



IBLUES NOTES

www.omahablues.com

VOLUME SEVENTEEN, NUMBER FOUR • APRIL 2012

2012 Nebraska Blues Challenge

Attention All Blues Bands and Blues Fans!

BSO will be hosting a Blues Challenge this spring to once again showcase our amazing local talent. Top three bands will win cash prizes and the winning Band receives paid studio time, several guaranteed paid gigs and travel money to go to Memphis in February 2013 to compete in the International Blues Challenge (visit www.blues.org for complete details on the IBC). It has been said that winning the IBC equates to a media package worth well over \$100,000! Tentative competition schedule is as follows:

Round 1	April 22	The Zoo Bar
Round 2	April 29	Shamrock's
Round 3	May 6	Gator O'Malley's
Finals	May 20	21st Saloon

**Winning Band will open for the Ronnie Baker Brooks show
May 27th at Sumtur Amphitheatre**

Please consider participating in what is certain to be another amazing Blues challenge.
The deadline for registration is APRIL 5TH.

And please feel free to forward this information to any other band you think might want to participate. I am available to answer your questions so give me a call anytime!

Michelle Olmstead, Marketing Director • The Blues Society of Omaha
Mobile: 402-658-573 • Email: molmstead@cox.net



BSO presents
CAROLYN WONDERLAND
at the Waiting Room at 62nd & Maple on Sunday April 8th.
Doors at 4pm, Opening set from The Electroliners at 5pm,
\$20 Cover (or FREE with purchase of BSO Membership at the door. Current BSO Members admission charge just \$10).

"JAMMIN AWAY THE BLUES" Part IV

Featuring KENNY NEAL



**Lil' Slim Blues Band
The Blues Project**

The Bourbon Theater • Lincoln, NE
Saturday April 7th
Doors open @ 6:00 show @ 7:00
Tickets will be \$20.00 in advance



Special Wednesday Blues Matinee
CHRIS DUARTE GROUP
5:30pm • Wed 4/4
21st Saloon • 96th and L
\$10 Cover

The following artists will perform at
21st Saloon located at 4737 S. 96th St. in Omaha, NE
— All shows at 5:30pm —

4/4.....Chris Duarte
4/5.....JP Soars
4/12.....Smokin Joe Kubek and Bnois King
4/19.....Too Slim and the Taildraggers
4/26.....Andrew "Jr. Boy" Jones

BSO General Meeting April 11th at 7 pm at Mc Kenna's • Looking for volunteers to help with BSO committees.

Why donate to The Blues Society of Omaha?

The Blues Society of Omaha, Inc is a 501C3 Non-Profit Organization that was formed in 1998. We are an all-volunteer organization with over 800 members. BSO's mission is to "Keep the Blues Alive". We are recognized as one of the top Blues Societies in the country – a very cool thing for our great city. Through your support we continue to contribute to The Blues, its musicians and events in the area through our sponsorship and volunteer support:

- BSO is a sponsor of Playing With Fire, a series of concerts held each summer on Omaha's riverfront. We support the event financially as well as provide 500+ volunteer hours for each of the events. The PWF concert series has drawn national recognition to Omaha!
- In 2001, BSO created BluesEd, a non-profit youth artist development program which provides opportunities for young musicians to perform with other students in a band format. BluesEd has also gained national attention for Omaha.
- Regularly produces charitable events for musicians in need
- Provides support to The Zoo Bar – Lincoln's award-winning Blues venue
- "Jammin Away The Blues" – annual fundraiser for The Nebraska Mental Health Organization
- Operation Feed the Troops – fundraiser to provide free food to deploying and returning armed forces members and their families
- Annual toy drive for the children of Pine Ridge Reservation

Other Donor Benefits:

- Free monthly subscription to "Blues Notes" – our monthly newsletter that will keep you abreast of Blues events in the area, Blues CD reviews and other articles of interest to Blues connoisseurs!
- Weekly e-blasts with late-breaking Blues news
- Invitation to special events and parties
- Special pre-sale and discounted tickets to select events
- Various discounts offered by BSO advertisers
- Pride in belonging to a group dedicated to "Keeping The Blues Alive!"

Please consider switching to the GREEN VERSION of Blues Notes. You will be saving the planet while saving BSO some expense. Contact Nancy at nwalsh6@cox.net to switch to e-mail newsletter delivery and get the scoop days before snail mail members!



BLUES ON THE RADIO:

Mondays 1pm-3pm on KIOS 91.5 "Blues in the Afternoon" with Mike Jacobs
You can listen to the live stream at www.kios.org

Sundays 9am-Noon on KIWR 89.7 Rick Galusha's "PS Blues" Pacific Street Blues & Americana podcast:
http://kiwrblues.podOmatic.com/entry/2010-02-03T11_00_49-08_00

Lincoln's KZUM Radio - Nebraska's only community radio, and you can listen to it on the web at KZUM.org.

Monday – 3:00-6:00pm "World Gone Wrong Blues"

Tuesday – 10am-Noon "The X" • 3:00-6:00pm "Group W/ Blues"

Wednesday – 9:00-11:00am "The Ride" • 3:00-6:00pm "My Deja Blues"

Thursday – 3:00-6:00pm "Used Rock Blues"

Friday – 1:00-3:00pm "Women's Blues & Boogie" • 3:00-4:30pm "Hudson Blues"

Friday – 4:30-6:00pm "A Blues Oasis"

Saturday – 6:00-8:30am "Blues at Sunrise"

The BSO Presents the Aksarben Blues Festival at Stinson Park • 6/16/2012

4:30pm What Happened? • 5:30pm Mojo Bag • 6:30pm Blue House • 8pm John Nemeth

BYOB and Free Admission, but donations to BSO will be appreciated at the door and a bucket will be passed.

Hey everyone,

Well, it's been a while since my last email. I've been taking a break from major touring to spend time with my family. Baby Grace is doing very well and is now 15 months old. Wow! Where does the time go?

We're headed out to the Northwest for some great dates, including a stop in my home town of Boise, to play a show at the Egyptian Theater on Friday, March 30th. Legendary sixties and seventies icon and great friend Elvin Bishop will be my special guest.

We recently recorded a few local shows around the Bay Area and they turned out fantastic. Thanks again to the wonderful audiences for their participation. Look for a live CD release by the end of April. We will also begin working on a studio album with the hopes to release it this fall.

New band member changes: We are sad to be losing our

SILENT AUCTION

JUNE 16, 2012

BSO'S AKSARBEN BLUES FESTIVAL

BSO will organize a silent auction for the Aksarben Blues Festival in an effort to raise money to cover our expenses for this event. A reminder that this will be a FREE event for all and coolers/picnic baskets are allowed.

If you have an item, old or new, that you can donate for the auction that you think someone might like to buy please contact Michelle Olmstead by email, molmstead@cox.net, or call 402-658-5737. It is always worthwhile to ask the businesses you frequent for a donation as well!

Thank you in advance for supporting the auction, BSO and our efforts to continue having this festival every year!

We have a big summer planned and will be sending out the tour schedule very soon. The Fall will take us around the US and Europe as well. Looking forward to seeing you out there!

John Nemeth

drummer Nick Fishman, who has been in the band since 2008. However, St Louis drummer Joe Meyer will be a great addition to the band as well as Dallas guitarist Elliot Sowell, who joined the band earlier this month. Guitarist AC Myles and bassist Tommy Folen are still going strong.



JOHN NEMETH

Check out B.J. Huchtemann's column Hoodoo Blues each week in the Omaha READER for info on upcoming shows and other news in the roots-blues music scene. Find the new column online each Thursday at <http://www.thereader.com/music/C12/>

BSO CORPORATE SPONSORS

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Havana Garage
Mama's Pizza West
Shucks Fish House

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What's New with BluesEd?

BluesEd Band, Crimson Dawn, Travels to Memphis

On October 23, 2011, two BluesEd bands competed in a Battle of the Bands to determine whether Crimson Dawn or Mojo Bag would represent the Blues Society of Omaha in the Youth Showcase at the 2012 International Blues Challenge in Memphis, Tennessee. The two bands each performed a thirty-minute set and were evaluated on blues content, vocal skills, instrumental skills, originality, and stage presence. Brad Cordle of the Brad Cordle Band, MarQ Manner, a writer for *Shout Magazine*, and Ric Cowger of the Omaha Blues Society served as judges. It was a tight contest, but in the end, Crimson Dawn won the honor to travel to Memphis in February.

After polishing their thirty-minute show for several months, the group traveled to Memphis the first week in February, where they all stayed in the same hotel and enjoyed many of the sights that included Graceland, Sun Studio, and The Gibson Guitar Factory. Crimson Dawn played at Club 152 on Beale Street where their awesome performance brought the crowd to its feet. Some of the members of the band also signed up for youth jams at the Hard Rock Café. The band loved being in Memphis with many other musicians for such an energetic event. They all enjoyed the camaraderie, watching other bands perform, and then implementing what they learned into their own act.

Crimson Dawn would like to extend their gratitude to BSO and BluesEd for offering the opportunity. They all agree that it was an educational, exciting, and heartwarming experience that none of them will soon forget.



New BluesEd Students

BluesEd auditions were held at PS Collective on January 21, 2012. A total of sixteen students auditioned. We are pleased to announce that there will be five BluesEd bands this season. Our kick-off meeting was held on Sunday, March 18, 2012, at the Georgetowne Club. More information will follow in the next newsletter. We want to extend a warm welcome to all of our new students!

As always, you can find us on Facebook at BluesEd!

—Vicky DeCoster

BSO and BluesEd--Memphis Thank You's

During my entire time in Memphis, not a single thing disappointed me. The music that I heard was some of the best out there, so it gave me a taste of all the different styles of blues playing. Before the trip, I had thought that most blues music was nothing but slow, boring songs, but hearing some of the bands play changed that immediately. It gave me a newfound interest in listening to bands like these.

Just walking around, soaking in all the music and eating the ridiculously good food would've been enough for me. The entire experience was made better, however, because my band was featured at the festival. It almost seemed like a dream to step onto that stage for the first time and just look around, then pick up my bass and play. The gig that we played that night was the most solid I believe we have ever played. Being able to step off the stage and be proud of the show we just put on was a great feeling.

What affected me the most were the two youth jam sessions. I was a bit tentative at first to participate because I was going to go onstage with people that I had never met or played with before. But I was persuaded by my band mates to sign up for the jam session. When I stepped on stage with my jam band, I wasn't quite sure how I was going to get by. When we started the first song, I fell into my comfort zone. I was just playing whatever came to my mind, not quite sure how it would really sound. When I realized that it was sounding good, I started improvising my lines, trying not to play the same thing every time. It really broke down walls in my playing. The second night was even better. I was playing in more comfortable keys, playing better lines, and was really proud of what was coming to my mind. This made me more comfortable with what I was playing and opened doors to writing more interesting lines and playing better than I ever had. Overall, going to Memphis has changed how I play and even how I think about music.

- Dain Armbrust
Crimson Dawn

BluesEd has done so much for me. I could not thank Blues society of Omaha and BluesEd enough for all the opportunities that they have given me. When you are from a smaller town like me, it is sometimes harder to find an outlet for music because it is not hugely supported like sports and other extra curricular activities so having BluesEd has been an outlet for me and my musical creativity. It has allowed me to grow and find myself as a musician and without that I don't know where I would be.

I would also like to thank BSO and BluesEd for their support on our way to Memphis. They helped us tremendously and we could not have done it without them! I myself had a wonderful experience being around so many other musicians that are extremely passionate about music and that was amazing! Crimson Dawn is very lucky to have had this opportunity and we send our warmest and most heart-felt thank you's to everyone one at BSO and BluesEd.

Carlee McKee
Crimson Dawn

Memphis Trip

Recently, Crimson Dawn, performed in Tennessee at the International Blues Challenge. Something I've always dreamt of doing. It probably would have remained just a dream if not for the Blues Society of Omaha and BluesEd offering the support and monetary donations to send me and 5 other wonderful musicians to Memphis. I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone at BSO and BluesEd for allowing us to show the world what we have to offer. And also for helping me establish myself as an artist.

I learned a lot on this trip, but to just pin point a few lessons, I'll start with the adult artists. Observing and studying their performances, I was able to work some of their entertaining tactics into my own show. Also, it was so cool to watch the chemistry between a band and its audience. I learned new ways to hook my listeners and make them jump out of their seats, clapping along with the beat. Being on stage is the most fun I ever have, and I want my audience to feel the same way.

Crimson Dawn has made so many memories on Beale Street. We watched legendary Blues artists perform every night, we ate fantastic barbecue, and got to show our stuff at Club 152. This was a trip none of us will ever forget, and we are so thankful for the chance of a lifetime.

Camie Hemphill

Thank you so much for the opportunity to be able to go out in the world and see how the blues truly still live within every person that the music calls to. The Memphis trip for me was one of the most amazing experiences I've ever had the pleasure of being a part of and I couldn't be more proud. It changed the way that I looked at the world in music, my personal perspective as a musician and how I look at my role in the industry. It really opened my eyes to the way the other musicians truly look at the music they play and where it derives from. My favorite part of the trip would have to be the experience of meeting musicians my age and older, also the atmosphere of the all the kind people in such a wonderful environment. I loved having the opportunity to go out to a state known for blues, and have the chance to play what the blues means to me and my band as individuals. Thank you so much for everything that you guys have done to make this possible for us, it will never be forgotten for it is seen as just the beginning of our young burgeoning band of which we will continue to strive as long as it remains in our hearts and souls.

Forever Thanks,

Andrew Wineinger

Thank you to all from BluesEd and BSO for allowing us to go on this trip. Going to Memphis changed my view of the blues, and was a realization that I still have quite a lot to learn yet. Being surrounded by kids my own age with the same passion, made me feel right at home.

'Tag Rynn



Mental Health Association of Nebraska Fundraiser !!

4th Annual **JAMMIN'** *Away the Blues!*

Saturday, April 7, 2012
featuring . . .

Kenny Neal

The Lil' Slim Blues Band

The Blues Project

The Bourbon Theatre

**1415 "O" Street
Lincoln, NE 68508**



c.2009 Suzanne Foschino Photography

**Doors open at 6:00pm,
music starts at 7:00pm**

**Tickets are \$20.00
in advance,
\$25.00 day of show, and
available at the Bourbon
Theatre and
bourbontheatre.com**



Lehman Insurance LLC

**If you can't attend and would like to donate
visit:**

www.mha-ne.org/donations.html for info



Dustin Pittsley Band

Thursday, April 19th • Gator O'Malley's-9pm



Dustin Pittsley has gained a buzz in music conversations around Oklahoma for years now, but after several of the region's best and respected players helped form his newest group, The Dustin Pittsley Band, the artists have created much more than a buzz. The group, who is sponsored by Jagermeister, has won the Blues Society of Tulsa's 2010, 2009, and 2005 Blues Challenge and represented them at the International Blues Competition in Memphis, TN where in 2010 they were named the "Beale Street Blues Kings". The group has also won "Best Band" and "Best Lead" (Dustin Pittsley) in the BST's Annual Blues Choice Awards for the last 6 years. Making up this dynamic group is Dustin Pittsley (lead guitar and vocals), Donnie Wood (bass and vocals), Doug Wehmeyer (drums).

KRIS LAGER BAND at PERRY'S PLACE

9652 Mockingbird Drive • Omaha, NE



April 27th • 9:30 - 1 am

Call 402-592-3230
for more info.

Howdy everyone! Thanks for all the B'day greetings. Thanks also for all the inquiries about last week's back surgery. The doc said everything went well (even though it took 4 hrs instead of 1 & a half). I'm at home now convalescing. I will be down for a couple of weeks but I will be up in time to play at The Zoo Bar Apr. 12th-14th. Hotrod will be flying out to "L" town to join me and Justin G. Jones will be driving in from Crete to keep the beat! So all you folks in the midwest git yer butts to Lincoln! There is news from Hollywood too, but I'll tell you later-cheers!

-Yer pal, Billy Bacon



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BSO MEETING MINUTES FOR MARCH 2012

ATTENDEES

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MOE JASINSKI
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B.J. HUCHTEMANN
MARY ELOFSON
LYNDA GRUBBS

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SECRETARY

DONOR UPDATE:

771 donors in all. Highest donor count we have occurred since July, 2010. For February and March alone, we gained 18 **brand** new members. This increase was not due to any huge event so this is very exciting. Four of the new donors are family, one is general and one is corporate.

Reminder post cards were printed and mailed on February 16, 2012. Cost was \$450.00. BSO already received back \$830.00 in donors. Profit of \$380.00. Nancy recommends sending the post cards out once a year.

76 donors ready to expire at end of March. This is normal as all donors join at various times throughout the year.

Michelle asked if BSO could combine the two mailing lists into one master list? Discussion was held. Nancy stated that when someone becomes a donor, she sends out a letter. The discussion of whether we should also call the new donor was discussed. No decision was made.

FINANCIALS (rounded up)

27, 000.00 Current Balance

\$4000.00 in outstanding checks. \$3000 of this total is a check for Blues Ed.

\$780.00 in deposits that haven't gone in yet

\$740.00 from Lionel Young band event.

\$23,000 Net

LIONEL YOUNG:

Estimated that 60 people attended this show. Twenty or so were non-members of BSO.

Everyone agreed that the venue (Shamrocks) worked out well.

Blues Society business cards were given to all non-members. The cards have the BSO website (URL) printed on it. These cards were left over from previous years. The vice president (Mark Grubbs) greeted most of the non members. The president (Bill Martin) worked the door/admission and he also greeted everyone as they came in.

The opportunity to advertise BSO and upcoming shows did not occur as another band needed to set up on stage at the end of the evening .

Suggestion to make announcements of that kind during intermissions instead of at the end of the shows. It was also suggested to have a script each time for announcements so that everything is captured.

There was feedback that Friday early show worked well. Discussion on if BSO should have more early shows on Fridays. It was discussed whether to change all Thursday shows to Fridays. It was agreed that the Thursday shows will remain but to add Friday shows with local acts on occasion will also be good. Discussed possible venues. Shamrocks, Ozone, Gators, etc. It was agreed that BSO would partner with a bar. It would not be at the expense of BSO. Our donation is getting people to their businesses. Bill stated that he is in agreement to try new things to promote the blues.

BSO CHECKLIST:

A BSO event checklist has been created and will be used for all events going forward. This will ensure that nothing is missed for an event. It will also help keep everyone in the loop as to what is done and whom is doing what.

The President will handle all bookings.

Michelle will handle the signage/merchandise as well as the publicity.

Nancy is handling the memberships process.

INTERNATIONAL BLUES CHALLENGE:

Dates will be: 4/22, 4/29, 5/6 and finals are 5/20.

Documents from last year will be updated.

Bands listed in the news letter will be called.

12 bands entered last year.

Decided that we will welcome all bands.

Solicit entries and allow all to compete.

Reviewed IBC rules. General discussion.

Discussion how to set up where bands will play. Decided that we will draw names out of a hat for each band listing which venue they will play at. This has changed from last year as it was suggested it will be more fair across the board.

Reviewed last years score cards and the weighted scoring. Judges are not all equal. Some more knowledgeable than others.

Committee to assist with the planning and coordination for the challenge. Mary and Michelle will ask for assistance if needed. Went through each task on last years task list.

Advertising will be in all weekly emails sent by Devon. Will also need to do a press release.

Reviewed possible venues. Venue is responsible for the sound and the engineer. Suggested to have the venue buy the band their first drink. Possible venues are the Zoo Bar, Waiting Room and 21st Saloon. Terry O. sent Michelle and B.J. an email for all venue contact information.



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Checking to see if the hotel rooms can be donated at the hotels expense?

FUNDRAISING:

Investigate an offer that BSO become a licensed fireworks vendor for purposes of fundraising. The stand would be open for 10 days leading up to July 4th. It appears that, if BSO obtains the necessary license, another group is willing to operate and staff the stand in exchange for a share of the profits.

RICK'S BOATYARD SUMMER BLUES FESTIVAL:

Michelle suggested that BSO seek involvement in the summer blues festival at Rick's Boatyard. Michelle will make the contact.

JAMMIN' AWAY THE BLUES IN LINCOLN, NE

DATE 4/7.

Moe and Michelle will sell BSO merchandise and donors.

Discussed the need for others to assist Terry Sedivy by creating newsletter promotions for upcoming shows and events sponsored by BSO.

Michelle suggested to make a 3x5 postcard-sized donor applications for distribution at shows and events.

Discussed planning for a silent auction at Aksarben Bluesfest as a BSO fundraiser.

Michelle will inventory current BSO merchandise and begin ordering new items that we will offer for sale.

Discussed arrangements for ongoing storage of BSO supplies.

The group discussed tasks to be done in preparation for the Carolyn Wonderland show. Michelle offered to organize the logistics of the door and volunteer needs for the show. Michelle will need the BSO email volunteer contact list.

Suggestion made to have a New Blood Blues event at Sokol Auditorium.

Discussed the need for a new Volunteer Coordinator. Please see Bill Martin if interested in the position.

BSO General Membership Meeting
Weds April 11th at 7pm
McKennis, 7425 Pacific St.



CANDYE KANE – The Toughest Girl Alive – has licked pancreatic cancer once before. Now, the cancer is back and the blues singer needs our help.

Candye's embarked on an ambitious series of medical procedures to attack her cancer. Her insurance won't cover some of those costs and she'll need living expenses since she won't be able to perform as often in the weeks ahead.

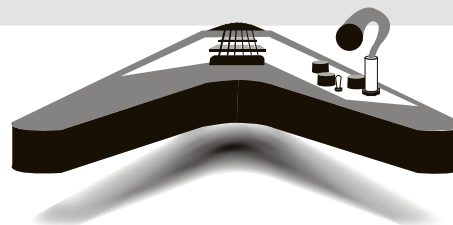
Visit <http://concertforcandye.com/> to support the cause.

Hey BSO Pals,

Getting settled into life in Austin. Arrived in time for SXSW, which was a little crazier than I need. Enjoyed seeing The Iguanas a couple of times. One gig was at a dentist's office at an event called "MouthXMouthwest". Gives you an idea how this whole town is into it. Joe got me backstage for Alejandro Escovedo's show, which was killer. Was impressed by Hector Anchondo's set on 6th St. (I hope to see him 4/6 at Gator O'Malley's.) Caught the legendary Ray Wiley Hubbard at Waterloo Records in-store today. Awesome! Saw Gary P. Nunn at The Broken Spoke, a few blocks from my place. He wrote (2) of my faves, "London Homesick Blues" and "Last thing I needed, first thing this morning". Well, I better "get back to the armadillos". Hope to see you at CW on 4/8.

Terry O'Halloran, fka "The Prez"

P.S. I see Charlie Johnson ran a review of "Contino". His bass player and guitarist used to play weekly gigs at my bar in Vegas as The Ruffnecks and The Shuffle-Aires. Good guys and great players:-)



JERRY W. KATSKEE
PARTNER

KATSKEE, HENATSCH & SUING

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The Blues Society of Omaha Presents



SUNDAY MAY 27TH

**SUMTUR
AMPHITHEATER**

**11691 S. 108TH ST
PAPILLION, NE**

Blues EXCITEMENT is here! And his name is *RONNIE BAKER BROOKS!* As the son of blues legend Lonnie Brooks, RBB grew up steeped in American music tradition. "I grew up among the best of the best," Brooks says. "Every time I play, I feel like I've got to do it with the authenticity and passion that I saw in guys like Buddy Guy, Muddy Waters, B.B. King and my father. But I also have to put my twist on it. None of those guys repeated what came before them."

**Opening acts: Blues Ed Youth Development Program Band
And the winner of the 2nd annual Nebraska Blues Challenge!**

Advanced Tickets \$15

Tickets available online www.sumtur.org



Admission is \$20 day of show. Gates open at 3:00 pm.

**Proceeds benefit BSO, a 501c3 non-profit organization
dedicated to Keepin' The Blues Alive!**

www.omahablues.com

BLUES IN APRIL & MAY

[Sun 4/1]

Bela Fleck (Peter Kiewit Concert Hall)
Swampboy Blues Band (Millard VFW Post)

[Mon 4/2]

Mike Gurciullo and his Las Vegas Lab Band (07:00pm) (Ozone)
Zoo Bar House Band (Zoo Bar,402-435-8754)

[Tue 4/3]

Open Jam with Brad Cordle, Craig Balderston, Gunner Gunnette,
and Devon Fulton. (07:00pm) (Hive (19th and Jackson))

[Wed 4/4]

Chris Duarte (05:30pm) (21st Saloon)
Luther James and Friends Open Mic (Grant Street Bar)

[Thu 4/5]

Hector Anchondo Band (Gator OMalley's Pub)
JP Soars (05:30pm) (21st Saloon)
Little Joe Solo (Havana Garage)
Robert Glaser w/Bucky McCann (Lauter Tun)
Swampboy Blues Band (Jazz A Louisiana Kitchen)
Whiskey Pig (Perry's Place)

[Fri 4/6]

Honey Boy Turner Band (The Roadhouse)
Luigi Inc. (Lauter Tun)
Luther James Band (Bobs Tavern)
Mezcal Brothers (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar,402-435-8754)
Stephen Monroe (07:00pm) (Deer Springs Winery, Lincoln)

[Sat 4/7]

Bluehouse with the Rent to Own Horns (The Bottomless Glass)
Carolyn Wonderland (Zoo Bar,402-435-8754)
Kenny Neal w/ Shawn Holt Band, Blues Project (Jammin Away
The Blues-Bourbon Theatre)
Little Joe Solo (Papa Chris Chicago Originals)
Matt Gagne and the Blues Experience (Observatory Lounge)
Mighty Sapphire Kings (Welcome Inn Tavern,2332 S. 24th
St.,402 344-2850)
Trio Bravo (Lauter Tun)

[Sun 4/8]

3 Bad Jacks w/ Blacktop Ramblers (Gator OMalley's Pub)
Carolyn Wonderland (Waiting Room)

[Mon 4/9]

Mike Gurciullo and his Las Vegas Lab Band (07:00pm) (Ozone)
Zoo Bar House Band (Zoo Bar,402-435-8754)

[Tue 4/10]

Little Joe Solo (Dundee Cork and Bottle)
Open Jam with Brad Cordle, Craig Balderston, Gunner Gunnette,
and Devon Fulton. (07:00pm) (Hive (19th and Jackson))
Swampboy Blues Band (Louisville Art Gallery)

[Wed 4/11]

Josh Garrett and The Bottom Line (Zoo Bar,402-435-8754)
Luther James and Friends Open Mic (Grant Street Bar)

[Thu 4/12]

Andrew Janak Quartet (Lauter Tun)
Billy Bacon and the Forbidden Pigs (06:00pm) (Zoo
Bar,402-435-8754)
Blind Dog Reggae and Blues (American Dream)
Camille DeVore Trio (09:00pm) (Myth-Old Market)
Little Joe Solo (Parlement Pub)
Smokin Joe Kubek and Bnois King (05:30pm) (21st Saloon)
Soul Finger (Gator OMalley's Pub)
The Pounders (Whiskey Roadhouse)
Whiskey Pig (Perry's Place)

[Fri 4/13]

Billy Bacon and the Forbidden Pigs (09:00pm) (Zoo
Bar,402-435-8754)
Chasing Daylight (Gator OMalley's Pub)
Honeyboy Turner Band (Havana Garage)
Swampboy Blues Band (The Obar)
Tijuana Gigolos (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar,402-435-8754)

[Sat 4/14]

Back Alley Blues Band (Bottomless Glass Bar)
Brad Cordle Group (09:00pm) (Havana Garage)
Daddy Mac and the Flak (Gator OMalley's Pub)
Otis Gibbs (Zoo Bar,402-435-8754)
Swampboy Blues Band (Jazz A Louisiana Kitchen)
Wildfire (Lauter Tun)

[Sun 4/15]

Jumpin Kate (03:00pm) (Wunderrosa Winery-Lincoln)
Little Joe Solo (02:00pm) (Ricks Boatyard)
Matt Gagne and the Blues Experience (Tin Lizzy Tavern)
Sue From Wildfire Solo (Soaring Wings Vineyard)
Swampboy Blues Band (Millard VFW Post)

[Mon 4/16]

Mike Gurciullo and his Las Vegas Lab Band (07:00pm) (Ozone)
Zoo Bar House Band (Zoo Bar,402-435-8754)

[Tue 4/17]

Open Jam with Brad Cordle, Craig Balderston, Gunner Gunnette,
and Devon Fulton. (07:00pm) (Hive (19th and Jackson))

[Wed 4/18]

Gary Farmer and The Peacemakers (06:00pm) (Zoo
Bar,402-435-8754)
Luther James and Friends Open Mic (Grant Street Bar)

[Thu 4/19]

Back Alley Blues Band (Ozone)
Lil Slim Blues Band (Zoo Bar,402-435-8754)
Susie Thorne Band (Myth-Old Market)
The Dustin Pittsley Band (Gator OMalley's Pub)
Too Slim and the Taildraggers (05:30pm) (21st Saloon)
Whiskey Pig (Perry's Place)

[Fri 4/20]

Brad Cordle Band (05:00pm) (Zoo Bar FAC)
Hegg Brothers (Lauter Tun)
Honey Boy Turner Band (Sun Valley Bar and Grill)
Little Joe and Big Trouble (Havana Garage)
Planet Butter Reunion with Sons of 76 (Zoo Bar,402-435-8754)
Swampboy Blues Band (Sullivan's Bar)

[Sat 4/21]

Brad Cordle Band (09:00pm) (Gator OMalley's Pub)
Honey Boy Turner Band (Shooters Bar in Peru)
Kris Lager Band (Zoo Bar,402-435-8754)
Little Joe Solo (Waterfall Lounge)
Matt Gagne and the Blues Experience (Grant Street Bar)
Swampboy Blues Band (Havana Garage)

[Sun 4/22]

Nebraska Blues Challenge (TBA)
Swampboy Blues Band (Millard VFW Post)

[Mon 4/23]

Jana Nyberg Group (Zoo Bar,402-435-8754)
Mike Gurciullo and his Las Vegas Lab Band (07:00pm) (Ozone)

[Tue 4/24]

Andrew Jr. Boy Jones (06:00pm) (Zoo Bar,402-435-8754)
Open Jam with Brad Cordle, Craig Balderston, Gunner Gunnette,
and Devon Fulton. (07:00pm) (Hive (19th and Jackson))
Tommy Womack (Side Door Lounge)

[Wed 4/25]

Black Joe Lewis and The Honeybears (Zoo Bar,402-435-8754)
Luther James and Friends Open Mic (Grant Street Bar)

[Thu 4/26]

Andrew "Jr. Boy" Jones (05:30pm) (21st Saloon)
Little Joe Solo (Havana Garage)
Soul Finger (Gator OMalley's Pub)
Spicy Gomez Duo (Lauter Tun)
Whiskey Pig (Perry's Place)



BBQ FOR THE TROOPS

Photos by Conrad Good and Jane Cowger

The Blues Society of Omaha and the people of Omaha do a great job promoting this event and once again this year it was a capacity crowd in this fund raising effort for the Troops.

Many people give their talents and time to make sure this event serves its purpose, which I feel it does very nicely! Mojo Bag from the Blues Ed program in Omaha opened the evening with a rousing set followed by Guitar talent Michael Charles Australian born and working currently out of New York .

Not only did the Michael Charles band play for the event they supported it out their own pockets! Michael donated a portion of all monies he raised by the selling his CD's, and sales looked to be brisk to me! I also saw the band members checking their own raffle tickets as the winning numbers we called and drawn, cool huh? Above and beyond I would say... money has gotta be tight when you're on the road.

All in all everyone had a great time, and I know I went home feeling a little better just knowing I played a part in this effort.

---Conrad Good



— O.B.S. MAILBAG —

"TUESDAY BLUESDAY OPEN JAM"

STARTING TUESDAY 3/20/12. 7pm to 11pm to accommodate a wider range of players. We've put together an impressive lineup for a brand new "Tuesday Bluesday Open Jam" at The Hive at 19th and St. Mary's Ave in Omaha. Brad Cordle, Gunnar Guenette, Craig Balderston, Elwin Moseman, & Devon "Blind Dog" Fulton and (hopefully) all of YOU great musicians in Omaha. We'd like for this jam to be very open and friendly to new people learning about being on stage and playing in front of people all the way up to all of the many seasoned musicians/vocalists that we have in Omaha. We need guests to sit in and jam with us! This all starts on TUESDAY 3/20/12 at THE HIVE thanks to Jake Gardner at The HIVE for keeping the blues alive in Omaha. (and the reggae on Thursdays too)

The "Swampboy Blues Band" is a small business entering our fifth year. The following could be described as our mission statement. In a world full of contrivances, "Swampboy Blues Band", brings spontaneity, IMAGINATION, and life to the music they perform. Never a set list, no two shows are alike.....always real. The music is unique and accessible; original music with a familiar flair and familiar music with originality. If you have not heard us lately you really owe it to yourself to check us out! It's always hot in the swamp! *Tim Koehn, Gayland Prince, and Jerry Steinke*

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The red-hot rockin' Texas blues band Smokin' Joe Kubek and Bnois King will perform at The 21st Saloon in Omaha on Thursday, April 12, 2012. Kubek and King will be performing songs from their latest Alligator release, *Have Blues, Will Travel*. Kubek's raucous roadhouse fretwork is expertly complimented by the equally fiery guitar and soulful vocals of Bnois King. Together, the two create a one-two punch of raw, tough, Lone Star blues-rock. Concert information is as follows:



Thursday, April 12, 2012

The 21st Saloon

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The Johnsen Brothers.....	Neil Johnsen	545-3564
The Joe Lidgett Blues Band.....	Joe Lidgett	712-813-1572
Magick K Band.....	Thomas Kriegshauser	712-520-1678
KEARNEY		
The OK Sisters	Mark Weinand	308-236-8844
LINCOLN		
Blues from the Five.....	Chris S.	402-560-7808
Blues Messengers.....	Jake Wiese	402-601-4959
Charlie Burton and the Dorothy Lynch Mob.....	Charlie Burton	402-476-9254
The Honeyboy Turner Band	Harv Brindell.....	402-435-5297
Jared's GoodTime BluesParty	Jared Alberico.....	402-474-2473
Jr. Stephens Blues Project.....	Lary Lehman	1-800-422-1340
The Kris Lager Band.....	Kris Lager	402-304-7269
The Mezcal Brothers.....	Gerado Meza	402-438-5120
The Tijuana Gigolos	Marty Steinhausen.....	402-742-5892
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Levi William	Cindy Patton	402-580-8549
OMAHA		
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Lou DeLuca and the R & M Blues Band.....	Lou DeLuca	402-677-7156
Drew and the No Name Blues Band.....	Drew Jude.....	402-714-1244
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Little Joe and Big Trouble	Little Joe	402-680-2924
Luther James Band.....	L.J. Johnson	402-213-5234
Magick K Band.....	Thomas Kriegshauser	402-517-8248
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The Side Effects	Karen Porter	402-679-7538
Soulfinger.....	Barry Clark	thbear57@cox.net
Spike Nelson Trio	Mike Nelson	402-612-1250
Stovall	Jeff	732-915-6001
Swampboy.....	Tim Koehn.....	402-981-2574
Susan Thorne Group	Susan Thorne	402 968-4991
Matt Wallace.....	Matt Wallace	402-551-1610
George Walker	George Walker.....	402-871-1469

Please send all new and updated band and contact information to tsedivy@yahoo.com.

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5:30 – 6:30

Elwin James Band (2012 Nebraska IBC Finalist)

7:00 – 8:00

Shannon & The Rhythm Kings (Popular KC Blues Band)

8:30 – 9:30

The Candymakers (Central Iowa Blues Society 2011 Blues Challenge Winner)

9:30 – 10:00

Jam Session

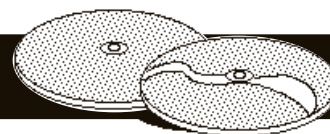
Admission for all this entertainment is:

\$15 per person, age 21 and up (includes souvenir wine glass and first glass of wine)
Bacchus Wine Club members receive a \$5 discount on this event!

\$10 per person, age 12-20 and Free under the age of 12.

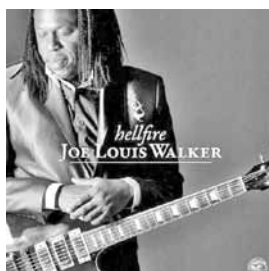
Food vendor will be available and bread, cheese, crackers, sausage, pop and water will be sold in the Tasting Room as well!

CD Reviews



Joe Louis Walker • *Hellfire*

I was excited when I got my hands on Joe Louis Walker's latest compact disc release which is his first on Alligator Records and titled *Hellfire*. I have thoroughly enjoyed almost every song on the last few discs Joe put out; they are all simply loaded with terrific music. Upon listening to *Hellfire* I profess the impressive run stays totally intact, it's a fabulous CD. I love his guitar styles and his vocals which always seem so emotional and soulful, often sounding on the verge of pitiful to me. Joe is among my most favored blues artists. The instruments he incorporates to accompany him on his mostly original songs are always very good. Reese Wynans, formerly in Stevie Ray Vaughn's band Double Trouble, provides all the piano and organ heard on the disc.



peppy upbeat song called *Movin' On* as Joe demonstrates some nimble fingered guitar work and sings about hittin' it while Reese takes the bones for a good ride too.

This CD has a varied style of blues music and is very nicely done with wonderful guitar and vocals. It doesn't get much better than this for me. In the battle of the blues at my house this month JLW wins hands down.

--Dan Betts

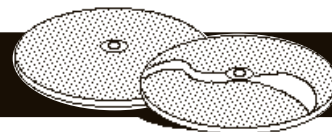
The CD opens with its namesake and it fires things up right out of the chute with a wild blues rocker infused with some hellfire lyrics and dementedly tortured guitar wah wah. Joe cools things down on *I Won't Do That* baring his soul with a confessional on his deep devotion to a lover that questions his commitment while showcasing his typical great vocals and guitar which are complimented by some very nice piano. He picks the pace up again with *Ride All Night*, a high energy driving rocker that reminds me of the sound the Rolling Stones had during their Exile on Main Street period. This seems like a tune custom made for bikers to cruise along by. Joe then plays a screaming harp on the upbeat blues groove *I'm On To You* as he tells the gal he's on to her game and its over. Next is *What's It Worth*, a great song with lyrics that have a philosophical discussion on the successes and pain that life can present. This intense song has a varied sound as it starts out slow with deep rooted lyrics then shifts into a pounding groove and culminates explosively including a Hendrix influenced feedback soaked ending. *Soldier For Jesus* is a peppy song where Joe professes his faith while telling the devil to go to hell; and without him. He is accompanied on this march by Elvis Presley's former song mates The Jordanares who provide some very full and cool backing vocals to Joe's great slide guitar. *I Know Why* is a soothing ballad with a sentimental feel and soulful vocals about coping with difficult situations. The next two songs are swinging rockers. *Too Drunk To Drive Drunk* rocks right out and has Reese Wynans rolling the bones in the vein of Jerry Lee Lewis with Joe's story on the ups and downs of getting out on the town to have some fun and over imbibing on the alcohol, which in turn prevents him from partaking in the cruising vibe this song offers. On *Black Girls* Joe fires up the slide big time again as he sings about his appreciation for the contributions that sector of womankind has delivered to the art of music. Joe tells us about his plan to make the move to heaven, a place he describes as the other side, on the light sounding and uplifting song named *Don't Cry*. He blends his awesome vocals with The Jordanares who deliver a forceful and rhythmic vocal backing to the song. The CD closes with a

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CD Reviews



Big James and the Chicago Playboys *The Big Payback*

Blind Pig Records recording artists known as Big James and the Chicago Playboys recently released a compact disc entitled *The Big Payback*. This is made up of ten songs recorded live at the Lionel Hampton Jazz Club in Paris, France in November, 2009. This band has performed in the Omaha area a few times. The band's live sound is very full and horn driven with a lineup that includes Big James Montgomery on lead vocals and trombone accompanied by a trumpet/flugelhorn player, keyboardist, guitarist, and a rhythm section. I think Big James's vocals at this performance are steady but display a somewhat limited range and style, however on several occasions his vocal delivery is strongly emotional. The 48 minute long disc includes a mix of the band's original songs and covers. I would also characterize the songs as predominantly a separate mix of funk and blues styles. The first few songs strike me as having jump and funk beats but the disc slides into some nice blues tunes toward the end. The opener is an original called *The Blues Will Never Die* and it is a high energy jumper with solos on trombone, keyboard and guitar. The title song is a funk driven James Brown cover. Next up is an original named *Coldest Man I Ever Knew* with a story line on the importance of his father's influence on him and has a big horn sound with the guitarist getting

to do some soaring at the end. The Chicago blues classic *All of Your Love* is very nicely done and one that has James's vocals getting my attention. Jody's *Got Your Girl and Gone* is that old story about some guy snooping around with your gal while you are away going about doing your duties. It has a hopping along sound with the trumpeter getting his licks in and the organist bringing a nice solo groove. That's *Why I'm Crying* is a good blues song with a nice guitar solo and vocals. *Trying to Live My Life Without You* is pretty well done and a song you would likely recognize as being one that was done by Bob Seger and the Silver Bullet Band. Now the next couple songs are the meat of the matter for us blues fans. *I'll Stay* is the longest song on the disc and my personal favorite. It starts out as a soothing, relaxing tune featuring a cool trumpet solo which leads into a very good guitar solo that builds into a crescendo to end the song. *Low Down Dirty Blues* has a heavy horn rhythm groove to it and very nice organ and guitar solos as it runs right into the closer, *Smoke on the Water*, a real strong rambunctious run through on the horns and guitar, albeit short. On occasions I felt the disc is lacking in the way of versatility but overall I enjoyed a lot of what it has to offer.

--Dan Betts



Contino • *Back Porch Dogma*

Blind Pig Records

Contino plays a very original roots based music that is an interesting blend of blues, zydeco, and rockabilly. The Las Vegas group consists of Pete Contino on accordion/vocals, Rob Edwards on upright bass, Al Ek on guitar/harmonica/vocals, Jim Lovgren on drums, and Billy Truitt on keyboards.

Contino is described as being "outside the box, yet authentic." I think this is a very apt way to describe the group. All the members write, and no one dominates the music, so this is very much a

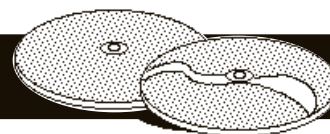
group effort.



I really like the song that guest singer Maria Muldaur sings on – *Big Tent*. For my money, she just keeps getting better and better. I am also quite fond of a zydeco number called *Zydeco Train*. This is a very eclectic brand of music, but still has a strong blues base – especially on tunes that Al Ek plays harp. I really enjoy this cd. I recommend it to anyone that likes their blues with a rootsy twist.

--A.J. Foyt

CD Reviews



The Scott Keeton Band • *Living the Dream*

Self Released

Over the years we've been able to count on two things coming out of the state of Oklahoma - red dust and great sounding Scott Keeton bands. This latest version, a classic blues trio, featuring Scott on guitar and vocals plus bass and drums, is no exception. Their live act is a blend of blues, country and pop but this CD, "Living the Dream," is pure blues - a sort of a return to his roots release.

The tracks include seven classic covers and three strong originals. It opens with three great covers of some of the blues master's recordings. The first is a somewhat obscure song from Howlin' Wolf's catalog - Who's Been Talking. In addition to his usual stellar guitar work, Scott does an outstanding job of just slightly morphing his vocals into the style of Howlin' Wolf. Track two is a Freddie King instrumental, Sidetracked, followed by the oft covered Jimmy Reed classic, Honest I



Do. The CD's two closing tracks are 'Live' covers of Muddy Waters' Rolling Stone (with supporting guitar work by fellow Oklahoman, Otis Watkins) and John Lee Hooker's Boogie Chillen.

In the middle are the three original Scott Keeton compositions sandwiched around two Robert Johnson classics - Stop Breaking Down and Roll and Tumble Blues. These originals are of the most interest to me as Scott has always been a top notch songwriter. The first is Tom Joad and the Devil. It is a low keyed, low pitched lament about life's disappointments. It has a great story-line and vocal treatment that brings (not surprisingly) Johnny Cash to mind. Night Train is the classic blues tale of lost love and heartbreak. A softly sung ballad, it is presented with smooth vocal and guitar tracks. Kill You (I Don't Think It's Going to Work Out), while using dark musical overtones, is a surprisingly upbeat and cheery tune when you consider the title and lyric. "There's a little green man in my head. He says I won't be happy, baby, 'til your dead. I'm going to miss you - Baby, you gotta die."

I thoroughly enjoyed "Living the Dream." It is a good mix of old songs and new sounds. It is a showcase for Scott's talents as a singer, guitar slinger and songwriter. Scott has been playing the role of a traveling minstrel for a number of years. He plays what the bar crowds want to hear. This collection takes him back to where he started. It is an album most blues fans will enjoy. Give it a listen.

—Charlie Johnson

Etta James • *The Dreamer*



I am dancing with Etta James, holding her gently but manly; and she's singing softly in my ear as the band is playing a slow shuffle. It is at this point that I fall out of bed, banging my head on the porcelain armadillo that I keep bedside for good luck! It was a wonderful dream and a whole lot better than the recurring dream

I have of being chased by naked clowns. I have severely wandered off track, as usual. Etta James' newest record, "The Dreamer," is wonderful. Fourteen seconds in and you get a grunt from a blues legend (you can't beat a blues grunt). The opening track is called "Groove Me" and she certainly does, all throughout this record. It is funky, soulful and bluesy! Interesting covers, from the likes of Bobby Bland, Ray Charles, Otis Redding and more. One of the standouts for me is the song "Misty Blue" (which was a hit for someone, but I can't remember who). Her smoky vocals are seductive as she wraps her voice around each word. Brilliant cover! She also does "Welcome To The Jungle," albeit a little differently than Guns N' Roses. The band is capable, but more in the background as Etta's voice is brought front and center. No screaming guitars, just a nice balance to the band. We lost Etta recently and this album was made before she got very ill. It's a nice closing chapter from a musical legend. I can strongly recommend the album. I am now going to take a nap and try to get the "Dancing With Etta" dream back and I don't want to see any clowns!

—hogsquat

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Credit cards also accepted on line at www.omahablues.com or at most of our BSO events.
Thank you for your generous support and for helping us Keep the Blues Alive here in Nebraska !!!

A Non-Profit 501(c)(3) Corporation

Keepin' the Blues Alive!

BLUES SOCIETY OF OMAHA

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