

Next Blues Society Jams at Taliano's, 4PM - Feb. 6 & Mar 6  
President's Drum - Page 2  
www.deblues.org — Hotline - (202) 962-0112  
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Chick's Surf Club was rocking for our Holiday Party in December. Top- Blues on Board; Middle left - Mad Max; Middle right - Blu Lou and Friends with Joe Stanley on saxophone. Bottom - Dancing to the groove of Blu Lou and Friends. Photos © 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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**Editors - Music:** Ron Weinstock

**Events:** Steve Levine

**Contributors:** Felix McClairen

**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 for a combined December-January issue and occasional other issue). It contains information on Society events, blues listings and other items of interest. Recent issues are also downloadable as PDF files from the Society's website, [www.dcblues.org](http://www.dcblues.org).

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**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.

**Note - The next issue is March 2005 and the deadline for that issue is February 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 e-mail 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 e-mail address is [rbluesw@yahoo.com](mailto:rbluesw@yahoo.com). Send payment for the ads to the D.C. Blues Society postal

## President's Drum

2005 begins a new and ambitious period for DCBS, its members, and all Blues fans in the area. It's all about deepening our Blues roots. We will reinvigorate our Blues in the Schools program by reaching more students in the region with a taste of varied Blues stylings and their roles in shaping American music. This new period is also about having more Blues fun. A late spring Blues Picnic will blow away the doldrums before our Labor Day weekend Festival and After-Party, all of which promise to be smashes.

Fall brings again the local International Blues Challenge band competition. We hope for a record number of contestants this year in order to bring you the best unsigned Blues acts in the area. (Support the DCBS's entrant, Blues on Board, in Memphis 3-5 February. Get the details at <http://www.blue.org.abc/index.php4>.) We round out the year with a Holiday party decked out in festive Blue. Nothing but the Blues to party to.

None of our planned programs and events can happen without your active support. The Society operates mostly on your generous contributions of both money and time. We need more of your time to do the things we envision. Contact any board member and tell us which activity you want to help make happen.

We want to involve you, the members, with the Society and with each other in the celebration of the Blues. Our latest innovation gets that involvement through the new Members Night Out. Members will be invited to meet at a local club for live music and a chance to meet board members and other lovers of the Blues. You'll get a chance to ask questions of board members, make suggestions, share Blues listening tips, and generally have a great time. For free. The catch: Bring a non-member.

Despite the old saw, good things don't always come to those who wait. Sometimes you have to make good things happen. Help us do that. I hope to hear from many of you soon.

Blues Always,  
Felix McClairen

## New Board Elected - Felix McClairen New DC Blues Society President

The D.C. Blues Society at its January meeting held the election of directors and the new Officers of the Society. Felix McClairen is the new President, Amanda Sweet is the new Vice-President and Ruth Vadi is the new Treasurer. Sam'i Nuriddin, who stepped down as President remains on the Board. Nick Dale and Steve Levine both have left the Board after very lengthy tenures on the Board.

Special thanks to Sam'i for the leadership he has shown us the past two years as President. He took office after the prior President had created severe internal problems for the Society and helped the Society begin to rebuild and regroup. He will continue to be actively involved in the Society including running the Monthly jam.

Steve Levine and Nick Dale have been on the Board for

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## New Board Elected cont'd from page 2

a long period of time. Steve has been a significant contributor in helping put on some of the Society's programs including the annual Festival. He played a significant role in organizing several of the recent Festivals. Nick Dale worked tirelessly for the Society and took over the Society's Treasurer's position after Wally Adams passed away suddenly as well as volunteering and supporting so many Society events. We thank them for their important contributions to the Society and hope to benefit from their volunteerism in the future.

Felix McClairn

## Board Members & Volunteers Needed

The D.C. Blues Society needs you



to keep that spirit of volunteerism alive by lending your time and talents to our board of directors and committees. (See details on p. 10 if you're still running that. If not direct reader to website.) The DCBS programs and activities cannot happen without volunteers. We need your active support to carry out our mission: public education and perpetuating the Blues. Most important we need volunteers to join our board to bring new ideas and fresh energy to what we do. If you think we could do more or that things should be done differently, and you are tired of just complaining, then we need you. Join us and make DCBS everything it can be. Send me a note indicating your interest to macvid@hotmail.com.



Scenes from December & January Jams. Top- Eddie Becker on lap steel guitar; missle from left, David Jackson, the young phenom Zaachery Sweeney, David Harris. Bottom - Waverly Milor (l) & Zach Sweeney (ctr) and family enjoy jam . Photos - © Ron Weinstock

## Jam Notes

As usual I would like to thank all the participants and audience members at this months Jam. I would also like to tip my hat to the Artist for being mindful of the Establishments need to continue with their business while we're there. You know what I mean. Some of the Artist are: the Kid Zachary Sweeney, Larry Younkins and Oscar on guitars. Dave, Steve Syphax, Lou and half of the Blues Couple "Steve Crescence. Dr. SO Feelgood on drums, Kevin Moore and Phil Schaeffer. Lik Butter, Waverly Milor and the band Mase Bricdon.

Thanks to Mr & Ms William Patton, who came out last month, joined and bought



the whole family out this month. Thanks. More new Members (not all who joined at jam); Joe Redmiles, the Van Kampen Family, Dick Cissel, Melodie Virtue; Charles "Big Daddy" Stallings, Kent Hoover, John & Rose Gleaves, John C. Adams & Family, Joseph G. Thomas Jr., Kathy Lestsantear & Family, Nancy Heath, William Jackson & Family, Neel Gearhart, Herb Weinryb, Connie Lawrence, and Andrew "Drew" Douglas

Next Jam February 6th which is SuperBowl Sunday. Come on out early. We are a lot more fun an entertaining than the pre-game shows after all.

Sam'i Nuriddin

## Hot February Blues and Beyond

Tommy Castro will be among the acts that will be on the

**Hot February Blues and beyond** cont'd from page 3

**Legendary Rhythm and Blues** cruise that I will be on the last week of January, After the crew docks on January 29, he and his band will be back on the road and have a couple of dates at the Ram's Head in Annapolis and at the State Theatre in Falls Church in support of a new Blind Pig cd. The impressive guitar slinger, *Tinsley Ellis* opens both shows. Among other shows in the area this month, the Baltimore Blues Society presents a terrific soulful show of *Lou Pride* and *Tad Robinson* at the American Legion Hall in Rosedale MD while *Gaye Adegbalola* with pianist Roddy Barnes is featured at a Folklore Society of Greater Washington show at the Washington Ethical Society. *Roomful of Blues* will be filling the dance floor at the Barns of Wolf Trap. *James Cotton* is at the Gordon Center. Also the *Nighthawks* open for *Dr. John* in early February to help celebrate the opening of the Strathmore in Bethesda.

Here is some information on some of the local blues festivals. Possibly one returns but one departs us this year. Hopefully the **Chesapeake Bay Blues Festival** will return this year but there is nothing specific about a date or line-up on their web-site, [www.bayblues-org](http://www.bayblues-org). We will keep you informed of any news. The **Herndon Blues Festival** will not take place this summer as the new Board of the Herndon Council of the Arts decided it no longer wanted to produce Festivals and became a grant-making organization. The **Western Maryland Blues Festival** returns for its 10th Festival for the first weekend in June, June 3

through the 5th in Hagerstown, Maryland. They do not have any acts posted yet, but you can check the website, [www.blues-fest.org](http://www.blues-fest.org). The **National Capital Barbecue Battle** which always includes plenty of blues on its music stages is scheduled for June 25-26. The website is [www.barbecuebattle.com](http://www.barbecuebattle.com). This year's **DC Blues Festival** will take place Saturday, September 3 at the Carter Barron.

As Felix stated in the President's Drum, Blues on Board will be amongst 80 bands and 40 solo acts/duos competing in Memphis the Weekend of February 3 to the 5th at various locations on Beale Street in Memphis. This is the largest grouping of blues acts in one location in history. Check out the Blues Foundation's website page devoted to the **International Blues Challenge**, [www.blues.org/ibc](http://www.blues.org/ibc). The Foundation hosts the **W.C. Handy Awards** in Memphis on Thursday, May 5, 2005. Information on this is also on the Foundation's website, [www.blues.org](http://www.blues.org).

The **New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival** takes place this year from Friday April 22 to Sunday May 1, 2005. As many know, there are concerts, club gigs and other events that take place after the Fairgrounds closes, and on Monday the 25th through Wednesday the 27th, the days the Fairgrounds are closed. The

website is [www.nojazzfest.com](http://www.nojazzfest.com). Incidentally, an alternative to JazzFest is the **French Quarter Festival** which will be April 8 to 10 this year at venues in the Quarter. Plenty of blues, brass bands and other acts on multiple stages around Jackson Square and other Quarter venues. Check out the website, [www.frenchquarterfestival.com](http://www.frenchquarterfestival.com).

The Mystic Knights of the Mau Mau (named after a Screaming Jay Hawkins song) will be holding their **4th Ponderosa Stomp** on April 26 and 27 at the Rock'n'Bowl in New Orleans. This event includes some of the legendary names of Blues, soul, rockabilly, garage rock and more. Among acts listed are Archie Bell, Johnny Farina Of Santo And Johnny, Link Wray, Travis Wammack, H Bomb Ferguson, Eddy Clearwater, Lonnie Brooks



Sista Monica singing to the Carter Barron audience during a past D.C. Blues Festival in what was her East Coast debut. What memorable moments will take place at this year's D.C. Blues Festival. You can help it happen by volunteering to help with Fundraising, Events, Marketing and other Committees. Contact Blues Society President Felix McClairn at [macvid@hotmail.com](mailto:macvid@hotmail.com) or leave a message on hotline.

Photo © Ron Weinstock

Plays Guitar Jr., Johnny Jones, Brenton Wood, Roy Head, The Carter Brothers, Betty Harris, Barbara Lynn, Lady Bo with Clifton James, Larry De Rieux, Freddy Roulette, Scotty Moore, Lazy Lester, Dale Hawkins, Warren Storm, Ace Cannon and Skip Easterling, Nokie Edwards of the Ventures, Ray Sharpe, Little Freddy King, Blowfly, Nathaniel Mayer, Jay Chevalier, Eddie Bo, Al "Carnival Time" Johnson, Henry Gray, Robert Lockwood, Mando And The Chili Peppers, Lil Buck and the Top Cats featuring Stanley "Buckwheat" Dural, Willie Tee, Phil Phillips, Plas Johnson, and Herbert Hardesty. More acts will be announced. There are people who come to New Orleans just for this. It really is an incredible bringing together of talent. From my

view must see acts include The Carter Brothers who put out superb B.B. King styled blues for Jewel (*Southern Country Boy* being one) and Ray Sharpe with *Linda Lou*, but also the chance to hear Phil Phillips reprise *Sea of Love*. Wow. The webpage for the Ponderosa Stomp is [www.knights-maumu.com/stomp\\_4.php](http://www.knights-maumu.com/stomp_4.php).

The **2005 Pocono Blues Festival** will be held at Big Boulder Resort in Lake Harmony, Pennsylvania. This year's festival will take place Friday July 29 through Sunday July 31. While no acts have been announced for Friday night, much of Saturday's lineup has been announced including Sharrie Williams, Robert Lockwood Jr., James 'Blood' Ulmer, Latimore, Lil Ed & the Blues Imperials & Ruth Brown on the main stages while Carey Bell & Lurrie Bell will be in the tent stage. For Sunday, July 31, they have booked Calvin Cooke, Lonnie Brooks and Percy Sledge. Updates on the lineup when we get them, but it looks like another memorable festival. This is simply one of the truly great blues festivals of the world. For more information visit their website at <http://www.big2resorts.com>.

Hopefully this will whet your appetite for some great blues and roots music in 2005

## February Blues Listings

- 1 Buckwheat Zydeco** @ Ram's Head  
**2 Nighthawks** @ Sunset Grille  
**Tommy Castro & Tinsley Ellis** @ Ram's Head  
**Sonny Landreth, C.C. Adcock** @ Wolf Trap  
**3 Sonny Landreth** @ Ram's Head  
 Grandosns @ Bangkok Blues  
**4 Tommy Castro Band** @ Ram's Head  
 The Iguanas @ Wolf Trap  
 Laughing Man @ Bangkok Blues  
 Reggie Wayne Morris @ Zoo Bar  
 Kelly Bell Band @ Fat Tuesday's  
 Tom Principato @ Sunset Grille  
**5 Nighthawks** @ Ram's Head  
**North Mississippi Allstars** @ Recher Theatre  
**Tommy Castro & Tinsley Ellis** @ State Theatre  
 The Iguanas @ Wolf Trap  
 Live Action hero @ Bangkok Blues  
 Big Boy Little @ Zoo Bar  
 Lost Highway Band @ JVs  
 Catfish Hodge @ Club House Grille  
 GrooveQuest @ Jay's Saloon & Grille  
**6 DCBS Jam** @ Taliano's  
 The Iguanas @ Funk Box  
 Big Joe & The Dynafloes @ Gordon Biersch  
**7 19th Annual Wammie Awards** @ Strathmore Music Center  
**8 Buckwheat Zydeco** @ Funk Box  
**Dr. John, Nighthawks** @ Strathmore Music Center  
**9 Dirty Dozen Brass Band** @ Funk Box  
 Janine Wilson Band @ Afterwords  
 Liz Briones @ Magic of New Orleans  
**10 CPBlues** @ Bangkok Blues  
 Jonny Steinman & Stingrays @ JVs  
**11 Anders Osborne** @ Funk Box  
 Mike Lapadula @ Bangkok Blues  
 Mary Shaver w/Smokin' Polecats @ JV's  
 Sookey Jump Blues Band @ Zoo Bar  
 Nighthawks @ St. James Pub  
**12 BBS Presents Tad Robinson, Lou Pride** @  
 Rosedale American Legion  
 GrooveQuest @ Neighbor's  
 Rick Franklin @ St. Elmo's Coffee Pub  
 Billy Hancock & Tennessee Rockets @ JVs  
 Mary Shaver w/Smokin' Polecats @ Zoo Bar  
 DejaBlue @ Okra's  
 Exit 10 @ Bangkok Blues  
 Tom Principato @ Willage Wharf  
**13 Dr. John** @ Ram's Head  
**14 BluesWorks** @ Frederick Comm. College  
**15 Liz Briones** @ Tarara Winery  
 16 Greg Allman @ Ram's Head Live  
 Janine Wilson @ Austin Grill  
 Curtis Blue @ Bangkok BLUES  
**17 James Cotton** @ Gordon Center  
 Joe Bonamassa @ Wolf Trap  
 Linwood Taylor @ Cat's Eye  
**18 Roomful Of Blues** @ Ram's Head  
 Jimmy Thackery @ State Theatre  
 Shambells @ Cat's Eye  
 Liz Briones @ Zoo Bar  
 Kelly Bell Band @ JAXX  
 Catfish Hodge @ Madam's Organ  
 Linwood Taylor @ Murphy's  
**19 Roomful Of Blues** @ Funk Box  
 Catfish Hodge @ Okra's



- Bad Influence @ JVs  
 Julia Nixon & Ron Holloway @ Ram's Head  
**Gaye Adegbalola w Roddy Barnes** @  
 Washington Ethical Society  
 Shambells @ Zoo Bar  
 Robert Lighthouse @ Bangkok Blues  
**20 Roomful Of Blues** @ Wolf Trap  
 Tom Shepherd & Danielle Westpalth @ JVs  
 Nighthawks @ Downtowner Saloon  
**22 Billy Hancock & the Fat Boys** @ JVs  
**23 Janine Wilson Band** @ Afterwords  
**24 Jimmy Cole** @ JVs  
 Chris Duarte & Anthony Gomes @ Ram's Head  
**25 BluesWorks & Friends** @ Prince  
 George's Ballroom  
 Blues on Board @ Bangkok Blues  
 Bluesmoke @ Zoo Bar  
**26 Flat Foot Sam** @ Zoo Bar  
 The Curbfeelers @ JVs  
 Chai & Bangkok Blues @ Bangkok Blues  
 James Mabry @ Outta The Way Cafe

### Weekly Events

- Sun** Detroit Slim @ Full Moon  
 Steve Kraemer @ Cat's Eye



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

**Mon** 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** Open Mike @ JVs  
 Jam @ Coconuts  
 (Every other Wednesday) One Bad Jack Band's Blues Jam @ Beach Cove  
 Big Dog Band @ Cat's Eye  
 Steve Smith Band @ Round Table  
 Nancy Katz & the Stray Dogs @ Fast Eddie's Fairfax  
 Various @ Full Moon

- Thu** Jam @ Backstreets Cafe  
 Big Little Band Jam @ Zoo Bar  
 Jam @ Riverdale Pizza Pub  
 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.

#### 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.

Also please note that the mailing label should indicate the month your membership expires, so you can tell if it is time to renew your membership from the label, if you have not received or misplaced your renewal form.

## 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  
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  
Beach Cove Lounge, Chesapeake Beach Md.  
301 855 0025  
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  
BlackRock Center for the Arts, 12902 Town Commons Ave Germantown MD (301) 528-2260  
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  
Caribou Coffee-7629 Old Georgetown Rd Bethesda MD  
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 Ballroom, 3185 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA (703) 218-6585  
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  
Flanagan's Bethesda MD  
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  
HR-57, 1610 14th Street, NW, Washington, DC (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

**The next issue is  
March 2005  
deadline - February 17  
Listings should be sent to Steve  
Levine, 5910 Bryn Mawr Rd, College  
Park, MD 20740.  
E-mail: cypressgrove@hotmail.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 \$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. Ron's email address is [rblesuw@yahoo.com](mailto:rblesuw@yahoo.com).

**Send payment for ads to the D.C. Blues Society postal box.**

JV's, 6666 Arlington Blvd, Annandale VA (703) 241-9504  
King of France Tavern, 15 Church St, Annapolis, MD (410) 216-6340  
Lamont's, 4400 Livingston Rd, Pomomkey, 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  
Mexicali Blues, 2933 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA (703) 812-9352  
Michael's Pub, Kings Contrivance Ctr, 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  
Old Town Theater, 815 1/2 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314  
Outta the Way Cafe, 17503 Redland Rd., Derwood, MD (301) 963-6895  
Parker's, 1809 Eastern Ave., Baltimore, MD (410) 563-2988  
Pelican Pete's, 12941 Wisteria Dr., Germantown, MD (301) 428-1990  
Penny Lane, 109 South King Street, Leesburg, VA (703) 771-1984  
Ram's Head, 33 West St., Annapolis, MD (410) 268-4545  
Ram's Head Live, 20 Market Place, Baltimore MD  
Recher Theatre, 512 York Rd., Towson, MD (410) 337-7210  
Rendezvous Inn, 362 Front St., Perryville, MD (410) 642-0045  
Riverdale Pizza Pub, 6258 Kenilworth Ave, Riverdale MD (301) 927-1060  
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  
Royal Lee Bar, 2211 N. Pershing, Arlington VA (703) 524-5493  
Santa Fe Grill, 216 William St., Fredericksburg, VA (540) 371-0500  
Spanish Ballroom, Glen Echo, MD  
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, (301) 519-9400  
Sunset Grille, 7250 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA (703) 658-0982  
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 Rd Sandy Spring, MD (240) 774-7309  
Twins, 1344 U St, NW DC (202) 234-0072  
Wahoo's Sports Bar, 9820 Liberty Rd, Randallstown, MD (410) 655-8668  
Waterman's Crab House, Rock Hall, MD (410) 810-2631  
Whitlow's on Wilson, 2854 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA (703) 276-9693  
Wild Azalea, 1648 Crystal Square Arcade, Arlington, VA (703) 413-2250  
Willie D's, Pasadena, MD  
Wolf Trap, Vienna, VA (703) 255-1900  
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).

## Roomful of Blues

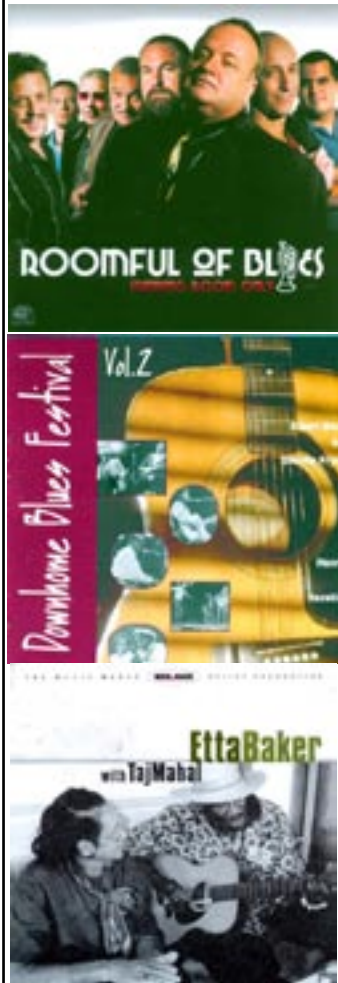
After about thirty years which has seen the personnel change dramatically, new singers come and go, Roomful of Blues manages to make music that sounds not only fresh, but with a vigor and energy few bands can approach today. What started as a jump blues revival band with Duke Robillard in charge saw varying personnel. Ronnie Earl replaced Robillard on guitar and Sugar Ray Norcia was vocalist for a number of years. Founding members like Al Copley joined Robillard in pursuit of a solo careers. The present edition of Roomful appears to be led by the band's long-time guitarist Chris Vachon and if most of the personnel are new names to me, listening to their new Alligator album, **Standing Room Only**, the band sounds as good as ever. Besides Vachon, saxophonist Rich Lataille and trumpeter Bob Enos are the veterans of the group, while vocalist Mark DuFresne brings considerable authority to the material. Vachon contributes most of the originals here, while the band covers songs from Little Milton, Jimmy Nolen, Lowell Fulson, Roy Brown and the Little Willie John Classic, *Sufferin' With the Blues*, perhaps the only relatively well-known song revived here. Roy Brown's *Up Jumped the Devil* is perhaps the highpoint with a hot arrangement, a powerhouse bit of shouting from Dufresne and some crackling guitar from Vachon. While a couple of originals are lightweight like *Flip Flack Jack*, Rich Lataille composed a hot tribute to the late Illinois Jacquet, the pun entitled, *Straight Jacquet*, where he plays homage to this jazz giant with a wonderful, swinging solo. Able to swing hard and at other times evoke the great King R&B studio bands of the classic R&B period as well as Oliver Sain's St. Louis studio grooves, **Standing Room Only**, is a superb disc that will satisfy the swing dancers and the discerning listener. They appear this month for a dance at the Barns of Wolf Trap

## National Downhome Blues Festival

Held in October, 1984 in Atlanta, the National Downhome Blues Festival was a one-time gathering off what Festival producer George Mitchell aptly called the "greatest collection of traditional blues talent ever assembled in one place." **National Downhome Blues Festival Vol. 2** (Southland) makes available on cd the third and fourth vinyl albums that were issued from this event. Performers on here include the late John Jackson,



## Notes Hot & Blue by Ron Weinstock



Robert Lockwood Jr, Eddie Kirkland, Piano red, Son Thomas, Doctor Ross, Booker T. Laury, Henry & Vernell Townsend, Larry Johnson, Albert Macon & Robert Thomas, Hezekiah & the Houserockers. There are some stunning performances including three brilliant sample of the late John Jackson, Robert Lockwood Jr doing *Big Legged Woman*, Snooky Pryor & Homesick James (reviving Pryor's *Boogie Twist*), Doctor Ross' ebullient *Chicago Breakdown*, Vernell Townsend backed by husband Henry on *Tears Come Rolling Down* and Larry Johnson's sprightly performed *The Wrong Woman* and a gospel number adapted from his mentor Rev. Gary Davis, *Can't You Hear the Angels Singing*. There is some barrelhouse piano from Piano red on *Right String*, *But the Wrong Yo Yo* and Booker T. Laury whose *Woman I Love Lives i Memphis, Tennessee*, evokes the influence of the legendary Roosevelt Sykes. The album closes with a raucous downhome blues by Hezekiah & the Houserockers with PeeWee Whittaker's trombone lead. While a number of these performers have passed. One notes that Robert Lockwood, Eddie Kirkland, Snooky Pryor, Henry Townsend, Homesick James, Henry Townsend and Hezekiah Early are still performing and are still vital artists. Volume One has performances by Cephas & Wiggins, Junior Kimbrough, and Sunnyland Slim, amongst others. Southland is one of the labels associated with George H. Buck in New Orleans. Tower Records may have this and others stores may be able to order it. I would try [www.jazzology.com](http://www.jazzology.com) if you have trouble obtaining these. It is well worth obtaining.

## Etta Baker

Etta Baker was recorded by the folksinger Paul Clayton in 1956 and her recordings of songs such as *One Dime Blues* and *Railroad Bill* were issued

on the important Tradition collection, **Instrumental Music from the Southern Appalachians**, where her performances influenced many including Taj Mahal. Eschewing offerings to perform outside her home community to stay with her husband, it was not until the past couple decades in which time she has become recognized as a national treasure. The Music Maker Relief Foundation has just issued *Etta Baker with Taj Mahal*, which is a slightly misleading title as Taj only appears on six of the 19 tracks, and with the exception of his quasi-vocal on *Comb Blues*, plays only a supporting role to Ms. Baker's wonderful fingerstyle guitar work. There is some wonderful instrumentals her from her renditions of *John Henry*, *Crow Jane*, *Going Down the Road Feeling Bad*, *Railroad Bill* (heard in a recording with taj as well as her influential 1956 recording) and *Lost John* along with *Cripple Creek*, a banjo feature. Several tracks were recorded by her friend Wayne Martin and the album also reissues her 1956 recordings for Tradition, including two wonderful banjo features for her father, Mr. Boone Reid. This is something for lovers of acoustic blues and if not at better record stores, check out [www.musicmaker.org](http://www.musicmaker.org).

## Detroit Jr.

Pianist in Howling Wolf's Band for the last seven or so years of Wolf's life, Emery 'Detroit Jr.' Williams has perhaps not received the public visibility one would expect, but despite being among the blues' wittiest lyricists, a solid blues keyboard player and

cont'd from page 7

a singer that conveys warmth and/or irony, perhaps his new Delmark cd **Blues on the Internet** will break him to a larger audience. It opens with him reprising his most famous composition *Call My Job* and includes 12 other originals including the amusing *Money Crazy* (that's what his woman is here, as long as its his money), and covers of an obscure Lowell Fulson number, *Rockin' After Midnight* and Junior Wells' *Messin' With the Kid*. He is backed by a studio band with the ever reliable Bob Stroger on bass and Kenny Smith (son of Willie 'Big Eyes' Smith) on drums with Lurrie Bell or Maurice John Vaughan handling most of the lead guitar and some punchy sax and trumpet on most selections which include some plaintive pleas for a better everyday life *Less Violence*, *Make Love*, to more traditional blues themes like *Love No One But You*. This is wonderfully played and performed with wit and soul.

### Alex Schultz

Perhaps best known for his tenure with Rod Piazza & the Mighty Flyers, guitarist Alex Schultz has a new cd under his name, **Think About It** (Severn). Writing about the project, he says, "I believe my own strengths lie as an ensemble player, so for me a solo project needed to be about an exceptional band — a classic 'uptown' ensemble playing some swinging

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tunes and highlighting some remarkable singers." Three singers share the vocals, Finis Tasby who handles most of the vocals for the exceptional band, The Manish Boys; Lynwood Slim, a mainstay on the West Coast blues scene; and Tad Robison, whose Severn cd Schultz co-produced. Most of the session men were not known to me except for Larry Taylor on bass. Adding their presence are the Royal Crown Horns featuring Mando Dorame's tenor sax (he did the horn arrangements). After cutting the ten vocal tracks, someone pointed out perhaps he should add some instrumental features for his album so their are three instrumentals. The credits for this include the statement "No Stratocasters™ were used in the making of this recording." This is a really exceptional recording with wonderful playing and singing. It opens with Tasby handling the vocal on Guitar Slim's *Done Got Over It*, and Schultz takes a solo that hints at Guitar Jr. and Johnny 'Guitar' Watson, but with a tone that owes more to B.B. and T-Bone. On Charlie Rich's *Who Will the Next Fool Be*, Schultz's playing is in a jazzier vein crossing B.B. King with say Oscar Moore behind Robison's marvelous vocal. B.B.'s influence is there on Tasby's vocal on the Freddie King hit, *I Love the Woman*, although

in his playing Schultz is anything but derivative. He is inventive, incisive and tasteful guitarist whose work with the vocalists here make this recording yet another gem for Severn.

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## Frank 'Son' Seals

Frank "Son" Seals, one of the most distinctive and powerful blues performers to emerge during the 1970s passed away shortly before Christmas from complications arising out of diabetes. Son was an original, writing most of his own material and playing his guitar with a fierce, raw intensity matched only by his ferocious vocals.

Born in Osceola, Arkansas in 1942, Seals grew up immersed in the blues.

His childhood home was a few rooms in the back of his father Jim's juke joint, The Dipsy Doodle (famous for blues in the front and dice in the back). With musicians like Sonny Boy Williamson, Albert King and Robert Nighthawk playing within earshot nearly every night, Son knew the blues before he began walking. Even with all the great bluesmen around the house, Son's father Jim was his greatest inspiration. Jim Seals had played piano, trombone, guitar and drums, touring with the famed Rabbit Foot Minstrels, the training ground of Ma Rainey and Bessie Smith. When Son decided at an early age to become a musician like his father, Jim made sure Son would learn to do things right. "My father taught me everything from the start," Son recalls. "Tuning the guitar, fingering. Where I wanted to be riffing around all up and down the neck right away, he'd keep me on one chord for hours, until I could feel in it in my sleep. I'd get up the next morning, grab the guitar, and I'd be right on that chord."

By the time he was 13, Seals was an accomplished drummer, backing many of the artists who came through. At 18 he was leading his own band as a guitarist during the week and playing drums behind whomever was playing at his father's club on the weekends. Seals hit the road playing guitar with Earl Hooker in 1963, and soon after that as a drummer with Albert King (with whom he recorded the seminal Stax album **Live Wire/ Blues Power**). He moved to Chicago in 1971 and began jamming with everyone from Junior Wells to Hound Dog Taylor to James Cotton and Buddy Guy. After Hound Dog Taylor's Alligator debut album hit and he began touring, Son took over Hound Dog's regular weekend gigs at The Expressway Lounge on Chicago's South Side.

Seals' debut album, **The Son Seals Blues Band**, established him as a groundbreaking new blues artist. Son's audience base grew as he began to tour, playing colleges, clubs and festivals across the country. His 1977 album, **Midnight Son**, was his true breakthrough. The album received widespread acclaim from every major music publication. *Rolling Stone* called it "one of the most significant blues albums of the decade." Robert Palmer, writing in *The New York Times*, called Son "the most exciting young blues guitarist and singer in years."

On the strength of **Midnight Son**, Seals began what would become regular tours of Europe, and he even appeared in a national televi-



Son Seals on guitar at the D.C. Blues Festival in the mid-nineties. Photos © Ron Weinstock

sion ad for Olympia beer. A strong series of six more successful Alligator releases followed through the 1980s and 1990s, growing Son's audience from a few hundred into many thousands. He became a favorite of critics everywhere. "Excellent modern blues," exclaimed *Blues & Rhythm. Musician* declared Seals delivers "performances of the most profound emotion...one of the genre's most soulful exorcists." But it wasn't just the critics. Fellow musicians -- from inside and outside of the blues world -- took notice of Seals' immense talents.

Seals shared stages with icons like B.B. King and Johnny Winter. Even the popular rock group Phish came calling, covering Seals' *Funky Bitch* on record and inviting the bluesman to join them on stage at many of their tour stops.

Son's reputation as a charismatic live performer and a fiercely individual songwriter took him from playing in small clubs to headlining international blues festivals. Over the course of his eight Alligator albums, Seals emerged as one of Chicago's -- and the world's -- greatest bluesmen, and one of the genre's most powerful live performers. From his introduction as a hot young firebrand in 1973 to becoming a leading voice of Chicago blues, Son Seals blazed a blues trail that others will follow for years to come.

Son was a regular visitor to both Twist & Shout and Tornado Alley and headlined the **DC Blues Festival** in the mid-nineties with one of the most powerful performances ever to grace our Festival stage. I remember meeting Son in the mid-seventies outside Buffalo after the release of **Midnight Son** and every time I had the chance to watch him perform as well as speak with him I was impressed not only by the passion he brought to his music, but

his professionalism and the lack of any antics or clowning in his music. His blues was all business and he

always had great bands. His Alligator recordings are first-rate with special recommendations to **The Son Seals Blues Band**, **Midnight Son** and **Live and Burning**, but those wanting an introduction to his music can't go wrong with the **Deluxe Edition** retrospective of his Alligator discs. One live recording that has never made it to release was a session with Johnny Winter that Columbia would not grant permission to issue at the time and whose tapes were misplaced later. Son had hoped that these tracks would have been issued and over a decade after these sessions had found memories of these sides. The love the Blues World had for Son was after he had a leg amputated because of his diabetes, a fan actually volunteered and fitted him with a prosoptetic for free. Perhaps it was because of the holidays, but I believe Son's death was not noted by the Post.

Ron Weinstock

## DC Blues Society Helps celebrate HBO Film "Lackawanna Blues"

HBO Film's **Lackawanna Blues**, premieres February 12 on HBO. The film features a who's who cast including Mos Def, Jimmy Smits, Rosie Perez, Delroy Lindo, Lou Gossett Jr., Macy Gray, and many, many more. The film tells the story, most simply, of Lackawanna, NY in the middle of the twentieth century, a time and place filled with change, civil unrest, and beautiful, beautiful music including some pioneering and classic blues of the period by such giants as T-Bone Walker, Big Joe Turner, Little Jimmy Scott and Tommy Tucker. The film relies very heavily on music and the integral role it played in the culture depicted in the film.

Vanguard Records is issuing a phenomenal and very special soundtrack. This landmark record brings together voices from both the rich history and vibrant present of Rhythm & Blues music, featuring performances by current stars such as The Blind Boys of Alabama, Mos Def, Macy Gray, Robert Bradley, and Ricky Fante, as well legendary artists such as Little Jimmy Scott, Big Joe Turner, T-Bone Walker, Etta Baker, and Tommy Tucker. To help promote the film and soundtrack, Vanguard Records is joining with the D.C. Blues Society and giving away copies of the soundtrack. The first three persons to e-mail Stephen Brower at Vanguard Records will win a free copy of the soundtrack and a film poster. His e-mail address is [stephen@vanguardrecords.com](mailto:stephen@vanguardrecords.com). Use the heading DC Blues calendar contest on your e-mail to him. Make sure you include your name and address in the e-mail.

Also we will have copies of the cd and some posters to give away at the jam. Not sure how we will do it there, but maybe we will have one of my infamous trivia contests. Anyway, it looks like a fascinating film and a very intriguing soundtrack.

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### Volunteers Needed:

If you have an interest in working with any of our committees, please contact us. It is through our committees that the work of the D.C. Blues Society takes place. You can review the functions of each committee here. Your expertise and willingness to commit your time to the Blues helps DCBS keep the Blues alive!

### DCBS COMMITTEES

#### Fundraising Committee

Identify sources of long-term and short-term funding for DCBS operations, programs, and special events. Establish policies and procedures, and coordinate annual fundraising strategy. Create activities, events, and partnerships that promote the Society's mission and raise funds to continue our efforts. For example we need people to prepare and submit grant applications

#### Special Events Subcommittee

Produce an annual schedule of events with Blues themes that may include dances, concerts, bus trips to Blues events, picnics, and other events, including consideration of fundraising events. Under the guidance of the Fundraising Committee Chair, the SES will be responsible for planning and producing events and developing a budget and financial reports for all events. Focus is on partnering with established regional Blues venues and creating new ones. SES is also responsible for the annual DCBS Festival and expanding and coordinating weekly Blues Jams.

#### Marketing Committee

Establish policies and procedures and execute strategies to maximize the value and exposure of the DCBS "brand." Forge beneficial relationships between DCBS and its members and potential members, corporations, musicians, government funding agencies, and other non-profits. Design an annual marketing plan. Develop materials to promote the use of the DCBS logo through licensing arrangements. Coordinate and increase advertisements placed in the DCBS newsletter, website, and other media outlets.

#### Merchandising Subcommittee

Maintain and detail inventory of DC Blues Society merchandise. Discover new markets and products to better serve our members and Blues fans in general. Identify and coordinate merchandise display venues, sales, and maintain records as well as sources to produce items.

#### Publicity & Promotions Subcommittee

Establish policies, procedures, and strategies to promote awareness of the society and DCBS events. Develop and maintain a list of media contacts, supportive associations, corporations and create press releases for DCBS activities and events. Develop relationships with media and create promotional materials.

#### Membership Committee

Develop membership and recruiting processes. Design strategies for maintaining and expanding the membership base. This committee is responsible for member communications, and negotiating perks and discounts with businesses for members.

#### Newsletter Subcommittee

Produces the publication for DCBS members and the larger Blues community with information on the Society's activities and other blues information. Develop sponsors and solicit advertising for newsletter, as well as coordinate editing and printing.

#### Website Subcommittee

Host the DCBS website and maintain the currency and accuracy of material on the site. Develop fundraising opportunities to

Continued from page 10

include merchandising, on-line donations, and advertising sales. Make recommendations for improvement.

**Volunteers Committee**

Identify, recruit, and organize volunteers to support the Society's activities. Develop policies and procedures, conduct training of volunteers as required, and design recruiting and volunteer appreciation activities. Maintain a current list of volunteers with contact information and areas of interest and expertise.

**Blues In Schools Program Coordinating Committee**

The Blues in Schools program has the goal of perpetuating blues music education and performance in every education outlet in the DC Metropolitan area. Coordinate Blues music programs with schools, including curriculum development, cultivating support from local and guest musicologists and other academics, and booking performers. Develop a DCBS Music Scholarship award program along with sponsors to support it. Develop liaisons with school administrators and educators and solicit funding and sponsorships to enable the program to become self-sustaining.

**Volunteers Needed**

If you feel you are unable to devote the time to be on a committee but want to help and have skills you can provide us, please contact us as well. Whether you can help draft a grant, contribute an article to the newsletter or help at a Society show (for a few examples), we can use any assistance you can provide us. Just let us know and indicate the committee you are available to assist.



**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.

Contributions (not membership dues or merchandise) to the D.C. Blues Society are tax-deductible. \*0205\*

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Questions? Check out [www.dcblues.org](http://www.dcblues.org)

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)



Some scenes from D.C. Blues Society past. Top left - Charlie Sayles at Jam with Robert Lighthouse on guitar when it was held at Takoma Station Tavern. Top right - RL Burnside performs at DC Blues Festival. An early DC Blues Society show co-produced in conjunction with the Smithsonian featured Henry Townsend. Bottom left is backstage with Blues Society founding director Eleanor Ellis; St. Louis bluesman Leroy Pierson; Joe Wilson, head of the National Council for Traditional Arts; Henry Townsend and Judy Luis-Watson. Photos © Ron Weinstock



## DC Blues Society

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**Your mailing label includes date your membership expires. You can renew with application on page 11.**

**Happy New Year**