

# BLUES NEWS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE KENTUCKIANA BLUES SOCIETY  
“...PRESERVING, PROMOTING AND PERPETUATING THE BLUES.”

Louisville, Kentucky

January 2007

Incorporated 1989



Photo by David True

Sonda Kirkpatrick and Pat Morley of Velveeta Jones. Velveeta Jones, first runner-up in this year's KBS blues talent contest, will be playing at Stevie Ray's on Saturday January 6th.

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January 2007  
Volume 16 Number 38

**EDITOR**

Natalie Carter

**CONTRIBUTORS**

Bob Brown  
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Gary Sampson  
David True

**Address Change?**

If you move, let us know your change of address. The Post Office does not forward bulk mail.

The views expressed by the authors and advertisers are their own. Contributions by anyone offering pertinent and thoughtful discussion on blues issues are welcomed.

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[www.blues.org](http://www.blues.org)

**Blues News**

The monthly newsletter of the  
Kentuckiana Blues Society

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Louisville, Kentucky

**KBS Website:**

[www.kbsblues.org](http://www.kbsblues.org)  
e-mail: [news@kbsblues.org](mailto:news@kbsblues.org)

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Keith Clements (502) 451-6872

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Gary Sampson (502) 724-9971

# Happy New Year!

**TIME TO RENEW?**

Please check the mailing label on your newsletter and keep your membership current.  
(Remember, it may take a couple of weeks to get your new card...call 893-8031 if you need it sooner!)  
Help us keep on keepin' the blues alive!  
KBS thanks you for your support!

**Blues on the Air**

The Saturday Night Blues Party 91.9 WFPK, Saturday 9 PM - Midnight  
Robb Morrison's Blues Brunch (webcast), Sundays 9 AM – Noon [www.1073theroad.com](http://www.1073theroad.com)  
Bad Dog Blues (webcast) 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM [www.baddogblues.com](http://www.baddogblues.com)

We appreciate your support and welcome your input. If you have any comments, suggestions, ideas, etc., contact us at this address:

**Kentuckiana Blues Society**  
P. O. Box 755  
Louisville, KY 40201-0755

As usual, please check your mailing label to see if your membership will expire soon. Our Single membership is a bargain at only \$15.00 US per year. Double membership (two members at the same address, two membership cards, one newsletter) is only \$20.00 US per year. If you see a notice on your mailing label, that means that it's time to renew!

**KBS LEADERSHIP FOR THE YEAR 2007:**

**Gary Sampson – president**  
**Debbie Wilson – vice-president**  
**Chris Grube – secretary**  
**Brenda Major – treasurer**

**KBS MONTHLY MEETING**

If you are interested in reviewing new blues releases, come on out to the KBS monthly meeting (held the first Wednesday of each month at **7:00 PM** at O'Shea's Irish Pub, 956 Baxter Avenue), and take your pick! We receive promo releases from the major blues labels as well as regional and local bands. If you review a CD, it's yours to keep!

## LETTER FROM THE PREZ

Happy New Year! Here's hoping that this issue of Blues News find you healthy and happy for the start of 2007. The Kentuckiana Blues Society begins the new year with a new home. O'Shea's Irish Pub at 956 Baxter Ave. will be the location for all future board meetings. O'Shea's is located near the intersections of Baxter Ave., Highland Ave. and Bardstown Rd. across from the Wick's Pizza. Our meetings are held in the small carriage house behind the beer garden the first Wednesday of every month at 7 pm. All members are welcomed to attend. Don't forget that we receive CD's from the record companies each month and these are free to members who will write a review for the newsletter. Thanks to Brian and his staff at O'Shea's for making us feel very welcomed. Thanks also to the Germantown Café for providing us a meeting location for the last several years.

There is a new blues and jazz jam in town on Sunday nights at Bearno's Pizza 1318 Bardstown Rd. If you have been to the Tuesday night blues jam at Longshot Tavern then you will see some familiar faces. Mike Hood, John Burgard, Andy Brown and Mike Lynch started the jam about a month ago. They are trying something a little different from the straight blues jam at Longshot's so you'll hear a little blues, a little jazz and a lot of good music. Mike Lynch even brings in his upright bass for a different sound. The jam starts at 9 pm and there is no cover but plenty of excellent Bearno's pizza pies.

The winner of this year's blues contest, the Stella Vees, will do a show Saturday, January 20 at Lisa's Oak Street Lounge, 1004 East Oak Street. The band is looking forward to doing a tune-up before heading off to Memphis in February to compete in the Blues Foundation's International Blues Challenge. Please come out and show them your support. The show starts at 9 pm and admission is \$5 but KBS members with a current membership card will get in free. Don't worry if your membership has lapsed. We'll resign you up at the door.

If you've never had an opportunity to make one of the Legendary Rhythm and Blues Cruises here's your chance to get a taste of one if you're willing to make a trek to Newport, KY. On Wednesday, January 31 the Legendary R&B Review Tour will visit the Southgate House at 24 East 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. Tommy Castro will lead a group of musicians including Deanna Bogart, Ronnie Baker Brooks and Richard Salwitz, better known as Magic Dick, his stage name with the J. Geils Band. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 the day of the show. Doors open at 7:30 with music at 8:30. You can get more info on this at the Southgate House website <http://www.southgatehouse.com/>.

Gary



Photo by Gary Sampson

A new jam has started at Bearno's Pizza located at 1318 Bardstown Road across from the Bristol Bar & Grille. The Sunday night jam starts at 9 pm and there is no cover. Pictured above from left to right are Mike Hood, John Burgard, Jason Burgard and Mike Lynch. For more information call Bearno's at 456-4556.



At the November Board Meeting, I was afforded the opportunity to pick a CD to review for the newsletter. These CD's are sent to the Society for promotional purposes. After looking over the available CD's, I noticed one by Cleveland Fats, who I was unfamiliar with, called "The Way Things Go", which featured Robert Lockwood Jr and Billy Branch sitting in on a couple of the songs. On the strength of those two, I took the CD. When I got home I put the CD in the player, gave it a listen and immediately after hearing it through one time, put it on repeat and played it a couple more times. Fats' (Mark Hahn) biography says that he was bitten by the blues bug after listening to BB King on TV. His friend Chuck Ruby, a local DJ, introduced him to Robert Lockwood Jr. in the early 70's. In 1974, Fats became a member of Lockwood's band which he remained in for 18 years. Fats left the band in 1992 to start his own band. Before I could write the review, "Fat's" publicity agent sent an email and offered an interview with him. I jumped at the chance to talk to him about his music, his new CD, etc. The following are excerpts from the interview:

**Bob**-What was it about seeing BB King on TV that so affected you?

**Fats**- I believe it was 1965 and I was 12 years old, and already had a guitar. The music that BB played struck me and I knew it was the kind of music I wanted to play. It's the only music that I play or even listen to.

**Bob**- Were you playing music much before that?

**Fats**- Yes. I had little formal training on the guitar, but played it 8 hours per day and 7 days per week- no exaggeration. When I was 14 years old I had a job playing in bars.

**Bob**- Tell me about when you started playing professionally.

**Fats**- When I was 14, I started playing with a band called the Clarke Brothers in a bar. My cousin Otis Trotter was the vocalist.

**Bob**- You got your big break when you met Robert Lockwood Jr. Tell me about that encounter.

**Fats**- It was in 1973 when we met. Robert was 58 years old at the time. A local DJ introduced me to him and I went to hear him every week. We both loved the same kind of blues. We became close friends.

**Bob**- What part did you play in his band?

**Fats**- Robert emphasized chord work. Freddie King used Robert's chords on "Hideaway". He believed that singers must sing chords too, not just fills. He would allow a musician to play a solo, but not a 15 minute guitar- he wanted to showcase all band members but not to a fault and knew the balance. He liked different tempos and themes. He forced me to sing the first time. He first taught me "Kindhearted Woman".

**Bob**- It must be difficult to talk about him (Note- Robert Lockwood Jr passed away the week before this interview- November 21 at the age of 91. Fats was to be a part of the funeral service two days after this interview), but what is most memorable about him?

**Fats**- He was a real gentleman. He had a good life and was a class act, very dignified. I learned respect and to be a gentleman.

**Bob**- A lot of blues performers today are leaning toward rock, some have made it big in their past with rock. You however have remained true to the blues in its traditional form. Any comments about that?

**Fats**- Yeah. Cleveland Fats played blues when blues wasn't cool. There are certain songs that are considered blues that I won't play. I won't play "Red House" for instance.

**Bob**- Tell me about your new CD. Do you have any favorites?

**Fats**- I enjoy all of them. I had great accompaniment. On "Dead or Alive" Robert and I tried to convey that "back porch" feeling. If you listen you can hear talk in the background as if we are out on the porch.

**Bob**- You may be fortunate enough to have Robert's last recorded performance on your CD. Tell me about its recording.

**Fats**- It was recorded in only three days. "Long Gone" was a favorite of Robert's and mine. It was #2 in Living Blues in December. Robert's wife told me that this CD was his last recording. This is the "maiden voyage" for Honeybee Records and we are enthusiastic about it.

**Bob**- Cell Phone Blues is a twist with traditional blues about modern technology. It is about people who may be too connected. A lot of people like myself can relate to that.

**Fats**- I take all of my songs from personal experience. There are places and times that I don't want to be connected to others.

**Bob**-How was it that you had Billy Branch perform-him being from Chicago did you know him already?

**Fats**-Yes. I knew him and asked him to sit in. We met at King Biscuit years earlier. I consider him the best harp player around.

**Bob**- Tell me about your touring schedule.

**Fats**- I would like to get on the road again. I like to work with local bands also- have a local band open for me. I have played at King Biscuit 6 or 7 times, played the Cape Fear festival, Chicago twice, England's Great Rhythm & Blues Festival in 1988. I was at Stevie Rays (in Louisville) in about 2002. In 1990, I played at the Center for the Arts in Louisville as part of the Lonesome Pine Special. We had Robert, Willie Big Eyes Smith, James Cotton, Pinetop Perkins and Jimmy Rogers. We stayed at the Galt House and Robert always had us treat the places we stayed with respect. The week after we were there, New Kids on the Block set our room on fire.

**Bob**-What type of Equipment do you use?

**Fats**- I have a 1967 Epiphone Casino that I bought for 1 cent in 1985. A guy had the guitar and his son was playing Van Halen and other rock music and this guy told me he would rather I have it than give it to his son for rock. It is the only guitar I play. My amps are all tubes- Fender, Ampeg and Mesa.

Thanks to Cleveland Fats for the interview.

"The Way Things Go" is Fats' fourth CD. There are 12 songs on the CD. Any one of the songs is worth buying the CD for. His husky voice and superb guitar playing make this a real gem. This traditional music with a modern twist and a sense of humor is getting more exposure in Living Blues and Blues Revue magazines, and is getting airplay on XM radio. Robert Lockwood's influence is easily heard in the music (and why not- some of them are his). All of the musicians performed with precision and the recording is well produced. If you like traditional blues, this is one you have to have. You can get it from the usual sources- CDBaby and, Amazon, as well as clevelandfatsblues.com or honeybeeblues.com.

**Bob Brown**



# New Music Reviews



In Your Arms Again  
John Hammond  
Back Porch Records  
70876-18987-2-9

John Hammond has spent his over-40-year career interpreting the music of the blues masters but on his last two releases, *Ready for Love* and *In Your Arms Again*, he has recorded his first original compositions. Those of you familiar with John will already know he's one of the best acoustic players out there but with these releases you can hear him do some of his own music, which is a real treat.

On this disc he includes three original compositions, "Jitterbug Swing", "In Your Arms Again" and "Come to Find Out". He also does an excellent job of covering songs by Bob Dylan, Ray Charles, Percy Mayfield, and several of the blues masters. All-in-all it's delightful John Hammond all the way. I highly recommend it.

**Brenda**



Miller Brothers Band  
Tales From Foundry Town  
©2006 Miller Brothers Band

This band, originally from Detroit, broke up and later re-assembled in LA. They are a talented, tight band, made up of Dave Miller on harp and vocals, Tommy Miller on bass and vocals, Mark Tomorski on guitar, bass and vocals, Al Jacquez doing lead vocals, Frank Charboneaux on percussion, and Bob Ramsey on keyboards.

There are 12 songs on this CD, all originals. All songs tell a story, most have a bluesy storyline about the trials and tribulations of life, however all but a couple are set more to rock music than blues. That is not to say that I did not like the CD. There are a couple that slow the pace down, still in a rock kind of way, reminiscent of how Led Zeppelin did blues. There is some very original music here that will catch your ear.

If you are like me and grew up with rock and discovered its roots later, this is a pretty good CD to own.

**Bob Brown**

**Appearing One Night Only  
Winners of the KBS 2006 Blues Contest  
from Lexington Kentucky**

**The Stella Vees**

**Lisa's Oak Street Lounge ♦ 1004 East Oak Street  
Saturday ♦ January 20 ♦ 9:00 - 1:00**

Admission  
\$5

Free for  
KBS members  
with a valid  
membership  
card


For more info  
call 637-9315



Lisa's is located near the  
corner of Oak and Swan  
just 5 minutes from  
the intersection of  
Bardstown Rd and  
Grinstead Dr

# KENTUCKIANA BLUES CALENDAR

## January 2007

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>31</b>	<b>New Year's Eve</b> See listing below		<b>2</b> Longshot Tavern - Blues Jam 9:30 n/c Zena's - Mark "Big Poppa" Stamperly 10:30 n/c	<b>3</b> Karems Limestone Bay - Mary Driver & Cuzin' Bluz 7-10 Lisa's Oak St Lounge - Blues Jam 9:30 \$2 Wicks's Dixie Hwy. - Blues Jam 8-11 n/c Zena's - Mark "Big Poppa" Stamperly 10:30 n/c	<b>4</b> Stevie Ray's - David Kazl Andrea Davidson 9:00 \$5 Zena's - Mississippi Adam Riggle 10:30 n/c	<b>5</b> Air Devils Inn - River City Blues Jeff Ruby's - Robbie Bartlett 9:30 - 1:00 Jim Porter's - Bella Blue Band/Tyrone Smith Revue Stevie Ray's - Joe Debow 9:00 n/c Stevie Ray's - Lamont Gillispie & 100 Proof 7:30 Stone Cold Blues 10:30 - \$5 Zena's - Don Harris R&B Band 10:30 \$5	<b>6</b> Jeff Ruby's - Robbie Bartlett 9:30 - 1:00 Jim Porter's - Bella Blue Band/Tyrone Smith Revue Stevie Ray's - Lamont Gillispie & 100 Proof 7:30 Valveita Jones 10:30 - \$5 Zena's - Silvercreek Rehab 10:30 \$5
<b>7</b>	<b>Beamo's Bardstown Rd</b> Blues-n-Jazz Jam 9:00 n/c Vito's Place - Blues Jam 8:00 to midnight - \$1	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Longshot Tavern - Blues Jam 9:30 n/c Zena's - Mark "Big Poppa" Stamperly n/c	<b>10</b> Jim Porter's - Rick Bartlett's Rockin' Soul Revival Karems - Mary Driver & Cuzin' Bluz 7-10 Lisa's - Blues Jam 9:30 \$2 Wicks's Dixie - Blues Jam 8-11 n/c Zena's - Mark "Big Poppa" Stamperly 10:30 n/c	<b>11</b> Michael Murphy's - Allen McCoy 6-9 n/c Stevie Ray's - Most Wanted Band 9:00 - \$5 Zena's - Mississippi Adam Riggle 10:30 n/c	<b>12</b> Air Devils Inn - Mr. Wonderful Production Band Caretaker's Quarters - Mary Driver & Cuzin' Bluz 7-10 Jim Porter's - Bluesstom River Bend Winery - Joe Debow 9:00 n/c Stevie Ray's - Jon Justice 7:30 V-Groove 10:30 - \$5 Wick's Baxter Ave - Robbie Bartlett 10-2 Zena's - Don Harris R&B Band 10:30 \$5	<b>13</b> River Bend Winery - River City Blues 9:00 n/c Jim Porter's - Bluesstom Stevie Ray's - Jon Justice 7:30 V-Groove 10:30 - \$5
<b>14</b>	<b>Beamo's Bardstown Rd</b> Blues-n-Jazz Jam 9:00 n/c Vito's Place - Blues Jam 8:00 to midnight - \$1	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Longshot Tavern - Blues Jam 9:30 n/c Zena's - Mark "Big Poppa" Stamperly n/c	<b>17</b> Karems Limestone Bay - Mary Driver & Cuzin' Bluz 7-10 Lisa's Oak St Lounge - Blues Jam 9:30 \$2 Stevie Ray's - Steppenwolf/Guitarist Danny Johnson w/ Robbie Cox 9:00 - \$5 Wicks's Dixie Hwy. - Blues Jam 8-11 n/c Zena's - Mark "Big Poppa" Stamperly 10:30 n/c	<b>18</b> Michael Murphy's - Louisville Blues 6-9 n/c Stevie Ray's - Voodoo Lounge Band 9:00 \$5 Zena's - Mississippi Adam Riggle 10:30 n/c	<b>19</b> Brandan's - Robbie Bartlett 9:30-1:00 Jim Porter's - Rock Bottom Blues River Bend Winery - Joe Debow 9:00 n/c Stevie Ray's - Travellin' Mojo's 7:30 Cheque 10:30 - \$5 Zena's - Don Harris R&B Band 10:30 \$5	<b>20</b> Brandan's - Robbie Bartlett 9:30-1:00 Brown Theater - Jonny Lang 8:00 \$20/\$35 (rescheduled from 11/10) Jim Porter's - Rock Bottom Blues Lisa's Oak St Lounge - Stella Veas \$5 (free to KBS members w/card) Stevie Ray's - Travellin' Mojo's 7:30 Blond Johnson 10:30 - \$5
<b>21</b>	<b>Beamo's Bardstown Rd</b> Blues-n-Jazz Jam 9:00 n/c Vito's Place - Blues Jam 8:00 to midnight - \$1	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Longshot Tavern - Blues Jam 9:30 n/c Zena's - Mark "Big Poppa" Stamperly n/c	<b>24</b> Karems Limestone Bay - Mary Driver & Cuzin' Bluz 7-10 Lisa's Oak St Lounge - Blues Jam 9:30 \$2 Wicks's Dixie Hwy. - Blues Jam 8-11 n/c Zena's - Mark "Big Poppa" Stamperly 10:30 n/c	<b>25</b> Michael Murphy's - Louisville Blues 6-9 n/c Stevie Ray's - Robbie Bartlett 9:00 \$5 Zena's - Mississippi Adam Riggle 10:30 n/c	<b>26</b> Jim Porter's - Rick Bartlett's Rockin' Soul Revival/Boogie Men Blues O'Shea's Irish Pub - Robbie Bartlett 10:30 - 2:30 River Bend Winery - Joe Debow 9:00 n/c Stevie Ray's - Jimmy Davis Band 7:30 Heilfish (CD Release Party) 10:30 - \$5 Zena's - Don Harris R&B Band 10:30 \$5	<b>27</b> Jim Porter's - Rick Bartlett's Rockin' Soul Revival/Boogie Men Blues O'Shea's - Robbie Bartlett 10:30 - 2:30 Stevie Ray's - Jimmy Davis Band 7:30 Heilfish (CD Release Party) 10:30 - \$5 Zena's - PS Willie 10:30 \$5
<b>28</b>	<b>Beamo's Bardstown Rd</b> Blues-n-Jazz Jam 9:00 n/c Vito's Place - Blues Jam 8:00 to midnight - \$1	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Longshot Tavern - Blues Jam 9:30 n/c Zena's - Mark "Big Poppa" Stamperly n/c	<b>31</b> Karems - Mary Driver & Cuzin' Bluz 7-10 Lisa's - Blues Jam 9:30 \$2 Southgate House - Tommy Castro/ Romnie Baker Brooks/Deanna Bogart/ Magic Dick 8:30 \$20/\$25 Wicks's Dixie - Blues Jam 8-11 n/c Zena's - Mark "Big Poppa" Stamperly	<b>1</b> Stevie Ray's - Lazy 11 9:00-\$5 Zena's - Mississippi Adam Riggle 10:30 n/c	<b>2</b> Jeff Ruby's - Robbie Bartlett 9:30 - 1:00 River Bend Winery - Joe Debow 9:00 n/c Stevie Ray's - Sue O'Neill & Blue Seville 7:30 Carbou 10:30 - \$5 Zena's - Don Harris R&B Band 10:30 \$5	<b>3</b> Jeff Ruby's - Robbie Bartlett 9:30 - 1:00 Stevie Ray's - Sue O'Neill & Blue Seville 7:30 Carbou 10:30 - \$5

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**New Year's Eve**  
Jim Porter's - Boogie Men Blues  
Peterson Dumesnil House - The Caretaker's Ball - Lamont Gillispie & 100 Proof Blues 9:00  
Picadome Club House - 469 Parkway Drive Lexington, KY 859-268-8441 - Robbie Bartlett's New Year's Eve Party 8:00 PM - 1:00 AM \$50 ADV - \$60 DOS Reservations 727-6525  
Stevie Ray's - The Predators (Reservations Required - 582-9945)  
Vito's Place - Blues Jam 8-12 \$1  
Zena's - Tim Krekel - \$15 single \$25 Couple includes champagne & hors d'oeuvres

Air Devils Inn - 2802 Taylorsville Road - 454-4443  
Appleby's - 201 Spring St Jeff - 812-283-3663  
BBC - 3929 Shelbyville Rd - 899-7070  
Brandan's - 3921 Shelbyville Rd - 895-1212  
Brown Bag Deli & Pub - 2100 S Preston - 635-6747  
Brown Theater - 315 W. Broadway - 584-7777  
Caesar's Indiana - Elizabeth IN - 877-367-3767  
Captain's Qtrs - 5700 Captain's Qtrs Rd - 228-1651  
Check's Cafe - 110 E. Burnett - 637-9515  
Dutch's Tavern - 3922 Shelbyville Rd - 895-9004  
Eva Mae's Creekside Inn - 6313 River Rd - 228-2882

Galt House - 140 N. Fourth St. - 589-5200  
Grand Theatre - 606 St Clair St Frankfort - 502-226-4157  
Headliners - 1386 Lexington Rd - 584-8088  
Jim Porter's - 2345 Lexington Road - 462-9551  
Jeff Ruby's - 4th & Main Sts - 562-2789  
Joey G's - 218 E Main Madison IN - 812-273-8862  
Karems Limestone Bay - 5801 River Rd  
KV Theatre - 214 Main St Lexington - 859-231-6997  
Lisa's Oak Street Lounge - 1004 E. Oak - 637-9315  
Longshot Tavern - 2232 Frankfort Ave - 899-7898

Manston Hill Tavern - 502 Washington Ave Newport KY 859-581-0100  
Michael Murphy's - 701 South 1st - 587-7916  
Monkey Wrench - 1025 Barrett Ave - 582-2433  
New View Bar & Grill - 7601 Outer Loop - 231-1733  
Past Times - 424 E. Market New Albany - 812-945-9055  
Phoenix Hill Tavern - 644 Baxter Avenue - 589-4957  
R Place Pub - 9603 Whippis Mill Road - 425-8516  
River Bend Winery - 120 S. 10th St. - 540-5650  
Saidentden's Cafe - 1134 E. Breckinridge - 582-9217  
Shenanigans - 1611 Morris Pl - 454-3919  
Shooter's Saloon - 330 Vincennes St New Albany - 812-945-1850

Syr's Lounge - 2403 W Broadway - 776-9105  
T. Eddies - 1145 Logan Street - 636-5300  
Third Base - 134 Spring St Jeff - 812-283-4947  
Trink's Pub - 2225 Preston St - 634-8180  
Stevie Ray's - 230 East Main - 582-9945  
Vito's Place - 1919 Preston Street - 634-1003  
Wick's Pizza - 10966 Dixie Hwy - 995-4333  
Wick's Place - 975 Baxter Ave - 458-1828  
Zena's Cafe - 122 West Main - 584-3074

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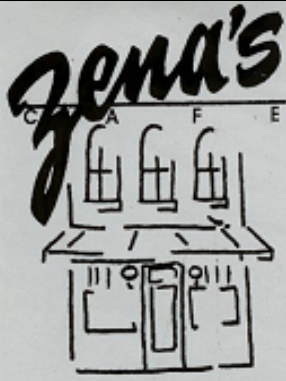
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**PRESERVE, PROMOTE AND PERPETUATE! SUPPORT LIVE BLUES MUSIC!**  
All dates subject to change without notice.

The following supporters of the blues offer KBS members discounts (10% off on blues CDs at ear X-tacy and \$1 off admission from Stevie Ray's, Zena's, Lisa's and Vito's) with your current membership card. Give them your support!

**ear X-tacy Records  
Stevie Ray's Blues Bar  
Zena's Cafe  
Lisa's Oak Street Lounge  
Vito's Place**

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



**Zena's**  
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