



## DC Blues Festival 2004

Pinetop Perkins, The Nighthawks, Jesse Yawn and more -  
September 4th at the Carter Barron - 1 PM to 9 PM

After Party & Fundraiser at Chick's Surf Club starts at 9:30PM  
[www.dcblues.org](http://www.dcblues.org) — Hotline - (202) 962-0112

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DC  
BLUES  
CALENDAR  
SEPTEMBER  
2004



Pinetop Perkins (top) headlines this year's DC Blues Festival which also features performances by Jesse Yawn and Linwood Taylor among others. Pinetop Perkins photo © Bob Sekinger, others © Ron Weinstock

# THE DC BLUES SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 77315  
WASHINGTON DC 20013-7315  
202-962-0112

<http://www.dcblues.org>

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**Contributors:** Bruce Muir, Theresa Hemp, Sam'i Nuriddin

**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 usually published monthly (except during the summer and the end of the year. It includes information on Society events, blues listings and other items of interest. Recent issues are downloadable as PDF files from the Society's website, [www.dcblues.org](http://www.dcblues.org). This issue is © 2004 DC Blues Society.

**MEMBERSHIP CHANGES** -Please note, changes in your name and address and/or membership status should be forwarded to [webhelper@dcblues.org](mailto:webhelper@dcblues.org) or [president@dcblues.org](mailto:president@dcblues.org) or mailed to the postal box.

**The October 2004 issue deadline is September 17.**

Listings should be sent to **Steve Levine, 5910 Bryn Mawr Rd, College Park, MD 20740** or to Steve's e-mail address is ([cypressgrove@hotmail.com](mailto:cypressgrove@hotmail.com)).

Articles, news items and other material for publication should be sent to **Ron Weinstock, 2862 Dover Lane, #202, Falls Church, VA 22042**. Ron's email address is [rbluesw@yahoo.com](mailto:rbluesw@yahoo.com).

**Ad rates:** Business card \$20; 1/8 page \$25; 1/6 page \$30; 1/4 page \$40; 1/3 page \$55; 1/2 page \$75; 2/3 page \$110; full page \$140. 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**. Ron's email address is [rbluesw@yahoo.com](mailto:rbluesw@yahoo.com). Send payment for the ads to the D.C. Blues Society postal box.

## DC Blues Jam News

As predicted, the August Jam was hot. Clarence "the Blues Man" Turner co-hosted with Big Foot on drums. I can't how much we appreciate everyone who constantly support the Jam by performing or listen and enjoying. Some outstanding players or newbies are as follows: Sax Man Elmer Padgett, Drummers for days John Gordon, Kevin Moore, Chip Clemmer. Bassist Steve Syphax and Dave Atherton. Harps Dave Harris and Waverly on vocals, James Frinks, Hong Kongs greatest Henry Chung. Killer Guitarist Clarence Turner and Walter Robinson. Thaddeus and Ron Worthy on Keyboards. We aren't going to have a Jam in September because of our Annual Festival. We will though, have an after Festival "kick-up your heels" at the Surf Club, immediately following the Festival. 4711 Kenilworth Ave Bladensburg, Maryland.

Sam'i



Clarence 'The Bluesman' Turner was among those who were at the last D.C. Blues Society Jam.. Here he is scene at last year's festival where he participated in the Battle of the Blues. He will open this year's D.C. Blues Festival on September 4 at the

### Directions to Carter Barron Amphitheatre

By Car:

\* From the Beltway (I-495), take Georgia Avenue (south). Stay in the right lane.

\* Turn right on 16th Street, N.W. Stay on 16th street for a few miles.

\* Turn right on Colorado Avenue.

\* Make an immediate right turn into the parking lot.

By Metro:

\* Take the Red Line to the Silver Spring station and take the S2 or S4 (Federal Triangle) Metro bus to 16th Street and

Colorado Avenue.

\* Or take the Red Line to the Takoma Park station and take the 52 (l'Enfant Plaza) Metro bus to 16th and Colorado Avenue.

# Pinetop Perkins headlines 16th DC Blues Fest Nighthawks, Jesse Yawn and more Sept 4 at the Carter Barron

The DC Blues Society hosts the free 16<sup>th</sup> Annual DC Blues Festival, Saturday, September 4<sup>th</sup> at the Carter Barron Amphitheater, 16<sup>th</sup> St. & Colorado Ave. NW Washington DC. The Festival takes place from 1:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m and features a cookin' lineup of national and local acts and other activities dedicated to the memory and legacy of local Blues icon Nap "Don't Forget the Blues" Turner. The festival will be broadcast live by WPFW-89.3 FM.

The legendary Joe Willie "Pinetop" Perkins headlines the festival. He is widely recognized as among the leading blues pianists alive and one of the last great Mississippi bluesmen. Pinetop's playing has influenced generations of piano players. He has toured with some of the world's greatest blues musicians...B.B. King, Muddy Waters, Sonny Boy Williamson, Ike Turner and Earl Hooker to name a few.

The Nighthawks will back up Pinetop and play a set of their own. Others on the line-up include Jesse Yawn and His Music Men; Linwood Taylor, The Clarence Turner Blues Band, Melanie Mason, and the Junkyard Saints. This year's Festival highlights and celebrates the variety and vibrancy of the DC Blues scene and the wealth of talent in the shadow of the capitol.

The festival will also feature a vocal workshop conducted by Barbara Jackson, a guitar workshop led by Eleanor Ellis, a harmonica workshop led by Michael Joy and a children's harp workshop led by Choo Choo Charlie Williams. After the festival, you can mix and mingle with the Festival stars at the After Party and Festival Fundraiser at the Surf Club, 4711 Kenilworth Ave Bladensburg, MD 20781, 301-927-6310. This starts at 9:30 p.m.

The DC Blues Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and perpetuation of the Blues in the Washington, DC area and support of the "DC Blues in Schools" program. The festival is presented by the DC Blues Society in conjunction with the National Park Service at the Carter Barron Amphitheater, the D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities, WPFW-89.3 FM and other sponsors.



*The Nighthawks. Clockwise from top left - Mark Wenner, Pete Ragusa, Johnny Castle, Paul Bell. Photos © Ron Weinstock*

## Pinetop Perkins

If the term "living legend" weren't a stock cliché, we might use it to describe boogie-woogie piano giant Joe Willie "Pinetop" Perkins. It's just as well, though, because even that won't fit him. Pinetop is more of a living repository of blues tradition. If you haven't been clued, let us tell you: this man was taking the place apart before World War 11. One of the last great blues pianists of his era, he's played with everyone from Big Joe Williams to Robert Nighthawk and is best known for securing Otis Spann's seat with Muddy Waters in 1969 when Spann left Waters to pursue a solo career.

Recently he turned 91, but the native of Belzoni, Mississippi has a career that dates back decades when he was part of the Delta scene where he played with the likes of Elmore James, his cousin Boyd Gilmore, the King Biscuit Boys, and others. Originally he was a guitarist but an injury led him to switch to piano where he became one of the top players in the Delta region. He took Clarence 'Pinetop' Smith's *Pinetop Boogie Woogie* and made it his signature piece leading folks to start calling him Pinetop. He was a big influence on Ike Turner as a pianist, and played with other legends. He recorded for Sun records in the early 1950's although these were not issued until decades later. His first issued recordings were as part of Earl Hooker's studio band for the Arhoolie album, **Two Bugs and a Roach**. This was recorded shortly before he joined Muddy and while with Muddy he made a number of recordings, playing a steady, strong two-handed style. Along with other members of the Waters Band he formed the Legendary Blues Band and later pursued a solo career that has led to a number of highly praised recordings including his most recent recording for M.C. Records, **Ladies Man**. He has mentored numerous musicians including D.C.'s own Daryl Davis and been nominated for Grammy awards and is a multiple W.C. Handy Award winner.

## The Nighthawks

Having celebrated their 30th Anniversary. The Nighthawks are "Still Wild," the title of an album that documented their riveting live shows. Powered by the blistering bluesharp and vocals of founding member Mark Wenner, and anchored by the rock solid drums of Pete Ragusa they have recently added new members Johnny Castle on bass and Paul Bell on guitar who bring their distinctive voices yet remain true to

### D.C. Blues Festival Schedule

- 1:00 PM Clarence 'The Bluesman' Turner
- 2:00 PM Melanie Mason
- 3:00 PM Linwood Taylor
- 4:05 PM Junkyard Saints
- 5:35 PM Jesse Yawn
- 7:05 PM The Nighthawks
- 8:05 PM Pinetop Perkins

### Workshop stage schedule

- 1:30 PM Vocal - Barbara Jackson
  - 2:30 PM Guitar - Eleanor Ellis
  - 3:30 PM Adult Harp - Mike Joy & Co.
  - 4:30 PM Kids Harp - Choo Choo Charlie Williams
  - 1:00 PM - 4:00PM Childrens Instrument Zoo Chet "Dr Feel Good" Hines
- Schedule and performers subject to last minute changes.*

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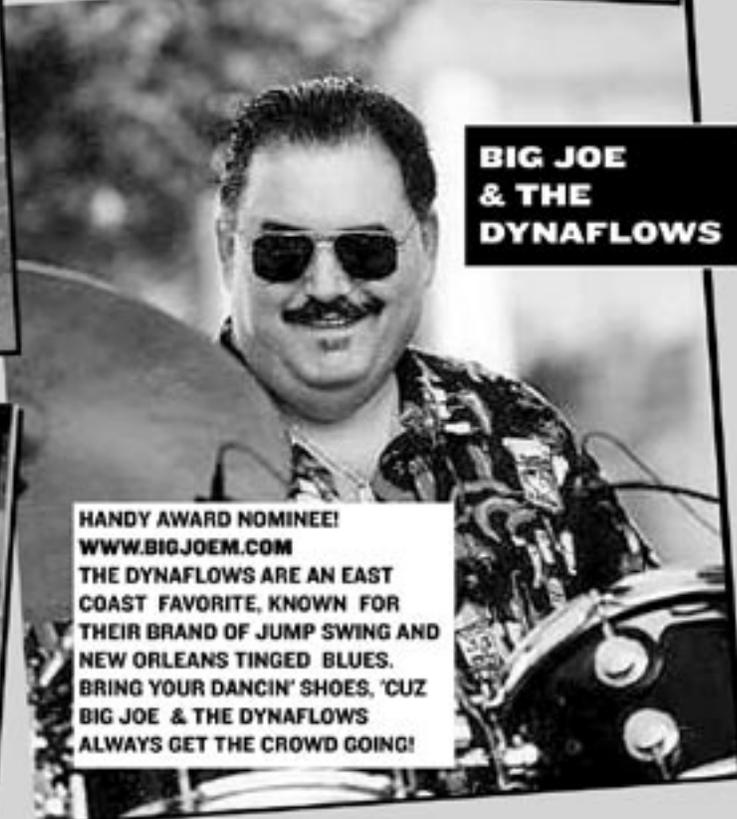
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## DC Blues Festival cont'd from page 5

the blues core of the group.

The Nighthawks history goes back to the 1970's when they were touring pioneers criss-crossing the country playing clubs and colleges, since only a handful of blues acts were touring nationally. They also acquired a reputation as a solid back-up band. The band helped attract great Chicago blues artists to Washington, and gained national respect as the backing band or support act for Muddy Waters, Otis Rush, Big Walter Horton and other legends.

They recently issued a DVD of their performances, **Live at the State Theatre**. The CD also contains a guest appearance by legendary bluesman Hubert Sumlin who was originally scheduled to headline the festival but recently suffered a heart attack from which he is recovering. The Nighthawks in addition to their own set will be backing Pinetop Perkins who appeared on a couple of the classic Nighthawk albums from the seventies that were on Adelphi Records.

### Jesse Yawn

Jesse H. Yawn has been a fixture in the Baltimore, Washington area blues scene for 25 years. Born in Florida September 4, 1937 he cut his teeth on Gospel music. Later he was recruited by National touring acts such as The Violinaires and The Trumpets of Joy. Jesse moved to Rochester, New York in the early 1950's to join the Traveling Six Spiritual group and later formed his own group, The Flower City Gospelaires. Turning to the blues scene, Jesse worked with giants such as Jack McDuff, George Benson, Grant Green and Albert King. Drafted in 1962, he served the military and earned a spot with the 77th Army Band as lead vocalist entertaining at military and civilian functions. He later recorded demos for Golden World Studios in Detroit and Chess Records in Chicago, but none were released.

In the 1960's he performed as lead singer for Bill Doggett, Bill Black Combo and the Ohio Players. Moving to Baltimore in 1971, Jesse brought with him a successful construction business and blues took a back seat until a performance of him at the club 8X10 in Baltimore made it impossible for him not to be noticed. He was back into the music scene full time in 1989. Jesse went on to front guitarist Rick Serfas' Band, The Soul Providers, and they won the D.C. Blues Society's Battle of the Blues Competition. He travelled to Memphis representing the Society at the Blues Foundation's International Blues Competition.

A live recording of Jesse was issued as part of Wayne Kahn's **The Blues You Hate to Lose Anthology** and then Horseplay Records issued the critically acclaimed **Forevermore**. More recently Jesse recorded a Live album during an Italian tour that he has available at performances. He is regarded by many, including fellow blues artists, as the best male blues vocalist in the Baltimore-DC area.

### Linwood Taylor

Linwood Lee Taylor is tuned in to Howlin' Wolf, Jimi Hendrix, and Muddy Waters, as well as Freddy King, Albert King, and Albert Collins. In fact, Taylor often played with the late Collins on the East Coast and treats fans to "Frosty," a tune he played with its creator. Not many artists can say they've recorded with H.R. of the

Bad Brains as well as performed with Albert Collins, but Taylor can. Taylor has led his own band for more than a decade. Taylor's stinging staccato electric guitar style attracts wide attention and invitations to perform at such international events as the San Remo Blues Festival, Italy, and the National Blues Competition, Memphis, as well as at numerous other Blues Festivals. His Blues guitar style blends Texas swing with a Hendrix flair that energizes audiences. When he "goes down to the basement," well, you'll just have to see it and hear it for yourself. A few years ago, he was called by Living Blues "One of the Top 40 Young Blues Artists. Fast and Flashy." A multiple WAMMIE award winner in the blues category, Linwood Taylor will demonstrate why he is one of the most sought after blues performers in the region.



Melanie Mason.

Photo © Ron Weinstock

### Junkyard Saints

The Junkyard Saints are a Baltimore-based band performing its brand of roots party music, blending New Orleans R&B, Zydeco, Latin, Ska, Swing and Mardi Gras Funk. The band has performed with such acts as Marcia Ball, Buckwheat Zydeco, The Iguanas, Wayne Tups and Big Jack Johnson and has appeared at such clubs as Twist & Shout, 8x10, Roots Cafe and Iota. The members include: Brian Simms (lead vocals, keyboards, accordion); Trevor Specht (saxophone & vocal); Sterling Patterson (guitar & vocals); Todd Butler (trumpet); Eric Simms (trombone & vocals); John A Versa (bass); and Tom Sabia (drums & percussion). They led a workshop at a festival a couple years ago and were so well received that we are delighted to present them on the main stage.

### Melanie Mason

Melanie Mason poses a triple threat to today's blues-rock scene as a lead electric guitarist, vocalist and songwriter for the Melanie Mason Band. She also performs and records traditional acoustic blues as a solo artist. For the past three years, Mason has been a top-selling blues artist at CD Baby, the second largest online distributor of independent music. In 2003, Mason's band won the D.C. Blues Society's International Blues Challenge Competition. In addition, the band opened for Grammy-winner Robert Cray. Throughout the summer of 2003, Mason appeared in Emmy award-winning regional blues guitar ads on WETA-TV to promote Martin Scorsese's "The Blues" PBS film series. (You may have seen her in her fringe leather jacket jamming on her blue Stratocaster!) Recently she released her second album, **Lonesome Is I**, an acoustic album, where she performs songs associated with Robert Johnson, Mississippi John Hurt and other blues pioneers.

### Clarence Turner

Opening the Festival will be Clarence 'The Blues Man' Turner who was one of the participants of the Battle of the Bands at last year's Festival. Clarence brings a soulful vocal touch to his solid guitar playing and has been developing a loyal local following with his club appearances.

**Please note that National Park Service Regulations prohibit cameras, audio and video recorders at the Carter Barron during the D.C. Blues Festival.**



Mike Joy (under the tent) and Charlie Williams at last year's harmonica workshop. Photo © Bruce Muir

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**Contributors:** Mike Bentzen ■ Linda Cogburn ■ Mary Connole ■ Sherry Gordon ■ Jefferson Hotel ■ Craig Meyers ■ Leanne Nurse ■ Dr. Richard Offner ■ L. Lawrence Riccio ■ Lisa Ruby ■ John Siever ■ Kelly Thornton ■ William Van Pelt

## September Blues Dates

- 1** Automatic Slim @ Cat's Eye  
**2** Funky Meters @ Funk Box  
 Reggie Wayne Morris @ Cat's Eye  
 Brinson "Doc" Reed @ JVs  
**3** Linwood Taylor @ Bangkok Blues  
 Funky Meters @ Funk Box  
 Mary Shaver Band @ Lasick's  
 Reggie Wayne Morris @ Zoo Bar  
**4 16th Annual DC Blues Festival @**  
 Carter Barron Amphitheatre  
**DC Blues Festival After Party @** Chick  
 Hall's Surf Club  
 Street Level Blues Band @ Bangkok Blues  
 Jimmi Sexton Band, Roger Gerke & Funky  
 Twisters @ Cat's Eye  
 Jeff Smith & the Band of Steves @ JVs  
**5 Alonzo Memorial Picnic @** Rosedale  
 American Legion  
 Jesse Yawn @ Cat's Eye  
**7** Goldtops @ Cat's Eye  
 Billy Hancock and the Fat Boys @ JVs  
**8** Muleman @ Cat's Eye  
**9** Blues Museum @ Afterwords  
**10** Julia Nixon & Company @ Birchmere  
 Reggie Wayne Morris @ Brass Rail  
 Catfish Hodge @ JVs  
 Automatic Slim @ Kings Contrivance  
 Shopping Center  
**11 Blues In The Burg Festival @** Market  
 Squarre, Fredericksburg  
 Mary Shaver w/Smokin' Polecats @ Zoo  
 Bar  
 Ten Most Wanted @ Bangkok Blues  
 Automatic Slim @ Judge's Bench  
**14** Mary Shaver and the Pole Cats @ JVs  
**16** Rude Dog's Rhythm Revue @ Cat's  
 Eye  
**17** Melanie Mason Band @ Summit Sta-  
 tion  
 Shambells @ Cat's Eye  
 Robert Lighthouse @ Bangkok Blues  
**18 Rod Piazza & the Mighty Flyers @**  
 Ram's Head  
 Cathy Ponton King @ Madam's Organ  
**20 Gaye Adegbalola with Roddy**  
**Barnes @** Institute of Musical Tradi-  
 tions (CD release party)  
**21** Billy Hancock and the Fat Boys  
 @ JVs  
**23** Bob Elliot & Friends @ Bangkok  
 Blues  
**24** Blues Museum @ Summit Sta-  
 tion  
 Roger Gerke & Funky Twisters @  
 Cat's Eye (CD Release Party)  
**25 Melanie Mason, Corey Harris**  
 @ WVSA Arts Connection  
 Reggie Wayne Morris @ Union Hotel



Acme Blues Co. w/ Chai @ Bangkok Blues

**26 12th Annual Bluebird Blues Festival**  
 @ PG Community College

Reggie Wayne Morris @ Holiday House

**28** Geoff Muldaur @ Institute of Musical  
 Traditions

Martha Capone Band @ JVs

**30** The Impossibles @ JVs

### Weekly Events

**Sun** Detroit Slim @ Full Moon  
 Kenny Haddaway (open mike) @ Whitlow's  
 Steve Kraemer @ Cat's Eye

Dave Elliott's Redneck Jazz @ JVs  
 Jim Bennett & Lady Mary w. Unique  
 Creation Band @ Lamont's  
 Jam @ Lasick's (except 1st Sunday)  
 Jesse Yawn @ Club Paradiso  
 Acoustic Jam @ King of France Tavern  
 Automatic Slim Jam @ Wahoo's  
 Pro Blues Jam @ Sully's

**Mon** Blues Jam @ Taliano's  
 Joe Stanley Band @ JVs  
 Blues jam @ Chick Hall's Surf Club

**Tue** Jam @ Full Moon

Blue Lou Jam @ Bangkok Blues

Ben Andrews @ Madam's Organ

Resonators @ Grog & Tankard

**Wed** Nancy Katz & the Stray Dogs @  
 Rene's Supper Club

Various @ Full Moon

Diane Postell @ Tom's Sports Tavern

Open Mike @ JVs

Jam @ Coconuts

Big Dog Band @ Cat's Eye

Steve Smith Band @ Round Table

**Thu** Jam @ Backstreets Cafe

Jam @ 94th Aero Squadron

Big Little Band Jam @ Zoo Bar

Blues Museum @ The Saloun

**Fri** Blue Flames @ Bertha's,

Hardway Connection @ Lamont's

**Sat** Jam @ Archie's Barbershop

Various @ Full Moon

Blues Jam @ Lee's Restaurant

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 1st set of ADAT tapes is free. For more info, contact Industrial Sound Studios, P.O. Box 1162, Riverdale, MD 20738. The Phone number is 301-209-0565. The E-mail address is industrialstudio@hotmail.com.

## WEB HELP NEEDED

Steve O'Brien is stepping down after a year as the Society's webmaster. We are looking for someone to take over and help keep our website up-to-date and easily accessible. Send you interest to webhelper@dcblues.org or president@dcblues.org. Thanks to Steve for his contributions and he will be around to help his replacement ease into the responsibilities and tasks.

## MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Please note that changes in your name and address and/or membership status should be forwarded to webhelper@dcblues.org or president@dcblues.org or mailed to the postal box. Please do not leave changes on the hotline. Thank you

## 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  
Austin Grill, Silver Spring MD  
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  
Bay Cafe, 2809 Boston St, Baltimore, MD  
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  
Bohemian Gardens, 2001 11th St NW DC  
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, Blaensburg (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 Europa, 7820 Norfolk Ave, Bethesda MD 301-657-1607  
Coconuts, 1629 Crain Hwy., Crofton, MD (301) 261-3366  
Copper Bit, 573 Frost Dr., Warrenton, VA (703) 347-5757  
Dead Eye Saloon, Hanover Street, Baltimore, MD (410) 539-7784  
Diamond Grill, 800 W Diamond Ave Gaithersburg, MD (301) 963-4847  
Ebb Tide, 985 Bay Ridge Road, Annapolis, MD (410) 269-1500  
Famous Dave's, 917 Quince Orchard Rd, Gaithersburg, MD  
Fast 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

**Next issue is October 2004.**

**— Deadline September 17**

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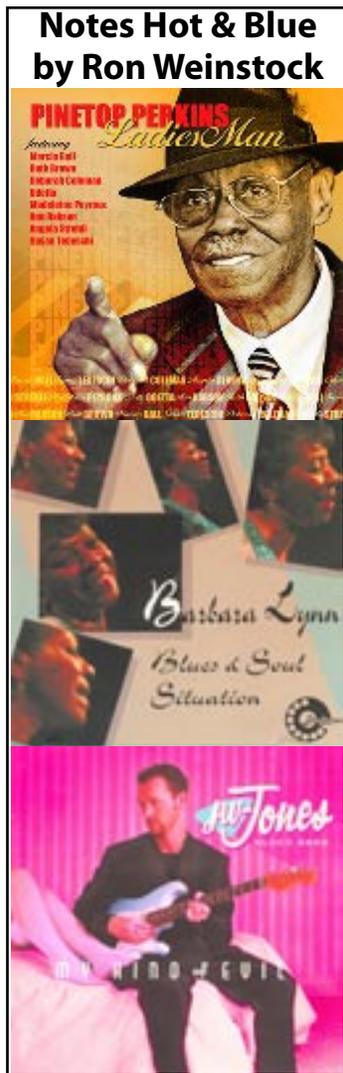
If you know of clubs that do have blues on a regular basis (at least once a month) that we do not list, please send an update to Steve Levine at cypressgrove@hotmail.com.

## Pinetop Perkins

While Pinetop Perkins has recorded a number of albums, one limitation has been the fact that he has a small core of songs that he repeatedly records. While performances are solid, one does wish to hear fresh material. M.C. Records has just issued a new Pinetop Perkins, **Ladies Man** which avoids some of these problems by having Pinetop accompanying some blues women including Deborah Coleman, Susan Tedeschi, Madiline Peyroux, Ruth Brown, Marcia Ball, Angela Strehli, Ann Rabson and Odetta. I believe this was recorded around the time of the 2003 Handy Award show. Pinetop's renditions of Leroy Carr's *How Long Blues* and Wilbert Harrison's hit *Kansas City*, don't break new ground but are typically pleasant performances amiably sung. It is nice to hear Susan Tedeschi sing Ivory Joe Hunter's ballad *Since I Met You Baby* very nicely with solid accompaniment, while Odetta provides a strong rendition of *Trouble in Mind* with Ruth Brown's revival of her old friend, Big Joe Turner's *Chains of Love*, to which she embellishes with her own sassy self. I was not familiar with Madiline Peyroux who sings the delightful vaudeville-styled *He's Got Me Goin'*. Deborah Coleman sings *Meanest Woman*, credited to Muddy Waters but really Tommy Johnson's classic *Maggie Campbell Blues*. Marcia Ball duets on piano with Pinetop on *Pinetop's New Boogie Woogie* while I believe Ann Rabson shares the piano on a lovely *Careless Love*. Angela Strehli salutes the pianist with *Hey Mr. Pinetop Perkins*, a song that takes at its premise Pinetop's tall story of having written *Pinetop's Boogie Woogie*, which was written and recorded by the legendary Clarence 'Pinetop' Smith in the twenties when Joe Willie Perkins was a wee boy. It may have become a signature number for him, leading him to be identified for the song, but he did not write the classic. It is a quibble in a diverse collection of wonderful performances.

## Barbara Lynn

One of the pleasures of attending the Ponderosa Stomp in New Orleans this past April was the chance to see the legendary Barbara Lynn perform. Its been four decades when the left-handed guitarist singer and songwriter had a hit with *You'll Lose a Good Thing*, and while she had some other hits, none reached that level. Yet she is still well remembered by many from this recording. Most recently she had albums on Bullseye Blues and Antone's. The Texas Dialtone label is building a strong catalog of authentic Texas blues and Lynn is featured on the label's latest release, **Blues and Soul Situation**. This is perhaps the best album of recent years with strong material and an excellent studio band. She opens with a nice funky groove on the sultry *You Make Me So Hot*, where her man is making her burn enough and Barbara can't get enough of his love. Against a New Orleans rumba groove, Lynn tells her man what it mans to treat a women so mean on *You Don't Sleep at Night*, on which Kaz Kazanoff takes a nice tenor solo and Nick Connolly lays down



a Professor Longhair styled piano solo. Lynn warns her man that *You Better Quit It* before he pushes her too far. *Moving on a Groove* is a dance number with a sixties feel to it (reminds me of Archie Bell & the Drells) while the following *He Ain't Gonna Do Right* (by Penn and Oldham) may be the top song here as Lynn sings about how the man is using her for his toy, as he ain't gonna do Barbara right but rather do her dirty. She enlivens Slim Harpo's *I Got Love If You Want It* and *Sugar Coated Love* (associated with Lazy Lester) with Hash Brown adding the harp on the latter number. She adds her very considered guitar throughout, but the focus throughout this recording is her singing and the soul she brings to these blues, blues ballads and soul serenades. This is a stunning release and its great to have Barbara Lynn in such great form.

## JW Jones

Canadian JW Jones' latest Northern Blues release, **My Kind of Evil**, perhaps shows how International the blues has become. Kim Wilson who helped produce and guests on several tracks is among those who mentored the Ottawa-based Jones who has developed into a solid guitarist with a disc reminiscent of efforts coming from several West Coast artists, although this is a band with a full-horn session and not led by a harmonica player. Wilson himself takes two typical fine vocals on Willie Mabon's *I Don't Know* and the Smiley Lewis classic, *Blue Monday*, while Colin James sings on *What You Do to Me* and *You Got Me (Where You Want Me)*. Jones himself shows he has learned his lessons well with B.B. King, Johnny Guitar Watson, Ike Turner and

others being detectable influences as he opens with a rocking original *Shake That Mess* with a nice groove and hot guitar. Jones has also developed as a vocalist. With James singing Johnny Watson's *What You Do to Me*, Jones plays a homage to Watson's early twisted guitar stylings set against a Crescent City rumba groove. A couple of instrumentals display Jones skill and thoughtful playing. This fine recording with choice covers and solid original material and first-rate studio band, displays Jones' growth as a vocalist, and guitarist.

## Smokin' Joe Kubek & B'nois King

The pair of Joe Kubek and B'nois King continue to lay down some strong blues tracks with their latest Blind Pig release, **Show Me the Money**. Kubek's muscular and incendiary guitar playing is complemented by King's soulful vocals (suggestive of a cooler Otis Rush) and his own jazzier guitar comping and soloing. The album is full of solid new slow blues and shuffles including the cautionary *She Can Smell Another Woman*, where B'nois warns one that one day he is gonna slip up and she will sense when he has another woman and "you'll lose her and your girlfriend and wind up all alone." *My Heart's in Texas* is a rocker with as King sings about some places he's been and while he's seen Big Ben in London, his heart's in Texas with Kubek taking a short concise solo. *Burnin' to the Ground* has a funky little groove with a lyric

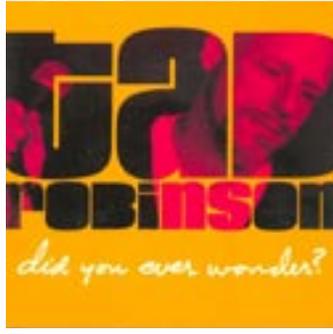
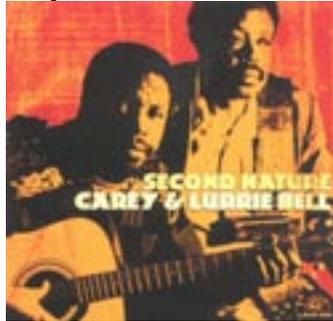
cont'd from page 9

about about a love that was too hot and high and came crashing down with some hot slide from Kubek who is quite capable of playing sheets of sound with his guitar but knows when to lay out. In fact this is reflected by the fact that the longest tracks here extend to slightly more than 4 1/2 minutes. There is plenty of passion invested into these performances, but they also play with intelligence and keep their performances focused and concise resulting on this first-rate cd.

### Tad Robinson

Tad Robinson is an exceptional blue-eyed blues and soul singer who recorded some years back on Delmark and I was privileged to write the notes for one of his discs. David Earl's Severn label has just issued his latest cd, **Did You Ever Wonder?** Robinson has really grown as a singer and along with the veteran Billy Price, label-mate Darrell Nullisch and also Curtis Salgado has emerged as a first-rate exponent of blue-eyed soul. There is more than a tinge of Memphis in the feel of these songs with Willie Henderson contributing the first rate horn arrangements for these tracks. Benji Porecki and Kevin McKendree handle the keyboards while Alex Schultz adds some hot guitar as on the remake of Jimmy McCracklin's *The Bitter & the Sweet* on which Robinson tosses in some harp. The legendary Otis Clay provides backing vocals on remake of the Cornelius Brothers' hit, *Too Late to Turn Back Now*. Other covers include Robert Ward's

### Notes Hot & Blue by Ron Weinstock



marvelous *Your Love is Amazing* and the Little Willie John *Suffering With the Blues*. On both of these, Robinson puts forth his own distinctive interpretation of the song. The highlights on a consistently excellent album may be two of the originals by Robinson and lyricist John Bean, *Woman Trouble* and *Pockets Full of Nothing*. Throughout the lyrics are outstanding and the musicianship is first-rate. This release will appeal to fans of modern urban blues and soul.

### Carey & Lurrie Bell

Alligator has issued in the US, *Second Nature*, an album of acoustic blues by the famed harmonica master Carey Bell and his son, guitarist Lurrie Bell that was recorded in Finland in 1991. This unplugged set of performances has an intimate feel that compliments the other recordings the father and son duo have made together and on their own. Another son, James Bell, adds percussion to two of the performances here. Carey handles 7 of the twelve vocals and his performances are typical with his strong, somewhat gruff delivery on originals like *Stop Runnin' Around*, and *Wrapped Up in Love*, while Lurrie's vocals show a bit more of a modern soul style as he sings the gospel number *Trouble In My Way* with nice guitar accompaniment as well as reworks the standard *Rock Me* and delivers an insistent original *Got to Leave Chi-Town* before closing with a Motown classic, *Here I Go Again*. This is an unpretentious, enjoyable release that follows up the wonder duet album by Kenny Neal and Billy Branch that Alligator issued earlier this year.

### Charles 'Big Daddy' Stallings

Baltimore's Charles 'Big Daddy' Stallings was a name new to this writer, but "The Mayor of B-Town" has just issued a cd, **One Night Lover**, on B-Town Records that includes guest appearances by Mark Wenner of The Nighthawks and Deanna Bogart. It is a mix of blues with some jazz touches as Stallings moves from a Jimmy Reed groove to a jazzy swing beat. Although one wishes that a drummer, and live horns had been used instead of the programmed drums and synthed horns, Stallings delivers his songs with a easy going, natural manner, while keeping a nice danceable tempo. Wenner lays down some heavy harp on *I Got the Blu-Hoos*, which uses the melody of Bo Diddley's *I'm a Man*, as Big Daddy convincing delivers the lyric of being mistreated. Both Bogart and Wenner are on the lengthy *Hobbsville Blues*, a lengthy track on which Stallings recalls the days back in Hobbsville NC where he grew up, and some of the folks that he heard growing up like Fred Hill and Buddy Mitchell and a guy Lee who could blow harp and sing Jimmy Reed. Its a fascinating bit of storytelling mixed in with some nice bits of various blues classics. A jazzier side is heard on the instrumental, *B-3 Blues*, with organists Dennis Fisher and Corey Brooks trading solos. *Swing* is a number on which he encourages folks to dance even if not everyone can swing. *4X4 Woman* has more fine harp from Wenner before Big Daddy talks about his woman who is four feet tall and is four feet wide but makes his world go round and then discusses other aspects of her unusual abnormality. *Sophisticated* is a nice jazz-inflected feature for Mark Wenner's harp and a nice funky groove. This disc is available on [www.cdbaby.com](http://www.cdbaby.com), but may be available at the DC Blues Festival as Mark Wenner advises this writer that the Nighthawks hope to have Charles 'Big Daddy' Stallings, sing a few numbers with them.





Images from 2004 Pocono Blues Festival. Top Row (L to Right) - Chris Kirsch & Eddie Shaw, Wallace Coleman & D.C. Carnes, Eddie C. Campbell. 2nd Row- George Brock; Jimmy Burns; Bobby Rush; Chick Willis. 3rd Row -Mighty Mo Rodgers (TH); Bobby Rush; Kenny Neal & Billy Branch (TH). Bottom Row -Norma Jean Bruso; Norma Jean Bruso (TH); King Alex (TH). Photos marked TH © Thereas Hemp, Others © Ron Weinstock.



More images from this year's Pocono Blues Festival held at the Big Boulder Ski Resort from July 23 to 25. The Pocono Blues Festival may be as good a festival as any Blues Festival in the world and draws blues lovers from throughout the United States to see its line-up of real deal blues. No Rap or Rock stars or Alternative Country. But you'll see up and coming blues artists like Nora Jean Brusco; Jackie Payne with a terrific guitarist, Steve Edmondson; and D.C.'s own Memphis Gold along with legends like Bobby Bland, Bobby Rush and Roy Gaines. This year's Sunday program included the sacred steel of the Campbell Brothers, along with Mavis Staples and the Blind Boys of Alabama to go along with veterans Magic Slim and Roy Gaines. Also Chick Willis put on a terrific set. In the tent stage there was a revue of Kansas City blues artists as well as Chicago veteran Jimmy Burns and the duet of Kenny Neal and Billy Branch. If I had to pick a highlight, it was probably the set by Mavis Staples. Next year's festival will be held July 29 to July 31, so you might want to set aside those dates on your Calendar.

Photos on this page. Top row - Bobby Bland (left two pics), Jackie Payne & Steve Edmondson. 2nd Row - The Campbell Brothers (TH); Memphis Gold; Roy Gaines (TH). 3rd Row - Magic Slim (TH); Mavis Staples; The Blind Boys (TH); 4th Row - The Blind Boys (TH). Photos marked (TH) © Theresa Hemp,



A week after seeing Bobby Bland, your editor had the pleasure of seeing "The Man" at Lamont's on a bill that included Jesse Yawn, Bobby Parker and an after party with Jim Bennett & the Unique Creation Band. The next weekend I went with Chris Kirsch to the Riverfront Blues Festival in Wilmington, Delaware that our friends at the Diamond State Blues Society help produce. Acts included James Sjoberg, Wallace Coleman, Magic Slim & the Teardrops, Kenny Neal & His Band with Billy Branch joining him, Luther 'Guitar Jr. Johnson, Sonny Rhodes and Duke Robillard. I left before Walter Trout and Bobby Rush. One highpoint was this youngster sitting in with Magic Slim who enjoyed his Birthday that day.

On this page- Top row, Bobby Parker; Bobby Bland, James Sjoberg. 2nd Row - Wallace Coleman; Kenny Neal, Magic Slim & Chris Kirsch; 3rd row - Magic Slim & young harp player; Kenny Neal & Billy Branch; Luther 'Guitar Jr. Johnson; Bottom row - Sonny Rhodes. All photos © Ron Weinstock

# WHO GETS THE BLUES WORSE?

The man with wooden teeth  
or the woman that kisses him?



## BLUES IN THE 'BURG



Saturday, September 11 • Market Square - Fredericksburg, VA  
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For more info visit [www.bluesintheburg.org](http://www.bluesintheburg.org) • Tickets available through [www.TicketWeb.com](http://www.TicketWeb.com)

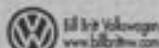
Sept 9, "Blues Houseparty" • Sept 10, "Old Dominion Songsters"  
Sept 10-30, "Old Dominion Songsters" Museum Exhibit

Events sponsored by Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, Central Rappahannock Regional Library, Fredericksburg Area Museum and Cultural Center, The Library of Virginia and James River Blues Society • The Blues workshop sponsored by Bill Britt Volkswagen

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### After Party & Festival Fundraiser @ the Surf Club

For the first time, the DC Blues Society is holding a Festival After Party and Festival Fundraiser Hopefully you will want to hear more blues so join us and many of the Festival performers at Chick's Surf Club, 4711 Kenilworth Ave Bladensburg, MD 20781, 301-927-6310. This will start at 9:30 p.m.

### Blues in Passing

A number of major artists of relevance passed in the past few months including the great tenor saxophonist, **Illinois Jacquet**, who is best known for his solo on *Flying Home* when a member of the Lionel Hampton Orchestra. Later as part of a Jazz at the Philharmonic concert in Los Angeles, Jacquet took a legendary tenor sax solo on *The Blues* backed by Nat King Cole, Les Paul and others that was noted for his frenetic playing and overblowing that was the foundation of a lot of R&B tenor sax honkers such as Big Jay McNeely. Later he became known as an exceptional jazz saxophone with a big bluesy tone and in his later years led a superb Big Band that had an acclaimed album for Atlantic.

It was not until I received the latest issue of **Blues & Rhythm** that **Clifford Solomon** passed away. He had a career that including playing with Roy Porter's legendary LA Big Band and stints in the bands of Charles Brown and Lionel Hampton in the 1950s. He played with Ike & Tina Turner between 1964-1967 and became the bandleader. Later with Blue Mitchell and Freddie Robinson he was with John Mayall for the Jazz-Blues Fusion Band, later joining Ray Charles' Band, becoming Charles' bandleader before rejoining Charles Brown with whom he may be best remembered. He also was associated with Johnny Otis and was on a number of Otis' recordings in addition to many of Charles Brown's last recordings. I had the pleasure to interview Clifford for Living Blues and he was such a gentleman as well as a terrific musician. He will be missed and its incredible that his death was not reported by most major newspapers.

Another death that I was unaware of until recently was of guitarist **Cal Green**. The Houston guitarist as influenced by Gate-mouth Brown and played 'Little Gate-mouth' to Roy Gaines' 'Little T-Bone Walker' in clubs growing up. In 1954, he joined the Midnighters with whom he toured and played on many of the group's recordings. He also played on sessions by Bill Doggett and Little Willie John among others. He played on an Eddie 'Cleanhead' Vinson album for Pablo and later cut a cd for the Double Trouble label in 1988.

Also passing was the legendary dee jay **Hunter Hancock** who spun R&B and later Rock and roll records in the LA market. He also was one of the principals in the Swinging label which issued Big Jay McNeely's classic *There is Something On Your Mind* that features Falls Church native Sonny Warner on vocal. Also passing was Cleveland dee-jay **Bill Randle** who was the first Northern dee-jay to spin Elvis Presley's Sun recordings and also produced the 5-lp **The Big Bill Broonzy Story** which turned out to be Broonzy's last recordings.

## 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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or call the Society Hotline: (202) 962-0112

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

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

Change of address or other member information should be sent to the postal box or [president@dcblues.org](mailto:president@dcblues.org)



# The 12th BlueBird Blues Festival



W.C. Clark

Sunday Sept 26 - 1 PM to 6 PM  
 Largo Student Center Courtyard  
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 301 Largo Road - Largo, Md.  
**Dedicated to the Memory  
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 Free, Family-Friendly Event  
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Cephass & Wiggins

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 3:15 PM - Blue Rhythm Boys  
 4:30 PM - Cephass & Wiggins

**Main Stage**  
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 1:00PM - J. St. Jumpers  
 2:00 PM - Opening ceremonies  
 2:15PM - Ruby Hayes  
 3:30 PM - W.C. Clark  
 5:00 PM - Little Milton

**Jook Joint Stage**  
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 2:00PM - Southern Gospel  
 Singers  
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 4:15PM - The Jewels

Sponsors of the 12th Annual Bluebird Blues Festival are Prince George's Community College, The Maryland- National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Prince George's County Office of the County Executive, NBC-4, Maryland State Arts Council, Prince George's County Arts Council, The Washington Post, Bank of America, Comcast, Days Inn, Geico, Grayhound Trash, Kaiser Permanente, Maryland State Lottery, Pepsi, Southern Management Corporation, Target, Thompson's Hospitality and Gregory K. Wells, P.C.

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