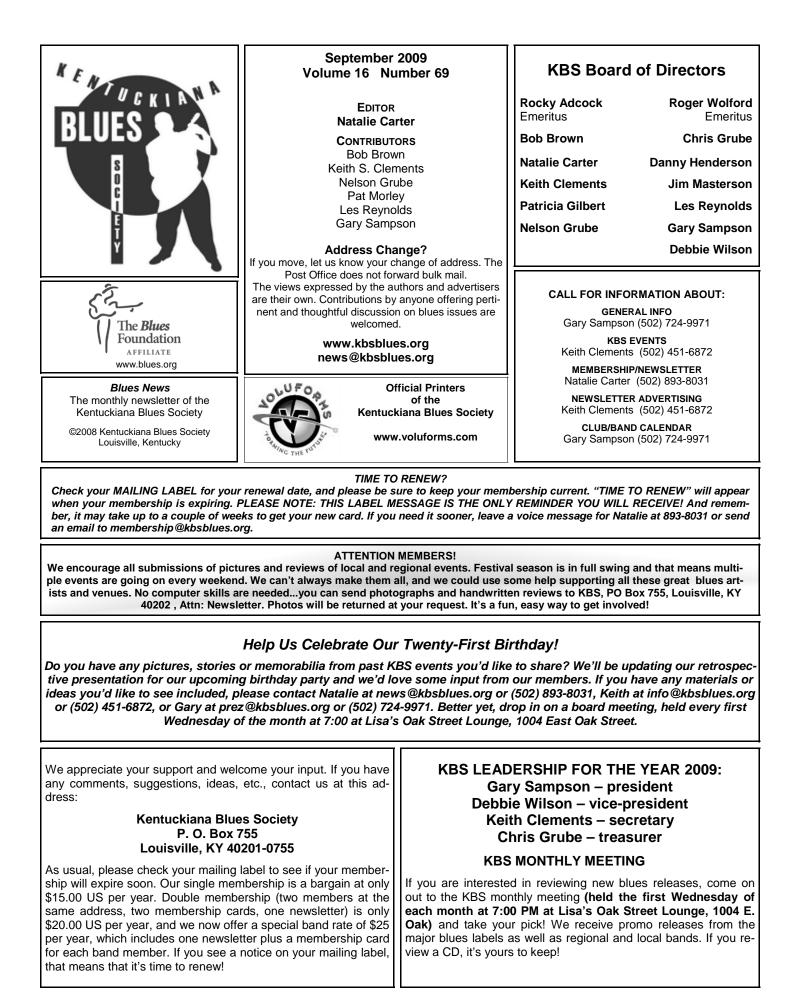


During the month of September Stevie Ray's Blues Bar will feature no less than five national blues acts. Shown above from left to right they are Chris Cain, blues guitarist from San Jose, CA who will come to Louisville on Tuesday, September 1. Darrell Nulisch, soul blues singer and harmonica player from Dallas, TX will appear on Thursday, September 3. Tommy Castro, blues guitarist and the 2008 Blues Music's B.B. King Entertainer of the Year will pack the house at Stevie Ray's on Monday, September 7. Mem Shannon, New Orleans blues guitarist and voted Offbeat magazine's Best Blues Band of 2007, will perform on Monday, September 21. Stacey Mitchhart, Cincinnati, OH native, blues guitarist and local favorite will round out the month on Thursday, September 24. You can always find out when these or other blues acts are coming to Stevie Ray's by checking out their website at http://www.stevieraysbluesbar.com.

IN THIS ISSUE						
KBS News and Contacts	2	Lake Cumberland Blues Boats & BBQ Fest	6			
Letter From the Prez	3	Smokin' on the River	7			
KBS IBC Solo/Duo Competition	4	W.C. Handy Blues & Barbecue Festival	9			
New Music Reviews		Kentuckiana Blues Calendar	10			





The festival season is beginning to wind down in our area but there are still a few worth checking out. The Blues to the Point festival in Carrollton, KY returns September 11 and 12. Held in Point Park at the convergence of the Kentucky and Ohio rivers the festival will feature two stages with fourteen acts. The closer on Friday night will be the 2004 and 2006 KBS band contest winners the Stella-Vees. The Saturday night closer hails from Mississippi. The Bama Band plays a combination of blues, southern rock and country. Check out the ad for the festival in this issue of *Blues News* and get more information on-line at http://www.bluestothepoint.net/.

The Jug Band Jubilee will be held at the Brown-Forman Amphitheater in Waterfront Park on Saturday, September 19. The beginning of jug band music is closely related to the development of blues music. In the early part of the 20th century many musicians were playing both blues and jug music at the same time. Louisville has long been considered the home of jug band music and at noon on the Saturday of the festival a permanent historical marker will be placed on River Road proclaiming this fact. Ten jug bands will be at the festival this year with some coming from as far away as Japan. Check out the full schedule on-line at http://www.jugbandjubilee.com/.

For the second year in a row the Big Rock Jazz Festival will have a blues artist close the show. Robbie Bartlett will bring her blues and R&B show to Cherokee Park on Sunday, October 4. The show will also feature jazz performers Eddie Clark and the Louisville Jazz Collective and the West Market Street Stompers. The festival goes from 2:00 pm to 7:00 pm and admission is free. Be sure to bring a lawn chair or blanket.

The schedule has been announced for this year's Garvin Gate Blues Festival and it is a good one. The festival opens on Friday, October 9 at 6:45 pm with Sue O'Neil and Blue Seville. Sue will be followed by not one but two national blues artists. Stacy Mitchhart will take the stage at 8:00 pm followed by Lil' Dave Thompson at 9:30 pm. Saturday, October 10 will be harp day at Garvin Gate. Every band will feature a harmonica player. The 2009 KBS band contest winners Dick and the Roadmasters get the day started at 3:00 pm. Next up is the Jim Masterson Band at 4:15 pm, Hellfish at 5:30 pm, the Stella-Vees at 6:45 pm and Lamont Gillispie and 100 Proof Blues at 8:00 pm. At the end of the 100 Proof Blues set there will be a harmonica jam featuring Lamont, Joel Pinkerton of Hellfish and Mark Hoekstra of the Stella-Vees. Sugar Blue, a blues harmonica player out of Chicago, will close the show starting at 9:30. We will have a lot more information on Garvin Gate in next month's issue of *Blues News*. You can also find the schedule on the web at http://garvingatebluesfestival.com/.

We are still trying to arrange a youth blues competition in Louisville before the end of November. As a member of the Blues Foundation, the KBS has a right to send a solo/duo act, a band, and youth contest winner to the International Blues Challenge next January in Memphis. We hope to have the contest toward the end of October or beginning of November. If you know of any blues musicians who will be under the age of 21 years by next January 2010 and is interested in the competition please have them contact me. I can be reached at 502/724-9971 or by email at prez@kbsblues.org.

The Kentuckiana Blues Society would like to welcome its latest addition to the board, Cole Kiser. Cole is the lead singer for the Bella Blue Band and it is our great fortune that she has accepted our invitation to join the blues society board. Thank you, Cole, and welcome to the KBS.

The current economic downturn has affected everyone and Stevie Ray's Blues Bar is no exception. Manager Todd Webster is trying to organize an Ultimate Band Practice on Thursday nights at Stevie Ray's in hopes of getting more people to come out and listen to live music. In turn, it will also give blues bands who have not played at Stevie Ray's a chance to practice their licks at Louisville's home of the blues. Bands must schedule their night at the bar. If you are interested, call Todd at 502/387-7365.

Be sure to fill out your ballot for the LEO Weekly Readers' Choice Awards. Ballots can be found in current issues of the LEO or on-line at www.leoweekly.com. You must vote in a minimum of 25 categories and only one ballot per person, please. Voting ends on Friday, September 4 at 5 pm with results published in the September 23 issue. Categories of interest to blues fans include best blues band, best blues bar and best music festival. You could also win an IPOD shuffle.



Gary

Get more Blues News from the Keith S. Clements monthly feature "I've Got a Mind to Ramble" in the Louisville Music News.

2009 KBS/IBC Blues Talent Solo/Duo Competition June 28, 2009 —Lisa's Oak Street Lounge Photos by Keith S. Clements



Shuffling Bubbas (Jim McGee and Jim Webb)



Big Poppa Stampley & Buzz Winkler



Wayne Harper



WINNER! Jon Boy Slim



Miss Lissa & Bobby D (Melissa Young and Bob Dellaposta)



MR2 Unplugged (Mark Barnes and Mike Perry)



Rose Island String Band (Walter Lay and Ted Harlan)





Sally Townes Sundown Blues Cat's Meow Music (BMI)

Over two decades of living and making music in New Orleans have left an indelible mark on Las Vegas-based (and Texas-born) Sally Townes. "Sundown Blue" just oozes New Orleans from all 12 tunes. From the dark, swampy, electric-slide in the opening tune "Angelina" through numerous slow, sensual and hypnotic pianodriven songs thereafter, Townes sultry voice conveys hot and steamy New Orleans nights. Her sweet southern drawl mixes just the right amount of grit(s) with traditional piano blues to remind you of another southern gal who plies her trade in the same way--Marcia Ball. Townes' impeccable sense of rhythm drives the songs while

her own vocals are verdubbed for some sweet, earthy harmonies. Every tune (all originals) is a keeper, and most will have you moving in time to the music--even the really slow ones.

Any review of this recording would be remiss without a mention of the lyrics. Written simply, yet with a clever nuance, the words are phrased--appropriately--in a very southern style. "Angelina, why'd you turn this way?/Angelina, baby why'd you turn this way?/Look so soft and pretty, but you're hard, you're sharp/You just like a cold steel blade..." Sitting at track number seven is "Southeast Big City Blues," which says, in part "...Going up to Jacksonville and a turning left/Gonna ride those rails out towards the west/ Well your sun is hot, but you heart's is cold/You sure is pretty, but you got no soul/Trade your strange flowers and your pure white sand/For some muddy Mississippi farming land..." And closing it all out is her "statement" song titled "Katrina," a spooky, minor chord dirge-like "gospel" march where Townes writes "Woo, Katrina, you ain't got no pity/look like the bomb dropped on these gulf coast cities/Woo, New Orleans, she not done with you/Winds have died, but levees breaking thru...". No matter how much steam is created by the first 11 songs, this last one will give you cold chills all over by the time it's finished.

Townes' mark may be left as a wonderful singer, but her lyrical talent is equal to the task. Consider how "Katrina" ends: "...Woo,, Katrina, one great storm to make it clear/Just how fragile our existence here..."

This is one CD that just totally engages you and sweeps over you mind, body and soul.

Les Reynolds

RONT



Zac Harmon From the Root Northern Blues Music NBM0052

Zac Harmon won the 2004 IBC challenge and followed up with the Best New Artist in the Blues Music Awards in 2006. This, Harmon's debut release for the Northern Blues music label, con-

tains 14 originals mostly penned by Harmon. On it, Harmon sings and plays guitar. Due to space limitations, the other musicians will not be listed here, and probably would require a spreadsheet.

After listening to it several times, I could not pin down Harmon's style. He, quite adroitly, jumps between soul, blues, blues-rock and even Caribbean. The songs that are more bluesy like "Don't Give Me Another Reason" and "Enough" features guitar work much like Michael Burks- distorted guitar fills between lyrics. The second song on the CD has excellent and noteworthy harp by Jimmy Z. "That's What a Woman Wants" has a Caribbean influence, and "Man is Not Meant to Be Alone" features slide on acoustic guitar with harp. One song, "Back Bitin' Back Stabbers" would fit into the soul-funk-blues category (if there is such a thing).

For those readers who have read previous articles by this reviewer, you may know that I am not a fan of soul music. Harmon has found that right combination of blues, soul and rock to satisfy me. Just enough of each to keep the music interesting. His vocals and guitar work are very good, the other musicians are flawless and the recording is exceptional.

This is a CD you should try. I can't imagine anyone not liking at least a couple of songs on the CD

Bob Brown

Lake Cumberland Blues, Boats and BBQ Fest June 20th, 2009 — Lake Cumberland State Dock

The First Annual Lake Cumberland Blues, Boats and BBQ Fest was held Saturday, June 20th at the largest and most progressive marina on beautiful Lake Cumberland, State Dock. This festival came about through an idea spawned by a fellow lake-rat and jam bud of ours at the marina, and was first mentioned last summer after a fun, bourbon-fueled acoustic jam at the dock. We had no experience in running a festival, but we knew what it should look like and how it might work from attending great events around the state ourselves. We learned something from all of them. Mike, Dale, Jennifer, Mark and Dorin, thank you. State Dock had event experience, as they have organized and hosted the biggest and best boating events on the lake (and the biggest parties!) for many years, but hadn't run an all-day music gathering before. This was a great opportunity to add to that long list of successful ventures if we could pull it off. A brief outline was agreed on and the idea was presented to management.

To keep expenses down and give this festival a fighting chance for survival, Velveeta Jones would provide our PA, lights and grunt work to get it up and running, as well as any needed backline gear. Another personal first for me was the task of soundman. I'd hooked this stuff up and maintained it for years but never had the opportunity to sit and mix another band.

The last piece of the music puzzle, the bands. We needed proven "good people" that could bring a good show, but also offer a variety of styles for the ten hours of music we would bring to the lake. I told the bands from the outset this was an uphill battle for blues. South central KY has a few good classic rock stations, but blues is all but non-existent. Our goal was to change that mindset, and hopefully put a festival like this in the lexicon of events that have grown to be their own holidays on the lake that people schedule time off for. They were already used to having a good time, but maybe we could sneak a new soundtrack to those good times in somehow. We got a foot in the door last year, and this time we meant to kick it wide open.

Joining us on one of the hottest days of the year were our friends One Shot Johnny, Chuck Wells and Stone Cold Blues, and the Stella Vees. A late cancellation by one band had me in somewhat of a panic with a slot to fill, but that worked out and became our opportunity to work with The Beat Daddys' Larry Grisham. Larry is quite possibly one of the most gracious dudes you'll ever meet. Even though his band was off and going in different directions this particular weekend, he pulled together an outstanding unit to help us out, including Velveeta Jones' own Mike Anderson on bass.

Barbecue from Danville's Kentucky Smokin' Grille (my neighbor across the creek here at VJ headquarters) and Columbus, OH's The Smokeshack ("Get your bone on!") filled the air with the smoky, heavenly scent of hardwood working it's magic...pulled pork, ribs, chicken....lawd have mercy!

A part of the compensation package was each band having their own houseboat to live on for the weekend. I think they enjoyed just chilling out, swimming, fishing or firing up the grill as much or more than playing music. It reflected in their sets, loose and fun. No stuffy gig attire either, shorts and t-shirts were the order of the day. Rockstar livin' for the weekend.

It was a pleasure playing, and watching the bands work together so smoothly between set changes. These guys knew what to do, and my work was made so much easier because of it. Considering the potential of this festival, bringing the blues to a previously unserved market area and hoping to plant a seed for future growth, I felt a lot was riding on it. I was a little apprehensive at times, especially being a rookie at the controls for someone else's sound. But, they put me right at ease and put on great shows. We didn't have huge numbers in attendance, but it was a good, steady crowd all day and everyone was having a great time. Getting boaters off the water to come in and see what this was all about, on a hot and sunny day when they could be cooling it in the lake...well, that WAS huge. Add to that the land traffic that filled the state park parking areas, and it's safe to say the event was a resounding success for a first-time effort. We heard so many positive comments throughout the afternoon too, from great sound to great variety of music, to the general atmosphere of the event...we felt we had done a pretty good thing at the end of the day.

Our heartfelt thanks to Bill Jasper, Deb Schumann and the fine staff at State Dock for co-sponsoring this new festival with us, one we think was a truly unique blues event for musician and listener alike.



Patrick Morley, Velveeta Jones

What were you doing when YOU were 21?

The Kentuckiana Blues Society will be celebrating out 21st birthday with another big bash at the Vernon Club on Saturday, November 14th. We will again be present-

ing highlights of the KBS and the Louisville blues scene over the past two decades, so if you have any pictures or memorabilia that you'd like to share, please let us know so we can include it. (All submissions will be handled with care and returned to the sender if de-

sired.) Please contact the KBS via email at news@kbsblues.org, or by phone at 893-8031 (Natalie), or 451-6872 (Keith), or by snail mail at KBS, PO Box 755, Louisville, KY 40201-0755. And stay tuned to these pages and to www.kbsblues.org for more details on the birthday bash.

> THINK YOU KNOW THESE GUYS? (See page 8.)

Smokin' On The River June 19th & 20th, 2009 — Jeffersonville RiverStage

Photos by Keith S. Clements

The inaugural "Smokin' on the River" Indiana state barbeque competition was held on June 19th and 20th on the beautiful Jeffersonville riverfront. This Kansas City Barbeque Society-sanctioned state BBQ competition included a professional and an amateur division and even a kids' contest. And of course, some smokin' blues music on the RiverStage as well. Friday's lineup - - da Mudcats and V-Groove. Saturday, the Travlin' Mojos opened, followed by Walter Lay, then Lamont Gillispie and 100 Proof Blues. Marilyn Kington closed the festivities on Saturday night. (Apologies to da Mudcats, V-Groove and the Travlin' Mojos...KBS camera didn't arrive on the scene till Saturday afternoon.) With great music, plenty to eat, a beer garden for the grownups and inflatables for the kids, there was something for everyone and we're already looking forward to next year!



Walter Lay



Marilyn Kington



Lamont Gillispie & 100 Proof Blues





Festival seating on the waterfront





Swinebone c. 1969: Standing from left: Jim Hall, Bryce Wade and Kris Pickhardt. On the floor; left, Bob Hall, right, Nelson Grube

W.C. Handy Blues and Barbecue Festival June 13–20, 2009 — Henderson, Ky

By Nelson Grube

Each year Henderson, Kentucky – the home of none other than W.C. Handy for awhile – sponsors a free Blues & BBQ festival with a Zydeco night thrown in for extra fun. The festival is held in their Ohio Riverbank Park and not only do huge OLD OLD trees provide a lot of shade, but the almost constant breeze off the Ohio brings welcome relief from the heat. Of particular notice to maybe no one is the fact that Ohio River runs north to south at this point.

Usually the festival proper runs from Thursday night thru Saturday night, but this year it began on Wednesday night with Eric Bibb, who put on a great acoustic set, and Lil Dave Thompson, who outdid his recorded music many times over, showing versatility and depth in both his guitar picking and his singing. Then the crowd was on its feet for the Tommy Castro Band. Really good music for a night that usually wasn't. I bet they make the Wednesday night thing permanent.





Lil' Dave Thompson (www.lildavethompson.com)

Chubby Carrier (www.stjohnbluesfestival.com)

Thursday night is always ZYDECO night and along with music by the Crawdaddies and Chubby Carrier and The Bayou Swamp Band came the food – Red Beans and Rice, grilled Andouille Sausage, Gator on a Stick (still wiggling!), and Bread Pudding. There were other Cajun treats and although I imbibed a few – I really didn't want to know what they were. Or care. Zydeco night is – for some reason – the night all the locals pick to show up. There was hardly a spot to park your chair in this night. Chubby Carrier is known as the HAPPY time PARTY man –which maybe has something to do with it.

Friday at noon, the Small Train Blues Band opened the park for the day with their blend of blues, rock and fusion. Next up was the Amazing Soul Crackers featuring Tommy Stillwell, with Jon Rochner, Tim Stanley and Chris Chrockrem - four really unbelievably yougotta-see-'em talented musicians. Added together, over 120 years of playing experience on stage. At four was the Kilborn Alley Blues Band – South and west side of Chicago Blues done up like they was happening in front of you. Six o'clock brought up the inimitable Nick Moss & The Flip Tops. The Nick I saw at the Handy this year bore not much resemblance to the Nick I saw there ten years ago. He was great then too, but now there is something different about the way he moves and plays – very well assured of who he is and his place in the blues I 'd say is the difference. No doubt about his being a guitar slinger. At eight o'clock we were treated to the Soul and Blues/Rhythm and Blues show brought to us by Tad Robinson. The night's closer was Zac Harmon. Born in Jackson, Mississippi on Farish Street, he was deeply influenced by the music he heard in church.

Saturday's opener was Moreland and Arbuckle: cigar box guitar, harmonica and drums, and just as into Led Zeppelin as Little Walter. You had to see this one to believe it. At two, Eric Bibb was back on. He is New York born, now based in London, and his father, Leon Bibb, was part of the '60's New York folk scene. He has been nominated for a Grammy and for many W.C. Handy Awards. THE NIGHTHAWKS, featuring Hubert Sumlin, occupied the 4 to 6 PM time slot and there is not much left to be said about either group. The Nighthawks still work 200 to 300 dates a year – and with 30 years together – and definitely have their act down pat. Mr. Sumlin, on the other hand, has worked with everyone from Howlin' Wolf to Eric Clapton. And these two groups sounded great together. 6 PM - Albert Cummins. I have been an Albert Cummins fan since seeing him get rained and lightning'd out at the Water Tower last year. This year in Henderson he was cooking strong – got down into Hendrix's VOODOO CHILD - when he got a look on his face that said "Ohio! Not again" just before the rain drowned us all and the lightning started taking trees out just across the river. We left. We came back for a short time to see Shemekia Copeland. But just for a few, as the thunder and lightning started up again. Lil' Ed and the

Blues Imperials were supposed to close the show – whether or not they got to play this year, I never did hear. This was a great four day weekend, during which we ate

at Wolf's – KY's oldest tavern – bought shoes from two places, visited the Riverboat in Evansville and stopped at a nice cigar place. Take home for the weekend: 13 pairs of shoes, 6 CD's, and 4 tins of premium cigars. We won a total of \$43.00 on the boat, and it has been explained to me that one never includes one's losses in what one wins.

PS: We hadda take the shoes out of their boxes or two people would have had to ride home with them in their laps.

The Nighthawks (www.thenighthawks.com)

Hubert Sumlin (www.hubertsumlinblues.com)

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www.kystatefair.org		Chris Cain 730 \$15	Mahogany's (Latonia KY) -	Blues Jam 930	Jeff Ruby's - Robbie Bartlett 930	Joey G's (Madison IN) -Roy Gentry 7 PM \$2
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				Jon Boy Slim 10 PM		Ine Lounge - The Lounge Band 930
				Stevie Ray's - St John's		

September 2009

Kentuckiana Club Index—Show dates/times subject to change. It's a good idea to call and check before hitting the road!

4th Street Bar & Grill - 433 4th St - Columbus IN - 812-376-7063 Clifton's Pizza - 2230 Frankfort Ave - 893-3730 Benchwarmers Pizza - 7325 St Andrews Church Rd -368-1148 Boondocks -6646 Flaherty Rd, Vine Grove KY - 270-828-8009 American Legion- 1930 McDonald Ln New Albanv - 945-1944 Bearno's -299 Lafollette Sta -Floyds Knobs IN 812-923-4600 Captains Quarters - 5700 Captains Quarters Rd - 228-1651 Blue River Café- 128 W Main, Milltown IN- 812-633-7510 Applebee's-3030 Grant Line, New Albany-812-941-1600 Brown Bag Deli & Pub - 2100 S Preston St - 635-6747 Bearno's Highlands - 1318 Bardstown Rd - 456-4556 Bearno's by the Bridge - 131 W Main - 584-7437 Cal's Place - 1001 E St Catherine St - 634-3917 Air Devils Inn - 2802 Taylorsville Rd - 454-4443 BBC - Theater Square - 660 S. 4th - 568-2224 Blue Mule - 10301 Taylorsville Rd - 240-0051 Brown Theatre - 315 W Broadway - 584-7777 Carly Rae's - 103 W Oak St - 365-1003 BBC - 3929 Shelbyville Rd - 899-7070

Jerry's on the River-207 River Rd W-Charlestown IN - 812-293-3944 Frankfort Plant Board - 92 Tanglewood Dr - Frankfort 502-223-4990 G. Busy Blues Room - 1474 Anniston Dr - Lexington - 859-299-7710 Connor's Place - 134 E Market St - New Albany IN - 812-725-7055 Electric Lady - 202 Main Street - Madison, IN 812-265-3390 Frazier Intl' History Museum - 829 W Main St - 753-5663 Hog's Tavern - Hwy 62 - Lanesville IN - 812-952-3114 Creekers Bar & Grill - 6330 Bardstown Rd - 762-0370 Eva Mae's Creekside Inn - 6313 River Rd - 228-2882 Derby City Espresso - 331 E Market St - 442-0523 Incredible Dave's - 9236 Westport Rd - 426-4790 Dutch's Tavern - 3922 Shelbyville Rd - 895-9004 Hit The Door - 4101 Preston Hwy - 361-5567 Headliners - 1386 Lexington Rd - 584-8088 Gerstle's - 3801 Frankfort Ave - 899-3609 Flanagan's - 934 Baxter Ave - 585-3211 Jeff Ruby's - 325 W Main St - 562-2789

Mansion Hill Tavern - 502 Washington Ave - Newport - 859-581-0100 Tee-Dee's Bluegrass Progressive Club - 266 E 2nd St - Lex, KY Mellwood Arts & Entertainment Ctr – 1860 Mellwood Ave – 895-3650 Sun Valley Country Club - 6505 Bethany Lane - 937-9228 Kickstand Motorcycle Supp-500 E Main St -Burgin KY- 859-748-5425 Ri Ra Irish Pub - 445 S 4th St - 587-1825 O'Neill's Irish Pub - 2051 Richmond Rd - Lex KY - 859-266-4488 Natasha's Bistro -112 Esplanade - Lexington KY - 859-259-2754 Mahogany's – 3715 Winston Ave – Latonia KY – 859-261-1029 Kentucky Theatre - 214 Main St - Lexington KY - 859-231-6997 Joe's Older Than Dirt – 8131 New LaGrange Rd - 426-2074 Pie Bar - 415 W Short St - Lexington KY - 859-246-0062 Joey G's - 218 E Main St - Madison IN - 812-273-8862 Kingfish - 601 W Riverside Dr - Jeff IN - 812-284-3474 Lisa's Oak Street Lounge - 1004 E Oak St - 637-9315 Longshot Tavern - 2232 Frankfort Ave - 899-7898 Phoenix Hill Tavern - 644 Baxter Ave - 589-4957 Pig City BBQ - 12003 Shelbyville Rd - 244-3535 O'Shea's Irish Pub - 956 Baxter Ave - 589-7373 Kingfish - 3021 Upper River Road - 895-0544 Marm adukes - 4206 Poplar Level - 452-1390 Molly Malone's - 933 Baxter Ave - 473-1222

Third Base Tavern - 134 Spring St - Jeffersonville IN - 812-283-4947 The Boathouse - 400 Athens Boonesboro Rd - Ford, KY- 859-527-0900 Xavier's - 112 Xavier Drive, Bardstown - 502-349-9464 Smith-Berry Winery – New Castle KY - 502-845-7091 Stooges Bar & Grill - 7123 Grade Ln - 363-9803 R Place Pub - 9603 Whipps Mill Rd - 425-8516 Wick's Pizza - 10966 Dixie Highway - 995-4333 Rav Parrella's - 2311 Frankfort Ave - 899-5575 River Bend Winery - 120 S 10th St - 540-5650 Zeppelin Cafe -1036 E Burnett Ave -365-3551 Smyrna Inn - 8201 Smyrna Pkwy - 969-2248 Syl's Lounge - 2403 W Broadway - 776-9105 The Lounge - 947 E. Madison St - 566-5034 Wick's Pizza - 975 Baxter Ave - 458-1828 Stevie Ray's - 230 E Main St - 582-9945 Qdoba - 1500 Bardstown Rd -454-3380



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