

## THE NEWSLETTER OF THE KENTUCKIANA BLUES SOCIETY

"....to preserve, promote and perpetuate the blues tradition."

Louisville, Kentucky

December 2017

**Incorporated 1989** 

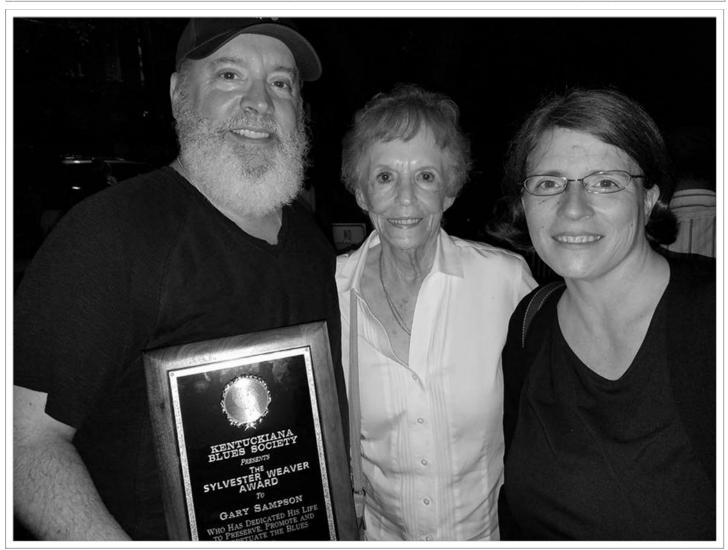
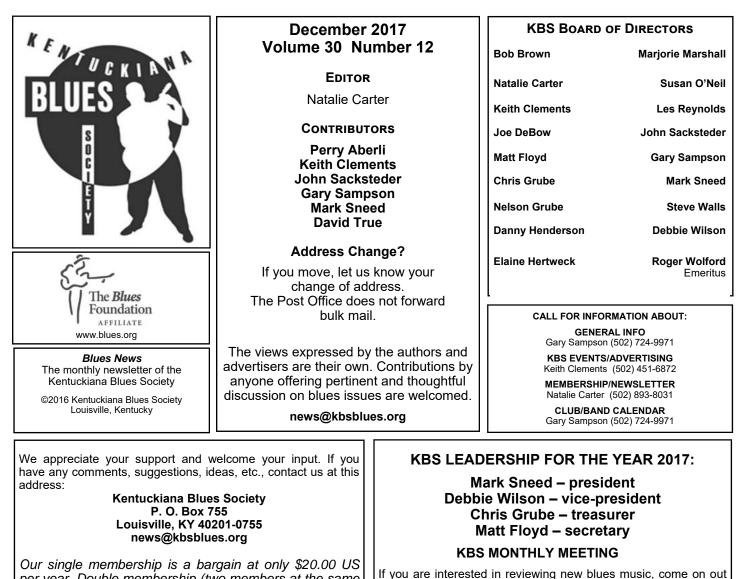


Photo by Cheryl Jaggers

On Saturday, October 14th, at the Garvin Gate Blues Festival, the Kentuckiana Blues Society presented the 2017 Sylvester Weaver Award to former president and current board member Gary Sampson. Gary served as KBS president from 2006-2016 and now, as a director, he produces both the weekly email events calendar and the monthly print calendar for our newsletter. He also co-founded the Germantown-Schnitzelburg Blues Festival with the late Lamont Gillispie and continues as a director of the annual event. Gary produces and hosts the Kentuckiana Blues Radio Hour every Friday from 8:00 to 9:00 PM on 100.9 WCHQ radio and serves as music director at the station. He was a board member of MERF for 7 years and served as vice-president for part of that time. Shown here with Gary are his mother Vicky and his wife Jill.

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per year. Double membership (two members at the same address, two membership cards, one newsletter) is only \$25.00 US per year, and we now offer a special band rate of \$30 per year, which includes one newsletter plus a membership card for each band member.

## The Louisville Blues Compilation Volume II is available exclusively at



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!

to the KBS monthly board meeting (held the first Wednesday of

each month at 7:00 PM at Check's Café in Germantown) and

# Attention Members! Do We Have Your E-mail Address?

From time to time, the Kentuckiana Blues Society gets special offers which we are excited to share with our members. Be sure you get the information in time to take advantage of these discounts, last minute show announcements and other members-only perks.

Please send your current email address to

membership@kbsblues.org

December 2017



KBS President Mark Sneed

#### Greetings, Blues Fans!

I hope you attended our anniversary party November 18<sup>th</sup> and had a really good time. The anniversary committee put a lot of thought into planning it and getting some great performers. The board members are assigned to committees throughout the year and in January we'll be forming these for 2018. Last month we had our elections and the Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President and President positions are staying the same. All the other board members have decided to stay on as directors. We also have voted in three new board members in the past year. Sue O'Neil was voted to join the board in April, Cheryl Jaggers in August and John Sacksteder in November. I'd like to thank them for their willingness to serve on our board. The committees will start meeting on a regular basis early in the year and each committee has an agenda to focus on.

We had our Solo/Duo contest October 29<sup>th</sup>. There were 6 groups who performed and Metro Bluez won the contest. They will be going to the International Blues Challenge in Memphis

along with the band winner One Shot Johnny. I got to catch the last set of One Shot Johnny at Stevie Ray's on November the 4<sup>th</sup>. They were excellent and if you get the chance, buy their new CD. I don't think you'll be disappointed. If you're on the fence about going to the International Blues Challenge in Memphis, now is the time to make a decision. Everyone I've talked to has a really good time and I've seen pictures that prove it. Some of our board members and some of the Kentuckiana Blues Society members show up and support both contest winners. I regretfully will not be able to make it this year. Maybe next year.

Letter From The Pre

We are having a fundraiser for this year's band and solo/duo winners at Stevie Ray's Blues Bar on January 7<sup>th</sup>. Last year's band contest winner, Laurie Jane and the 45's will be performing, along with this year's winners, One Shot Johnny and Metro Bluez. Two other bands will also be performing but the details haven't been finalized at this time. You will be able to get more information in our next newsletter and on our webpage at <u>kbsblues.org</u> or go to Stevie Ray's webpage at <u>www.stevieraysbluesbar.com</u>. The information will be put on those sites once the logistics have been figured out.

There are a couple of shows coming up in Lexington, KY at the Lyric Theatre on December 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. On the 4<sup>th</sup> they have the Roots Music Summit Spectacular with several roots organizations and young performers of the future. The organizations include the Blues Foundation, The Folk Alliance International, The International Bluegrass Music Association and SongFarmers. On the 11<sup>th</sup> they have the United By Music. It is a performance program for musically talented people with developmental and intellectual challenges. Performers include Cristone "Catfish" Ingram, Kenny Neal and Janiva Magness. More information can be found on their webpage at http:<u>www.woodsongs.com</u>.



Love the blues? Wa to get involved. but don't 12 a time ρ Kentuckiana Blues Society has lots thinas vour VOU (as time can  $\mathbf{0}$ blues e 9 Sound interesting a in ek sage at news@ksblues.org for details!

## **Back To The Blues**

For better or worse, it's that time of year again. So, here's your helpful Blues Guide to Christmas presents – suitable for giving to those on your "nice" list or perfect as "me to me" gifts – just remember to act surprised when you open them!

Leading off the list is an item that should have a permanent place at the top of your list every year – just make sure to get one to give and one to keep: it's the **Blues Images Blues Calendar**. These usually become available in October and become more irresistible as Christmas draws nearer. You get a beautiful calendar with original period artwork, a CD that sounds as if it was recorded yesterday (John is using the American Epic technology in restoring these '78s), and a calendar! And, if you fall in love with Number 15, all of the previous ones are still available at the Blues Images website as well as some nice posters and t-shirts.



- •
- Next on the list is a nice boxed set of early Chicago Blues from the many indie labels in the Windy City: Down Home Blues Chicago Style, Fine Boogie. This 5 CD anthology is a quick and sure way to supplement your Blues library with some classic sides of the transitional Chicago Blues sound. There's also a nice 88 page booklet by Mike Rowe, culled mostly from his earlier work, with a great discography. It does, unfortunately, repeat the disproven story about Elmore James' shyness and how the original "Dust My Broom"



was recorded; but that can be easily forgiven. This set, on Wienerworld, is \$35.00 but worth it. And, at 5 CDs and a book, it's a deal!

One of the Blues giants that many members of the KBS had the opportunity to see live in Louisville was Albert King. And this past year saw a fine reissue of his early singles from 1954-62: On My Merry Way: Singles A&B, Earliest Sessions of the Guitar King. There are 25 classic Albert cuts on this issue, which have been remastered. This is a real steal from Jasmine Records.



- I cannot stress enough the beauty and sound of the work of Washington Philips. The recent reissue of his work by Dust to Digital, Washington Phillips & His Manzarene Dreams is a beautifully packaged CD/book of his complete issue sides is a must for the Blues/Gospel side of your music library.
- I know I raved about this book in my last column, and it certainly isn't a new release – like most of the ones above – but if you don't have Nick Tosches', Where Dead Voices Gather, you need to buy it. This is a must, Christmas present or not, as it will provide you with an incredible perspective and insight on all of American "roots" music.

 Finally, let me suggest another Jasmine reissue, this one from 2016: Elmore James & His Broomdusters: Slide Order of the Blues: The Singles As and Bs 1952-1962. This will be a perfect gift for any Blues lover: 51 cuts of straight on Blues.

So, that's it. Enough Blues to go around. Don't skimp, 'tis the season! And, I promise you, any one of these will take you Back To The Blues!

Perry W. Aberli









#### Crossroads V2 By John Sacksteder

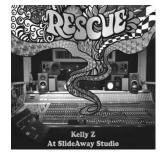
At the recent Garvin Gate Blues Festival, I talked about the blues with a young black man in his early 20's named Erik (with a K he affirmed). The free festival was his first connection with the blues. He expressed that he loved all kinds of music, but he had not heard this style of music before but liked what he had heard. He was not ready to invest in albums yet, but wanted to know what radio stations were playing that style of music. I pulled out Gary's list of late night blues shows, but that availability did not impress him. I rattled off the stalwarts of the blues, but while he "sort of had heard" of B.B. King, Buddy Guy and other big names registered no bells at all. He left our conversation with thoughts that he would try to seek out more information about the music. I, of course, offered the Blues Society as a source but felt an opportunity was lost.

Unfortunately with the lack of venues playing this music and the lack of opportunity to even find most of the major blues releases in any local stores, even some of our more knowledgeable membership is not aware of the large number of releases that occur monthly or even of the major blues groups releasing music. As stated last month, it is my intent to increase the awareness of music coming to this area and of the new music releases. It is up to us to get the word out to others and support the musicians by attending shows and buying their merchandise. Our newsletter regularly provides reviews, but I hope these capsule reviews and information on upcoming shows provide a greater awareness of the great music out there.

#### UPCOMING SHOWS AT STEVIE RAY'S

John D'Amato – December 16 @ 6:30 PM – John played a September 16 show at Stevie Ray's that was undeservedly lightly attended. John has previously been selected by Guitar Player Magazine as one of the eight best guitar players. His vocals are similar to George Thorogood's gruff style. His wife Lauren provides back-up vocals, but steps out on some songs and proves she has solid blues pipes. They provide an excellent musical experience and very audience friendly atmosphere. Local favorites Toad Strangler follows. This is a show that you should not miss.

**Edge of Barstow – December 31 @ 9:00 PM** – The local band consisting of Jacob Logsdon and Ben DeJarnette on guitars and vocals, Phil Longo on drums and vocals and Jim Quiggins on bass provides the music for Stevie Ray's News Year's Eve show. Their sound varies from blues to funk to classic rock with a range from southern rock and Detroit funk.





**Kelly Z – Rescue (Self – Released) –** Kelly Zerbe and her band have been touring nationally and internationally since the mid 90's and have amassed 11 recordings. Kelly belts out her vocals ala Tina Turner and others of that style. This album is a collection of eight cover songs from the 60's covering Funk and R&B. The album opens on James Brown's "What Do I Have To Do". Other songs include lke & Tine Turner's "It's Gonna Work Out Fine", and Isaac Hayes' "Do Your Thing" and finishing with a funked up version of "You Are My Sunshine". Barry Goldberg guests on organ on Michael Bloomfield's "You Don't Realize". The album was recorded on 2011, but sat on the shelf until 2017 until she and producer Chuck Kavooras decided it was time to finish it.



**McKee Brothers – Moon Over Montgomery (Self-Released) –** The McKee Brothers produce high energy, soulful, sometimes even gospel sounding ("Confidential"), blues funk. Led by multi-instrumentalist brothers Denis and Ralph McKee, the album also has a vast array of guest performers including the 2016 "The Voice" runner-up, Laith Al-Saadi and guitar and vocals, Larry McCray on guitar, Lee Thornburg on horns, Maxayn Lewis on vocals and Avast array of others. The opening track "Pig Feet" has a swamp boogie style and "Flat, Black and Circular" also has the New Orleans style. But not all is good times as an uptempo song "Worried About Tomorrow" discusses current events.



**Jimmy Carpenter – Plays The Blues (Vizztone)** – Jimmy Carpenter's career started in North Carolina in 1980. The saxophonist/vocalist quickly became recognized and toured nationally with Tinsley Ellis and Jimmy Thackery. In 2004, he moved to New Orleans where he then worked with Walter Wolfman Washington and Eric Lindell. Most recently he has joined Mike Zito, who produced this album. Although this is his third album, it is his first blues oriented album. Guest artists include Tinsley Ellis, Anders Osborne and Joan Del Toro Richardson. While the focus is his sax, he also lets loose with some funky vocals. The album concludes with the sax standard "Shotgun".



Johnny Fink and The Intrusion (self-released) first formed in 1992 as The Blues Intrusion and have been going string ever since. Most recently the band won the Cincinnati Blues Society's 2017 award for Best Produced album and will represent the CBS in next year's IBC competition in Memphis. The Band placed in the top 8 bands in the 2017 IBC competition. The band moves from The Allman Brothers to Buddy Guy and Lonnie Mack and then throws in covers upon request of just about any classic rock song. Led by Johnny on guitar and backed by the percussion team of Doug Moore on drums and Matt Newman on bass, the band guarantees every show is a good time.



**Likho Duo – Blues and The World Beyond (Likho Records) –** The Likho Duo consists of Noe Socha, a guitar and harmonica player from Carpi, Italy and University of Texas graduate Cliff Schmitt on upright bass for acoustic instrumental blues and a few Italian folk songs (The World Beyond). Socha is also classically trained on piano, cello, and xylophone. Socha is legally blind and Schmitt is blind in one eye, so they took the name Likho, which in Slavic mythology is a one-eyed evil goblin. Noe describes his music as Mississippi Delta channeled through Jimi Hendrix. They certainly present a different sound, but one well worth giving a listen to.



Lara & The Bluz Dawgz – Out Here In The Blue (Lock Alley Music) – Lead singer Lara Germony and her husband Gregg Germony on bass lead a six man group also consisting of Dan Nadasi on keyboards, Al Rowe on guitar, Carlos Ruiz on drums, and Reggie Murray on sax. All are seasoned musicians playing and writing for many other artists. Lara studied classical voice in college and has performed jazz and country as well as blues, but is in the latter form that she has found her niche. This is the group's third album and consists of 11 original songs all written by the Germony's. The group brings a very soulful blues sound with excellent guitar and sax leading the way. Lara's voice is soft and textured and constantly causes those with head bobbing tendencies to keep on the move.



**Kings & Associates – Tales Of A Rich Girl (Big Wing Records)** – This Australian band first formed in 2014 and quickly became a stalwart at blues festivals in that country. But for this, their second album, they moved to the US to get further established. Teaming with Jim Scott, producer and engineer of albums by the likes of Tedeschi –Trucks and The Rolling Stones, the group settled into Nashville with ten original songs for their recording session. The album premiered on the Australian charts as #1 in August 2017. The band is led by the husband and wife team of Angie and Stephen Portolesi. Lead vocalist Angie is strong and plaintive with strong keyboards and guitar work backing her up. The duo believes that blues music can be used to provide a story for our times.



Val Starr & The Blues Rockets – I Always Turn The Blues On (Sandwich Factory Records) – This is Val Starr's fourth album, which consists of 12 original songs. Val has worked in various aspects of the music industry for over 30 years and started one of the first streaming audio networks so she could get her music played. Her songs tend to address love, loss, bad relationships and finding good ones. She testifies on the title song that she gets lost in the music whenever she turns the blues on. Husband and bass player John Ellis teams on Frankie Soul on guitar and Paul Farman on drums and includes guest guitarist Daniel Castro on two cuts and Tim Barron on harmonica. The songs are always rooted in the blues but move from jazzy up-tempo songs to ballads and pure Chicago on "Out With the Old". On "What Happens After Midnight (Nothin' Good)", she cites that after midnight you are better off in bed, but if you do it certainly would not hurt to be listening to this music.





# **Benefit for Mike Alger December 3rd**

Sunday, December 3rd Stevie Ray's Blues Bar 230 E. Main Street Doors Open at 4:00/\$10 Donation Raffles, 50/50, Food Truck and More!

As some of you know, Mike Alger has been undergoing eye surgeries for a detached retina. He's not sure when he'll be able to work again, so we're doing a benefit to help him stay on his feet. Mike has worked with many of our local musicians and lots of them have expressed a desire to help. So far we have da Mudcats, Alternative Facks, Wulfe Brothers, Kessler's Friends and more. Offers are still coming in, so the lineup is not set yet. Updates will be posted on the Facebook event page as details are finalized.

Raffle items are still needed; to volunteer or donate, please contact Cheryl Jaggers via the Facebook event page or at 502-416-5636 or cheryl@kbsblues.org.





# **IBC Kickoff Benefit January 7th**

The Kentuckiana Blues Society is proud to be sending One Shot Johnny to the International Blues Challenge in the Band Category, and Metro Bluez in the Solo/Duo Category. Congratulations to Randy Colvin, Joe Shirley and Jeremiah Kelly, and to Marjorie Marshall and Ken Lucchese. While the prize money from the KBS Blues Challenge is meant to cover most of the cost of competing, several days in Memphis can

get expensive, so every year we throw a little kickoff party to wish our winners well and to add a bit of spending money to the pot. Please come out and help us support our IBC representatives. We'll have One Shot Johnny and Metro Bluez, plus da Mudcats, the Travlin' Mojos and last year's local winners Laurie Jane and the 45s for entertainment, and there will be raffles and a food truck, too! Mark your calendars...we'll have more details in next month's issue!



MUSICIAN APPRECIATION PROGRAM

APPLIES TO ...

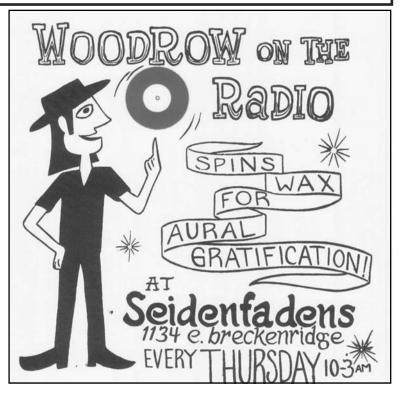
- Kentuckiana Blues Society
- Kentuckiana Association Musicians & Singers
- Nashville Songwriters Association
- All other music groups with card membership

TO GET DISCOUNT CUSTOMER NEEDS ...

- Organization membership card
- Photo ID

BENEFITS ...

- Additional 5% off instrument purchases
- Additional 10% off accessory purchases
- Outside stage use free of charge (as available)
- \$10 off per hour inside stage use rental fee
- \$5 Max Money on 1<sup>st</sup> day of special event/sale



December 2017





*Photo by David True* (Band) Dick & The Roadmasters



Photo by David True (BAND WINNERS!) One Shot Johnny







*Photos by Keith Clements* (Solo-Duo) L-R Jake Groves & Brendan Schultz, Chuck "The Big 4 Bluesman" Morrison, DJ Rice





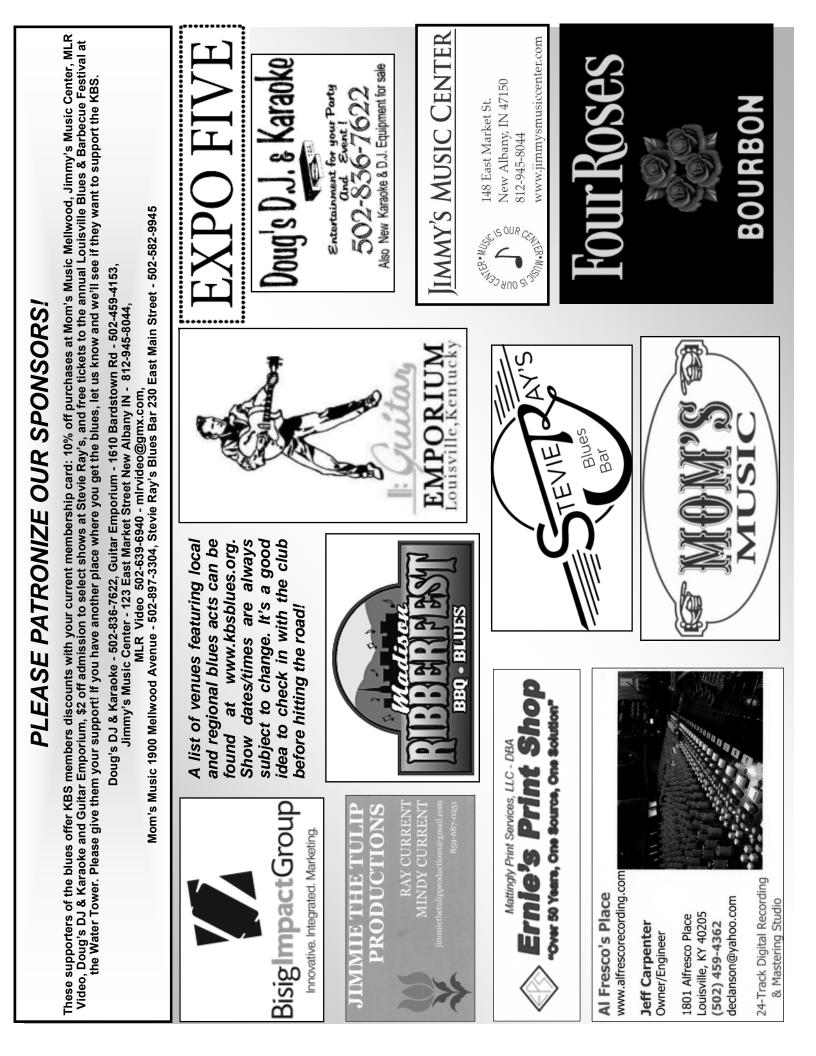
Photos by Keith Clements (Solo-Duo) L-R Freddie Shaw, Wildflower Chronicles, and SOLO-DUO WINNERS, Metro Bluez (Marjorie Marshall and Ken Lucchese)



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-	& Friends	Off Broadway	Eames 6:00			Dallas Cole Band
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<b>Shamrock B&amp;G</b> (Lexington) - Open Jam		<u>Stevie Ray's</u> - Blues Jam 9:00	Sluggers 8:30 Volare – Robbie Bartlett Duo	<u>VFW Post</u> (Madison IN) – Open Jam Volare – Robbie Bartlett Duo		<u>Stevie Ray's</u> - The Subourbons / Lefty and the Lunatics
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	Roots Music Summit	(Lexington) -	Meeting 7:00	-	Brian Franks & Chuck Brisbin 5:00	Crowder and Friends 7:30
	Spectacular	Northside Sheiks 8:00	Linda's Log Cabin (Vernon IN)	Levee at River House - Laurie	Jeff Ruby's - Robble Bartlett 9:00	Chateau Thomas Winery (Nashville IN)
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Shamrock B&G (Lexington) - Open Jam	Magness and more	Off Broadway			Five Below Band 9:00	Ellington Band 8:00
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	Jazz Club (Lexington)					Champions Bar & Grill (Richmond) -
	lee Dee Young Band	Blues Jam 9:00	Stevie Ray's – TBA	Volare – Robbie Bartlett Duo 7:00		Five Below Band 9:00
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Historic State Theater (Elizabethtown) -	Jazz Club (Lexington)	(Lexington) -	Meeting 7:00	Nick Stump Band 8:00		Crowder and Friends 7:30
	Tee Dee Young Band	Northside Sheiks 8:00	Linda's Log Cabin (Vernon IN)	Mick's Lounge (Jeffersonville IN)		<u>Stevie Ray's</u> – TBA
	& Friends	Off Broadway	Open Jam 7:00			
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			Volare – Robbie Bartlett Duo			

# December 2017



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	CITY/ST/ZIP	I would be willing to help out at KBS events	-	
		COMPANY MEMBERSHIP (\$150 ENCLOSED)	-	
	SSJADDA	BAND MEMBERSHIP (\$30 ENCLOSED)	_	
		DOUBLE MEMBERSHIP (\$25 ENCLOSED)	-	
	(S)3MAN	ZINGLE MEMBERSHIP (\$20 ENCLOSED)	-	
YES! I WANT TO JOIN THE KENTUCKIANA BLUES SOCIETY TODAY!				

## GET THE BLUES AND FEEL GOOD ABOUT IT!

Join the Kentuckiana Blues Society today! Single membership is only \$20 per year. As a member, you will receive the Blues News by mail and discounts at our sponsors and at selected KBS events. Dual membership (two people at the same address, two membership cards and one newsletter) is \$25 per year, and we offer a special band rate of \$30 per year, which includes one newsletter plus a membership card for each band member. We have also added a company membership for \$150, with up to 5 membership cards and one newsletter plus a membership card for each band member. We have also added a company membership for \$150, with up to 5 membership cards and one newsletter plus your company logo featured in the Blues News and on our website, www.kbsblues.org. All KBS members who provide an email address will also receive the KBS Blues News weekly update email so you'll always know the latest developments. Support the BLUES by joining the KBS today! Join online at www.kbsblues.org, or fill out the coumail so you'll always know the latest developments. Support the BLUES by joining the KBS today! Join online at www.kbsblues.org, or fill out the coupon above and send with your payment to:

KENTUCKIANA BLUES SOCIETY Attn: Membership Director P.O. Box 755 Louisville, KY 40201-0755



KENTUCKIANA BLUES SOCIETY P.O. Box 755 Louisville, KY 40201-0755