



Capital Blues Messenger

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

September 2019

Volume 13, Issue 9



After flying cross country, guitarist Tommy Castro capped off the Heritage Blues Festival on the banks of the Ohio River in Wheeling.

A Weekend of Award-Winning Blues in a Beautiful Setting

by Pete Salisbury

The Heritage Blues Festival in Wheeling, WV is in one of the most beautiful spots I have seen a concert—right on the banks of the Ohio River. This year's 19th annual festival featured performers who had won Grammys, Blues Music Awards and/or the International Blues Challenge Awards.

With perfect weather, Cedric Burnside with Lightning Malcolm kicked off the festival on Friday with a powerful show. It was hard to believe all that great music was generated by only one guitarist and one drummer.

Teresa James & the Rhythm Tramps got the crowd going with soulful, R&B vocals, a fine horn section and her driving piano playing. Originally from

Houston, Teresa is based in Los Angeles where she assembled a group of top LA musicians in her band. A favorite song was "I do my drinkin on the weekend!" It was Teresa's first time at the festival and she won over the

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Five Bands. Three Solo/Duo Acts. One Night of Fantastic Music.

2019 Blues Showdown

Call it a showdown, call it a battle, or just call it an evening of great blues music, with local bands doing their best to strut their stuff and punch their ticket to the International Blues Challenge. It happens on Saturday, Sept. 14, at the Silver Spring American Legion, when DCBS hosts its annual Battle of the Bands and Solo/Duo Competition to determine which entry from each category will go to Memphis in January 2020 as the DCBS representative to the IBC. The stakes are high because the IBC is the nation's biggest and most respected showcase for Blues musicians ready to take their acts to national and international stages. Even if an entry doesn't win at the IBC, the experience is so enriching and provides such great exposure that musicians will tell you it is an invaluable and awesome time.

Three solo/duo acts have signed up for the first competition that will be held on Sept. 14: Dave Lange, J.P. Reali, and Paul the Resonator & Vince Fireball. Five bands will then follow for the Battle of the Bands segment of the evening: Alan Marcus Band, Full Power Blues, José Ramirez Band, Ron Hicks Project and What Brave Soul. A biography of each band appears on pages 8, 9 and 10 and the performance schedule is listed above and has been posted to the DCBS website, www.dcblues.org. Plan to come early to catch all the acts so you can make your own decision about your favorites.

Blues Showdown Schedule

Solo/Duo Competition

6:10 pm: Paul The Resonator & Vince Fireball

6:45 pm: JP Reali

7:20 pm: Dave Lange

Battle of the Bands

7:55 pm: Ron Hicks Project

8:30 pm: Alan Marcus Band

9:05 pm: What Brave Soul

9:40 pm: Full Power Blues

10:15 pm: José Ramirez Band

Wanted: Blues Ambassadors!

Want to enjoy outstanding blues music with other like-minded blues fans? Want to have some fun while helping to promote the DC Blues Society? The DCBS needs you! We're looking for enthusiastic, friendly volunteers to staff the DCBS info and merch booth at upcoming events. It's fun and easy! You'll serve as a DCBS ambassador, sharing membership and event information with other attendees. We need help at:

- ▲ Saturday, Sept. 7 at the Greenbelt Blues Festival
- ▲ Saturday, Sept. 28 at the Bluebird Blues Festival, Prince George's Community College

If you can help, please send your name, phone number, email address and which event you are interested in to: president@dcblues.org

Each act will perform a 25-minute set, with 10 minutes between sets. Doors open at 5:30pm (and yes, it is usually a crowded audience), and the music runs 6–11 pm. Tickets

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DC BLUES SOCIETY

P.O. Box 6289

Washington, DC

20015-0289



www.dcblues.org

The DC Blues Society (DCBS) was founded in 1987 and is dedicated to keeping the Blues alive through outreach and education. Its mission is to celebrate, preserve, and promote the Blues as an original American art form. DCBS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, all-volunteer organization that depends on grants, membership, contributions, and volunteers to operate. The DC Blues Society is a proud affiliate of the Blues Foundation.

DCBS is governed by its Board of Directors. Only

DCBS Officers and designated board members are authorized to speak, represent and make commitments on behalf of the organization.

The CAPITAL BLUES MESSENGER is published monthly (unless otherwise noted) and sent by email to members. Back issues are available at www.dcblues.org.

DCBS members are encouraged to submit articles, photos, cartoons, reviews and suggestions to the newsletter. Please submit material via email to newsletter@dcblues.org. Listings from bands and venues should be sent to calendar@dcblues.org. Deadline for all submissions is the 15th of the month prior to publication. Articles should be submitted in MSWord; logos and graphics should be in vector format (.eps or .ai); and photos should be in color in high resolution .jpg format. DCBS reserves the right to edit or refuse any content, including advertising, that it deems inappropriate.



DCBS Board Members

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president@dcblues.org

Vice President: Nick Dale
vp@dcblues.org

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treasurer@dcblues.org

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Felix McClairen

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Felix McClairen
Sam'i Nuriddin
Barry Lee Pearson
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Enjoy the Benefits and Fun of DCBS Membership

Members are key to the livelihood of the DCBS. Members' dues play an important part in helping DCBS fulfill its mission to promote the Blues and the Musicians who keep the music alive, exciting and accessible. Members receive many benefits for their nominal DCBS investment:

- ▲ Discounted rates on advance tickets to DCBS events
- ▲ Friendship of fellow Blues enthusiasts at DCBS's many events
- ▲ Monthly editions of THE CAPITAL BLUES MESSENGER sent by email
- ▲ Priority notices of the latest scheduled area Blues concerts, events and news sent by email
- ▲ Eligibility to win free tickets to area Blues concerts and performances (e.g., City Winery, DC; The Sundry; The Hamilton and more)
- ▲ Opportunities to "get close to the action and the music" by volunteering at DCBS events
- ▲ Taking a supporting role in DCBS's Blues in the Community program, an outreach effort to educate and encourage the rich heritage of Blues music

Join or Renew Today!

Date _____ New Renewal

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____ Phone _____

Family email _____ Second Email _____

If family, list name(s) _____

Annual Dues

- Student: \$15 (include copy of student ID)
- Individual: \$35 per year \$60 two years
- Family: \$45
- Corporate: \$200

Volunteer

- Update Website
- Work shift at a show (DCBS table, door, etc.)
- Promote shows (Distribute fliers, handbills, etc.)
- Raise funds
- Write reviews or take photos for monthly newsletter

Contributions (not dues) are tax deductible. Please allow up to 6 weeks for processing.
DCBS accepts



Return this form with your check or credit card information to:
DC Blues Society
P.O. Box 6289
Washington, DC 20015-0289

Becoming a DCBS member is quick and easy! Use the mail-in application on this page, sign up at the DCBS table at any DCBS event or apply online at www.dcblues.org

2019 DCBS



Blues Showdown

Saturday, Sept. 14

Doors Open: 5:30 pm • Music: 6–11 pm

Solo/Duo Competition

6:10 pm—Paul the Resonator & Vince Fireball

6:45 pm—JP Reali

7:20 pm—Dave Lange

Battle of the Bands

7:55 pm—Ron Hicks Project

8:30 pm—Alan Marcus Band

9:05 pm—What Brave Soul

9:40 pm—Full Power Blues

10:15 pm—Jose Ramirez Band

Winner of
each competition
represents DCBS at the
International Blues
Challenge, January
2020 in Memphis, TN

The Blues Foundation



Tickets

DCBS Members:

\$12 in advance, \$15 at the door

Non-DCBS members:

\$15 in advance, \$18 at the door

Available NOW at:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2019-dcbs-blues-showdown-tickets-70003298751>



American Legion Post 41

905 Sligo Ave. • Silver Spring, MD 20910

Entrance on Fenton St., adjacent to public parking lot

FREE Parking ALL DAY + EVENING SATURDAY!

performers and schedule subject to change

www.dcblues.org • 202-413-3609





PRINCE
GEORGE'S
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE

CENTER *for*
PERFORMING
ARTS



September 28, 2019

Main Stage — Parking Lot F

Vanessa Collier 4-5 pm
Earth, Wind, and Fire Tribute Band 3-3:45 pm
Clarence “Bluesman” Turner 2:15-2:45 pm
Antone “Chooky” Caldwell 1:30-2 pm
Memphis Gold 12:45-1:15 pm
Jesi Terrell 12:10-12:35 pm
David Cole & Main Street Blues 11:40 am-12 pm
Full Power Blues 11:00-11:30 am

Indoor Stage — Proscenium Theater

Piedmont Bluz 1:30-2:30 pm
Mark Puryear, Eric Selby, Jay Summerour 12:30-1:15 pm
Piedmont Blues Workshop 11:30-12:15 pm

Sponsors



EventTech

Comcast



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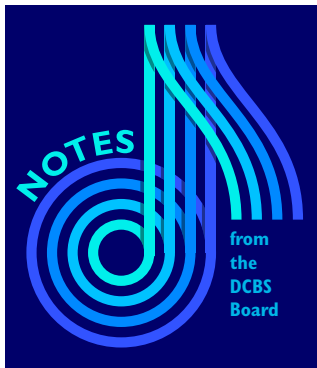
Great Blues and Good Times!

Hello Blues Fans:

Are you ready for another month of great blues and good times?

It's Time to Battle! The DCBS annual Blues Showdown, its Battle of the Bands and Solo/Duo Competition, is set for Saturday, Sept. 14 at American Legion Post 41. For more info, see the flier on page 3 and biographies of the bands and solo/duo acts on pages 8, 9 and 10. You can buy advance tickets at the Eventbrite site, and DCBS members receive a discounted price. The winners of both competitions go to Memphis to compete in the 2020 International Blues Challenge! They also will perform at the College Park Blues Festival on Saturday, Nov. 9.

The Blues Returns to Rí Rá! On Thursday, Sept. 26, Linwood Taylor returns to Rí Rá in



Georgetown for a special DCBS Last Thursday show. See the flier on page 13 for more info.

4th Friday Blues Happy Hours. On Friday, Sept. 27, start your weekend in the fast lane with Fast Eddie and the Slowpokes from 6:30 – 9:30pm at American Legion Post 41. See the flier on page 6 for more info.

17th Annual Greenbelt Blues Festival. On Saturday, Sept. 7, the 17th Annual Greenbelt Blues Festival will be held. See the ad on page 7 for the great line up and times. The DCBS will have a booth at the festival, be sure to stop by!

The Bluebird Blues Festival Returns. On Saturday, Sept. 28, Prince George's Community College presents a great blues line-up at this FREE festival. See the flier on page 4 for more info. This year marks the return of this popular event after a hiatus of a couple years due to construction at the college, and we're delighted to learn the music is rolling once again. The DCBS will have its info and merch booth set up, come visit!

1st Sunday Blues Jam. You never know who is going to show up, but DCBS can promise a good time playing or listening to top area musicians at the jam. The next jam is Sunday, Oct. 6, music goes from 4–8pm.

More & More Ticket Giveaways! The ticket giveaways continue, just look at the list of lucky winners on the left! Be sure to read the weekly eblast to make sure you don't miss a chance to enter to win tickets to see a great blues show for FREE! Thanks to the City Winery DC, The Hamilton Live, The Sundry, Wolf Trap, JV's Restaurant, and AMP at Strathmore for these incredible offers available only to members of the DCBS. If you win tickets and can't go, let us know ASAP so we can offer the tickets to someone else. Remember, if you win a pair of tickets, it's probably paid for your year's membership! Please support the music venues which are keeping blues music alive in the area.

Annual DC Blues Festival Line-up. Last month, we announced a fantastic line-up for the annual DC Blues Festival. See the flier on page 11 for more info on this free event scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 13 at the Wunder Garten. The DCBS is seeking donations to help

2019 DCBS Special Events

Sept. 14: 2019 Battle of the Bands and Solo/Duo Competition

Oct. 13: DC Blues Festival

Nov. 9: College Park Blues Festival

Dec. 31: DCBS New Year's Eve Party

2019 4th Friday Blues Happy Hours

Sept. 27: Fast Eddie & the Slowpokes

Oct. 25: Clarence "The Blues Man" Turner

Nov. 22: The Smokin' Polecats

Dec. 27: Linwood Taylor

cover the costs of putting on this FREE festival. Please contact me if you or a company you know is interested in donating to support the festival. Several levels of sponsorship are available.

College Park Blues Festival. Mark your calendars for this annual festival set for Saturday, Nov. 9. Stay tuned for more details on the bands scheduled to play.

Your memberships and donations are needed to support all DCBS events. And your membership only costs about \$3 a month!

Thank you for your support!

---Pete Salsbury
president@dcb Blues.org

Congratulations, Ticket Winners!

Congratulations to the DCBS members who won free tickets or other benefits to recent events at our partner venues!

Aug. 4 performance by Gabe Stillman at JV's
Mary Knieser

Aug. 11 "Chicago Plays the Stones" featuring Ronnie Baker Brooks and Billy Branch at AMP by Strathmore
Henry Tate

Aug. 22 performance by Ben Harper and the Innocent Criminals and Trombone Shorty at Wolf Trap
Reggie Stout

Aug. 22 performance by John Mayall at The Hamilton Live
Jean Abinade ▲ Carol Salsbury

Aug. 23 performance by Gary Hoey at City Winery, DC
Judy Dulaney ▲ John Verria

Aug. 27 performance by Sol Roots and Ron Holloway at JV's
Paul Brockway

Half-priced appetizer at Aug. 31 performance by the DC Houserockers with Big Joe Maher at JV's
David Hershfield

Is your DCBS membership current? Members receive priority for giveaways and special offers. Your name could be among the winners of tickets to City Winery, DC; The Hamilton Live; JV's in Falls Church; The Sundry; AMP by Strathmore; and Wolf Trap. Watch your DCBS Eblasts, visit dcb Blues.org and follow us on Facebook.

Upcoming Blues Shows at AMP By Strathmore

Thursday, Sept. 5: Marcia Ball ★★

Friday, Sept. 13: Shemekia Copeland ★★

Thursday, Sept. 19: Ana Popovic ◆

Saturday, Sept. 21: Bell Bottom Blues—Eric Clapton Tribute ★★

Saturday, Oct. 5: Popa Chubby ★★

★★ look for ticket giveaway contests exclusively for DCBS members

◆ 10% discount on tickets, exclusively for DCBS members

FREE
Fourth Friday BLUES
HAPPY HOUR



Friday, Sept. 27



**Fast Eddie &
The Slowpokes**

Make America Boogie Again!

Music + Dancin' + Door Prizes + Fun

Music: 6:30–9:30 pm

FREE Admission

Affordable Cash

Bar + Food

American Legion Post 41

905 Sligo Ave. ★ Silver Spring, MD 20910

Entrance on Fenton St., adjacent to public parking lot

FREE Parking AFTER 7 PM



www.dcblues.org ★ 240-876-8295



Solid, New Release from Billy Price: "Dog Eat Dog"

reviewed by Ron Weinstock

It has been at least four decades since Billy Price and the Keystone Band issued their first album. After relocating to Baltimore from Pittsburgh, Price remains quite active with his deep blue-eyed soul. He traveled to Kid Andersen's Greaseland Studios to record this latest recording, *Dog Eat Dog*, released on Gulf Coast Records,



There are also guest appearances from Rick Estrin, Alabama Mike, and Mike Zito, who is Gulf Coast Records co-founder.

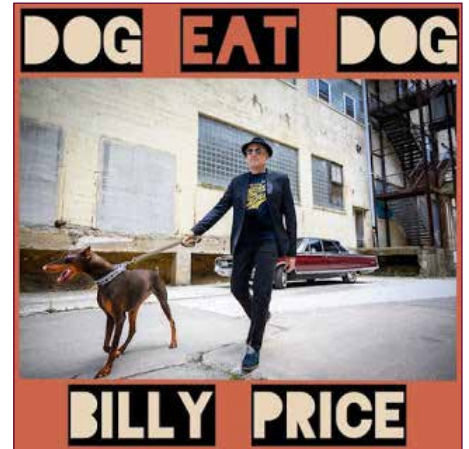
Standout tracks on this include the original "Lose My Number" as he tells his former lover that she can forget about him, as he is still hooked. Then there is

a brassy, strutting interpretation of Bobby Byrd's "We're on Love."

Price has quite a studio band including Andersen on guitar and assorted instruments, Alex Petterson on drums, Jerry Jemmott on bass, Jim Pugh on keyboards, Eric Spaulding on tenor sax, Jack Sanford on baritone sax, and John Halblieb on trumpet. Congas are present on most selections and played by Jon Otis (one of the late Johnny Otis' sons) and Vicky Randle. Randle was also one of the background vocalists along with Lisa Leuschner Andersen, Charlie Owens and the Sons of the Soul Revivers.

The title track, "Dog Eat Dog," was written by Rick Estrin who adds chromatic harp and solos superbly. Alabama Mike adds his powerful singing to that of Price on a topical blues about trying to make it in a world where they sing describing various social ills.

Price's cover of Otis Rush's "My Love Will Never Die" gets to showcase Andersen's incisive guitar as well as the horn section. "All Night Long Café" is a funky original with Mike Zito adding some searing guitar.



French guitarist Fred Chapéllier, a frequent collaborator with Price, co-wrote the cheating blues "Remnants," and the soulful ballad "More Than I Needed." The latter number evokes the classic Philadelphia soul sound.

Dog Eat Dog is another well-produced and solidly recorded new release adding to Price's fine body of recordings.

GREENBELT BLUES FEST 2019

Saturday Sept 7

All Day on the Outdoor Stage

RAIN or SHINE!

- 10am Blue/ Yoga w/ GOT YOGA
- 11am Richie Edwards/ Blue/ Workshops
- 12:00 Dar Stellabotta
- 12:45 Ruben Montoya
- 2:00 Capital Blues Ensemble
- 3:15 Shirleta Settles
- 4:30 Kevin Robinson & KERO
- 5:45 The Mike Westcott Band
- 7:00 Eli Cook

NEW DEAL

 CAFE
 Greenbelt, MD
 301.474.5642

Inside The New Deal Cafe

8:30pm The Smokin' Polecats
 with Marianna Previtti

FREE ADMISSION INDOORS AND OUT

VENDORS and FOOD

GreenbeltBluesFest on facebook

Roosevelt Center Greenbelt, Md

113 Centerway

at Crescent Road & Southway Road

SPONSORED BY Friends Of New Deal Cafe Arts (FONDCA), and The City Of Greenbelt

2019 Blues Showdown

from page 1

are on sale now through Eventbrite, see the flier on page 3 for the direct link. Admission for DCBS members is \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door; non-DCBS members pay \$15 in advance and \$18 at the door. The American Legion Cissel Saxon Post 41 is located at 905 Sligo Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20910. Additional details are on page 3.

A carefully selected panel of judges will rate each performance using a scoring system and criteria similar to the system used at the IBC. The criteria addresses blues content, originality, vocals, talent (instrumental skills), and stage presence, and also considers where the entrant falls on a scale of 1-10, with 10 being assigned for entrants typical of those who play the main stage at major festivals and 1 being assigned to

those more typical of a beginning blues band.

Buy your ticket early through the Eventbrite link on the DCBS website www.dcb Blues.org or the Eventbrite link on the flier on page 3, and come cheer on these terrific contenders! Feel free to bring food into the event. Drink prices are always reasonable. And don't forget your dancing shoes!

Meet the Performers in the Solo/Duo Competition:

Dave Lange

Scheduled to perform at 7:20 pm

Cigar box guitar playin', foot-drum stompin', smooth and smoky vocalin', one man hill country blues band.

Lange conjures up the juke joint blues of the North Mississippi Hill Country. Akin to greats R.L. Burnside and Junior Kimbrough, Lange puts a strong emphasis on the "groove" with driving rhythms and percussion; playing drums with his feet when found without a sideman.

His steady guitar riffs, few chord changes, and unconventional song structures combined with edgy slide playing on either a three-string cigar box guitar made by "some guy in Ohio" or his howling steel resonator is the real deal. Lange's smooth Clapton-esque vocals complement his highly original sound delivering American roots music in a familiar yet fresh way. www.Davelange.net

<https://www.facebook.com/thedavelange>



Paul the Resonator & Vince Fireball

Scheduled to perform at 6:10 pm

Proud to carry the tradition of delta and ragtime blues into the 21st Century and bringing the blues back to Africa.

Paul the Resonator (resonator guitar) and Vince Fireball (blues harmonica) have been playing traditional ragtime and delta blues in the DC, Virginia and West Virginia

area for the past few years, thrilling audiences with a sound that is both archetypal and fresh to the ear. They have performed at the Marietta, Ohio annual blues competition and at the Western Pennsylvania Blues Society competition in Pittsburgh and blues challenges in Richmond, VA and Silver Spring, MD. They were invited guests of the U.S. embassy in Ghana to perform at the annual Independence Day Celebration in June 2017 and of the U.S. embassy in Togo to play at the annual Martin Luther King Day Celebration in January 2018. They enjoy bringing traditional blues back to Africa and finding local African musicians to jam with. <https://www.facebook.com/Paul-the-Resonator-864779756940661/>



J.P. Reali

Scheduled to perform at 6:45 pm

Solo acoustic original piedmont and delta blues

A veteran of the DC music scene, J.P. has evolved from his early days as lead guitar for the psychedelic blues band The Next Step, to half of the acoustic blues/roots duo The Reali Brothers in the 90's, to his current solo career. While J.P.'s repertoire is steeped in the traditions of Piedmont and Delta blues, it also showcases his original blues compositions in a conscious effort to keep these traditional

styles alive. With three solo releases under his belt, *Cold Steel Blues* in 2007, *Bottle of Blooze* in 2010, *The Road to Mississippi* in 2012, J.P. currently has a new studio release out in 2019, *A Highway Cruise*. J.P. won the DCBS Battle of the Bands in the solo category in 2010 and 2011 and competed in The International Blues Challenge in Memphis. He also received Washington Area Music Association nominations for Best Blues Instrumentalist, and Best Traditional Blues Recording. www.jpreali.com, www.facebook.com/jprealmusic

Meet the Performers in the Battle of the Bands:



What Brave Soul

Scheduled to perform at 9:05 pm

Calling All Brave Souls!

What Brave Soul was formed in 2014 in Washington, DC's Eastern Market neighborhood. The group continues to play in DC/MD/VA bars and clubs is currently working on material for their second EP. Major influences include Albert Collins, Jimmy Dawkins, Magic Slim and Buddy Guy. What Brave Soul is committed to turning the next generation of DC music lovers onto the Blues. Band members include Simon Fuerstenberg on piano and vocals, Jack Froude on guitar, Daniel Aaron on drums, Brad McGann on bass, and Garret Mitchel on guitar. <https://www.facebook.com/whatbravesoul/>

The Ron Hicks Project

Scheduled to perform at 7:55 pm

Sounds like: Ronnie Brooks, Nelson Adelard Band, Albert Collins and Buddy Guy

The Ron Hicks Project will play some REAL Chicago Blues which includes some R & B and jazz tunes. The band is viewed as one of the best blues /jazz bands in the metro area. The Electric Chicago Blues styles also include original materials and classic blues styles from Motown to the soulful licks of Muscle Shoals.

The varied vocal talents from several members (Ron, Herbie and Glen) give the band its distinctive and aggressive flavor that is recognized over the DC, Maryland and Virginia area. The Ron Hicks Project Music is spiced in the south, cooked in Chicago and served in the DMV. Members include Ron Hicks on vocals and guitar; Herbie Wheatley on vocals, congas, sax; Glen Alexander on vocals and guitar; James Anderson on drums; Rob Rutherburg on bass; and Don Nadeck on keys. <https://www.facebook.com/Ron-Hicks-Project-148062098670026/>



Alan Marcus Band

Scheduled to perform at 8:30 pm

Electric blues power trio: Magic Sam meets Peter Green

The Alan Marcus band is based in Baltimore, MD and includes Alan Marcus on guitar, slide, and vocals, Alana Florio on bass and vocals, and Joshua Scheps on drums. The trio performs regularly at the 1919 Tavern and Cat's Eye Pub, both in Fells Point section of Baltimore. Their influences include Muddy Waters, Howlin' Wolf, Peter Green, Magic Sam, Luther Johnson, B.B. King, Freddie King, John Mayall and the Bluesbreakers, Johnny Winter, Jimmy Reed and Slim Harpo.

www.facebook.com/AlanMarcusBand/



Sept. 6: BoDeans with Dan Tedesco

Oct. 2: Corky Siegel's Chamber Blues with Lynne Jordan ★★

Nov. 7: Sonny Landreth and Cindy Cashdollar ★★

Nov. 12: CoCo Montoya ★★

Nov. 20: Booker T. Jones ★★

★★ look for ticket giveaway contests exclusively for DCBS members!

Meet the Performers in the Battle of the Bands:



Full Power Blues

Scheduled to perform at 9:40 pm

Full powered entertainment!

Formed with the intent of promoting and preserving the genre of Blues music in the Washington area and beyond, this “highly entertaining” band consists of vocalist Anisha “Mama Moon” Newbill, Dave Harris on harmonica, Sam’i Nuriddin on guitar, Murray Green on sax, Denzil Hathway on bass, and Calvin Newbill, Jr. on drums. The band plays a mix of danceable Blues tunes with a heavy tip-of-the-hat to typical Blues standards. With the singing style of “Mama Moon,” Full Power Blues prides itself on being a tight organization that is sure to be entertaining.

www.FullPowerBlues.com

José Ramirez Band

Scheduled to perform at 10:15 pm



“An incendiary guitarist, even hotter than his homeland.”
Stephen Foster – BBC UK

At 30 years old, José Ramirez is Costa Rica’s Premier Blues Artist and has played with some of the biggest names in the Blues industry, including Anson Funderburgh, Mark Hummel, Bryan Lee, Shawn Holt, and The Nighthawks, to name a few. José recently completed his second European Tour that included over 30 shows throughout Europe (Holland, Belgium, England, Spain, and The Basque Country). Now based out of Washington, DC, “The Costa Rican Blues Ambassador” is working hard on

his new album and on his U.S. Tour that started last month. That tour included venues such as Buddy Guy’s Legends and The House of Blues in Chicago, plus 15 more shows throughout the Midwest and South. Band members include Charles Reds Adkins on bass, Rod Gross on drums, Bronson Hoover on keyboards, and José on guitar and vocals.

www.joseramirezblues.com

Key DCBS Volunteers

DCBS is an all-volunteer organization, and we greatly appreciate the folks who help.

The contributions of energy, ideas and time from our key volunteers keep the DCBS running. Behind every event, jam, newsletter, ticket giveaway and e-blast are the efforts of key volunteers and board members. Several positions are currently open.

If you’re interested in helping, please contact president@dcblues.org

Advertising Coordinator: Jazs

ads@dcblues.org

E-communications Coordinator:

Mary Luceri, Walter Lamar
publicity@dcblues.org

Festival Coordinator: John Neumann

Hospitality Coordinator: Carol Salisbury

Jams: jams@dcblues.org

Jam Team: Robert Anderson, Adam Oppenheim, Russell Scott, Larry Spiwak

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Membership Coordinator:

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Newsletter:

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newsletter@dcblues.org

Ticket Sales: tickets@dcblues.org

Website Administrator: Chris Adams
webmaster@dcblues.org

Vacant Positions:

Blues Calendar Coordinator
Blues in the Schools
Fundraising/Sponsorships
Volunteer Coordinator

DCBS on Facebook: Jazs

DCBS on PayPal: Fred Morser

Area Businesses:

Want Your Message to Reach Local Blues Enthusiasts?

DCBS offers several opportunities for interested vendors to reach its members and the local blues community.

▲ **Advertise** in the monthly CAPITAL BLUES MESSENGER. It’s one of several opportunities for interested vendors to reach DMV blues enthusiasts. Ads may also be placed on the DCBS Facebook page, website or included in eblasts. For more information about advertising, including specifications and deadlines, visit www.dcblues.org or contact ads@dcblues.org

▲ **Donate** a gift certificate or door prize to be presented at a DCBS event. The 4th Friday Happy Hours, 1st Sunday Jams and special events throughout the year attract hundreds of attendees and assure that your firm receives appropriate recognition.

▲ **Sponsor** a DCBS special event. We’re seeking financial support for the DC Blues Festival on Oct. 13 to keep the event free to attendees. For more info, contact president@dcblues.org



30th
ANNUAL

DC BLUES SOCIETY PRESENTS

DC BLUES FESTIVAL

Sunday, Oct. 13

FREE

DC Legends **THE NIGHTHAWKS**
with special guest Clarence "The Blues Man" Turner

Area Favorites **BAD INFLUENCE BAND**

CARLY HARVEY'S KISS AND RIDE winner, 2018 DCBS Battle of the Bands

MATT KELLEY AND IAN WALTERS winners, 2018 DCBS Solo/Duo Competition

1-6PM • FREE • LIVE MUSIC + DANCIN'



at **WunderGarten at NoMa**

1101 First St., NE • Washington DC 20001

at the corner of L Street • one block from the NoMa-Gallaudet stop on the Red Line • commercial parking nearby • craft beers • food trucks • no outside food or beverages

www.dcblues.org ★ 240-876-8295



Heritage Blues Festival: A Weekend of Award-Winning Blues

from page 1

crowd. I hope Teresa comes back to the East Coast.

Grammy Award-winner Victor Wainwright & the Train hit the stage and people rushed to the front of the stage area. Introduced as a “bad ass piano player and a monster entertainer,” Victor looked slim and trim and said he is healthier than ever. What a great band and what a great entertainer! (Do you remember when DCBS hosted Victor for a fantastic show in 2018? We probably can't afford him now!)



A highlight of the Heritage Blues Festival was a “Tribute to Muddy Waters,” presented by The Nighthawks, Rev. Billy C. Wirtz and Bob Margolin.

Elvin Bishop's Big Fun Trio closed out Friday with a fun set. These guys live up to their name with the legendary Elvin just having a lot of fun singing the blues and playing great guitar with his friends in a relaxed style.

Saturday started with a show by the Gabe Stillman Band. Gabe won the Best Guitar Player award at the 2019 International Blues Challenge, and he demonstrated his winning guitar skills. Gabe is also a fantastic singer, songwriter and entertainer. Don't miss him if he comes to the area—this guy is going places!



Gabe Stillman, who won the Best Guitar Player award at the 2019 International Blues Challenge, showcased his singing, playing and entertaining skills on Saturday morning.

Albert Castiglia and his band served up some tasty rockin' blues from Florida that had the crowd packing the dance area near the stage.

Ronnie Baker Brooks hit the stage with his mix of Chicago blues, rock-blues and even some hip-hop blues from his latest album. He wowed the crowd when he walked through the audience playing a long guitar solo.

Ronnie Baker Brooks and Billy Branch led an All Star band playing songs from the new album, *Chicago Plays the Stones*, that features Brooks, Branch and a host of other Chicago Blues musicians.

The show featured new blues arrangements of classic Rolling Stones songs, and it was very cool. While the Rolling Stones started their career playing their interpretations of Chicago Blues, this record returns the favor with Chicago Blues stars playing Stones songs in a Blues style. You gotta see and hear it to believe it. I was impressed!

We went to the Saturday late night jam at the River City restaurant that was hosted by Albert Castiglia. Albert rounded up Gabe Stillman, Danielle Nicole and harmonica wizard Dennis Gruenling, most of the Nick Moss band and others

for a very entertaining and fun jam that reminded me of being on the Blues Cruise.

Day 3 got off to a great start with Vanessa Collier, winner of the Blues Music Award for Best Instrumentalist, Horn. Vanessa gets better every time improving her singing, songwriting and stage presence, on top of her excellent sax playing. She's rising to the top of the blues scene! You can see her locally, on Saturday, Sept. 28 at the Bluebird Blues Festival at Prince Georges Community College.

A highlight of the festival was a beautiful “Tribute to Muddy Waters” show that featured DC's The Nighthawks; Bob Margolin, guitarist from Muddy Waters' band; and Rev. Billy C. Wirtz. While there are many different styles of blues, it's important to not forget the founding fathers and originators. I'm sure Muddy would be proud of the performances of these guys, and the crowd sure appreciated the passion and enthusiasm these incredible musicians put into the show.

Mike Zito with the B.B. King Horns was another special treat. Mike is one of my favorite performers, and the horns added an extra flavor to his great sound. Mike brought out Albert Castiglia and Billy Price to do some new songs from records that have recently been released on Mike's new record label, Gulf Coast Records.

Tommy Castro & the Painkillers concluded the festival with their great show. It was hard to believe these guys played on the west coast of Mexico the night before and then flew across the country to be in Wheeling. To top it off, Tommy brought out his good friend, Mike Zito to close the festival.

Mark your calendars for the second weekend of August 2020 for the 20th anniversary of this great festival. It's going to be hard to top this year's event, but promoter Bruce Wheeler promises it will be an amazing celebration. I plan to be there!



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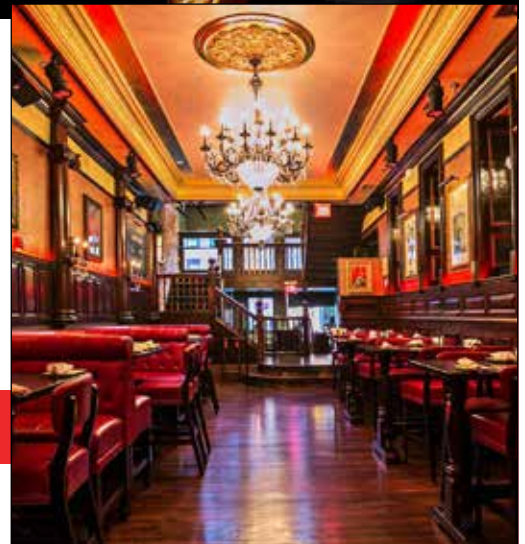
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SEPTEMBER 2019 BLUES

- DCBS 1st Sunday Jam** @ Silver Spring American Legion ▲ **Baltimore Blues Society Presents Alonzo's Memorial Picnic with Nick Moss featuring Dennis Gruenling, Anthony Geraci's Boston Blues All-Stars, Bad Influence, Bush League, others** @ Rosedale American Legion ▲ **Fast Eddie & The Slowpokes** @ Greenbelt Labor Day Festival ▲ **Chris Thomas King** @ Blues Alley ▲ **Fast Eddie & The Slowpokes** @ Downs Park, Pasadena ▲ **The Nighthawks** @ New Deal Café ▲ **Stacy Brooks** @ Madam's Organ ▲ **Charlie Owen & Pocket Change** @ JVs ▲ **Rockin' Jake** @ JVs ▲ **Skyla Burrell** @ 147 North-Winchester VA
- Heart, Spirit & Soul** @ Westminster Church ▲ **Karl Stoll** @ Fish Market, Old Town Alexandria ▲ **Labor Day Open Mic** @ Island Pride Oasis, Gaithersburg
- Marcia Ball** @ Rams Head Annapolis ▲ **Patty Reese** @ Hilton Garden Inn, Falls Church
- Moonshine Society** @ 219
- Marcia Ball** @ AMP By Strathmore **DCBS Ticket Giveaway** ▲ **Wolf's Open Blues Jam** @ New Deal Café ▲ **Blues Dance** presented by Capital Blues @ Glen Echo Park Ballroom Back Room, Glen Echo MD
- Moonshine Society** @ New Deal Café ▲ **Swampcandy** @ Hamilton Loft ▲ **Dave Chappell Band** @ The Music Café ▲ **Karl Stoll Blues Trio** @ Dogwood Tavern, Falls Church
- Greenbelt Blues Festival with Smokin' Polecats featuring Marianna Previti, AEHBF Workshops, Eli Cook, Mike Westcott Band, others** @ Roosevelt Center & New Deal Cafe, see ad on page 7, **Visit the DCBS Booth!** ▲ **Danny Gatton Tribute with 17 local performers** @ Birchmere ▲ **Bad Influence** @ Hamilton Loft ▲ **Fast Eddie & The Slowpokes** @ Bladensburg Arts Festival ▲ **Swampcandy with Dean Rosenthal Trio** @ Rams Head Annapolis ▲ **Sol Roots** @ Villain & Saint ▲ **Kelly Bell Band and others** @ MD Seafood Festival, Annapolis ▲ **Sweet Medicine Band** @ Hershey's ▲ **Karl Stoll Blues Trio** @ Crimson Whiskey Bar, Pod DC Hotel ▲ **Blues and Brews, Backyard BBQ** featuring **Claudette King** paying tribute to her father B.B. King, **Jose Ramirez Band**, **Stacy Brooks** and others @ Drury Ball Park, Lothian, MD ▲ **Jonathan Sloane Trio** at The Music Café
- Along for the Ride** @ 219
- Moonshine Society** @ Westminster Church
- Sol Roots** @ Hill Country BBQ
- Shemekia Copeland** @ AMP by Strathmore **DCBS Ticket Giveaway** ▲ **Built 4 Comfort** @ Barley & Hops, Frederick ▲ **Fast Eddie & The Slowpokes** @ Fager's Island, Ocean City ▲ **Moonshine Society** @ Hamilton Loft ▲ **Charlie Owen & Pocket Change** @ Old Bowie Town Grille; **Texas Chainsaw Horns** @ Music Cafe ▲ **Big Boy Little** @ Lahinch Tavern ▲ **Patty Reese** @ Falls Church Distillers
- DCBS Battle of the Bands & Solo/Duo Competition** @ Silver Spring American Legion ▲ **The Crimestoppers** @ Outta The Way Café ▲ **Johnny & The Headhunters** @ Hamilton Loft ▲ **Karl Stoll** @ In the Streets Festival, Frederick
- Albert Cummings** @ City Winery **DCBS Ticket Giveaway** ▲ **The Nighthawks** @ Kensington Car Show
- 13th Blues Anniversary Blues Jam Session** @ Westminster Church ▲ **Singer/Songwriter Tribute to John Prine** @ St. Mark Presbyterian Church, Rockville
- Jonny Lang, Zane Carney** @ State Theatre
- Ana Popovic** @ AMP by Strathmore **DCBS Member Discount** ▲ **Blues Dance** presented by Capital Blues @ Glen Echo Park Ballroom Back Room, Glen Echo MD
- Cadillac Jump Blues Band** @ Szechuan Inn, Severna Park ▲ **Carly Harvey** @ Market SW ▲ **Jonny Grave** @ Hamilton Loft ▲ **The Roustabouts** @ Hershey's ▲ **Return of the Tom Principato Band** @ JVs ▲ **Vintage#18** @ Blackwall Hitch Annapolis ▲ **The Nighthawks** @ Gloria's Listening Room, Warrenton ▲ **Dave Chappell Band** @ Old Bowie Town Grille
- Bell Bottom Blues Eric Clapton Tribute** @ AMP by Strathmore ▲ **Popa Chubby** @ The Soundry ▲ **Built 4 Comfort with Heather Haze** @ Outta The Way Café ▲ **Fast Eddie & The Slowpokes** @ Big Owl, Grasonville, MD ▲ **Bad Influence** @ Flying Dog Brewery, Frederick ▲ **Carly Harvey & Kiss & Ride** @ Hamilton Loft ▲ **Texas Chainsaw Horns** @ JVs ▲ **Kelly Bell Blues Band** @ Main Street Music Festival, Ellicott City ▲ **Matt Kelley** @ Nanny O'Briens ▲ **Reggie Wayne Morris** @ Lake Shore Tavern, Pasadena, MD ▲ **Vintage#18** @ Blackwall Hitch Alexandria ▲ **The Nighthawks** @ Sligo Creek Golf Course ▲ **Karl Stoll & The Danger Zone** @ Columbia Island Marina
- Roy Buchanan Tribute featuring Billy Price, Mike Zito, Tom Principato, Dave Chappell and more** @ Birchmere ▲ **Fast Eddie & The Slowpokes, Mark Hummel & The Blues Survivors** @ Old Bowie Town Grille ▲ **Carly Harvey** @ JVs
- Shirleta Settles & Friends** @ Westminster Church
- Mark Wenner's Blues Warriors** @ JVs
- DCBS Last Thursday Blues with Linwood Taylor** @ Rí Rá Irish Pub, see ad on page 13 ▲ **Robert Cray Band** @ Birchmere ▲ **New Blue Soul** @ New Deal Café ▲ **Delbert McClinton** with **Jesse Ruben** @ Rams Head Annapolis ▲ **Blues Dance** presented by Capital Blues @ Glen Echo Park Ballroom Back Room, Glen Echo MD
- DCBS 4th Friday Happy Hour with Fast Eddie & The Slowpokes** @ Silver Spring American Legion, see ad on page 6 ▲ **Built 4 Comfort** with **Ron Holloway** @ New Deal Café ▲ **Cadillac Jump Blues Band** @ Bertha's Mussels, Baltimore ▲ **King Soul** @ Old Bowie Town Grille ▲ **Patty Reese** @ Silver New Brasserie

SEPTEMBER 2019 BLUES

- 28** Annual Bluebird Blues Festival with Full Power Blues, Clarence "The Bluesman" Turner, Vanessa Collier, others @ Prince George's Community College, see ad on page 4, **Visit the DCBS Booth!** ▲ DC Mudd @ Porchfest, University Park, MD ▲ Bad Influence @ Red's Table, Reston ▲ **José Ramirez Band, The Nighthawks** @ The Soundry **DCBS Ticket Giveaway** ▲ The Crimestoppers Grateful Dead—Allman Bros. Show @ Hershey's ▲ Jimmy Smooth & The Hit @ JVs ▲ Roger Girke & The Wandering Souls @ Old Bowie Town Grill ▲ Reggie Wayne Morris @ Skystage, Frederick ▲ 1st Annual John Jackson Piedmont Blues Festival featuring Phil Wiggins, Eleanor Ellis, Jeffrey Scott and more @ Eldon Farms, Woodville VA
- 29** Journeyman: A Tribute to Eric Clapton @ Rams Head Annapolis
- 30** Tom Newman Blues Band @ Westminster Church

EARLY OCTOBER 2019

- 2** **Corky Siegel's Chamber Blues with Lynne Jordan** @ City Winery **DCBS Ticket Giveaway** ▲ Roosevelt "The Dr." Collier @ Blues Alley ▲ Reggie Right Eye & the Missing Pieces @ New Deal Café
- 3** The Nighthawks @ Hershey's
- 4** Kelly Bell Blues Band @ Heights at Cathedral Commons ▲ Vintagte#18 @ Hamilton Loft ▲ Patty Reese @ Silver New Brasserie
- 5** **Popa Chubby** @ AMP by Strathmore **DCBS Ticket Giveaway** ▲ Fast Eddie & The Slowpokes @ B Chord Brewery, Round Hill, VA ▲ Bad Influence @ The Music Café ▲ The Crimestoppers @ The Bungalow, Chantilly ▲ Bo Strong Music Festival with Kelly Bell Blues Band @ Daniel's Restaurant, Elkridge, MD ▲ Kurt Crandall & True Story @ Madam's Organ ▲ Vintage#18 @ Art on the Avenue, Alexandria ▲ The Nighthawks @ Old Bowie Town Grille ▲ Linwood Taylor @ Lahinch Tavern ▲ Karl Stoll & the Danger Zone @ JVs
- 6** **DCBS 1st Sunday Jam** @ Silver Spring American Legion; Stacy Brooks @ Madam's Organ ▲ The Nighthawks, others @ Takoma Park Street Festival
- 7** Danny Blew & The Blues Crew @ Westminster Church
- 13** **DCBS Presents 30th Annual DC Blues Festival** @ Wunder Garten, see ad on page 11

BLUES ALL WEEK

Regular Blues Events

The Regular Blues Calendar, below, is provided each month to convey information on recurring blues jams/performance/dances. The Regular Blues Calendar is in addition to the monthly calendar prepared by DCBS.

- SU** **1st Sunday DCBS Blues Jam @ Silver Spring American Legion** ▲ Along for the Ride @ 219 (Most Sundays) ▲ Dirty Ed & The Collaborators Sunday Blues Jam @ Paradiso Italian Restaurant
- M** Blue Mondays @ Westminster Presbyterian Church ▲ Wolf's Blues Jam @ JVs ▲ Capital Blues Ensemble @ 219 Basin St. Lounge (alternates Mondays with Moonshine Society)
- TU** Clusterfunk @ Madam's Organ ▲ Hell's Bottom Blues Jam @ Takoma Park VFW Post 350
- W** Wolf's Blues Jam with Linwood Taylor or Big Boy Little @ Blair's Londontowne Pub ▲ Jesse Shifflet Open Mic @ Station Ale House, North East, MD (frequency varies) ▲ Blues Jam @ Old Bowie Town Grille ▲ Patty Reese @ Ayse Meze Lounge, Frederick
- TH** Wolf's Open Blues Jam @ New Deal Café (1st Thursdays beginning Aug. 1) ▲ Johnny Artis @ Madam's Organ ▲ Blues Dance @ Glen Echo Park Ballroom
- F** **DCBS 4th Friday Happy Hour @ Silver Spring American Legion** ▲ Cadillac Jump Band @ Bertha's (4th Fridays)
- SA** Archie Edwards Acoustic Blues Jam @ New Barbershop Location, 4502 Hamilton St., Hyattsville

Bolded items on calendars of upcoming events are picks by calendar editor and include DCBS, BBS and other events.

Musicians, promoters, and venues:

Send calendar listings to

calendar@dcblues.org

by the deadline, the 15th of the month prior to publication. Events listed are based on the best information possible.

DCBS cannot be held liable for errors in schedules, places or performances listed. It is recommended that you contact venues to verify events.

Visit **www.dcblues.org**

for additional music links and information.

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by Pete Salisbury

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