhood bars, although occasionally do a bit of touring, especially in Europe. The Austin based Dialtone label has issued several albums by lesser known artists that document some fine blues. One is Austin-based guitarist-singer Matthew Robinson whose album **And the Texas Blues Band** combines a nice mix of material to show off Robinson's soulful singing and searing guitar. The album opens with Robinson's take of Marvin Sease's *I'm Mr. Jody*. This is followed by a guest vocalist, his sister Glenda Sue Hargis, who does her take on *Eee Tee* (I believe Denise LaSalle first recorded) and which features a really hot guitar break. Robinson follows with a rendition of Sonny Boy Williamson's *Don't Start Me Talking*, with his solo electric guitar accompaniment based on the riff from Howlin' Wolf's *Killing Floor*. Robinson also does a rendition of Wolf's *I Asked For Water*, backed by only by the guitars of himself and probably Johnny Moeller. Hargis also has another vocal on her original *Bumblebee*, a nice slow blues forcefully sung with more stinging guitar in the backing. With the trumpets of Duck Jennings and Ephraim Owens and tenor saxophonist J.W. Davis riffing behind him, Robinson launches into the shuffle, *It Takes a Long Time to Break in a Brand New Broom*. There are a couple of unusual covers of songs usually

## MORE NOTES HOT & BLUE



associated with women singers by Robinson. He sings *I Got What It Takes* that Willie Dixon wrote for Koko Taylor and the Cheatham's *Meet Me With Your Black Drawers On*. I am not sure who previously recorded *Too Many Dirty Dishes*, with Robinson finding "too many dirty dishes" in the sink "just for us too," which has him asking his wife "who is making dirty dishes with you." Its a nicely delivered blues in the tradition of such songs as *Open House At My House*. The album closes on a spirited *Party All Night*, that sounds like a reworking of Little Milton's *The Blues Is All Right*. Robinson puts a lot of heart in his vocals and plays equally fervently. There are rough edges in his voice, the guitar solos and the horn arrangements, but the performances feel and sound so right and true. Not an essential release but for those who want to hear some modern urban Texas blues, this is well worth checking out. Incidentally, while Robinson grew up playing in R&B groups, when he started getting serious on guitar, he was influenced by the band Storm that at the time included Jimmie Vaughan.

### Little Joe Washington

Houston guitarist, Marion 'Little Joe' Washington, has had a noteworthy career that included playing drums when he was 15 in a band led by Albert Collins. Later he became known as Little Joe because he imitated the late Joe Hughes. He toured with Rosco Gordon, than worked the territory between Texas and Nevada including spending time in El Paso and playing the infamous Lobby Bar in Juarez, Mexico. He made several singles in the mid-sixties though in the past couple decades he often was living on the streets. Often he owned nothing more than a pawn ticket for his guitar but as Roger Wood writes in the liner notes, Washington never stopped playing and has had a personal renaissance in the past few years. Dialtone has just issued, **Houston Guitar Blues**. The music here is, to quote Mr. Wood, "piercing fretwork on gutbucket guitar" and "weathered, wailing voice," producing a distinctive sound in recordings that have "bursts of stream-of-consciousness expressionism." Several songs hark back to recordings he made under Johnny Otis' direction for the Federal label including *Somebody Loves Me*, *I Feel Alright*, and *Bossa Nova Part 2*. Listening to his phrasing and guitar tone, one hears echoes of Johnny 'Guitar' Watson, Albert Collins and others in how he hammers his twisting guitar lines from the opening bars of the opening *Hard Way 6* to the closing *Bye Bye*. Vocally he can't really capture the ballad feel on his remake of *Somebody Loves Me*, and his vocals are often a bit more fragmentary elsewhere as on *I Feel Alright*, a lengthy slow blues where her scats along with his solo and then his guitar echoes his vocal and then turning in blistering single note runs for the turn around. He takes things down in the alley on *Last Tear*, but is also capable of playing in a jazzy vein as on *Bossa Nova 2* and the fine rendition of Horace Silver's *Song For My Father*. Both tracks benefit from the very adept rhythm section that accompany Washington on this disc. While his solos occasionally amble a bit and his weathered horse vocals and lyrics aren't fully developed, Washington's heart and soul are quite evident listening to this album that this writer did find compelling listening at times.

**Continued from page 2**

John Brim and his wife Grace were part of the blues scene in Gary, Indiana that included Jimmy Reed, prior to Reed becoming a major blues star. Brim recorded for several labels including J.O.B. and Chess, and is known for such songs as the topical 'Tough Times, Be Careful and Ice Cream Man. Fans of D.C. area bluesman Robert Lighthouse will be familiar with the last song from Robert's performances. In recent years Brim had an album on Tone-Cool and more recently did a studio album and a live album, that showed him still to be a vital performer of classic postwar Chicago blues.

**Rev. Willie Lee Morganfield**, a preacher and gospel singer who had several gold records, passed away October 18, 2003 at the age of 76. One of 14 children, he was the cousin of Muddy Waters and was also born on Stovall's Plantation. He was a member of various gospel groups including the New Orleans Chosen Five, the Soproco Singers, the Kings of Harmony (based in Baltimore and New York), and the Cleveland, Ohio based, the Delta Friendly Four which included two of his brothers. Later moving back south he sang with Early Wright's Four Star Quartet and the Clarksdale-based Glorybound Singers. He recorded gospel hits *What Is This*, *Serving The Lord* and *Lord, Thank You, Sir*, but was known even more for his sermons, several of which are available on cd. "I don't want to be known as a singer that can preach," he was quoted in **Woke Me Up This Morning: Black Gospel Singers and The Gospel Life** by Alan Young (University of Mississippi Press). "I want to be known as a preacher that can sing. 'Cause preaching is first. It takes priority." (Much of the information here is taken from *The Rev. Willie Lee Morganfield (Muddy's Cousin)*, "Link



Jackie Merritt, Miles Spicer & Reesa Gibbs at August Archie Edwards Foundation Fundraiser. Photo © Ron Weinstock

*between gospel and blues," dies* by Rebecca Hood-Adams from the October 20 **Clarksdale (MS) Press Register**.

Scott Dirks posted on the Blues-L internet mailing list that "Chicago blues bass man **Willie Black** died a couple of days ago. Willie was on the scene in Chicago from the mid '50s or so onward, and played with almost everyone at one time or another, but never did much recording. But he was a great, rock-solid player, and could do everything from traditional." Artists that Black recorded with include Lurrie Bell, Little Willie Anderson, Lacey Gibson, Brewer Phillips, Aaron Moore and Sunnyland Slim.

**Paul Geremia concert**

Paul Geremia will be in concert for The Folk Club of Reston-Herndon, November 18, 2003 at the Tortilla Factory, 648 Elden Street, Herndon, VA. Advance tickets can be picked up at The Folk Club any Tuesday between 7:30-10pm, or by mail by enclosing a check payable to The Folk Club of Reston-Herndon and self-addressed envelope to: Dave Hurd, 110 Devil's Backbone Overlook, Stephenson, VA 22656.

**D.C. Blues Society  
Membership  
Application/Order Form**

The DC Blues Society is a nonprofit section 501(c)(3) all volunteer organization!

Members receive a copy of the newsletter; The D.C. Blues Calendar, as well as discounts on society events & merchandise, some clubs, and other benefits.

The most important benefit is you help keep our ad rates up, the grant applications more appealing to the grantors and potential sponsors interest and support.

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Please allow up to six weeks for processing Questions? Check out [www.dcblues.org](http://www.dcblues.org)

or call the Society Hotline: (202) 828-3028

Would you be interested in volunteering? \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, what would you like to do (if you know)?

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## DIVAS OF DC

Divas of DC, a benefit concert for three charities takes place, Wednesday, November 5 from 7:30 - 10:30PM at the State Theatre. The Divas of DC is a benefit show featuring the DC area's finest female vocalists representing several musical genres - including jazz, pop, and R&B. Three charities will benefit: Bread for the City, House of Ruth, and the Center for Child Protection. For more information please email [divasofdc@aol.com](mailto:divasofdc@aol.com) and check out on the web at: Divas of DC [www.divasofdc.com](http://www.divasofdc.com). Featured performers are: Debbie Kirkland ([www.debbiekirkland.com](http://www.debbiekirkland.com)); Annie Sidley ([www.anniesidley.com](http://www.anniesidley.com)); Michelle Walker ([www.michellewalker.net](http://www.michellewalker.net)); Danielle Westphal ([www.daniellewestphal.com](http://www.daniellewestphal.com)); and Carol Gaylor ([www.lambertandgaylor.com](http://www.lambertandgaylor.com)). It will be hosted by Jeannie Jones of WKYS and Donnie McKethan of WPFW. Ovation TV will be airing our concert sometime in 2004 - be a part of our audience and be seen by over 25 million viewers!. Tickets are \$25.00 and can purchased directly from Annie Sidley or through Ticket Master by visiting their website at: [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) or by phone at 800-527-6384 or stop by the State Theatre Box Office. Donations also accepted. For information where to send donations email us at [divasofdc@aol.com](mailto:divasofdc@aol.com). Dress for this show is Black Tie optional.

### Nov 15 will be a hot nite for the Blues in Falls Church

Saturday November 15, Falls Church, VA will host two terrific blues events about 5 minutes from each other. Jesse Yawn and His Blues



Nap Brundage at August Archie Edwards Foudnation benefit. Photo © Ron Weinstock

Men will be returning to Northern Virginia for the first time in too long at Bangkok Blues. Jesse, arguably the best blues singer in the Baltimore-Washington metro area brings a great band with the marvelous Harold Flood on guitar. Also that night is the Bop'N'Bowl which with feature Blind Pig Recording Artists, Nick Curran & the Nite Lites, Baltimore's The Poisonaire's and 52 Pickup. Steve Hoffman will be special dj that night. Bop'n'Bowl is at the Falls Church Duckpin Lanes, 400 South Maple Street, Falls Church. Call 703-847-5984 or check [www.52-pickup.com](http://www.52-pickup.com) for info!

### New DC Blues Calender Look Is Evolving

As can be seen with this issue and last month, we are changing the look of the front page of the D.C. Blues Calendar, and am curious to your reaction or suggestions for further improvements.

### Board Members Wanted

The Society is looking for members to serve on its Board of Directors for 2004.

A background in the music field is definitely not a requirement, only an interest in it and a desire to help the Society. Please send a short (less than one page) letter of interest describing your background and ability to help the Society, either muscially or as a non-profit organization to Nick Dale, 10610 Lexington Street, Kensington, MD 20895, [Nickdale2@aol.com](mailto:Nickdale2@aol.com). (301) 929-6399.

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## DC Blues Society

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