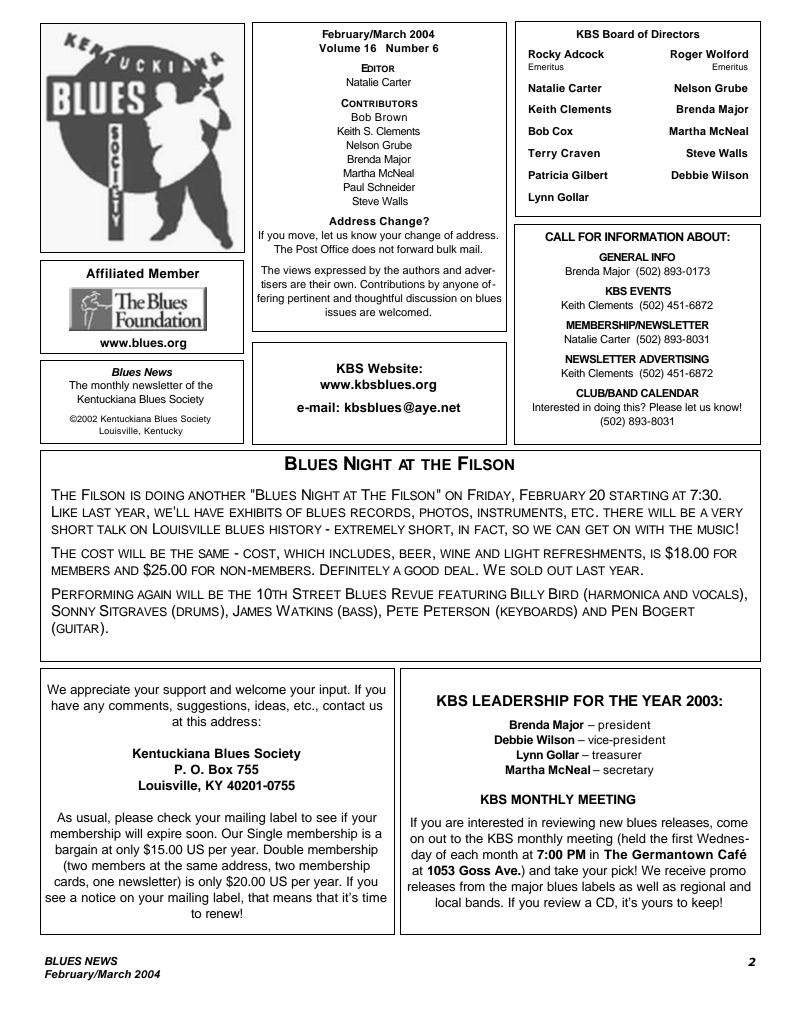


Photo by Keith S. Clements

"Attack of the Killer Hula Hoops" at the Blues to the Point – Two Rivers Blues Festival in Carrollton. More from the festival on pages 5-6.

ANNUAL MARY JEAN ZENA MEMORIAL FEBRUARY 5TH AT ZENA'S. EIGHT BANDS SCHEDULED. CALL 584-3074 FOR DETAILS.

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A LETTER FROM THE PREZ

I've had a pretty quiet blues year so far in 2004 but I hope to remedy that before too long. I did get a good start the other night at the Darrel Nulisch show at Stevie Ray's. I hadn't been out to listen to music in a while. It felt really good to see live music again and Darrel put on a great show as usual. While I was there I talked to David True who is responsible for lots of the pictures we print in the newsletter. He's put together a poster of the neon signs that adorn Beale Street and has done a great job. I bought one and I think lots of you guys, who love Memphis as much as I do, will want to also. David sells the posters for \$25 or framed for \$100. He does his own framing and does a great job. There should be one of the posters hanging at Stevie Ray's to look at with all David's contact information on it. Check it out.

Speaking of Beale Street, it's time for the International Blues Contest again. Sadly, I won't be able to make it this year but I certainly wish the best of luck to The Rock Garden String Band who will be representing the KBS in the contest this year. They're a great traditional blues band and should do very well. Keep your fingers crossed for them. They got a great write up in King Biscuit Time magazine. Of all the bands in the contest they were one of only a handful that got a full write-up. Hope that bodes well for the contest itself!

The best way I know of to get out of a blues slump is to start planning ahead for the festival season and warm weather. And there's finally some good news on the horizon in the festival area. After years of reporting the demise of blues festivals I'm happy to report the birth of a new one. The Cave Run Rock 'n Blues 'n BBQ Festival will be held in Morehead at the Twin Knobs Recreation Area May 28th and 29th. It starts at 4:00pm on Friday and features the DeBellefeuille Brothers Band, Kentucky B3 Four, the Greg Schaber Band, Renee Austin, and the Kentucky Head Hunters. The gates open at 11:00am on Saturday for the BBQ Cook-Off, the DeBellefeuille Brothers Band, the Greg Schaber Band, the Tanita Gaines Band, Michael Burks, and Anson Funderburgh & The Rockers with Sam Meyers. Some of the bands are new names for me, which is always fun. I've heard good things about Renee Austin but have never seen her and I always love Michael Burks and Anson. The Greg Schaber Band is a great group out of the Cincinnati area that has played several festivals here over the years. And as far as I'm concerned if you have barbecue and good music you've got an unbeatable combination. Tickets are \$20.00 for each day or \$35 for a weekend pass. If you purchase your weekend pass by April 30th they are \$30. Call the Morehead Tourism Commission at 606-784-6221 for information and tickets. Although I don't have any information of line-ups yet I have found the dates you need to mark for some of my other favorite festivals. The W.C. Handy Blues and Barbecue Festival in Henderson is the weekend of June 20th, Blues to the Point Two Rivers Blues Festival in Carrollton in scheduled for September 10th and 11th, and the Madison Ribberfest is set for August 20th and 21st. As soon as I get more information on these festivals I'll let you know.

And don't forget our annual Blues Cruise. This year we have scheduled it for May 15th and it should be a blast as usual. We'll be giving you more details soon but mark that date and be ready to get on the bus!

On a much sadder note we lost another one of our own this month. Ron Harris of Ron Harris and the Knott Brothers passed away. Ron was only 52 years old. He and his band were the second place finishers in our 2001 Unsigned Blues Contest. He was a huge man both in stature and in class and he will be sorely missed. I am glad I got to see him play on several occasions. He made quite an impression and I will hold to those memories.

Get out and support the blues. We are losing lots of artists and the only way you can keep them truly in your hearts is to have memories to carry. Hope you have a great blues year in 2004. Do something different. Get out to a live show or catch a festival you haven't been to yet. Come to one of our meetings and get to know some of us. Make it as much of a blues year as the official one was.

Brenda

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

DON'T FORGET TO CHECK YOUR MAILING LABEL AND RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP WHEN YOU SEE IT COMING DUE. THE GRACE PERIOD FOR RENEWAL IS THREE MONTHS PAST THE DATE OF EXPIRATION. THE GENEROUS GRACE PE-RIOD IS DUE TO THE FACT THAT YOUR MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS AND RENEWLS ARE SENT TO A POST OFFICE BOX AND MAY NOT BE PROCESSED FOR UP TO SEVERAL WEEKS. SO IF YOU ARE NEW OR ARE RENEWING IN THE GRACE PERIOD, AND YOU NEED YOUR NEW CARD ASAP FOR ADMISSION OR OTHER KBS MEMBER DISCOUNTS, JUST LEAVE A MESSAGE AT 502-893-8031 AND WE'LL GET YOUR CARD OUT RIGHT AWAY. BETTER YET, COME TO A MEETING AND RENEW IN PERSON. WE'D LOVE TO SEE YOU! PLEASE KEEP YOUR MEMBERSHIP CURRENT AND HELP US KEEP ON KEEPIN' THE BLUES ALIVE.



Johnny B. Moore Rockin' In The Same Old Boat Delmark DG-769

I'm not really that familiar with Johnny B. Moore's work although I have heard some of his other albums. I did like this one the first time I heard it, but after reading the review of it Blues Review I listened a little closer. The first line of the review said, "...buy this album". There's no question about that recommendation. And Johnny is a great Chicago bluesman. He has a great blues voice and is an excellent guitar player. (The review in BR goes into a great deal more detail that musicians would understand about why it sounds so good. I wouldn't even begin to try.) Most of the songs on the disc are covers but done with a twist and done well. As the liner notes and the BR review both said, the choice of songs on the disc is like a set you would hear in a Chicago club, bluesy and soulful.

Johnny is a Clarksdale, Mississippi native who moved to Chicago in 1964 when he was 14. In 1975, at the age of 25, he made his name as a guitarist for Koko Taylor's Blues Machine. Since then he has done several albums on his own. On a sad note, he suffered a stroke just a few weeks after this album was completed. The stroke affected his speech and finger dexterity. He is recovering but this may very well be his best disc. So I guess I must agree, buy this album!

Brenda Major

Burton Gaar Home of the Blues Sound Venture Records

Burton Gaar is a contemporary bluesman who has four CD's to his credit. He is a songwriter, vocalist, bassist, guitarist, harmonica player and producer. His band, at least on this CD, consists of fifteen people including Johnny Neel, (organist formerly with the Allman Brothers), a horn section and backing vocalists. His music is a "soul drenched" blues with liberal use of horns. All but one of the songs on this CD were co-written by Burton.

There are twelve songs on the CD, the opening track being the title track and probably the best of the CD (I have found that this is rarely the case). His vocals are strong and distinctive, sometimes overpowering the music. I personally don't find many blues songs with horn sections that add to the music unless done sparingly and tastefully. A couple of the songs on this CD do just that. There are other songs on the CD like "Mississippi Waters" that have a great use of harp and guitar and are faster-paced than the other cuts. There are no great guitar riffs to be found here, but rhythm guitar is used well to carry some songs. Burton has a couple of harp solos that stand out. Charlie Musselwhite is one of Burton's fans and it is easy to hear why--some songs sound like Charlie's music. Charlie recorded one of Burton's songs from Burton's third CD and even performed it on the Conan O'Brian show.

All in all, the CD has some pretty good music on it. The harp work by Burton is very good but not as abundant as I would like. He shows that he has talent at harp and needs to showcase it. For more information or a taste of the music on this CD, go to www.burtongaar. com.

Bob Brown

the Holmes Brothers Simple truths

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Blues to the Point – Two Rivers Blues Festival September 5th & 6th, 2003 Carrollton, KY

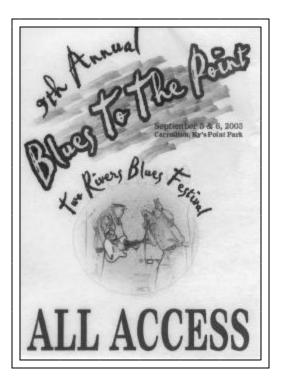




Photo by Keith S. Clements Mike Bradley on harp, with Wayne Young in the background.

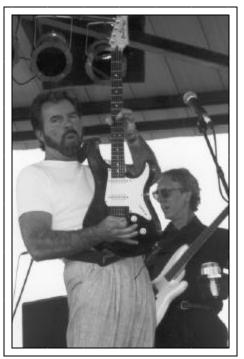


Photo by Keith S. Clements Wayne Young, with Bernie Hancock on bass in background.

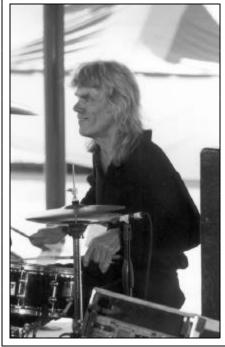


Photo by Keith S. Clements Gary Underwood (of Wayne Young and the Youngsters).

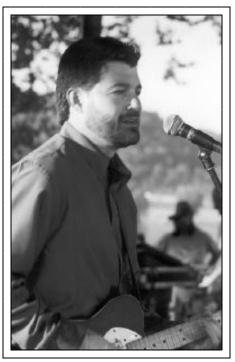


Photo by Keith S. Clements Tab Benoit.

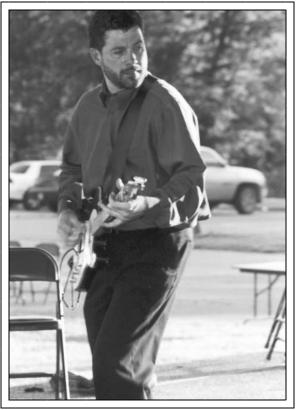


Photo by Keith S. Clements Tab Benoit



Photo by Keith S. Clements Jimmy Thackery

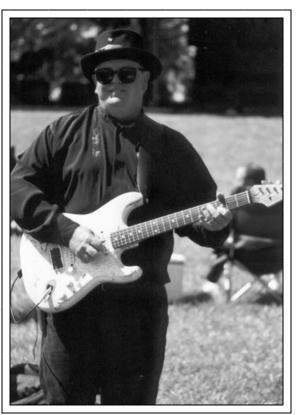


Photo by Keith S. Clements Jimmy Roberts



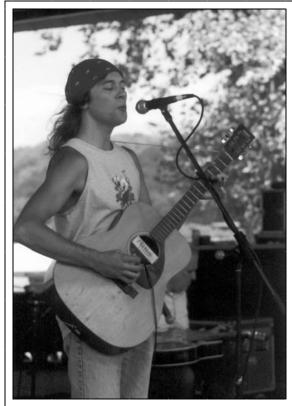


Photo by Keith S. Clements Brian Badgett, of Rock Garden String Band.

New Music Reviews





Fifty Years of Jazz and Blues Delmark Records DX-50 www.delmark.com

That Delmark Records Fiftieth Anniversary happens to occur in the year declared as "The Year of The Blues" may just be a coincidence, but it is great news for fans of the Blues. This 2 disc set is loaded with big names from Delmark's entire catalog, with the oldest recording being *"Boogie Woogie Player"*, by Ammons/Lewis/Johnson from 1939, and the newest recording is *"Broke Man"* from 2003 by Johnny B. Moore.

In between these contrasting dates there is much for the blues lover to discover. If you have ever wished you could visit the Chicago Blues Scene, past or present, this CD set is for you. Great singers, great musicians, and great songs are all represented.

Otis Rush's *"I Can't Quit You Babe"*, Luther Allison's *"Dust My Broom"*, Little Milton's *"Bad Luck"*, Sunnyland Slim's *"I'm just a Lonesome Man"*, and Eddie Burns' *"Lonely Man Plea"* are great renditions that showcase the different styles brought to this CD combination by various artists.

There are also several previously unreleased representations included here and they include Junior Wells' *"Ways Like an Angel"*, Big Joe Williams' *"Midnight Creep"*, Magic Sam's *"Everything's Gonna Be Alright"*, and Sleepy John Estes' *"Time Is Drawing Near"*.

For a blues song to be a great blues song, for me, it has to have some great clean/clear guitar work in it. Steve Freunds' "You Were a Good Old Ride" fulfills those requirements as does Dave Specter's "Blues A-La-King". But then I like Speckled Red's rendition of "Cow Cow Blues", along with Edith Wilson's "Hesitating Blues", both of which are piano driven.

This is a very good collection of songs that will add to every blues lover's collection, whether they have been listening for a long while or are new to the scene. There is a lot here for everyone. If we were using a "five guitar" or "five piano" symbol to rate recordings, this one would get a four and a half.

Nelson Grube

Delmark 50th Anniversary Collection Delmark Records DX-906, 907, 908, 909 www.delmark.com

The Delmark 50th Anniversary Collection *"Saver Series"* could be easily confused with the *"50 Years of Jazz and Blues"* 2 disc CD that was released around the same time. However, there are some differences. First, this four set series goes on the market at the low-low recommended retail price of \$7.98 for each disc. Second, each disc covers a different aspect of the blues.

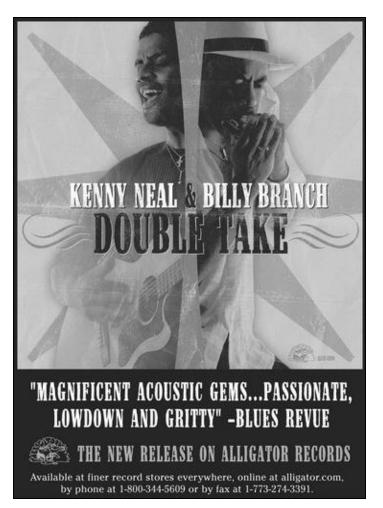
BLUES NEWS February/March 2004 Disc One, Delmark # 906, is entitled "West Side Chicago Blues" and brings us the "driving, high energy sound" of the West Side of Chicago music scene. The nine tracks on this CD are: Otis Rush, "Cut You A Loose", Willie Kent, "Do You Love Me", Magic Sam, "I Need You So Bad", Syl Johnson, "Driving Wheel", Jimmie Dawkins, "Chitlins Con Carne", Tail Dragger, "You Gotta Go", Luther Allison, You Done Lost Your Good Thing", Little Arthur Duncan, "Singin' With The Sun", and Johnny B. Moore, "Sittin' Here Thinkin".

My personal favorites on this one include the Magic Sam and Luther Allison Cuts. If we were using 5 guitars as rating symbols, this one would get four guitars.

Disc Two, Delmark # 907, is entitled "Blues From Up The Country" brings us the blues as originally done in the Southern parts of the United States. Most of these recordings were done in the 1950's and '60's, although some are earlier and some are later. The earliest recording is from 1949, "Rub A Little Boogie", by Champion Jack Dupree, with Brownie McGhee on guitar; the latest recording is from 1996, "Catfish Blues", by Jimmy Burns.

This CD has eleven cuts on it and also includes:

continued on page 8



New Music Reviews





Big Joe Williams, "49 Highway Blues", Robert Nighthawk, "Crying Won't Help You", Arthur Crudup, "That's All Right", (Same song that Elvis helped make famous, this cut is taken from the album "Look On Yonder's Wall" 1951), Sleepy John Estes, "Beale Street Sugar", Curtis Jones, "Lonesome Bedroom Blues", Yank Rachel, "I'm Gonna Get Up In The Morning", J.D.Short, "You Got To Help Me Some", Jimmy Rogers, "That's All Right" and Blind Willie McTell, "Hide Me In Thy Bosom". This is a most interesting compilation and will be of interest to everyday blues fans and Historians. Every time I listen to this CD I hear something that I missed before. Personal favorites include the cuts by Robert Nighthawk and Big Joe Williams. This CD features mostly acoustic instruments. If we were using a 5 guitar rating system, this CD would get 4 guitars.

The Third Disc, Delmark #908, is entitled *"Masters Of The Boogie Woogie Piano"*, and covers the time span beginning in 1939 and ending in 2001. These are all Boogie-Woogie piano recordings, done by people who were/are considered the Masters of this style, and they manage to blend traditional blues and boogie-woogie with some swing that makes for real foot-moving music. Included are boogie-woogie piano pieces by Albert Emmons, Meade Lux Lewis, and Pete Johnson, the players credited with helping to create the great boogie-woogie rage of the 1930's and 1940's. Also included are pieces from Speckled Red, Sir Charles Thompson, Roosevelt Sykes, Ken Saydak, Robert McCoy, Little Brother Montgomery, Steve Behr, and Curtis Jones. If we were using a 5 piano symbol system for ratings, this CD would rate 5 piano's for boogie-woogie piano.

The Fourth Disc, Delmark 909, is entitled *"For Jumpers Only"*, and covers the time period between 1945 and 1954. These are all swing/jump/jazz tunes. On first listen I thought I was listening to a toned down Brian Setzer C.D., but there is nothing toned down about this. Featured on this disc are cuts by Panama Francis, *"Benson's Bounce"*, Arnett Cobb, *"Top Flight"*, and Cab Calloway, *"Shotgun Boogie"*. Personal favorites would include Cat Andersons' *"For Jumpers Only"*, (that Trumpet solo will break glass if you have your stereo cranked up high), and Sir Charles Thompsons' *"Benson Alley"*.

If "Swing is Your Thing", then this C.D. is for you. There is not a bad cut among 12 offered. If we were using a five horn system for ratings, this CD would get five reeds.

Nelson Grube

Anson Funderburgh and the Rockets Which Way Is Texas Rounder Records BEYE9619

I have been a big fan of Anson Funderburgh and the Rockets for many years and I believe this release typifies Anson, Sam Myers and the Rockets at their best. They waltz through classic blues style tunes, never wandering too far from the real roots of the music. Not like Sam Myers, a blues legend in his own right, would ever let them go too far astray. Sam's gritty Mississippi delta vocals and harmonica playing is always on the mark. Sam played drums on some of Elmore James' early cuts and knows how to lay the blues down with feeling and style. In this day of homogenized blues/rock guitar players it is good to know that there are still guitar players like Anson out there who can play the classic blues style guitar and yet still make it sound alive and soulful.

On "Which Way is Texas", Anson and the guys run through a couple of classic blues cuts such as Sonny Boy Williamson's "Trying To Get Back On My Feet" and B.B. King's "Jungle" plus add their own originals such as "Going My Way" and "The Last Time". Anson even sings a cut, the soulful "One Woman I Need". This is a great CD and definitely one worth buying. One of the best blues CD's in 2003!

Steve Walls

Michael Hill's Blues Mob Electric Storyland, Live Ruff Records 1088

Having never heard of Michael Hill, I decided to try this CD to experience what he calls a combo of funk, rock, and swing. Michael hails from New York and it seems that is a whole different form of blues. He is a proficient story writer and he wrote all but two songs on this two disk set. He includes *"Crossroads"* by Robert Johnson and *"Sunshine of Your Love"* by Brown, Bruce, and Clapton. The first CD was recorded at a roadhouse where the small intimacy gave way to a connection to the audience. The second was from a union hall which was more a concert and "show". Personally, I could not tell the difference. Bill McClellan does the drums and vocals, Pete Cummings plays bass and helps with the vocals while Michael hits the guitar.

Michael really loves his city and several songs were written after 9/11 and talks about how planes flying into buildings will not tear the heart from NY, how "Something in the Sky" changed the lives of Americans forever, and not to let anyone take your freedom away. Other songs carry the usual themes of the hard life in the ghetto and its crime, poverty, and trying to get away from the life. "Monticello Nights" even discusses a theme from slave days. He does write about real things and real life and reflects the times we are living in now. Good dance beats as all are about the same tempo. Probably my only beef is that there is not enough variety in sound and tempo for a two CD set.

Martha McNeal



This year's Keeping the Blues Alive Award recipients are:

Advertising and Sponsor - Volkswagen Art - George Hunt, Memphis, TN Blues Club - Theodores', Steve Walbridge, Springfield, MA Blues Organization - Suncoast Blues Society, Tampa Bay, FL Education - Alabama Blues Project, East Tuscaloosa, AL Film American Folk Blues Festival, 1962-66, Vol. 1 and 2; David Peck & Jon Kanis, Reelin' In The Years Productions. San Diego, CA and John McDermott & Janie Hendrix, Experience Hendrix, Seattle, WA Historic Preservation - European Blues Senter, Nottoden, Norway Internet - BluesWax, Des Moines, IA Journalism - Jeff Johnson, Chicago Sun Times, Chicago, IL Literature - Sterling Plumpp, Chicago, IL Manager/Agent - Bonnie Tallman, BC Productions Artist Management, Hughesville, PA Print Media - Southland Blues, Los Angeles, CA Producer - Duke Robillard, Pawtucket, RI Promoter - Chris Mackey, Bayfront Blues Festival, Duluth MN Radio (Commercial) - Andre Mosqueda, KGGO, Des Moines, IA Radio (Public) - Robert Barclay, WCMU, Mt. Pleasant, MI Record Label - Delmark, Bob Koester, Chicago, IL

CONTACT:

Jay Sieleman Director of Administration The Blues Foundation (901) 527-2583 jay@blues.org

Get More Blues News From the Keith S. Clements Monthly Feature *"I've Got a Mind to Ramble"*

in the

Louisville Music News

Rock Garden String Band... GOOD LUCK at the IBC in Memphis!!

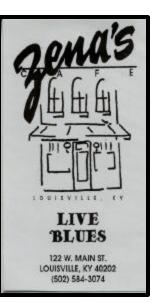




KENTUCKIANA BLUES CALENDAR All Shows Subject to Change Best to Call before Hitting the Road



	Boott	
4	Stevie Ray's	da Mudcats 9 PM \$5
	Zena's Cafe	Blues jam
5	Stevie Ray's	Johnny Rawls Revue 9:30 PM \$5
	Zena's Cafe	Annual Mary Jean Zena Memorial 8 bands scheduled
6	Molly Malone's	Rock Garden String Band
6-7	Stevie Ray's	King Bees and Nigel Mack & The Blues Attack
	Zena's Cafe	(6th) B B Taylor (7th) Junkyard Jane
•	Jim Porter's	Blue Meridian
8	Jollymons	Blues jam 8:30-11:30 PM (6121 Bardstown Rd in Fern Creek)
9	Stevie Ray's	Mem Shannon and the Membership 8PM \$8
10	Stevie Ray's Zena's Cafe	Blues jam 9-11:30 PM no cover Tanita Gaines and Grilled Cheez
11	Stevie Ray's	Blue Swing Shooz 9PM \$5
	Zena's Cafe	Blues jam
12	Stevie Ray's	Lamont Gillispie and 100 Proof Blues Band 9:30 PM \$5
	Stevie Ray's	Most Wanted and The Predators
10 14	Zena's Cafe	(13th) B B Taylor (14th) B B Taylor
	Jim Porter's	Trouble No More
14	The Alternative	Robbie Bartlett and Company 9-12 AM Grand Opening
	Molly Malone's	The Walnut Street Blues Band featuring Ms Artie Chunn
15	Jollymons	Blues jam 8:30-11:30 PM (6121 Bardstown Rd in Fern Creek)
16	Stevie Ray's	Cap'n Jive & The Nail Driven Five no cover
17	Stevie Ray's	Blues jam 9-11:30 PM no cover
	Zena's Cafe	Tanita Gaines and Grilled Cheez
18	Stevie Ray's	Sue O'Neil and Blues Seville 9 PM \$5
	Zena's Cafe	Blues jam
19	Stevie Ray's	Hellfish 9:30 PM \$5
20-21	Stevie Ray's	Jim Diamond & the Groove Syndicate and V-Groove
	Zena's Cafe	(20th) B B Taylor (21st) B B Taylor
	Jim Porter's	George Brackens Blues Band
21	Air Devils Inn	St John's Wort
22	Stevie Ray's	Mary Ann Fisher's House Party call for details 582-9945
~~	Jollymons	Blues jam 8:30-11:30 PM (6121 Bardstown Rd in Fern Creek)
23	Stevie Ray's	Ronnie Baker Brooks 8 PM \$10
24	Stevie Ray's	Blues jam 9-11:30 PM no cover
25	Zena's Cafe	Tanita Gaines and Grilled Cheez
25	Stevie Ray's	Johnny Reed & the House Rockers 9 PM \$5
26	Zena's Cafe Stevie Ray's	Blues jam
26 27	Jollymons	LA Groove 9:30 PM \$5 Robbie Bartlett and Company 9:30-12:30 AM
21	Longshot's Tavern	Sue O'Neil and Blue Seville
	Molly Malone's	Tanita Gaines and Grilled Cheez
27-28	Stevie Ray's	Blue Swing Shooz and Eric Jerardi
0	Zena's Cafe	(27th) BB Taylor (28th) The Blues Cruisers
	Jim Porter's	Rock Bottom Blues Band
28	Molly Malone's	Robbie Bartlett and Company 11-2 AM
29	Jollymons	Blues jam 8:30–11:30 PM (6121 Bardstown Rd in Fern Creek)
1	Stevie Ray's	Eric Sardinias
4	Slippery Noodle (Indy)	Big AI and the Heavyweights
	Stevie Ray's	Robbie Bartlett and Company 9:30-1:30
5-6	Stevie Ray's	Big AI and the Heavyweights
	Jim Porter's	One Card Shy
	Caesar's Indiana	Robbie Bartlett and Company 9-1:45 AM
8	Stevie Ray's	Bobby Messano
11	Stevie Ray's	Frank Bang's Secret Stash from Chicago
13	O'Shea's	Robbie Bartlett and Company
15	Stevie Ray's	Poppa Chubby



KBS members get \$1 off admission Fridays and Saturdays with your current membership card.



MAR

NOTICE TO MUSICIANS AND BANDS!!

Get the word out to your fans and the rest of the blues world about where you're playing. The new sletter and website calendar pages are free services to blues musicians. Call Natalie Carter at (502) 893-8031 or e-mail our webmaster at kbsblues@aye.net with your schedule. Send us photos of your band and we'll put them in the *Blues News*.

Air Devils Inn	2802 Taylorsville Rd.	454-4443	Phoenix Hill Tavern	644 Baxter Ave.	589-4957
Billy's Place	26th & Broadway	776-1327	Stevie Ray's Blues Bar	230 E. Main St.	582-9945
Jim Porter's	2345 Lexington Rd.	452-9531	Zena's Cafe	122 W. Main St.	584-3074
Jollymon's	6121 Bardstown Rd.	231-9511			



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Blues on Louisville Area Radio

<u>The Saturday Night Blues Party</u> 91.9 WFPK, Saturday 9 PM - 12 AM, hosted by Scott Mullins <u>The Sunday Blues Brunch</u> 95.7 WQMF, Sunday 9 AM - 12 PM, hosted by Robb Morrison Blues program hosted by Rich Reese Monday nights on 96.7.

The following supporters of the blues offer KBS members discounts (\$1 off on new blues CDs, \$1 off admission, and \$1 off admission, respectively) with your current membership card. Give them your support!

ear X-tacy Records Stevie Ray's Blues Bar Zena's Cafe

If you have another place where you get the blues, let us know and we'll see if they want to support the KBS.

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Get discounts at ear X-tacy, Stevie Ray's Blues Bar, and Zena's Café.	ADDRESS		
 I AM AVAILABLE AS A VOLUNTEER TO WORK AT KBS EVENTS	CITY/STATE		
Telephone #	ZIP CODE		



Photo by Paul Schneider

Check out the new blues radio station in town....WLBJ 1570 AM



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